(**1**) Determine your stream-reach boundary; this is a stream length up to 100-meters, which may be more or less under certain circumstances. (**2**) Near the lower end of the reach (in the deepest portion of the run), collect water samples and analyze using the chemical tests you have available. You may use your collection container to observe watercolor and clarity and to determine water odors. (**3**) Measure the width-depth and velocity and estimate the water level. (**4**) For low-gradient streams you must collect macroinvertebrates from a combination of habitats to be representative; multiple samples (at least 10) should be collected throughout the reach. Make sure to use the appropriate net(s). (**5**) Evaluate the physical and habitat conditions; record information about known land use activities. (**6**) Sketch your reach or submit photographs with the survey and add any other comments that you feel are important for evaluating the conditions of your stream study site.

Stream name _____ Survey date _____
Watershed _____ Station code _____
Latitude _____ Longitude _____ Directions to site _____

Survey completed by _____
Current weather conditions _____
Past weather conditions (last 3-days) _____
Affiliation _____ Email _____
Mailing address _____ Phone number _____

WATER CHEMISTRY: Uses the spaces below to record the results of your water quality analysis; attach additional sheets if necessary.

	Result	units		Result	units		Result	units
Temperature (C/F)			Conductivity			Alkalinity		
Dissolved oxygen			Nitrates			Metals (describe)		
pH			Turbidity			Fecal/E-coli		

Additional tests (describe and record results) _____

PHYSICAL CONDITIONS: Use the check boxes below to describe the conditions that closely resemble those of your stream. The extra lines are provided to write in any additional comments. You may see more than one type of condition; if so, be sure to indicate these on your survey (check all that apply). If multiple conditions are observed, always indicate the most dominant condition. Note: If the condition you observe is not listed, describe it in the comment section.

Water clarity		Watercolor		Water/sediment odor	Sediment	Water	Surface foam	
Clear		None		None			None	
Murky		Brown		Fishy			Slight	
Milky		Black		Musky			Moderate	
Muddy		Orange/red		Rotten egg			High	
Other (describe)		Gray/White		Sewage				
		Green		Chemical				

Algae color		Algae abundance		Algae growth habit		Streambed color	
Light green		None		Even coating		Brown	
Dark green		Scattered		Hairy		Black	
Brown		Moderate		Matted		Green	
Other (describe)		Heavy		Floating		White/gray	

Physical condition comments: _____

SHADING

Estimate the percentage of your reach that is shaded; indicate by checking its box.

☐	☐	☐	☐
> 80	80-60	60-40	< 40
Excellent	Good	Marginal	Poor

WIDTH AND DEPTH: Record the wetted width and depth of the channel's habitats (riffles, runs and pools). Record the average depth from a minimum of four measurements (one of these should be from the deepest part of the habitat). The width should be measured from the widest section of the feature.

Riffle	Width (feet)	_____	Depth (feet)	_____
Run	Width (feet)	_____	Depth (feet)	_____
Pool	Width (feet)	_____	Depth (feet)	_____

CHANNEL PROFILES: Width and depth measurements can be used to create a cross section profile within your reach. Choose a location in your reach across one of the channel types above. Stretch a tape from bank to bank and anchor it at both ends. Move from left to right facing in an upstream direction; measure the distance from the stream bottom to the top of the tape at selected intervals (i.e. every foot). Record your measurements in the table below. The table provides enough spaces for 20 measurements; if more are necessary you can create your own table on a separate piece of paper. Your tape measure will probably not start at zero so make sure to record the actual position of the tape as you measure across the channel.

Width intervals

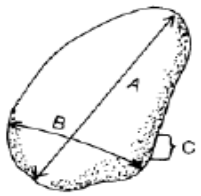
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

Depth measurements

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

Pebble count: Collect a minimum of 100-particles from your reach using a Zigzag method, percent habitat method or specific transects (e.g. every 10-meter). If you do not complete a pebble count, **always estimate** streambed composition from the riffles/runs chosen for your macroinvertebrate sample collections.

Indicate your method from the choices below.	Size Classes (Intermediate axis in millimeters)						
	Silt/clay < 0.06	Sand 0.06 – 2	Fine Gravel 2 – 24	Coarse Gravel 25 – 64	Cobble 65 – 255	Boulder 256 – 1096	Bedrock > 1096
Zigzag							
% Habitat							
10-m Transects							
Woody Debris (Includes sticks, roots, leaves etc.)							
Totals							



(A) Long axis (**Length**)
(B) Intermediate axis (**Width**)
(C) Short axis (**Height**)

Pebble counts require two people, one in the stream and one on shore. The person in the stream slowly walks upstream from bank to bank using one of the methods above. After each step the person reaches down without looking, picks up the first particle touched, and measures the intermediate axis with a ruler. The on-shore partner records the measurement. The process continues until 100 pebbles have been measured or the reach has been walked.

HABITAT CONDITIONS: Score each habitat condition using the scales provided. Add all of the scores to determine your overall habitat score and integrity rating. Provide additional comments that you feel are important.

Channel sinuosity		The bends in the stream increase the stream length 3-4 times longer than if it was in a straight line.					The bends in the stream increase the stream length 2-3 times longer than if it was in a straight line.					The bends in the stream increase the stream length 1-2 times longer than if it was in a straight line.					Channel is straight; waterway has been channelized for a long distance.				
Score		20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Channel substrate composition		Mixture of substrate materials with gravel and firm sand prevalent. Root mats, vegetation, or other cover also very common.					Mixture of soft sand, mud, or clay; mud may be dominant. Some root mats, vegetation, or other cover present.					All mud, clay, or sand bottom. Little or no root mats, vegetation, or other cover.					Hardpan clay or bedrock; no cover of any kind for aquatic life.				
Score		20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Channel alterations		Stream has a normal pattern and profile. No channelization, dredging or artificial structures.					Some straightening, artificial embank-ments or dams present. No evidence of recent alteration activities.					Artificial embank-ments present on most of the banks; > 50% of the reach is straightened, dredged, or otherwise altered.					Banks stabilized with gabion baskets, concrete, or large rocks; > 80% of the reach has been altered.				
Score		20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

The conditions below are assessed on the right and left banks. The **LEFT** and **RIGHT** sides are determined by looking downstream.

Bank stability		Banks are stable; no evidence of erosion or bank failure; little or no potential for future problems.					Banks are moderately stable; infrequent areas of erosion occur, mostly shown by banks healed over.					Banks are moderately unstable; 60% of the reach has areas of erosion; high potential for erosion during flooding events.					Banks are unstable; many have eroded areas along straight sections or bends; obvious bank collapse or failure; > 60% of the reach has erosion scars.				
Left		10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1										
Right		10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1										
Riparian buffer width		Mainly undisturbed vegetation > 60 ft; no evidence of human impacts such as parking lots, road-beds, clear-cuts, mowed areas, crops, lawns etc.					Zone of undisturbed vegetation 40-60 ft; some areas of disturbance evident.					Zone of undisturbed vegetation 20-40 ft; disturbed areas common throughout the reach.					Zone of undisturbed vegetation < 20 ft; disturbed areas common throughout the entire reach.				
Left		10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1										
Right		10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1										

Total Score		> 85	85 - 70	69 - 50	< 50
		Optimal	Suboptimal	Marginal	Poor

Habitat comments: _____

LAND USE: Indicate the land uses that you believe may be having an impact on your stream station. Use the letters (**S**) streamside, (**M**) within ¼ mile and (**W**) somewhere in the watershed, to indicate the approximate location of the disturbance and the numbers (**1**) slight, (**2**) moderate or (**3**) high, to represent the level of disturbance.

Active Construction			Pastureland			Single-family residences		
Mountaintop mining			Cropland			Sub-urban developments		
Deep mining			Intensive feedlots			Parking lots, strip-malls etc.		
Abandoned mining			Unpaved Roads			Paved Roads		
Logging			Trash dumps			Bridges		
Oil and gas wells			Landfills			Other (describe)		
Recreation (parks, trails etc.)			Industrial areas					

Land use comments: _____ Pipes? Yes No

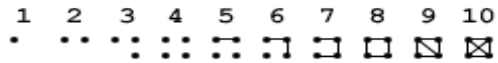
Describe the types of pipes observed and indicate if there is any discharge from the pipes. Also describe the color and odor of the discharge. _____

PHOTOGRAPH AND **SKETCH YOUR REACH**: Use the space below or a separate piece of paper to draw your study reach. Indicate the direction of flow, north, sample locations and important features of the reach. Photographs are an excellent method for tracking changes, especially changes related to the condition of the habitat. Choose a minimum of two permanent locations from which to take your photos. Submit your photos with your survey data sheet.

BENTHIC MACROINVERTEBRATES

Assess your macroinvertebrate collections by counting and identifying to the family-level if possible. Use the table to record your collections data. Although streamside identification is possible at this level, WV Save Our Stream's recommends preserving your samples using a full count or standard sub-sampling procedure in a well-lit and more comfortable setting.

The dot-dash tally method is a convenient way to record your data. Each dot or dash represents one tally.



INSECT GROUPS

Patterned stoneflies Taxa ☐ Total ☐	Winter stoneflies Taxa ☐ Total ☐	Roach-like stonefly Total ☐
Giant stonefly Total ☐	Brown stonefly Total ☐	Spiny crawler mayfly Total ☐
Square-gilled mayfly Total ☐	Minnow mayflies Taxa ☐ Total ☐	Flatheaded mayfly Total ☐
Brush-legged mayfly Total ☐	Burrowing mayflies Taxa ☐ Total ☐	Net-spinning caddisflies Taxa ☐ Total ☐
Case-building caddisflies Taxa ☐ Total ☐	Free-living caddisfly Total ☐	Common netspinner Total ☐
Dragonflies Taxa ☐ Total ☐	Damselflies Taxa ☐ Total ☐	Riffle beetle Total ☐
Long-toed beetle Total ☐	Water penny Total ☐	Other beetles and True bugs Taxa ☐ Total ☐
Hellgrammite/Fishfly Total ☐	Alderfly Total ☐	Aquatic moth Total ☐

The table continues on the next page.

Non-biting midge Total	Black fly Total	Crane fly Total
Watersnipe fly Total	Dance fly Total	Dixid midge Total
Net-wing midge Total	Horse fly Total	Other fly larva Taxa Total

NON-INSECT GROUPS

Crayfish Total	Scud/Sideswimmer Total	Aquatic sowbug Total
Water mite Total	Operculate snails Taxa Total	Non-operculate snails Taxa Total
Pea clam Total	Asian clam Total	Mussel Total
Flatworms Total	Aquatic worms Total	Leeches Total
Other aquatic invertebrates Taxa Total	Comments:	

Total Taxa	Total Number

Describe other aquatic life (e.g., fish, amphibians) collected or observed, as well as other indications that the reach is being used by other animals (i.e. birds, mammals, reptiles).

STREAM METRICS: The table below is provided to help you score the benthic community within your stream reach. The shaded boxes indicate that multiple **families** are possible; tolerance values are provided.

TV	Macroinvertebrates	Totals	Tolerance score	Number of kinds	TV	Macroinvertebrates	Totals	Tolerance score	Number of kinds
1	Patterned stoneflies				6	Aquatic moth			
2	Winter stoneflies				4	Riffle beetle			
1	Roach-like stonefly				5	Long-toed beetle			
1	Giant stonefly				3	Water penny			
2	Little brown stonefly				5	Whirligig beetle			
3	Spiny crawler mayfly				7	Other beetles/bugs			
5	Square-gilled mayflies				3	Hellgrammite/Fishfly			
4	Minnow mayflies				6	Alderfly			
3	Flatheaded mayfly				9	Non-biting midge			
3	Brush-legged mayfly				6	Black fly			
5	Burrowing mayflies				5	Crane fly			
4	Net-spinning caddisflies				3	Watersnipe fly			
3	Case-building caddisflies				6	Dance fly			
5	Common netspinner				5	Dixid midge			
3	Free-living caddisfly				2	Net-wing midge			
4	Dragonflies				7	Horse fly			
7	Damselflies				8	Other fly larva			
	Non-Insect Groups								
5	Crayfish				5	Pea clam			
5	Scud/Sideswimmer				6	Asian clam			
7	Aquatic sowbug				4	Mussel			
6	Water mite				5	Operculate snails			
10	Aquatic worms				7	Non-operculate snails			
10	Leeches					Other invertebrates			
7	Flatworms								

Complete your calculations using the metrics below. These metrics are combined to determine your overall score and integrity rating.

Total Number	**Total Tolerance**	**Total Kinds**

Comments: _____

Metrics	Results	Points	**10**	**8**	**6**	**4**	**2**
1 Total Taxa			> 18	18 - 15	14 - 11	10 - 7	< 7
2 CEOT Taxa			> 10	10 - 8	7 - 5	4 - 2	< 2
3 Biotic Index			< 3.5	3.5 – 4.5	4.6 – 5.4	5.5 – 6.5	> 6.5
4 % EPT Abundance			> 80	80 - 70	69.9 - 60	59.9 - 40	< 40
5 % Dominance			< 10	10 - 15	15.1 - 25	25.1 - 50	> 50
6 % Tolerant			< 2	2 - 10	10.1 - 15	15.1 - 20	> 20

Stream Score

Integrity Rating

> 48	48 -36	35 – 24	< 24
Optimal	Suboptimal	Marginal	Poor

DISCHARGE: Determine the discharge by using a flow meter (if available) or other methods such as the float method or the velocity head rod method. Discharge should always be measured from a run (area of the channel with fast moving water with no breaks in the surface such as protruding rocks). The more measurements collected the more accurate your discharge results will be. To convert inches into feet, divide by 12. For example, if your depth measurement were 6-inches the result in feet would be 0.5. Indicate the methods chosen to measure the discharge and use the tables to record your results.

Discharge method used

Float	Velocity Head Rod	Flow meter

Water Level

Low	Normal	High	Dry

Channel width _____ feet

Distance (ft)	Depth (ft)	Velocity (ft/sec)	VHR (Rise-inches)	Float (sec)	Discharge (cfs)
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					
19					
20					

Average Depth _____ feet

Cross Sectional Area (CSA) _____ ft^2
(CSA = Average Depth x Width)

Discharge = CSA x Velocity
= _____ x _____
= _____ cfs (ft^3/sec)

If you use a float record your distance below and the number of seconds it took to travel the distance in the column indicated.

Float distance (feet) _____

Use the table below to determine **VHR velocity** from the rises recorded above. The rises below are in inches.

Rise (R)	Velocity	Rise (R)	Velocity
¼	1.2	3 ¼	4.2
½	1.6	3 ½	4.3
¾	2.0	3 ¾	4.5
1	2.3	4	4.6
1 ¼	2.6	4 ¼	4.8
1 ½	2.8	4 ½	4.9
1 ¾	3.1	4 ¾	5.0
2	3.3	5	5.2
2 ¼	3.5	5 ¼	5.3
2 ½	3.7	5 ½	5.4
2 ¾	3.8	5 ¾	5.5
3	4.0	6	5.7

Additional comments: _____

Submit an original or clear copy of your survey to the coordinator at the address provided below.

WV Department of Environmental Protection
WV Save Our Streams Program
47 School Street, Suite 301
Philippi, WV 26416