



**Chesapeake
Monitoring
Cooperative**

Biological Monitoring Data Form for Rocky Bottom Method

Name of Stream: _____ Station ID: _____

Name of Certified Monitor(s): _____

Group/Organization: _____ Number of Participants: _____

Latitude: _____ Longitude: _____

County/State: _____

Survey Date: _____ Start Time: _____ End Time: _____

Description of Site Location: _____

ROCKY BOTTOM SAMPLING

Using a kick-siense net, take up to four samples in the riffle area of 20 to 90 seconds each (75% of the time rubbing rocks, 25% of the time disturbing the streambed). Adjust the length of the sampling period to ensure you collect at least 200 macroinvertebrates. Write the length of each sampling period in seconds and place a check mark next to the net mesh size used

(Note: If sample does not reach 200 organisms, three nets must be 90 seconds for approval).

_____ Net 1 _____ Net 2 _____ Net 3 _____ Net 4 Net Mesh Size: ☐ 1/32" ☐ 1/50"

PHYSICAL CONDITIONS (check predominate condition for each day)

Today: ☐ Sunny ☐ Overcast ☐ Intermittent Rain ☐ Steady Rain ☐ Heavy Rain ☐ Snow

Yesterday: ☐ Sunny ☐ Overcast ☐ Intermittent Rain ☐ Steady Rain ☐ Heavy Rain ☐ Snow

Day Before Yesterday: ☐ Sunny ☐ Overcast ☐ Intermittent Rain ☐ Steady Rain ☐ Heavy Rain ☐ Snow

Water Temperature: _____ °C Avg. Stream Width _____ ft.

Flow Rate: _____ (high, normal, low) Avg. Stream Depth _____ in.

SAMPLING NOTES

MACROINVERTEBRATE COUNT

Macroinvertebrate	Tally	Count	Macroinvertebrate	Tally	Count
Worms 			Common Netspinning Caddisflies 		
Flat Worms 			Most Caddisflies (not Common Netspinning) 		
Leeches 			Beetles 		
Crayfish 			Midges 		
Sowbugs 			Black Flies 		
Scuds 			True Flies 		
Stoneflies 			Gilled Snails 		
Mayflies 			Lunged Snails 		
Dragonflies and Damselflies 			Clams 		
Alderflies, Fishflies, and Hellgrammites 			Other benthic macroinvertebrates		
			Total number of organisms in the sample (include "other" category)		

INDIVIDUAL METRICS

	Organism Groups	Number of Organisms		Total Number of Organisms in the Sample		Percent (This is your value for this metric.)
Metric 1	Mayflies + Stoneflies + Most Caddisflies (not Common Netspinning)		÷		Multiply by 100	%
Metric 2	Common Netspinning Caddisflies		÷		Multiply by 100	%
Metric 3	Lunged Snails		÷		Multiply by 100	%
Metric 4	Beetles		÷		Multiply by 100	%

Metric 5: Tolerant

Organism Groups	Number of Organisms
Black Flies	
Clams	
Dragonflies and Damselflies	
Flatworms	
Leeches	
Lunged Snails	
Midges	
Scuds	
Sowbugs	
Worms	
Total Tolerant	
÷	
Total number of organisms in sample	
Multiply by 100	
Percent (This is your value for Metric 5.)	%

Metric 6: Non-Insect

Organism Groups	Number of Organisms
Clams	
Crayfish	
Flatworms	
Gilled Snails	
Leeches	
Lunged Snails	
Scuds	
Sowbugs	
Worms	
--	--
Total Non-Insect	
÷	
Total number of organisms in sample	
Multiply by 100	
Percent (This is your value for Metric 6.)	%

MULTIMETRIC INDEX (STREAM HEALTH SCORE)

	Metric Organism	Your Metric Value	2	1	0
Metric 1	Mayflies + Stoneflies + Most Caddisflies (not Common Net-spinning)		Greater than 32.2 ☐	16.1 - 32.2 ☐	Less than 16.1 ☐
Metric 2	Common Net-spinning Caddisflies		Less than 19.7 ☐	19.7 - 34.5 ☐	Greater than 34.5 ☐
Metric 3	Lunged Snails		Less than 0.3 ☐	0.3 - 1.5 ☐	Greater than 1.5 ☐
Metric 4	Beetles		Greater than 6.4 ☐	3.2 - 6.4 ☐	Less than 3.2 ☐
Metric 5	Tolerant		Less than 46.7 ☐	46.7 - 61.5 ☐	Greater than 61.5 ☐
Metric 6	Non-Insects		Less than 5.4 ☐	5.4 - 20.8 ☐	Greater than 20.8 ☐
			Total # of 2s:	Total # of 1s:	Total # of 0s:
			Multiply by 2:	Multiply by 1:	Multiply by 0:
		SUBTOTALS			

Add the three subtotals to get the Save Our Streams Multimetric Index Score: _____

☐ Acceptable Ecological Condition (9 - 12)

☐ Ecological conditions cannot be determined at this time/Grayzone (8)

☐ Unacceptable Ecological Condition (0 - 7)

STREAM CONDITIONS (check all that apply)

Fish water quality indicators: ☐ scattered individuals ☐ scattered schools ☐ trout (pollution sensitive) ☐ bass (somewhat sensitive) ☐ catfish (pollution tolerant) ☐ carp (pollution tolerant)	Barriers to fish movement: ☐ beaver dams ☐ man-made dams ☐ waterfalls (> 1 ft.) ☐ none ☐ other _____	Surface water appearance: ☐ clear ☐ clear, but tea colored ☐ colored sheen (oily) ☐ foamy ☐ milky ☐ muddy ☐ black ☐ grey ☐ other _____	Streambed deposit (bottom): ☐ grey ☐ orange/red ☐ yellow ☐ black ☐ brown ☐ silt ☐ sand ☐ other _____
Odor: ☐ musky ☐ oil ☐ sewage ☐ other _____ ☐ none	Stability of streambed (bed sinks beneath your feet in): ☐ no spots ☐ a few spots ☐ many spots	Algae color: ☐ light green ☐ dark green ☐ brown coated ☐ matted on stream bed ☐ hairy	Algae located: ☐ everywhere ☐ in spots ☐ % covered _____
Stream channel shade: ☐ full (more than 75%) ☐ high (50% - 74%) ☐ moderate (25% - 49%) ☐ slight (1% - 24%) ☐ none	Streambank composition (=100%): _____ % trees _____ % shrubs _____ % grass _____ % bare soil _____ % rocks _____ % other	Streambank erosion: ☐ severe (more than 75%) ☐ high (50% - 74%) ☐ moderate (25% - 49%) ☐ slight (1% - 24%) ☐ none	Riffle composition (=100%): _____ % silt (mud) _____ % sand (1/16" - 1/4" grains) _____ % gravel (1/4" - 2" stones) _____ % cobbles (2" - 10" stones) _____ % boulders (> 10" stones)

LAND USES IN THE WATERSHED (UPSTREAM AND SURROUNDING SAMPLING SITE)

Indicate whether the following land uses within a one-mile radius of your sampling site have a high (H), moderate (M), slight (S), or no (N) potential impact to the quality of your stream. Leave blank if not present.

_____ Oil & gas drilling	_____ Urban uses (parking lots, highways, etc.)	_____ Agriculture (type: _____)
_____ Housing developments	_____ Sanitary landfill	_____ Trash dump
_____ Forestry	_____ Active construction	_____ Fields
_____ Logging	_____ Mining (type: _____)	_____ Livestock pasture
		_____ Other _____

LAND USE NOTES: Describe the amount and type of litter in and around the stream and indicate the current and potential future threats to the stream's health.

Submit data online at www.cleanwaterhub.org. If you have any questions about this protocol, please contact the VA SOS Coordinator at vasos@iwa.org. Data sheets must be stored for five years after sampling. If you are unable to keep your datasheets, please contact the VA SOS Coordinator.