

Stream habitat record sheet—Method 3

Date (dd/mm/yy)

/ /

Monitor(s) _____

Site code _____

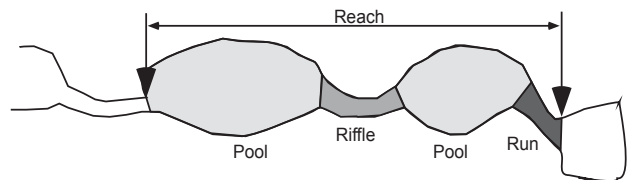
Tributary name _____

1. Poor visibility

Mark this box if water visibility at the site prevents accurate assessment.

Poor visibility

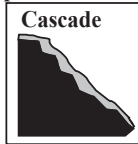
2. Sketch the reach (aerial view) showing the distribution of channel, in-stream and overhanging habitat types. Also record on the sketch any obstructions to this visual survey.



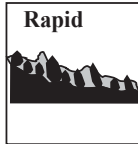
Channel habitat types:



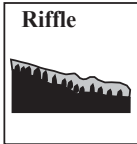
Waterfall
Height > 1 m
Gradient > 60 deg



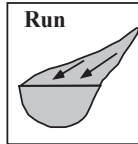
Cascade
Step height < 1 m
Gradient 5–60 deg
Strong currents



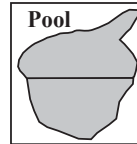
Rapid
Depth > 0.3 m
Gradient 3–5 deg
Strong currents
Rocks break surface



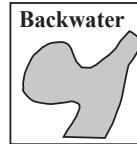
Riffle
Depth 0.1–0.3 m
Gradient 1–3 deg
Moderate currents
Surface unbroken but not smooth



Run
Depth > 0.3 m
Gradient 1–3 deg
Weak but distinct and uniform current
Surface unbroken



Pool
Depth > 0.5 m where stream widens or deepens and currents decline



Backwater
Depth < 0.3m
Reasonably sized (> 20% of channel width) section cut off from the channel













3. Channel habitat types

In the boxes provided, estimate the percentage of the total reach (site) length made up by each channel habitat type. Estimate the average length, width and depth for each type present, as well as the height and gradient of all sloping channel habitat types. If a type is not present, write a 0 in the appropriate box.

Channel habitat types	% of site (reach)	Average length (m)	Average width (m)	Average depth (m)	Average height (m)	Av. gradient (degrees)
Waterfall						
Cascade						
Rapid						
Riffle						
Run						
Pool						
Backwater						

4. In-stream habitat types

In the boxes provided, estimate the percentage of the total bed area made up by each in-stream habitat type present at the site. If a type is not present, write a 0 in the appropriate box. If visibility is too poor to accurately assess a type, write 'NA' and tick the 'poor visibility' box in step 1.

In-stream habitat types	% bed cover
 Individual log	
 Log jam	
 Individual branch	
 Branch pile	
 Terrestrial leaves and twigs	
 Macrophyte fragments and algae	
 Submerged macrophytes	
 Floating macrophytes	
 Emergent macrophytes	
 Tree roots	
 Rocks, boulders, cliffs and cobbles	
 Man-made structures	
Total types present	
Total sum of ratings	

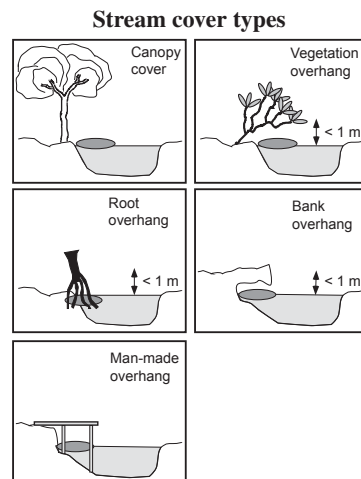
10-52

5. Stream cover

Estimate the percentage of the total length of each bank that provides each type of stream cover, and the average width of cover provided by each type. If a cover type is absent, record a 0 in the appropriate box.

Left bank		Stream cover type	Right bank	
Bank length (%)	Average width (m)		Bank length (%)	Average width (m)
		Canopy cover		
		Vegetation overhang		
		Root overhang		
		Bank overhang		
		Man-made overhang		

Note: Bank length is the percentage of shading provided to the stream by a cover type at midday. Average width is distance over the water surface that the cover extends from the bank.



6. Channel and in-stream habitat diversity indexes

These scores are derived using complex formulas and should be calculated off-site. Copy the results to this sheet.

Channel habitat diversity index

In-stream habitat diversity index