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-siene 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 all that apply)

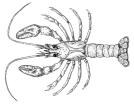
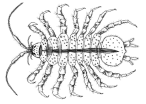
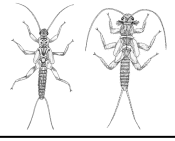
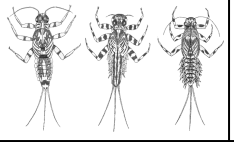
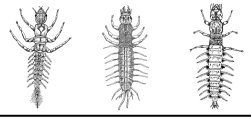
Today:	☐ Sunny	☐ Overcast	☐ Intermittent Rain	☐ Steady Rain	☐ Heavy Rain	☐ Snow
Yesterday:	☐ Sunny	☐ Overcast	☐ Intermittent Rain	☐ Steady Rain	☐ Heavy Rain	☐ Snow
Day Before Yesterday:	☐ Sunny	☐ Overcast	☐ Intermittent Rain	☐ Steady Rain	☐ Heavy Rain	☐ Snow

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

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

OTHER COMMENTS _____

MACROINVERTEBRATE COUNT

Macroinvertebrate	Tally	Count
Worms 		
Flat Worms 		
Leeches 		
Crayfish 		
Sowbugs 		
Scuds 		
Stoneflies 		
Mayflies 		
Dragonflies and Damselflies 		
Alderflies, Fishflies, and Hellgrammites 		

Macroinvertebrate	Tally	Count
Common Netspinning Caddisflies 		
Most Caddisflies (not Common Netspinning) 		
Beetles (ex. riffle beetles, water pennies) 		
Midges 		
Black Flies 		
True Flies  (ex. crane flies, dance flies, watersnipes, etc) 		
Gilled Snails 		
Lunged Snails 		
Clams 		
Other benthic macroinvertebrates (ex. aquatic caterpillars) *If unknown, use online tools or SOS staff assistance to identify before submitting		
Total number of organisms in the sample (include "other benthic macroinvertebrates" in total)		

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 Netspinning)		Greater than 32.2	16.1 - 32.2	Less than 16.1
Metric 2	Common Netspinning 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:**
		SUBTOTALS	**Multiply by 2:**	**Multiply by 1:**	**Multiply by 0:**

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

Fish water quality indicators:	**Barriers to fish movement:**	**Surface water appearance:**	**Streambed deposit (bottom):**
☐ scattered individuals ☐ scattered schools ☐ trout (pollution sensitive) ☐ bass (somewhat sensitive) ☐ catfish (pollution tolerant) ☐ carp (pollution tolerant)	☐ beaver dams ☐ man-made dams ☐ waterfalls (> 1 ft.) ☐ none ☐ other_____	☐ clear ☐ clear, but tea colored ☐ colored sheen (oily) ☐ foamy ☐ milky ☐ muddy ☐ black ☐ grey ☐ other_____	☐ 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) (Not applicable to Muddy Bottom Streams)

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.

____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_____

COMMENTS: 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.

_____

_____

Please send your datasheets to your regional coordinator or submit them online at www.vasos.org (For VA Monitors) or www.cleanwaterhub.org (For MD Monitors). If you have any questions about this protocol, please contact the Mid-Atlantic SOS Coordinator at vasos@iwla.org. Data sheets must be stored for five years after sampling. If you are unable to keep your datasheets, please contact the SOS Coordinator.