

Today I earned my points by:

- Being prepared with the necessary materials
- Following all safety expectations
- Making careful observations
- Measuring and recording data carefully
- Assisting other students
- Listening attentively and asking appropriate questions
- Maintaining a positive attitude

Session:	Points Possible:	My Points:
Stream Bugs	50	
Stream Flow	50	
Water Chemistry	50	
Riparian Zone/Fish traps	50	
Totals		

Today's trip is supported by grants from the following organizations:



TOSHIBA



Wasilla Soil & Water Conservation District



RIVER RANGERS

Little Susitna River



Name: _____
 Science Teacher: _____ Per: _____
 Math Teacher: _____ Per: _____
 Date: _____ Group: _____

Little Susitna River Stream Ecology

Trip Objective:

Expectation (Our School Rule):

Guest Names:

Checklist-Required items:

- Waders/hipboots Borrowed from TMS? Pair # _____
- Sack lunch
- Water bottle
- Rain jacket
- 2 pencils
- Extra warm clothes

Checklist for written responses: The 6 +1 Traits of Writing

- Ideas
- Word choice
- Sentence fluency
- Conventions
- Organization
- Voice
- Presentation

5. In the space below, make a DETAILED scientific drawing of any fish sample from the fish traps. Be sure to add measurements (in mm) and label your drawing. If no fish are caught, you will be given an alternate item to draw.

6. Describe 3 questions you have relating to the ecology of the Little Susitna River watershed.

Stream Site Name: _____
 Latitude: _____
 Longitude: _____

Weather:

- Clear Cloudy Rain Drizzle Snow Sleet

Air Temperature: _____ °C

Habitat Types:

- ___ Riffle/Cobble ___ Snag ___ Aquatic Vegetation ___ Undercut Bank ___ Mud/Muck

Water Quality — Qualitative Observations:

H₂O Appearance

- Scum/Foam
 Muddy/silty
 Clear
 Cloudy
 Oily Sheem
 Other _____
 Trash _____

Stream Bed

- Orange to Red
 Yellowish
 Brown/black
 Greenish
 None — clean bed
 Other _____

Odor

- Sewage
 Rotten Egg
 Petroleum/fuel
 Russell-like
 None
 Other _____

Chemical Tests:

Dissolved O₂ (DO)

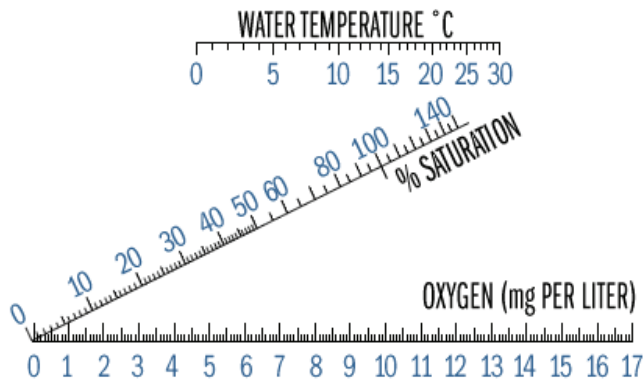
_____ mg/L

pH

_____ Acidic Basic

Conductivity

OXYGEN SATURATION CHART



Water Temperature: _____ °C

DO Saturation: _____ %

Comments/other observations:

Streamflow

Flow site selection

Measure a 20 meter section and mark the upper end, middle (10 meter mark), and lower end with flags for easy reference.

Width

At the flow site, measure the width of the river to the nearest cm in three places. Record the measurements on the data sheet and compute the mean width.

Depth

At each of the three places where you measured the width of the stream, measure the depth to the nearest cm at five equally spaced places across the stream. Record your measurements on the data sheet and compute the average.

Velocity

Velocity is the measure of how fast something moves. Water velocity can be measured by timing how fast a floating object travels 20 meters in the stream. Calculate velocity by taking the distance and dividing it by the time the floating object took to travel the distance ($V=20m/\# \text{ sec.}$)

Example: If the object floats 20 meters in 10 seconds, velocity is

$V=20 \text{ m}/10\text{sec.}$

$V=2 \text{ m/sec.}$

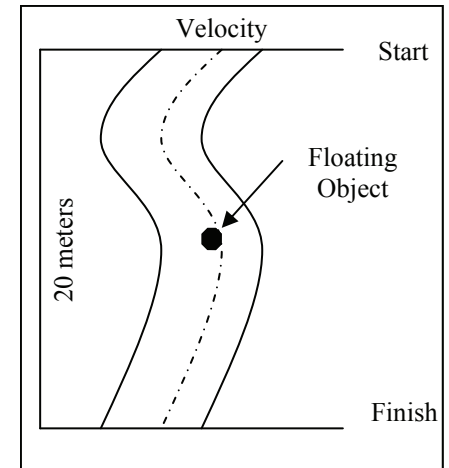
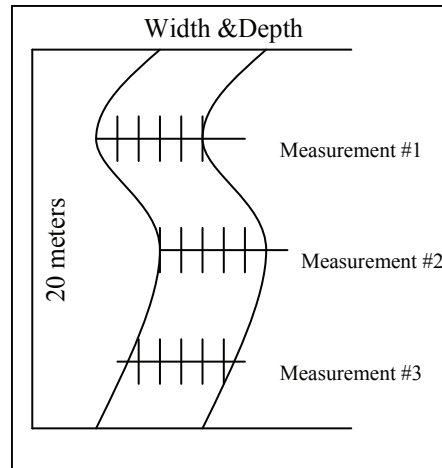
Bottom Factor

Look at the bottom of the stream. If it is rubble, gravel, or plants, the bottom factor (a) is 0.8. If the bottom is smooth mud, silt, or bedrock, the bottom factor (a) is 0.9.

Streamflow

Compute streamflow in cubic meters per second using the formula below:

Streamflow is cubic meters per second = width × depth × velocity × bottom factor



Riparian Zone-Fish Traps

Site Name: _____

GPS coordinates: Latitude: _____ N

Longitude: _____ W

Elevation: _____

1. Describe some human impacts in the riparian zone at this location.

2. Describe how salmon are a nutrient link between the marine ecosystem (the ocean) and the local terrestrial ecosystem (the boreal forest).

3. Name the different species of fish that may be present in this watershed:

4. Record other notes and observations below:

Location: Hatcher Pass (Fishhook) Bridge

GPS coordinates: Latitude: _____ N

Longitude: _____ W

Elevation: _____

1. Describe the river at this location. Include the gradient, substrate size, channel path and shape, and any other observations.

2. Water temperature: _____ °C

3. Explain the importance of white water in the upper reaches of the river. Why is this important for organisms living in the lower reaches?

Macroinvertebrate Data

Instructions:

1. Use “# of **different types**” column to record the number of different types of insects in each specified major group.
2. Estimate the total number of organisms present in your sample for each major group and taxa under “**Est. of total # in sample**.”
3. Total the numbers of **E**, **P**, and **T** to calculate “**EPT richness total**.”
4. Total the numbers of all other to calculate “**Non-EPT richness total**.”
5. Add “**EPT richness total**” to find “**Taxa richness**” and “**Total # of organisms**.”

Major Group	# of different types	Est. of total # in sample
Mayflies (<i>E</i>) <i>Ephemeroptera</i>	E=	
Stoneflies (<i>P</i>) <i>Plecoptera</i>	P=	
Caddisflies (<i>T</i>) <i>Tricoptera</i>	T=	
EPT Richness total		
Midges		
Craneflies		
Blackflies		
Aquatic mites		
Beetles		
Dragonflies		
Damselflies		
Scuds		
Snails		
Clams/mussels		
Worms		
leeches		
Flatworms		
Other		
Non-EPT richness total		

Total # of taxa (Taxa richness)

Total # of organisms

Other organisms: Fish: _____ Frogs: _____
 Signs of beaver/muskrat/otter? _____

Date _____

Observers _____

Measure	1	2	3	Average
Width	_____ meters			W= _____
Depth (measure in meters to nearest cm)	_____ meters			D= _____
	1	2	3	
Velocity Distance/Time	_____ m ² /sec. = _____ m/sec.			V= _____
	1	2	3	

Bottom Factor: rubble, gravel, or plant a=0.8
 Smooth mud, silt, or bedrock a=0.9 a = _____

Streamflow site: _____ GPS coordinates: _____ N _____ W

Streamflow (r) = $W \times D \times V \times a$

Streamflow = _____ x _____ x _____ = _____ m³/sec.