

Waterway Survey

Waterway _____
Surveyor(s) _____
Starting Location (lat/long if available) _____
Ending Location (lat/long if available) _____
Date and Time _____
Weather _____

Waterway Characteristics

1. Average width: _____ feet or meters
(approximate for lakes and wetlands)
2. Average depth: _____ feet or meters
(approximate if not easily determined)
3. Flow: _____ ft./sec
(drop a leaf or stick in the water, time its travel over a known distance, and divide the time into the distance)
4. Temperature: _____ F or C
5. Clarity:
Muddy ___ Cloudy ___ Clear ___ Greenish ___
Other _____
6. Gradient of creekbed:
Flat ___ Sloped ___ Steeply sloped ___
7. Bottom (substrate): check all that apply
Silt/mud ___ Sand ___ Gravel ___ Cobbles ___
Boulders ___ Other _____
8. Shade:
No shade ___ <50% Shade ___ >50% Shade ___
9. Logs/brush in water:
None ___ Occasional ___ Common ___
10. Animal activity (i.e. beaver): _____

11. Human alterations: _____

Culvert ___ Bridge ___ Rip/rap ___
Vegetation removal ___

12. General appraisal

Shoreline Characteristics

1. Bank:
Steep ___ Gentle ___ Rocky ___ Loose soil ___
Eroded slightly ___ Undercut bank ___
2. Bank vegetation:
Extensive ___ Moderate ___ Minimal ___
Trees ___ Shrubs ___ Grass ___ Wetland ___
3. Surrounding land use: (check as many as apply)
___ Forested
___ Wetlands
___ Residential
___ Urban
___ Park
___ Commercial
___ Industrial
___ Paved/parking lots
___ Roads
___ Bridges
___ Trails
___ New construction
___ Fueling area
___ Other: _____
4. Potential pollution problems/loss of waterway
___ Silt/dirt
___ Erosion
___ Sewage
___ Trash
___ Gas/oil/diesel fumes or sheen
___ Cutting/clearing of vegetation (within 25' creek buffer)
___ Filled in wetlands
___ Filled in creek (snow, dirt, gravel, other)
___ Animal waste
___ Storm drain outfall (cloudy or foamy water)
___ Other pipes
___ Construction activities
___ Debris in water
___ Vehicles driving in waterways
___ Dead fish
___ Invasive plants or fish (type if known)

5. General appraisal

Sketch your selected waterway section with the characteristics and problems you note, e.g. logs, bank vegetation, erosion sites, storm drain outfalls, location of debris, pollution problems, etc.