

Name(s):

Date:

Stream Site Name / Number:

Field Training Reflection

Now that you've practiced using your field equipment and sampling techniques, take a few moments to think about what each measurement tells you about your stream site. Use these questions to connect your field work with what you know about stream ecology and water quality.

Directions: Answer each question in complete sentences. Use the "Think About" prompts to add detail.

1. What do the macroinvertebrates you found tell us about water quality at your study site?

Think About:

- Were they mostly pollution sensitive, tolerant, or a mix?
- What does your Water Quality Rating (WQR) tell you about overall stream health?
- How might pollution or changes at your site affect what you find in the future?

Your Response:

2. How did the different habitats at your site impact the types of macroinvertebrates you collected?

Think About:

- In which habitat (riffle, pool, leaf pack, etc.) did you find the most organisms?
- Did certain species appear more often in one habitat type than another?
- Why do you think certain bugs thrive in some habitats but not others?

Your Response:

3. Why do we collect *E. coli* samples, and what can they tell us about your stream's water quality?

Think About:

- Where might *E. coli* come from at your site?
- What does finding *E. coli* mean for people or animals who use the water?
- How could rain or snowmelt affect *E. coli* levels?

Your Response:

4. How can flow and turbidity measurements affect your understanding of stream conditions?

Think About:

- How do you think faster flow or high turbidity might affect what you find in your samples?
- How might these measurements change with the seasons or weather?

Your Response:

5. What questions do you have about any of the monitoring procedures you practiced?

Think about:

- Do you feel confident using each tool?
- Is there anything you'd like to review before your next field sampling day?

Your Response: