

# Activity 2 –Water Quality Field Information & Site Assessment

Fill out one set of sheets for each observation place or time.

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Start Time: \_\_\_\_\_ End Time: \_\_\_\_\_

**Collectors' Names:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Watershed Identification:

Major Watershed (i.e. Athabasca River Basin): \_\_\_\_\_

Sub-Watershed (i.e. Pembina River): \_\_\_\_\_

Sampling Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Summary of Major Land Use in the Watershed” (use approximate percentages)

- \_\_\_\_\_ % Residential
- \_\_\_\_\_ % Commercial/Industrial
- \_\_\_\_\_ % Agricultural/Rural
- \_\_\_\_\_ % Parkland/Park
- \_\_\_\_\_ % Other

Latitude (i.e. 52° North) \_\_\_\_\_ Longitude (i.e. 112° West) \_\_\_\_\_

Temperature: \_\_\_\_\_ °C Water (surface) \_\_\_\_\_ °C Air

Wind Direction: (check one)

\_\_\_\_\_  
N      NE      E      SE      S      SW      W      NW

Weather in Past 24 Hours: (check one)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clear/Sunny      Overcast      Showers      Rain (steady rain)      Storm (Heavy rain)

Weather Now: (check one)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clear/Sunny      Overcast      Showers      Rain (steady rain)      Storm (Heavy rain)

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Water Appearance:

Clear   Milky   Foamy   Dark Brown   Oily Sheen   Reddish   Green   Other

Water Odour:

None   Sewage   Chlorine   Fishy   Rotten Eggs   Petroleum   Other

Are submerged aquatic plants present?             Yes             No

List the types of plants:

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### Riparian (stream side) vegetation.

List types of vegetation present at your stream site:

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**Estimate Canopy Cover:**                    % of stream site shaded.

### Bottom substrate:

Record percentage of materials that make up the stream bottom. Note all that are present.

       % Bedrock

       % Silt

       % Sand (< 2 mm.)

       % Gravel (2 mm.-6.25 cm.)

       % Cobble (6.25 cm.-25 cm.)

       % Boulder (> 25 cm.)

       % Other

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### Embeddedness:

Check the description that best describes the percentage of gravel, cobble, and boulder surface covered by fine sediment or silt.

\_\_\_\_\_  
0 – 25%

\_\_\_\_\_  
25 - 50%

\_\_\_\_\_  
50 – 75%

\_\_\_\_\_  
75 – 100%

### Watershed Features:

Indicate whether the following land uses are dominant (D) or occur in just small areas (X) upstream and surrounding your stream site. If a listed land use is not present, leave blank.

\_\_\_\_ Forest

\_\_\_\_ Logging

\_\_\_\_ Golf Course

\_\_\_\_ Grassland

\_\_\_\_ Ungrazed Fields

\_\_\_\_ Commercial/Industrial

\_\_\_\_ Scattered Residential

\_\_\_\_ Urban

\_\_\_\_ Cropland

\_\_\_\_ Sewage Treatment

\_\_\_\_ Park

\_\_\_\_ Mining

\_\_\_\_ Sanitary Landfill

\_\_\_\_ Livestock Pasture

\_\_\_\_ Housing Construction

\_\_\_\_ Other (specify):

\_\_\_\_ Other (specify):

\_\_\_\_ Other (specify):

### Is there an upstream stream obstruction such as a bridge, dam or beaver dam?

\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_ No

If yes, how far is the dam from the site of this observation?

\_\_\_\_\_

### Is there an upstream wastewater treatment discharge?

\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_ No

If yes, how far is the discharge from the site of this observation?

\_\_\_\_\_

### Are any pipes, outfalls or storm drains emptying upstream of you study site?

\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_ No

If yes, how far is the discharge from the site of this observation?

\_\_\_\_\_

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### Habitat Survey Notes

(Include sediment odors, appearance, and/or the presence of silt, watershed features present but not used on this data sheet, and any other information you feel is important or interesting to mention):

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Draw a simple map to illustrate the site of this observation. Include information about features and vegetation in and around the water that might impact water quality.

