Stream Walk Worksheet

Stream/Creek Name:		**Date:**	**Start Time:** am pm

Monitoring Location (GPS reading and nearest road intersection)
Start:
End:

Your name/Group:	**Email:**	**Cell phone:**

1. Weather (Check appropriate categories) Check http://w1.weather.gov/data/obhistory/KIGX.html for 3-day history

Air Temperature:	Inches of Recent Rain/Snow:	Rainfall/Snow time period?
	Weather in the past 24 hours	**Weather Now**
Storm (heavy rain or snow)		
Rain (steady rain)		
Snow Flurries/Ice		
Showers (intermittent rain)		
Overcast		
Clear/Sunny		

2. Water Appearance (check all that apply)

Water Level: ☐ **None**   ☐ **Pools Only**   ☐ **Some substrate exposed; most of bank exposed**
☐ **Most of substrate covered, but banks exposed**   ☐ **Bankfull**   ☐ **Overflowing banks**

Flow :   ☐ **Rushing**   ☐ **Medium Flow**   ☐ **Slow to Still**   **Did a stick thrown in move downstream?**

☐ **Clear**	☐ **Green**	☐ **Milky**	☐ **Sediment laden**	
☐ **Tea-colored**	☐ **Dark Brown**	☐ **Orange Goo or Brown Floc** (iron bacteria)	☐ **Foamy** Foam height: in. Color:	☐ **Oily Sheen** **Does sheen break apart when poked?** Yes No
☐ **Turbid**	☐ **Other:**			

3. Water Odors

☐ **None**	☐ **Rotten Eggs**	☐ **Sewage**	☐ **Petroleum**
☐ **Chlorine**	☐ **Musky**	☐ **Fishy**	☐ **Other** (describe)

4. Observations to Report (Check all that apply & describe. Attach photos.)

☐ **Pipes entering creek (describe below)**
☐ **Dry weather discharge from pipes (describe below)**
☐ **Leaking or surcharging sanitary sewers or manholes (describe below)**
☐ **Debris in channel (describe below)**
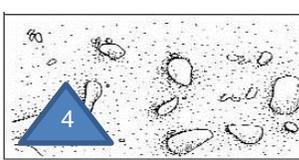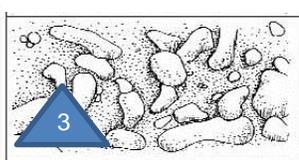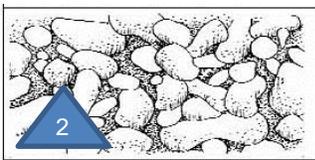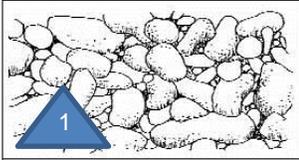☐ **Other (also, describe above conditions)**

5. Conditions (Face UPSTREAM to report)   Score for entire length of stream reach

None	Rare	Common	Abundant	Total
0	<25%	25%-75%	75%-95%	95%-100%

	Left Bank	Right Bank
Active bank erosion	N R C A T	N R C A T
Sand bars or sedimentation	N R C A T	N R C A T
Vegetation overhanging water	N R C A T	N R C A T
Wrack lines (overbank flow evidence)	Yes No	Yes No
Embeddedness in Riffles ⬇	1 2 3 4 NA (use diagrams below)	1 2 3 4 NA (use diagrams below)

6. Human Impacts

	Left Bank	Right Bank
Evidence of mowing to edge	N R C A T	N R C A T
Trails/pathways to creek	N R C A T	N R C A T
Litter (Describe Types)	N R C A T	N R C A T

Stream Crossings (Describe)

7. Wildlife (Sightings, tracks found, other signs) Check out enature.com

☐Amphibians ☐Spiders ☐Turtles ☐Beavers ☐Mussels/Snails ☐Crayfish ☐Snakes

☐Mammals (name)_____ ☐Fish (describe) _____

☐Birds   ☐Other   Can you identify what you found?_____

Comments_____

8. Algae   ☐ Suspended   ☐ Filamentous   ☐ Clumps or Mats   ☐ On sticks/stones

☐ Green   ☐ Brown   ☐ Other: Comment if severe:_____

9. Are Plants IN the water? Please describe: _____

10. DRAW a picture of your stream reach. Include riffles(R) and pools(P), pipes, large boulders, downed trees, bridges, etc. Place an arrow in the direction of flow. Please attach photos with comments about problem areas. Take pictures upstream & downstream of your temperature monitoring site with each assessment to compare differences over the years.