OSU Oregon State University Extension Service

StreamWebs™
Student Stewardship Network

Seagrass Data Sheet

Share your field data quickly and easily using StreamWebs™. Find out what the macroinvertebrates you found say about your stream, keep track of your photopoints, graph water quality data, upload a video, and much more.
www.streamwebs.org

Name: _____

School: _____

Teacher: _____ Date: _____

Site Name: _____ Quadrant #: _____ Weather: _____ Tidal Depth: _____

Survey Procedure

Quadrat eelgrass surveys

Items needed: 25 X 25 cm quadrat, Measuring tape

1. Haphazardly toss quadrat in eelgrass.
2. Visually estimate the percent of space within the quadrat that is covered with eelgrass and record.
3. Visually estimate the percent cover of space within the quadrat covered with macroalgae and record.
4. Count and record the number of eelgrass shoots in the quadrat. Only count shoots that are rooted within the quadrat. Often leaf blades from shoots outside the quadrat overlap the quadrat space: Move these to the side as you count.
5. Make measurements of five shoots within the quadrat, and record the following for each shoot:
    - Estimate the percent of the shoot that is covered with epiphytic algae
    - Record the length of the longest leaf blade in centimeters
    - Inspect the tip of the longest leaf blade. Does it appear broken, or is it rounded?

Macroinvertebrate sweeps

Items needed: 500 micron mesh dip net

1. Wade into eelgrass bed where water reaches approximately mid-calf.
2. Lower net into water and sweep through a straight line for approximately 2 meters in length. As you sweep, jiggle the net to loosen any invertebrates that are clinging to the eelgrass.
3. Bring net out of water and count and record the number of isopods, amphipods, sea slugs, and snails in the net. Many of these organisms are less than 2 millimeters, be sure to inspect the net closely.
4. Rinse the net by lowering the net into the water, pushing the mesh fabric in and out of the ring, before sweeping again.
5. Walk at least 5 meters parallel to the channel and repeat sweep.

Fish Sweeps

Items needed: Large mesh fish dip net

1. Wade into eelgrass bed where water is approximately knee-high.
2. Quickly lower the net in the water and sweep the eelgrass as quickly as possible in a straight line, making sure the net is above the sediment, for approximately 2 meters.
3. Bring the net out of the water to identify, count, and record your catch.

Plants - Quadrat 1

# of Shoots		% Cover Macroalgae	
Max Leaf Length		Intact Tip?	% Cover Epiphytes
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

Plants - Quadrat 2

# of Shoots		% Cover Macroalgae	
Max Leaf Length		Intact Tip?	% Cover Epiphytes
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

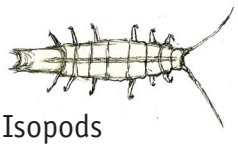
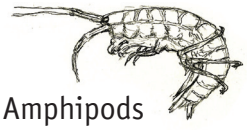
Plants - Quadrat 3

# of Shoots		% Cover Macroalgae	
Max Leaf Length		Intact Tip?	% Cover Epiphytes
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

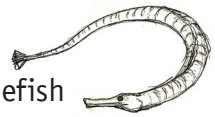
Plants - Quadrat 4

# of Shoots		% Cover Macroalgae	
Max Leaf Length		Intact Tip?	% Cover Epiphytes
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

Macroinvertebrates

	1	2	3	4
 # Isopods				
 # Amphipods				
 # Snails				
 # Sea Slugs				

Fish

	1	2	3	4
# Gunnel 				
# Sculpin 				
# Pipefish 				
# Stickleback 				
# Sole