

GEORGIA ADOPT-A-STREAM: Stream Habitat Survey

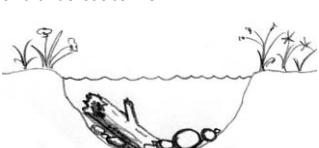
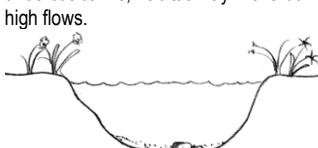
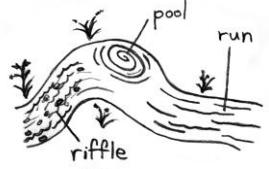
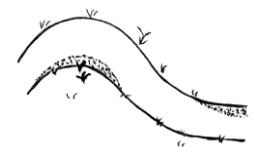
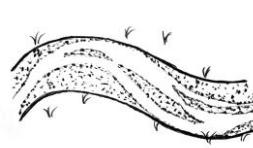
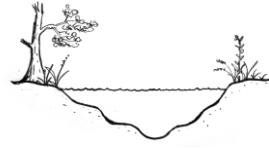
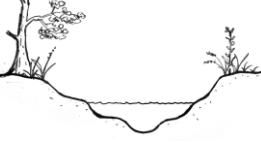
(Also fill out the Basic Visual Form when completing this survey)

Type of Stream:

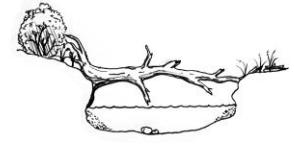
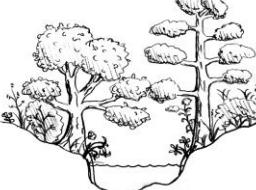
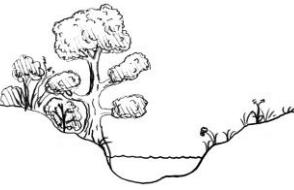
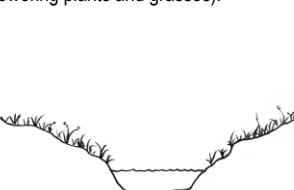
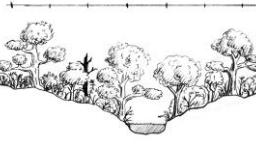
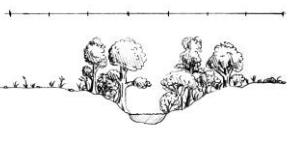
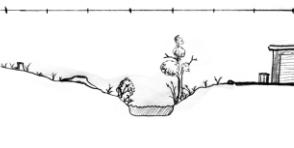
Rocky bottom
 Muddy bottom

Stream habitat will be evaluated looking both upstream and downstream, and includes: channel bottom materials, streamside vegetation, slope, and other channel characteristics. You may choose a value between 0-10 for each parameter. Note #'s 8-10 ask you to evaluate each bank separately.

All measurements should be taken during baseflow conditions. Stream reach is defined as 12 times stream width, bankfull to bankfull.

Habitat Parameter	Excellent ----- -Poor											
1. Epifaunal Substrate What types of submerged materials are on the channel bottom?	<p>Abundant stable habitat cover for colonization by macroinvertebrates and fish: submerged roots, woody and vegetative debris, cobbles, leaf packs and undercut banks.</p>  <p>Adequate stable habitat cover for colonization by macroinvertebrates and fish: submerged roots, woody and vegetative debris, cobbles, leaf packs and undercut banks.</p>  <p>Little or no stable habitat cover available for colonization by macroinvertebrates and fish: submerged roots, woody and vegetative debris, cobbles, leaf packs and undercut banks; habitat may move during high flows.</p> 										What did you see?	
	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	Score
2. Embeddedness * For ROCKY BOTTOM streams only Are fine sediments being deposited in riffle/run area?	<p>Gravel and cobble are slightly embedded in riffle area.</p>  <p>Gravel and cobble are partially embedded in riffle area.</p>  <p>Gravel and cobble are completely embedded in riffle area.</p> 										What did you see?	
	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	Score
3. Riffle/Run/Pool Is a diversity of instream habitats available: riffle, runs and pools?	<p>Yes, all three (3) habitat types (riffle, run, pool) are present and frequent.</p>  <p>Two (2) habitat types are present.</p>  <p>Only one (1) habitat type present and dominant.</p> 										What did you see?	
	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	Score
4. Sediment Deposition Are point bars and islands present?	<p>Point bars and islands stable and of small size and frequency with some vegetation. Composed mostly of gravel and cobble.</p>  <p>Point bars and islands less stable and of moderate size and frequency with some sparse vegetation. Composed mostly of some gravel and finer sediment.</p>  <p>Point bars and islands unstable and of a large size with little or no vegetation. Composed almost entirely of fine sediment.</p> 										What did you see?	
	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	Score
5. Channel Flow Status How much water is in the stream channel?	<p>Water reaches base of both lower banks; little substrate exposed.</p>  <p>Some substrate is exposed and water partially fills channel.</p>  <p>Most substrate is exposed and very little water in channel.</p> 										What did you see?	
	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	Score

Total first side _____

Habitat Parameter	Excellent ----- Poor											
6. Channel Alteration Is the stream channel altered by humans?	<p>No evidence of channelization (straightening) or alterations such as dredging, agriculture, concrete banks or construction activities.</p>  <p>Some evidence of channelization (straightening) and/or alterations such as dredging, agriculture, concrete banks or construction activities.</p>  <p>Most of stream reach channelized and/or many alterations present such as dredging, agriculture, concrete banks or construction activities.</p> 										What did you see?	
	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
7. Channel Sinuosity <small>* For MUDDY BOTTOM streams only</small> Does the channel have lots of curves and bends?	<p>Yes, bends in the channel are frequent.</p>  <p>There are more bends than straight sections.</p>  <p>There are more straight sections than sections with bends or channel is entirely straight.</p> 										What did you see?	
	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
8. Bank Stability How stable are the streambanks?	<p>Bank stable; erosion, scouring, undercutting or bank failure absent or minimal. Vegetation overhanging the stream is abundant.</p>  <p>Bank moderately stable; evidence of small areas of erosion, undercutting and scouring, or bank failure present. Moderate amounts of overhanging vegetation present.</p>  <p>Bank unstable; many eroded and scoured areas with undercutting; bank failure present; steep banks. Little overhanging vegetation present.</p> 										What did you see?	
Determine right/left bank by facing downstream	Left bank	5	4.5	4	3.5	3	2.5	2	1.5	1	.5	0
	Right bank	5	4.5	4	3.5	3	2.5	2	1.5	1	.5	0
9. Vegetative Protection Are streambanks covered & shaded by a variety of vegetation?	<p>Most streambank surfaces covered and shaded by a large variety of vegetation (trees, shrubs, flowering plants and grasses).</p>  <p>Some streambank surfaces covered and shaded by some variety of vegetation (trees, shrubs, flowering plants and grasses).</p>  <p>Few streambank surfaces covered and shaded by vegetation. Little variety of vegetation. Streambank dominated by one type of vegetation (trees, shrubs, flowering plants and grasses).</p> 										What did you see?	
Determine right/left bank by facing downstream	Left bank	5	4.5	4	3.5	3	2.5	2	1.5	1	.5	0
	Right bank	5	4.5	4	3.5	3	2.5	2	1.5	1	.5	0
10. Riparian Vegetative Zone Width What is the amount of buffer available?	<p>Buffer present; a large variety of vegetation extends at least three channel widths on each side.</p>  <p>Some buffer present; some variety of vegetation extends two to one channel width on each side. Human activities have impacted buffer zone.</p>  <p>Little or no buffer present; vegetation extends less than one channel width on each side. Human activities substantially impact buffer zone.</p> 										What did you see?	
Determine right/left bank by facing downstream	Left bank	5	4.5	4	3.5	3	2.5	2	1.5	1	.5	0
	Right bank	5	4.5	4	3.5	3	2.5	2	1.5	1	.5	0
											Score (Add both banks)	

Stream Habitat Score: **Excellent (69-90)** **Good (46-68)** **Fair (23-45)** **Poor (0-22)** Total second side _____

Please submit data at: www.GeorgiaAdoptAStream.org
Or send to: 2 MLK Jr. Dr. S.E., Suite 1462, Atlanta, Georgia 30334
Fax: 404-651-8556 Phone: 404-463-1511

Total first side _____

Total _____