

Sampling Methods



Photo by Bruce Voigts



LOOK everywhere!

That's **SAFE** and **LEGAL**!

Indicate if microhabitats were “present” or “sampled”

- Algae Mats
- Logjams
- Rootwads
- Fallen Trees
- Silt/Muck
- Sand
- Junk
- Leaf Packs
- Rocks
- Weed Beds
- Undercut Banks
- Rip Rap
- Overhanging Vegetation
- Other

Algae Mats

- Use net or sieve
- Move upstream using short, choppy motions
- Pick apart algae strands to find invertebrates



Logjams and Fallen Trees



- ROTATE - Try to rotate logs if possible, and pick bugs off.
- SCRAPE - Use your sieve or net and scrape against the underside of the log or tree.
- SHAKE – place net downstream and shake the log or tree vigorously.

Root Wads

- SCRAPE – run your sieve or net across the underwater portion.
- SHAKE – place the net downstream and try to shake the roots.



Silt/Muck and Sand



- Scrape a small amount of the material into your net or sieve.
- “Rinse” the sample.
- Look for tracks.
- In gravelly areas do the Benthic Shuffle



Overhanging Vegetation

- Lower net or sieve into water below the vegetation.
- Raise net or sieve up and shake to dislodge organisms.



Leaf Packs



- Pick up leaf pack.
- Put in sieve.
- Pull apart.



Rocks, Rip-Rap and Junk

- If small enough, pick up and pick bugs off of material.
- If larger, try to use sieve or net to sample in between pieces.
- In gravelly areas do the Benthic Shuffle



Aquatic Vegetation/Weed Beds



- Similar to algae mats and overhanging vegetation.
- Drag net or sieve through vegetation.
- Shake to dislodge organisms.



Undercut Banks

- Use sieve or net and drag under bank.



Other

!?!?

