United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Stream Visual Assessment Protocol (SVAP2)

Element 11 (Cover/shelter, habitat continuity and/or space); Element 12 (Food, cover/shelter); and Element 13 (Food, Water, cover/shelter, continuity and/or space)

Attach Photos

General Information

Client: _____ County: _____

Field Office: _____ Contract #: _____

Farm #: _____ Tract #: _____

Field # and acreage: _____

Element 11: Cover/shelter, habitat continuity and/or space

Element 11 Barriers to aquatic species movement scoring matrix

No artificial barriers that prohibit movement of aquatic organisms during any time of the year	Physical structures, water withdrawals and/or water quality seasonally restrict movement of aquatic species	Physical structures, water withdrawals and/or water quality restrict movement of aquatic species throughout the year	Physical structures, water withdrawals and/or water quality prohibit movement of aquatic species
10	9 8 7	6 5 4 3	2 1 0

Element 12: Food, cover/shelter

Element 12 Fish habitat complexity scoring matrix

Ten or more habitat features available, at least one of which is considered optimal in reference sites (large wood in forested streams)	Eight to nine habitat features available	Six to seven habitat features available	Four to five habitat features available	Less than four habitat features available
10 9	8 7	6 5	4 3	2 1 0

Note: Fish habitat features: logs/large wood, deep pools, other pools (scour, plunge, shallow, pocket) overhanging vegetation, boulders, cobble, riffles, undercut banks, thick root mats, dense macrophyte beds, backwater pools, and other off-channel habitats

Element 13: Food, Water, cover/shelter, continuity and/or space.

Element 13 Aquatic invertebrate habitat scoring matrix

At least 9 types of habitat present A combination of wood with riffles should be present and suitable in addition to other types of habitat (If nonforested stream, consider reference site's optimal habitat type needed for this high score)	8 to 6 types of habitat Site may be in need of more wood or reference habitat features and stable wood-riffle sections	5 to 4 types of habitat present	3 to 2 types of habitat present	None to 1 type of habitat present
10 9	**8 7 6**	**5 4**	**3 2**	**1 0**

Note: Aquatic invertebrate habitat types, in order of importance: Logs/large wood, cobble within riffles, boulders within riffles. Additional habitat features should include: leaf packs, fine woody debris, overhanging vegetation, aquatic vegetation, undercut banks, pools, and root mats.