

Field Audit Checklist for: FS 7220. Qualitative Periphyton Sampling (SOP Revision Date: May 18, 2005)

Did field personnel properly complete the supporting forms appropriate to the waterbody they were sampling (FT 3000-FT 3400)? _____

_____ Did field personnel complete the Physical/Chemical Characterization Field Sheet (FD 9000-3) or equivalent documentation?

_____ Did field personnel complete the Stream/River Habitat Sketch Sheet (FD 9000-4), site map, or equivalent documentation?

_____ Did field personnel complete the Habitat Assessment Field Sheet (FD 9000-5 or FD 9000-6) or equivalent documentation?

Did field personnel properly visually determine the substrates where algae would be collected? _____

_____ Were the substrates within 0.5 m of the water surface?

_____ Were the selected substrates removable portions of vascular plants or mosses, snags, roots, leaf packs or mats, and/or rock?

_____ Were sediments excluded as a sampling substrate?

_____ Were substrates in flow and sunlight conditions representative of the aquatic system targeted for sampling?

_____ Were depositional areas and/or substrates with excessive silt or sand avoided?

_____ Were substrates with visible algae preferentially included for sampling?

_____ If algae was not visible, were substrates where algae would be expected to grow selected for sampling?

Did field personnel properly collect the periphyton sample? _____

_____ Were all sub-samples combined into a single composite sample for the site?

_____ Were algae collected within a 100 m reach (for streams) or 100 m diameter area (for wetlands)?

_____ Were algae collected from an approximately 8-cm diameter area from each targeted substrate?

_____ Was each targeted substrate handled carefully to avoid loss of algae?

_____ Was the targeted portion of each substrate placed into a jar containing 100 mL of site water?

_____ Was the amount of water in the jar (100 mL) kept consistent for all 10 aliquots?

_____ Did field personnel use their fingers to rub the algae from the substrate into the water?

_____ Did field personnel rinse their fingers in the jar to avoid loss of algae?

_____ Did field personnel transfer 4 mL of the slurry from each targeted substrate aliquot into a 50-mL tube?

_____ Was the amount of slurry transferred to the tube (4 mL) kept consistent for all 10 aliquots?

_____ Were 10 targeted substrate aliquots collected?

_____ Were the 10 aliquots spaced throughout the site in order to represent a cross-section of the algae expected to be present?

_____ Were all removable habitats where periphyton growth may be expected sampled?

_____ Were all 10 aliquots sequentially placed into the sample container?

_____ Were the 10 aliquots apportioned as equally as possible among the various substrates according to the following list?

_____ 1 productive substrate = 10 aliquots

_____ 2 productive substrates = 5 aliquots each

_____ 3 productive substrates = 4 from most abundant substrate, 3 from each of the remaining substrates

_____ 4 productive substrates = 3 from the two most abundant substrates, 2 from each of the remaining substrates

_____ 5 productive substrates = 2 aliquots from each substrate

Did field personnel properly document the periphyton sample?

_____ Was the sample container labeled with permanent ink?

_____ Was the site identified on the sample container?

_____ Was the collection date identified on the sample container?

_____ Was the collector identified on the sample container?

_____ Was the sample type (qualitative periphyton) identified on the sample container?

_____ Was the preservative information identified on the sample container?

Did field personnel properly preserve the periphyton sample?

_____ Were 2 mL of buffered formalin or M3 added per 40 mL of periphyton slurry?