

EcoSummary

BioRecon Report

Rocky Creek At Woodpecker Rd., Hamilton Co. July 8, 1997

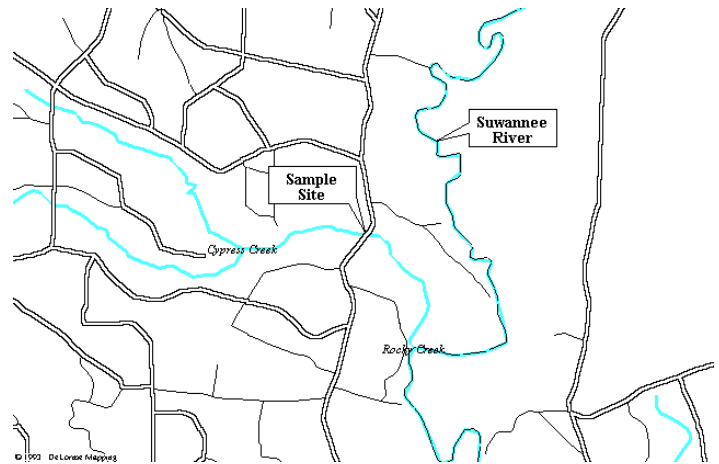
BioReconnaissance (BioRecon): A rapid, cost effective screening mechanism for identification of biological impairment.



Purpose

A Stream Condition Index (SCI) and a BioRecon were performed at this site. Results from this survey will be utilized two ways, to help with the calibration of the metrics for the two protocols and to determine the health of the macroinvertebrate community.

temperature 24.0 C, pH 3.76, DO 4.0 mg/L, conductivity 86 and secchi 0.3 M. These are typical for the black water streams in the area. The habitat assessment was in the optimal range. SCI values from previous samples have been in the very good category.



Significance

Rocky Creek continues to support a healthy macroinvertebrate community. This is important because this creek discharges into Outstanding Florida Waters.

Suggestions

Continued sampling at this site is needed to ensure that current and future land use practices in the basin do not impact the system.

Characteristics

Rocky Creek, a tributary to the Suwannee River, is located in the subecoregion Okefenokee Swamps and Plains (75e) in northeast Hamilton County. Streams in this area are naturally low in pH and dissolved oxygen (DO) and high in color. The drainage basin is approximately 15 square miles. Silviculture comprises about 80% of the landuse in the basin. The remaining landuse consists of natural forest, wetlands and a little row crop.

Results

Results from this survey showed a healthy macroinvertebrate community. The BioRecon passed all three thresholds. The values for the three metrics are as follows (threshold values are in parentheses): Total Taxa Richness 21 (≥ 17), Total Florida Index 15 (≥ 6), Total EPT 7 (≥ 3). The physical/chemical values were

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