

NCDWQ Stream Classification Form

Project Name: _____ River Basin: _____ County: _____ Evaluator: _____
 DWQ Project Number: _____ Nearest Named Stream: _____ Latitude: _____ Signature: _____
 Date: _____ USGS QUAD: _____ Longitude: _____ Location/Directions: _____

***PLEASE NOTE:** *If evaluator and landowner agree that the feature is a man-made ditch, then use of this form is not necessary. Also, if in the best professional judgement of the evaluator, the feature is a man-made ditch and not a modified natural stream—this rating system should not be used**

Primary Field Indicators: (Circle One Number Per Line)

I. Geomorphology	Absent	Weak	Moderate	Strong
1) Is There A Riffle-Pool Sequence?	0	1	2	3
2) Is The USDA Texture In Streambed Different From Surrounding Terrain?	0	1	2	3
3) Are Natural Levees Present?	0	1	2	3
4) Is The Channel Sinuous?	0	1	2	3
5) Is There An Active (Or Relic) Floodplain Present?	0	1	2	3
6) Is The Channel Braided?	0	1	2	3
7) Are Recent Alluvial Deposits Present?	0	1	2	3
8) Is There A Bankfull Bench Present?	0	1	2	3
9) Is a Continuous Bed & Bank Present?	0	1	2	3
<i>(*NOTE: If Bed & Bank Caused By Ditching And WITHOUT Sinuosity Then Score=0*)</i>				
10) Is a 2 nd Order Or Greater Channel (As Indicated On Topo Map And/Or In Field) Present?		Yes=3	No=0	

PRIMARY GEOMORPHOLOGY INDICATOR POINTS: _____

II. Hydrology	Absent	Weak	Moderate	Strong
1) Is There A Groundwater Flow/Discharge Present?	0	1	2	3

PRIMARY HYDROLOGY INDICATOR POINTS: _____

III. Biology	Absent	Weak	Moderate	Strong
1) Are Fibrous Roots Present In Streambed?	3	2	1	0
2) Are Rooted Plants Present In Streambed?	3	2	1	0
3) Is Periphyton Present?	0	1	2	3
4) Are Bivalves Present?	0	1	2	3

PRIMARY BIOLOGY INDICATOR POINTS: _____

Secondary Field Indicators: (Circle One Number Per Line)

I. Geomorphology	Absent	Weak	Moderate	Strong
1) Is There A Head Cut Present In Channel?	0	.5	1	1.5
2) Is There A Grade Control Point In Channel?	0	.5	1	1.5
3) Does Topography Indicate A Natural Drainage Way?	0	.5	1	1.5

SECONDARY GEOMORPHOLOGY INDICATOR POINTS: _____

II. Hydrology	Absent	Weak	Moderate	Strong
1) Is This Year's (Or Last Year's) Leaf litter Present In Streambed?	1.5	1	.5	0
2) Is Sediment On Plants (Or Debris) Present?	0	.5	1	1.5
3) Are Wrack Lines Present?	0	.5	1	1.5
4) Is Water In Channel <i>And</i> >48 Hrs. Since Last <i>Known</i> Rain? (*NOTE: If Ditch Indicated In #9 Above Skip This Step And #5 Below*)	0	.5	1	1.5
5) Is There Water In Channel During Dry Conditions <i>Or</i> In Growing Season)?	0	.5	1	1.5
6) Are Hydric Soils Present In Sides Of Channel (Or In Headcut)?		Yes=1.5		No=0

SECONDARY HYDROLOGY INDICATOR POINTS: _____

III. Biology	Absent	Weak	Moderate	Strong		
1) Are Fish Present?	0	.5	1	1.5		
2) Are Amphibians Present?	0	.5	1	1.5		
3) Are Aquatic Turtles Present?	0	.5	1	1.5		
4) Are Crayfish Present?	0	.5	1	1.5		
5) Are Macrobenthos Present?	0	.5	1	1.5		
6) Are Iron Oxidizing Bacteria/Fungus Present?	0	.5	1	1.5		
7) Is Filamentous Algae Present?	0	.5	1	1.5		
8) Are Wetland Plants In Streambed?	SAV	Mostly OBL	Mostly FACW	Mostly FAC	Mostly FACU	
Mostly UPL	2	1	.75	.5	0	0

(* NOTE: If Total Absence Of All Plants In Streambed As Noted Above Skip This Step UNLESS SAV Present*).

SECONDARY BIOLOGY INDICATOR POINTS: _____

TOTAL POINTS (Primary + Secondary) = _____ **(If Greater Than Or Equal To 19 Points The Stream Is At Least Intermittent)**

Notes: