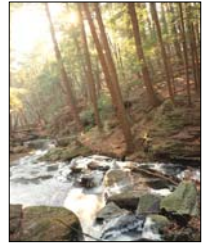


TEAM RHYTHM AND STREAM ETIQUETTE



QUARTERLY MONITORING SEQUENCE:

This is roughly the way things work each quarter to get a team's monitoring done. Different people on the team might take on different tasks.

- **Decide on monitoring dates** with your team and **reserve a field kit**—earlier is better!
- **Inventory field kits** for completeness before taking them out. (Generally, our office volunteers will have done the inventory for you—check this on the inventory sheet.)
- **Store your kit safely** when not in use—please avoid leaving the fancy electronic equipment in your car during extreme hot or cold temperatures!
- **Visit all sites (from lowest to highest)** on a given stream on the same day. This is important for certain types of upstream/downstream comparisons. If you have to spread out the visits over more than one day, please note on your data sheets whether there was a precipitation event (and how many inches) in between.
- If a site has no flow, you should still fill out a data sheet; zero flow is important information. You can still look for wildlife, weeds and take photos.
- At a given reach, **begin with fish and wildlife observations**—you're most likely to see things before you've mucked around very much.
- Be sure to take all chemical tests and macroinvertebrate samples **upstream** of any places where you have walked in the creek.
- **Update your reach map or sketch map** as needed, preferably with a pencil; initial and date any changes you make; and describe these changes on your field data sheet, along with a note for staff to recopy the updated reach map for the office file. If the changes in the reach are substantial, plan a day with your team to redraw the map.
- **Before leaving your site, check to see that you've packed all the equipment.** (Did you get the thermometer that you hung up in that tree?)
- Turn in your equipment on time. Remember to:
 - Leave notes for staff if equipment needs maintenance, replacement, or calibration.
 - Turn in your volunteer hours sheet, completely filled out for each volunteer.
 - Check over all field sheets for completeness and clarity before turning them in.
 - If possible, leave anything wet out to dry.
 - If you have time, please check in your field kits using the inventory sheets on the clipboards. (Otherwise, our office volunteers can often perform this task.)

CARING FOR YOUR NEIGHBORS:

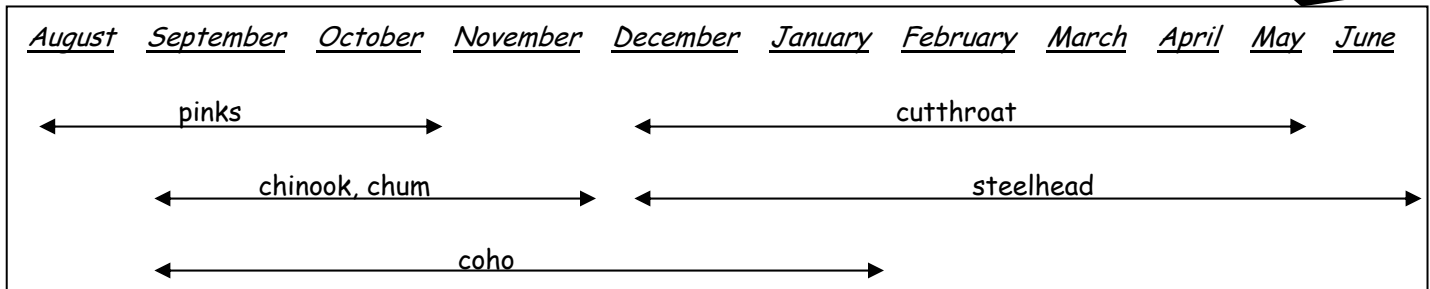
- **Trespassing:** Be careful not to trespass. We have permission to monitor at all of our regular monitoring reaches, but that does not give you the right to walk all up and down the stream. In Clallam County, even some parts of some stream bottoms are privately owned.
- **Neighborliness:** Where we do have permission to access private property, remember that we are guests and ambassadors for the Streamkeepers program. When you see people out in the field, wave and say hello. Let them know about the important work you're doing. Business cards are in the field kit, and your Volunteer Handbook serves as a rather substantial "greeting card." If a property owner asks you to do something or not do something when on their property, please let staff know so we can enter that information into the database and print it out for future samplers.

(Over)

CARING FOR THE CRITTERS:

All streams support a large array of interconnected communities—from fish to invertebrates to lower organisms such as algae. Walking in a stream will cause some disruption to these links. The key is to be aware and minimize any damage. If possible, walk along the banks (this includes exuberant canine companions!). When you have to walk in the stream channel, be aware of your travel path.

Virtually any time of year, some type of salmonid spawning activity could be taking place in a stream. In general, the North Olympic Peninsula spawning seasons are as follows:



After spawning, eggs will develop at different rates depending on water temperature. Ninety-five days is the average from egg fertilization to first feeding of fry. Detection of developing eggs under a blanket of gravel can be a challenge. Chinook and coho build classic redds that look like pockets (pits) in the gravel with mounds (tailouts) of clean gravel behind them. The eggs are in the tailouts, which can extend 1 - 2.5 meters downstream. Salmon that spawn en masse, such as pinks and chums, tend not to build redds that are distinctive other than cleaned gravel. Also, high flows can smooth out the contours on these sites. Knowledge of substrate size, spawning location, and spawning characteristics of salmonid species may help minimize potential damage. Below is a generalized chart describing salmonid redds:

SPECIES	SPAWNING GRAVEL SIZE	REDD LOCATION	SPAWNING CHARACTERISTICS
Chum	Small	Typically low in river systems	Mass spawning is typical
Pink	Small-Mid	Typically low in river systems	Mass spawning is common
Sockeye	Small	Along lake shores or adjacent streams	Mass spawning
Chinook	Cobble (tennis to basketball size)	Mainstem rivers and lower tributaries	Distinct redds
Coho	Small-Mid	Side channels, tribs, margins of rivers	Distinct redds
Steelhead	Small-Mid	Mainstem and tribs	Distinct redds or nests (small redds)
Cutthroat	Small	Tribs and small streams	Mini redds

Special thanks to Theresa Powell & Camille Speck, biologists with the Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife, for their valuable input on this chapter.