



Equipment List for a Freshwater Species Survey

Basic Equipment

Vital Signs datasheet: *Species Survey: Freshwater Habitats*

- Note: If you plan to look for more than 2 species, print additional Species pages

Vital Signs species identification cards for each of the species you plan to look for

- Note: If we do not have a species card yet for the species you want to look for, bring an appropriate identification guide with you. Then tell us you want a card, pronto.

Camera with charged batteries

Ruler to measure plant/ animal/ insect parts and to show scale in evidence photographs

GPS unit with charged batteries (or a map with latitude & longitude lines)

Extra batteries

Clipboard

Extra pencil

First aid kit

A field work buddy, or someone at home who knows where you're going, for how long, and when to expect you back

Sampling Method Equipment

You may need additional equipment depending on the sampling method you choose to use. Find your preferred sampling method below to see what else you need.

Quadrat (user-placement)

1m² quadrat

Quadrat (randomized-placement)

Transect line

Random number chart

1m² quadrat

Transect

Transect line

Random number chart or online generator

Time search

Stop watch

Cones or old shoes or sticks to clearly mark off your search area

Dock

Transect line
Ruler

Weed weasel

Weed weasel for submersed aquatic plants

Trap

Minnow trap modified to catch crayfish
Small cooler with ice to slow crayfish down before taking photographs

Net

Kicknet for macroinvertebrates & crayfish
Field work buddies – it's tough to go it alone with a kicknet
Waders or water shoes
Small cooler with ice to slow crayfish down before taking photographs
Trays for sorting macroinvertebrates

Bucketscope

Bucketscope for seeing underneath the water

Team Protocol Equipment

This is most (perhaps only) useful for teachers who are leading and managing teams of students.

Specialists

- Specialist role cards (label by team and team member)
- List of teams and team members that includes roles, species assignments, equipment responsibilities, usernames & passwords

Small team

- Team lists that include team members, team species assignments, equipment responsibilities, usernames & passwords

Big group

- List of individuals that includes individual species assignments, equipment responsibilities, usernames & passwords

Seasonal Equipment

Bug spray
Sun screen
Sun hat
Warm layer
Rain gear