

For Office Use Only
 Date Received: _____
 Date Approved: _____
 Approved by (name): _____



THE MEADOWS CENTER
 FOR WATER AND THE ENVIRONMENT
 TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Email to: TxStreamTeam@txstate.edu

TEXAS STREAM TEAM

OPTICAL BRIGHTENER ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING FORM

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Community Scientist's Name _____
 Group or Affiliation _____

Site ID #
 | | | | |

Site Description _____

Optical Brightener monitoring type: Modified Bottle
 Whirl-Pak Bag

Field Observations:	Optical Brightener Test:
<input type="checkbox"/> FLOW SEVERITY: 1-no flow 2-low 3-normal 4-flood 5-high 6-dry	Sample Deployed or Collected
<input type="checkbox"/> ALGAE: 1-absent 2-rare (<25%) 3-common (26-50%) 4-abundant (51-75%) 5-dominant (>75%)	Date _____ Time (military) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> WATER SURFACE: 1-clear 2-scum 3-foam 4-debris 5-sheen	Sample Retrieved (bottle method only)
<input type="checkbox"/> WATER CONDITIONS: 1-calm 2-ripples 3-waves 4-white caps	Date _____ Time (military) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> PRESENT WEATHER: 1-clear 2-cloudy 3-overcast 4-rain	Total Immersion Time _____ (hrs) (both methods)
<input type="checkbox"/> DAYS SINCE LAST SIGNIFICANT PRECIPITATION (runoff)	Sample Analyzed
<input type="checkbox"/> TIDE STAGE (coastal only): 1-low 2-falling 3-slack	Date _____ Time (military) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> RAINFALL ACCUMULATION (inches within the last 3 days)	Sample Result (select only one)
<input type="checkbox"/> WATER COLOR: 1-no color 2-light green 3-dark green 4-tan 5-red 6-green/brown 7-black	Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> WATER CLARITY: 1-clear 2-cloudy 3-turbid	
<input type="checkbox"/> WATER ODOR: 1-none 2-oil 3-acrid (pungent) 4-sewage 5-rotten egg 6-fishy 7-musky	

Comments (Describe types of fluorescence):

Please do not fill out the remaining sections if you are also submitting a Core Environmental Monitoring Form with this information.

TOTAL TIME SPENT SAMPLING AND TRAVELING	TOTAL ROUNDTRIP DISTANCE TRAVELED	TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
<input type="text"/> Minutes	<input type="text"/> Miles	<input type="text"/>

I certify that all procedures, including the items listed in the Quality Control Checklist on the following page and in the manual, have been followed.

 CERTIFIED COMMUNITY SCIENTIST'S SIGNATURE

 DATE

OPTICAL BRIGHTENER FIELD QUALITY CONTROL CHECKLIST

Community scientists are required to check all applicable boxes for each monitoring event to verify the procedures are followed. If the monitoring event fulfills a Field Audit Session, the trainer must observe the community scientist conducting the monitoring event and document observations in the comments field. The trainer will also sign to verify Field Audit Session was conducted.

General Procedures

- Gloves were worn.
- Supplies used for testing were stored in an environment protected from extreme weather prior to use.
- Sampling was conducted at approximately the same time/day as previous sampling events at this site, preferably before noon or after 4pm.
- Monitoring sample was collected or deployed in a shaded area, from the centroid of flow, with minimal streambed disturbance.
- All equipment was checked for contamination using an ultraviolet LED black light flashlight before the test was conducted.

Field Observations

- Algae:** Recorded algae observed on and below the water surface.
- Water Color:** Observed water color in a plastic cup or bucket with a white background.
- Water Clarity:** Observed the relative cloudiness of the water from bridge or banks.
- Water Odor:** Tested by wafting from plastic cup or bucket.
- Present Weather:** Marked cloudy if there is at least one cloud in the sky.

Optical Brightener Test

- Bottle was rinsed twice with DI water before and after sampling (bottle method only).
- The Whirl-Pak® Bag method was used for coastal/brackish waters, as well as for sites where the centroid of flow was inaccessible.
- Equipment was rinsed twice with sample water before deployment (bottle method only).
- Tampon was soaked in sample water for 24-72 hours, maintaining a consistent duration each month.
- Tampon was protected from UV light during transportation and analysis.

Field Audit Session

This section should be filled out by a certified trainer ONLY if a Field Audit Session was conducted. Field Audit Sessions are required at a minimum every two years.

Legible Trainer Full Name: _____ Trainer Signature: _____

Trainer Comments:
