

Zooplankton Protocol for Klamath River

1. Information that needs to be in/on the notes/bottles:
 - a. Location
 - b. Date/time of sampling
 - c. Vertical distance of tow
 - d. Number of tows
 - e. Mesh size (80 micron)
 - f. Net dimension (13 cm diameter mouth, 18 cm diameter ring)
 - g. Record any current/circulation and wind
2. Preserve in 20-25% by final volume Isopropyl alcohol:
 - a. NOTE: Always use 150 mL of sample no matter which strength and volume of isopropyl alcohol you use.
 - b. Bottles have been pre-preserved with 50mL/each of 90% isopropyl alcohol (this can be purchased at any drug store)
3. Sampling
 - a. Make sure the tube on the bottom of the collection cup is closed off, and that the net is free from twists, tangles and debris.
 - b. Lower the net straight over the side of the boat until it is approximately 1 meter off the bottom; DO NOT let the net hit the bottom as you will compromise the sample and possibly damage the net. (If you do haul it back up, thoroughly rinse with DI, and see if the net is salvageable).
 - c. Let the net “settle” into an upright, fully open position.
 - d. Make a note of how far the net is lowered (via the markings on rope).
 - e. Pull the rope and net very, very slowly and steadily back to the surface (finger over finger, inch by inch). Pulling too fast creates a backwash and you lose your sample.
 - f. Wash down the sides of the net with DI water and transfer the contents of the collection cup into a marked 250mL bottle. Add DI water until the sample volume reaches 200 ml total – the black line marked on the sample bottles.
 - g. Make sure the bottle is completely labeled.
4. Equipment
 - a. Zooplankton net (store in case to prevent tearing or catching on other equipment)
 - b. Rope with markings to lower net
 - c. Sample bottles
 - d. Squirt bottle to clean net
 - e. DI water
5. Cleaning net
 - a. At the end of a sampling day, remove debris, rinse in water and allow to dry before putting in case
 - b. If there is a buildup of algae stains, they can be removed by gently sponging with isopropyl alcohol, or vinegar. Or, it can be soaked in dishwasher detergent. Do not use bleach.
6. Allan Vogel’s Contact info:

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