

Have your instructor show you how to use a fine mesh net to collect aquatic bugs and other invertebrates. Disturb the streambed for an area of about 1 square meter or yard (that's a square about 3 ft. long by 3 ft. wide). Try to catch all the organisms. If you don't have a net, you can carefully turn over rocks and look for organisms on and under the rocks and in the stream. Use the key you received with this packet to try to identify all the organisms you find. Scoring the invertebrates and determining a "WATER QUALITY RATING" can be done on the KEY sheet.

"T" = **"tolerant,"** meaning they are not very sensitive to pollution and usually don't require a lot of dissolved oxygen. Each taxon (each kind, *not* each individual) you find in the "T" group scores 1 point.

"S" = **"sensitive,"** meaning these macroinvertebrate organisms are very sensitive and require water of very good quality. These organisms are often referred to as "indicator organisms" because their presence indicates that the water is of good quality and probably not polluted with organic wastes. Each kind you find in this group scores 3 points.

Scoring and Water Quality Rating (revised 5/00)

_____	Excellent (score of 27+ or 5 or more "S" taxa)	_____	Fair (score of 11 - 16 or only 1 "S" taxon)
_____	V. Good (score of 22 - 26 or 4 "S" taxa)	_____	Poor (score of less than 11 and no "S" taxa)
_____	Good (score of 17 - 21 or 2 or 3 "S" taxa)		

Note that one of your finds (stoneflies) was a Sensitive family! A score of 10 would normally indicate .poor. quality, however, since one of your bugs was an "S" (3 pointer), you would rate the water quality as "fair."

Use this space for reporting any additional information:

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

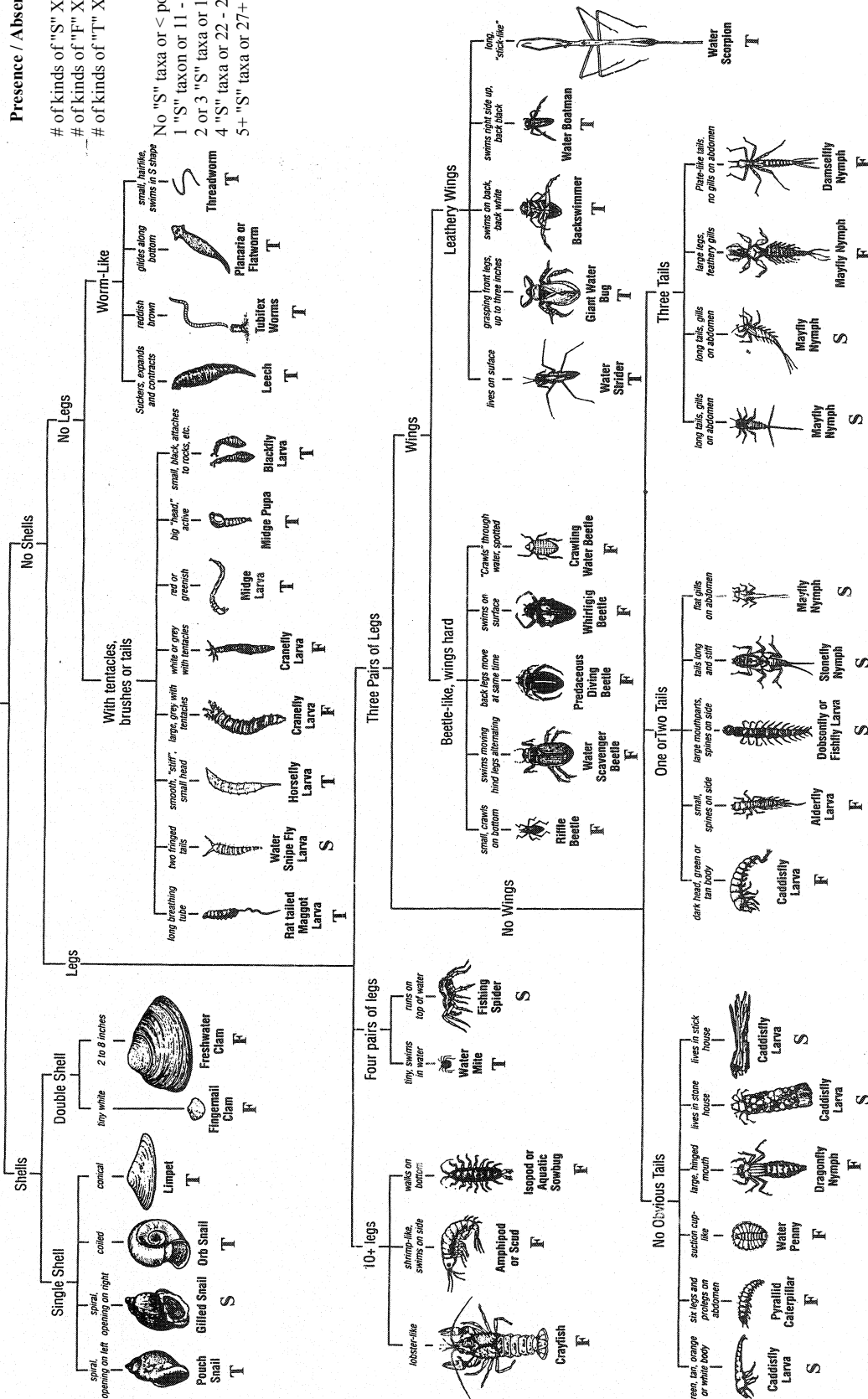
Key to Macroinvertebrate Life in the River

Presence / Absence rating base on 1 M² sampled

of kinds of "S" X 3.0 =
of kinds of "F" X 2.0 =
of kinds of "T" X 1.0 =

Total

No "S" taxa or < points = Poor
1 "S" taxon or 11 - 16 points = Fair
2 or 3 "S" taxa or 17 - 21 points = Good
4 "S" taxa or 22 - 26 points = V. Good
5+ "S" taxa or 27+ points = Excellent



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