



## **4-H Habitat Data Sheet**

*A record is part of your 4-H project. Keep your record neat, clean, and up-to-date. It's best to use a pencil. Write clearly. If you need help, ask your parents or leaders. If you need more space, add notebook paper to your record.*

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Crew members \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_ Plot no. \_\_\_\_\_ Elevation \_\_\_\_\_ Percent of slope \_\_\_\_\_

Season \_\_\_\_\_ Temperature \_\_\_\_\_ Annual precipitation \_\_\_\_\_ Soil type \_\_\_\_\_

**Type of habitat study area** (*check one*)

- Temperate forest
  - Temperate grassland/meadow
  - Cultivated land
  - Other:
  - High desert forest
  - High desert grassland/meadow
  - High desert shrub land
  - Marsh/wetlands
  - Pond/lake/stream
  - Marine/tidal area

**Record general characteristics of the habitat related to wildlife needs.**

1. Vegetation: Habitat type, vegetation name, general structure, and distribution.

Example: dense conifer forest (habitat type) of Douglas-fir and western redcedar, with a sparse understory of vine maple and red elderberry, and an abundance of sword fern, trillium, and ivy on the forest floor.

Habitat type: \_\_\_\_\_

2. List and describe water sources. Note if they are permanent or seasonal.

3. List non-living structures in the habitat (such as downed logs, snags, caves) which might provide cover and/or shelter.

4. Note climate and seasonal changes.

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5. How large is the habitat area? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Is it connected to other natural areas, or is it isolated? \_\_\_\_\_

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### Human impact

Describe human activities that might impact habitat quality in a positive (+) or negative (-) way.

(Examples: development, urban setting, near a major traffic area, lots of human use of area, nesting boxes)

Human activity	Impact		Why? (Reason for positive or negative impact)
	+	-	

### Wildlife observations

Look for animal trails, scat, chew marks on plants, tracks, feathers, sounds, or actual sighting. List animal name, evidence of animal sign, how many, and how often seen.

Animal name	Evidence of animal sign	How many?	How often?

Total number of species \_\_\_\_\_

List abundant food sources (include plant and animal).

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Using the list of animals and plants found in the habitat area, draw or outline a possible food chain for this habitat.

What, if anything, could be done to improve the habitat for the greatest diversity of native wildlife species or to improve the habitat for a specific species identified as desirable?

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