Standard Operation Procedure (SOP) #8

Conducting Surveys on Tau, American Samoa

Version 1.01 (August 10, 2021)

Change History

New Version #	Revision Date	Author	Changes Made	Reasons for Change	Previous Version #
1.01	8/10/2021	Anne Farahi	Minor edits for accuracy	Minor edits for accuracy	1.0

Only changes in this specific SOP will be logged here. Version numbers increase incrementally by hundredths (e.g., version 1.01, version 1.02) for minor changes. Major revisions should be designated with the next whole number (e.g., version 2.0, 3.0, 4.0). Record the previous version number, date of revision, author of the revision; identify paragraphs and pages where changes are made, who approved the revision, and the reason for making the changes along with the new version number.

Purpose

This SOP describes setting up a sampling station (reach) and the general sampling order. This SOP will be used in American Samoa on the island of Tau at NPSA.

Conducting Surveys on Tau

1. *Mark the reach*. Each reach is thirty meters long following the thalweg of the stream. The start of the reach (0 m) is marked with flagging tape on the bank where the mark can be easily seen from the stream. Locations are then marked at 15 m and 30 m. At this point, it is also useful to divide the reach into five sections for the shrimp surveys, therefore, sections will be also be marked at 6 m, 12 m, 18 m, and 24 m. It is important not to enter the stream when marking the reach. If it is impossible not to enter the stream at any point during this procedure, stop and wait for the fish and shrimp observers to finish their surveys before continuing to mark the reach.

2. *Mark the location at 0 m using a Global Positioning System (GPS)*. See SOP #4 Using Garmin® GPS Units.

3. *Conduct water quality sampling.* See Water Quality Monitoring Protocol. Water quality nutrient samples and physical parameters are taken at the top of the reach above the 30 m mark.

4. *Conduct the fish survey*. See SOP #12 Fish Surveys on Tau, American Samoa. It is important that the fish observers are the only people in the water while conducting a survey in a given area.

5. *Conduct the shrimp survey*. See SOP #13 Shrimp (ula vai) Surveys on Tau, American Samoa. It is important that the shrimp observers are the only people in the water while conducting a survey in a given area.

6. *Conduct the snail survey*. See SOP #14 Snail (sisi vai) Surveys on Tau, American Samoa. Snail observers use the same coordinate locations as the fish observers. They work from downstream to upstream.

7. *Conduct the habitat survey*. See SOP #22 Habitat Characterization at the Reach and Transect Scales.