

BEMP Field Notebook Directions

(Recommended to print this out and tape it in your field notebook)

GOALS: slow down and observe your surroundings

Bring Notebook to field AND to class

If you didn't write it down it didn't happen!!

1. Required: Create and Maintain an Index on the first few pages

To help BEMP staff find your data quickly, it is important to maintain the index. Each time you participate in a BEMP field data activity please include:

- Page number of your entry
- Your name
- Activity (monthly monitoring, pitfall trapping, class notes...)
- Site name
- Date

Example: pages 3-5, Kim Fike, 28 Feb 2016, Monthly Monitoring, Bobcat site

Sketches- phenophases

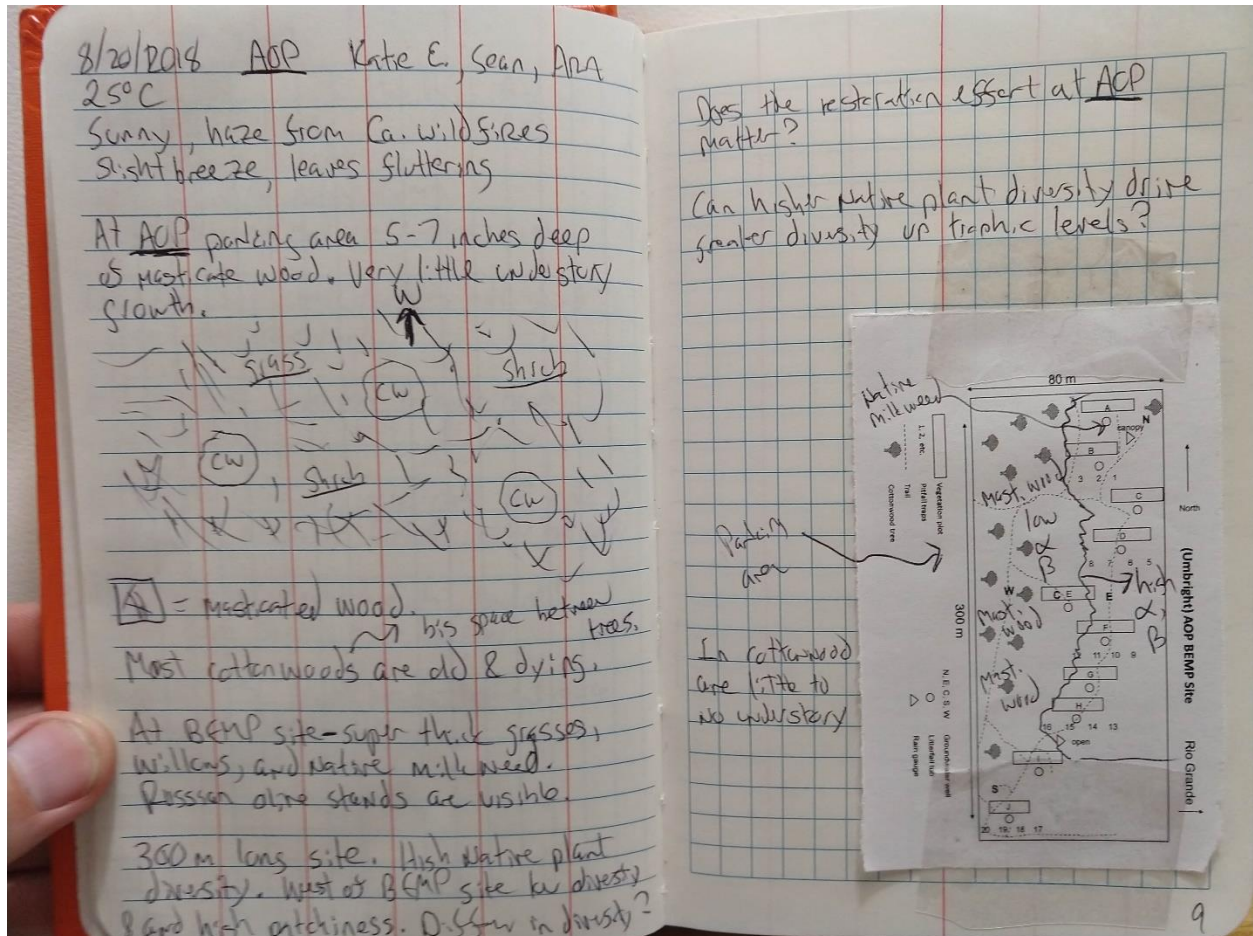
2. Required: Recording the Collection Data & Field Notes

- *Monthly Monitoring* data: depth to groundwater & ditch, precipitation, and litterfall notes.
 - You can use one of the BEMP monitoring forms or just write the data in your notebook, either is fine.
- *Pitfall Trapping* data: You will either set the traps or collect the traps 48 hrs after they have been set. Depending on what you are assigned to do you will record the following.
 - If you are **setting** traps – record which traps you set, any notes on replacing any new traps, precipitation amount (do NOT dump the gauges!)
 - If you are **collecting** traps – record which traps you collected, (very) general list of arthropods collected, and precipitation data (do NOT dump the gauges!)
- Record notes on any pertinent information for that site (e.g., rainstorm the night before, beetle outbreak, recent plant removal, trash dumped, tree fell down, recent site restoration, flooding...)
- General weather conditions

3. Additional – not required, but encouraged

- **Record phenology data during data collections using the 'Field Notes' form** (available on BEMP.org). Phenology is the study of seasonal changes (e.g., leaves changing color, flowers emerging, sand-hill cranes arriving). We like to keep track of *HOW* and *WHAT* is changing in the field. If this form is filled out WELL, **this counts as 0.25 Special Project Hours (SPH)**.
- Drawings, weather info, leaves or photos taped in, flowers pressed, be creative!

- Record the river flow: River Flow Data: <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nm/nwis/uv?08330000> – or download the RiverData app and add the Rio Grande at Albuquerque, NM to your favorites list.



Field notebook example – 5 minutes of journaling

Notebook rubric

Strong aspects	Outcomes	Places to strengthen
	Complete header Date, site name, your name, who are you with, weather conditions	
	Site observations Data Concise Cross scales (from trees to small plants and animals) Cottonwood description	
	1-3 minute site sketch Complete Keyed Compass	
	Open questions 1-3 open questions in your notebook. Open questions do not have a yes/no answer.	
	Site map Included? Annotated?	