

## Habitat Quality Rankings

Sand Quality :	0	fine mud
	1	fine sandy mud
	2	muddy fine sand
	3	clean fine sand
	4	medium grain sand
	5	coarse grain sand

Ripple Quality :	0	flat	
	1	v. slight occasional ripples	
	2	regular slight ripples	$\leq 0.25$ cms
	3	medium ripples	$\leq 0.5$ "
	4	high ripples	$\leq 1.5$ "
	5	gigantic ripples	$> 1.5$ "

Water Quality :	0	dry
	1	moist
	2	thin surface layer
	3	pooled water
	4	surface runoff

Slope :	0	flat
	1	$\leq 2^\circ$
	2	$\leq 5^\circ$
	3	$\leq 10^\circ$
	4	$> 10^\circ$

## Sampling Procedure

- ① Mark corner of site : pos<sup>n</sup> fm landmark.
- ② Temp and weather readings.
- ③ Tracking, capture, mark, and mark pos<sup>n</sup> of trail.  
recd : size, no of prey & type, size of prey.
- ④ Benthic samples : pos<sup>n</sup> fm corner site marker  
recd : sand, npple, water, slope
- ⑤ Final temps
- ⑥ other exptmtal : untracked snails / marking.

## Experimental Procedure to determine effect of predator attack on prey item.

On capturing a prey item the predator will remain motionless for a period ranging from approx 15sec to 2mins. This behaviour raises the question of what is the predator doing.

Possible reasons are

- 1) Evaluation of prey quality i.e. recognition that captured item is a suitable item, or size of item
- 2) The predator is "unmebolizing" the item in some manner.

The following two hypotheses may be tested

$H_1$  - prey evaluation time is independent of prey size or predator size

$H_2$  - prey are not unmebolized in some manner.

### Technique

- ① Collect prey items and sort into 3 size groups
- ② Split each group into 3 sub groups
  - SGroup 1 : control handled
  - SGroup 2 : captured and cleaned
  - SGroup 3 : captured and uncleaned.
- ③ Determine recovery times for each SGroup