



Digital Commons@

Loyola Marymount University
LMU Loyola Law School

Module 01: Introduction to Urban Ecology

Urban EcoLab

April 2021

Student Handout - What is Our Field Like?

Center for Urban Resilience

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.lmu.edu/urbanecolab-module01>



Part of the [Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Commons](#), [Environmental Education Commons](#), [Sustainability Commons](#), and the [Urban Studies and Planning Commons](#)

Repository Citation

Center for Urban Resilience, "Student Handout - What is Our Field Like?" (2021). *Module 01: Introduction to Urban Ecology*. 24.

<https://digitalcommons.lmu.edu/urbanecolab-module01/24>

This Lesson 5: Why and How Do I Conduct a Study Site Evaluation? is brought to you for free and open access by the Urban EcoLab at Digital Commons @ Loyola Marymount University and Loyola Law School. It has been accepted for inclusion in Module 01: Introduction to Urban Ecology by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons@Loyola Marymount University and Loyola Law School. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@lmu.edu.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class/Period: _____

Activity 5.2: What is our field site like?

1. ESTIMATE THE HABITATS PRESENT (circle the best choice).

FOREST	none	a little	a lot
FIELD (not mowed)	none	a little	a lot
LAWN/ATHLETIC FIELD	none	a little	a lot
WATER	none	a little	a lot
MARSH	none	a little	a lot
PAVEMENT	none	a little	a lot

2. List (or draw) plants and animals that you see on your site

Animals	Plants

3. WHAT STRUCTURES ARE FOUND AT YOUR SITE?
(Circle all the items below that you see at your site)

- | | | | |
|----------|-----------|---------------|--------------------|
| Paths | Signs | Restrooms | Information Boards |
| Pavement | Trashcans | Picnic Tables | Fences |
| Benches | Buildings | Lights | Bridges |
- Other: _____

4. IS THERE ANY LITTER AT YOUR SITE? (Circle best choice)

- none a little a lot

Where is it found? (e.g.: In the parking lot, In the water, By the picnic tables....)

5. CIRCLE ANY SOURCES OF NOISE YOU FIND:

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| Cars | Factories/Industrial |
| Busses/Trucks | Building Ventilation/Heating |
| Trains/Subway | Loud Music |
| Airplanes/Helicopters | Lawnmowers |
- Other: _____



6. CIRCLE ANY SOURCES OF POLLUTION YOU FIND:

- | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Industrial Pipes | Animal Waste | Artificial Lighting |
| People Littering | Overflowing Dumpsters | Noise |
| Storm/Field Drains | Oil/Petroleum | Salt Pile |
- Other: _____

Draw a basic map showing the layout of your field site.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for drawing a map of a field site. The box occupies most of the page below the instruction. There are a few small, faint dark spots scattered within the box, likely due to scanning artifacts.

Field Study Site Discussion

1. What are two biotic factors you think are important to consider when studying this site? Why?

2. What are two abiotic factors you think are important to consider when studying this site? Why?

3. What are two man-made factors you think are important to consider when studying this site? Why?

4. What differences in the data would you expect to see if you were to collect data from this site at a different time of day, day of the week, or season?

Instance	How would it be different?
Different time of day	
Different day of the week	
Different season	

5. Would you consider this site to be a typical area for an urban ecosystem? Why or why not?

6. How do you describe the way that humans have interacted with this site?

Interaction Type	Explain
What kind of <i>services</i> does this site provide for humans? (How do they benefit from it?)	
What kind of <i>impact</i> have humans had on this site? (How has it changed because of human interference?)	
What types of <i>limits</i> does this site have? What type of human influence would cause irreparable damage to this site?	

7. What could be done to “improve” this site? Or should it be left as it is?