OWEB Level 2 Assessment of Water Quality*

The Level 2 assessment is based on family level identifications. The number of organisms in each family are counted and recorded. The family-level metrics and scoring criteria are:

Taxa Richness – total number of macroinvertebrate families identified from the sample.
Mayfly Richness – total number of mayfly families identified from the sample.
Stonefly Richness – total number of stonefly families identified from the sample.
Caddisfly Richness – total number of caddisfly families identified from the sample.
% Diptera – total number of diptera (true flies) in the sample divided by the total number of macros X 100.
% Dominance – total number of the three most abundant organisms divided by the total number of macros X 100.

Metric	Raw Score	5	3	1	Score (circle one)		
Taxa Richness		>18	10 – 18	<10	5	3	1
Mayfly Richness		>4	2 – 4	<2	5	3	1
Stonefly Richness		>3	1 – 3	<1	5	3	1
Caddisfly Richness		>4	2 – 4	<2	5	3	1
% Diptera (diptera/total X 100)		<15	15 – 30	> 30	5	3	1
% Dominance (sum top 3/total X 100)		<30	30 – 50	> 50	5	3	1
				Sum the Score =			

Score Range	Stream Condition
> 23	**No Impairment**: passes Level 2 assessment. Indicates good diversity of invertebrates and stream conditions with little disturbance. Further sampling will help confirm the site's condition as unimpaired.
17 – 23	**Moderate Impairment**: Evidence of some water quality impairment exists. Requires further study and more detailed analysis.
<17	**Severe Impairment**: Fails Level 2 assessment. Evidence of stream disturbance exits. Further study may be warranted to confirm level of impairment and potential causes.