# Lab 17: Aquatic Ecology

## Name and Course Section:

## Procedure

**Sample Location 1 Description:**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Identified Species (or groups)** | **Producer or Consumer?** | **Common Prey Organisms** |
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(you may not fill all of the rows in this table; if more are needed attach additional sheet)

**Sample Location 2 Description:**

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| **Identified Species (or groups)** | **Producer or Consumer?** | **Common Prey Organisms** |
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(you may not fill all of the rows in this table; if more are needed attach additional sheet)

**Plausible Food Chain for the Campus Pond (**minimum 4 trophic levels long, organisms selected from the ones you sampled today and Table 17.1 in the lab text)**:**

**Plausible Food Web for the Campus Pond (**minimum 12 organisms selected from the ones you sampled today and Table 17.1 in the lab text)**:**

## Summary Questions

1. In a hypothetical forest community, mosses and ferns photosynthesize. Ferns are fed on by aphids and mice, aphids are eaten by wasps and mice, wasps are fed on by birds, mice and birds are fed on by snakes, and snakes, in turn, are fed on by cougars. For each of the organisms below, identify its trophic level(s).
   * 1. snakes:
     2. ferns:
     3. mice:
2. Did you notice any difference in the species diversity of microscopic organisms in the two pond locations that your team sampled for this lab? If so, suggest a possible, testable reason why this might be. If not, suggest 2 environmental factors in the pond that might affect the diversity of pond micro-organisms in specific locations.
3. Which major animal groups were the most common in your nature pond samples?
4. Choose three vertebrate animals from **Table 17.1** that interest you the most. For each, write their 2-part scientific name (correctly formatted), write an interesting fact about their behavior, and make a sketch of their appearance below, noting any key identifying characteristics.