

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Teacher Sheet: Forest Habitat Assessment

✓ Fledglings

*Provide information about the location and habitat components found at the this site.*

## KBBT Site:

Fourmile Lake

### Habitat components found at this site:

**Food:** *Insects, seeds, plants, and fish*

**Water:** *Open water*

**Shelter:** *Tree canopy area*

**Space:** *Lots of open space between trees*

*Using your observation skills, walk through the habitat and search for these specific mixed conifer forest habitat aspects. Place a tally mark next to each aspect each time you observe it. If there is anything interesting you come across, write a description of your findings. You will discuss the habitat assessment results at the end.*

Mixed Conifer Forest Habitat Aspect	Tally	Description of Interesting Observations
Snags (dead trees)		
Fallen logs		<i>There are fallen logs everywhere covering the ground, too many to count</i>
Tall pine or oak trees		<i>Tall pines dominate the habitat</i>
Thick native shrub layer		
Forest edge habitat (where forest meets an open area)		<i>I wasn't able to find any edge habitat ; there are trees everywhere around the lake</i>
Small diameter trees		
Post-fire evidence		
Signs of management		<i>I see several places where invasive plant species have been removed and replaced with natives</i>
Signs that more management is needed		<i>When I look into the lake I see many fallen logs at the bottom of the lake</i>

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Using the information on the previous page answer the following questions.

**1. Which habitat aspect did you find the most of? Why do you think this is the case?**

*The aspect I found the most of were fallen logs and tall pine trees. The fallen logs looked like they had been left there which is a good sign.*

**2. How many snags did you come across during your observation? Why are they important to this type of habitat?**

*I came across three snags. Snags are an important aspect to mixed conifer forest habitat because they provide essential habitat to many living things like birds.*

**3. Did you find any forest edge habitat? If so, how open was the edge habitat?**

*I couldn't find any forest edge habitat. The only partially open areas were campgrounds.*

**4. Was there any post-fire evidence around? What evidence did you observe?**

*There were some signs of post-fire. I saw fallen logs that had been charred and some of the snags had been blackened at the base.*

**5. Given your assessment results, do you feel that this mixed conifer forest habitat is healthy or do you think it needs more management? Why?**

*I think that it is fairly healthy, however, there were definitely signs that more management was needed around the lake and it is a heavy use area for the public.*