

- 1) Record your data on the “Loosestrife Characteristics Data Form.” Use one sheet for every site. In other words, each place that you stop by the road should have a different data sheet.
- 2) Select a 1-m sampling area by tossing a rock or a stick from the edge of the infestation. A stick with a ribbon tied to it might be best if the vegetation is tall.
- 3) Mark a 1-m<sup>2</sup> area around the rock with a tape or meter stick. If there is purple loosestrife inside of the marked quadrat, then this area is your quadrat for sampling.
- 4) Count the number of loosestrife stems within the 1- m<sup>2</sup> quadrat. Record that number in the “Loosestrife Stem Number” column for the appropriate site number and quadrat number on the data sheet.
- 5) Measure the height of the tallest loosestrife plant within your quadrat. Record that height in centimeters in the “Loosestrife Height” column on the data sheet.
- 6) Look straight up from the quadrat and estimate how open the tree canopy is above the entire purple loosestrife site. Record “Tree Canopy Coverage” using the following symbols:
  - a. If there are no trees present, record F for “full sun.”
  - b. If there are trees or some other shade-producing structure, such as a bluff or wall, on one or two sides of the site, such that the site receives full sunlight for part of the day, then record S for “some shade.”
  - c. If trees surround the site so that it receives only dappled sunlight, then record D for “dappled sun.”
- 7) Record in centimeters the water depth in the quadrat, under the “Water Depth” column.
- 8) Repeat steps 2 through 7 for two additional quadrats in different parts of the patch.

