

3. Site selection

The choice of site will depend in part on criteria required by the other specialist fields, but the site should be representative of the geomorphology of the channel reach. The extent of the site for assessment of the geomorphology should include the hydraulic control (riffle, rapid etc.) and the upstream and downstream morphological features (usually pools). When filling in the data sheets the observer should take cognisance of the full active channel characteristics (and macro-channel where relevant), not just the channel area presently occupied by flow. The observer should also be aware of how the site conditions relate to those over the length of the reach within which it is situated. This is not always easy due to access problems.