ULTIMATE GOAL FOR BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

To be able to examine a standardized biological collection and determine if the stream is supporting the fish community it is capable of supporting and determine at what level the appropriate “Fish and Wildlife Propagation” Beneficial Use is being supported.
Is this stream supporting its Beneficial Uses?
Moxastoma erythrum (Golden redhorse)

CENTRARCHIDAE
Ambloplites rupestris (Rock bass)
Notropis potteri
(Chub shiner)

Percina phoxocephala
(Slender headed darter)
USE SUPPORT ASSESSMENT PROTOCOLS

The ability to consistently determine
• if the Beneficial Use is being supported
• the level at which the Beneficial Use is being supported (fully, partially, threatened, etc)

Benefits:
• “blind to source”
• can be used by any agency
• high level of precision and accuracy
• focused toward 303(d) list and reporting compliance
OTHER BIOLOGICAL COLLECTION ACTIVITIES

Ok Conservation Commission:
• non-point source impacts (CWA §319)

Ok Dept of Environmental Quality:
• fish consumption advisories

Many agencies will be periodically employing biological collections to determine if their activities are protecting WQS

ALL ACTIVITIES ADDRESSING BENEFICIAL USE SUPPORT MUST FOLLOW APPROPRIATE USAP (effective July 2000)