

Inland Habitats



River

- 5 points – People sometimes break me into pieces with barriers that prevent the movement of wildlife; they also pollute my waters with sewage and chemicals.
 - 4 points – If abused, I can swell up and bury aquatic habitats beneath layers of soil and silt.
 - 3 points – I provide travel corridors for fish that spend some parts of their lives in both fresh- and saltwater.
 - 2 points – People used me as a highway before there were roads.
 - 1 point – (Show picture)
- “Life Lines”:** Keep riverbanks green and stable by planting trees and shrubs.



Marsh

- 5 points – People sometimes fill me in or drain me so they can build homes or farm me.
 - 4 points – I am important to oceans because I provide filtering services that clean the waters that move through me toward the oceans.
 - 3 points – I prevent floods by acting like a sponge when it rains and I provide resting spots for migratory ocean birds.
 - 2 points – I am a grassy habitat that is wet for at least part of the year.
 - 1 point – (Show picture)
- “Life Lines”:** Help protect marshes by educating local governments about their value. Restore wetland vegetation with native plants.



Estuary

- 5 points – People sometimes dredge my shallow waters to allow boats to pass. Poisons from inland waters accumulate in my sediments.
 - 4 points – I provide some of the richest habitats for ocean wildlife.
 - 3 points – My waters are a mix of fresh- and saltwaters.
 - 2 points – I am the area where rivers and oceans meet.
 - 1 point – (Show picture)
- “Life Lines”:** Use environmentally friendly cleaners at home. Dispose properly of toxic wastes. Encourage proper sewage treatment in your community.



Bog or “Peat Bog”

- 5 points – I am threatened by invasive species, peat mining, and by agriculture and urban development near my edges.
 - 4 points – I am a wetland type that is found across Canada.
 - 3 points – I can be a mix of open water and mats of floating vegetation.
 - 2 points – Despite my highly acid waters, I am an important nesting and resting place for migratory birds.
 - 1 point – (Show picture)
- “Life Lines”:** Encourage conservation of all local wetlands. Join efforts to remove invasive species.



Lake

- 5 points – People love to build cottages and homes on my shores.
 - 4 points – People often remove my shoreline vegetation so they can swim and boat on my still waters.
 - 3 points – Poor septic systems and sewage will spoil my taste and feel for people and wildlife.
 - 2 points – Canada is home to the “greatest” of these in the world.
 - 1 point – (Show picture)
- “Life Lines”:** Keep lakeshores natural instead of removing plants. Use environmentally friendly cleaners at the cottage and at home.



Forests

- 5 points – I am a habitat usually associated with the land, but what happens to me affects the water.
 - 4 points – I am threatened by the growth of cities and over-harvesting by humans.
 - 3 points – I have the ability to store carbon and, therefore, to slow global climate change.
 - 2 points – I am home to wolves, moose, and songbirds.
 - 1 point – (Show picture)
- “Life Lines”:** Use paper and wood products wisely. Reduce, reuse, and recycle paper. Buy Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified wood and paper products.