



SLOVENSKI STANDARD
oSIST prEN ISO 17805:2025
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Kakovost vode - Vzorčenje, zbiranje in konzerviranje okoljske DNK iz vode
(ISO/DIS 17805:2025)

Water quality - Sampling, capture and preservation of environmental DNA from water
(ISO/DIS 17805:2025)

Wasserbeschaffenheit - Probenahme, Erfassung und Konservierung von Umwelt-DNA
aus Wasser (ISO/DIS 17805:2025)

Qualité de l'eau - Techniques de récolte et conservation de l'ADN environnemental à
partir d'échantillons d'eau (ISO/DIS 17805:2025)

Ta slovenski standard je istoveten z: prEN ISO 17805

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13.060.70	Preiskava bioloških lastnosti vode	Examination of biological properties of water

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Water quality — Sampling, capture and preservation of environmental DNA from water

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Contents

	Page
European foreword	iv
Introduction	v
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	1
4 Principle	3
5 Procedure	3
5.1 General.....	3
5.2 Considerations prior to fieldwork.....	4
5.3 Equipment preparation prior to fieldwork.....	4
5.4 Sampling the eDNA from water.....	4
5.5 Preserving the sample.....	5
5.5.1 General.....	5
5.5.2 Preserving eDNA in enclosed filters.....	5
5.5.3 Preserving eDNA in open filters.....	5
5.5.4 Preserving eDNA in housed filters.....	6
6 Equipment	6
7 Preservative solutions	7
7.1 General.....	7
7.2 Examples of preservative solutions.....	8
8 Sampling report	8
8.1 General.....	8
8.2 Sample identity and characteristics.....	8
8.3 Sampling site.....	8
8.4 Sampling conditions.....	8
8.5 Sampling.....	9
9 Avoiding sample contamination	9
9.1 General.....	9
9.2 Contamination avoidance.....	9
9.2.1 Contamination that originates from equipment.....	9
9.2.2 Contamination that originates from the person taking the samples.....	9
9.3 Sampling equipment decontamination procedure.....	10
9.3.1 General.....	10
9.3.2 Materials and equipment in direct contact with the water sample.....	10
9.3.3 Materials and equipment not in direct contact with the water sample.....	10
Annex A (informative) Filter types	11
Bibliography	12

ISO/DIS 17805.2:2025(en)

European foreword

This document (FprEN 17805:2022) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 230 “Water analysis”, the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This document is currently submitted to the Formal Vote.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users’ national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

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ISO/DIS 17805.2:2025(en)

Introduction

WARNING — Persons using this document should be familiar with water sampling protocols to assess biological diversity. This document does not purport to address all of the safety problems, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user to establish appropriate health and safety practices.

Moreover, the need of notification, obtaining certificates or permits prior to sampling, depending on national or international laws and regulations such as the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources (<https://www.cbd.int/abs/>), needs to be considered.

The monitoring of organisms is key to the assessment of the status of aquatic ecosystems and is required by national and international legislation such as the European Union Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC). A range of methods have been described how to monitor organisms in aquatic environments, leading to a wide range of European standards (e.g. EN 14011:2003, EN 14757:2005, EN 15460:2007). These approaches, however, necessitate the capture and/or collection of the organisms of interest, which can be a laborious and time-consuming process.

The possibility to detect the presence of organisms and/or quantify relative abundance (e.g. [6]) in aquatic environments via the analysis of environmental DNA (eDNA) provides a novel means to monitor biodiversity across a wide range of taxonomic groups, including microorganisms, plants and animals.([7][8][9]) This approach allows to examine organismic diversity without the need to directly isolate and capture organisms and it is expected to play a key role for future biomonitoring aiming at temporally and spatially highly resolved species inventories.[10] Albeit the power of the eDNA approach has been repeatedly reported,[11] there is a great need for standardizing the application of eDNA-based assessment of aquatic biodiversity.[12] [13] Note, however, that eDNA-based biomonitoring currently does not allow to obtain certain population parameters (e.g. individual size, sex) which can be obtained by traditional sampling techniques.

This document provides guidance how to sample and preserve eDNA from water samples, addressing the first and crucial step for any further downstream eDNA-based analyses of biodiversity. A specific technical report for the routine sampling of benthic diatoms from rivers and lakes adapted for metabarcoding analyses is CEN/TR 17245:2018.

In this document, the following verbal forms are used to specify working procedures:

- “shall” indicates a requirement;
- “should” indicates a recommendation;
- “may” indicates a permission;
- “can” indicates a possibility or a capability.

Water quality — Sampling, capture and preservation of environmental DNA from water

1 Scope

This document specifies procedures for sampling, capture and preservation of environmental DNA (eDNA) in aquatic environments, stemming from organisms that are or have recently been present in a waterbody, have visited it or whose DNA has been introduced to the waterbody through some mechanism. This document also covers procedures for avoiding sample contamination and ensuring DNA quality, key properties of the filtering procedure and equipment and reporting standards.

This document does not include the collection of eDNA from biofilms, sediments or similar sample types, or passive sampling methods, and does not cover sampling designs.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

3.1 cross-contamination

unintended transfer of any source and/or DNA from one sample to another sample

3.2 decontamination

procedure to remove any source and/or trace of DNA from material that might come into contact with the sample

3.3 enclosed filter

filtering system where the filter membrane is encapsulated and where the inflow and outflow can be closed for transport and storage

Note 1 to entry: The eDNA contained on the filter is typically extracted without removing the membrane from the filter capsule greatly reducing the risk of contamination of samples. See [Figure A.1 C](#) in [Annex A](#).

3.4 environmental DNA eDNA

material from dead or living organisms including single-stranded (ss) and double-stranded (ds) DNA fragment from nuclear and mitochondrial/plastid DNA of eukaryotes as well as plasmid chromosomal and DNA of prokaryotes

Note 1 to entry: Subsuming DNA from various sources such as unicellular or small multicellular organisms or tissue particles (e.g. shed cells, faeces) and gametes of multicellular organisms.

ISO/DIS 17805.2:2025(en)

3.5

field equipment blank

a sample obtained from processing target DNA-free water (e.g. distilled water) through all the equipment used and following all procedures involved in the eDNA sampling process to ensure that the equipment and procedures do not introduce DNA contamination

3.6

housed filter

filtering systems in which a filter membrane is protected within a solid housing during the filtration process, which is opened subsequently to remove the filter membrane for further processing

Note 1 to entry: The filters are removed from the housing for eDNA extraction. The housing can be opened and the filter removed for preservation and later processing. See [Figure A.1 B.](#) in [Annex A.](#)

3.7

lysis buffer

buffer solution to preserve the DNA present in the sample and to lyse/open cells as a first step of the DNA extraction

3.8

internal positive control

IPC

quantified amount of synthetic or natural DNA containing a PCR-amplifiable sequence that will not naturally occur in the sample to distinguish types of negative results (no target sequence vs. PCR inhibition)

Note 1 to entry: The IPC can be added to the sample or the preservation/lysis buffer at a known concentration to verify the efficiencies of DNA preservation, DNA extraction, DNA amplification and DNA identification.

3.9

open filter

filtering system including vacuum filtration units (laboratory) and filtration backpacks (field) from which the filter membrane has to be removed with tweezers for further processing

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure A.1 A.](#) in [Annex A](#)

3.10

pre-filter

filter membrane, mesh or hose strainer with a larger pore-size than the main filter membrane (used for capturing the eDNA) through which water is passed first to remove larger particles of sediment, plant material or algae to increase the volume of water that can be filtered before saturation of the main filter

3.11

sample contamination

process by which exogenous DNA is unintentionally introduced to the sample

Note 1 to entry: DNA that is already present in the water before the eDNA sampling was undertaken is not considered as contamination.

3.12

target DNA

any source and/or trace of DNA from the surveyed species/taxa

3.13

enclosed filter

filtering systems in which a filter membrane is protected within a solid housing during filtration and further processing steps, e.g. lysis; it is not opened, minimizing sample contamination

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure A.1 C.](#) in [Annex A](#)