Web Site Credibility Analysis

This sheet must accompany all Internet sources listed on the annotated bibliography and be turned in with the research paper.

Web site address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Who is the sponsor of the web site?

    1) Is the sponsor an academic institution or peer-reviewed journal?

    2) Is the sponsor an advocacy group?

    3) Is the sponsor a government agency?

    4) Is the sponsor a media or press outlet?

    5) Does the sponsor have an easily found snail mail address and phone number?

    6) Does the site present only one side of an issue or does it seem balanced?

Where does the information come from?

    1) Does the information come from a particular study or group of studies?

    2) Is the information peer-reviewed?

    3) Is the information anonymous?

    4) Can the information be verified from another source other than a web site?  If yes, where?

    5) Are there other web sites or more credible sources that claim contradictory facts?  If yes, where?

What are the qualifications of the authors or researchers?

    1) Are the researcher(s) or author(s) affiliated with an academic institution or U.S. government agency?

    2) Are the author(s) or researcher(s) qualified in the fields they are researching?

    3) If the researcher(s) or author(s) are not connected with a government agency or academic institution, is it clear who is paying them?

 What general conclusions can you draw from answering the above questions?

On a scale of one to ten with ten being the highest, based on the questions above I give this site a credibility rating of \_\_\_\_\_\_ .