Washington State Department of Transportation

Northgate Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge Project
Wetland Discipline Report

Prepared for
Seattle Department of Transportation
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Federal Highway Administration

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1 Introduction

Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) proposes to construct a pedestrian and bicycle bridge that will span Interstate 5 (I-5) in the vicinity of the Northgate Mall, future Link Light Rail station and North Seattle College (NSC) with the goal of providing an east-west, non-motorized corridor linking the Seattle neighborhoods of Licton Springs and Maple Leaf.

The purpose of this study is to assess potential project impacts to wetlands and watercourses from construction and operation of the Northgate Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge Project (Project). This report has been prepared in accordance with *WSDOT's Environmental Manual, Chapter 431, Wetlands (WSDOT 2017).*

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is the federal agency responsible for reviewing and approving the proposal for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). FHWA has delegated the review of environmental documents to WSDOT.

2 Project Description

2.1 Purpose and need

The purpose of the Project is to provide a convenient and safe pedestrian and bicycle connection over I-5. The Project provides much-needed improvements to the area with a convenient and safe, pedestrian and bicycle connection over I-5. Existing pedestrian and bicycle highway crossings in the area are separated by a distance of approximately nine tenths of a mile, located on Northgate Way to the north and N 92nd Street to the south. Improvements include a pedestrian and bicycle bridge that will span I-5, a link to the WSDOT park-and-ride lot, and a connection between the bridge and nearby transit facilities.

The project is needed to support the transit development at Northgate. Northgate is the home of the Northgate Transit Center and operates as the largest facility in the King County Metro system. The transit center is helping the area to move from a community dependent on automobiles to a community embracing the benefits of active transportation. In the near future, the existing transit center will be enhanced by a new light rail station currently under construction. Residents and commuters will have access to a light rail station that currently connects to the University of Washington, downtown Seattle, and SeaTac Airport. In the future, light rail will go as far south as Tacoma, north to Lynnwood and Everett, and east to Bellevue and Redmond.

2.2 Project Location

The Project is located in the Northgate area of Seattle, Washington (Figures 1 and 2). The project area is generally bounded by College Way N on the west, 1st Avenue NE on the east,

Northgate Way on the north and N 92nd Street on the south. This area is bisected by the I-5 freeway. The eastern portion of the Project lies within SDOT and WSDOT rights-of-way. The western portion of the Project lies within WSDOT right-of-way and lands owned by the North Seattle College (NSC). The Project is located within the Sections 31 and 32, Township 26 North, Range 04 East.

Figure 1: Project Area Map

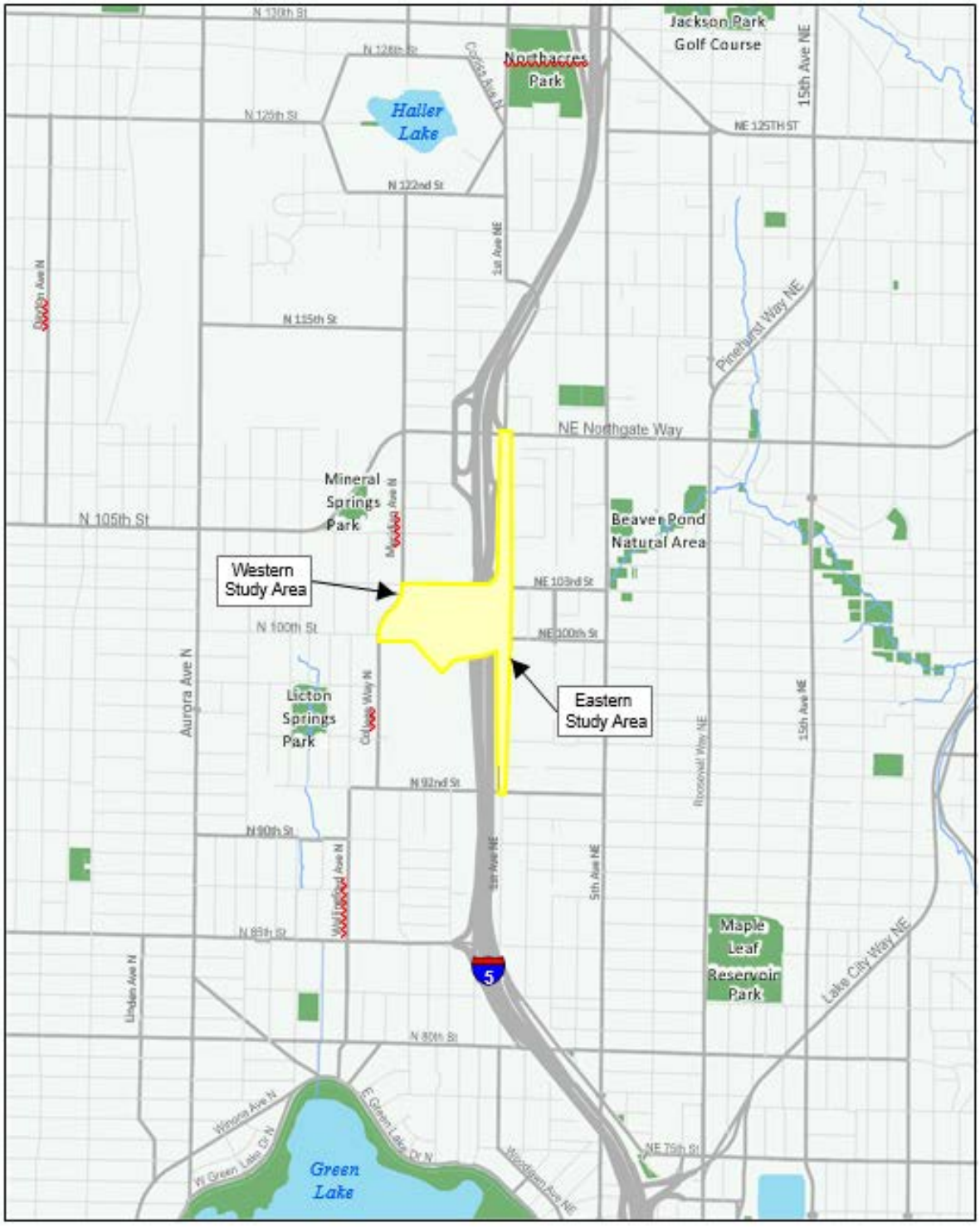
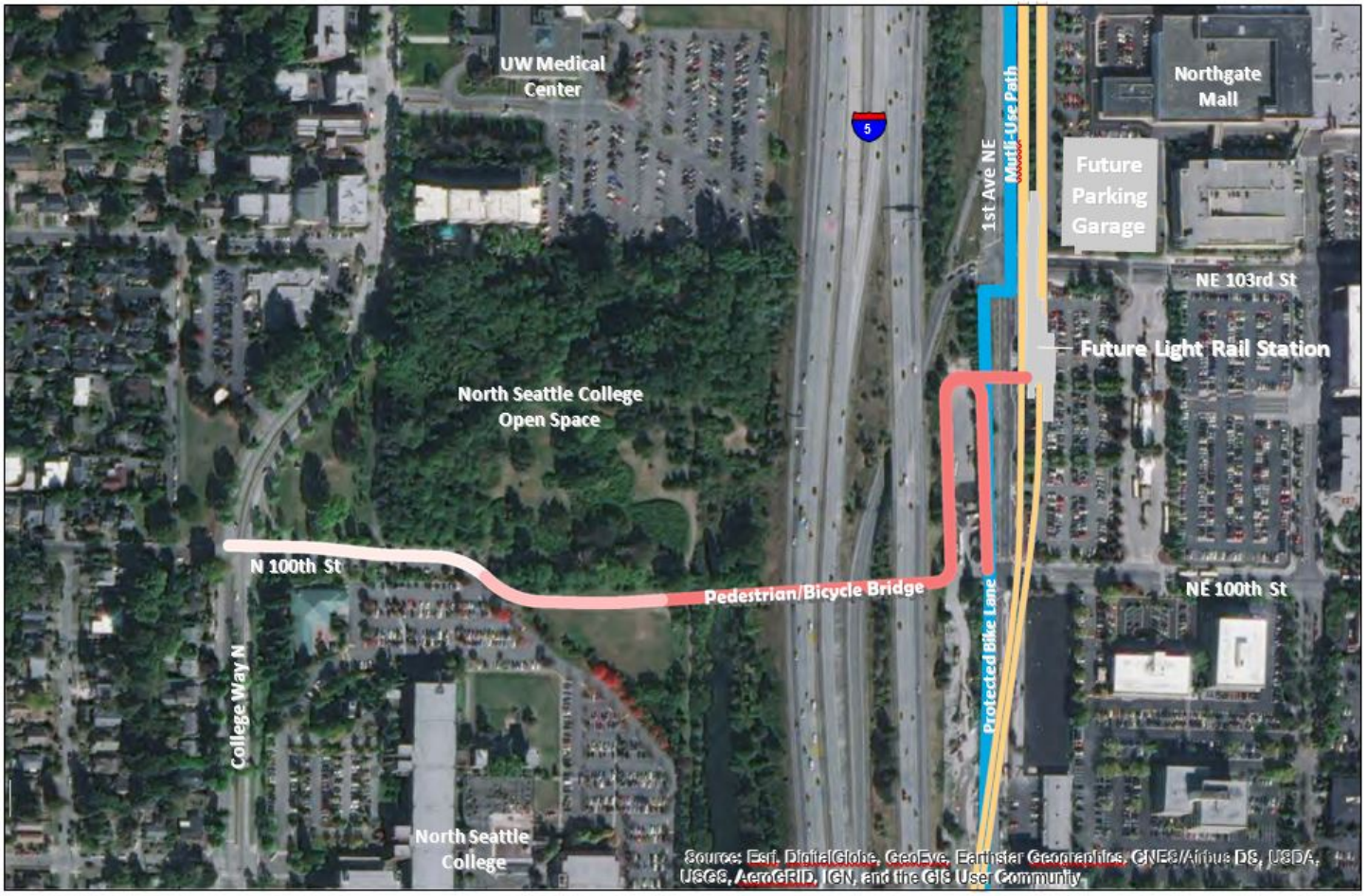


Figure 2: Project Site and Bridge Alignment

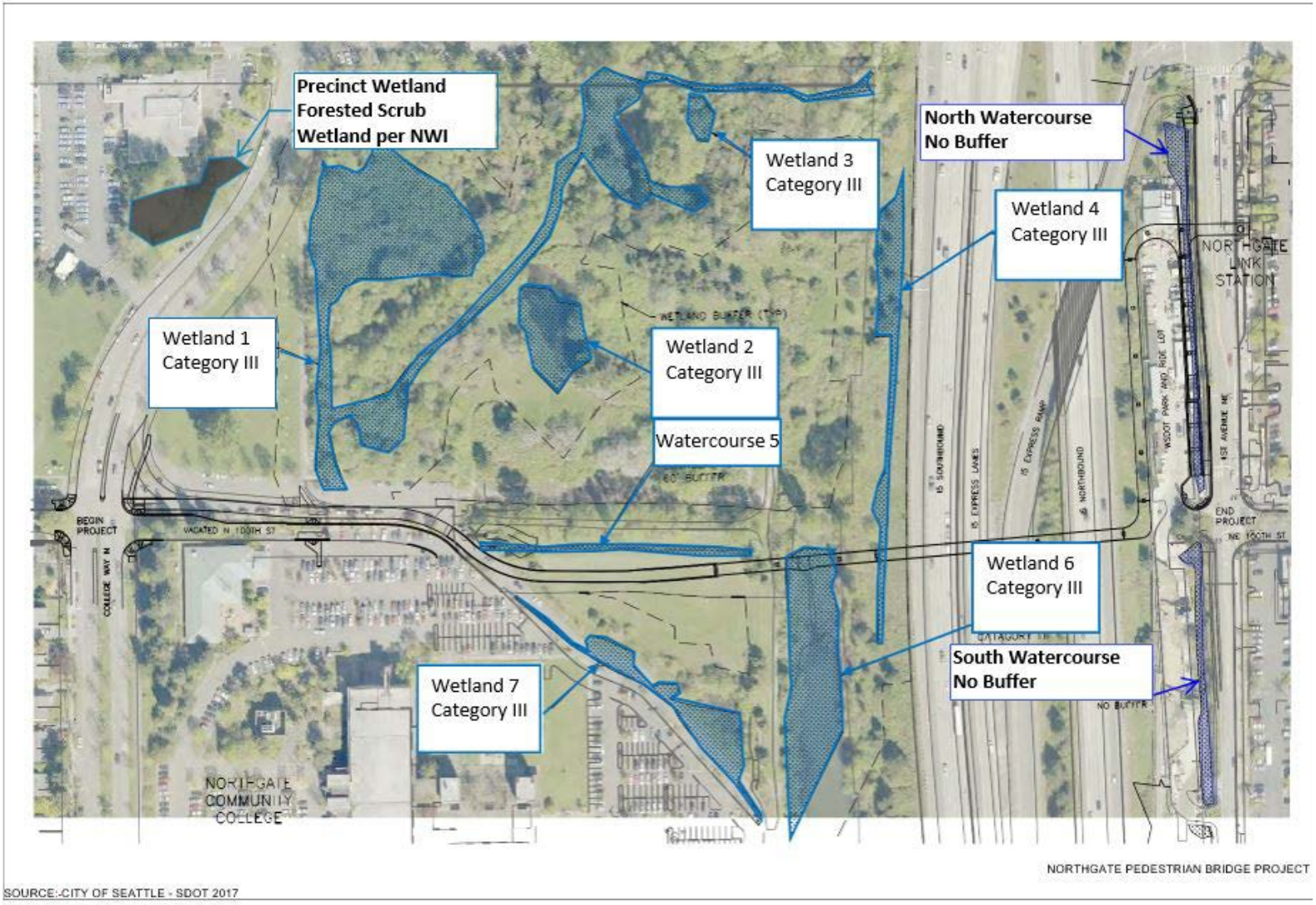


SOURCE: City of Seattle 2017; Sound Transit 2017; Esri 2016

Northgate Pedestrian Bridge Project. 130125

Bridge Structure
Earthfill Section
16' Wide Multi-Use Path
1st Avenue NE Protected Bike Lane (PBL)/Multi-Use Path

Figure 3: Wetlands and Watercourses



2.3 Description of Proposed Project Work

Project construction is anticipated to begin in Spring 2019 and will take approximately 18 to 20 months with a targeted completion in December 2020 before the opening of the Sound Transit Northgate Link Light Rail station.

The key project elements include:

- A 16-foot wide, 1,900-foot long Pedestrian and Bicycle facility, including a 360-foot crossing of I-5.
- An east approach ramp located within the WSDOT park and ride on the east side of I-5, that will connect to grade level at 1st Avenue NE and NE 100th Street.
- A bridge connection over 1st Avenue NE connecting to the Northgate Link Light Rail station.
- A west approach consisting of an earthfill embankment with retaining walls that touch down on the NSC campus.
- A 16-foot wide multi-use path on the NSC campus linking the facility with College Way N.
- A 10-foot wide protected bike lane along the west side of 1st Avenue NE from NE 92nd Street to NE 103rd Street.
- A multi-use path on the east side of the 1st Avenue NE from NE 103rd Street to Northgate Way.

Construction activities will include:

- Clearing and grading/vegetation removal
- Ground Disturbing Activities
- Concrete paving
- Construction and removal of temporary trestle
- In-water construction
- Temporary on-site staging
- Construction of stormwater facilities
- I-5 closures

2.3.1 Construction Staging and Phasing

Construction of the Project will take place on both sides of I-5 and will overlap in time (Figure 4). On the west side of I-5, an approximate 40-foot width area at the west approach and

adjacent to Watercourse 5[1] will be used for temporary construction staging. East-west vehicle access to the staging area will be from College Way N to vacated N 100th Street. North-south vehicle access will be from N 92nd Street through the NSC parking lot then along the existing maintenance road in vacated Corliss Avenue N. Temporary construction staging east of I-5 will close off and use the existing WSDOT park-and-ride lot. Staging areas and access roads used for construction are shown in Figure 4 and will be restored upon completion of the Project.

Once staging areas are set up, the Project will construct three permanent piers (piers 2-4) and three temporary bridge piers along the alignment. Temporary piers and a temporary working trestle (30 ft x 284 ft) will be constructed in vacated N 100th Street (Figure 4). The temporary trestle will cross the pond and marshy area identified as Wetland 6 (Figure 3). The temporary trestle will be used throughout construction to assemble and install the bridge span. Once assembled, portions of the bridge span will be moved from the temporary work trestle to the temporary and permanent piers in the project alignment. Two additional piers within I-5 (piers 5 and 6) will be constructed to allow placement of the main span. This work will be closely followed by foundation construction (spread footings at the west approach and drill shafts at the east approach).

The North Watercourse will be filled in several places. A new outlet pipe will be installed at the south end of the revised North Watercourse, which will convey flows to the stormwater system under 1st Avenue NE.

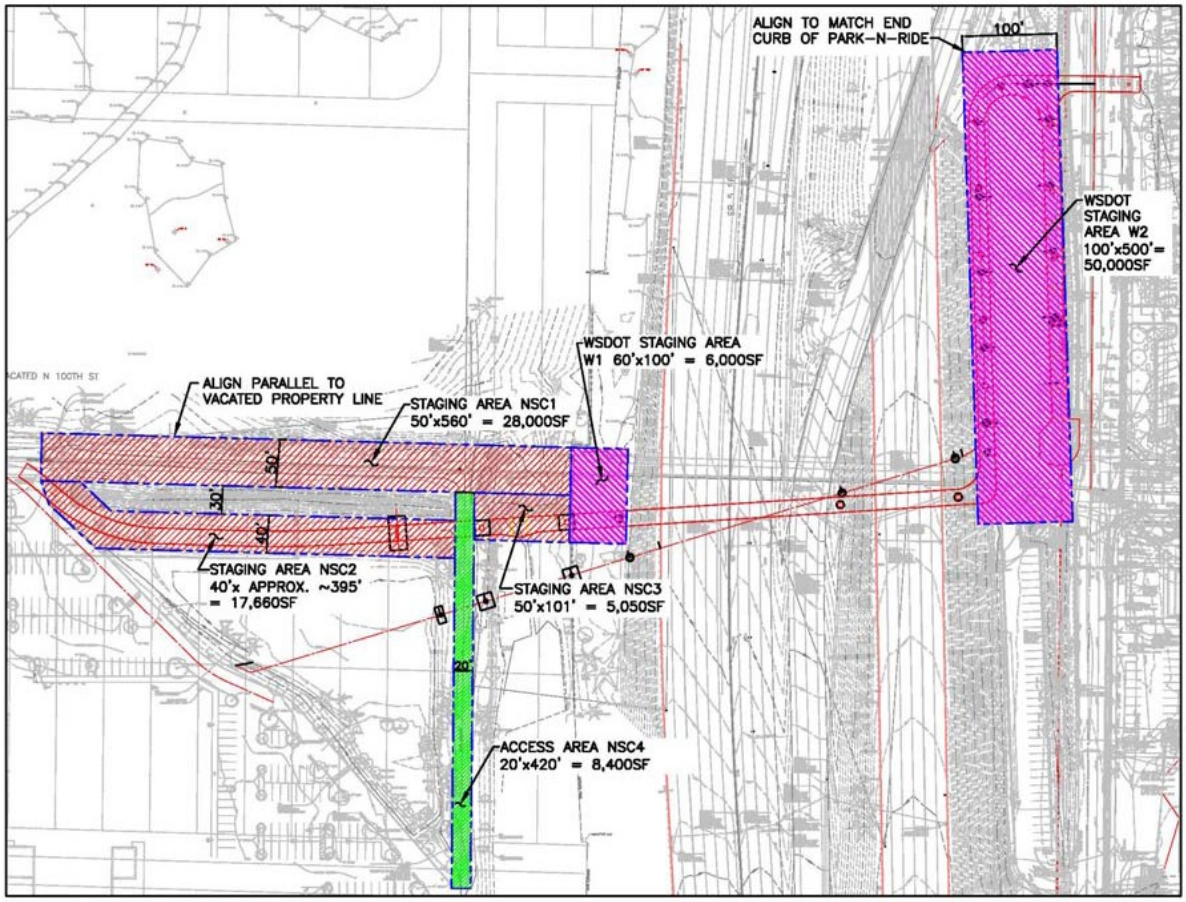
The next order of work will be construction of substructure columns and crossbeams, on both sides of I-5 followed by the general column/cap detailing and reinforced cast-in-place box structures at the east horizontal curves. Work on the geotextile retaining walls and project drainage system on the west side of I-5 can begin at this point or be shifted to the end of the Project per the Contractor's plan. While the fieldwork is underway, precast concrete girders, steel through-girders, and the steel trusses will be shop fabricated.

The precast concrete girders, anticipated to be the first shop-fabricated components, will be installed in the field first along the west approach to provide construction access for the main span construction, and then at the east approach. With the approach structures and added deck in place, the main span will be assembled and launched from the west staging area using the approach spans and work trestle. Temporary pier supports will be erected as necessary to allow construction and launching of the main span truss on a level surface.

[1] Watercourse 5 is also classified as a wetland and performs wetland functions.

Temporary closing and possible restriping of I-5 will be required for construction of Pier 5. This will be negotiated with WSDOT and FHWA.

Figure 4: Construction Staging Areas



2.4 Construction Equipment and Noise

Construction of the Project will occur over a period of 18 to 20 months. Use of heavy construction equipment such as graders, bulldozers, haul trucks, jack hammer, welding equipment, hydraulic drills, blasting, and cranes. Construction will take place between 7 am and 7 pm. A Noise Variance permit from the City of Seattle may be required for evening and night-time work.

2.5 Ground disturbance

Ground disturbance for the Project will involve excavation, grading, and addition of fill material. Total ground disturbance on the Project site will be 240,000 square feet. The total soil disturbance will be 120,000 square feet. The following summarizes the

amount of ground disturbance that will occur, and fill quantities needed for main project construction activities.

- Bridge footings and columns—Ground disturbance for 17 bridge support piers and abutments will be about 7,000 square feet. The west embankment approach to the bridge will be fill supported by retaining structures up to a height of about 20 feet. Fill quantity is estimated at about 2,500 cubic yards.
- Staging areas—On the west side of I-5, ground disturbance for excavation and grading including staging areas will be about 72,000 square feet. On the east side of I-5 ground disturbance for excavation and grading including staging areas will be about 57,000 square feet.
- Retaining walls—A portion of the east approach will be fill supported by retaining walls up to a height of about 11 feet. Fill quantity is estimated at about 460 cubic yards.
- Wetlands—Watercourse 5 will be reconfigured to allow room for the west bridge approach. Approximately 1,182 square feet of Watercourse 5 will be filled. The North Watercourse will be filled to accommodate the east bridge landing and protected bike lane in 1st Avenue NE. North Watercourse will be filled 130 feet.

2.6 Stormwater System Improvements

The Project will add new impervious surface. Addition of new impervious surface will generate additional stormwater which will be managed to meet the 2016 City of Seattle Stormwater Code and Manual for detention and water quality (SMC 22.800-22.808).

3 Methodology

Clearway Environmental reviewed existing information about wetlands in the project vicinity, including a Draft Northgate Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge Wetlands Discipline Report (ESA 2015) developed for the previous design. Clearvway Environmental also completed additional field studies to delineate and categorize existing wetlands. The 2014 Washington Department of Ecology wetland rating system was used to help quantify stormwater treatment, wildlife utilization, and diversity of species to help designate ecological values to the existing wetlands in the project area. Wetlands in the western portion of the project area were identified and rated using Ecology's *Wetland Rating System for Western Washington* (Hruby 2004 and 2014) as required by Seattle Municipal Code by Clearway Environmental in September 2017.

Wetland delineations were verified within the project area, east and west of I-5, during 2017. The 2017 field effort verified three wetland delineations conducted within the project area, during 2005, 2007, and 2012. Detailed wetland delineation methodology and wetland rating

forms can be found in Appendix B and C respectively. This section describes each wetland within the study area.

3.1 Study Areas

For this analysis, the overall project area was divided into two separate study areas, one located west of I-5 and the other east of the interstate (Figure 1). Each has different geological and hydrological conditions and are described separately below. The project area lies within Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 8–Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed.

The western study area lies in the Bartonwood Natural Area in the northern portion of the NSC campus. It is bounded by I-5 to the east, College Way North to the west, N 103rd Street to the north, and the NSC's Northeast parking lot to the south.

The eastern study area is largely parking lots and street right-of-way, with some vegetated areas and an intersecting watercourse. It is bounded by I-5 to the west, 1st Avenue NE to the east, NE Northgate Way to the north, and NE 92nd St to the south.

3.2 Applicable Regulations

The following regulations are applicable to the evaluation of impacts to wetlands and watercourses:

- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- Section 404 of the Clean Water Act - Nationwide Permit (U. S. Army Corps of Engineers): Triggered by work for proposed construction of the bridge landings in waters of the U. S. (wetlands).
- Section 7 Endangered Species Act (U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service): Triggered by FHWA funding. Section 7 regulates activities that may affect species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act.
- Section 401 of the Clean Water Act - Water Quality Certification (Ecology): Triggered by the Army Corps of Engineers permit and work within wetlands.
- Coastal Zone Management Act Consistency Determination: Potentially required for projects within Washington State's 15 coastal counties, including King County.
- Hydraulic Project Approval (WDFW): Required for work within or directly adjacent to waters of the state. Observations of fish within Watercourse 5, Wetland 6, and the North Watercourse result in the classification of these two watercourses as Type F (fish) regulated waters.
- Critical Areas Ordinance Permit (City of Seattle): Required for work within Environmentally Critical Areas, which include Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas including streams,

priority habitats and species, riparian watercourses and riparian corridors (SMC 25.09.200). The City also regulates wetlands, flood prone areas, peat-settlement-prone areas, and steep slopes (SMC 25.09.012). Development standards for wetlands and wetland buffers are detailed under Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) 25.09.160.

- Master Use Permit (City of Seattle): Required for development on private property.

4 Existing Conditions

4.1 Land Use

Land use in the western study area is largely natural area, containing native and invasive trees and shrubs, as well as maintained lawns. The northern and western portions of the western study area are dominated by deciduous forest cover. The central, eastern, and southern portions contain maintained lawn, shrubs (primarily Himalayan blackberry), and scattered trees. Several dirt roads and trails traverse this area (Figure 3). The proposed pedestrian and bicycle bridge alignment will be located south of and approximately parallel to vacated N 100th Street.

Land use to the east of I-5 includes a transit station, a large regional shopping center and a variety of smaller scale retail facilities, apartments, hotels, medical facilities and other largely commercial uses. Two park and ride lots are located in the central portion of this study area at the intersection of NE 100th Street and 1st Avenue NE. The NE 103rd Street/1st Avenue NE exit ramp from I-5 traverses the northern portion of this study area.

In addition to grassy areas and scattered trees and shrubs, there are extensive Himalayan blackberry brambles throughout the eastern study region. There is relatively dense native tree and shrub riparian cover associated with the North and South watercourses and Wetlands A, D, and E (Figure 14 and 15). Vegetated cover is sparse where the bridge alignment crosses I-5, and the footprint of the ramp will be located within the existing park and ride lot.

Currently, Sound Transit's proposed Northgate Link Light Rail Project is under construction within the eastern study area.

4.2 Terrestrial Habitats

The Project is located in an urban setting and spans between the NSC campus (western study area) and WSDOT parking lot located between I-5 and 1st Avenue NE (eastern study area). Vegetation and wildlife habitats are impacted by urban development and human activities. The area still supports some native plant species, primarily in the western study area. The Bartonwood Natural Area, a 12-acre preserve on the north end of the NSC campus, provides

habitat for a range different species, including the Pacific Tree Frog (*Pseudacris regilla*). The area contains remnants of both historic and restored wetlands and feeds the south branch of Thornton Creek. Representative photos are provided in Appendix A – Photographs.

4.3 Landscaped Areas

Landscaping in the western study area includes mowed grassy areas and deciduous street trees near the intersection of N 100th Street and College Way North. This area also contains approximately 20 planted landscaping trees. The central portion of the western study area contains multiple areas with mowed grass to facilitate public access into this natural area and open space. This central area also contains numerous deciduous tree species and a significant amount of Himalayan blackberry. Mowed grass is also present south of Watercourse 5 in association with a stormwater facility. Ornamental trees in the study area include paperbark maple, cherry laurel, English holly, black locust, and unknown species of cherry (Figure 5). Vegetation in the eastern study area is unmaintained, except for some isolated grassy patches in the WSDOT right-of-way, which appear to be purposefully planted. Much of the area is overgrown with a variety of native, invasive, and ornamental species.

Figure 5. General Vegetation Types in the Western Study Area

4.4 Native Vegetation

Native vegetation within the western study area is found primarily in association with wetlands and the natural area on the NSC property. Dominant native species include: Pacific madrone, Pacific and Scouler's willow, Douglas-fir, western hemlock, big-leaf maple, Pacific crabapple, red alder, black cottonwood, Nootka rose, Oregon grape, Indian plum, trailing blackberry, sword fern, Douglas spirea, common rush, and cattail.

Within the eastern study area, native vegetation is also associated with wetlands and watercourses, but occurs in small patches. Native species include: red alder, Pacific willow, red-osier dogwood, small-fruited bulrush, common rush, and field horsetail.

4.5 Nonnative Invasive Species

The central portion of the western study area is dominated by Himalayan blackberry, which occupies more than 1.5 acres of land. Himalayan blackberry also occupies significant areas of the eastern study area, both in upland areas and along wetland and watercourse boundaries. Other dominant invasive species include evergreen blackberry, bittersweet nightshade, butterfly bush, and reed canary grass. Japanese knotweed is starting to grow along the border of the apartment buildings to the north of Wetland 3.

4.6 Wetlands

On the west side of I-5, there are six wetlands and one watercourse (Figure 3, 6-11). All wetlands and the watercourse are connected hydraulically either by pipe, surface-flow or groundwater. These water resources eventually drain into a 72-inch diameter culvert pipe that extends underneath I-5 along vacated NE 100th Street.

Four wetlands, two ditches, and two watercourses are located within the eastern study area (Figures 12-15). These waterbodies receive water from the western study area and then discharge water via a 72-inch culvert along NE 100th Street. During low flows, all water is discharged to a water quality treatment feature at Thornton Place, a condominium development just north of NE 100th Street, and between 3rd Avenue NE and 5th Avenue NE (Photo 7 in Appendix A). During storm events, high flows are routed to the South Branch of Thornton Creek near 5th Avenue NE.

4.6.1 Wetland Descriptions West of Interstate-5

In September of 2017, Clearway Environmental staff reviewed all known wetland delineation information collected and documented by ESA, Herrera, and WSDOT. All delineations were verified and documented with new flagging, so that wetland boundaries are clearly visible.

Clearway Environmental identified six wetlands (Wetlands 1 through 7) and one watercourse that roughly align with wetlands identified by the National Wetland Inventory (Figure 3).

Wetland 1

Wetland 1 is a depressional, open water and palustrine emergent (PEM) wetland located in the western and central portion of the study area (Figure 3, Photos 1 and 2). Dominant plant species include Pacific willow (*Salix lucida* ssp. *lasiandra*), red alder (*Alnus rubra*), bluegrass (*Poa* sp.), and bentgrass (*Agrostis* spp.). Wetland hydrology indicators included ponded water, a high-water table, and saturation within 12 inches of the soil surface. Sampled soils meet hydric soil criteria F3 or F6 (redox dark surface).

Wetland 2

Wetland 2 is a large, depressional, open water and palustrine forested (PFO)/palustrine scrub-shrub (PSS) wetland located in the central portions of the study area (Figure 3, Photo 3). Dominant plant species include Pacific willow, an unknown willow (*Salix* sp.), birch (*Betula* sp.), and Douglas spiraea (*Spiraea douglasii*). Wetland hydrology indicators include ponded water, a high-water table, saturation within 12 inches of the soil surface, and hydrogen sulfide odor. Sampled soils meet hydric soil criteria A1 (histosol) or F6 (redox dark surface).

Wetland 3

Wetland 3 is a relatively small depressional PFO/PSS wetland located in the northeastern portion of the study area, adjacent to a narrow segment of Wetland 2 (Figure 3). Dominant plant species include red alder and Nootka rose (*Rosa nutkana*). Wetland hydrology indicators include saturated soil at 3 inches deep. Sampled soils meet hydric soil criteria F7 (depleted dark surface).

Wetland 4

Wetland 4 is a long, narrow depressional PEM wetland located along the eastern boundary of the study area, adjacent to I-5 (Figure 3). This wetland continues outside of the study area to the south. Dominant plant species include bentgrass. Wetland hydrology indicators include saturation within the top 8 inches of soil. Sampled soils meet hydric soil criteria F6 (redox dark surface).

Watercourse 5

Watercourse 5 is a Type F water and is also classified as a slope PFO wetland. Dominant plant species include black cottonwood (*Populus trichocarpa*), Pacific willow, soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) and bentgrass. Hydric soils were assumed present; no soil pit was dug in Watercourse 5

because the area contained approximately 3 inches of standing water during the site visit. Wetland hydrology indicates surface water.

Wetland 6

Wetland 6 is a large, depressional, open water/PFO wetland located between the college campus and I-5 (Figure 3; Photo 5). This wetland continues outside of the study area to the south. A portion of Wetland 6 is likely excavated and retains stormwater input from the college campus and surrounding area. Fish have been observed in Wetland 6. Dominant plant species include Pacific willow, broadleaf cattail (*Typha latifolia*), and reedcanary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*). Like Watercourse 5, hydric soils were assumed to be present and no soils were examined due to standing water during the site visit.

Wetland 7

Wetland 7 is a depressional PFO/PEM wetland located adjacent to the northeast corner of the college parking lot (Figure 3; Photo 6). The wetland is an excavated feature that conveys stormwater along much of its length to its southern extent where the water ponds with regularity. At the southeastern portion of the wetland, water overflows the wetland boundary to the east, flowing into Wetland 6 during storm events. Dominant plant species include Western red cedar (*Thuja plicata*), red-osier dogwood (*Cornus sericea*), Nootka rose, creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*), small-fruited bulrush (*Scirpus microcarpus*), bentgrass, birdsfoot trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), red fescue (*Festuca rubra*), and field horsetail (*Equisetum arvense*). Wetland hydrology indicators were absent during the late July 2017 field visit but were assumed present earlier during the growing season and the location and functions of the wetland as a stormwater facility. Sampled soils meet hydric soil criteria F6 (depleted dark surface) and F2 (Loamy Gleyed Matrix), respectively.

4.6.2 Wetland Ratings and Buffer Requirements

Wetlands identified in the project area west of I-5 were classified using Ecology's *Wetland Rating System for Western Washington* (Hruby, 2004 and 2014) as required by city code. All wetland forms are included in Appendix B of this report. Using this system, six Category III wetlands and one watercourse were identified within the study area. These waterbodies require buffers that range from 50 to 60 feet according to Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) 25.09.160C; wetland buffer widths are based on the wetland category and the level of habitat function at the site (Table 1).

Table 1: Wetlands and Watercourse West of Interstate-5—Functional Ratings and Applicable Buffer

Wetland ID	Wetland Category	Habitat Score	SMC Required Buffer
Wetland 1	Category III	4	60 feet
Wetland 2	Category III	4	60 feet
Wetland 3	Category III	3	60 feet
Wetland 4	Category III	3	60 feet
Watercourse 5	Type F	3	50 feet
Wetland 6	Category III	5	60 feet
Wetland 7	Category III	4	60 feet

4.6.3 Wetland Functions

Wetlands 1-4 and 6 have the opportunity to improve water quality because they either receive stormwater inputs or are located adjacent to developed areas. Additionally, all wetlands have the opportunity to reduce flooding and erosion because they either impound water or drain to a stream with flooding problems. Watercourse 5 has limited opportunity to improve water quality and hydrologic functions because of limited vegetation within the wetland to trap sediment and pollutants, reduce flow velocities, and detain flood flows.

Wetlands 1-4 and Wetland 7 exhibit relatively low habitat function due to generally simple vegetation structure, few hydroperiods, limited species richness, relatively disturbed buffers and connections, and lack of nearby priority habitats. Wetland 6 had the highest habitat score of all wetlands due to the presence of multiple vegetation classes and hydroperiods, moderate interspersion of habitats, and several special habitat features.

Fish have been observed in Watercourse 5, which is a Type F regulated water of the State of Washington. These open water areas of the upper reaches Thornton Creek help provide cover, food, hydraulic connectivity, and some water quality treatment for downstream resources.

4.6.4 Wetlands East of Interstate-5

In September of 2017, Clearway Environmental staff also reviewed all known wetland delineation information collected and documented by ESA, Herrera, and WSDOT for wetlands and watercourses in the east study area. Clearway Environmental identified six wetlands

(Wetlands A-F, 1 and 2), two jurisdictional ditches (Ditch 1 and 2) and two watercourses (North and South Watercourse), see Figure 3. These open water areas of the upper reaches Thornton Creek help provide cover, food, hydraulic connectivity, and some water quality treatment for downstream resources. Fish have been observed in both waterways. Table 2 provides a brief summary of these resources within the eastern study area.

Table 2: Wetlands Aquatic Resources East of Interstate-5—Functional Ratings and Applicable Buffer

Aquatic Resource ID	Wetland Category/ Watercourse Type	SMC Required Buffer
Wetland A	Category III	60 feet
Wetland D	Category IV	50 feet
Wetland E	Category IV	50 feet
Wetland F	Category IV	0 feet[2]
Wetland 1 (east side)	Category IV	50 feet
Wetland 2 (east side)	Category IV	50 feet
Ditch 1[3]	—	—
Ditch 2	—	—
North Watercourse	Type F	—
South Watercourse	Type F	—

[2] Wetland F is Category IV, less than 1,000 square feet in size, and is not adjacent to a watercourse or other wetland, therefore the City of Seattle does not require buffers on Wetland F (SMC 25.09.160.B).

[3] Ditch 1 and Ditch 2 will not be impacted by the Project, so detailed information is not provided.

5 Project Impacts

5.1 Wetlands

The Project will have permanent and temporary impacts to wetlands as shown in Table 3 and Figures 7 to 12.

5.1.1 Western Study Area

Wetland 1

At Wetland 1, clearing and grading along the south end of the wetland will result in 322 square feet of temporary impact (Figures 6 and 7).

Wetland 4

At Wetland 4, temporary construction easement will result in 493 square feet of temporary impact (Figures 8 and 9).

Watercourse 5

Permanent wetland impacts will occur in Watercourse 5. Fill will be placed within Watercourse 5 to facilitate the bridge transition to N 100th Street, resulting in 1,182 square feet of permanent wetland impact (Figure 7). Impacts to Watercourse 5 from the fill and channel re-alignment will be mitigated on-site as channel improvements and revegetation per the Northgate Mitigation Report, 2018. Less than 100 feet of fill will be placed in the channel and the inlet of Watercourse 5 will be moved to create room for the new pedestrian bridge and path approach (Figure 7). Trees in the vicinity of the bridge and path alignment will be removed and mitigated for with tree replacement. Tree replacement on the NSC site will occur adjacent to Watercourse 5 and Wetland 6 to meet Seattle Department of Construction and Inspection tree replacement requirements. Tree replacement on WSDOT and SDOT right-of-way will occur near to tree removal areas and meet the respective tree replacement requirements of each.

Wetland 6

At Wetland 6, the bridge truss will be staged over the north end of the wetland (construction equipment will not enter the wetland), resulting in 2,309 square feet of temporary impact (Figure 8).

5.1.2 Eastern Study Area

The North and South Watercourses on the east side of I-5 are Type F regulated waters of the State of Washington and will require mitigation for any impacts to the function and values of those water resources per Washington State Hydraulic Code (RCW 77.55).

North Watercourse

Permanent wetland impacts will occur in the North Watercourse. Portions of the North Watercourse will be filled to facilitate construction of the protected bike lane from the intersection of 1st Avenue NE and NE 103rd Street to the east bridge approach (Figures 11 and 12). Approximately 135 cubic yards of material will be placed within the watercourse, permanently impacting 3,162 square feet of habitat. This fill will be placed below the ordinary highwater mark within the watercourse and is a combination of fill placed in the south end of the watercourse and the retaining wall along the eastern edge of the watercourse.

Temporary impacts to the wetlands include hand clearing of trees and brush to allow construction of the bridge. The North Watercourse will be filled in at the southern end to accommodate a turn lane into the park-and-ride and will reduce the length of available stream habitat. Near the north and south ends of the watercourse construction will temporarily impact a total of 2,589 square feet (Figures 11 and 12). Approximately 130 feet of existing stream channel will be filled and the vegetation in the area will be removed to accommodate the turn lane. The existing outfall from the North Watercourse will be relocated but will still discharge to the same drainage system as the existing outfall culvert. The loss of approximately 130 feet of existing stream will impact the amount of potential available prey such as aquatic macroinvertebrates and reduce the amount of nutrients and organic matter produced in the study area that feeds downstream. The filled section of stream channel will reduce the amount of cover and rearing habitat available to the three-spine stickleback and resident cutthroat trout that are found in this habitat.

5.1 Buffers

5.1.1 Western Study Area

Wetland buffers are areas that surround a wetland and reduce adverse impacts to the wetland functions and values from adjacent development. City of Seattle ECA regulations require buffers for certain size and types of wetlands (SMC 25.09). The regulations require that buffers be retained to protect wetlands, or if they must be impacted, require that buffers be restored and/or impacts mitigated. Sixty-foot buffers have been designated for Wetlands 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6. A fifty-foot buffer has been designated for Watercourse 5.

Wetland 1

The southwestern buffer of Wetland 1 will be impacted both permanently and temporarily. A new section of sidewalk that connects an existing north-south oriented trail with N 100th Street will permanently impact 284 square feet of buffer (Figures 6 and 7). In addition, improvements

associated with the path in this area will result in approximately 20 square feet of permanent buffer impact.

Wetland 4

Construction easement and clearing and grading will result in both temporary and permanent impacts to Wetland 4's buffer. (Figures 8 and 9).

Watercourse 5

The buffer to Watercourse 5 will be impacted by clearing and grading activities as well unsuitable foundation excavation.

Wetland 6

Bridge construction and installation of Piers 2 and 3 will permanently impact the buffer of Wetland 6 (Figure 8). Staging of the bridge truss and construction access will result 16,913 square feet of temporary buffer impact to the north end of Wetland 6.

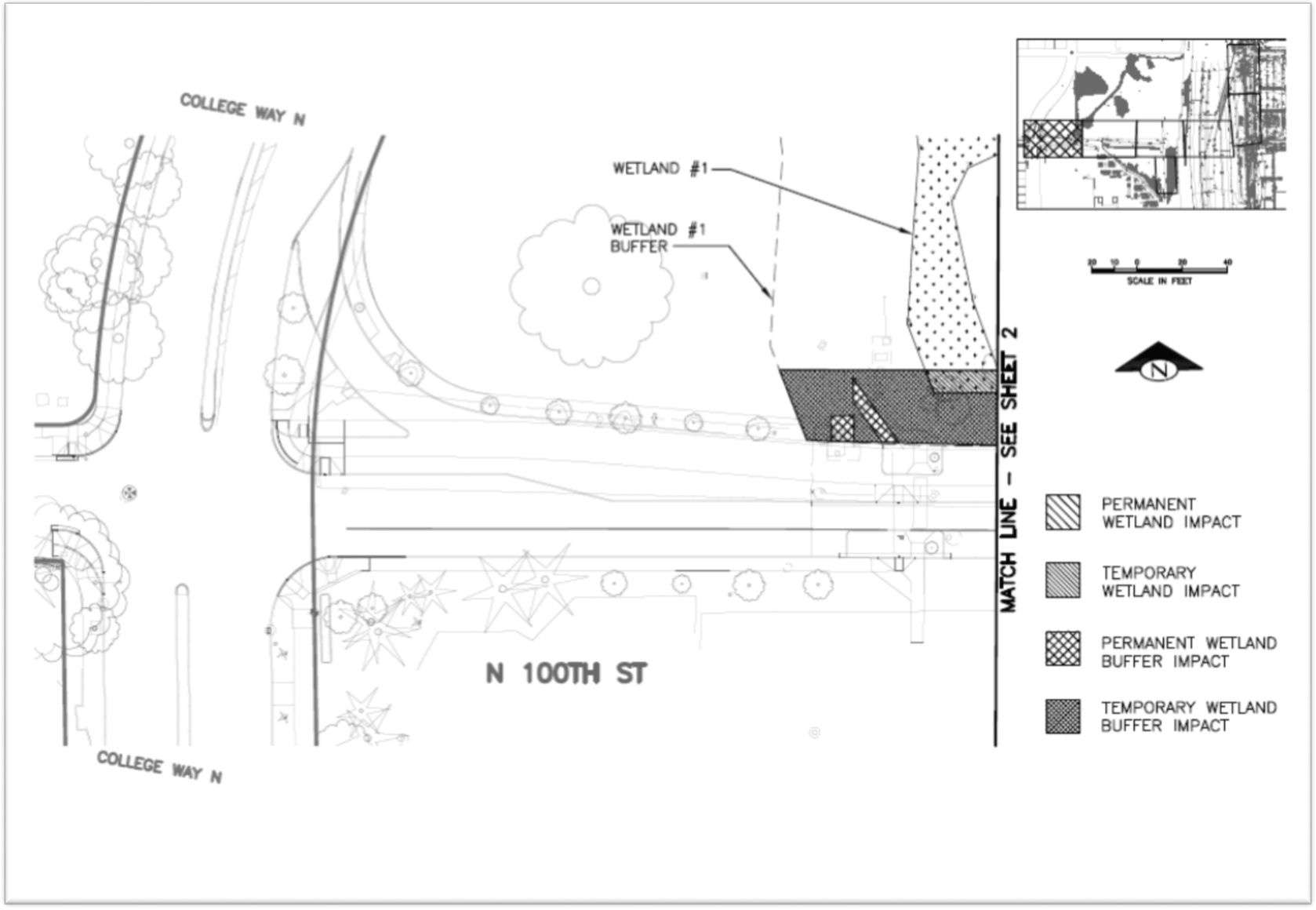
Table 3: Wetland and Buffer Impacts

Impact Area	Wetland 1	Wetland 2	Wetland 3	Wetland 4	Watercourse 5	Wetland 6	North Watercourse
	Square Feet						
Permanent Wetland	0	0	0	0	1,182	0	3,162
Temporary Wetland	322	0	0	493	16	2,309	2,589
Permanent Buffer	284	0	0	50	7,323	648	0
Temporary Buffer	4,985	0	0	3,119	35,325	16,913	0

5.1 Cumulative Impacts to Wetland Functions

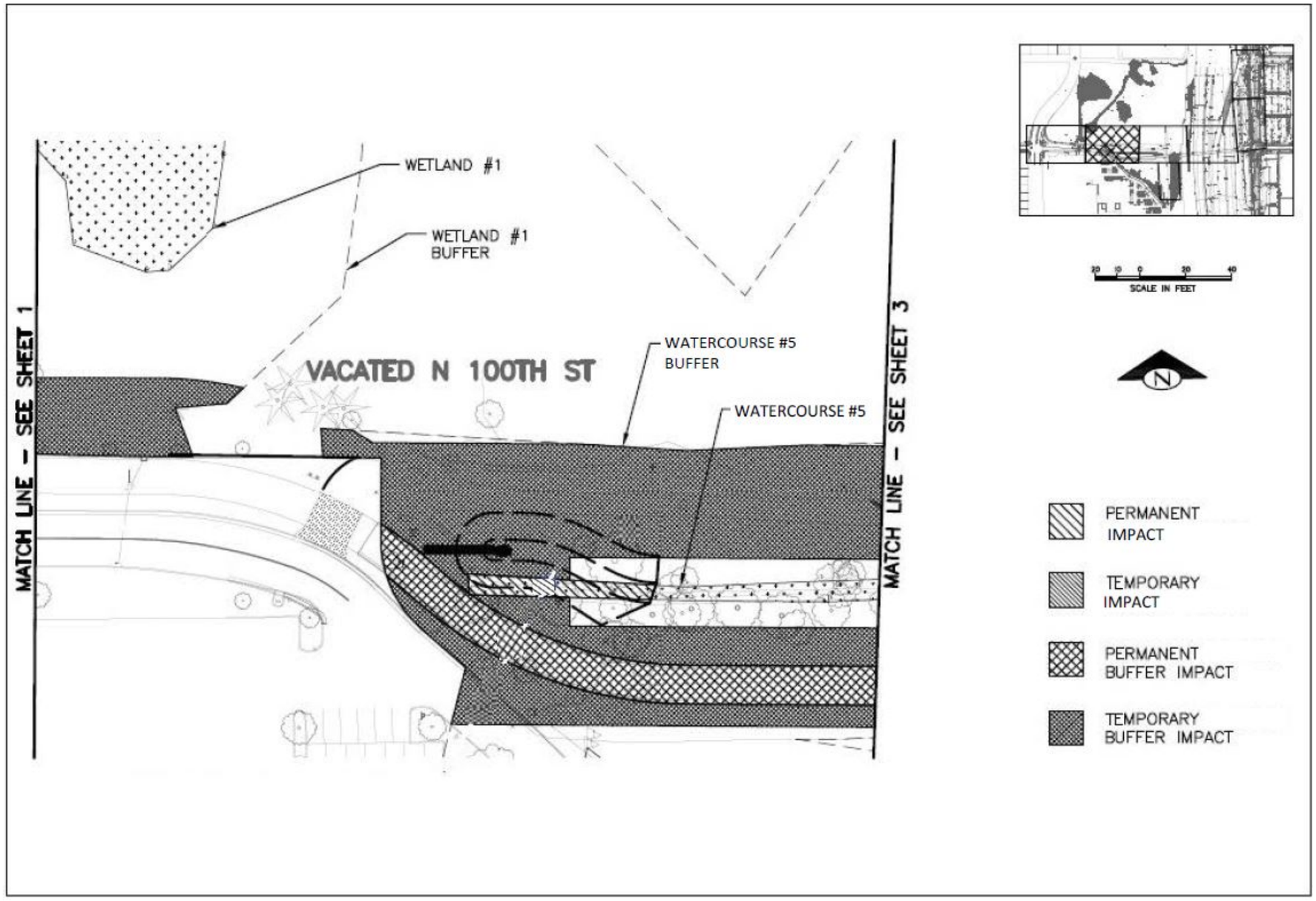
With the implementation of best management practices (BMPs), minimization measures during construction and mitigation actions to compensate for impacts, cumulative impacts to ecological functions will be negligible.

Figure 6: Western Study Area Aquatic Resources



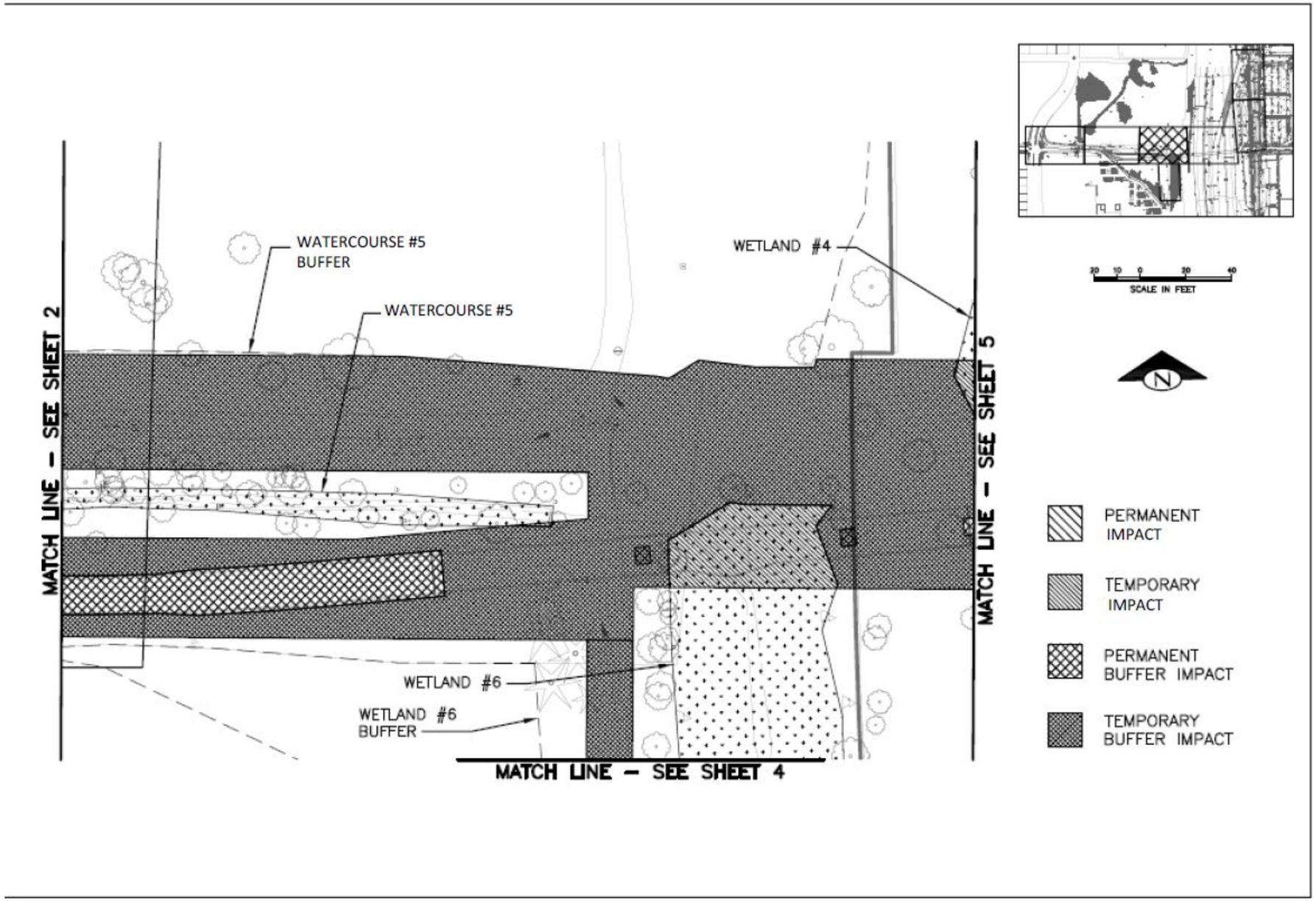
Source: City of Seattle—SDOT 2017

Figure 7: Western Study Area Aquatic Resources



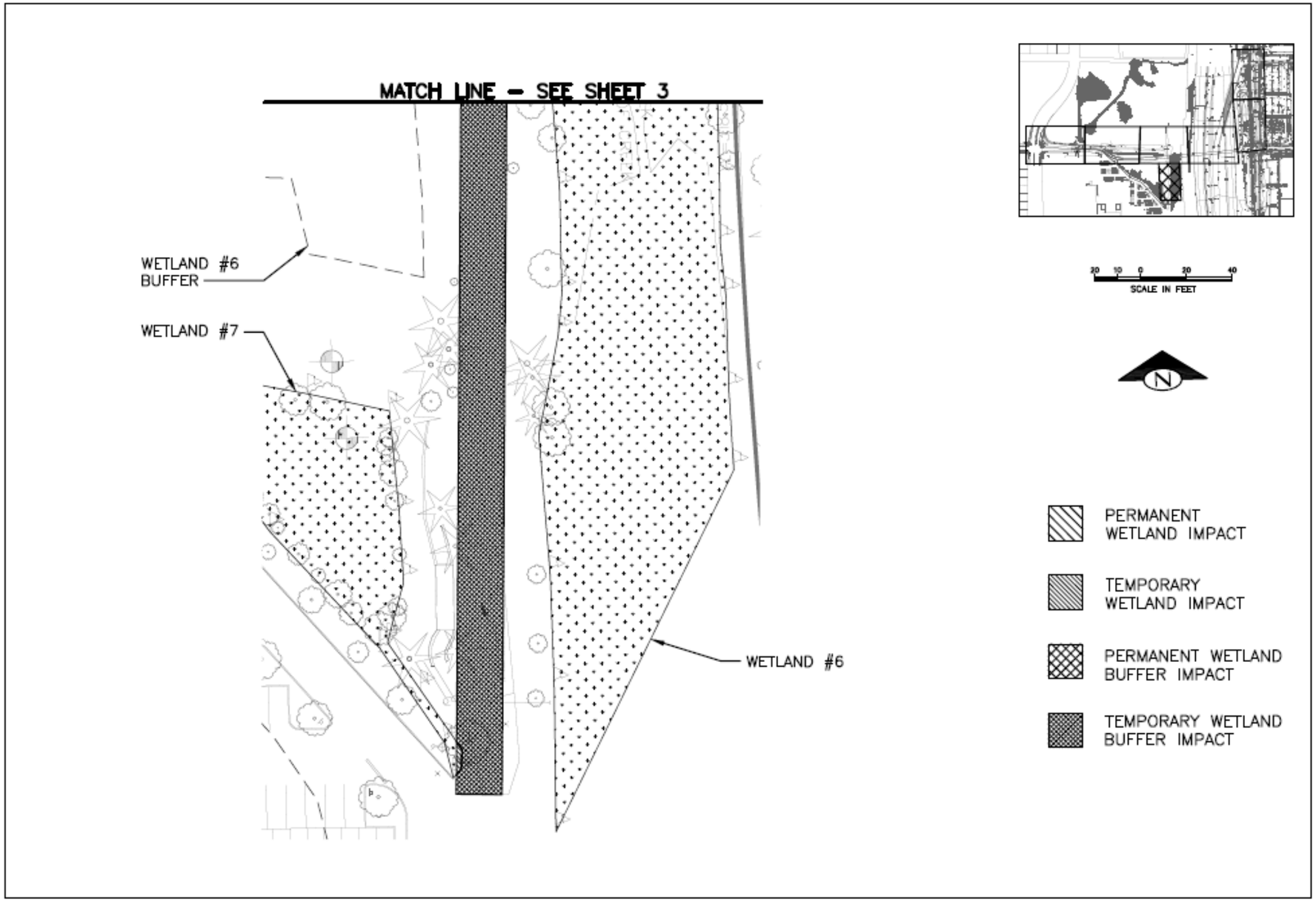
Source: City of Seattle—SDOT 2017

Figure 8: Western Study Area Aquatic Resources



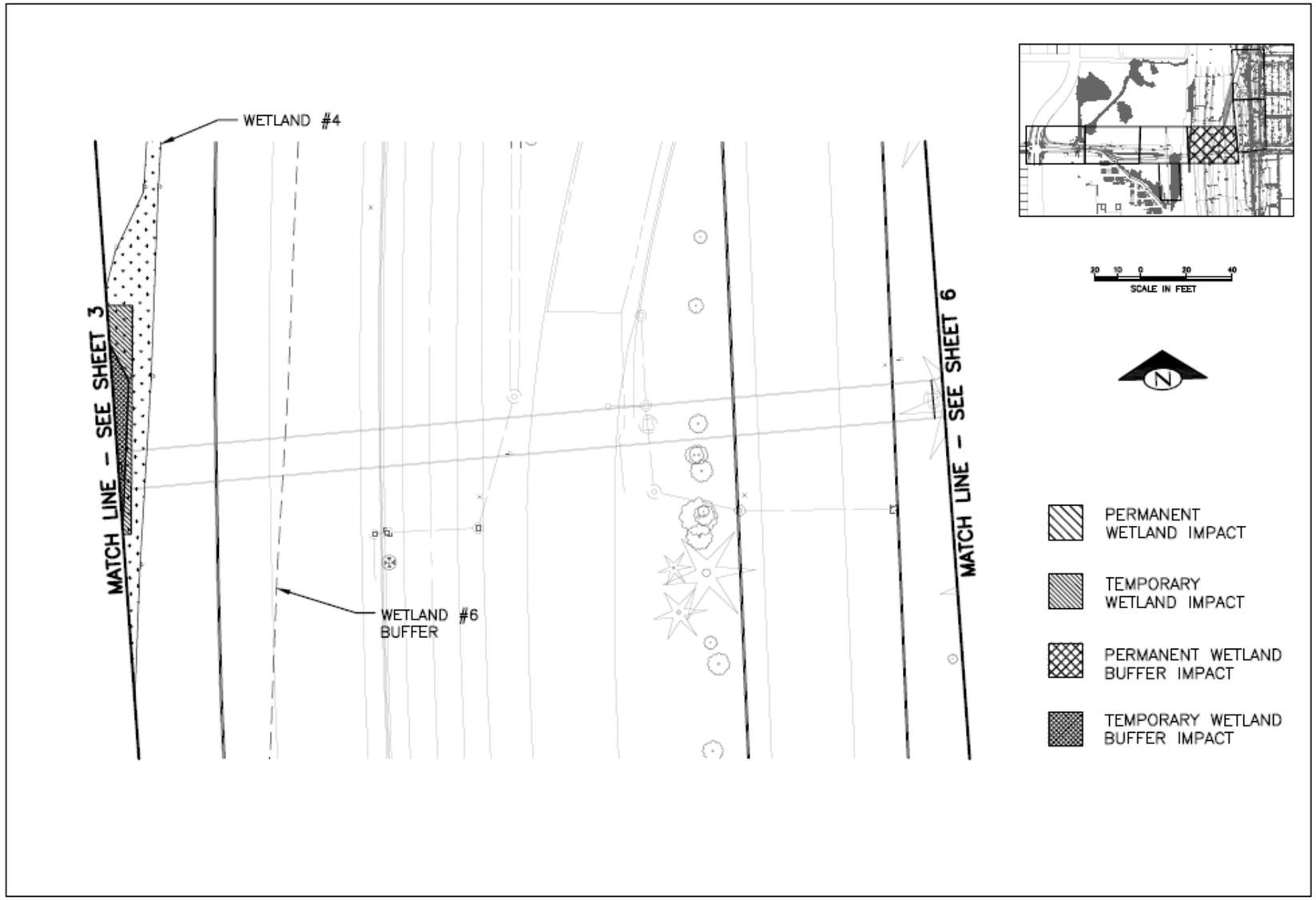
Source: City of Seattle—SDOT 2017

Figure 9: Western Study Area Aquatic Resources



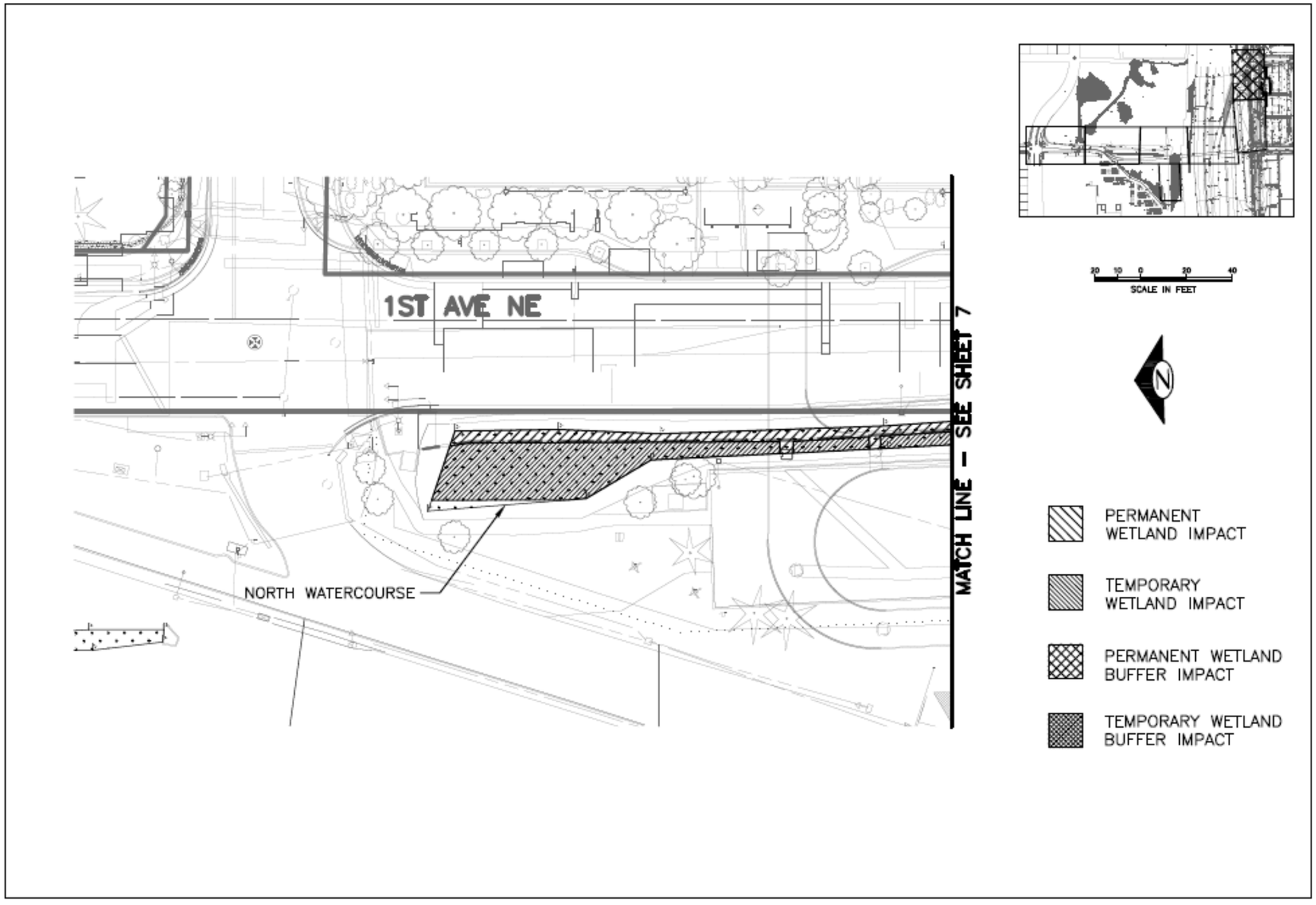
Source: City of Seattle—SDOT 2017

Figure 10: Western Study Area Aquatic Resources



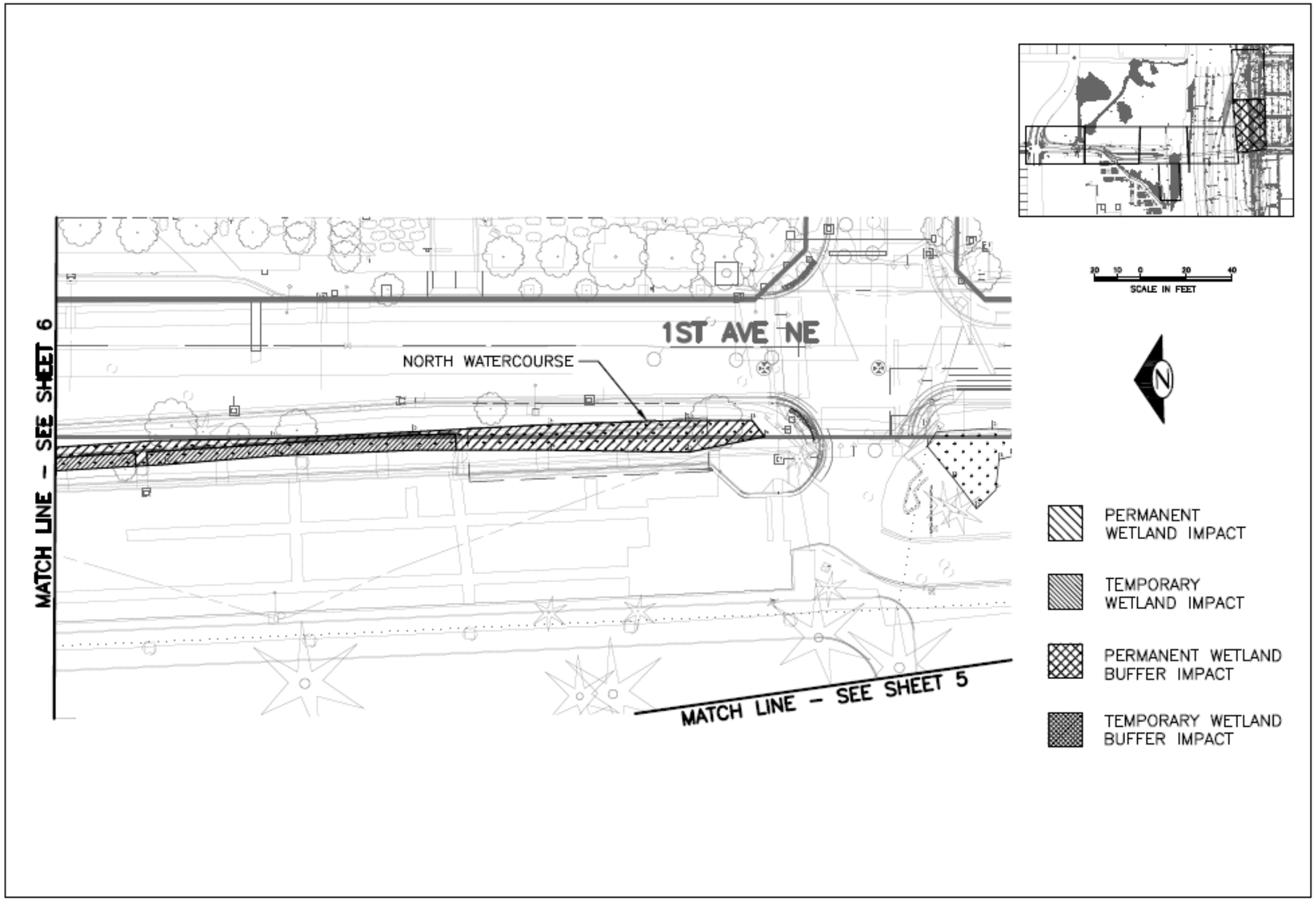
Source: City of Seattle—SDOT 2017

Figure 11: Eastern Study Area Aquatic Resources



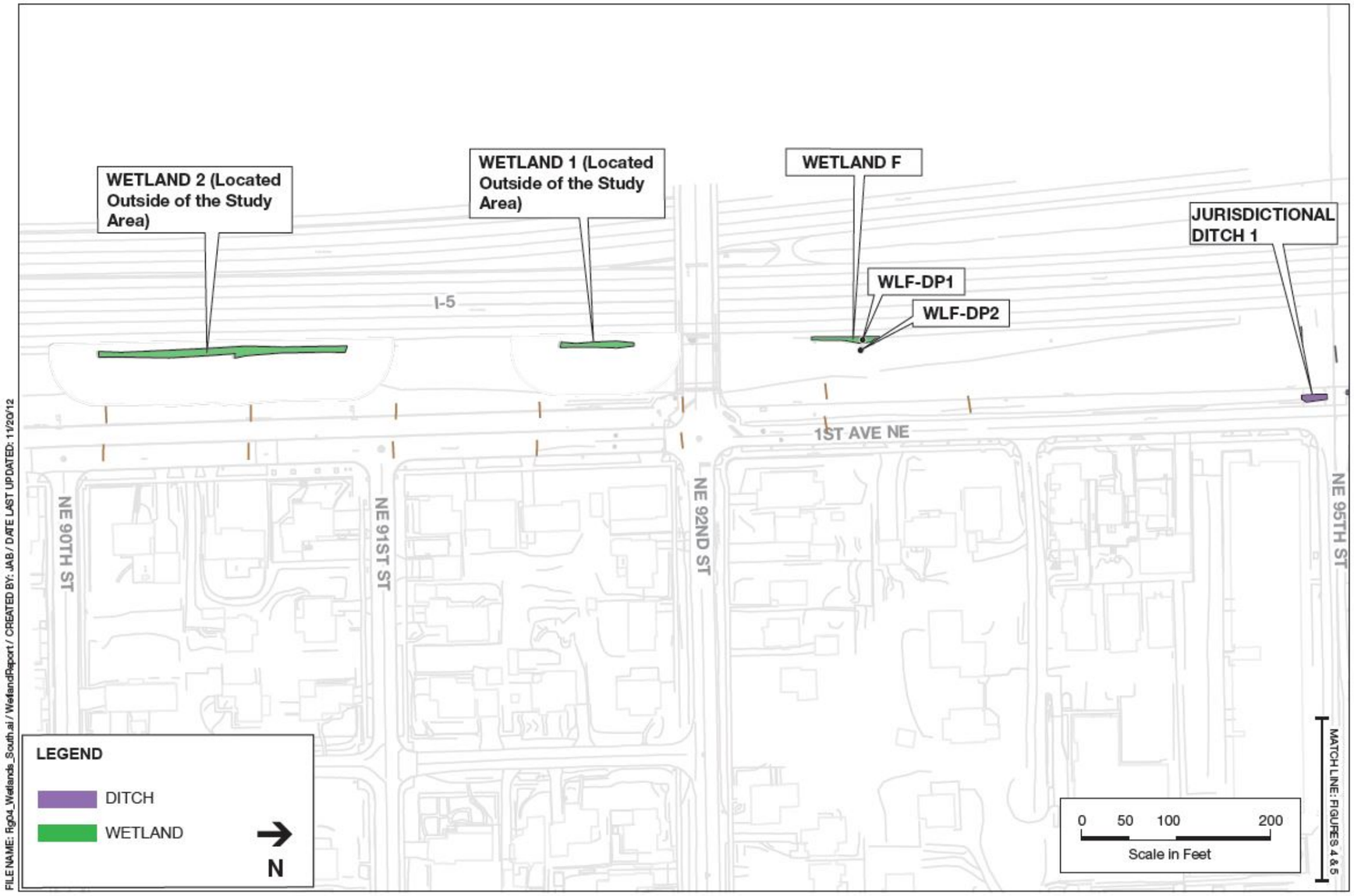
Source: City of Seattle—SDOT 2017

Figure 12: Eastern Study Area Aquatic Resources



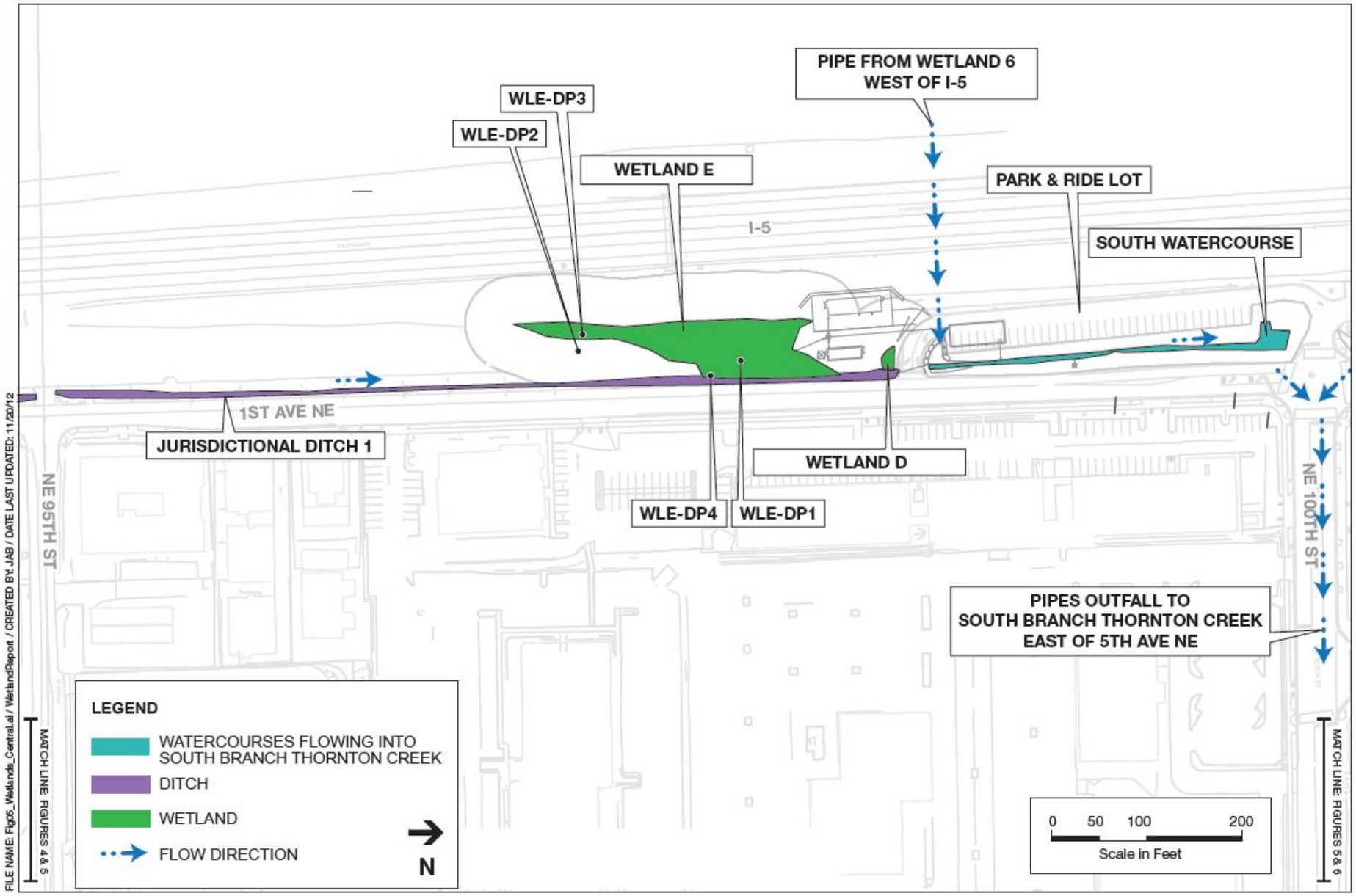
Source: City of Seattle—SDOT 2017

Figure 13: Eastern Study Area Aquatic Resources—South



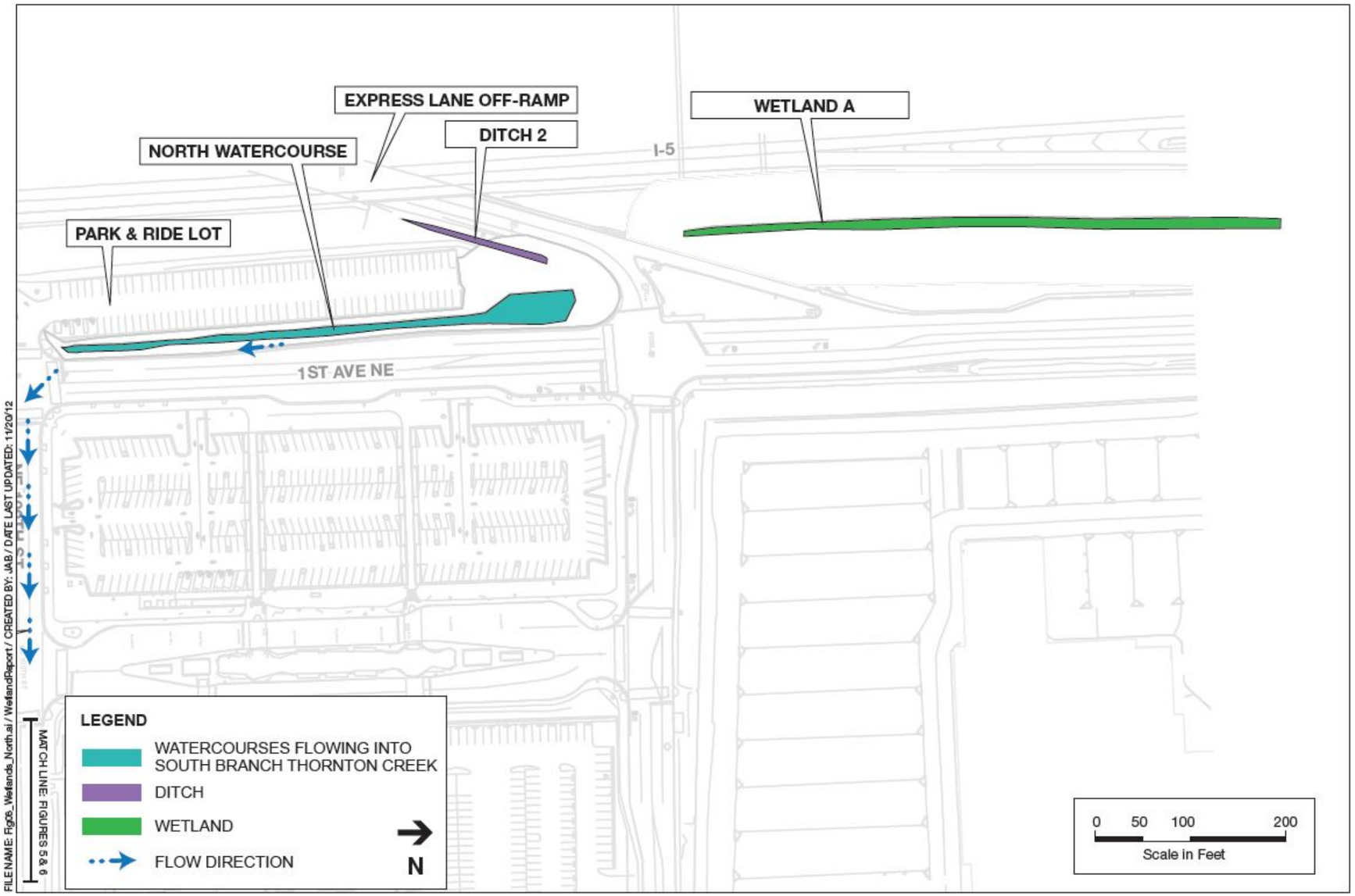
Source: City of Seattle—SDOT 2017

Figure 14: Eastern Study Area Aquatic Resources—Middle



Source: City of Seattle—SDOT 2017

Figure 15: Eastern Study Area Aquatic Resources—North



Source: City of Seattle—SDOT 2017

6 Mitigation Concepts

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) and City of Seattle require a sequence of actions (mitigation sequencing) be taken for proposals that will impact wetlands (Ecology et al. 2006). Mitigation sequencing includes actions to avoid, minimize, rectify, reduce, or compensate for impacts. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) also has similar requirements for mitigation sequencing.

The Corps, Ecology, WDFW, and City of Seattle all have policies of no-net-loss of ecological functions, requiring the Project to provide compensatory mitigation for wetland impacts. The Project proposes mitigation actions that meet each of the agencies requirements including Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 365-196-830(8)(a), Washington State Hydraulic Code (RCW 77.55), and City of Seattle SMC 25.09.065.

6.1 Western Study Area

The Project will impact Wetland 1, Wetland 4, Watercourse 5, and Wetland 6 and their buffers. These impacts are described in Sections 5.1 and 5.2

Permanent and temporary impacts to Watercourse 5 and its buffer include: excavation, placement of fill, realignment of a small portion of the western end of the watercourse, and removal of trees. The permanent impacts to Watercourse 5, a Type F watercourse (Figures 7 and 8), will require mitigation at either a 1.5:1 ratio for restoration or creation, or 6:1 for enhancement only.

The temporary and permanent impacts to Wetlands 1, 4, and 6, and their associated buffers, will be mitigated on-site by means of wetland creation, wetland enhancement, and wetland buffer enhancement within and adjacent to Watercourse 5 and Wetland 6. Wetland mitigation in this area will not only benefit wetland functions but can serve as an educational tool for NSC; allowing students enrolled in environmental studies classes to observe and possibly participate in mitigation site implementation, monitoring, and maintenance.

Mitigation proposed at Watercourse 5 and Wetland 6 includes reducing slope steepness in Watercourse 5 and associated sloughing into Type F water, removal of non-native and invasive plants, incorporation of large woody material, and replanting with native vegetation. The areas graded to reduce the steep side slopes will be replanted with native vegetation. Vegetation types and spacing will be selected to allow periodic inspection of the abutment. Vegetation density will be increased near potential areas of access to deter people from accessing these areas. Large woody material from trees removed on the NSC site will be incorporated into this

area as snags or logs on the bank. Some of the trees removed on site will also be incorporated into the Watercourse 5 channel as large woody material instream habitat.

Mitigation proposed at Wetland 6 includes excavation of soil to create additional wetland area by increasing the size of Wetland 6. Mitigation will also include removal of non-native and invasive plants, incorporation of large woody material, and replanting with native vegetation.

These mitigation actions will be designed to address the specific functions and values lost to disturbance of the wetlands, watercourses, and associated buffers by the Project. In addition to no-net-loss of ecological function, the Project must meet Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, which requires the Corps to determine that the Project is the "least environmentally damaging practicable alternative" based on permit application documents before issuance of the 404 permit.

Temporary wetland, wetland buffer, and watercourse impacts will be restored on-site to replace wetland and stream functions temporarily lost during construction and to protect wetland functions into the future by re-establishing buffer vegetation. Compensation will occur at various mitigation ratios depending upon the specific nature of the impact and proposed mitigation. All temporary impact areas will be restored to pre-construction conditions following completion of project work.

The 284 square feet of permanent buffer impact at the southwestern portion of Wetland 1 and 648 square feet of permanent buffer impact at Wetland 6 will be mitigated for at a 1:1 ratio in proximity to the impact locations.

6.2 Eastern Study Area

Permanent impacts totaling 3,162 square feet to the North Watercourse will be mitigated through a combination of on-site and off-site stream restoration and habitat enhancement actions consistent will goals in the Thornton Creek Basin Plan. SDOT's mitigation for impacts to the watercourse will comply with regulations detailed in SMC 25.09.200 and 25.09.320.

7 No Significant Unavoidable Adverse Impacts

With the implementation of the avoidance, minimization, and compensation measures described in the previous section, the Project will not have significant unavoidable adverse impacts on vegetation, fish, and wildlife. The Project is expected to result in short-term temporary impacts to fish and wildlife habitats and vegetation. The Project will not result in a net reduction of ecological function, although there will be specific areas (such as the North Watercourse) where there may be a localized reduction in aquatic habitat and terrestrial vegetation.

8 References

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Appendix A—Photographs

Photo 1: North Watercourse and WSDOT Park-and-Ride Lot (southwest view)

Photo 2: Wetland 1—View to the Northeast; Narrow Portion of Wetland Draining to the Northeast

Photo 3: Wetland 1—View to the Northwest; Southern Portion of Wetland

Photo 4: Wetland 2—View to the North; Emergent Wetland Typically Inundated During the Winter and Early Spring

Photo 5: Watercourse 5—View to the North; Drains to Culvert that Discharges to Wetland 6

Photo 6: Wetland 6—View to the South; Large Open Water Portion of Wetland

Photo 7: Wetland 7—View to the North; Channelized Portion of Wetland that Receives Stormwater from the Parking Lot

Photo 8: Watercourse 5—Culvert outfall to the western end looking Northeast

Photo 9: Watercourse 5—Looking East from Western End of Watercourse 5

Photo 10: Wetland 6 Inlet—Looking East at Northeast Corner of Wetland 6

Photo 11: Wetland 6—Potential Mitigation Area

Photo 12: Wetland 6—Outlet Culvert under I-5, Looking East-Northeast

Photo 13: North Watercourse along 1st Avenue

Appendix B — Methodology

Methodology

Classifying Wetlands

Two classification systems are commonly used to describe wetlands. The hydrogeomorphic (HGM) system describes wetlands in terms of their position in the landscape and the movement of water in the wetland (Brinson, 1993). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service classification system (Cowardin et al., 1979) describes wetlands in terms of their vegetation communities; these include, for example, emergent, scrub-shrub, and forested community types.

Assessing Wetland Functions

The City of Seattle specifies the use of Ecology's *Washington State Wetland Rating System for Western Washington—Revised* (Hruby, 2004) for rating wetlands. This rating system was developed by Ecology to differentiate wetlands based on their sensitivity to disturbance, their significance, their rarity, our ability to replace them, and the beneficial functions they provide to society. Although this system is designed to rate wetlands, it is based on whether a particular wetland performs a particular function and the relative level to which the function is performed. An assessment of wetland functions is inherent in the rating system. Appendix C provides additional information about the rating system wetland categories and completed rating forms for the project.

The rating system was designed to differentiate between wetlands based on their sensitivity to disturbance, their significance, their rarity, our ability to replace them, and the functions they provide. In addition to rating a particular wetland, the rating system also provides a qualitative assessment of several wetland functions, including water quality improvement, flood flow alteration, and wildlife habitat. Wetlands are given points based on a series of questions regarding water quality, hydrologic, and habitat functions, and then scored into four categories: Category I (highest score) through Category IV (lowest score). Because detailed scientific knowledge of wetland functions is limited, evaluations of the functions of individual wetlands are somewhat qualitative and dependent upon professional judgment.

Wetland Definition and Delineation

Wetlands are formally defined by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) (Federal Register 1982), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (Federal Register 1988), and the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) (RCW 36.70a.030.21) as follows:

… those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas (Federal Register, 1982, 1986).

In addition, the SMA GMA definition adds:

> *Wetlands do not include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from non-wetland site, including, but not limited to, irrigation and drainage ditches, grass-lined swales, canals, detention facilities, wastewater treatment facilities, farm ponds, and landscape amenities, or those wetlands created after July 1, 1990 that were unintentionally created as a result of the construction of a road, street, or highway. Wetlands may include those artificially created wetlands intentionally created from non-wetland areas to mitigate the conversion of wetlands.*

Methods defined in Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Regional Supplement (Corps, 2010) to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1987 Wetlands Delineation Manual (Manual) were used to determine the presence and extent of wetlands in the study area. These methods are also consistent with state requirements in WAC 173-22-035.

The methodology outlined in the manuals is based upon three essential characteristics of wetlands: (1) hydrophytic vegetation; (2) hydric soils; and (3) wetland hydrology. Field indicators of these three characteristics must all be present in order to determine that an area is a wetland (unless problem areas or atypical situations are encountered). These characteristics are discussed below.

The "routine on-site determination method" was used to determine wetland boundaries that had not been previously delineated. Formal data plots were established where information regarding each of the three wetland parameters (vegetation, soils, and hydrology) was recorded. This information was used to distinguish wetlands from non-wetlands. If wetlands were determined to be present within the study area, wetland boundaries were delineated with sequentially numbered colored pin flags or flagging. Data plot locations were also marked with colored flagging. Data sheets for each of the formal data plots evaluated for this project are provided in Appendix B.

Vegetation

Plants must be specially adapted for life under saturated or anaerobic conditions to grow in wetlands. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has determined the estimated probability of each plant species' occurrence in wetlands and has accordingly assigned a "wetland indicator status" (WIS) to each species. Plants are categorized as obligate (OBL), facultative wetland (FACW), facultative (FAC), facultative upland (FACU), and upland (UPL). Definitions for each indicator status are listed below. Species with an indicator status of OBL, FACW, or FAC are considered adapted for life in saturated or anaerobic soil conditions. Such species are referred to as "hydrophytic" vegetation.

Key to Wetland Indicator Status codes:

OBL Obligate: species that almost always occur wetlands under natural conditions (est. probability >99%).

FACW Facultative wetland: species that usually occur in wetlands (est. probability 67 to 99%) but are occasionally found in non-wetlands.

FAC Facultative: Species that are equally likely to occur in wetlands or non-wetlands (est. probability 34 to 66%).

FACU Facultative upland: species that usually occur in non-wetlands (est. probability 67 to 99%) but are occasionally found in wetlands.

UPL Upland: species that almost always occur in non-wetlands under normal conditions (est. probability >99%).

Areas of relatively homogeneous vegetative composition can be characterized by "dominant" species. The indicator status of the dominant species within each vegetative stratum is used to determine if the plant community may be characterized as hydrophytic. The vegetation of an area is considered to be hydrophytic if more than 50% of the dominant species have an indicator status of OBL, FACW, or FAC. The Regional Supplement provides additional tests for evaluating the presence of hydrophytic vegetation communities including the prevalence index, morphological adaptations, and wetland non-vascular plants. The Supplement also addresses difficult situations where hydrophytic vegetation indicators are not present but hydric soils and wetland hydrology are observed.

Soils

Hydric soils are indicative of wetlands. Hydric soils are defined as soils that are saturated, flooded, or ponded long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part of the soil profile (Federal Register, 1994). The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), in cooperation with the National Technical Committee for Hydric Soils, has compiled lists of hydric soils (NRCS, 1995). These lists identify soil series mapped by the NRCS that meet hydric soil criteria. It is common, however, for a map unit of non-wetland (non-hydric) soil to have inclusions of hydric soil, and vice versa. Therefore, field examination of soil conditions is important to determine if hydric soil conditions exist.

The NRCS has developed a guide for identifying field indicators of hydric soils (NRCS, 2010). This list of hydric soil indicators is considered to be dynamic; revisions are anticipated to occur on a regular basis as a result of ongoing studies of hydric soils. In general, anaerobic conditions create certain characteristics in hydric soils, collectively known as "redoximorphic features," that can be observed in the field (Vepraskas, 1999). Redoximorphic features include high organic content, accumulation of sulfidic material (rotten egg odor), greenish- or bluish-gray

color (gley formation), spots or blotches of different color interspersed with the dominant or matrix color (mottling), and dark soil colors (low soil chroma) (NRCS, 2010; Vepraskas, 1999). Soil colors are described both by common color name (for example, “dark brown”) and by a numerical description of their hue, value, and chroma (for example, 10YR 2/2) as identified on a Munsell soil color chart (Munsell Color, 2000). Soil color is determined from a moist soil sample.

The Regional Supplement provides methods for difficult situations where hydric soil indicators are not observed, but indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology are present.

Hydrology

Water must be present in order for wetlands to exist; however, it need not be present throughout the entire year. Wetland hydrology is considered to be present when there is permanent or periodic inundation or soil saturation at or near the soil surface for more than 12.5% of the growing season (typically two weeks in lowland Pacific Northwest areas). Areas that are inundated or saturated for between 5% and 12.5% of the growing season in most years may or may not be wetlands. Areas inundated or saturated for less than 5% of the growing season are non-wetlands (Ecology, 1997).

Indicators of wetland hydrology include observation of ponding or soil saturation, water marks, drift lines, drainage patterns, sediment deposits, oxidized rhizospheres, water-stained leaves, and local soil survey data. Where positive indicators of wetland hydrology are observed, it is assumed that wetland hydrology occurs for a sufficient period of the growing season to meet the wetland criteria, as described by Ecology (1997). The Regional Supplement provides methods for evaluating situations in wetlands that periodically lack indicators of wetland hydrology but where hydric soils and hydrophytic vegetation are present.

Classifying Wetlands

Two classification systems are commonly used to describe wetlands. The hydrogeomorphic (HGM) system describes wetlands in terms of their position in the landscape and the movement of water in the wetland (Brinson, 1993). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service classification system (Cowardin et al., 1979) describes wetlands in terms of their vegetation communities; these include, for example, emergent, scrub-shrub, and forested community types.

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wetland performs a particular function and the relative level to which the function is performed. An assessment of wetland functions is inherent in the rating system. Appendix C provides additional information about the rating system wetland categories and completed rating forms for the project.

The rating system was designed to differentiate between wetlands based on their sensitivity to disturbance, their significance, their rarity, our ability to replace them, and the functions they provide. In addition to rating a particular wetland, the rating system also provides a qualitative assessment of several wetland functions, including water quality improvement, flood flow alteration, and wildlife habitat. Wetlands are given points based on a series of questions regarding water quality, hydrologic, and habitat functions, and then scored into four categories: Category I (highest score) through Category IV (lowest score). Because detailed scientific knowledge of wetland functions is limited, evaluations of the functions of individual wetlands are somewhat qualitative and dependent upon professional judgment.

Appendix C — Wetland Rating Forms

Wetland name or number 1

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): Wetland 1 Date of site visit: 8/10/17

Rated by Rob Fritz Trained by Ecology? X Yes ___ No Date of training ___

HGM Class used for rating Depressional Wetland has multiple HGM classes? ___ Y ___X___ N

NOTE: **Form is not complete without the figures requested** *(figures can be combined)*.

Source of base aerial photo/map Google Earth

OVERALL WETLAND CATEGORY III (based on functions X or special characteristics ___)

1. Category of wetland based on FUNCTIONS

___ **Category I** – Total score = 23 - 27

___ **Category II** – Total score = 20 - 22

__X__ **Category III** – Total score = 16 - 19

___ **Category IV** – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
	Circle the appropriate ratings			
Site Potential	H **M** L	H **M** L	H M **L**	
Landscape Potential	H **M** L	H **M** L	H M **L**	
Value	**H** M L	H **M** L	H **M** L	**TOTAL**
Score Based on Ratings	8	7	4	19

Score for each function based on three ratings

(order of ratings is not important)

9 = H,H,H

8 = H,H,M

7 = H,H,L

7 = H,M,M

6 = H,M,L

6 = M,M,M

2. Category based on SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS of wetland

CHARACTERISTIC	CATEGORY
Estuarine	**I** **II**
Wetland of High Conservation Value	**I**

Bog	**I**
Mature Forest	**I**
Old Growth Forest	**I**
Coastal Lagoon	**I II**
Interdunal	**I II III IV**
None of the above	**__**

Wetland name or number 1

Maps and figures required to answer questions correctly for Western Washington

Depressional Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	D 1.3, H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	D 1.4, H 1.2	
Location of outlet (*can be added to map of hydroperiods)*	D 1.1, D 4.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	D 2.2, D 5.2	
Map of the contributing basin	D 4.3, D 5.3	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	D 3.1, D 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	D 3.3	

Riverine Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Ponded depressions	R 1.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	R 2.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	
Width of unit vs. width of stream *(can be added to another figure)*	R 4.1	
Map of the contributing basin	R 2.2, R 2.3, R 5.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	R 3.1	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	R 3.2, R 3.3	

Lake Fringe Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	L 1.1, L 4.1, H 1.1, H 1.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	L 1.2	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	L 2.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	L 3.1, L 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	L 3.3	

Slope Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Plant cover of **dense** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	S 1.3	
Plant cover of **dense, rigid** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants (*can be added to figure above)*	S 4.1	
Boundary of 150 ft buffer (can be added to another figure)	S 2.1, S 5.1	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	S 3.1, S 3.2	

Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	S 3.3	

Wetland name or number 1

HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

For questions 1-7, the criteria described must apply to the entire unit being rated.

If the hydrologic criteria listed in each question do not apply to the entire unit being rated, you probably have a unit with multiple HGM classes. In this case, identify which hydrologic criteria in questions 1-7 apply, and go to Question 8.

1. Are the water levels in the entire unit usually controlled by tides except during floods?

   NO – go to 2 **YES** – the wetland class is **Tidal Fringe** – go to 1.1

   1.1 Is the salinity of the water during periods of annual low flow below 0.5 ppt (parts per thousand)?

   NO – Saltwater Tidal Fringe (Estuarine) **YES – Freshwater Tidal Fringe**
   *If your wetland can be classified as a Freshwater Tidal Fringe use the forms for **Riverine** wetlands. If it is Saltwater Tidal Fringe it is an **Estuarine** wetland and is not scored. This method **cannot** be used to score functions for estuarine wetlands.*

2. The entire wetland unit is flat and precipitation is the only source (>90%) of water to it. Groundwater and surface water runoff are NOT sources of water to the unit.

   NO – go to 3 **YES** – The wetland class is **Flats**
   *If your wetland can be classified as a Flats wetland, use the form for **Depressional** wetlands.*

3. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?
   ___The vegetated part of the wetland is on the shores of a body of permanent open water (without any plants on the surface at any time of the year) at least 20 ac (8 ha) in size;
   ___At least 30% of the open water area is deeper than 6.6 ft (2 m).

   NO – go to 4 **YES –** The wetland class is **Lake Fringe** (Lacustrine Fringe)

4. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?
   ___The wetland is on a slope (*slope can be very gradual*),
   ___The water flows through the wetland in one direction (unidirectional) and usually comes from seeps. It may flow subsurface, as sheetflow, or in a swale without distinct banks,
   ___The water leaves the wetland **without being impounded**.

   NO – go to 5 **YES –** The wetland class is **Slope**

   NOTE: Surface water does not pond in these type of wetlands except occasionally in very small and shallow depressions or behind hummocks (depressions are usually <3 ft diameter and less than 1 ft deep).

5. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?
   ___The unit is in a valley, or stream channel, where it gets inundated by overbank flooding from that stream or river,
   ___The overbank flooding occurs at least once every 2 years.

Wetland name or number _____

NO – go to 6 **YES** – The wetland class is **Riverine**

NOTE: The Riverine unit can contain depressions that are filled with water when the river is not flooding

6. Is the entire wetland unit in a topographic depression in which water ponds, or is saturated to the surface, at some time during the year? *This means that any outlet, if present, is higher than the interior of the wetland.*

NO – go to 7 **YES** – The wetland class is **Depressional**

7. Is the entire wetland unit located in a very flat area with no obvious depression and no overbank flooding? The unit does not pond surface water more than a few inches. The unit seems to be maintained by high groundwater in the area. The wetland may be ditched, but has no obvious natural outlet.

NO – go to 8 **YES** – The wetland class is **Depressional**

8. Your wetland unit seems to be difficult to classify and probably contains several different HGM classes. For example, seeps at the base of a slope may grade into a riverine floodplain, or a small stream within a Depressional wetland has a zone of flooding along its sides. GO BACK AND IDENTIFY WHICH OF THE HYDROLOGIC REGIMES DESCRIBED IN QUESTIONS 1-7 APPLY TO DIFFERENT AREAS IN THE UNIT (make a rough sketch to help you decide). Use the following table to identify the appropriate class to use for the rating system if you have several HGM classes present within the wetland unit being scored.

   NOTE: Use this table only if the class that is recommended in the second column represents 10% or more of the total area of the wetland unit being rated. If the area of the HGM class listed in column 2 is less than 10% of the unit; classify the wetland using the class that represents more than 90% of the total area.

HGM classes within the wetland unit being rated	HGM class to use in rating
Slope + Riverine	Riverine
Slope + Depressional	Depressional
Slope + Lake Fringe	Lake Fringe
Depressional + Riverine along stream within boundary of depression	Depressional
Depressional + Lake Fringe	Depressional
Riverine + Lake Fringe	Riverine
Salt Water Tidal Fringe and any other class of freshwater wetland	Treat as ESTUARINE

*If you are still unable to determine which of the above criteria apply to your wetland, or if you have **more than 2 HGM classes** within a wetland boundary, classify the wetland as Depressional for the rating.*

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

D 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
D 1.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: Wetland is a depression or flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key) with no surface water leaving it (no outlet). points = 3 Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet. points = 2 Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 1 Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch. points = 1	3
D 1.2. The soil 2 in below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions).* Yes = 4 No = 0	0
D 1.3. Characteristics and distribution of persistent plants (Emergent, Scrub-shrub, and/or Forested Cowardin classes): Wetland has persistent, ungrazed, plants > 95% of area points = 5 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed, plants > ½ of area points = 3 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > $^1/_{10}$ of area points = 1 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants < $^1/_{10}$ of area points = 0	5
D 1.4. Characteristics of seasonal ponding or inundation: *This is the area that is ponded for at least 2 months. See description in manual.* Area seasonally ponded is > ½ total area of wetland points = 4 Area seasonally ponded is > ¼ total area of wetland points = 2 Area seasonally ponded is < ¼ total area of wetland points = 0	4
Total for D 1 Add the points in the boxes above	12

Rating of Site Potential If score is: X **12-16 = H** ____ **6-11 = M** ____ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
D 2.1. Does the wetland unit receive stormwater discharges? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 2.3. Are there septic systems within 250 ft of the wetland? Yes = 1 No = 0	0
D 2.4. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions D 2.1-D 2.3? Source_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	0
Total for D 2 Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ___ **3 or 4 = H** ___ X **1 or 2 = M** ____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
D 3.1. Does the wetland discharge directly (i.e., within 1 mi) to a stream, river, lake, or marine water that is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where an aquatic resource is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality (*answer YES if there is a TMDL for the basin in which the unit is found*)? Yes = 2 No = 0	0
Total for D 3 Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Value If score is: X **2-4 = H** ____ **1 = M** ____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream degradation

D 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?

D 4.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: Wetland is a depression or flat depression with no surface water leaving it (no outlet) points = 4 Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet points = 2 Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch points = 1 Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 0	4
D 4.2. Depth of storage during wet periods: *Estimate the height of ponding above the bottom of the outlet. For wetlands with no outlet, measure from the surface of permanent water or if dry, the deepest part.* Marks of ponding are 3 ft or more above the surface or bottom of outlet points = 7 Marks of ponding between 2 ft to < 3 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 5 Marks are at least 0.5 ft to < 2 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 3 The wetland is a "headwater" wetland points = 3 Wetland is flat but has small depressions on the surface that trap water points = 1 Marks of ponding less than 0.5 ft (6 in) points = 0	3
D 4.3. Contribution of the wetland to storage in the watershed: *Estimate the ratio of the area of upstream basin contributing surface water to the wetland to the area of the wetland unit itself.* The area of the basin is less than 10 times the area of the unit points = 5 The area of the basin is 10 to 100 times the area of the unit points = 3 The area of the basin is more than 100 times the area of the unit points = 0 Entire wetland is in the Flats class points = 5	3
Total for D 4 Add the points in the boxes above	10

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ___ **12-16 = H** __X__ **6-11 = M** _____ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support hydrologic functions of the site?

D 5.1. Does the wetland receive stormwater discharges? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 5.2. Is >10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate excess runoff? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 5.3. Is more than 25% of the contributing basin of the wetland covered with intensive human land uses (residential at >1 residence/ac, urban, commercial, agriculture, etc.)? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
Total for D 5 Add the points in the boxes above	3

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: __X__ **3 = H** _____ **1 or 2 = M** _____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?

D 6.1. The unit is in a landscape that has flooding problems. *Choose the description that best matches conditions around the wetland unit being rated. Do not add points. Choose the highest score if more than one condition is met.* The wetland captures surface water that would otherwise flow down-gradient into areas where flooding has damaged human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds): • Flooding occurs in a sub-basin that is immediately down-gradient of unit. points = 2 • Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient. points = 1 Flooding from groundwater is an issue in the sub-basin. points = 1 The existing or potential outflow from the wetland is so constrained by human or natural conditions that the water stored by the wetland cannot reach areas that flood. *Explain why*_____ points = 0 There are no problems with flooding downstream of the wetland. points = 0	1
D 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? Yes = 2 No = 0	0
Total for D 6 Add the points in the boxes above	1

Rating of Value If score is: ___ **2-4 = H** __X__ **1 = M** _____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

RIVERINE AND FRESHWATER TIDAL FRINGE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

R 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
R 1.1. Area of surface depressions within the Riverine wetland that can trap sediments during a flooding event: Depressions cover >$^3/_4$ area of wetland — points = 8 Depressions cover > ½ area of wetland — points = 4 Depressions present but cover < ½ area of wetland — points = 2 No depressions present — points = 0	
R 1.2. Structure of plants in the wetland (areas with >90% cover at person height, **not** Cowardin classes) Trees or shrubs > $^2/_3$ area of the wetland — points = 8 Trees or shrubs > $^1/_3$ area of the wetland — points = 6 Herbaceous plants (> 6 in high) > $^2/_3$ area of the wetland — points = 6 Herbaceous plants (> 6 in high) > $^1/_3$ area of the wetland — points = 3 Trees, shrubs, and ungrazed herbaceous < $^1/_3$ area of the wetland — points = 0	
Total for R 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **12-16 = H 6-11 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
R 2.1. Is the wetland within an incorporated city or within its UGA? Yes = 2 No = 0	
R 2.2. Does the contributing basin to the wetland include a UGA or incorporated area? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.3. Does at least 10% of the contributing basin contain tilled fields, pastures, or forests that have been clearcut within the last 5 years? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.4. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.5. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions R 2.1-R 2.4 Other sources_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for R 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **3-6 = H 1 or 2 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
R 3.1. Is the wetland along a stream or river that is on the 303(d) list or on a tributary that drains to one within 1 mi? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 3.2. Is the wetland along a stream or river that has TMDL limits for nutrients, toxics, or pathogens? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? (*answer YES if there is a TMDL for the drainage in which the unit is found*) Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for R 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

RIVERINE AND FRESHWATER TIDAL FRINGE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that site functions to reduce flooding and stream erosion

R 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?	
R 4.1. Characteristics of the overbank storage the wetland provides: *Estimate the average width of the wetland perpendicular to the direction of the flow and the width of the stream or river channel (distance between banks). Calculate the ratio: (average width of wetland)/(average width of stream between banks).* If the ratio is more than 20 points = 9 If the ratio is 10-20 points = 6 If the ratio is 5-<10 points = 4 If the ratio is 1-<5 points = 2 If the ratio is < 1 points = 1	
R 4.2. Characteristics of plants that slow down water velocities during floods: *Treat large woody debris as forest or shrub. Choose the points appropriate for the best description (polygons need to have >90% cover at person height. These are NOT Cowardin classes).* Forest or shrub for > 1/3 area OR emergent plants > 2/3 area points = 7 Forest or shrub for > 1/10 area OR emergent plants > 1/3 area points = 4 Plants do not meet above criteria points = 0	
Total for R 4 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **___12-16 = H_____6-11 = M_____0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?		
R 5.1. Is the stream or river adjacent to the wetland downcut?	Yes = 0 No = 1	
R 5.2. Does the up-gradient watershed include a UGA or incorporated area?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 5.3. Is the up-gradient stream or river controlled by dams?	Yes = 0 No = 1	
Total for R 5	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **___3 = H_____1 or 2 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?	
R 6.1. Distance to the nearest areas downstream that have flooding problems? *Choose the description that best fits the site*. The sub-basin immediately down-gradient of the wetland has flooding problems that result in damage to human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds) points = 2 Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient points = 1 No flooding problems anywhere downstream points = 0	
R 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for R 6 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **___2-4 = H_____1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

LAKE FRINGE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

L 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
L 1.1. Average width of plants along the lakeshore *(use polygons of Cowardin classes)*: Plants are more than 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 6 Plants are more than 16 ft (5 m) wide and <33 ft — points = 3 Plants are more than 6 ft (2 m) wide and <16 ft — points = 1 Plants are less than 6 ft wide — points = 0	
L 1.2. Characteristics of the plants in the wetland: Choose the appropriate description that results in the highest points, and do not include any open water in your estimate of coverage. The herbaceous plants can be either the dominant form or as an understory in a shrub or forest community. *These are not Cowardin classes. Area of cover is total cover in the unit, but it can be in patches. Herbaceous does not include aquatic bed.* Cover of herbaceous plants is >90% of the vegetated area — points = 6 Cover of herbaceous plants is >$^{2}/_{3}$ of the vegetated area — points = 4 Cover of herbaceous plants is >$^{1}/_{3}$ of the vegetated area — points = 3 Other plants that are not aquatic bed > $^{2}/_{3}$ unit — points = 3 Other plants that are not aquatic bed in > $^{1}/_{3}$ vegetated area — points = 1 Aquatic bed plants and open water cover > $^{2}/_{3}$ of the unit — points = 0	
Total for L 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **8-12 = H 4-7 = M 0-3 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
L 2.1. Is the lake used by power boats? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of wetland unit on the upland side in land uses that generate pollutants? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 2.3. Does the lake have problems with algal blooms or excessive plant growth such as milfoil? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for L 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential: If score is: **2 or 3 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
L 3.1. Is the lake on the 303(d) list of degraded aquatic resources? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 3.2. Is the lake in a sub-basin where water quality is an issue (at least one aquatic resource in the basin is on the 303(d) list)? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? *Answer YES if there is a TMDL for the lake or basin in which the unit is found.* — Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for L 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

LAKE FRINGE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the wetland unit functions to reduce shoreline erosion

L 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce shoreline erosion?	
L 4.1. Distance along shore and average width of Cowardin classes along the lakeshore (**do not** include Aquatic bed): *Choose the highest scoring description that matches conditions in the wetland.*	
> ¾ of distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 6	
> ¾ of distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 6 ft (2 m) wide — points = 4	
> ¼ distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 4	
Plants are at least 6 ft (2 m) wide (any type except Aquatic bed) — points = 2	
Plants are less than 6 ft (2 m) wide (any type except Aquatic bed) — points = 0	

Rating of Site Potential: If score is:___**6 = M**_____**0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?		
L 5.1. Is the lake used by power boats with more than 10 hp?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 5.2. Is the fetch on the lake side of the unit at least 1 mile in distance?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for L 5	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is:___**2 = H**_____**1 = M**_____**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?	
L 6.1. Are there resources along the shore that can be impacted by erosion? If more than one resource is present, choose the one with the highest score.	
There are human structures or old growth/mature forests within 25 ft of OHWM of the shore in the unit — points = 2	
There are nature trails or other paths and recreational activities within 25 ft of OHWM — points = 1	
Other resources that could be impacted by erosion — points = 1	
There are no resources that can be impacted by erosion along the shores of the unit — points = 0	

Rating of Value: If score is:___**2 = H**_____**1 = M**_____**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

NOTES and FIELD OBSERVATIONS:

SLOPE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

S 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
S 1.1. Characteristics of the average slope of the wetland: *(a 1% slope has a 1 ft vertical drop in elevation for every 100 ft of horizontal distance*) Slope is 1% or less points = 3 Slope is > 1%-2% points = 2 Slope is > 2%-5% points = 1 Slope is greater than 5% points = 0	
S 1.2. The soil 2 in below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions)*: Yes = 3 No = 0	
S 1.3. Characteristics of the plants in the wetland that trap sediments and pollutants: Choose the points appropriate for the description that best fits the plants in the wetland. *Dense means you have trouble seeing the soil surface (>75% cover), and uncut means not grazed or mowed and plants are higher than 6 in.* Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > 90% of the wetland area points = 6 Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > ½ of area points = 3 Dense, woody, plants > ½ of area points = 2 Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > ¼ of area points = 1 Does not meet any of the criteria above for plants points = 0	
Total for S 1 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **12 = H 6-11 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
S 2.1. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft on the uphill side of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 2.2. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in question S 2.1? Other sources_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for S 2 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **1-2 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
S 3.1. Does the wetland discharge directly (i.e., within 1 mi) to a stream, river, lake, or marine water that is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where water quality is an issue? *At least one aquatic resource in the basin is on the 303(d) list*. Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? *Answer YES if there is a TMDL for the basin in which unit is found.* Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for S 3 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

SLOPE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream erosion

S 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and stream erosion?	
S 4.1. Characteristics of plants that reduce the velocity of surface flows during storms: Choose the points appropriate for the description that best fits conditions in the wetland. *Stems of plants should be thick enough (usually > 1/8 in), or dense enough, to remain erect during surface flows.* Dense, uncut, **rigid** plants cover > 90% of the area of the wetland — points = 1 All other conditions — points = 0	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **___1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?	
S 5.1. Is more than 25% of the area within 150 ft upslope of wetland in land uses or cover that generate excess surface runoff? Yes = 1 No = 0	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **___1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?	
S 6.1. Distance to the nearest areas downstream that have flooding problems: The sub-basin immediately down-gradient of site has flooding problems that result in damage to human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds) — points = 2 Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient — points = 1 No flooding problems anywhere downstream — points = 0	
S 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for S 6 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **___2-4 = H_____1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

NOTES and FIELD OBSERVATIONS:

These questions apply to wetlands of all HGM classes.

HABITAT FUNCTIONS - Indicators that site functions to provide important habitat

H 1.0. Does the site have the potential to provide habitat?

H 1.1. Structure of plant community: *Indicators are Cowardin classes and strata within the Forested class.* Check the Cowardin plant classes in the wetland. *Up to 10 patches may be combined for each class to meet the threshold of ¼ ac or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac. Add the number of structures checked.*

____Aquatic bed	4 structures or more: points = 4
_X_ Emergent	3 structures: points = 2
____Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover)	2 structures: points = 1
_X_ Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover)	1 structure: points = 0

If the unit has a Forested class, check if:

_X_ The Forested class has 3 out of 5 strata (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss/ground-cover) that each cover 20% within the Forested polygon

2

H 1.2. Hydroperiods

Check the types of water regimes (hydroperiods) present within the wetland. The water regime has to cover more than 10% of the wetland or ¼ ac to count (*see text for descriptions of hydroperiods*).

____Permanently flooded or inundated	4 or more types present: points = 3
_X_ Seasonally flooded or inundated	3 types present: points = 2
____Occasionally flooded or inundated	2 types present: points = 1
_X_ Saturated only	1 type present: points = 0
____Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland	
____Seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland	
____**Lake Fringe wetland**	**2 points**
____**Freshwater tidal wetland**	**2 points**

1

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft^2.

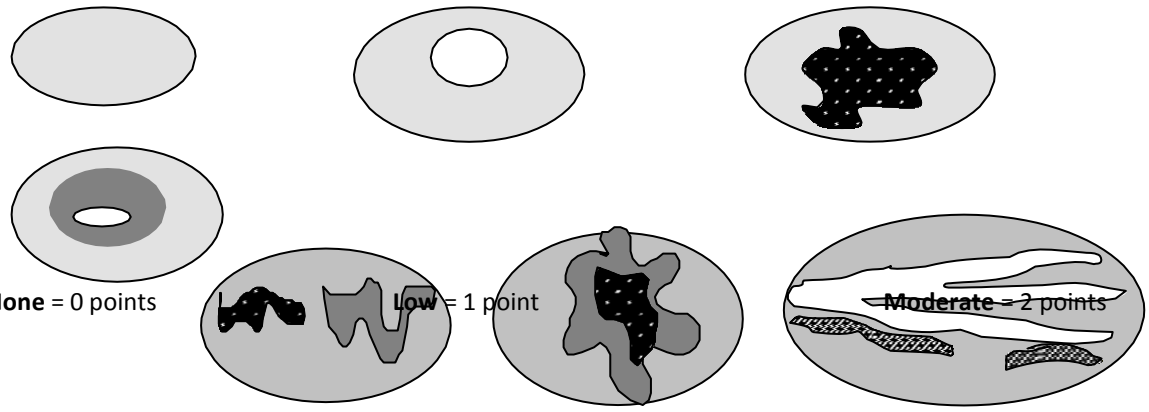
Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. ***Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canadian thistle***

If you counted: > 19 species	points = 2
5 - 19 species	points = 1
< 5 species	points = 0

1

H 1.4. Interspersion of habitats

Decide from the diagrams below whether interspersion among Cowardin plants classes (described in H 1.1), or the classes and unvegetated areas (can include open water or mudflats) is high, moderate, low, or none. *If you have four or more plant classes or three classes and open water, the rating is always high.*



None = 0 points **Low** = 1 point **Moderate** = 2 points

All three diagrams

1

in this row are **HIGH** = 3points	

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. *The number of checks is the number of points.* ____Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in diameter and 6 ft long). ____Standing snags (dbh > 4 in) within the wetland ____Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) **and/or** overhanging plants extends at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) ____Stable steep banks of fine material that might be used by beaver or muskrat for denning (> 30 degree slope) OR signs of recent beaver activity are present *(cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed)* ____At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated *(structures for egg-laying by amphibians)* __X__Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (*see H 1.1 for list of strata*)	1
Total for H 1 Add the points in the boxes above	6

Rating of Site Potential If score is:___**15-18 = H**_____**7-14 = M**__X__**0-6 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?	
H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include *only habitat that directly abuts wetland unit*). *Calculate:* % undisturbed habitat 0 **+** [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 2 = 2 % If total accessible habitat is: > 1/3 (33.3%) of 1km Polygon points = 3 20-33% of 1 km Polygon points = 2 10-19% of 1 km Polygon points = 1 < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	0
H 2.2. Undisturbed habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. *Calculate:* % undisturbed habitat 0 **+** [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 5 = 5 % Undisturbed habitat > 50% of Polygon points = 3 Undisturbed habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches points = 2 Undisturbed habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches points = 1 Undisturbed habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	0
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: If > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = (- 2) ≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity points = 0	-2
Total for H 2 Add the points in the boxes above	-2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is:___**4-6 = H**_____**1-3 = M**__X__**< 1 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?

H 3.1. Does the site provide habitat for species valued in laws, regulations, or policies? *Choose only the highest score that applies to the wetland being rated.* Site meets ANY of the following criteria: points = 2 — It has 3 or more priority habitats within 100 m (see next page) — It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) — It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW priority species — It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources — It has been categorized as an important habitat site in a local or regional comprehensive plan, in a Shoreline Master Plan, or in a watershed plan Site has 1 or 2 priority habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m points = 1 Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = 0	1

Rating of Value If score is:___**2 = H**__X__**1 = M**_____**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

WDFW Priority Habitats

Priority habitats listed by WDFW (see complete descriptions of WDFW priority habitats, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008. Priority Habitat and Species List. Olympia, Washington. 177 pp. http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf or access the list from here: http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/phs/list/)

Count how many of the following priority habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit: ***NOTE:*** *This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the priority habitat.*

— **Aspen Stands:** Pure or mixed stands of aspen greater than 1 ac (0.4 ha).

— **Biodiversity Areas and Corridors**: Areas of habitat that are relatively important to various species of native fish and wildlife (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report*).

— **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.

— **Old-growth/Mature forests:** Old-growth west of Cascade crest – Stands of at least 2 tree species, forming a multi-layered canopy with occasional small openings; with at least 8 trees/ac (20 trees/ha) > 32 in (81 cm) dbh or > 200 years of age. Mature forests – Stands with average diameters exceeding 21 in (53 cm) dbh; crown cover may be less than 100%; decay, decadence, numbers of snags, and quantity of large downed material is generally less than that found in old-growth; 80-200 years old west of the Cascade crest.

— **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report p. 158 – see web link above*).

— **Riparian**: The area adjacent to aquatic systems with flowing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.

— **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report p. 161 – see web link above*).

— **Instream:** The combination of physical, biological, and chemical processes and conditions that interact to provide functional life history requirements for instream fish and wildlife resources.

— **Nearshore**: Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore. (*full descriptions of habitats and the definition of relatively undisturbed are in WDFW report – see web link on previous page).*

— **Caves:** A naturally occurring cavity, recess, void, or system of interconnected passages under the earth in soils, rock, ice, or other geological formations and is large enough to contain a human.

— **Cliffs:** Greater than 25 ft (7.6 m) high and occurring below 5000 ft elevation.

— **Talus:** Homogenous areas of rock rubble ranging in average size 0.5 - 6.5 ft (0.15 - 2.0 m), composed of basalt, andesite, and/or sedimentary rock, including riprap slides and mine tailings. May be associated with cliffs.

— **Snags and Logs:** Trees are considered snags if they are dead or dying and exhibit sufficient decay characteristics to enable cavity excavation/use by wildlife. Priority snags have a diameter at breast height of > 20 in (51 cm) in western Washington and are > 6.5 ft (2 m) in height. Priority logs are > 12 in (30 cm) in diameter at the largest end, and > 20 ft (6 m) long.

Note: All vegetated wetlands are by definition a priority habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed elsewhere.

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type *Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.*	**Category**
SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? — The dominant water regime is tidal, — Vegetated, and — With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt Yes –Go to **SC 1.1** No= **Not an estuarine wetland**	
SC 1.1. Is the wetland within a National Wildlife Refuge, National Park, National Estuary Reserve, Natural Area Preserve, State Park or Educational, Environmental, or Scientific Reserve designated under WAC 332-30-151? Yes = **Category I** No - Go to **SC 1.2**	**Cat. I**
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? — The wetland is relatively undisturbed (has no diking, ditching, filling, cultivation, grazing, and has less than 10% cover of non-native plant species. (If non-native species are *Spartina*, see page 25) — At least ¾ of the landward edge of the wetland has a 100 ft buffer of shrub, forest, or un-grazed or un-mowed grassland. — The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. Yes = **Category I** No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** **Cat. II**
SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Has the WA Department of Natural Resources updated their website to include the list of Wetlands of High Conservation Value? Yes **–** Go to **SC 2.2** No **–** Go to **SC 2.3** SC 2.2. Is the wetland listed on the WDNR database as a Wetland of High Conservation Value? Yes **= Category I** No **= Not a WHCV** SC 2.3. Is the wetland in a Section/Township/Range that contains a Natural Heritage wetland? http://www1.dnr.wa.gov/nhp/refdesk/datasearch/wnhpwetlands.pdf Yes **– Contact WNHP/WDNR and go to SC 2.4** No **= Not a WHCV** SC 2.4. Has WDNR identified the wetland within the S/T/R as a Wetland of High Conservation Value and listed it on their website? Yes **= Category I** No **= Not a WHCV**	**Cat. I**
SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? *Use the key below.* ***If you answer YES you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** SC 3.1. Does an area within the wetland unit have organic soil horizons, either peats or mucks, that compose 16 in or more of the first 32 in of the soil profile? Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** No – Go to **SC 3.2** SC 3.2. Does an area within the wetland unit have organic soils, either peats or mucks, that are less than 16 in deep over bedrock, or an impermeable hardpan such as clay or volcanic ash, or that are floating on top of a lake or pond? Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** No = **Is not a bog** SC 3.3. Does an area with peats or mucks have more than 70% cover of mosses at ground level, AND at least a 30% cover of plant species listed in Table 4? Yes = **Is a Category I bog** No – Go to **SC 3.4** **NOTE:** If you are uncertain about the extent of mosses in the understory, you may substitute that criterion by measuring the pH of the water that seeps into a hole dug at least 16 in deep. If the pH is less than 5.0 and the plant species in Table 4 are present, the wetland is a bog. SC 3.4. Is an area with peats or mucks forested (> 30% cover) with Sitka spruce, subalpine fir, western red cedar, western hemlock, lodgepole pine, quaking aspen, Engelmann spruce, or western white pine, AND any of the species (or combination of species) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy? Yes = **Is a Category I bog** No **= Is not a bog**	**Cat. I**

SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands Does the wetland have at least 1 contiguous acre of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as priority habitats? ***If you answer YES you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** — **Old-growth forests** (west of Cascade crest): Stands of at least two tree species, forming a multi-layered canopy with occasional small openings; with at least 8 trees/ac (20 trees/ha) that are at least 200 years of age OR have a diameter at breast height (dbh) of 32 in (81 cm) or more. — **Mature forests** (west of the Cascade Crest): Stands where the largest trees are 80- 200 years old OR the species that make up the canopy have an average diameter (dbh) exceeding 21 in (53 cm). Yes = **Category I** No = **Not a forested wetland for this section**	**Cat. I**
SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon? — The wetland lies in a depression adjacent to marine waters that is wholly or partially separated from marine waters by sandbanks, gravel banks, shingle, or, less frequently, rocks — The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (> 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon *(needs to be measured near the bottom)* Yes – Go to **SC 5.1** No = **Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon** SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions? — The wetland is relatively undisturbed (has no diking, ditching, filling, cultivation, grazing), and has less than 20% cover of aggressive, opportunistic plant species (see list of species on p. 100). — At least ¾ of the landward edge of the wetland has a 100 ft buffer of shrub, forest, or un-grazed or un-mowed grassland. — The wetland is larger than $^{1}/_{10}$ ac (4350 ft^2) Yes = **Category I** No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** **Cat. II**
SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? ***If you answer yes you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.*** In practical terms that means the following geographic areas: — Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103 — Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105 — Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 Yes – Go to **SC 6.1** No = **not an interdunal wetland for rating** SC 6.1. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger and scores an 8 or 9 for the habitat functions on the form (rates H,H,H or H,H,M for the three aspects of function)? Yes = **Category I** No – Go to **SC 6.2** SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger? Yes = **Category II** No – Go to **SC 6.3** SC 6.3. Is the unit between 0.1 and 1 ac, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is between 0.1 and 1 ac? Yes = **Category III** No = **Category IV**	**Cat I** **Cat. II** **Cat. III** **Cat. IV**
Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form	

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): Wetland 2 Date of site visit: 8/10/17

Rated by Rob Fritz Trained by Ecology? X Yes ___ No Date of training ___

HGM Class used for rating Depressional Wetland has multiple HGM classes? ___ Y ___ N X

NOTE: **Form is not complete without the figures requested** *(figures can be combined)*.

Source of base aerial photo/map Google Earth

OVERALL WETLAND CATEGORY III (based on functions X or special characteristics ___)

1. Category of wetland based on FUNCTIONS

___ **Category I** – Total score = 23 - 27

___ **Category II** – Total score = 20 - 22

X **Category III** – Total score = 16 - 19

___ **Category IV** – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
	Circle the appropriate ratings			
Site Potential	H (M) L	H (M) L	H (M) L	
Landscape Potential	H (M) L	H (M) L	H M (L)	
Value	(H) M L	H (M) L	H M (L)	TOTAL
Score Based on Ratings	7	6	4	17

Score for each function based on three ratings

(order of ratings is not important)

9 = H,H,H

8 = H,H,M

7 = H,H,L

7 = H,M,M

6 = H,M,L

6 = M,M,M

2. Category based on SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS of wetland

CHARACTERISTIC	CATEGORY
Estuarine	**I** **II**
Wetland of High Conservation Value	**I**

Bog	**I**
Mature Forest	**I**
Old Growth Forest	**I**
Coastal Lagoon	**I II**
Interdunal	**I II III IV**
None of the above	**__**

Maps and figures required to answer questions correctly for Western Washington

Depressional Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	D 1.3, H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	D 1.4, H 1.2	
Location of outlet (*can be added to map of hydroperiods)*	D 1.1, D 4.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	D 2.2, D 5.2	
Map of the contributing basin	D 4.3, D 5.3	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	D 3.1, D 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	D 3.3	

Riverine Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Ponded depressions	R 1.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	R 2.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	
Width of unit vs. width of stream *(can be added to another figure)*	R 4.1	
Map of the contributing basin	R 2.2, R 2.3, R 5.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	R 3.1	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	R 3.2, R 3.3	

Lake Fringe Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	L 1.1, L 4.1, H 1.1, H 1.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	L 1.2	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	L 2.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	L 3.1, L 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	L 3.3	

Slope Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Plant cover of **dense** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	S 1.3	
Plant cover of **dense, rigid** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants (*can be added to figure above)*	S 4.1	
Boundary of 150 ft buffer (can be added to another figure)	S 2.1, S 5.1	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	S 3.1, S 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	S 3.3	

HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

For questions 1-7, the criteria described must apply to the entire unit being rated.

If the hydrologic criteria listed in each question do not apply to the entire unit being rated, you probably have a unit with multiple HGM classes. In this case, identify which hydrologic criteria in questions 1-7 apply, and go to Question 8.

1. Are the water levels in the entire unit usually controlled by tides except during floods?

NO – go to 2 **YES** – the wetland class is **Tidal Fringe** – go to 1.1

1.1 Is the salinity of the water during periods of annual low flow below 0.5 ppt (parts per thousand)?

NO – Saltwater Tidal Fringe (Estuarine) **YES – Freshwater Tidal Fringe**

*If your wetland can be classified as a Freshwater Tidal Fringe use the forms for **Riverine** wetlands. If it is Saltwater Tidal Fringe it is an **Estuarine** wetland and is not scored. This method **cannot** be used to score functions for estuarine wetlands.*

2. The entire wetland unit is flat and precipitation is the only source (>90%) of water to it. Groundwater and surface water runoff are NOT sources of water to the unit.

NO – go to 3 **YES** – The wetland class is **Flats**

*If your wetland can be classified as a Flats wetland, use the form for **Depressional** wetlands.*

3. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?
   ___The vegetated part of the wetland is on the shores of a body of permanent open water (without any plants on the surface at any time of the year) at least 20 ac (8 ha) in size;
   ___At least 30% of the open water area is deeper than 6.6 ft (2 m).

NO – go to 4 **YES –** The wetland class is **Lake Fringe** (Lacustrine Fringe)

4. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?
   ___The wetland is on a slope (*slope can be very gradual*),

   ___The water flows through the wetland in one direction (unidirectional) and usually comes from seeps. It may flow subsurface, as sheetflow, or in a swale without distinct banks,
   ___The water leaves the wetland **without being impounded**.

NO – go to 5 **YES –** The wetland class is **Slope**

NOTE: Surface water does not pond in these type of wetlands except occasionally in very small and shallow depressions or behind hummocks (depressions are usually <3 ft diameter and less than 1 ft deep).

5. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?
   ___The unit is in a valley, or stream channel, where it gets inundated by overbank flooding from that stream or river,
   ___The overbank flooding occurs at least once every 2 years.

NO – go to 6 **YES** – The wetland class is **Riverine**

NOTE: The Riverine unit can contain depressions that are filled with water when the river is not flooding

6. Is the entire wetland unit in a topographic depression in which water ponds, or is saturated to the surface, at some time during the year? *This means that any outlet, if present, is higher than the interior of the wetland.*

NO – go to 7 **YES** – The wetland class is **Depressional**

7. Is the entire wetland unit located in a very flat area with no obvious depression and no overbank flooding? The unit does not pond surface water more than a few inches. The unit seems to be maintained by high groundwater in the area. The wetland may be ditched, but has no obvious natural outlet.

NO – go to 8 **YES** – The wetland class is **Depressional**

8. Your wetland unit seems to be difficult to classify and probably contains several different HGM classes. For example, seeps at the base of a slope may grade into a riverine floodplain, or a small stream within a Depressional wetland has a zone of flooding along its sides. GO BACK AND IDENTIFY WHICH OF THE HYDROLOGIC REGIMES DESCRIBED IN QUESTIONS 1-7 APPLY TO DIFFERENT AREAS IN THE UNIT (make a rough sketch to help you decide). Use the following table to identify the appropriate class to use for the rating system if you have several HGM classes present within the wetland unit being scored.

   NOTE: Use this table only if the class that is recommended in the second column represents 10% or more of the total area of the wetland unit being rated. If the area of the HGM class listed in column 2 is less than 10% of the unit; classify the wetland using the class that represents more than 90% of the total area.

HGM classes within the wetland unit being rated	HGM class to use in rating
Slope + Riverine	Riverine
Slope + Depressional	Depressional
Slope + Lake Fringe	Lake Fringe
Depressional + Riverine along stream within boundary of depression	Depressional
Depressional + Lake Fringe	Depressional
Riverine + Lake Fringe	Riverine
Salt Water Tidal Fringe and any other class of freshwater wetland	Treat as ESTUARINE

*If you are still unable to determine which of the above criteria apply to your wetland, or if you have **more than 2 HGM classes** within a wetland boundary, classify the wetland as Depressional for the rating.*

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

D 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
D 1.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: Wetland is a depression or flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key) with no surface water leaving it (no outlet). points = 3 Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet. points = 2 Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 1 Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch. points = 1	1
D 1.2. The soil 2 in below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions)*. Yes = 4 No = 0	0
D 1.3. Characteristics and distribution of persistent plants (Emergent, Scrub-shrub, and/or Forested Cowardin classes): Wetland has persistent, ungrazed, plants > 95% of area points = 5 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed, plants > ½ of area points = 3 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > $^1/_{10}$ of area points = 1 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants < $^1/_{10}$ of area points = 0	3
D 1.4. Characteristics of seasonal ponding or inundation: *This is the area that is ponded for at least 2 months. See description in manual.* Area seasonally ponded is > ½ total area of wetland points = 4 Area seasonally ponded is > ¼ total area of wetland points = 2 Area seasonally ponded is < ¼ total area of wetland points = 0	2
Total for D 1 Add the points in the boxes above	6

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ___ **12-16 = H** __X__ **6-11 = M** ____ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
D 2.1. Does the wetland unit receive stormwater discharges? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	0
D 2.3. Are there septic systems within 250 ft of the wetland? Yes = 1 No = 0	0
D 2.4. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions D 2.1-D 2.3? Source_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	0
Total for D 2 Add the points in the boxes above	1

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ___ **3 or 4 = H** __X__ **1 or 2 = M** ____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
D 3.1. Does the wetland discharge directly (i.e., within 1 mi) to a stream, river, lake, or marine water that is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where an aquatic resource is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality (*answer YES if there is a TMDL for the basin in which the unit is found*)? Yes = 2 No = 0	0
Total for D 3 Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Value If score is: __X__ **2-4 = H** ____ **1 = M** ____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream degradation

D 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?

D 4.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: Wetland is a depression or flat depression with no surface water leaving it (no outlet) points = 4 Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet points = 2 Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch points = 1 Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 0	0
D 4.2. Depth of storage during wet periods: *Estimate the height of ponding above the bottom of the outlet. For wetlands with no outlet, measure from the surface of permanent water or if dry, the deepest part.* Marks of ponding are 3 ft or more above the surface or bottom of outlet points = 7 Marks of ponding between 2 ft to < 3 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 5 Marks are at least 0.5 ft to < 2 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 3 The wetland is a "headwater" wetland points = 3 Wetland is flat but has small depressions on the surface that trap water points = 1 Marks of ponding less than 0.5 ft (6 in) points = 0	3
D 4.3. Contribution of the wetland to storage in the watershed: *Estimate the ratio of the area of upstream basin contributing surface water to the wetland to the area of the wetland unit itself.* The area of the basin is less than 10 times the area of the unit points = 5 The area of the basin is 10 to 100 times the area of the unit points = 3 The area of the basin is more than 100 times the area of the unit points = 0 Entire wetland is in the Flats class points = 5	3
Total for D 4 Add the points in the boxes above	6

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ___ **12-16 = H** __X__ **6-11 = M** _____ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support hydrologic functions of the site?

D 5.1. Does the wetland receive stormwater discharges? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 5.2. Is >10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate excess runoff? Yes = 1 No = 0	0
D 5.3. Is more than 25% of the contributing basin of the wetland covered with intensive human land uses (residential at >1 residence/ac, urban, commercial, agriculture, etc.)? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
Total for D 5 Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ___ **3 = H** __X__ **1 or 2 = M** _____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?

D 6.1. The unit is in a landscape that has flooding problems. *Choose the description that best matches conditions around the wetland unit being rated. Do not add points. Choose the highest score if more than one condition is met.* The wetland captures surface water that would otherwise flow down-gradient into areas where flooding has damaged human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds): • Flooding occurs in a sub-basin that is immediately down-gradient of unit. points = 2 • Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient. points = 1 Flooding from groundwater is an issue in the sub-basin. points = 1 The existing or potential outflow from the wetland is so constrained by human or natural conditions that the water stored by the wetland cannot reach areas that flood. *Explain why*_____ points = 0 There are no problems with flooding downstream of the wetland. points = 0	1
D 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? Yes = 2 No = 0	0
Total for D 6 Add the points in the boxes above	1

Rating of Value If score is: ___ **2-4 = H** __X__ **1 = M** _____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

RIVERINE AND FRESHWATER TIDAL FRINGE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

R 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
R 1.1. Area of surface depressions within the Riverine wetland that can trap sediments during a flooding event: Depressions cover >$^{3}/_{4}$ area of wetland points = 8 Depressions cover > ½ area of wetland points = 4 Depressions present but cover < ½ area of wetland points = 2 No depressions present points = 0	
R 1.2. Structure of plants in the wetland (areas with >90% cover at person height, **not** Cowardin classes) Trees or shrubs > $^{2}/_{3}$ area of the wetland points = 8 Trees or shrubs > $^{1}/_{3}$ area of the wetland points = 6 Herbaceous plants (> 6 in high) > $^{2}/_{3}$ area of the wetland points = 6 Herbaceous plants (> 6 in high) > $^{1}/_{3}$ area of the wetland points = 3 Trees, shrubs, and ungrazed herbaceous < $^{1}/_{3}$ area of the wetland points = 0	
Total for R 1 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **12-16 = H 6-11 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
R 2.1. Is the wetland within an incorporated city or within its UGA? Yes = 2 No = 0	
R 2.2. Does the contributing basin to the wetland include a UGA or incorporated area? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.3. Does at least 10% of the contributing basin contain tilled fields, pastures, or forests that have been clearcut within the last 5 years? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.4. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.5. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions R 2.1-R 2.4 Other sources_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for R 2 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **3-6 = H 1 or 2 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
R 3.1. Is the wetland along a stream or river that is on the 303(d) list or on a tributary that drains to one within 1 mi? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 3.2. Is the wetland along a stream or river that has TMDL limits for nutrients, toxics, or pathogens? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? (*answer YES if there is a TMDL for the drainage in which the unit is found*) Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for R 3 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

RIVERINE AND FRESHWATER TIDAL FRINGE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that site functions to reduce flooding and stream erosion

R 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?	
R 4.1. Characteristics of the overbank storage the wetland provides: *Estimate the average width of the wetland perpendicular to the direction of the flow and the width of the stream or river channel (distance between banks). Calculate the ratio: (average width of wetland)/(average width of stream between banks).* If the ratio is more than 20 points = 9 If the ratio is 10-20 points = 6 If the ratio is 5-<10 points = 4 If the ratio is 1-<5 points = 2 If the ratio is < 1 points = 1	
R 4.2. Characteristics of plants that slow down water velocities during floods: *Treat large woody debris as forest or shrub. Choose the points appropriate for the best description (polygons need to have >90% cover at person height. These are NOT Cowardin classes).* Forest or shrub for > $^1/_3$ area OR emergent plants > $^2/_3$ area points = 7 Forest or shrub for > $^1/_{10}$ area OR emergent plants > $^1/_3$ area points = 4 Plants do not meet above criteria points = 0	
Total for R 4 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **12-16 = H 6-11 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?		
R 5.1. Is the stream or river adjacent to the wetland downcut?	Yes = 0 No = 1	
R 5.2. Does the up-gradient watershed include a UGA or incorporated area?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 5.3. Is the up-gradient stream or river controlled by dams?	Yes = 0 No = 1	
Total for R 5	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **3 = H 1 or 2 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?	
R 6.1. Distance to the nearest areas downstream that have flooding problems? *Choose the description that best fits the site*. The sub-basin immediately down-gradient of the wetland has flooding problems that result in damage to human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds) points = 2 Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient points = 1 No flooding problems anywhere downstream points = 0	
R 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for R 6 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

LAKE FRINGE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

L 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
L 1.1. Average width of plants along the lakeshore *(use polygons of Cowardin classes)*: Plants are more than 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 6 Plants are more than 16 ft (5 m) wide and <33 ft — points = 3 Plants are more than 6 ft (2 m) wide and <16 ft — points = 1 Plants are less than 6 ft wide — points = 0	
L 1.2. Characteristics of the plants in the wetland: Choose the appropriate description that results in the highest points, and do not include any open water in your estimate of coverage. The herbaceous plants can be either the dominant form or as an understory in a shrub or forest community. *These are not Cowardin classes. Area of cover is total cover in the unit, but it can be in patches. Herbaceous does not include aquatic bed.* Cover of herbaceous plants is >90% of the vegetated area — points = 6 Cover of herbaceous plants is >2/3 of the vegetated area — points = 4 Cover of herbaceous plants is >1/3 of the vegetated area — points = 3 Other plants that are not aquatic bed > 2/3 unit — points = 3 Other plants that are not aquatic bed in > 1/3 vegetated area — points = 1 Aquatic bed plants and open water cover > 2/3 of the unit — points = 0	
Total for L 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **___8-12 = H_____4-7 = M_____0-3 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
L 2.1. Is the lake used by power boats? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of wetland unit on the upland side in land uses that generate pollutants? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 2.3. Does the lake have problems with algal blooms or excessive plant growth such as milfoil? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for L 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential: If score is: **___2 or 3 = H_____1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
L 3.1. Is the lake on the 303(d) list of degraded aquatic resources? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 3.2. Is the lake in a sub-basin where water quality is an issue (at least one aquatic resource in the basin is on the 303(d) list)? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? *Answer YES if there is a TMDL for the lake or basin in which the unit is found.* — Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for L 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **___2-4 = H_____1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

LAKE FRINGE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the wetland unit functions to reduce shoreline erosion

L 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce shoreline erosion?	
L 4.1. Distance along shore and average width of Cowardin classes along the lakeshore (**do not** include Aquatic bed): *Choose the highest scoring description that matches conditions in the wetland.*	
> ¾ of distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 6	
> ¾ of distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 6 ft (2 m) wide — points = 4	
> ¼ distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 4	
Plants are at least 6 ft (2 m) wide (any type except Aquatic bed) — points = 2	
Plants are less than 6 ft (2 m) wide (any type except Aquatic bed) — points = 0	

Rating of Site Potential: If score is:___**6 = M**_____**0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?		
L 5.1. Is the lake used by power boats with more than 10 hp?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 5.2. Is the fetch on the lake side of the unit at least 1 mile in distance?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for L 5	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is:___**2 = H**_____**1 = M**_____**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?	
L 6.1. Are there resources along the shore that can be impacted by erosion? If more than one resource is present, choose the one with the highest score.	
There are human structures or old growth/mature forests within 25 ft of OHWM of the shore in the unit — points = 2	
There are nature trails or other paths and recreational activities within 25 ft of OHWM — points = 1	
Other resources that could be impacted by erosion — points = 1	
There are no resources that can be impacted by erosion along the shores of the unit — points = 0	

Rating of Value: If score is:___**2 = H**_____**1 = M**_____**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

NOTES and FIELD OBSERVATIONS:

SLOPE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

S 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
S 1.1. Characteristics of the average slope of the wetland: *(a 1% slope has a 1 ft vertical drop in elevation for every 100 ft of horizontal distance*) Slope is 1% or less points = 3 Slope is > 1%-2% points = 2 Slope is > 2%-5% points = 1 Slope is greater than 5% points = 0	
S 1.2. The soil 2 in below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions)*: Yes = 3 No = 0	
S 1.3. Characteristics of the plants in the wetland that trap sediments and pollutants: Choose the points appropriate for the description that best fits the plants in the wetland. *Dense means you have trouble seeing the soil surface (>75% cover), and uncut means not grazed or mowed and plants are higher than 6 in.* Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > 90% of the wetland area points = 6 Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > ½ of area points = 3 Dense, woody, plants > ½ of area points = 2 Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > ¼ of area points = 1 Does not meet any of the criteria above for plants points = 0	
Total for S 1 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **12 = H 6-11 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
S 2.1. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft on the uphill side of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 2.2. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in question S 2.1? Other sources_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for S 2 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **1-2 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
S 3.1. Does the wetland discharge directly (i.e., within 1 mi) to a stream, river, lake, or marine water that is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where water quality is an issue? *At least one aquatic resource in the basin is on the 303(d) list*. Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? *Answer YES if there is a TMDL for the basin in which unit is found.* Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for S 3 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

SLOPE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream erosion

S 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and stream erosion?	
S 4.1. Characteristics of plants that reduce the velocity of surface flows during storms: Choose the points appropriate for the description that best fits conditions in the wetland. *Stems of plants should be thick enough (usually > 1/8 in), or dense enough, to remain erect during surface flows.* Dense, uncut, **rigid** plants cover > 90% of the area of the wetland — points = 1 All other conditions — points = 0	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **___1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?	
S 5.1. Is more than 25% of the area within 150 ft upslope of wetland in land uses or cover that generate excess surface runoff? — Yes = 1 No = 0	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **___1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?	
S 6.1. Distance to the nearest areas downstream that have flooding problems: The sub-basin immediately down-gradient of site has flooding problems that result in damage to human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds) — points = 2 Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient — points = 1 No flooding problems anywhere downstream — points = 0	
S 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for S 6 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **___2-4 = H_____1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

NOTES and FIELD OBSERVATIONS:

These questions apply to wetlands of all HGM classes.

HABITAT FUNCTIONS - Indicators that site functions to provide important habitat

H 1.0. Does the site have the potential to provide habitat?

H 1.1. Structure of plant community: *Indicators are Cowardin classes and strata within the Forested class.* Check the Cowardin plant classes in the wetland. *Up to 10 patches may be combined for each class to meet the threshold of ¼ ac or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac. Add the number of structures checked.*

____	Aquatic bed	4 structures or more: points = 4
_X_	Emergent	3 structures: points = 2
_X_	Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover)	2 structures: points = 1
_X_	Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover)	1 structure: points = 0

If the unit has a Forested class, check if:

____ The Forested class has 3 out of 5 strata (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss/ground-cover) that each cover 20% within the Forested polygon

2

H 1.2. Hydroperiods

Check the types of water regimes (hydroperiods) present within the wetland. The water regime has to cover more than 10% of the wetland or ¼ ac to count (*see text for descriptions of hydroperiods*).

____	Permanently flooded or inundated	4 or more types present: points = 3
_X_	Seasonally flooded or inundated	3 types present: points = 2
____	Occasionally flooded or inundated	2 types present: points = 1
_X_	Saturated only	1 type present: points = 0
____	Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland	
____	Seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland	
____	**Lake Fringe wetland**	**2 points**
____	**Freshwater tidal wetland**	**2 points**

1

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft^2.

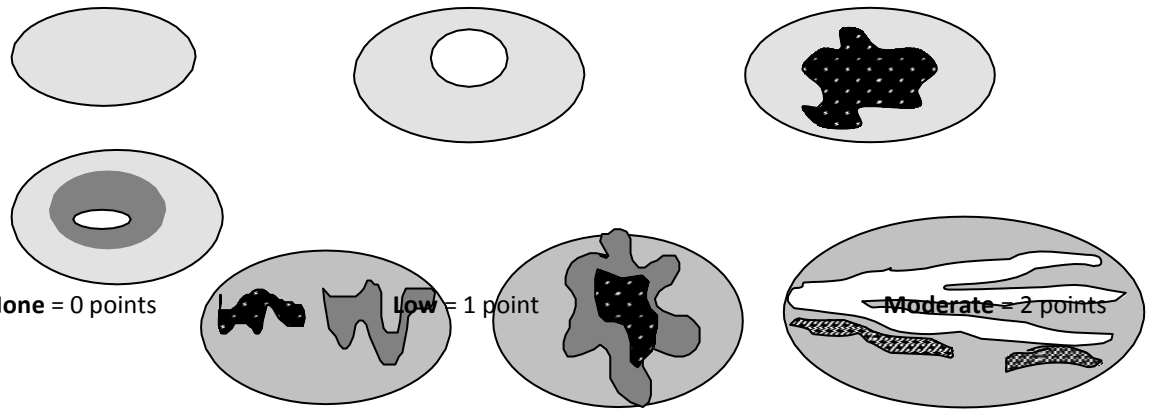
Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. ***Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canadian thistle***

If you counted: > 19 species	points = 2
5 - 19 species	points = 1
< 5 species	points = 0

1

H 1.4. Interspersion of habitats

Decide from the diagrams below whether interspersion among Cowardin plants classes (described in H 1.1), or the classes and unvegetated areas (can include open water or mudflats) is high, moderate, low, or none. *If you have four or more plant classes or three classes and open water, the rating is always high.*



None = 0 points **Low** = 1 point **Moderate** = 2 points

All three diagrams

2

in this row are **HIGH** = 3points	

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. *The number of checks is the number of points.* __X__ Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in diameter and 6 ft long). __X__ Standing snags (dbh > 4 in) within the wetland ____ Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) **and/or** overhanging plants extends at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) __X__ Stable steep banks of fine material that might be used by beaver or muskrat for denning (> 30 degree slope) OR signs of recent beaver activity are present *(cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed)* ____ At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated *(structures for egg-laying by amphibians)* __X__ Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (*see H 1.1 for list of strata*)	4
Total for H 1 Add the points in the boxes above	10

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ___ **15-18 = H** __X__ **7-14 = M** ____ **0-6 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?	
H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include *only habitat that directly abuts wetland unit*). *Calculate:* % undisturbed habitat 0 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 2 = 2 % If total accessible habitat is: > 1/3 (33.3%) of 1 km Polygon points = 3 20-33% of 1 km Polygon points = 2 10-19% of 1 km Polygon points = 1 < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	0
H 2.2. Undisturbed habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. *Calculate:* % undisturbed habitat 0 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 5 = 5 % Undisturbed habitat > 50% of Polygon points = 3 Undisturbed habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches points = 2 Undisturbed habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches points = 1 Undisturbed habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	0
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: If > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = (- 2) ≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity points = 0	-2
Total for H 2 Add the points in the boxes above	-2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ___ **4-6 = H** ____ **1-3 = M** __X__ **< 1 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?	
H 3.1. Does the site provide habitat for species valued in laws, regulations, or policies? *Choose only the highest score that applies to the wetland being rated.* Site meets ANY of the following criteria: points = 2 — It has 3 or more priority habitats within 100 m (see next page) — It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) — It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW priority species — It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources — It has been categorized as an important habitat site in a local or regional comprehensive plan, in a Shoreline Master Plan, or in a watershed plan Site has 1 or 2 priority habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m points = 1 Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = 0	0

Rating of Value If score is:___**2 = H**_____**1 = M**__X__**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

WDFW Priority Habitats

Priority habitats listed by WDFW (see complete descriptions of WDFW priority habitats, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008. Priority Habitat and Species List. Olympia, Washington. 177 pp. http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf or access the list from here: http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/phs/list/)

Count how many of the following priority habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit: ***NOTE:*** *This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the priority habitat.*

— **Aspen Stands:** Pure or mixed stands of aspen greater than 1 ac (0.4 ha).

— **Biodiversity Areas and Corridors**: Areas of habitat that are relatively important to various species of native fish and wildlife (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report*).

— **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.

— **Old-growth/Mature forests:** Old-growth west of Cascade crest – Stands of at least 2 tree species, forming a multi-layered canopy with occasional small openings; with at least 8 trees/ac (20 trees/ha) > 32 in (81 cm) dbh or > 200 years of age. Mature forests – Stands with average diameters exceeding 21 in (53 cm) dbh; crown cover may be less than 100%; decay, decadence, numbers of snags, and quantity of large downed material is generally less than that found in old-growth; 80-200 years old west of the Cascade crest.

— **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report p. 158 – see web link above*).

— **Riparian**: The area adjacent to aquatic systems with flowing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.

— **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report p. 161 – see web link above*).

— **Instream:** The combination of physical, biological, and chemical processes and conditions that interact to provide functional life history requirements for instream fish and wildlife resources.

— **Nearshore**: Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore. (*full descriptions of habitats and the definition of relatively undisturbed are in WDFW report – see web link on previous page).*

— **Caves:** A naturally occurring cavity, recess, void, or system of interconnected passages under the earth in soils, rock, ice, or other geological formations and is large enough to contain a human.

— **Cliffs:** Greater than 25 ft (7.6 m) high and occurring below 5000 ft elevation.

— **Talus:** Homogenous areas of rock rubble ranging in average size 0.5 - 6.5 ft (0.15 - 2.0 m), composed of basalt, andesite, and/or sedimentary rock, including riprap slides and mine tailings. May be associated with cliffs.

— **Snags and Logs:** Trees are considered snags if they are dead or dying and exhibit sufficient decay characteristics to enable cavity excavation/use by wildlife. Priority snags have a diameter at breast height of > 20 in (51 cm) in western Washington and are > 6.5 ft (2 m) in height. Priority logs are > 12 in (30 cm) in diameter at the largest end, and > 20 ft (6 m) long.

Note: All vegetated wetlands are by definition a priority habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed elsewhere.

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type *Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.*	**Category**
SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? — The dominant water regime is tidal, — Vegetated, and — With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt Yes –Go to **SC 1.1** No= **Not an estuarine wetland**	
SC 1.1. Is the wetland within a National Wildlife Refuge, National Park, National Estuary Reserve, Natural Area Preserve, State Park or Educational, Environmental, or Scientific Reserve designated under WAC 332-30-151? Yes = **Category I** No - Go to **SC 1.2**	**Cat. I**
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? — The wetland is relatively undisturbed (has no diking, ditching, filling, cultivation, grazing, and has less than 10% cover of non-native plant species. (If non-native species are *Spartina*, see page 25) — At least ¾ of the landward edge of the wetland has a 100 ft buffer of shrub, forest, or un-grazed or un-mowed grassland. — The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. Yes = **Category I** No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** **Cat. II**
SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Has the WA Department of Natural Resources updated their website to include the list of Wetlands of High Conservation Value? Yes – Go to **SC 2.2** No – Go to **SC 2.3** SC 2.2. Is the wetland listed on the WDNR database as a Wetland of High Conservation Value? Yes **= Category I** No **= Not a WHCV** SC 2.3. Is the wetland in a Section/Township/Range that contains a Natural Heritage wetland? http://www1.dnr.wa.gov/nhp/refdesk/datasearch/wnhpwetlands.pdf Yes **– Contact WNHP/WDNR and go to SC 2.4** No **= Not a WHCV** SC 2.4. Has WDNR identified the wetland within the S/T/R as a Wetland of High Conservation Value and listed it on their website? Yes **= Category I** No **= Not a WHCV**	**Cat. I**
SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? *Use the key below.* ***If you answer YES you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** SC 3.1. Does an area within the wetland unit have organic soil horizons, either peats or mucks, that compose 16 in or more of the first 32 in of the soil profile? Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** No – Go to **SC 3.2** SC 3.2. Does an area within the wetland unit have organic soils, either peats or mucks, that are less than 16 in deep over bedrock, or an impermeable hardpan such as clay or volcanic ash, or that are floating on top of a lake or pond? Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** No = **Is not a bog** SC 3.3. Does an area with peats or mucks have more than 70% cover of mosses at ground level, AND at least a 30% cover of plant species listed in Table 4? Yes = **Is a Category I bog** No – Go to **SC 3.4** **NOTE:** If you are uncertain about the extent of mosses in the understory, you may substitute that criterion by measuring the pH of the water that seeps into a hole dug at least 16 in deep. If the pH is less than 5.0 and the plant species in Table 4 are present, the wetland is a bog. SC 3.4. Is an area with peats or mucks forested (> 30% cover) with Sitka spruce, subalpine fir, western red cedar, western hemlock, lodgepole pine, quaking aspen, Engelmann spruce, or western white pine, AND any of the species (or combination of species) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy? Yes = **Is a Category I bog** No **= Is not a bog**	**Cat. I**

SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands Does the wetland have at least 1 contiguous acre of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as priority habitats? ***If you answer YES you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** — **Old-growth forests** (west of Cascade crest): Stands of at least two tree species, forming a multi-layered canopy with occasional small openings; with at least 8 trees/ac (20 trees/ha) that are at least 200 years of age OR have a diameter at breast height (dbh) of 32 in (81 cm) or more. — **Mature forests** (west of the Cascade Crest): Stands where the largest trees are 80- 200 years old OR the species that make up the canopy have an average diameter (dbh) exceeding 21 in (53 cm). Yes = **Category I** No = **Not a forested wetland for this section**	**Cat. I**
SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon? — The wetland lies in a depression adjacent to marine waters that is wholly or partially separated from marine waters by sandbanks, gravel banks, shingle, or, less frequently, rocks — The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (> 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon *(needs to be measured near the bottom)* Yes – Go to **SC 5.1** No = **Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon** SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions? — The wetland is relatively undisturbed (has no diking, ditching, filling, cultivation, grazing), and has less than 20% cover of aggressive, opportunistic plant species (see list of species on p. 100). — At least ¾ of the landward edge of the wetland has a 100 ft buffer of shrub, forest, or un-grazed or un-mowed grassland. — The wetland is larger than $^{1}/_{10}$ ac (4350 ft^2) Yes = **Category I** No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** **Cat. II**
SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? ***If you answer yes you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.*** In practical terms that means the following geographic areas: — Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103 — Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105 — Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 Yes – Go to **SC 6.1** No = **not an interdunal wetland for rating** SC 6.1. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger and scores an 8 or 9 for the habitat functions on the form (rates H,H,H or H,H,M for the three aspects of function)? Yes = **Category I** No – Go to **SC 6.2** SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger? Yes = **Category II** No – Go to **SC 6.3** SC 6.3. Is the unit between 0.1 and 1 ac, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is between 0.1 and 1 ac? Yes = **Category III** No = **Category IV**	**Cat I** **Cat. II** **Cat. III** **Cat. IV**
Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form	

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): Wetland 3 Date of site visit: 8/10/17 Rated by Rob Fritz Trained by Ecology? X Yes ___ No Date of training _____

HGM Class used for rating Depressional Wetland has multiple HGM classes? ___ Y ___ N X

NOTE: **Form is not complete without the figures requested** *(figures can be combined)*.

Source of base aerial photo/map Google Earth

OVERALL WETLAND CATEGORY III (based on functions X or special characteristics ___)

1. Category of wetland based on FUNCTIONS

_____ **Category I** – Total score = 23 - 27

_____ **Category II** – Total score = 20 - 22

__X__ **Category III** – Total score = 16 - 19

_____ **Category IV** – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
	Circle the appropriate ratings			
Site Potential	H **M** L	H **M** L	H M **L**	
Landscape Potential	H **M** L	H **M** L	H M **L**	
Value	**H** M L	H **M** L	H M **L**	**TOTAL**
Score Based on Ratings	7	6	3	16

Score for each function based on three ratings

(order of ratings is not important)

9 = H,H,H

8 = H,H,M

7 = H,H,L

7 = H,M,M

6 = H,M,L

6 = M,M,M

2. Category based on SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS of wetland

CHARACTERISTIC	CATEGORY
Estuarine	**I** **II**
Wetland of High Conservation Value	**I**

Bog	**I**
Mature Forest	**I**
Old Growth Forest	**I**
Coastal Lagoon	**I II**
Interdunal	**I II III IV**
None of the above	**__**

Maps and figures required to answer questions correctly for Western Washington

Depressional Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	D 1.3, H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	D 1.4, H 1.2	
Location of outlet (*can be added to map of hydroperiods)*	D 1.1, D 4.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	D 2.2, D 5.2	
Map of the contributing basin	D 4.3, D 5.3	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	D 3.1, D 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	D 3.3	

Riverine Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Ponded depressions	R 1.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	R 2.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	
Width of unit vs. width of stream *(can be added to another figure)*	R 4.1	
Map of the contributing basin	R 2.2, R 2.3, R 5.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	R 3.1	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	R 3.2, R 3.3	

Lake Fringe Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	L 1.1, L 4.1, H 1.1, H 1.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	L 1.2	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	L 2.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	L 3.1, L 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	L 3.3	

Slope Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Plant cover of **dense** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	S 1.3	
Plant cover of **dense, rigid** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants (*can be added to figure above)*	S 4.1	
Boundary of 150 ft buffer (can be added to another figure)	S 2.1, S 5.1	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	S 3.1, S 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	S 3.3	

HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

For questions 1-7, the criteria described must apply to the entire unit being rated.

If the hydrologic criteria listed in each question do not apply to the entire unit being rated, you probably have a unit with multiple HGM classes. In this case, identify which hydrologic criteria in questions 1-7 apply, and go to Question 8.

1. Are the water levels in the entire unit usually controlled by tides except during floods?

NO – go to 2 **YES** – the wetland class is **Tidal Fringe** – go to 1.1

1.1 Is the salinity of the water during periods of annual low flow below 0.5 ppt (parts per thousand)?

NO – Saltwater Tidal Fringe (Estuarine) **YES – Freshwater Tidal Fringe**

*If your wetland can be classified as a Freshwater Tidal Fringe use the forms for **Riverine** wetlands. If it is Saltwater Tidal Fringe it is an **Estuarine** wetland and is not scored. This method **cannot** be used to score functions for estuarine wetlands.*

2. The entire wetland unit is flat and precipitation is the only source (>90%) of water to it. Groundwater and surface water runoff are NOT sources of water to the unit.

NO – go to 3 **YES** – The wetland class is **Flats**

*If your wetland can be classified as a Flats wetland, use the form for **Depressional** wetlands.*

3. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?

___The vegetated part of the wetland is on the shores of a body of permanent open water (without any plants on the surface at any time of the year) at least 20 ac (8 ha) in size;

___At least 30% of the open water area is deeper than 6.6 ft (2 m).

NO – go to 4 **YES –** The wetland class is **Lake Fringe** (Lacustrine Fringe)

4. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?

___The wetland is on a slope (*slope can be very gradual*),

___The water flows through the wetland in one direction (unidirectional) and usually comes from seeps. It may flow subsurface, as sheetflow, or in a swale without distinct banks,

___The water leaves the wetland **without being impounded**.

NO – go to 5 **YES –** The wetland class is **Slope**

NOTE: Surface water does not pond in these type of wetlands except occasionally in very small and shallow depressions or behind hummocks (depressions are usually <3 ft diameter and less than 1 ft deep).

5. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?

___The unit is in a valley, or stream channel, where it gets inundated by overbank flooding from that stream or river,

___The overbank flooding occurs at least once every 2 years.

NO – go to 6 **YES** – The wetland class is **Riverine**

NOTE: The Riverine unit can contain depressions that are filled with water when the river is not flooding

6. Is the entire wetland unit in a topographic depression in which water ponds, or is saturated to the surface, at some time during the year? *This means that any outlet, if present, is higher than the interior of the wetland.*

NO – go to 7 **YES** – The wetland class is **Depressional**

7. Is the entire wetland unit located in a very flat area with no obvious depression and no overbank flooding? The unit does not pond surface water more than a few inches. The unit seems to be maintained by high groundwater in the area. The wetland may be ditched, but has no obvious natural outlet.

NO – go to 8 **YES** – The wetland class is **Depressional**

8. Your wetland unit seems to be difficult to classify and probably contains several different HGM classes. For example, seeps at the base of a slope may grade into a riverine floodplain, or a small stream within a Depressional wetland has a zone of flooding along its sides. GO BACK AND IDENTIFY WHICH OF THE HYDROLOGIC REGIMES DESCRIBED IN QUESTIONS 1-7 APPLY TO DIFFERENT AREAS IN THE UNIT (make a rough sketch to help you decide). Use the following table to identify the appropriate class to use for the rating system if you have several HGM classes present within the wetland unit being scored.

   NOTE: Use this table only if the class that is recommended in the second column represents 10% or more of the total area of the wetland unit being rated. If the area of the HGM class listed in column 2 is less than 10% of the unit; classify the wetland using the class that represents more than 90% of the total area.

HGM classes within the wetland unit being rated	HGM class to use in rating
Slope + Riverine	Riverine
Slope + Depressional	Depressional
Slope + Lake Fringe	Lake Fringe
Depressional + Riverine along stream within boundary of depression	Depressional
Depressional + Lake Fringe	Depressional
Riverine + Lake Fringe	Riverine
Salt Water Tidal Fringe and any other class of freshwater wetland	Treat as ESTUARINE

*If you are still unable to determine which of the above criteria apply to your wetland, or if you have **more than 2 HGM classes** within a wetland boundary, classify the wetland as Depressional for the rating.*

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

D 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
D 1.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: Wetland is a depression or flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key) with no surface water leaving it (no outlet). points = 3 Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet. points = 2 Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 1 Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch. points = 1	3
D 1.2. The soil 2 in below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions)*. Yes = 4 No = 0	0
D 1.3. Characteristics and distribution of persistent plants (Emergent, Scrub-shrub, and/or Forested Cowardin classes): Wetland has persistent, ungrazed, plants > 95% of area points = 5 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed, plants > ½ of area points = 3 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > $^1/_{10}$ of area points = 1 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants < $^1/_{10}$ of area points = 0	3
D 1.4. Characteristics of seasonal ponding or inundation: *This is the area that is ponded for at least 2 months. See description in manual.* Area seasonally ponded is > ½ total area of wetland points = 4 Area seasonally ponded is > ¼ total area of wetland points = 2 Area seasonally ponded is < ¼ total area of wetland points = 0	2
Total for D 1 Add the points in the boxes above	8

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ___ **12-16 = H** __X__ **6-11 = M** ____ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
D 2.1. Does the wetland unit receive stormwater discharges? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 2.3. Are there septic systems within 250 ft of the wetland? Yes = 1 No = 0	0
D 2.4. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions D 2.1-D 2.3? Source_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	0
Total for D 2 Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ___ **3 or 4 = H** __X__ **1 or 2 = M** ____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
D 3.1. Does the wetland discharge directly (i.e., within 1 mi) to a stream, river, lake, or marine water that is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where an aquatic resource is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality (*answer YES if there is a TMDL for the basin in which the unit is found*)? Yes = 2 No = 0	0
Total for D 3 Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Value If score is: __X__ **2-4 = H** ____ **1 = M** ____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream degradation

D 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?

D 4.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: Wetland is a depression or flat depression with no surface water leaving it (no outlet) points = 4 Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet points = 2 Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch points = 1 Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 0	4
D 4.2. Depth of storage during wet periods: *Estimate the height of ponding above the bottom of the outlet. For wetlands with no outlet, measure from the surface of permanent water or if dry, the deepest part.* Marks of ponding are 3 ft or more above the surface or bottom of outlet points = 7 Marks of ponding between 2 ft to < 3 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 5 Marks are at least 0.5 ft to < 2 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 3 The wetland is a "headwater" wetland points = 3 Wetland is flat but has small depressions on the surface that trap water points = 1 Marks of ponding less than 0.5 ft (6 in) points = 0	0
D 4.3. Contribution of the wetland to storage in the watershed: *Estimate the ratio of the area of upstream basin contributing surface water to the wetland to the area of the wetland unit itself.* The area of the basin is less than 10 times the area of the unit points = 5 The area of the basin is 10 to 100 times the area of the unit points = 3 The area of the basin is more than 100 times the area of the unit points = 0 Entire wetland is in the Flats class points = 5	3
Total for D 4 Add the points in the boxes above	7

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ___ **12-16 = H** __X__ **6-11 = M** _____ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support hydrologic functions of the site?

D 5.1. Does the wetland receive stormwater discharges? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 5.2. Is >10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate excess runoff? Yes = 1 No = 0	0
D 5.3. Is more than 25% of the contributing basin of the wetland covered with intensive human land uses (residential at >1 residence/ac, urban, commercial, agriculture, etc.)? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
Total for D 5 Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ___ **3 = H** __X__ **1 or 2 = M** _____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?

D 6.1. The unit is in a landscape that has flooding problems. *Choose the description that best matches conditions around the wetland unit being rated. Do not add points. Choose the highest score if more than one condition is met.* The wetland captures surface water that would otherwise flow down-gradient into areas where flooding has damaged human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds): • Flooding occurs in a sub-basin that is immediately down-gradient of unit. points = 2 • Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient. points = 1 Flooding from groundwater is an issue in the sub-basin. points = 1 The existing or potential outflow from the wetland is so constrained by human or natural conditions that the water stored by the wetland cannot reach areas that flood. *Explain why*_____ points = 0 There are no problems with flooding downstream of the wetland. points = 0	1
D 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? Yes = 2 No = 0	0
Total for D 6 Add the points in the boxes above	1

Rating of Value If score is: ___ **2-4 = H** __X__ **1 = M** _____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

RIVERINE AND FRESHWATER TIDAL FRINGE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

R 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
R 1.1. Area of surface depressions within the Riverine wetland that can trap sediments during a flooding event: Depressions cover >$^{3}/_{4}$ area of wetland points = 8 Depressions cover > ½ area of wetland points = 4 Depressions present but cover < ½ area of wetland points = 2 No depressions present points = 0	
R 1.2. Structure of plants in the wetland (areas with >90% cover at person height, **not** Cowardin classes) Trees or shrubs > $^{2}/_{3}$ area of the wetland points = 8 Trees or shrubs > $^{1}/_{3}$ area of the wetland points = 6 Herbaceous plants (> 6 in high) > $^{2}/_{3}$ area of the wetland points = 6 Herbaceous plants (> 6 in high) > $^{1}/_{3}$ area of the wetland points = 3 Trees, shrubs, and ungrazed herbaceous < $^{1}/_{3}$ area of the wetland points = 0	
Total for R 1 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **12-16 = H 6-11 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
R 2.1. Is the wetland within an incorporated city or within its UGA? Yes = 2 No = 0	
R 2.2. Does the contributing basin to the wetland include a UGA or incorporated area? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.3. Does at least 10% of the contributing basin contain tilled fields, pastures, or forests that have been clearcut within the last 5 years? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.4. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.5. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions R 2.1-R 2.4 Other sources_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for R 2 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **3-6 = H 1 or 2 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
R 3.1. Is the wetland along a stream or river that is on the 303(d) list or on a tributary that drains to one within 1 mi? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 3.2. Is the wetland along a stream or river that has TMDL limits for nutrients, toxics, or pathogens? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? (*answer YES if there is a TMDL for the drainage in which the unit is found*) Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for R 3 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

RIVERINE AND FRESHWATER TIDAL FRINGE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that site functions to reduce flooding and stream erosion

R 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?	
R 4.1. Characteristics of the overbank storage the wetland provides: *Estimate the average width of the wetland perpendicular to the direction of the flow and the width of the stream or river channel (distance between banks). Calculate the ratio: (average width of wetland)/(average width of stream between banks).* If the ratio is more than 20 points = 9 If the ratio is 10-20 points = 6 If the ratio is 5-<10 points = 4 If the ratio is 1-<5 points = 2 If the ratio is < 1 points = 1	
R 4.2. Characteristics of plants that slow down water velocities during floods: *Treat large woody debris as forest or shrub. Choose the points appropriate for the best description (polygons need to have >90% cover at person height. These are NOT Cowardin classes).* Forest or shrub for > $^1/_3$ area OR emergent plants > $^2/_3$ area points = 7 Forest or shrub for > $^1/_{10}$ area OR emergent plants > $^1/_3$ area points = 4 Plants do not meet above criteria points = 0	
Total for R 4 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **12-16 = H 6-11 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?		
R 5.1. Is the stream or river adjacent to the wetland downcut?	Yes = 0 No = 1	
R 5.2. Does the up-gradient watershed include a UGA or incorporated area?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 5.3. Is the up-gradient stream or river controlled by dams?	Yes = 0 No = 1	
Total for R 5	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **3 = H 1 or 2 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?	
R 6.1. Distance to the nearest areas downstream that have flooding problems? *Choose the description that best fits the site*. The sub-basin immediately down-gradient of the wetland has flooding problems that result in damage to human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds) points = 2 Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient points = 1 No flooding problems anywhere downstream points = 0	
R 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for R 6 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

LAKE FRINGE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

L 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
L 1.1. Average width of plants along the lakeshore *(use polygons of Cowardin classes)*: Plants are more than 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 6 Plants are more than 16 ft (5 m) wide and <33 ft — points = 3 Plants are more than 6 ft (2 m) wide and <16 ft — points = 1 Plants are less than 6 ft wide — points = 0	
L 1.2. Characteristics of the plants in the wetland: Choose the appropriate description that results in the highest points, and do not include any open water in your estimate of coverage. The herbaceous plants can be either the dominant form or as an understory in a shrub or forest community. *These are not Cowardin classes. Area of cover is total cover in the unit, but it can be in patches. Herbaceous does not include aquatic bed.* Cover of herbaceous plants is >90% of the vegetated area — points = 6 Cover of herbaceous plants is >2/3 of the vegetated area — points = 4 Cover of herbaceous plants is >1/3 of the vegetated area — points = 3 Other plants that are not aquatic bed > 2/3 unit — points = 3 Other plants that are not aquatic bed in > 1/3 vegetated area — points = 1 Aquatic bed plants and open water cover > 2/3 of the unit — points = 0	
Total for L 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **___8-12 = H_____4-7 = M_____0-3 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
L 2.1. Is the lake used by power boats? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of wetland unit on the upland side in land uses that generate pollutants? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 2.3. Does the lake have problems with algal blooms or excessive plant growth such as milfoil? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for L 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential: If score is: **___2 or 3 = H_____1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
L 3.1. Is the lake on the 303(d) list of degraded aquatic resources? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 3.2. Is the lake in a sub-basin where water quality is an issue (at least one aquatic resource in the basin is on the 303(d) list)? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? *Answer YES if there is a TMDL for the lake or basin in which the unit is found.* — Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for L 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **___2-4 = H_____1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

LAKE FRINGE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the wetland unit functions to reduce shoreline erosion

L 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce shoreline erosion?	
L 4.1. Distance along shore and average width of Cowardin classes along the lakeshore (**do not** include Aquatic bed): *Choose the highest scoring description that matches conditions in the wetland.*	
> ¾ of distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 6	
> ¾ of distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 6 ft (2 m) wide — points = 4	
> ¼ distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 4	
Plants are at least 6 ft (2 m) wide (any type except Aquatic bed) — points = 2	
Plants are less than 6 ft (2 m) wide (any type except Aquatic bed) — points = 0	

Rating of Site Potential: If score is:___**6 = M**_____**0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?		
L 5.1. Is the lake used by power boats with more than 10 hp?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 5.2. Is the fetch on the lake side of the unit at least 1 mile in distance?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for L 5	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is:___**2 = H**_____**1 = M**_____**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?	
L 6.1. Are there resources along the shore that can be impacted by erosion? If more than one resource is present, choose the one with the highest score.	
There are human structures or old growth/mature forests within 25 ft of OHWM of the shore in the unit — points = 2	
There are nature trails or other paths and recreational activities within 25 ft of OHWM — points = 1	
Other resources that could be impacted by erosion — points = 1	
There are no resources that can be impacted by erosion along the shores of the unit — points = 0	

Rating of Value: If score is:___**2 = H**_____**1 = M**_____**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

NOTES and FIELD OBSERVATIONS:

SLOPE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

S 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
S 1.1. Characteristics of the average slope of the wetland: *(a 1% slope has a 1 ft vertical drop in elevation for every 100 ft of horizontal distance*) Slope is 1% or less points = 3 Slope is > 1%-2% points = 2 Slope is > 2%-5% points = 1 Slope is greater than 5% points = 0	
S 1.2. The soil 2 in below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions)*: Yes = 3 No = 0	
S 1.3. Characteristics of the plants in the wetland that trap sediments and pollutants: Choose the points appropriate for the description that best fits the plants in the wetland. *Dense means you have trouble seeing the soil surface (>75% cover), and uncut means not grazed or mowed and plants are higher than 6 in.* Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > 90% of the wetland area points = 6 Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > ½ of area points = 3 Dense, woody, plants > ½ of area points = 2 Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > ¼ of area points = 1 Does not meet any of the criteria above for plants points = 0	
Total for S 1 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **12 = H 6-11 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
S 2.1. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft on the uphill side of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 2.2. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in question S 2.1? Other sources_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for S 2 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **1-2 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
S 3.1. Does the wetland discharge directly (i.e., within 1 mi) to a stream, river, lake, or marine water that is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where water quality is an issue? *At least one aquatic resource in the basin is on the 303(d) list*. Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? *Answer YES if there is a TMDL for the basin in which unit is found.* Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for S 3 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

SLOPE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream erosion

S 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and stream erosion?	
S 4.1. Characteristics of plants that reduce the velocity of surface flows during storms: Choose the points appropriate for the description that best fits conditions in the wetland. *Stems of plants should be thick enough (usually > 1/8 in), or dense enough, to remain erect during surface flows.* Dense, uncut, **rigid** plants cover > 90% of the area of the wetland — points = 1 All other conditions — points = 0	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **___1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?	
S 5.1. Is more than 25% of the area within 150 ft upslope of wetland in land uses or cover that generate excess surface runoff? — Yes = 1 No = 0	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **___1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?	
S 6.1. Distance to the nearest areas downstream that have flooding problems: The sub-basin immediately down-gradient of site has flooding problems that result in damage to human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds) — points = 2 Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient — points = 1 No flooding problems anywhere downstream — points = 0	
S 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for S 6 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **___2-4 = H_____1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

NOTES and FIELD OBSERVATIONS:

These questions apply to wetlands of all HGM classes.

HABITAT FUNCTIONS - Indicators that site functions to provide important habitat

H 1.0. Does the site have the potential to provide habitat?

H 1.1. Structure of plant community: *Indicators are Cowardin classes and strata within the Forested class.* Check the Cowardin plant classes in the wetland. *Up to 10 patches may be combined for each class to meet the threshold of ¼ ac or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac. Add the number of structures checked.*

____	Aquatic bed	4 structures or more: points = 4
____	Emergent	3 structures: points = 2
_X_	Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover)	2 structures: points = 1
_X_	Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover)	1 structure: points = 0

If the unit has a Forested class, check if:

____ The Forested class has 3 out of 5 strata (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss/ground-cover) that each cover 20% within the Forested polygon

1

H 1.2. Hydroperiods

Check the types of water regimes (hydroperiods) present within the wetland. The water regime has to cover more than 10% of the wetland or ¼ ac to count (*see text for descriptions of hydroperiods*).

____	Permanently flooded or inundated	4 or more types present: points = 3
_X_	Seasonally flooded or inundated	3 types present: points = 2
____	Occasionally flooded or inundated	2 types present: points = 1
_X_	Saturated only	1 type present: points = 0
____	Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland	
____	Seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland	
____	**Lake Fringe wetland**	**2 points**
____	**Freshwater tidal wetland**	**2 points**

1

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft^2.

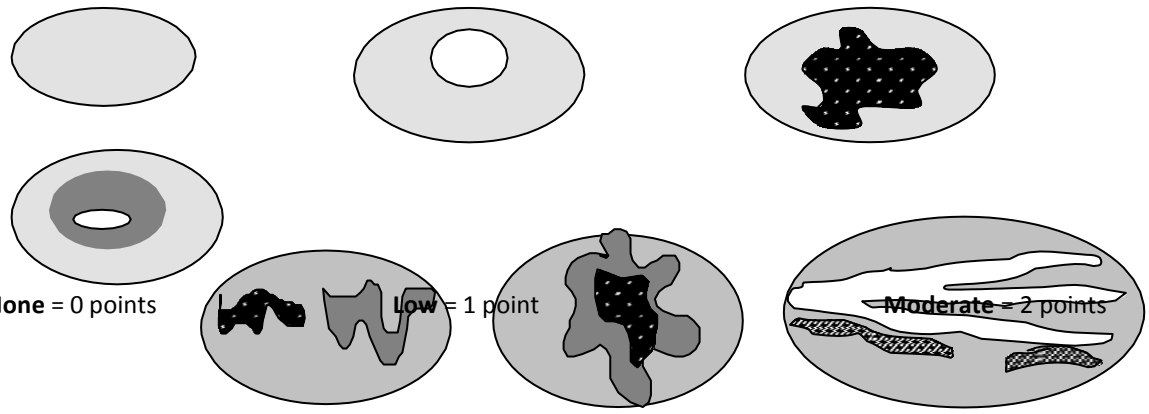
Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. ***Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canadian thistle***

If you counted: > 19 species	points = 2
5 - 19 species	points = 1
< 5 species	points = 0

1

H 1.4. Interspersion of habitats

Decide from the diagrams below whether interspersion among Cowardin plants classes (described in H 1.1), or the classes and unvegetated areas (can include open water or mudflats) is high, moderate, low, or none. *If you have four or more plant classes or three classes and open water, the rating is always high.*



None = 0 points **Low** = 1 point **Moderate** = 2 points

All three diagrams

2

in this row are **HIGH** = 3points	

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. *The number of checks is the number of points.* ____Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in diameter and 6 ft long). ____Standing snags (dbh > 4 in) within the wetland ____Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) **and/or** overhanging plants extends at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) ____Stable steep banks of fine material that might be used by beaver or muskrat for denning (> 30 degree slope) OR signs of recent beaver activity are present *(cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed)* ____At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated *(structures for egg-laying by amphibians)* ____Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (*see H 1.1 for list of strata*)	0
Total for H 1 Add the points in the boxes above	5

Rating of Site Potential If score is:___**15-18 = H**_____**7-14 = M**__X__**0-6 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?	
H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include *only habitat that directly abuts wetland unit*). *Calculate:* % undisturbed habitat 0 **+** [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 2 **=** 2 % If total accessible habitat is: > 1/3 (33.3%) of 1 km Polygon points = 3 20-33% of 1 km Polygon points = 2 10-19% of 1 km Polygon points = 1 < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	0
H 2.2. Undisturbed habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. *Calculate:* % undisturbed habitat 3 **+** [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 5 **=** 5 % Undisturbed habitat > 50% of Polygon points = 3 Undisturbed habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches points = 2 Undisturbed habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches points = 1 Undisturbed habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	0
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: If > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = (- 2) ≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity points = 0	-2
Total for H 2 Add the points in the boxes above	-2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is:___**4-6 = H**_____**1-3 = M**__X__**< 1 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?	
H 3.1. Does the site provide habitat for species valued in laws, regulations, or policies? *Choose only the highest score that applies to the wetland being rated.* Site meets ANY of the following criteria: points = 2 — It has 3 or more priority habitats within 100 m (see next page) — It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) — It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW priority species — It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources — It has been categorized as an important habitat site in a local or regional comprehensive plan, in a Shoreline Master Plan, or in a watershed plan Site has 1 or 2 priority habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m points = 1 Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = 0	0

Rating of Value If score is:___**2 = H**_____**1 = M**__X__**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

WDFW Priority Habitats

Priority habitats listed by WDFW (see complete descriptions of WDFW priority habitats, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008. Priority Habitat and Species List. Olympia, Washington. 177 pp. http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf or access the list from here: http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/phs/list/)

Count how many of the following priority habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit: ***NOTE:*** *This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the priority habitat.*

— **Aspen Stands:** Pure or mixed stands of aspen greater than 1 ac (0.4 ha).

— **Biodiversity Areas and Corridors**: Areas of habitat that are relatively important to various species of native fish and wildlife (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report*).

— **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.

— **Old-growth/Mature forests:** Old-growth west of Cascade crest – Stands of at least 2 tree species, forming a multi-layered canopy with occasional small openings; with at least 8 trees/ac (20 trees/ha) > 32 in (81 cm) dbh or > 200 years of age. Mature forests – Stands with average diameters exceeding 21 in (53 cm) dbh; crown cover may be less than 100%; decay, decadence, numbers of snags, and quantity of large downed material is generally less than that found in old-growth; 80-200 years old west of the Cascade crest.

— **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report p. 158 – see web link above*).

— **Riparian**: The area adjacent to aquatic systems with flowing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.

— **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report p. 161 – see web link above*).

— **Instream:** The combination of physical, biological, and chemical processes and conditions that interact to provide functional life history requirements for instream fish and wildlife resources.

— **Nearshore**: Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore. (*full descriptions of habitats and the definition of relatively undisturbed are in WDFW report – see web link on previous page).*

— **Caves:** A naturally occurring cavity, recess, void, or system of interconnected passages under the earth in soils, rock, ice, or other geological formations and is large enough to contain a human.

— **Cliffs:** Greater than 25 ft (7.6 m) high and occurring below 5000 ft elevation.

— **Talus:** Homogenous areas of rock rubble ranging in average size 0.5 - 6.5 ft (0.15 - 2.0 m), composed of basalt, andesite, and/or sedimentary rock, including riprap slides and mine tailings. May be associated with cliffs.

— **Snags and Logs:** Trees are considered snags if they are dead or dying and exhibit sufficient decay characteristics to enable cavity excavation/use by wildlife. Priority snags have a diameter at breast height of > 20 in (51 cm) in western Washington and are > 6.5 ft (2 m) in height. Priority logs are > 12 in (30 cm) in diameter at the largest end, and > 20 ft (6 m) long.

Note: All vegetated wetlands are by definition a priority habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed elsewhere.

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type *Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.*	**Category**
SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? — The dominant water regime is tidal, — Vegetated, and — With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt Yes –Go to **SC 1.1** No= **Not an estuarine wetland**	
SC 1.1. Is the wetland within a National Wildlife Refuge, National Park, National Estuary Reserve, Natural Area Preserve, State Park or Educational, Environmental, or Scientific Reserve designated under WAC 332-30-151? Yes = **Category I** No - Go to **SC 1.2**	**Cat. I**
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? — The wetland is relatively undisturbed (has no diking, ditching, filling, cultivation, grazing, and has less than 10% cover of non-native plant species. (If non-native species are *Spartina*, see page 25) — At least ¾ of the landward edge of the wetland has a 100 ft buffer of shrub, forest, or un-grazed or un-mowed grassland. — The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. Yes = **Category I** No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** **Cat. II**
SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Has the WA Department of Natural Resources updated their website to include the list of Wetlands of High Conservation Value? Yes – Go to **SC 2.2** No – Go to **SC 2.3** SC 2.2. Is the wetland listed on the WDNR database as a Wetland of High Conservation Value? Yes **= Category I** No **= Not a WHCV** SC 2.3. Is the wetland in a Section/Township/Range that contains a Natural Heritage wetland? http://www1.dnr.wa.gov/nhp/refdesk/datasearch/wnhpwetlands.pdf Yes **– Contact WNHP/WDNR and go to SC 2.4** No **= Not a WHCV** SC 2.4. Has WDNR identified the wetland within the S/T/R as a Wetland of High Conservation Value and listed it on their website? Yes **= Category I** No **= Not a WHCV**	**Cat. I**
SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? *Use the key below.* ***If you answer YES you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** SC 3.1. Does an area within the wetland unit have organic soil horizons, either peats or mucks, that compose 16 in or more of the first 32 in of the soil profile? Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** No – Go to **SC 3.2** SC 3.2. Does an area within the wetland unit have organic soils, either peats or mucks, that are less than 16 in deep over bedrock, or an impermeable hardpan such as clay or volcanic ash, or that are floating on top of a lake or pond? Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** No = **Is not a bog** SC 3.3. Does an area with peats or mucks have more than 70% cover of mosses at ground level, AND at least a 30% cover of plant species listed in Table 4? Yes = **Is a Category I bog** No – Go to **SC 3.4** **NOTE:** If you are uncertain about the extent of mosses in the understory, you may substitute that criterion by measuring the pH of the water that seeps into a hole dug at least 16 in deep. If the pH is less than 5.0 and the plant species in Table 4 are present, the wetland is a bog. SC 3.4. Is an area with peats or mucks forested (> 30% cover) with Sitka spruce, subalpine fir, western red cedar, western hemlock, lodgepole pine, quaking aspen, Engelmann spruce, or western white pine, AND any of the species (or combination of species) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy? Yes = **Is a Category I bog** No **= Is not a bog**	**Cat. I**

SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands Does the wetland have at least 1 contiguous acre of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as priority habitats? ***If you answer YES you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** — **Old-growth forests** (west of Cascade crest): Stands of at least two tree species, forming a multi-layered canopy with occasional small openings; with at least 8 trees/ac (20 trees/ha) that are at least 200 years of age OR have a diameter at breast height (dbh) of 32 in (81 cm) or more. — **Mature forests** (west of the Cascade Crest): Stands where the largest trees are 80- 200 years old OR the species that make up the canopy have an average diameter (dbh) exceeding 21 in (53 cm). Yes = **Category I** No = **Not a forested wetland for this section**	**Cat. I**
SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon? — The wetland lies in a depression adjacent to marine waters that is wholly or partially separated from marine waters by sandbanks, gravel banks, shingle, or, less frequently, rocks — The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (> 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon *(needs to be measured near the bottom)* Yes – Go to **SC 5.1** No = **Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon** SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions? — The wetland is relatively undisturbed (has no diking, ditching, filling, cultivation, grazing), and has less than 20% cover of aggressive, opportunistic plant species (see list of species on p. 100). — At least ¾ of the landward edge of the wetland has a 100 ft buffer of shrub, forest, or un-grazed or un-mowed grassland. — The wetland is larger than $^{1}/_{10}$ ac (4350 ft^2) Yes = **Category I** No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** **Cat. II**
SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? ***If you answer yes you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.*** In practical terms that means the following geographic areas: — Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103 — Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105 — Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 Yes – Go to **SC 6.1** No = **not an interdunal wetland for rating** SC 6.1. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger and scores an 8 or 9 for the habitat functions on the form (rates H,H,H or H,H,M for the three aspects of function)? Yes = **Category I** No – Go to **SC 6.2** SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger? Yes = **Category II** No – Go to **SC 6.3** SC 6.3. Is the unit between 0.1 and 1 ac, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is between 0.1 and 1 ac? Yes = **Category III** No = **Category IV**	**Cat I** **Cat. II** **Cat. III** **Cat. IV**
Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form	

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): Wetland 4 Date of site visit: 8/10/17

Rated by Rob Fritz Trained by Ecology? X Yes No Date of training

HGM Class used for rating Depressional Wetland has multiple HGM classes? ___ Y X N

NOTE: **Form is not complete without the figures requested** *(figures can be combined)*.

Source of base aerial photo/map Google Earth

OVERALL WETLAND CATEGORY III (based on functions X or special characteristics ___)

1. Category of wetland based on FUNCTIONS

___ **Category I** – Total score = 23 - 27

___ **Category II** – Total score = 20 - 22

X **Category III** – Total score = 16 - 19

___ **Category IV** – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
	Circle the appropriate ratings			
Site Potential	H (M) L	H (M) L	H M (L)	
Landscape Potential	H (M) L	(H) M L	H M (L)	
Value	H M (L)	H M (L)	H M (L)	TOTAL
Score Based on Ratings	(7)	(7)	3	17

Score for each function based on three ratings

(order of ratings is not important)

9 = H,H,H

8 = H,H,M

7 = H,H,L

7 = H,M,M

6 = H,M,L

6 = M,M,M

2. Category based on SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS of wetland

CHARACTERISTIC	CATEGORY

Estuarine	**I II**
Wetland of High Conservation Value	**I**
Bog	**I**
Mature Forest	**I**
Old Growth Forest	**I**
Coastal Lagoon	**I II**
Interdunal	**I II III IV**
None of the above	**—**

Maps and figures required to answer questions correctly for Western Washington

Depressional Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	D 1.3, H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	D 1.4, H 1.2	
Location of outlet (*can be added to map of hydroperiods)*	D 1.1, D 4.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	D 2.2, D 5.2	
Map of the contributing basin	D 4.3, D 5.3	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	D 3.1, D 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	D 3.3	

Riverine Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Ponded depressions	R 1.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	R 2.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	
Width of unit vs. width of stream *(can be added to another figure)*	R 4.1	
Map of the contributing basin	R 2.2, R 2.3, R 5.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	R 3.1	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	R 3.2, R 3.3	

Lake Fringe Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	L 1.1, L 4.1, H 1.1, H 1.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	L 1.2	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	L 2.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	L 3.1, L 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	L 3.3	

Slope Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Plant cover of **dense** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	S 1.3	
Plant cover of **dense, rigid** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants (*can be added to figure above)*	S 4.1	
Boundary of 150 ft buffer (can be added to another figure)	S 2.1, S 5.1	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	

Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	S 3.1, S 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	S 3.3	

HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

For questions 1-7, the criteria described must apply to the entire unit being rated.

If the hydrologic criteria listed in each question do not apply to the entire unit being rated, you probably have a unit with multiple HGM classes. In this case, identify which hydrologic criteria in questions 1-7 apply, and go to Question 8.

1. Are the water levels in the entire unit usually controlled by tides except during floods?

NO – go to 2 **YES** – the wetland class is **Tidal Fringe** – go to 1.1

1.1 Is the salinity of the water during periods of annual low flow below 0.5 ppt (parts per thousand)?

NO – Saltwater Tidal Fringe (Estuarine) *YES – Freshwater Tidal Fringe*

*If your wetland can be classified as a Freshwater Tidal Fringe use the forms for **Riverine** wetlands. If it is Saltwater Tidal Fringe it is an **Estuarine** wetland and is not scored. This method **cannot** be used to score functions for estuarine wetlands.*

2. The entire wetland unit is flat and precipitation is the only source (>90%) of water to it. Groundwater and surface water runoff are NOT sources of water to the unit.

NO – go to 3 **YES** – The wetland class is **Flats**

*If your wetland can be classified as a Flats wetland, use the form for **Depressional** wetlands.*

3. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?

___The vegetated part of the wetland is on the shores of a body of permanent open water (without any plants on the surface at any time of the year) at least 20 ac (8 ha) in size;

___At least 30% of the open water area is deeper than 6.6 ft (2 m).

NO – go to 4 **YES –** The wetland class is **Lake Fringe** (Lacustrine Fringe)

4. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?

___The wetland is on a slope (*slope can be very gradual*),

___The water flows through the wetland in one direction (unidirectional) and usually comes from seeps. It may flow subsurface, as sheetflow, or in a swale without distinct banks,

___The water leaves the wetland **without being impounded**.

NO – go to 5 **YES –** The wetland class is **Slope**

NOTE: Surface water does not pond in these type of wetlands except occasionally in very small and shallow depressions or behind hummocks (depressions are usually <3 ft diameter and less than 1 ft deep).

5. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?

___The unit is in a valley, or stream channel, where it gets inundated by overbank flooding from that stream or river,

___The overbank flooding occurs at least once every 2 years.

NO – go to 6 **YES** – The wetland class is **Riverine**

NOTE: The Riverine unit can contain depressions that are filled with water when the river is not flooding

6. Is the entire wetland unit in a topographic depression in which water ponds, or is saturated to the surface, at some time during the year? *This means that any outlet, if present, is higher than the interior of the wetland.*

NO – go to 7 **YES** – The wetland class is **Depressional**

7. Is the entire wetland unit located in a very flat area with no obvious depression and no overbank flooding? The unit does not pond surface water more than a few inches. The unit seems to be maintained by high groundwater in the area. The wetland may be ditched, but has no obvious natural outlet.

NO – go to 8 **YES** – The wetland class is **Depressional**

8. Your wetland unit seems to be difficult to classify and probably contains several different HGM classes. For example, seeps at the base of a slope may grade into a riverine floodplain, or a small stream within a Depressional wetland has a zone of flooding along its sides. GO BACK AND IDENTIFY WHICH OF THE HYDROLOGIC REGIMES DESCRIBED IN QUESTIONS 1-7 APPLY TO DIFFERENT AREAS IN THE UNIT (make a rough sketch to help you decide). Use the following table to identify the appropriate class to use for the rating system if you have several HGM classes present within the wetland unit being scored.

   NOTE: Use this table only if the class that is recommended in the second column represents 10% or more of the total area of the wetland unit being rated. If the area of the HGM class listed in column 2 is less than 10% of the unit; classify the wetland using the class that represents more than 90% of the total area.

HGM classes within the wetland unit being rated	HGM class to use in rating
Slope + Riverine	Riverine
Slope + Depressional	Depressional
Slope + Lake Fringe	Lake Fringe
Depressional + Riverine along stream within boundary of depression	Depressional
Depressional + Lake Fringe	Depressional
Riverine + Lake Fringe	Riverine
Salt Water Tidal Fringe and any other class of freshwater wetland	Treat as ESTUARINE

*If you are still unable to determine which of the above criteria apply to your wetland, or if you have **more than 2 HGM classes** within a wetland boundary, classify the wetland as Depressional for the rating.*

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

D 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
D 1.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: Wetland is a depression or flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key) with no surface water leaving it (no outlet). points = 3 Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet. points = 2 Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 1 Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch. points = 1	3
D 1.2. The soil 2 in below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions)*. Yes = 4 No = 0	0
D 1.3. Characteristics and distribution of persistent plants (Emergent, Scrub-shrub, and/or Forested Cowardin classes): Wetland has persistent, ungrazed, plants > 95% of area points = 5 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed, plants > ½ of area points = 3 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > $^1/_{10}$ of area points = 1 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants < $^1/_{10}$ of area points = 0	5
D 1.4. Characteristics of seasonal ponding or inundation: *This is the area that is ponded for at least 2 months. See description in manual.* Area seasonally ponded is > ½ total area of wetland points = 4 Area seasonally ponded is > ¼ total area of wetland points = 2 Area seasonally ponded is < ¼ total area of wetland points = 0	0
Total for D 1 Add the points in the boxes above	8

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ___ **12-16 = H** __X__ **6-11 = M** ____ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
D 2.1. Does the wetland unit receive stormwater discharges? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 2.3. Are there septic systems within 250 ft of the wetland? Yes = 1 No = 0	0
D 2.4. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions D 2.1-D 2.3? Source_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	0
Total for D 2 Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ___ **3 or 4 = H** __X__ **1 or 2 = M** ____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
D 3.1. Does the wetland discharge directly (i.e., within 1 mi) to a stream, river, lake, or marine water that is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where an aquatic resource is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality (*answer YES if there is a TMDL for the basin in which the unit is found*)? Yes = 2 No = 0	0
Total for D 3 Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Value If score is: __X__ **2-4 = H** ____ **1 = M** ____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream degradation

D 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?

D 4.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: Wetland is a depression or flat depression with no surface water leaving it (no outlet) points = 4 Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet points = 2 Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch points = 1 Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 0	4
D 4.2. Depth of storage during wet periods: *Estimate the height of ponding above the bottom of the outlet. For wetlands with no outlet, measure from the surface of permanent water or if dry, the deepest part.* Marks of ponding are 3 ft or more above the surface or bottom of outlet points = 7 Marks of ponding between 2 ft to < 3 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 5 Marks are at least 0.5 ft to < 2 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 3 The wetland is a "headwater" wetland points = 3 Wetland is flat but has small depressions on the surface that trap water points = 1 Marks of ponding less than 0.5 ft (6 in) points = 0	0
D 4.3. Contribution of the wetland to storage in the watershed: *Estimate the ratio of the area of upstream basin contributing surface water to the wetland to the area of the wetland unit itself.* The area of the basin is less than 10 times the area of the unit points = 5 The area of the basin is 10 to 100 times the area of the unit points = 3 The area of the basin is more than 100 times the area of the unit points = 0 Entire wetland is in the Flats class points = 5	3
Total for D 4 Add the points in the boxes above	7

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ___ **12-16 = H** __X__ **6-11 = M** _____ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support hydrologic functions of the site?

D 5.1. Does the wetland receive stormwater discharges? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 5.2. Is >10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate excess runoff? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 5.3. Is more than 25% of the contributing basin of the wetland covered with intensive human land uses (residential at >1 residence/ac, urban, commercial, agriculture, etc.)? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
Total for D 5 Add the points in the boxes above	3

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: __X__ **3 = H** _____ **1 or 2 = M** _____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?

D 6.1. The unit is in a landscape that has flooding problems. *Choose the description that best matches conditions around the wetland unit being rated. Do not add points. Choose the highest score if more than one condition is met.* The wetland captures surface water that would otherwise flow down-gradient into areas where flooding has damaged human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds): • Flooding occurs in a sub-basin that is immediately down-gradient of unit. points = 2 • Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient. points = 1 Flooding from groundwater is an issue in the sub-basin. points = 1 The existing or potential outflow from the wetland is so constrained by human or natural conditions that the water stored by the wetland cannot reach areas that flood. *Explain why*_____ points = 0 There are no problems with flooding downstream of the wetland. points = 0	1
D 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? Yes = 2 No = 0	0
Total for D 6 Add the points in the boxes above	1

Rating of Value If score is: ___ **2-4 = H** __X__ **1 = M** _____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

RIVERINE AND FRESHWATER TIDAL FRINGE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

R 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
R 1.1. Area of surface depressions within the Riverine wetland that can trap sediments during a flooding event: Depressions cover >$^3/_4$ area of wetland — points = 8 Depressions cover > ½ area of wetland — points = 4 Depressions present but cover < ½ area of wetland — points = 2 No depressions present — points = 0	
R 1.2. Structure of plants in the wetland (areas with >90% cover at person height, **not** Cowardin classes) Trees or shrubs > $^2/_3$ area of the wetland — points = 8 Trees or shrubs > $^1/_3$ area of the wetland — points = 6 Herbaceous plants (> 6 in high) > $^2/_3$ area of the wetland — points = 6 Herbaceous plants (> 6 in high) > $^1/_3$ area of the wetland — points = 3 Trees, shrubs, and ungrazed herbaceous < $^1/_3$ area of the wetland — points = 0	
Total for R 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **12-16 = H 6-11 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
R 2.1. Is the wetland within an incorporated city or within its UGA? Yes = 2 No = 0	
R 2.2. Does the contributing basin to the wetland include a UGA or incorporated area? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.3. Does at least 10% of the contributing basin contain tilled fields, pastures, or forests that have been clearcut within the last 5 years? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.4. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.5. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions R 2.1-R 2.4 Other sources_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for R 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **3-6 = H 1 or 2 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
R 3.1. Is the wetland along a stream or river that is on the 303(d) list or on a tributary that drains to one within 1 mi? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 3.2. Is the wetland along a stream or river that has TMDL limits for nutrients, toxics, or pathogens? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? (*answer YES if there is a TMDL for the drainage in which the unit is found*) Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for R 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

RIVERINE AND FRESHWATER TIDAL FRINGE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that site functions to reduce flooding and stream erosion

R 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?		
R 4.1. Characteristics of the overbank storage the wetland provides: *Estimate the average width of the wetland perpendicular to the direction of the flow and the width of the stream or river channel (distance between banks). Calculate the ratio: (average width of wetland)/(average width of stream between banks).* If the ratio is more than 20 If the ratio is 10-20 If the ratio is 5-<10 If the ratio is 1-<5 If the ratio is < 1	 points = 9 points = 6 points = 4 points = 2 points = 1	
R 4.2. Characteristics of plants that slow down water velocities during floods: *Treat large woody debris as forest or shrub. Choose the points appropriate for the best description (polygons need to have >90% cover at person height. These are NOT Cowardin classes).* Forest or shrub for >1/3 area OR emergent plants > 2/3 area Forest or shrub for > 1/10 area OR emergent plants > 1/3 area Plants do not meet above criteria	 points = 7 points = 4 points = 0	
Total for R 4	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **12-16 = H 6-11 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?		
R 5.1. Is the stream or river adjacent to the wetland downcut?	Yes = 0 No = 1	
R 5.2. Does the up-gradient watershed include a UGA or incorporated area?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 5.3. Is the up-gradient stream or river controlled by dams?	Yes = 0 No = 1	
Total for R 5	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **3 = H 1 or 2 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?		
R 6.1. Distance to the nearest areas downstream that have flooding problems? *Choose the description that best fits the site*. The sub-basin immediately down-gradient of the wetland has flooding problems that result in damage to human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds) Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient No flooding problems anywhere downstream	 points = 2 points = 1 points = 0	
R 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan?	Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for R 6	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

LAKE FRINGE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

L 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
L 1.1. Average width of plants along the lakeshore *(use polygons of Cowardin classes)*: Plants are more than 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 6 Plants are more than 16 ft (5 m) wide and <33 ft — points = 3 Plants are more than 6 ft (2 m) wide and <16 ft — points = 1 Plants are less than 6 ft wide — points = 0	
L 1.2. Characteristics of the plants in the wetland: Choose the appropriate description that results in the highest points, and do not include any open water in your estimate of coverage. The herbaceous plants can be either the dominant form or as an understory in a shrub or forest community. *These are not Cowardin classes. Area of cover is total cover in the unit, but it can be in patches. Herbaceous does not include aquatic bed.* Cover of herbaceous plants is >90% of the vegetated area — points = 6 Cover of herbaceous plants is >$^{2}/_{3}$ of the vegetated area — points = 4 Cover of herbaceous plants is >$^{1}/_{3}$ of the vegetated area — points = 3 Other plants that are not aquatic bed > $^{2}/_{3}$ unit — points = 3 Other plants that are not aquatic bed in > $^{1}/_{3}$ vegetated area — points = 1 Aquatic bed plants and open water cover > $^{2}/_{3}$ of the unit — points = 0	
Total for L 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **8-12 = H 4-7 = M 0-3 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
L 2.1. Is the lake used by power boats? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of wetland unit on the upland side in land uses that generate pollutants? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 2.3. Does the lake have problems with algal blooms or excessive plant growth such as milfoil? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for L 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential: If score is: **2 or 3 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
L 3.1. Is the lake on the 303(d) list of degraded aquatic resources? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 3.2. Is the lake in a sub-basin where water quality is an issue (at least one aquatic resource in the basin is on the 303(d) list)? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? *Answer YES if there is a TMDL for the lake or basin in which the unit is found.* — Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for L 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

LAKE FRINGE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the wetland unit functions to reduce shoreline erosion

L 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce shoreline erosion?	
L 4.1. Distance along shore and average width of Cowardin classes along the lakeshore (**do not** include Aquatic bed): *Choose the highest scoring description that matches conditions in the wetland.*	
> ¾ of distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 6	
> ¾ of distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 6 ft (2 m) wide — points = 4	
> ¼ distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 4	
Plants are at least 6 ft (2 m) wide (any type except Aquatic bed) — points = 2	
Plants are less than 6 ft (2 m) wide (any type except Aquatic bed) — points = 0	

Rating of Site Potential: If score is:___**6 = M**_____**0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?		
L 5.1. Is the lake used by power boats with more than 10 hp?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 5.2. Is the fetch on the lake side of the unit at least 1 mile in distance?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for L 5	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is:___**2 = H**_____**1 = M**_____**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?	
L 6.1. Are there resources along the shore that can be impacted by erosion? If more than one resource is present, choose the one with the highest score.	
There are human structures or old growth/mature forests within 25 ft of OHWM of the shore in the unit — points = 2	
There are nature trails or other paths and recreational activities within 25 ft of OHWM — points = 1	
Other resources that could be impacted by erosion — points = 1	
There are no resources that can be impacted by erosion along the shores of the unit — points = 0	

Rating of Value: If score is:___**2 = H**_____**1 = M**_____**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

NOTES and FIELD OBSERVATIONS:

SLOPE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

S 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
S 1.1. Characteristics of the average slope of the wetland: *(a 1% slope has a 1 ft vertical drop in elevation for every 100 ft of horizontal distance*) Slope is 1% or less — points = 3 Slope is > 1%-2% — points = 2 Slope is > 2%-5% — points = 1 Slope is greater than 5% — points = 0	
S 1.2. The soil 2 in below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions)*: Yes = 3 No = 0	
S 1.3. Characteristics of the plants in the wetland that trap sediments and pollutants: Choose the points appropriate for the description that best fits the plants in the wetland. *Dense means you have trouble seeing the soil surface (>75% cover), and uncut means not grazed or mowed and plants are higher than 6 in.* Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > 90% of the wetland area — points = 6 Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > ½ of area — points = 3 Dense, woody, plants > ½ of area — points = 2 Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > ¼ of area — points = 1 Does not meet any of the criteria above for plants — points = 0	
Total for S 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **12 = H 6-11 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
S 2.1. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft on the uphill side of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 2.2. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in question S 2.1? Other sources_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for S 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **1-2 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
S 3.1. Does the wetland discharge directly (i.e., within 1 mi) to a stream, river, lake, or marine water that is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where water quality is an issue? *At least one aquatic resource in the basin is on the 303(d) list*. Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? *Answer YES if there is a TMDL for the basin in which unit is found.* Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for S 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

SLOPE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream erosion

S 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and stream erosion?	
S 4.1. Characteristics of plants that reduce the velocity of surface flows during storms: Choose the points appropriate for the description that best fits conditions in the wetland. *Stems of plants should be thick enough (usually > 1/8 in), or dense enough, to remain erect during surface flows.* Dense, uncut, **rigid** plants cover > 90% of the area of the wetland — points = 1 All other conditions — points = 0	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **___1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

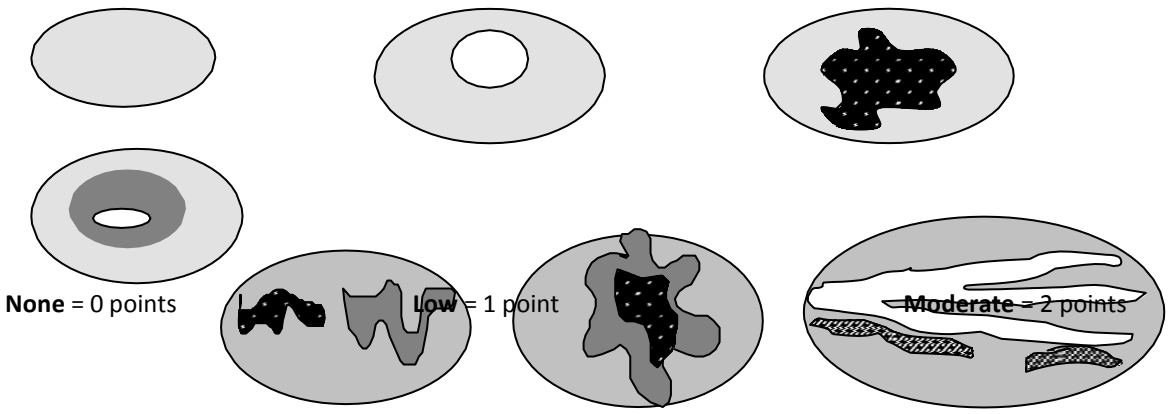
S 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?	
S 5.1. Is more than 25% of the area within 150 ft upslope of wetland in land uses or cover that generate excess surface runoff? Yes = 1 No = 0	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **___1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?	
S 6.1. Distance to the nearest areas downstream that have flooding problems: The sub-basin immediately down-gradient of site has flooding problems that result in damage to human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds) — points = 2 Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient — points = 1 No flooding problems anywhere downstream — points = 0	
S 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for S 6 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **___2-4 = H_____1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

NOTES and FIELD OBSERVATIONS:

These questions apply to wetlands of all HGM classes. **HABITAT FUNCTIONS** - Indicators that site functions to provide important habitat	
H 1.0. Does the site have the potential to provide habitat?	
H 1.1. Structure of plant community: *Indicators are Cowardin classes and strata within the Forested class.* Check the Cowardin plant classes in the wetland. *Up to 10 patches may be combined for each class to meet the threshold of ¼ ac or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac. Add the number of structures checked.* ____Aquatic bed — 4 structures or more: points = 4 __X__Emergent — 3 structures: points = 2 ____Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover) — 2 structures: points = 1 ____Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover) — 1 structure: points = 0 *If the unit has a Forested class, check if:* ____The Forested class has 3 out of 5 strata (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss/ground-cover) that each cover 20% within the Forested polygon	0
H 1.2. Hydroperiods Check the types of water regimes (hydroperiods) present within the wetland. The water regime has to cover more than 10% of the wetland or ¼ ac to count (*see text for descriptions of hydroperiods*). ____Permanently flooded or inundated — 4 or more types present: points = 3 __X__Seasonally flooded or inundated — 3 types present: points = 2 ____Occasionally flooded or inundated — 2 types present: points = 1 __X__Saturated only — 1 type present: points = 0 ____Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland ____Seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland ____**Lake Fringe wetland** — **2 points** ____**Freshwater tidal wetland** — **2 points**	1
H 1.3. Richness of plant species Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft^2. *Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species.* ***Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canadian thistle*** If you counted: > 19 species — points = 2 5 - 19 species — points = 1 < 5 species — points = 0	1
H 1.4. Interspersion of habitats Decide from the diagrams below whether interspersion among Cowardin plants classes (described in H 1.1), or the classes and unvegetated areas (can include open water or mudflats) is high, moderate, low, or none. *If you have four or more plant classes or three classes and open water, the rating is always high.*  **None** = 0 points **Low** = 1 point **Moderate** = 2 points All three diagrams	1

in this row are **HIGH** = 3points	

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. *The number of checks is the number of points.* ____Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in diameter and 6 ft long). ____Standing snags (dbh > 4 in) within the wetland ____Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) **and/or** overhanging plants extends at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) ____Stable steep banks of fine material that might be used by beaver or muskrat for denning (> 30 degree slope) OR signs of recent beaver activity are present *(cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed)* ____At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated *(structures for egg-laying by amphibians)* __X__Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (*see H 1.1 for list of strata*)	1
Total for H 1 Add the points in the boxes above	4

Rating of Site Potential If score is:___**15-18 = H**____**7-14 = M**__X__**0-6 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?	
H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include *only habitat that directly abuts wetland unit*). *Calculate:* % undisturbed habitat 0 **+** [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 2 **=** 2 % If total accessible habitat is: > 1/3 (33.3%) of 1km Polygon points = 3 20-33% of 1 km Polygon points = 2 10-19% of 1 km Polygon points = 1 < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	0
H 2.2. Undisturbed habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. *Calculate:* % undisturbed habitat 0 **+** [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 15 **=** 5 % Undisturbed habitat > 50% of Polygon points = 3 Undisturbed habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches points = 2 Undisturbed habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches points = 1 Undisturbed habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	0
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: If > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = (- 2) ≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity points = 0	-2
Total for H 2 Add the points in the boxes above	-2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is:___**4-6 = H**____**1-3 = M**__X__**< 1 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?

H 3.1. Does the site provide habitat for species valued in laws, regulations, or policies? *Choose only the highest score that applies to the wetland being rated.* Site meets ANY of the following criteria: points = 2 — It has 3 or more priority habitats within 100 m (see next page) — It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) — It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW priority species — It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources — It has been categorized as an important habitat site in a local or regional comprehensive plan, in a Shoreline Master Plan, or in a watershed plan Site has 1 or 2 priority habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m points = 1 Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = 0	0

Rating of Value If score is: ___**2 = H**_____**1 = M**__X__**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

WDFW Priority Habitats

Priority habitats listed by WDFW (see complete descriptions of WDFW priority habitats, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008. Priority Habitat and Species List. Olympia, Washington. 177 pp. http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf or access the list from here: http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/phs/list/)

Count how many of the following priority habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit: ***NOTE:*** *This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the priority habitat.*

— **Aspen Stands:** Pure or mixed stands of aspen greater than 1 ac (0.4 ha).

— **Biodiversity Areas and Corridors**: Areas of habitat that are relatively important to various species of native fish and wildlife (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report*).

— **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.

— **Old-growth/Mature forests:** Old-growth west of Cascade crest – Stands of at least 2 tree species, forming a multi-layered canopy with occasional small openings; with at least 8 trees/ac (20 trees/ha) > 32 in (81 cm) dbh or > 200 years of age. Mature forests – Stands with average diameters exceeding 21 in (53 cm) dbh; crown cover may be less than 100%; decay, decadence, numbers of snags, and quantity of large downed material is generally less than that found in old-growth; 80-200 years old west of the Cascade crest.

— **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report p. 158 – see web link above*).

— **Riparian**: The area adjacent to aquatic systems with flowing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.

— **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report p. 161 – see web link above*).

— **Instream:** The combination of physical, biological, and chemical processes and conditions that interact to provide functional life history requirements for instream fish and wildlife resources.

— **Nearshore**: Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore. (*full descriptions of habitats and the definition of relatively undisturbed are in WDFW report – see web link on previous page).*

— **Caves:** A naturally occurring cavity, recess, void, or system of interconnected passages under the earth in soils, rock, ice, or other geological formations and is large enough to contain a human.

— **Cliffs:** Greater than 25 ft (7.6 m) high and occurring below 5000 ft elevation.

— **Talus:** Homogenous areas of rock rubble ranging in average size 0.5 - 6.5 ft (0.15 - 2.0 m), composed of basalt, andesite, and/or sedimentary rock, including riprap slides and mine tailings. May be associated with cliffs.

— **Snags and Logs:** Trees are considered snags if they are dead or dying and exhibit sufficient decay characteristics to enable cavity excavation/use by wildlife. Priority snags have a diameter at breast height of > 20 in (51 cm) in western Washington and are > 6.5 ft (2 m) in height. Priority logs are > 12 in (30 cm) in diameter at the largest end, and > 20 ft (6 m) long.

Note: All vegetated wetlands are by definition a priority habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed elsewhere.

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type *Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.*	**Category**
SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? — The dominant water regime is tidal, — Vegetated, and — With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt Yes –Go to **SC 1.1** No= **Not an estuarine wetland**	
SC 1.1. Is the wetland within a National Wildlife Refuge, National Park, National Estuary Reserve, Natural Area Preserve, State Park or Educational, Environmental, or Scientific Reserve designated under WAC 332-30-151? Yes = **Category I** No - Go to **SC 1.2**	**Cat. I**
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? — The wetland is relatively undisturbed (has no diking, ditching, filling, cultivation, grazing, and has less than 10% cover of non-native plant species. (If non-native species are *Spartina*, see page 25) — At least ¾ of the landward edge of the wetland has a 100 ft buffer of shrub, forest, or un-grazed or un-mowed grassland. — The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. Yes = **Category I** No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** **Cat. II**
SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Has the WA Department of Natural Resources updated their website to include the list of Wetlands of High Conservation Value? Yes **–** Go to **SC 2.2** No **–** Go to **SC 2.3** SC 2.2. Is the wetland listed on the WDNR database as a Wetland of High Conservation Value? Yes **= Category I** No **= Not a WHCV** SC 2.3. Is the wetland in a Section/Township/Range that contains a Natural Heritage wetland? http://www1.dnr.wa.gov/nhp/refdesk/datasearch/wnhpwetlands.pdf Yes **– Contact WNHP/WDNR and go to SC 2.4** No **= Not a WHCV** SC 2.4. Has WDNR identified the wetland within the S/T/R as a Wetland of High Conservation Value and listed it on their website? Yes **= Category I** No **= Not a WHCV**	**Cat. I**
SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? *Use the key below.* ***If you answer YES you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** SC 3.1. Does an area within the wetland unit have organic soil horizons, either peats or mucks, that compose 16 in or more of the first 32 in of the soil profile? Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** No – Go to **SC 3.2** SC 3.2. Does an area within the wetland unit have organic soils, either peats or mucks, that are less than 16 in deep over bedrock, or an impermeable hardpan such as clay or volcanic ash, or that are floating on top of a lake or pond? Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** No = **Is not a bog** SC 3.3. Does an area with peats or mucks have more than 70% cover of mosses at ground level, AND at least a 30% cover of plant species listed in Table 4? Yes = **Is a Category I bog** No – Go to **SC 3.4** **NOTE:** If you are uncertain about the extent of mosses in the understory, you may substitute that criterion by measuring the pH of the water that seeps into a hole dug at least 16 in deep. If the pH is less than 5.0 and the plant species in Table 4 are present, the wetland is a bog. SC 3.4. Is an area with peats or mucks forested (> 30% cover) with Sitka spruce, subalpine fir, western red cedar, western hemlock, lodgepole pine, quaking aspen, Engelmann spruce, or western white pine, AND any of the species (or combination of species) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy? Yes = **Is a Category I bog** No **= Is not a bog**	**Cat. I**

SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands Does the wetland have at least 1 contiguous acre of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as priority habitats? ***If you answer YES you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** — **Old-growth forests** (west of Cascade crest): Stands of at least two tree species, forming a multi-layered canopy with occasional small openings; with at least 8 trees/ac (20 trees/ha) that are at least 200 years of age OR have a diameter at breast height (dbh) of 32 in (81 cm) or more. — **Mature forests** (west of the Cascade Crest): Stands where the largest trees are 80- 200 years old OR the species that make up the canopy have an average diameter (dbh) exceeding 21 in (53 cm). Yes = **Category I** No = **Not a forested wetland for this section**	**Cat. I**
SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon? — The wetland lies in a depression adjacent to marine waters that is wholly or partially separated from marine waters by sandbanks, gravel banks, shingle, or, less frequently, rocks — The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (> 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon *(needs to be measured near the bottom)* Yes – Go to **SC 5.1** No = **Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon** SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions? — The wetland is relatively undisturbed (has no diking, ditching, filling, cultivation, grazing), and has less than 20% cover of aggressive, opportunistic plant species (see list of species on p. 100). — At least ¾ of the landward edge of the wetland has a 100 ft buffer of shrub, forest, or un-grazed or un-mowed grassland. — The wetland is larger than $^{1}/_{10}$ ac (4350 ft^2) Yes = **Category I** No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** **Cat. II**
SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? ***If you answer yes you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.*** In practical terms that means the following geographic areas: — Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103 — Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105 — Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 Yes – Go to **SC 6.1** No = **not an interdunal wetland for rating** SC 6.1. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger and scores an 8 or 9 for the habitat functions on the form (rates H,H,H or H,H,M for the three aspects of function)? Yes = **Category I** No – Go to **SC 6.2** SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger? Yes = **Category II** No – Go to **SC 6.3** SC 6.3. Is the unit between 0.1 and 1 ac, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is between 0.1 and 1 ac? Yes = **Category III** No = **Category IV**	**Cat I** **Cat. II** **Cat. III** **Cat. IV**
Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form	

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): Wetland 5 Date of site visit: 8/10/17 Rated by Rob Fritz Trained by Ecology? X Yes ___ No Date of training ___

HGM Class used for rating Depressional Wetland has multiple HGM classes? ___ Y ___ N X

NOTE: **Form is not complete without the figures requested** *(figures can be combined)*.

Source of base aerial photo/map Google Earth

OVERALL WETLAND CATEGORY III (based on functions X or special characteristics ___)

1. Category of wetland based on FUNCTIONS

___ **Category I** – Total score = 23 - 27

___ **Category II** – Total score = 20 - 22

X **Category III** – Total score = 16 - 19

___ **Category IV** – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
	Circle the appropriate ratings			
Site Potential	H **M** L	H M **L**	H M **L**	
Landscape Potential	**H** M L	**H** M L	H M **L**	
Value	**H** M L	**H** M L	H M **L**	**TOTAL**
Score Based on Ratings	8	5	3	16

Score for each function based on three ratings

(order of ratings is not important)

9 = H,H,H

8 = H,H,M

7 = H,H,L

7 = H,M,M

6 = H,M,L

6 = M,M,M

2. Category based on SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS of wetland

CHARACTERISTIC	CATEGORY
Estuarine	**I** **II**
Wetland of High Conservation Value	**I**

Bog	**I**
Mature Forest	**I**
Old Growth Forest	**I**
Coastal Lagoon	**I II**
Interdunal	**I II III IV**
None of the above	**__**

Maps and figures required to answer questions correctly for Western Washington

Depressional Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	D 1.3, H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	D 1.4, H 1.2	
Location of outlet (*can be added to map of hydroperiods)*	D 1.1, D 4.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	D 2.2, D 5.2	
Map of the contributing basin	D 4.3, D 5.3	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	D 3.1, D 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	D 3.3	

Riverine Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Ponded depressions	R 1.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	R 2.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	
Width of unit vs. width of stream *(can be added to another figure)*	R 4.1	
Map of the contributing basin	R 2.2, R 2.3, R 5.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	R 3.1	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	R 3.2, R 3.3	

Lake Fringe Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	L 1.1, L 4.1, H 1.1, H 1.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	L 1.2	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	L 2.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	L 3.1, L 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	L 3.3	

Slope Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Plant cover of **dense** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	S 1.3	
Plant cover of **dense, rigid** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants (*can be added to figure above)*	S 4.1	
Boundary of 150 ft buffer (can be added to another figure)	S 2.1, S 5.1	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	

Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	S 3.1, S 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	S 3.3	

HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

For questions 1-7, the criteria described must apply to the entire unit being rated.

If the hydrologic criteria listed in each question do not apply to the entire unit being rated, you probably have a unit with multiple HGM classes. In this case, identify which hydrologic criteria in questions 1-7 apply, and go to Question 8.

1. Are the water levels in the entire unit usually controlled by tides except during floods?

NO – go to 2 **YES** – the wetland class is **Tidal Fringe** – go to 1.1

1.1 Is the salinity of the water during periods of annual low flow below 0.5 ppt (parts per thousand)?

NO – Saltwater Tidal Fringe (Estuarine) **YES – Freshwater Tidal Fringe**
*If your wetland can be classified as a Freshwater Tidal Fringe use the forms for **Riverine** wetlands. If it is Saltwater Tidal Fringe it is an **Estuarine** wetland and is not scored. This method **cannot** be used to score functions for estuarine wetlands.*

2. The entire wetland unit is flat and precipitation is the only source (>90%) of water to it. Groundwater and surface water runoff are NOT sources of water to the unit.

NO – go to 3 **YES** – The wetland class is **Flats**
*If your wetland can be classified as a Flats wetland, use the form for **Depressional** wetlands.*

3. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?
___The vegetated part of the wetland is on the shores of a body of permanent open water (without any plants on the surface at any time of the year) at least 20 ac (8 ha) in size;
___At least 30% of the open water area is deeper than 6.6 ft (2 m).

NO – go to 4 **YES –** The wetland class is **Lake Fringe** (Lacustrine Fringe)

4. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?
___The wetland is on a slope (*slope can be very gradual*),

___The water flows through the wetland in one direction (unidirectional) and usually comes from seeps. It may flow subsurface, as sheetflow, or in a swale without distinct banks,
___The water leaves the wetland **without being impounded**.

NO – go to 5 **YES –** The wetland class is **Slope**

NOTE: Surface water does not pond in these type of wetlands except occasionally in very small and shallow depressions or behind hummocks (depressions are usually <3 ft diameter and less than 1 ft deep).

5. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?
___The unit is in a valley, or stream channel, where it gets inundated by overbank flooding from that stream or river,

___The overbank flooding occurs at least once every 2 years.

NO – go to 6 **YES** – The wetland class is **Riverine**

NOTE: The Riverine unit can contain depressions that are filled with water when the river is not flooding

6. Is the entire wetland unit in a topographic depression in which water ponds, or is saturated to the surface, at some time during the year? *This means that any outlet, if present, is higher than the interior of the wetland.*

NO – go to 7 **YES** – The wetland class is **Depressional**

7. Is the entire wetland unit located in a very flat area with no obvious depression and no overbank flooding? The unit does not pond surface water more than a few inches. The unit seems to be maintained by high groundwater in the area. The wetland may be ditched, but has no obvious natural outlet.

NO – go to 8 **YES** – The wetland class is **Depressional**

8. Your wetland unit seems to be difficult to classify and probably contains several different HGM classes. For example, seeps at the base of a slope may grade into a riverine floodplain, or a small stream within a Depressional wetland has a zone of flooding along its sides. GO BACK AND IDENTIFY WHICH OF THE HYDROLOGIC REGIMES DESCRIBED IN QUESTIONS 1-7 APPLY TO DIFFERENT AREAS IN THE UNIT (make a rough sketch to help you decide). Use the following table to identify the appropriate class to use for the rating system if you have several HGM classes present within the wetland unit being scored.

   NOTE: Use this table only if the class that is recommended in the second column represents 10% or more of the total area of the wetland unit being rated. If the area of the HGM class listed in column 2 is less than 10% of the unit; classify the wetland using the class that represents more than 90% of the total area.

HGM classes within the wetland unit being rated	HGM class to use in rating
Slope + Riverine	Riverine
Slope + Depressional	Depressional
Slope + Lake Fringe	Lake Fringe
Depressional + Riverine along stream within boundary of depression	Depressional
Depressional + Lake Fringe	Depressional
Riverine + Lake Fringe	Riverine
Salt Water Tidal Fringe and any other class of freshwater wetland	Treat as ESTUARINE

*If you are still unable to determine which of the above criteria apply to your wetland, or if you have **more than 2 HGM classes** within a wetland boundary, classify the wetland as Depressional for the rating.*

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

D 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
D 1.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: Wetland is a depression or flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key) with no surface water leaving it (no outlet). points = 3 Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet. points = 2 Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 1 Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch. points = 1	2
D 1.2. The soil 2 in below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions)*. Yes = 4 No = 0	0
D 1.3. Characteristics and distribution of persistent plants (Emergent, Scrub-shrub, and/or Forested Cowardin classes): Wetland has persistent, ungrazed, plants > 95% of area points = 5 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed, plants > ½ of area points = 3 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > $^1/_{10}$ of area points = 1 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants < $^1/_{10}$ of area points = 0	3
D 1.4. Characteristics of seasonal ponding or inundation: *This is the area that is ponded for at least 2 months. See description in manual.* Area seasonally ponded is > ½ total area of wetland points = 4 Area seasonally ponded is > ¼ total area of wetland points = 2 Area seasonally ponded is < ¼ total area of wetland points = 0	4
Total for D 1 Add the points in the boxes above	9

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ___ **12-16 = H** __X__ **6-11 = M** ____ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
D 2.1. Does the wetland unit receive stormwater discharges? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 2.3. Are there septic systems within 250 ft of the wetland? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 2.4. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions D 2.1-D 2.3? Source_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	1
Total for D 2 Add the points in the boxes above	4

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: __X__ **3 or 4 = H** ____ **1 or 2 = M** ____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
D 3.1. Does the wetland discharge directly (i.e., within 1 mi) to a stream, river, lake, or marine water that is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where an aquatic resource is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality (*answer YES if there is a TMDL for the basin in which the unit is found*)? Yes = 2 No = 0	0
Total for D 3 Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Value If score is: __X__ **2-4 = H** ____ **1 = M** ____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream degradation

D 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?

D 4.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: Wetland is a depression or flat depression with no surface water leaving it (no outlet) points = 4 Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet points = 2 Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch points = 1 Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 0	2
D 4.2. Depth of storage during wet periods: *Estimate the height of ponding above the bottom of the outlet. For wetlands with no outlet, measure from the surface of permanent water or if dry, the deepest part.* Marks of ponding are 3 ft or more above the surface or bottom of outlet points = 7 Marks of ponding between 2 ft to < 3 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 5 Marks are at least 0.5 ft to < 2 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 3 The wetland is a "headwater" wetland points = 3 Wetland is flat but has small depressions on the surface that trap water points = 1 Marks of ponding less than 0.5 ft (6 in) points = 0	3
D 4.3. Contribution of the wetland to storage in the watershed: *Estimate the ratio of the area of upstream basin contributing surface water to the wetland to the area of the wetland unit itself.* The area of the basin is less than 10 times the area of the unit points = 5 The area of the basin is 10 to 100 times the area of the unit points = 3 The area of the basin is more than 100 times the area of the unit points = 0 Entire wetland is in the Flats class points = 5	0
Total for D 4 Add the points in the boxes above	5

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ___ **12-16 = H** ____ **6-11 = M** __X__ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support hydrologic functions of the site?

D 5.1. Does the wetland receive stormwater discharges? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 5.2. Is >10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate excess runoff? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 5.3. Is more than 25% of the contributing basin of the wetland covered with intensive human land uses (residential at >1 residence/ac, urban, commercial, agriculture, etc.)? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
Total for D 5 Add the points in the boxes above	3

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: __X__ **3 = H** ____ **1 or 2 = M** ____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?

D 6.1. The unit is in a landscape that has flooding problems. *Choose the description that best matches conditions around the wetland unit being rated. Do not add points. Choose the highest score if more than one condition is met.* The wetland captures surface water that would otherwise flow down-gradient into areas where flooding has damaged human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds): • Flooding occurs in a sub-basin that is immediately down-gradient of unit. points = 2 • Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient. points = 1 Flooding from groundwater is an issue in the sub-basin. points = 1 The existing or potential outflow from the wetland is so constrained by human or natural conditions that the water stored by the wetland cannot reach areas that flood. *Explain why*_____ points = 0 There are no problems with flooding downstream of the wetland. points = 0	0
D 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? Yes = 2 No = 0	0
Total for D 6 Add the points in the boxes above	0

Rating of Value If score is: ___ **2-4 = H** ____ **1 = M** __X__ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

RIVERINE AND FRESHWATER TIDAL FRINGE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

R 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
R 1.1. Area of surface depressions within the Riverine wetland that can trap sediments during a flooding event: Depressions cover >$^3/_4$ area of wetland points = 8 Depressions cover > ½ area of wetland points = 4 Depressions present but cover < ½ area of wetland points = 2 No depressions present points = 0	
R 1.2. Structure of plants in the wetland (areas with >90% cover at person height, **not** Cowardin classes) Trees or shrubs > $^2/_3$ area of the wetland points = 8 Trees or shrubs > $^1/_3$ area of the wetland points = 6 Herbaceous plants (> 6 in high) > $^2/_3$ area of the wetland points = 6 Herbaceous plants (> 6 in high) > $^1/_3$ area of the wetland points = 3 Trees, shrubs, and ungrazed herbaceous < $^1/_3$ area of the wetland points = 0	
Total for R 1 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **12-16 = H 6-11 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
R 2.1. Is the wetland within an incorporated city or within its UGA? Yes = 2 No = 0	
R 2.2. Does the contributing basin to the wetland include a UGA or incorporated area? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.3. Does at least 10% of the contributing basin contain tilled fields, pastures, or forests that have been clearcut within the last 5 years? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.4. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.5. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions R 2.1-R 2.4 Other sources_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for R 2 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **3-6 = H 1 or 2 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
R 3.1. Is the wetland along a stream or river that is on the 303(d) list or on a tributary that drains to one within 1 mi? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 3.2. Is the wetland along a stream or river that has TMDL limits for nutrients, toxics, or pathogens? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? (*answer YES if there is a TMDL for the drainage in which the unit is found*) Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for R 3 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

RIVERINE AND FRESHWATER TIDAL FRINGE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that site functions to reduce flooding and stream erosion

R 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?		
R 4.1. Characteristics of the overbank storage the wetland provides: *Estimate the average width of the wetland perpendicular to the direction of the flow and the width of the stream or river channel (distance between banks). Calculate the ratio: (average width of wetland)/(average width of stream between banks).* If the ratio is more than 20 If the ratio is 10-20 If the ratio is 5-<10 If the ratio is 1-<5 If the ratio is < 1	 points = 9 points = 6 points = 4 points = 2 points = 1	
R 4.2. Characteristics of plants that slow down water velocities during floods: *Treat large woody debris as forest or shrub. Choose the points appropriate for the best description (polygons need to have >90% cover at person height. These are NOT Cowardin classes).* Forest or shrub for >1/3 area OR emergent plants > 2/3 area Forest or shrub for > 1/10 area OR emergent plants > 1/3 area Plants do not meet above criteria	 points = 7 points = 4 points = 0	
Total for R 4	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **12-16 = H 6-11 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?		
R 5.1. Is the stream or river adjacent to the wetland downcut?	Yes = 0 No = 1	
R 5.2. Does the up-gradient watershed include a UGA or incorporated area?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 5.3. Is the up-gradient stream or river controlled by dams?	Yes = 0 No = 1	
Total for R 5	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **3 = H 1 or 2 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?		
R 6.1. Distance to the nearest areas downstream that have flooding problems? *Choose the description that best fits the site*. The sub-basin immediately down-gradient of the wetland has flooding problems that result in damage to human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds) Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient No flooding problems anywhere downstream	 points = 2 points = 1 points = 0	
R 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan?	Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for R 6	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

LAKE FRINGE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

L 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
L 1.1. Average width of plants along the lakeshore *(use polygons of Cowardin classes)*: Plants are more than 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 6 Plants are more than 16 ft (5 m) wide and <33 ft — points = 3 Plants are more than 6 ft (2 m) wide and <16 ft — points = 1 Plants are less than 6 ft wide — points = 0	
L 1.2. Characteristics of the plants in the wetland: Choose the appropriate description that results in the highest points, and do not include any open water in your estimate of coverage. The herbaceous plants can be either the dominant form or as an understory in a shrub or forest community. *These are not Cowardin classes. Area of cover is total cover in the unit, but it can be in patches. Herbaceous does not include aquatic bed.* Cover of herbaceous plants is >90% of the vegetated area — points = 6 Cover of herbaceous plants is >$^{2}/_{3}$ of the vegetated area — points = 4 Cover of herbaceous plants is >$^{1}/_{3}$ of the vegetated area — points = 3 Other plants that are not aquatic bed > $^{2}/_{3}$ unit — points = 3 Other plants that are not aquatic bed in > $^{1}/_{3}$ vegetated area — points = 1 Aquatic bed plants and open water cover > $^{2}/_{3}$ of the unit — points = 0	
Total for L 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **8-12 = H 4-7 = M 0-3 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
L 2.1. Is the lake used by power boats? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of wetland unit on the upland side in land uses that generate pollutants? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 2.3. Does the lake have problems with algal blooms or excessive plant growth such as milfoil? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for L 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential: If score is: **2 or 3 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
L 3.1. Is the lake on the 303(d) list of degraded aquatic resources? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 3.2. Is the lake in a sub-basin where water quality is an issue (at least one aquatic resource in the basin is on the 303(d) list)? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? *Answer YES if there is a TMDL for the lake or basin in which the unit is found.* — Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for L 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

LAKE FRINGE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the wetland unit functions to reduce shoreline erosion

L 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce shoreline erosion?	
L 4.1. Distance along shore and average width of Cowardin classes along the lakeshore (**do not** include Aquatic bed): *Choose the highest scoring description that matches conditions in the wetland.*	
> ¾ of distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 6	
> ¾ of distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 6 ft (2 m) wide — points = 4	
> ¼ distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 4	
Plants are at least 6 ft (2 m) wide (any type except Aquatic bed) — points = 2	
Plants are less than 6 ft (2 m) wide (any type except Aquatic bed) — points = 0	

Rating of Site Potential: If score is:___**6 = M**_____**0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?		
L 5.1. Is the lake used by power boats with more than 10 hp?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 5.2. Is the fetch on the lake side of the unit at least 1 mile in distance?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for L 5	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is:___**2 = H**_____**1 = M**_____**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?	
L 6.1. Are there resources along the shore that can be impacted by erosion? If more than one resource is present, choose the one with the highest score.	
There are human structures or old growth/mature forests within 25 ft of OHWM of the shore in the unit — points = 2	
There are nature trails or other paths and recreational activities within 25 ft of OHWM — points = 1	
Other resources that could be impacted by erosion — points = 1	
There are no resources that can be impacted by erosion along the shores of the unit — points = 0	

Rating of Value: If score is:___**2 = H**_____**1 = M**_____**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

NOTES and FIELD OBSERVATIONS:

SLOPE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

S 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
S 1.1. Characteristics of the average slope of the wetland: *(a 1% slope has a 1 ft vertical drop in elevation for every 100 ft of horizontal distance*) Slope is 1% or less — points = 3 Slope is > 1%-2% — points = 2 Slope is > 2%-5% — points = 1 Slope is greater than 5% — points = 0	
S 1.2. The soil 2 in below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions)*: Yes = 3 No = 0	
S 1.3. Characteristics of the plants in the wetland that trap sediments and pollutants: Choose the points appropriate for the description that best fits the plants in the wetland. *Dense means you have trouble seeing the soil surface (>75% cover), and uncut means not grazed or mowed and plants are higher than 6 in.* Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > 90% of the wetland area — points = 6 Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > ½ of area — points = 3 Dense, woody, plants > ½ of area — points = 2 Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > ¼ of area — points = 1 Does not meet any of the criteria above for plants — points = 0	
Total for S 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **12 = H 6-11 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
S 2.1. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft on the uphill side of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 2.2. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in question S 2.1? Other sources_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for S 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **1-2 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
S 3.1. Does the wetland discharge directly (i.e., within 1 mi) to a stream, river, lake, or marine water that is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where water quality is an issue? *At least one aquatic resource in the basin is on the 303(d) list*. Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? *Answer YES if there is a TMDL for the basin in which unit is found.* Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for S 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

SLOPE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream erosion

S 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and stream erosion?	
S 4.1. Characteristics of plants that reduce the velocity of surface flows during storms: Choose the points appropriate for the description that best fits conditions in the wetland. *Stems of plants should be thick enough (usually > 1/8 in), or dense enough, to remain erect during surface flows.* Dense, uncut, **rigid** plants cover > 90% of the area of the wetland — points = 1 All other conditions — points = 0	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **___1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?	
S 5.1. Is more than 25% of the area within 150 ft upslope of wetland in land uses or cover that generate excess surface runoff? Yes = 1 No = 0	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **___1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?	
S 6.1. Distance to the nearest areas downstream that have flooding problems: The sub-basin immediately down-gradient of site has flooding problems that result in damage to human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds) — points = 2 Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient — points = 1 No flooding problems anywhere downstream — points = 0	
S 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for S 6 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **___2-4 = H_____1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

NOTES and FIELD OBSERVATIONS:

These questions apply to wetlands of all HGM classes.

HABITAT FUNCTIONS - Indicators that site functions to provide important habitat

H 1.0. Does the site have the potential to provide habitat?

H 1.1. Structure of plant community: *Indicators are Cowardin classes and strata within the Forested class.* Check the Cowardin plant classes in the wetland. *Up to 10 patches may be combined for each class to meet the threshold of ¼ ac or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac. Add the number of structures checked.*

____Aquatic bed	4 structures or more: points = 4
____Emergent	3 structures: points = 2
____Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover)	2 structures: points = 1
_X_ Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover)	1 structure: points = 0

If the unit has a Forested class, check if:

_X_ The Forested class has 3 out of 5 strata (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss/ground-cover) that each cover 20% within the Forested polygon

1

H 1.2. Hydroperiods

Check the types of water regimes (hydroperiods) present within the wetland. The water regime has to cover more than 10% of the wetland or ¼ ac to count (*see text for descriptions of hydroperiods*).

_X_ Permanently flooded or inundated	4 or more types present: points = 3
_X_ Seasonally flooded or inundated	3 types present: points = 2
____Occasionally flooded or inundated	2 types present: points = 1
_X_ Saturated only	1 type present: points = 0
____Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland	
____Seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland	
____**Lake Fringe wetland**	**2 points**
____**Freshwater tidal wetland**	**2 points**

2

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft^2.

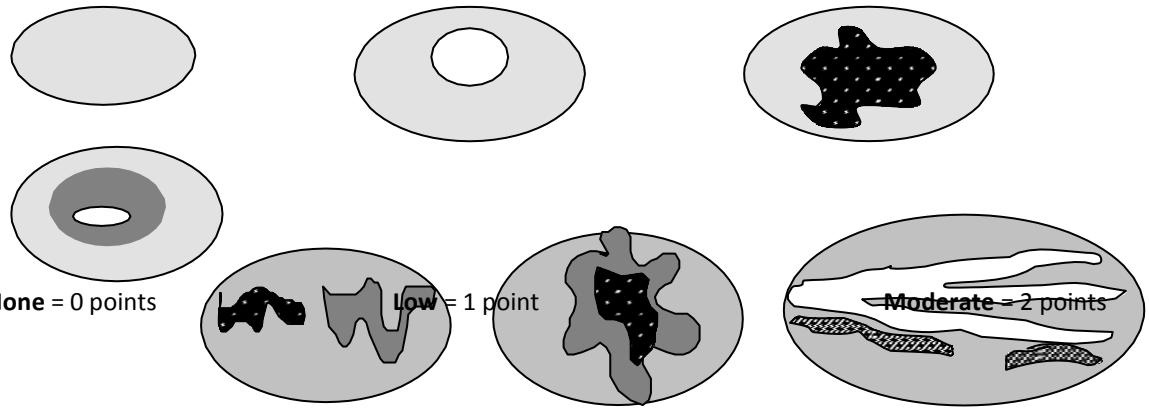
Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. ***Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canadian thistle***

If you counted: > 19 species	points = 2
5 - 19 species	points = 1
< 5 species	points = 0

1

H 1.4. Interspersion of habitats

Decide from the diagrams below whether interspersion among Cowardin plants classes (described in H 1.1), or the classes and unvegetated areas (can include open water or mudflats) is high, moderate, low, or none. *If you have four or more plant classes or three classes and open water, the rating is always high.*



None = 0 points **Low** = 1 point **Moderate** = 2 points

All three diagrams

0

in this row are **HIGH** = 3points	

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. *The number of checks is the number of points.* X Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in diameter and 6 ft long). ____Standing snags (dbh > 4 in) within the wetland ____Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) **and/or** overhanging plants extends at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) ____Stable steep banks of fine material that might be used by beaver or muskrat for denning (> 30 degree slope) OR signs of recent beaver activity are present *(cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed)* ____At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated *(structures for egg-laying by amphibians)* ____Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (*see H 1.1 for list of strata*)	1
Total for H 1 Add the points in the boxes above	1

Rating of Site Potential If score is:___**15-18 = H**_____**7-14 = M**__X__**0-6 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?	
H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include *only habitat ~~that d~~irectly abuts wetland unit*). ___ _____ *Calculate:* % undisturbed habitat 0 **+** [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 2 **=** 2 % If total accessible habitat is: > 1/3 (33.3%) of 1 km Polygon points = 3 20-33% of 1 km Polygon points = 2 10-19% of 1 km Polygon points = 1 < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	0
H 2.2. Undisturbed habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. *Calculate:* % undisturbed habitat 3 **+** [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 5 **=** 5 % Undisturbed habitat > 50% of Polygon points = 3 Undisturbed habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches points = 2 Undisturbed habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches points = 1 Undisturbed habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	0
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: If > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = (- 2) ≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity points = 0	-2
Total for H 2 Add the points in the boxes above	-2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is:___**4-6 = H**_____**1-3 = M**__X__**< 1 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?

H 3.1. Does the site provide habitat for species valued in laws, regulations, or policies? *Choose only the highest score that applies to the wetland being rated.* Site meets ANY of the following criteria: points = 2 — It has 3 or more priority habitats within 100 m (see next page) — It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) — It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW priority species — It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources — It has been categorized as an important habitat site in a local or regional comprehensive plan, in a Shoreline Master Plan, or in a watershed plan Site has 1 or 2 priority habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m points = 1 Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = 0	0

Rating of Value If score is: ___**2 = H**_____**1 = M**__X__**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

WDFW Priority Habitats

Priority habitats listed by WDFW (see complete descriptions of WDFW priority habitats, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008. Priority Habitat and Species List. Olympia, Washington. 177 pp. http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf or access the list from here: http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/phs/list/)

Count how many of the following priority habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit: ***NOTE:*** *This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the priority habitat.*

— **Aspen Stands:** Pure or mixed stands of aspen greater than 1 ac (0.4 ha).

— **Biodiversity Areas and Corridors**: Areas of habitat that are relatively important to various species of native fish and wildlife (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report*).

— **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.

— **Old-growth/Mature forests:** Old-growth west of Cascade crest – Stands of at least 2 tree species, forming a multi-layered canopy with occasional small openings; with at least 8 trees/ac (20 trees/ha) > 32 in (81 cm) dbh or > 200 years of age. Mature forests – Stands with average diameters exceeding 21 in (53 cm) dbh; crown cover may be less than 100%; decay, decadence, numbers of snags, and quantity of large downed material is generally less than that found in old-growth; 80-200 years old west of the Cascade crest.

— **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report p. 158 – see web link above*).

— **Riparian**: The area adjacent to aquatic systems with flowing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.

— **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report p. 161 – see web link above*).

— **Instream:** The combination of physical, biological, and chemical processes and conditions that interact to provide functional life history requirements for instream fish and wildlife resources.

— **Nearshore**: Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore. (*full descriptions of habitats and the definition of relatively undisturbed are in WDFW report – see web link on previous page).*

— **Caves:** A naturally occurring cavity, recess, void, or system of interconnected passages under the earth in soils, rock, ice, or other geological formations and is large enough to contain a human.

— **Cliffs:** Greater than 25 ft (7.6 m) high and occurring below 5000 ft elevation.

— **Talus:** Homogenous areas of rock rubble ranging in average size 0.5 - 6.5 ft (0.15 - 2.0 m), composed of basalt, andesite, and/or sedimentary rock, including riprap slides and mine tailings. May be associated with cliffs.

— **Snags and Logs:** Trees are considered snags if they are dead or dying and exhibit sufficient decay characteristics to enable cavity excavation/use by wildlife. Priority snags have a diameter at breast height of > 20 in (51 cm) in western Washington and are > 6.5 ft (2 m) in height. Priority logs are > 12 in (30 cm) in diameter at the largest end, and > 20 ft (6 m) long.

Note: All vegetated wetlands are by definition a priority habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed elsewhere.

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type *Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.*	**Category**
SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? — The dominant water regime is tidal, — Vegetated, and — With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt Yes –Go to **SC 1.1** No= **Not an estuarine wetland**	
SC 1.1. Is the wetland within a National Wildlife Refuge, National Park, National Estuary Reserve, Natural Area Preserve, State Park or Educational, Environmental, or Scientific Reserve designated under WAC 332-30-151? Yes = **Category I** No - Go to **SC 1.2**	**Cat. I**
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? — The wetland is relatively undisturbed (has no diking, ditching, filling, cultivation, grazing, and has less than 10% cover of non-native plant species. (If non-native species are *Spartina*, see page 25) — At least ¾ of the landward edge of the wetland has a 100 ft buffer of shrub, forest, or un-grazed or un-mowed grassland. — The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. Yes = **Category I** No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** **Cat. II**
SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Has the WA Department of Natural Resources updated their website to include the list of Wetlands of High Conservation Value? Yes **–** Go to **SC 2.2** No **–** Go to **SC 2.3** SC 2.2. Is the wetland listed on the WDNR database as a Wetland of High Conservation Value? Yes **= Category I** No **= Not a WHCV** SC 2.3. Is the wetland in a Section/Township/Range that contains a Natural Heritage wetland? http://www1.dnr.wa.gov/nhp/refdesk/datasearch/wnhpwetlands.pdf Yes **– Contact WNHP/WDNR and go to SC 2.4** No **= Not a WHCV** SC 2.4. Has WDNR identified the wetland within the S/T/R as a Wetland of High Conservation Value and listed it on their website? Yes **= Category I** No **= Not a WHCV**	**Cat. I**
SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? *Use the key below.* ***If you answer YES you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** SC 3.1. Does an area within the wetland unit have organic soil horizons, either peats or mucks, that compose 16 in or more of the first 32 in of the soil profile? Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** No – Go to **SC 3.2** SC 3.2. Does an area within the wetland unit have organic soils, either peats or mucks, that are less than 16 in deep over bedrock, or an impermeable hardpan such as clay or volcanic ash, or that are floating on top of a lake or pond? Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** No = **Is not a bog** SC 3.3. Does an area with peats or mucks have more than 70% cover of mosses at ground level, AND at least a 30% cover of plant species listed in Table 4? Yes = **Is a Category I bog** No – Go to **SC 3.4** **NOTE:** If you are uncertain about the extent of mosses in the understory, you may substitute that criterion by measuring the pH of the water that seeps into a hole dug at least 16 in deep. If the pH is less than 5.0 and the plant species in Table 4 are present, the wetland is a bog. SC 3.4. Is an area with peats or mucks forested (> 30% cover) with Sitka spruce, subalpine fir, western red cedar, western hemlock, lodgepole pine, quaking aspen, Engelmann spruce, or western white pine, AND any of the species (or combination of species) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy? Yes = **Is a Category I bog** No **= Is not a bog**	**Cat. I**

SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands Does the wetland have at least 1 contiguous acre of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as priority habitats? ***If you answer YES you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** — **Old-growth forests** (west of Cascade crest): Stands of at least two tree species, forming a multi-layered canopy with occasional small openings; with at least 8 trees/ac (20 trees/ha) that are at least 200 years of age OR have a diameter at breast height (dbh) of 32 in (81 cm) or more. — **Mature forests** (west of the Cascade Crest): Stands where the largest trees are 80- 200 years old OR the species that make up the canopy have an average diameter (dbh) exceeding 21 in (53 cm). Yes = **Category I** No = **Not a forested wetland for this section**	**Cat. I**
SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon? — The wetland lies in a depression adjacent to marine waters that is wholly or partially separated from marine waters by sandbanks, gravel banks, shingle, or, less frequently, rocks — The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (> 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon *(needs to be measured near the bottom)* Yes – Go to **SC 5.1** No = **Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon** SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions? — The wetland is relatively undisturbed (has no diking, ditching, filling, cultivation, grazing), and has less than 20% cover of aggressive, opportunistic plant species (see list of species on p. 100). — At least ¾ of the landward edge of the wetland has a 100 ft buffer of shrub, forest, or un-grazed or un-mowed grassland. — The wetland is larger than $^{1}/_{10}$ ac (4350 ft^2) Yes = **Category I** No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** **Cat. II**
SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? ***If you answer yes you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.*** In practical terms that means the following geographic areas: — Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103 — Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105 — Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 Yes – Go to **SC 6.1** No = **not an interdunal wetland for rating** SC 6.1. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger and scores an 8 or 9 for the habitat functions on the form (rates H,H,H or H,H,M for the three aspects of function)? Yes = **Category I** No – Go to **SC 6.2** SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger? Yes = **Category II** No – Go to **SC 6.3** SC 6.3. Is the unit between 0.1 and 1 ac, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is between 0.1 and 1 ac? Yes = **Category III** No = **Category IV**	**Cat I** **Cat. II** **Cat. III** **Cat. IV**
Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form	

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): Wetland 5 Date of site visit: 8/10/17 Rated by Rob Fritz Trained by Ecology? X Yes ___ No Date of training ___

HGM Class used for rating Depressional Wetland has multiple HGM classes? ___ Y ___ N X

NOTE: **Form is not complete without the figures requested** *(figures can be combined)*.

Source of base aerial photo/map Google Earth

OVERALL WETLAND CATEGORY III (based on functions X or special characteristics ___)

1. Category of wetland based on FUNCTIONS

___ **Category I** – Total score = 23 - 27

___ **Category II** – Total score = 20 - 22

X **Category III** – Total score = 16 - 19

___ **Category IV** – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
	Circle the appropriate ratings			
Site Potential	H **M** L	H M **L**	H M **L**	
Landscape Potential	**H** M L	**H** M L	H M **L**	
Value	**H** M L	**H** M L	H M **L**	**TOTAL**
Score Based on Ratings	8	5	3	16

Score for each function based on three ratings

(order of ratings is not important)

9 = H,H,H

8 = H,H,M

7 = H,H,L

7 = H,M,M

6 = H,M,L

6 = M,M,M

2. Category based on SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS of wetland

CHARACTERISTIC	CATEGORY
Estuarine	**I** **II**
Wetland of High Conservation Value	**I**

Bog	**I**
Mature Forest	**I**
Old Growth Forest	**I**
Coastal Lagoon	**I II**
Interdunal	**I II III IV**
None of the above	**__**

Maps and figures required to answer questions correctly for Western Washington

Depressional Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	D 1.3, H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	D 1.4, H 1.2	
Location of outlet (*can be added to map of hydroperiods)*	D 1.1, D 4.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	D 2.2, D 5.2	
Map of the contributing basin	D 4.3, D 5.3	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	D 3.1, D 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	D 3.3	

Riverine Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Ponded depressions	R 1.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	R 2.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	
Width of unit vs. width of stream *(can be added to another figure)*	R 4.1	
Map of the contributing basin	R 2.2, R 2.3, R 5.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	R 3.1	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	R 3.2, R 3.3	

Lake Fringe Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	L 1.1, L 4.1, H 1.1, H 1.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	L 1.2	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	L 2.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	L 3.1, L 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	L 3.3	

Slope Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Plant cover of **dense** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	S 1.3	
Plant cover of **dense, rigid** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants (*can be added to figure above)*	S 4.1	
Boundary of 150 ft buffer (can be added to another figure)	S 2.1, S 5.1	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	

Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	S 3.1, S 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	S 3.3	

HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

For questions 1-7, the criteria described must apply to the entire unit being rated.

If the hydrologic criteria listed in each question do not apply to the entire unit being rated, you probably have a unit with multiple HGM classes. In this case, identify which hydrologic criteria in questions 1-7 apply, and go to Question 8.

1. Are the water levels in the entire unit usually controlled by tides except during floods?

NO – go to 2 **YES** – the wetland class is **Tidal Fringe** – go to 1.1

1.1 Is the salinity of the water during periods of annual low flow below 0.5 ppt (parts per thousand)?

NO – Saltwater Tidal Fringe (Estuarine) **YES – Freshwater Tidal Fringe**
*If your wetland can be classified as a Freshwater Tidal Fringe use the forms for **Riverine** wetlands. If it is Saltwater Tidal Fringe it is an **Estuarine** wetland and is not scored. This method **cannot** be used to score functions for estuarine wetlands.*

2. The entire wetland unit is flat and precipitation is the only source (>90%) of water to it. Groundwater and surface water runoff are NOT sources of water to the unit.

NO – go to 3 **YES** – The wetland class is **Flats**
*If your wetland can be classified as a Flats wetland, use the form for **Depressional** wetlands.*

3. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?
___The vegetated part of the wetland is on the shores of a body of permanent open water (without any plants on the surface at any time of the year) at least 20 ac (8 ha) in size;
___At least 30% of the open water area is deeper than 6.6 ft (2 m).

NO – go to 4 **YES –** The wetland class is **Lake Fringe** (Lacustrine Fringe)

4. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?
___The wetland is on a slope (*slope can be very gradual*),

___The water flows through the wetland in one direction (unidirectional) and usually comes from seeps. It may flow subsurface, as sheetflow, or in a swale without distinct banks,
___The water leaves the wetland **without being impounded**.

NO – go to 5 **YES –** The wetland class is **Slope**

NOTE: Surface water does not pond in these type of wetlands except occasionally in very small and shallow depressions or behind hummocks (depressions are usually <3 ft diameter and less than 1 ft deep).

5. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?
___The unit is in a valley, or stream channel, where it gets inundated by overbank flooding from that stream or river,

___The overbank flooding occurs at least once every 2 years.

NO – go to 6 **YES** – The wetland class is **Riverine**

NOTE: The Riverine unit can contain depressions that are filled with water when the river is not flooding

6. Is the entire wetland unit in a topographic depression in which water ponds, or is saturated to the surface, at some time during the year? *This means that any outlet, if present, is higher than the interior of the wetland.*

NO – go to 7 **YES** – The wetland class is **Depressional**

7. Is the entire wetland unit located in a very flat area with no obvious depression and no overbank flooding? The unit does not pond surface water more than a few inches. The unit seems to be maintained by high groundwater in the area. The wetland may be ditched, but has no obvious natural outlet.

NO – go to 8 **YES** – The wetland class is **Depressional**

8. Your wetland unit seems to be difficult to classify and probably contains several different HGM classes. For example, seeps at the base of a slope may grade into a riverine floodplain, or a small stream within a Depressional wetland has a zone of flooding along its sides. GO BACK AND IDENTIFY WHICH OF THE HYDROLOGIC REGIMES DESCRIBED IN QUESTIONS 1-7 APPLY TO DIFFERENT AREAS IN THE UNIT (make a rough sketch to help you decide). Use the following table to identify the appropriate class to use for the rating system if you have several HGM classes present within the wetland unit being scored.

   NOTE: Use this table only if the class that is recommended in the second column represents 10% or more of the total area of the wetland unit being rated. If the area of the HGM class listed in column 2 is less than 10% of the unit; classify the wetland using the class that represents more than 90% of the total area.

HGM classes within the wetland unit being rated	HGM class to use in rating
Slope + Riverine	Riverine
Slope + Depressional	Depressional
Slope + Lake Fringe	Lake Fringe
Depressional + Riverine along stream within boundary of depression	Depressional
Depressional + Lake Fringe	Depressional
Riverine + Lake Fringe	Riverine
Salt Water Tidal Fringe and any other class of freshwater wetland	Treat as ESTUARINE

*If you are still unable to determine which of the above criteria apply to your wetland, or if you have **more than 2 HGM classes** within a wetland boundary, classify the wetland as Depressional for the rating.*

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

D 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
D 1.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: Wetland is a depression or flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key) with no surface water leaving it (no outlet). points = 3 Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet. points = 2 Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 1 Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch. points = 1	2
D 1.2. The soil 2 in below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions)*. Yes = 4 No = 0	0
D 1.3. Characteristics and distribution of persistent plants (Emergent, Scrub-shrub, and/or Forested Cowardin classes): Wetland has persistent, ungrazed, plants > 95% of area points = 5 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed, plants > ½ of area points = 3 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > $^1/_{10}$ of area points = 1 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants < $^1/_{10}$ of area points = 0	3
D 1.4. Characteristics of seasonal ponding or inundation: *This is the area that is ponded for at least 2 months. See description in manual.* Area seasonally ponded is > ½ total area of wetland points = 4 Area seasonally ponded is > ¼ total area of wetland points = 2 Area seasonally ponded is < ¼ total area of wetland points = 0	4
Total for D 1 Add the points in the boxes above	9

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ___ **12-16 = H** __X__ **6-11 = M** ____ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
D 2.1. Does the wetland unit receive stormwater discharges? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 2.3. Are there septic systems within 250 ft of the wetland? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 2.4. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions D 2.1-D 2.3? Source_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	1
Total for D 2 Add the points in the boxes above	4

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: __X__ **3 or 4 = H** ____ **1 or 2 = M** ____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
D 3.1. Does the wetland discharge directly (i.e., within 1 mi) to a stream, river, lake, or marine water that is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where an aquatic resource is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality (*answer YES if there is a TMDL for the basin in which the unit is found*)? Yes = 2 No = 0	0
Total for D 3 Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Value If score is: __X__ **2-4 = H** ____ **1 = M** ____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream degradation

D 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?

D 4.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: Wetland is a depression or flat depression with no surface water leaving it (no outlet) points = 4 Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet points = 2 Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch points = 1 Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 0	2
D 4.2. Depth of storage during wet periods: *Estimate the height of ponding above the bottom of the outlet. For wetlands with no outlet, measure from the surface of permanent water or if dry, the deepest part.* Marks of ponding are 3 ft or more above the surface or bottom of outlet points = 7 Marks of ponding between 2 ft to < 3 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 5 Marks are at least 0.5 ft to < 2 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 3 The wetland is a "headwater" wetland points = 3 Wetland is flat but has small depressions on the surface that trap water points = 1 Marks of ponding less than 0.5 ft (6 in) points = 0	3
D 4.3. Contribution of the wetland to storage in the watershed: *Estimate the ratio of the area of upstream basin contributing surface water to the wetland to the area of the wetland unit itself.* The area of the basin is less than 10 times the area of the unit points = 5 The area of the basin is 10 to 100 times the area of the unit points = 3 The area of the basin is more than 100 times the area of the unit points = 0 Entire wetland is in the Flats class points = 5	0
Total for D 4 Add the points in the boxes above	5

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ___ **12-16 = H** ____ **6-11 = M** __X__ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support hydrologic functions of the site?

D 5.1. Does the wetland receive stormwater discharges? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 5.2. Is >10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate excess runoff? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 5.3. Is more than 25% of the contributing basin of the wetland covered with intensive human land uses (residential at >1 residence/ac, urban, commercial, agriculture, etc.)? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
Total for D 5 Add the points in the boxes above	3

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: __X__ **3 = H** ____ **1 or 2 = M** ____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?

D 6.1. The unit is in a landscape that has flooding problems. *Choose the description that best matches conditions around the wetland unit being rated. Do not add points. Choose the highest score if more than one condition is met.* The wetland captures surface water that would otherwise flow down-gradient into areas where flooding has damaged human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds): • Flooding occurs in a sub-basin that is immediately down-gradient of unit. points = 2 • Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient. points = 1 Flooding from groundwater is an issue in the sub-basin. points = 1 The existing or potential outflow from the wetland is so constrained by human or natural conditions that the water stored by the wetland cannot reach areas that flood. *Explain why*_____ points = 0 There are no problems with flooding downstream of the wetland. points = 0	0
D 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? Yes = 2 No = 0	0
Total for D 6 Add the points in the boxes above	0

Rating of Value If score is: ___ **2-4 = H** ____ **1 = M** __X__ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

RIVERINE AND FRESHWATER TIDAL FRINGE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

R 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
R 1.1. Area of surface depressions within the Riverine wetland that can trap sediments during a flooding event: Depressions cover >$^3/_4$ area of wetland points = 8 Depressions cover > ½ area of wetland points = 4 Depressions present but cover < ½ area of wetland points = 2 No depressions present points = 0	
R 1.2. Structure of plants in the wetland (areas with >90% cover at person height, **not** Cowardin classes) Trees or shrubs > $^2/_3$ area of the wetland points = 8 Trees or shrubs > $^1/_3$ area of the wetland points = 6 Herbaceous plants (> 6 in high) > $^2/_3$ area of the wetland points = 6 Herbaceous plants (> 6 in high) > $^1/_3$ area of the wetland points = 3 Trees, shrubs, and ungrazed herbaceous < $^1/_3$ area of the wetland points = 0	
Total for R 1 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **12-16 = H 6-11 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
R 2.1. Is the wetland within an incorporated city or within its UGA? Yes = 2 No = 0	
R 2.2. Does the contributing basin to the wetland include a UGA or incorporated area? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.3. Does at least 10% of the contributing basin contain tilled fields, pastures, or forests that have been clearcut within the last 5 years? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.4. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.5. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions R 2.1-R 2.4 Other sources_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for R 2 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **3-6 = H 1 or 2 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
R 3.1. Is the wetland along a stream or river that is on the 303(d) list or on a tributary that drains to one within 1 mi? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 3.2. Is the wetland along a stream or river that has TMDL limits for nutrients, toxics, or pathogens? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? (*answer YES if there is a TMDL for the drainage in which the unit is found*) Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for R 3 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

RIVERINE AND FRESHWATER TIDAL FRINGE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that site functions to reduce flooding and stream erosion

R 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?		
R 4.1. Characteristics of the overbank storage the wetland provides: *Estimate the average width of the wetland perpendicular to the direction of the flow and the width of the stream or river channel (distance between banks). Calculate the ratio: (average width of wetland)/(average width of stream between banks).* If the ratio is more than 20 If the ratio is 10-20 If the ratio is 5-<10 If the ratio is 1-<5 If the ratio is < 1	 points = 9 points = 6 points = 4 points = 2 points = 1	
R 4.2. Characteristics of plants that slow down water velocities during floods: *Treat large woody debris as forest or shrub. Choose the points appropriate for the best description (polygons need to have >90% cover at person height. These are NOT Cowardin classes).* Forest or shrub for >1/3 area OR emergent plants > 2/3 area Forest or shrub for > 1/10 area OR emergent plants > 1/3 area Plants do not meet above criteria	 points = 7 points = 4 points = 0	
Total for R 4	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **12-16 = H 6-11 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?		
R 5.1. Is the stream or river adjacent to the wetland downcut?	Yes = 0 No = 1	
R 5.2. Does the up-gradient watershed include a UGA or incorporated area?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 5.3. Is the up-gradient stream or river controlled by dams?	Yes = 0 No = 1	
Total for R 5	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **3 = H 1 or 2 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?		
R 6.1. Distance to the nearest areas downstream that have flooding problems? *Choose the description that best fits the site*. The sub-basin immediately down-gradient of the wetland has flooding problems that result in damage to human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds) Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient No flooding problems anywhere downstream	 points = 2 points = 1 points = 0	
R 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan?	Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for R 6	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

LAKE FRINGE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

L 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
L 1.1. Average width of plants along the lakeshore *(use polygons of Cowardin classes)*: Plants are more than 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 6 Plants are more than 16 ft (5 m) wide and <33 ft — points = 3 Plants are more than 6 ft (2 m) wide and <16 ft — points = 1 Plants are less than 6 ft wide — points = 0	
L 1.2. Characteristics of the plants in the wetland: Choose the appropriate description that results in the highest points, and do not include any open water in your estimate of coverage. The herbaceous plants can be either the dominant form or as an understory in a shrub or forest community. *These are not Cowardin classes. Area of cover is total cover in the unit, but it can be in patches. Herbaceous does not include aquatic bed.* Cover of herbaceous plants is >90% of the vegetated area — points = 6 Cover of herbaceous plants is >$^{2}/_{3}$ of the vegetated area — points = 4 Cover of herbaceous plants is >$^{1}/_{3}$ of the vegetated area — points = 3 Other plants that are not aquatic bed > $^{2}/_{3}$ unit — points = 3 Other plants that are not aquatic bed in > $^{1}/_{3}$ vegetated area — points = 1 Aquatic bed plants and open water cover > $^{2}/_{3}$ of the unit — points = 0	
Total for L 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **8-12 = H 4-7 = M 0-3 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
L 2.1. Is the lake used by power boats? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of wetland unit on the upland side in land uses that generate pollutants? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 2.3. Does the lake have problems with algal blooms or excessive plant growth such as milfoil? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for L 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential: If score is: **2 or 3 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
L 3.1. Is the lake on the 303(d) list of degraded aquatic resources? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 3.2. Is the lake in a sub-basin where water quality is an issue (at least one aquatic resource in the basin is on the 303(d) list)? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? *Answer YES if there is a TMDL for the lake or basin in which the unit is found.* — Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for L 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

LAKE FRINGE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the wetland unit functions to reduce shoreline erosion

L 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce shoreline erosion?	
L 4.1. Distance along shore and average width of Cowardin classes along the lakeshore (**do not** include Aquatic bed): *Choose the highest scoring description that matches conditions in the wetland.*	
> ¾ of distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 6	
> ¾ of distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 6 ft (2 m) wide — points = 4	
> ¼ distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 4	
Plants are at least 6 ft (2 m) wide (any type except Aquatic bed) — points = 2	
Plants are less than 6 ft (2 m) wide (any type except Aquatic bed) — points = 0	

Rating of Site Potential: If score is:___**6 = M**_____**0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?		
L 5.1. Is the lake used by power boats with more than 10 hp?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 5.2. Is the fetch on the lake side of the unit at least 1 mile in distance?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for L 5	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is:___**2 = H**_____**1 = M**_____**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?	
L 6.1. Are there resources along the shore that can be impacted by erosion? If more than one resource is present, choose the one with the highest score.	
There are human structures or old growth/mature forests within 25 ft of OHWM of the shore in the unit — points = 2	
There are nature trails or other paths and recreational activities within 25 ft of OHWM — points = 1	
Other resources that could be impacted by erosion — points = 1	
There are no resources that can be impacted by erosion along the shores of the unit — points = 0	

Rating of Value: If score is:___**2 = H**_____**1 = M**_____**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

NOTES and FIELD OBSERVATIONS:

SLOPE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

S 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
S 1.1. Characteristics of the average slope of the wetland: *(a 1% slope has a 1 ft vertical drop in elevation for every 100 ft of horizontal distance*) Slope is 1% or less points = 3 Slope is > 1%-2% points = 2 Slope is > 2%-5% points = 1 Slope is greater than 5% points = 0	
S 1.2. The soil 2 in below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions)*: Yes = 3 No = 0	
S 1.3. Characteristics of the plants in the wetland that trap sediments and pollutants: Choose the points appropriate for the description that best fits the plants in the wetland. *Dense means you have trouble seeing the soil surface (>75% cover), and uncut means not grazed or mowed and plants are higher than 6 in.* Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > 90% of the wetland area points = 6 Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > ½ of area points = 3 Dense, woody, plants > ½ of area points = 2 Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > ¼ of area points = 1 Does not meet any of the criteria above for plants points = 0	
Total for S 1 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **12 = H 6-11 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
S 2.1. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft on the uphill side of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 2.2. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in question S 2.1? Other sources_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for S 2 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **1-2 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
S 3.1. Does the wetland discharge directly (i.e., within 1 mi) to a stream, river, lake, or marine water that is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where water quality is an issue? *At least one aquatic resource in the basin is on the 303(d) list*. Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? *Answer YES if there is a TMDL for the basin in which unit is found.* Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for S 3 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

SLOPE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream erosion

S 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and stream erosion?	
S 4.1. Characteristics of plants that reduce the velocity of surface flows during storms: Choose the points appropriate for the description that best fits conditions in the wetland. *Stems of plants should be thick enough (usually > 1/8 in), or dense enough, to remain erect during surface flows.* Dense, uncut, **rigid** plants cover > 90% of the area of the wetland — points = 1 All other conditions — points = 0	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **___1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?	
S 5.1. Is more than 25% of the area within 150 ft upslope of wetland in land uses or cover that generate excess surface runoff? Yes = 1 No = 0	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **___1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?	
S 6.1. Distance to the nearest areas downstream that have flooding problems: The sub-basin immediately down-gradient of site has flooding problems that result in damage to human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds) — points = 2 Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient — points = 1 No flooding problems anywhere downstream — points = 0	
S 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for S 6 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **___2-4 = H_____1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

NOTES and FIELD OBSERVATIONS:

These questions apply to wetlands of all HGM classes.

HABITAT FUNCTIONS - Indicators that site functions to provide important habitat

H 1.0. Does the site have the potential to provide habitat?

H 1.1. Structure of plant community: *Indicators are Cowardin classes and strata within the Forested class.* Check the Cowardin plant classes in the wetland. *Up to 10 patches may be combined for each class to meet the threshold of ¼ ac or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac. Add the number of structures checked.*

____Aquatic bed	4 structures or more: points = 4
____Emergent	3 structures: points = 2
____Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover)	2 structures: points = 1
_X_ Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover)	1 structure: points = 0

If the unit has a Forested class, check if:

_X_ The Forested class has 3 out of 5 strata (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss/ground-cover) that each cover 20% within the Forested polygon

1

H 1.2. Hydroperiods

Check the types of water regimes (hydroperiods) present within the wetland. The water regime has to cover more than 10% of the wetland or ¼ ac to count (*see text for descriptions of hydroperiods*).

_X_ Permanently flooded or inundated	4 or more types present: points = 3
_X_ Seasonally flooded or inundated	3 types present: points = 2
____Occasionally flooded or inundated	2 types present: points = 1
_X_ Saturated only	1 type present: points = 0
____Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland	
____Seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland	
____**Lake Fringe wetland**	**2 points**
____**Freshwater tidal wetland**	**2 points**

2

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft^2.

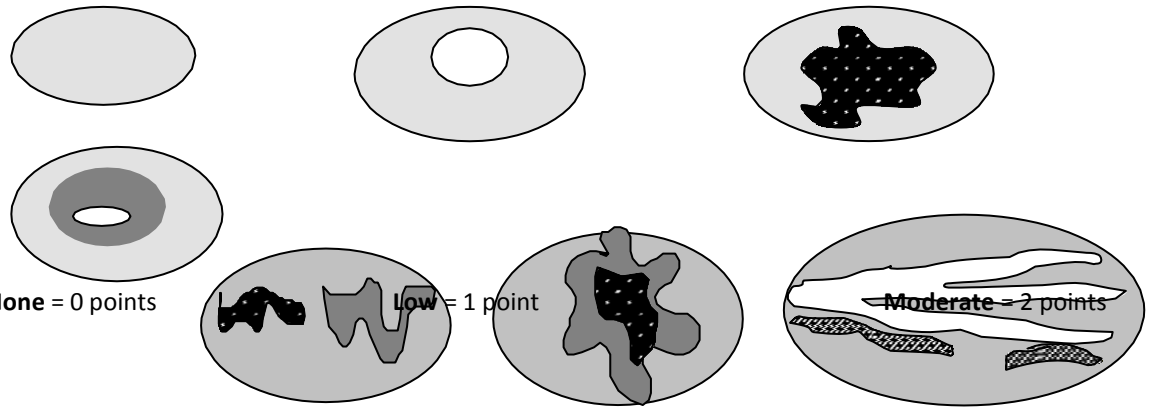
Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. ***Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canadian thistle***

If you counted: > 19 species	points = 2
5 - 19 species	points = 1
< 5 species	points = 0

1

H 1.4. Interspersion of habitats

Decide from the diagrams below whether interspersion among Cowardin plants classes (described in H 1.1), or the classes and unvegetated areas (can include open water or mudflats) is high, moderate, low, or none. *If you have four or more plant classes or three classes and open water, the rating is always high.*



None = 0 points **Low** = 1 point **Moderate** = 2 points

All three diagrams

0

in this row are **HIGH** = 3points	

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. *The number of checks is the number of points.* X Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in diameter and 6 ft long). ____Standing snags (dbh > 4 in) within the wetland ____Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) **and/or** overhanging plants extends at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) ____Stable steep banks of fine material that might be used by beaver or muskrat for denning (> 30 degree slope) OR signs of recent beaver activity are present *(cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed)* ____At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated *(structures for egg-laying by amphibians)* ____Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (*see H 1.1 for list of strata*)	1
Total for H 1 Add the points in the boxes above	1

Rating of Site Potential If score is:___**15-18 = H**_____**7-14 = M**__X__**0-6 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?	
H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include *only habitat that directly abuts wetland unit*). *Calculate:* % undisturbed habitat 0 **+** [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 2 **=** 2 % If total accessible habitat is: > 1/3 (33.3%) of 1 km Polygon points = 3 20-33% of 1 km Polygon points = 2 10-19% of 1 km Polygon points = 1 < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	0
H 2.2. Undisturbed habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. *Calculate:* % undisturbed habitat 3 **+** [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 5 **=** 5 % Undisturbed habitat > 50% of Polygon points = 3 Undisturbed habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches points = 2 Undisturbed habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches points = 1 Undisturbed habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	0
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: If > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = (- 2) ≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity points = 0	-2
Total for H 2 Add the points in the boxes above	-2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is:___**4-6 = H**_____**1-3 = M**__X__**< 1 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?

H 3.1. Does the site provide habitat for species valued in laws, regulations, or policies? *Choose only the highest score that applies to the wetland being rated.* Site meets ANY of the following criteria: points = 2 — It has 3 or more priority habitats within 100 m (see next page) — It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) — It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW priority species — It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources — It has been categorized as an important habitat site in a local or regional comprehensive plan, in a Shoreline Master Plan, or in a watershed plan Site has 1 or 2 priority habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m points = 1 Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = 0	0

Rating of Value If score is: ___ **2 = H** ____ **1 = M** __X__ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

WDFW Priority Habitats

Priority habitats listed by WDFW (see complete descriptions of WDFW priority habitats, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008. Priority Habitat and Species List. Olympia, Washington. 177 pp. http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf or access the list from here: http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/phs/list/)

Count how many of the following priority habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit: ***NOTE:*** *This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the priority habitat.*

— **Aspen Stands:** Pure or mixed stands of aspen greater than 1 ac (0.4 ha).

— **Biodiversity Areas and Corridors**: Areas of habitat that are relatively important to various species of native fish and wildlife (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report*).

— **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.

— **Old-growth/Mature forests:** Old-growth west of Cascade crest – Stands of at least 2 tree species, forming a multi-layered canopy with occasional small openings; with at least 8 trees/ac (20 trees/ha) > 32 in (81 cm) dbh or > 200 years of age. Mature forests – Stands with average diameters exceeding 21 in (53 cm) dbh; crown cover may be less than 100%; decay, decadence, numbers of snags, and quantity of large downed material is generally less than that found in old-growth; 80-200 years old west of the Cascade crest.

— **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report p. 158 – see web link above*).

— **Riparian**: The area adjacent to aquatic systems with flowing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.

— **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report p. 161 – see web link above*).

— **Instream:** The combination of physical, biological, and chemical processes and conditions that interact to provide functional life history requirements for instream fish and wildlife resources.

— **Nearshore**: Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore. (*full descriptions of habitats and the definition of relatively undisturbed are in WDFW report – see web link on previous page).*

— **Caves:** A naturally occurring cavity, recess, void, or system of interconnected passages under the earth in soils, rock, ice, or other geological formations and is large enough to contain a human.

— **Cliffs:** Greater than 25 ft (7.6 m) high and occurring below 5000 ft elevation.

— **Talus:** Homogenous areas of rock rubble ranging in average size 0.5 - 6.5 ft (0.15 - 2.0 m), composed of basalt, andesite, and/or sedimentary rock, including riprap slides and mine tailings. May be associated with cliffs.

— **Snags and Logs:** Trees are considered snags if they are dead or dying and exhibit sufficient decay characteristics to enable cavity excavation/use by wildlife. Priority snags have a diameter at breast height of > 20 in (51 cm) in western Washington and are > 6.5 ft (2 m) in height. Priority logs are > 12 in (30 cm) in diameter at the largest end, and > 20 ft (6 m) long.

Note: All vegetated wetlands are by definition a priority habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed elsewhere.

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type *Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.*	**Category**
SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? — The dominant water regime is tidal, — Vegetated, and — With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt Yes –Go to **SC 1.1** No= **Not an estuarine wetland**	
SC 1.1. Is the wetland within a National Wildlife Refuge, National Park, National Estuary Reserve, Natural Area Preserve, State Park or Educational, Environmental, or Scientific Reserve designated under WAC 332-30-151? Yes = **Category I** No - Go to **SC 1.2**	**Cat. I**
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? — The wetland is relatively undisturbed (has no diking, ditching, filling, cultivation, grazing, and has less than 10% cover of non-native plant species. (If non-native species are *Spartina*, see page 25) — At least ¾ of the landward edge of the wetland has a 100 ft buffer of shrub, forest, or un-grazed or un-mowed grassland. — The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. Yes = **Category I** No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** **Cat. II**
SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Has the WA Department of Natural Resources updated their website to include the list of Wetlands of High Conservation Value? Yes **–** Go to **SC 2.2** No **–** Go to **SC 2.3** SC 2.2. Is the wetland listed on the WDNR database as a Wetland of High Conservation Value? Yes **= Category I** No **= Not a WHCV** SC 2.3. Is the wetland in a Section/Township/Range that contains a Natural Heritage wetland? http://www1.dnr.wa.gov/nhp/refdesk/datasearch/wnhpwetlands.pdf Yes **– Contact WNHP/WDNR and go to SC 2.4** No **= Not a WHCV** SC 2.4. Has WDNR identified the wetland within the S/T/R as a Wetland of High Conservation Value and listed it on their website? Yes **= Category I** No **= Not a WHCV**	**Cat. I**
SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? *Use the key below.* ***If you answer YES you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** SC 3.1. Does an area within the wetland unit have organic soil horizons, either peats or mucks, that compose 16 in or more of the first 32 in of the soil profile? Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** No – Go to **SC 3.2** SC 3.2. Does an area within the wetland unit have organic soils, either peats or mucks, that are less than 16 in deep over bedrock, or an impermeable hardpan such as clay or volcanic ash, or that are floating on top of a lake or pond? Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** No = **Is not a bog** SC 3.3. Does an area with peats or mucks have more than 70% cover of mosses at ground level, AND at least a 30% cover of plant species listed in Table 4? Yes = **Is a Category I bog** No – Go to **SC 3.4** **NOTE:** If you are uncertain about the extent of mosses in the understory, you may substitute that criterion by measuring the pH of the water that seeps into a hole dug at least 16 in deep. If the pH is less than 5.0 and the plant species in Table 4 are present, the wetland is a bog. SC 3.4. Is an area with peats or mucks forested (> 30% cover) with Sitka spruce, subalpine fir, western red cedar, western hemlock, lodgepole pine, quaking aspen, Engelmann spruce, or western white pine, AND any of the species (or combination of species) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy? Yes = **Is a Category I bog** No **= Is not a bog**	**Cat. I**

SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands Does the wetland have at least 1 contiguous acre of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as priority habitats? ***If you answer YES you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** — **Old-growth forests** (west of Cascade crest): Stands of at least two tree species, forming a multi-layered canopy with occasional small openings; with at least 8 trees/ac (20 trees/ha) that are at least 200 years of age OR have a diameter at breast height (dbh) of 32 in (81 cm) or more. — **Mature forests** (west of the Cascade Crest): Stands where the largest trees are 80- 200 years old OR the species that make up the canopy have an average diameter (dbh) exceeding 21 in (53 cm). Yes = **Category I** No = **Not a forested wetland for this section**	**Cat. I**
SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon? — The wetland lies in a depression adjacent to marine waters that is wholly or partially separated from marine waters by sandbanks, gravel banks, shingle, or, less frequently, rocks — The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (> 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon *(needs to be measured near the bottom)* Yes – Go to **SC 5.1** No = **Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon** SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions? — The wetland is relatively undisturbed (has no diking, ditching, filling, cultivation, grazing), and has less than 20% cover of aggressive, opportunistic plant species (see list of species on p. 100). — At least ¾ of the landward edge of the wetland has a 100 ft buffer of shrub, forest, or un-grazed or un-mowed grassland. — The wetland is larger than $^{1}/_{10}$ ac (4350 ft^2) Yes = **Category I** No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** **Cat. II**
SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? ***If you answer yes you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.*** In practical terms that means the following geographic areas: — Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103 — Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105 — Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 Yes – Go to **SC 6.1** No = **not an interdunal wetland for rating** SC 6.1. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger and scores an 8 or 9 for the habitat functions on the form (rates H,H,H or H,H,M for the three aspects of function)? Yes = **Category I** No – Go to **SC 6.2** SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger? Yes = **Category II** No – Go to **SC 6.3** SC 6.3. Is the unit between 0.1 and 1 ac, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is between 0.1 and 1 ac? Yes = **Category III** No = **Category IV**	**Cat I** **Cat. II** **Cat. III** **Cat. IV**
Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form	

Wetland name or number 6

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): Wetland 6 Date of site visit: 8/10/17 Rated by Rob Fritz Trained by Ecology? X Yes ___ No Date of training ___

HGM Class used for rating Depressional Wetland has multiple HGM classes? ___ Y ___ N X

NOTE: **Form is not complete without the figures requested** *(figures can be combined)*.

Source of base aerial photo/map Google Earth

OVERALL WETLAND CATEGORY III (based on functions X or special characteristics ___)

1. Category of wetland based on FUNCTIONS

___ **Category I** – Total score = 23 - 27

___ **Category II** – Total score = 20 - 22

X **Category III** – Total score = 16 - 19

___ **Category IV** – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
	Circle the appropriate ratings			
Site Potential	H **M** L	H **M** L	H **M** L	
Landscape Potential	H **M** L	H **M** L	H **M** L	
Value	H **M** L	H **M** L	H **M** L	**TOTAL**
Score Based on Ratings	7	7	5	19

Score for each function based on three ratings

(order of ratings is not important)

9 = H,H,H

8 = H,H,M

7 = H,H,L

7 = H,M,M

6 = H,M,L

6 = M,M,M

2. Category based on SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS of wetland

CHARACTERISTIC	CATEGORY
Estuarine	**I** **II**
Wetland of High Conservation Value	**I**

Bog	**I**
Mature Forest	**I**
Old Growth Forest	**I**
Coastal Lagoon	**I II**
Interdunal	**I II III IV**
None of the above	**—**

Wetland name or number 6

Maps and figures required to answer questions correctly for Western Washington

Depressional Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	D 1.3, H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	D 1.4, H 1.2	
Location of outlet (*can be added to map of hydroperiods)*	D 1.1, D 4.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	D 2.2, D 5.2	
Map of the contributing basin	D 4.3, D 5.3	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	D 3.1, D 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	D 3.3	

Riverine Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Ponded depressions	R 1.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	R 2.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	
Width of unit vs. width of stream *(can be added to another figure)*	R 4.1	
Map of the contributing basin	R 2.2, R 2.3, R 5.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	R 3.1	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	R 3.2, R 3.3	

Lake Fringe Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	L 1.1, L 4.1, H 1.1, H 1.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	L 1.2	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	L 2.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	L 3.1, L 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	L 3.3	

Slope Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Plant cover of **dense** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	S 1.3	
Plant cover of **dense, rigid** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants (*can be added to figure above)*	S 4.1	
Boundary of 150 ft buffer (can be added to another figure)	S 2.1, S 5.1	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	S 3.1, S 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	S 3.3	

Wetland name or number 6

HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

For questions 1-7, the criteria described must apply to the entire unit being rated.

If the hydrologic criteria listed in each question do not apply to the entire unit being rated, you probably have a unit with multiple HGM classes. In this case, identify which hydrologic criteria in questions 1-7 apply, and go to Question 8.

1. Are the water levels in the entire unit usually controlled by tides except during floods?

NO – go to 2 **YES** – the wetland class is **Tidal Fringe** – go to 1.1

1.1 Is the salinity of the water during periods of annual low flow below 0.5 ppt (parts per thousand)?

NO – Saltwater Tidal Fringe (Estuarine) *YES – Freshwater Tidal Fringe*

*If your wetland can be classified as a Freshwater Tidal Fringe use the forms for **Riverine** wetlands. If it is Saltwater Tidal Fringe it is an **Estuarine** wetland and is not scored. This method **cannot** be used to score functions for estuarine wetlands.*

2. The entire wetland unit is flat and precipitation is the only source (>90%) of water to it. Groundwater and surface water runoff are NOT sources of water to the unit.

NO – go to 3 **YES** – The wetland class is **Flats**

*If your wetland can be classified as a Flats wetland, use the form for **Depressional** wetlands.*

3. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?
   ___The vegetated part of the wetland is on the shores of a body of permanent open water (without any plants on the surface at any time of the year) at least 20 ac (8 ha) in size;
   ___At least 30% of the open water area is deeper than 6.6 ft (2 m).

NO – go to 4 **YES –** The wetland class is **Lake Fringe** (Lacustrine Fringe)

4. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?
   ___The wetland is on a slope (*slope can be very gradual*),
   ___The water flows through the wetland in one direction (unidirectional) and usually comes from seeps. It may flow subsurface, as sheetflow, or in a swale without distinct banks,
   ___The water leaves the wetland **without being impounded**.

NO – go to 5 **YES –** The wetland class is **Slope**

NOTE: Surface water does not pond in these type of wetlands except occasionally in very small and shallow depressions or behind hummocks (depressions are usually <3 ft diameter and less than 1 ft deep).

5. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?
   ___The unit is in a valley, or stream channel, where it gets inundated by overbank flooding from that stream or river,
   ___The overbank flooding occurs at least once every 2 years.

Wetland name or number 6

NO – go to 6 **YES** – The wetland class is **Riverine**

NOTE: The Riverine unit can contain depressions that are filled with water when the river is not flooding

6. Is the entire wetland unit in a topographic depression in which water ponds, or is saturated to the surface, at some time during the year? *This means that any outlet, if present, is higher than the interior of the wetland.*

NO – go to 7 **YES** – The wetland class is **Depressional**

7. Is the entire wetland unit located in a very flat area with no obvious depression and no overbank flooding? The unit does not pond surface water more than a few inches. The unit seems to be maintained by high groundwater in the area. The wetland may be ditched, but has no obvious natural outlet.

NO – go to 8 **YES** – The wetland class is **Depressional**

8. Your wetland unit seems to be difficult to classify and probably contains several different HGM classes. For example, seeps at the base of a slope may grade into a riverine floodplain, or a small stream within a Depressional wetland has a zone of flooding along its sides. GO BACK AND IDENTIFY WHICH OF THE HYDROLOGIC REGIMES DESCRIBED IN QUESTIONS 1-7 APPLY TO DIFFERENT AREAS IN THE UNIT (make a rough sketch to help you decide). Use the following table to identify the appropriate class to use for the rating system if you have several HGM classes present within the wetland unit being scored.

   NOTE: Use this table only if the class that is recommended in the second column represents 10% or more of the total area of the wetland unit being rated. If the area of the HGM class listed in column 2 is less than 10% of the unit; classify the wetland using the class that represents more than 90% of the total area.

HGM classes within the wetland unit being rated	HGM class to use in rating
Slope + Riverine	Riverine
Slope + Depressional	Depressional
Slope + Lake Fringe	Lake Fringe
Depressional + Riverine along stream within boundary of depression	Depressional
Depressional + Lake Fringe	Depressional
Riverine + Lake Fringe	Riverine
Salt Water Tidal Fringe and any other class of freshwater wetland	Treat as ESTUARINE

*If you are still unable to determine which of the above criteria apply to your wetland, or if you have **more than 2 HGM classes** within a wetland boundary, classify the wetland as Depressional for the rating.*

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

D 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
D 1.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: Wetland is a depression or flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key) with no surface water leaving it (no outlet). points = 3 Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet. points = 2 Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 1 Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch. points = 1	2
D 1.2. The soil 2 in below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions)*. Yes = 4 No = 0	0
D 1.3. Characteristics and distribution of persistent plants (Emergent, Scrub-shrub, and/or Forested Cowardin classes): Wetland has persistent, ungrazed, plants > 95% of area points = 5 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed, plants > ½ of area points = 3 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > $^1/_{10}$ of area points = 1 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants < $^1/_{10}$ of area points = 0	3
D 1.4. Characteristics of seasonal ponding or inundation: *This is the area that is ponded for at least 2 months. See description in manual.* Area seasonally ponded is > ½ total area of wetland points = 4 Area seasonally ponded is > ¼ total area of wetland points = 2 Area seasonally ponded is < ¼ total area of wetland points = 0	2
Total for D 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	7

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ___ **12-16 = H** __X__ **6-11 = M** ____ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
D 2.1. Does the wetland unit receive stormwater discharges? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 2.3. Are there septic systems within 250 ft of the wetland? Yes = 1 No = 0	0
D 2.4. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions D 2.1-D 2.3? Source I-5; foot traffic Yes = 1 No = 0	0
Total for D 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ___ **3 or 4 = H** __X__ **1 or 2 = M** ____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
D 3.1. Does the wetland discharge directly (i.e., within 1 mi) to a stream, river, lake, or marine water that is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where an aquatic resource is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality (*answer YES if there is a TMDL for the basin in which the unit is found*)? Yes = 2 No = 0	0
Total for D 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Value If score is: __X__ **2-4 = H** ____ **1 = M** ____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream degradation

D 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?

D 4.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: Wetland is a depression or flat depression with no surface water leaving it (no outlet) points = 4 Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet points = 2 Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch points = 1 Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 0	2
D 4.2. Depth of storage during wet periods: *Estimate the height of ponding above the bottom of the outlet. For wetlands with no outlet, measure from the surface of permanent water or if dry, the deepest part.* Marks of ponding are 3 ft or more above the surface or bottom of outlet points = 7 Marks of ponding between 2 ft to < 3 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 5 Marks are at least 0.5 ft to < 2 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 3 The wetland is a "headwater" wetland points = 3 Wetland is flat but has small depressions on the surface that trap water points = 1 Marks of ponding less than 0.5 ft (6 in) points = 0	3
D 4.3. Contribution of the wetland to storage in the watershed: *Estimate the ratio of the area of upstream basin contributing surface water to the wetland to the area of the wetland unit itself.* The area of the basin is less than 10 times the area of the unit points = 5 The area of the basin is 10 to 100 times the area of the unit points = 3 The area of the basin is more than 100 times the area of the unit points = 0 Entire wetland is in the Flats class points = 5	3
Total for D 4 Add the points in the boxes above	8

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ___ **12-16 = H** __X__ **6-11 = M** ____ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support hydrologic functions of the site?

D 5.1. Does the wetland receive stormwater discharges? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 5.2. Is >10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate excess runoff? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 5.3. Is more than 25% of the contributing basin of the wetland covered with intensive human land uses (residential at >1 residence/ac, urban, commercial, agriculture, etc.)? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
Total for D 5 Add the points in the boxes above	3

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: __X__ **3 = H** ____ **1 or 2 = M** ____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?

D 6.1. The unit is in a landscape that has flooding problems. *Choose the description that best matches conditions around the wetland unit being rated. Do not add points. Choose the highest score if more than one condition is met.* The wetland captures surface water that would otherwise flow down-gradient into areas where flooding has damaged human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds): • Flooding occurs in a sub-basin that is immediately down-gradient of unit. points = 2 • Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient. points = 1 Flooding from groundwater is an issue in the sub-basin. points = 1 The existing or potential outflow from the wetland is so constrained by human or natural conditions that the water stored by the wetland cannot reach areas that flood. *Explain why*_____ points = 0 There are no problems with flooding downstream of the wetland. points = 0	1
D 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? Yes = 2 No = 0	0
Total for D 6 Add the points in the boxes above	1

Rating of Value If score is: ___ **2-4 = H** __X__ **1 = M** ____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

RIVERINE AND FRESHWATER TIDAL FRINGE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

R 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
R 1.1. Area of surface depressions within the Riverine wetland that can trap sediments during a flooding event: Depressions cover >$^3/_4$ area of wetland — points = 8 Depressions cover > ½ area of wetland — points = 4 Depressions present but cover < ½ area of wetland — points = 2 No depressions present — points = 0	
R 1.2. Structure of plants in the wetland (areas with >90% cover at person height, **not** Cowardin classes) Trees or shrubs > $^2/_3$ area of the wetland — points = 8 Trees or shrubs > $^1/_3$ area of the wetland — points = 6 Herbaceous plants (> 6 in high) > $^2/_3$ area of the wetland — points = 6 Herbaceous plants (> 6 in high) > $^1/_3$ area of the wetland — points = 3 Trees, shrubs, and ungrazed herbaceous < $^1/_3$ area of the wetland — points = 0	
Total for R 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **12-16 = H 6-11 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
R 2.1. Is the wetland within an incorporated city or within its UGA? Yes = 2 No = 0	
R 2.2. Does the contributing basin to the wetland include a UGA or incorporated area? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.3. Does at least 10% of the contributing basin contain tilled fields, pastures, or forests that have been clearcut within the last 5 years? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.4. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.5. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions R 2.1-R 2.4 Other sources_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for R 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **3-6 = H 1 or 2 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
R 3.1. Is the wetland along a stream or river that is on the 303(d) list or on a tributary that drains to one within 1 mi? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 3.2. Is the wetland along a stream or river that has TMDL limits for nutrients, toxics, or pathogens? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? (*answer YES if there is a TMDL for the drainage in which the unit is found*) Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for R 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

RIVERINE AND FRESHWATER TIDAL FRINGE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that site functions to reduce flooding and stream erosion

R 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?	
R 4.1. Characteristics of the overbank storage the wetland provides: *Estimate the average width of the wetland perpendicular to the direction of the flow and the width of the stream or river channel (distance between banks). Calculate the ratio: (average width of wetland)/(average width of stream between banks).* If the ratio is more than 20 points = 9 If the ratio is 10-20 points = 6 If the ratio is 5-<10 points = 4 If the ratio is 1-<5 points = 2 If the ratio is < 1 points = 1	
R 4.2. Characteristics of plants that slow down water velocities during floods: *Treat large woody debris as forest or shrub. Choose the points appropriate for the best description (polygons need to have >90% cover at person height. These are <u>NOT Cowardin</u> classes).* Forest or shrub for > 1/3 area OR emergent plants > 2/3 area points = 7 Forest or shrub for > 1/10 area OR emergent plants > 1/3 area points = 4 Plants do not meet above criteria points = 0	
Total for R 4 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **___12-16 = H_____6-11 = M_____0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?		
R 5.1. Is the stream or river adjacent to the wetland downcut?	Yes = 0 No = 1	
R 5.2. Does the up-gradient watershed include a UGA or incorporated area?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 5.3. Is the up-gradient stream or river controlled by dams?	Yes = 0 No = 1	
Total for R 5	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **___3 = H_____1 or 2 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?	
R 6.1. Distance to the nearest areas downstream that have flooding problems? *Choose the description that best fits the site*. The sub-basin immediately down-gradient of the wetland has flooding problems that result in damage to human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds) points = 2 Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient points = 1 No flooding problems anywhere downstream points = 0	
R 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for R 6 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **___2-4 = H_____1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

LAKE FRINGE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

L 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
L 1.1. Average width of plants along the lakeshore *(use polygons of Cowardin classes)*: Plants are more than 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 6 Plants are more than 16 ft (5 m) wide and <33 ft — points = 3 Plants are more than 6 ft (2 m) wide and <16 ft — points = 1 Plants are less than 6 ft wide — points = 0	
L 1.2. Characteristics of the plants in the wetland: Choose the appropriate description that results in the highest points, and do not include any open water in your estimate of coverage. The herbaceous plants can be either the dominant form or as an understory in a shrub or forest community. *These are not Cowardin classes. Area of cover is total cover in the unit, but it can be in patches. Herbaceous does not include aquatic bed.* Cover of herbaceous plants is >90% of the vegetated area — points = 6 Cover of herbaceous plants is >$^{2}/_{3}$ of the vegetated area — points = 4 Cover of herbaceous plants is >$^{1}/_{3}$ of the vegetated area — points = 3 Other plants that are not aquatic bed > $^{2}/_{3}$ unit — points = 3 Other plants that are not aquatic bed in > $^{1}/_{3}$ vegetated area — points = 1 Aquatic bed plants and open water cover > $^{2}/_{3}$ of the unit — points = 0	
Total for L 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **8-12 = H 4-7 = M 0-3 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
L 2.1. Is the lake used by power boats? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of wetland unit on the upland side in land uses that generate pollutants? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 2.3. Does the lake have problems with algal blooms or excessive plant growth such as milfoil? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for L 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential: If score is: **2 or 3 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
L 3.1. Is the lake on the 303(d) list of degraded aquatic resources? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 3.2. Is the lake in a sub-basin where water quality is an issue (at least one aquatic resource in the basin is on the 303(d) list)? — Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? *Answer YES if there is a TMDL for the lake or basin in which the unit is found.* — Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for L 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

LAKE FRINGE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the wetland unit functions to reduce shoreline erosion

L 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce shoreline erosion?	
L 4.1. Distance along shore and average width of Cowardin classes along the lakeshore (**do not** include Aquatic bed): *Choose the highest scoring description that matches conditions in the wetland.* > ¾ of distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 6 > ¾ of distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 6 ft (2 m) wide — points = 4 > ¼ distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 4 Plants are at least 6 ft (2 m) wide (any type except Aquatic bed) — points = 2 Plants are less than 6 ft (2 m) wide (any type except Aquatic bed) — points = 0	

Rating of Site Potential: If score is:___**6 = M**_____**0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?		
L 5.1. Is the lake used by power boats with more than 10 hp?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 5.2. Is the fetch on the lake side of the unit at least 1 mile in distance?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for L 5	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is:___**2 = H**_____**1 = M**_____**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?	
L 6.1. Are there resources along the shore that can be impacted by erosion? If more than one resource is present, choose the one with the highest score. There are human structures or old growth/mature forests within 25 ft of OHWM of the shore in the unit — points = 2 There are nature trails or other paths and recreational activities within 25 ft of OHWM — points = 1 Other resources that could be impacted by erosion — points = 1 There are no resources that can be impacted by erosion along the shores of the unit — points = 0	

Rating of Value: If score is**:**___**2 = H**_____**1 = M**_____**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

NOTES and FIELD OBSERVATIONS:

SLOPE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

S 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
S 1.1. Characteristics of the average slope of the wetland: *(a 1% slope has a 1 ft vertical drop in elevation for every 100 ft of horizontal distance*) Slope is 1% or less points = 3 Slope is > 1%-2% points = 2 Slope is > 2%-5% points = 1 Slope is greater than 5% points = 0	
S 1.2. The soil 2 in below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions)*: Yes = 3 No = 0	
S 1.3. Characteristics of the plants in the wetland that trap sediments and pollutants: Choose the points appropriate for the description that best fits the plants in the wetland. *Dense means you have trouble seeing the soil surface (>75% cover), and uncut means not grazed or mowed and plants are higher than 6 in.* Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > 90% of the wetland area points = 6 Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > ½ of area points = 3 Dense, woody, plants > ½ of area points = 2 Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > ¼ of area points = 1 Does not meet any of the criteria above for plants points = 0	
Total for S 1 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **12 = H 6-11 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
S 2.1. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft on the uphill side of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 2.2. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in question S 2.1? Other sources_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for S 2 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **1-2 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
S 3.1. Does the wetland discharge directly (i.e., within 1 mi) to a stream, river, lake, or marine water that is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where water quality is an issue? *At least one aquatic resource in the basin is on the 303(d) list*. Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? *Answer YES if there is a TMDL for the basin in which unit is found.* Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for S 3 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

SLOPE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream erosion

S 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and stream erosion?	
S 4.1. Characteristics of plants that reduce the velocity of surface flows during storms: Choose the points appropriate for the description that best fits conditions in the wetland. *Stems of plants should be thick enough (usually > 1/8 in), or dense enough, to remain erect during surface flows.* Dense, uncut, **rigid** plants cover > 90% of the area of the wetland — points = 1 All other conditions — points = 0	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **___1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?	
S 5.1. Is more than 25% of the area within 150 ft upslope of wetland in land uses or cover that generate excess surface runoff? Yes = 1 No = 0	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **___1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?	
S 6.1. Distance to the nearest areas downstream that have flooding problems: The sub-basin immediately down-gradient of site has flooding problems that result in damage to human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds) — points = 2 Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient — points = 1 No flooding problems anywhere downstream — points = 0	
S 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for S 6 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **___2-4 = H_____1 = M_____0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

NOTES and FIELD OBSERVATIONS:

These questions apply to wetlands of all HGM classes.

HABITAT FUNCTIONS - Indicators that site functions to provide important habitat

H 1.0. Does the site have the potential to provide habitat?

H 1.1. Structure of plant community: *Indicators are Cowardin classes and strata within the Forested class.* Check the Cowardin plant classes in the wetland. *Up to 10 patches may be combined for each class to meet the threshold of ¼ ac or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac. Add the number of structures checked.*

____	Aquatic bed	4 structures or more: points = 4
_X_	Emergent	3 structures: points = 2
_X_	Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover)	2 structures: points = 1
_X_	Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover)	1 structure: points = 0

If the unit has a Forested class, check if:

_X_ The Forested class has 3 out of 5 strata (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss/ground-cover) that each cover 20% within the Forested polygon

4

H 1.2. Hydroperiods

Check the types of water regimes (hydroperiods) present within the wetland. The water regime has to cover more than 10% of the wetland or ¼ ac to count (*see text for descriptions of hydroperiods*).

_X_	Permanently flooded or inundated	4 or more types present: points = 3
_X_	Seasonally flooded or inundated	3 types present: points = 2
____	Occasionally flooded or inundated	2 types present: points = 1
_X_	Saturated only	1 type present: points = 0
____	Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland	
____	Seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland	
____	**Lake Fringe wetland**	**2 points**
____	**Freshwater tidal wetland**	**2 points**

2

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft^2.

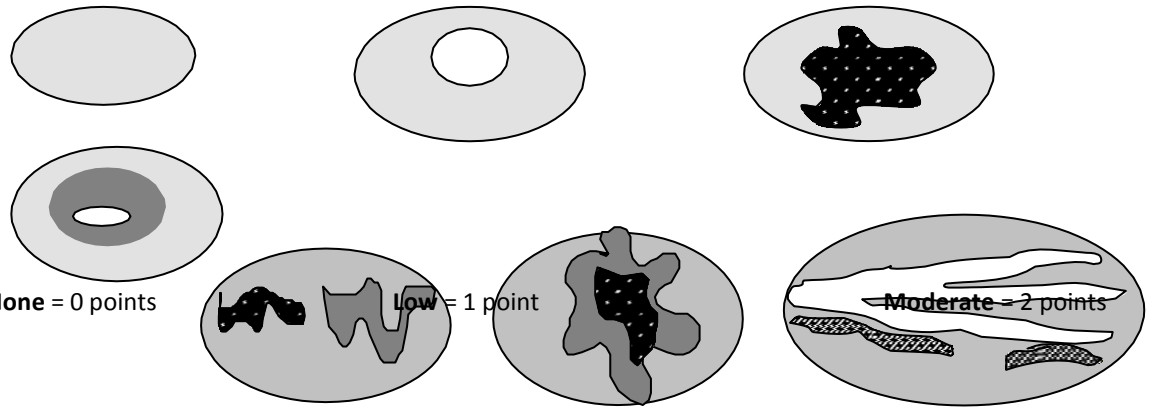
Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. ***Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canadian thistle***

If you counted: > 19 species	points = 2
5 - 19 species	points = 1
< 5 species	points = 0

1

H 1.4. Interspersion of habitats

Decide from the diagrams below whether interspersion among Cowardin plants classes (described in H 1.1), or the classes and unvegetated areas (can include open water or mudflats) is high, moderate, low, or none. *If you have four or more plant classes or three classes and open water, the rating is always high.*



None = 0 points **Low** = 1 point **Moderate** = 2 points

All three diagrams

2

in this row are **HIGH** = 3points	

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. *The number of checks is the number of points.* __X__ Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in diameter and 6 ft long). __X__ Standing snags (dbh > 4 in) within the wetland ____ Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) **and/or** overhanging plants extends at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) ____ Stable steep banks of fine material that might be used by beaver or muskrat for denning (> 30 degree slope) OR signs of recent beaver activity are present *(cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed)* __X__ At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated *(structures for egg-laying by amphibians)* ____ Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (*see H 1.1 for list of strata*)	3
Total for H 1 Add the points in the boxes above	12

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ___ **15-18 = H** __X__ **7-14 = M** ____ **0-6 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?	
H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include *only habitat that directly abuts wetland unit*). *Calculate:* % undisturbed habitat 0 **+** [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 2 = 2 % If total accessible habitat is: > 1/3 (33.3%) of 1 km Polygon points = 3 20-33% of 1 km Polygon points = 2 10-19% of 1 km Polygon points = 1 < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	0
H 2.2. Undisturbed habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. *Calculate:* % undisturbed habitat 0 **+** [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 5 = 5 % Undisturbed habitat > 50% of Polygon points = 3 Undisturbed habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches points = 2 Undisturbed habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches points = 1 Undisturbed habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	0
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: If > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = (- 2) ≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity points = 0	-2
Total for H 2 Add the points in the boxes above	-2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ___ **4-6 = H** ____ **1-3 = M** __X__ **< 1 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?

H 3.1. Does the site provide habitat for species valued in laws, regulations, or policies? *Choose only the highest score that applies to the wetland being rated.* Site meets ANY of the following criteria: points = 2 — It has 3 or more priority habitats within 100 m (see next page) — It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) — It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW priority species — It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources — It has been categorized as an important habitat site in a local or regional comprehensive plan, in a Shoreline Master Plan, or in a watershed plan Site has 1 or 2 priority habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m points = 1 Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = 0	1

Rating of Value If score is: ___**2 = H** __X__ **1 = M** _____**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

WDFW Priority Habitats

Priority habitats listed by WDFW (see complete descriptions of WDFW priority habitats, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008. Priority Habitat and Species List. Olympia, Washington. 177 pp. http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf or access the list from here: http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/phs/list/)

Count how many of the following priority habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit: ***NOTE:*** *This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the priority habitat.*

— **Aspen Stands:** Pure or mixed stands of aspen greater than 1 ac (0.4 ha).

— **Biodiversity Areas and Corridors**: Areas of habitat that are relatively important to various species of native fish and wildlife (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report*).

— **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.

— **Old-growth/Mature forests:** Old-growth west of Cascade crest – Stands of at least 2 tree species, forming a multi-layered canopy with occasional small openings; with at least 8 trees/ac (20 trees/ha) > 32 in (81 cm) dbh or > 200 years of age. Mature forests – Stands with average diameters exceeding 21 in (53 cm) dbh; crown cover may be less than 100%; decay, decadence, numbers of snags, and quantity of large downed material is generally less than that found in old-growth; 80-200 years old west of the Cascade crest.

— **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report p. 158 – see web link above*).

— **Riparian**: The area adjacent to aquatic systems with flowing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.

— **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report p. 161 – see web link above*).

— **Instream:** The combination of physical, biological, and chemical processes and conditions that interact to provide functional life history requirements for instream fish and wildlife resources.

— **Nearshore**: Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore. (*full descriptions of habitats and the definition of relatively undisturbed are in WDFW report – see web link on previous page).*

— **Caves:** A naturally occurring cavity, recess, void, or system of interconnected passages under the earth in soils, rock, ice, or other geological formations and is large enough to contain a human.

— **Cliffs:** Greater than 25 ft (7.6 m) high and occurring below 5000 ft elevation.

— **Talus:** Homogenous areas of rock rubble ranging in average size 0.5 - 6.5 ft (0.15 - 2.0 m), composed of basalt, andesite, and/or sedimentary rock, including riprap slides and mine tailings. May be associated with cliffs.

☒ **Snags and Logs:** Trees are considered snags if they are dead or dying and exhibit sufficient decay characteristics to enable cavity excavation/use by wildlife. Priority snags have a diameter at breast height of > 20 in (51 cm) in western Washington and are > 6.5 ft (2 m) in height. Priority logs are > 12 in (30 cm) in diameter at the largest end, and > 20 ft (6 m) long.

Note: All vegetated wetlands are by definition a priority habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed elsewhere.

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type *Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.*	**Category**
SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? — The dominant water regime is tidal, — Vegetated, and — With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt Yes –Go to **SC 1.1** No= **Not an estuarine wetland**	
SC 1.1. Is the wetland within a National Wildlife Refuge, National Park, National Estuary Reserve, Natural Area Preserve, State Park or Educational, Environmental, or Scientific Reserve designated under WAC 332-30-151? Yes = **Category I** No - Go to **SC 1.2**	**Cat. I**
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? — The wetland is relatively undisturbed (has no diking, ditching, filling, cultivation, grazing, and has less than 10% cover of non-native plant species. (If non-native species are *Spartina*, see page 25) — At least ¾ of the landward edge of the wetland has a 100 ft buffer of shrub, forest, or un-grazed or un-mowed grassland. — The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. Yes = **Category I** No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** **Cat. II**
SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Has the WA Department of Natural Resources updated their website to include the list of Wetlands of High Conservation Value? Yes **–** Go to **SC 2.2** No **–** Go to **SC 2.3** SC 2.2. Is the wetland listed on the WDNR database as a Wetland of High Conservation Value? Yes **= Category I** No **= Not a WHCV** SC 2.3. Is the wetland in a Section/Township/Range that contains a Natural Heritage wetland? http://www1.dnr.wa.gov/nhp/refdesk/datasearch/wnhpwetlands.pdf Yes **– Contact WNHP/WDNR and go to SC 2.4** No **= Not a WHCV** SC 2.4. Has WDNR identified the wetland within the S/T/R as a Wetland of High Conservation Value and listed it on their website? Yes **= Category I** No **= Not a WHCV**	**Cat. I**
SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? *Use the key below.* ***If you answer YES you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** SC 3.1. Does an area within the wetland unit have organic soil horizons, either peats or mucks, that compose 16 in or more of the first 32 in of the soil profile? Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** No – Go to **SC 3.2** SC 3.2. Does an area within the wetland unit have organic soils, either peats or mucks, that are less than 16 in deep over bedrock, or an impermeable hardpan such as clay or volcanic ash, or that are floating on top of a lake or pond? Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** No = **Is not a bog** SC 3.3. Does an area with peats or mucks have more than 70% cover of mosses at ground level, AND at least a 30% cover of plant species listed in Table 4? Yes = **Is a Category I bog** No – Go to **SC 3.4** **NOTE:** If you are uncertain about the extent of mosses in the understory, you may substitute that criterion by measuring the pH of the water that seeps into a hole dug at least 16 in deep. If the pH is less than 5.0 and the plant species in Table 4 are present, the wetland is a bog. SC 3.4. Is an area with peats or mucks forested (> 30% cover) with Sitka spruce, subalpine fir, western red cedar, western hemlock, lodgepole pine, quaking aspen, Engelmann spruce, or western white pine, AND any of the species (or combination of species) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy? Yes = **Is a Category I bog** No **= Is not a bog**	**Cat. I**

SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands Does the wetland have at least 1 contiguous acre of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as priority habitats? ***If you answer YES you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** — **Old-growth forests** (west of Cascade crest): Stands of at least two tree species, forming a multi-layered canopy with occasional small openings; with at least 8 trees/ac (20 trees/ha) that are at least 200 years of age OR have a diameter at breast height (dbh) of 32 in (81 cm) or more. — **Mature forests** (west of the Cascade Crest): Stands where the largest trees are 80- 200 years old OR the species that make up the canopy have an average diameter (dbh) exceeding 21 in (53 cm). Yes = **Category I** No = **Not a forested wetland for this section**	**Cat. I**
SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon? — The wetland lies in a depression adjacent to marine waters that is wholly or partially separated from marine waters by sandbanks, gravel banks, shingle, or, less frequently, rocks — The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (> 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon *(needs to be measured near the bottom)* Yes – Go to **SC 5.1** No = **Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon** SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions? — The wetland is relatively undisturbed (has no diking, ditching, filling, cultivation, grazing), and has less than 20% cover of aggressive, opportunistic plant species (see list of species on p. 100). — At least ¾ of the landward edge of the wetland has a 100 ft buffer of shrub, forest, or un-grazed or un-mowed grassland. — The wetland is larger than $^{1}/_{10}$ ac (4350 ft^2) Yes = **Category I** No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** **Cat. II**
SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? ***If you answer yes you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.*** In practical terms that means the following geographic areas: — Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103 — Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105 — Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 Yes – Go to **SC 6.1** No = **not an interdunal wetland for rating** SC 6.1. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger and scores an 8 or 9 for the habitat functions on the form (rates H,H,H or H,H,M for the three aspects of function)? Yes = **Category I** No – Go to **SC 6.2** SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger? Yes = **Category II** No – Go to **SC 6.3** SC 6.3. Is the unit between 0.1 and 1 ac, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is between 0.1 and 1 ac? Yes = **Category III** No = **Category IV**	**Cat I** **Cat. II** **Cat. III** **Cat. IV**
Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form	

Wetland name or number 7

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): Wetland 7 Date of site visit: 8/10/17

Rated by Rob Fritz Trained by Ecology? Yes No Date of training

HGM Class used for rating Depressional Wetland has multiple HGM classes? Y N

NOTE: **Form is not complete without the figures requested** *(figures can be combined)*.

Source of base aerial photo/map Google Earth

OVERALL WETLAND CATEGORY III (based on functions or special characteristics)

1. Category of wetland based on FUNCTIONS

_____**Category I** – Total score = 23 - 27

_____**Category II** – Total score = 20 - 22

__X__**Category III** – Total score = 16 - 19

_____**Category IV** – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
	Circle the appropriate ratings			
Site Potential	H M L	H M L	H M L	
Landscape Potential	H M L	H M L	H M L	
Value	H M L	H M L	H M L	TOTAL
Score Based on Ratings	8	6	4	18

Score for each function based on three ratings

(order of ratings is not important)

9 = H,H,H

8 = H,H,M

7 = H,H,L

7 = H,M,M

6 = H,M,L

6 = M,M,M

2. Category based on SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS of wetland

Wetland name or number 7

CHARACTERISTIC	CATEGORY
Estuarine	**I II**
Wetland of High Conservation Value	**I**
Bog	**I**
Mature Forest	**I**
Old Growth Forest	**I**
Coastal Lagoon	**I II**
Interdunal	**I II III IV**
None of the above	**—**

Wetland name or number 7

Maps and figures required to answer questions correctly for Western Washington

Depressional Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	D 1.3, H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	D 1.4, H 1.2	
Location of outlet (*can be added to map of hydroperiods)*	D 1.1, D 4.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	D 2.2, D 5.2	
Map of the contributing basin	D 4.3, D 5.3	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	D 3.1, D 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	D 3.3	

Riverine Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Ponded depressions	R 1.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	R 2.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	
Width of unit vs. width of stream *(can be added to another figure)*	R 4.1	
Map of the contributing basin	R 2.2, R 2.3, R 5.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	R 3.1	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	R 3.2, R 3.3	

Lake Fringe Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	L 1.1, L 4.1, H 1.1, H 1.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	L 1.2	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	L 2.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	L 3.1, L 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	L 3.3	

Slope Wetlands

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Plant cover of **dense** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	S 1.3	
Plant cover of **dense, rigid** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants (*can be added to figure above)*	S 4.1	
Boundary of 150 ft buffer (can be added to another figure)	S 2.1, S 5.1	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	

Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	S 3.1, S 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	S 3.3	

Wetland name or number 7

HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

For questions 1-7, the criteria described must apply to the entire unit being rated.

If the hydrologic criteria listed in each question do not apply to the entire unit being rated, you probably have a unit with multiple HGM classes. In this case, identify which hydrologic criteria in questions 1-7 apply, and go to Question 8.

1. Are the water levels in the entire unit usually controlled by tides except during floods?

NO – go to 2 **YES** – the wetland class is **Tidal Fringe** – go to 1.1

1.1 Is the salinity of the water during periods of annual low flow below 0.5 ppt (parts per thousand)?

NO – Saltwater Tidal Fringe (Estuarine) *YES – Freshwater Tidal Fringe*

*If your wetland can be classified as a Freshwater Tidal Fringe use the forms for **Riverine** wetlands. If it is Saltwater Tidal Fringe it is an **Estuarine** wetland and is not scored. This method **cannot** be used to score functions for estuarine wetlands.*

2. The entire wetland unit is flat and precipitation is the only source (>90%) of water to it. Groundwater and surface water runoff are NOT sources of water to the unit.

NO – go to 3 **YES** – The wetland class is **Flats**

*If your wetland can be classified as a Flats wetland, use the form for **Depressional** wetlands.*

3. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?
   ___The vegetated part of the wetland is on the shores of a body of permanent open water (without any plants on the surface at any time of the year) at least 20 ac (8 ha) in size;
   ___At least 30% of the open water area is deeper than 6.6 ft (2 m).

NO – go to 4 **YES –** The wetland class is **Lake Fringe** (Lacustrine Fringe)

4. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?
   ___The wetland is on a slope (*slope can be very gradual*),
   ___The water flows through the wetland in one direction (unidirectional) and usually comes from seeps. It may flow subsurface, as sheetflow, or in a swale without distinct banks,
   ___The water leaves the wetland **without being impounded**.

NO – go to 5 **YES –** The wetland class is **Slope**

NOTE: Surface water does not pond in these type of wetlands except occasionally in very small and shallow depressions or behind hummocks (depressions are usually <3 ft diameter and less than 1 ft deep).

5. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?
   ___The unit is in a valley, or stream channel, where it gets inundated by overbank flooding from that stream or river,

Wetland name or number 7

___ The overbank flooding occurs at least once every 2 years.

Wetland name or number 7

NO – go to 6 **YES** – The wetland class is **Riverine**

NOTE: The Riverine unit can contain depressions that are filled with water when the river is not flooding

6. Is the entire wetland unit in a topographic depression in which water ponds, or is saturated to the surface, at some time during the year? *This means that any outlet, if present, is higher than the interior of the wetland.*

NO – go to 7 **YES** – The wetland class is **Depressional**

7. Is the entire wetland unit located in a very flat area with no obvious depression and no overbank flooding? The unit does not pond surface water more than a few inches. The unit seems to be maintained by high groundwater in the area. The wetland may be ditched, but has no obvious natural outlet.

NO – go to 8 **YES** – The wetland class is **Depressional**

8. Your wetland unit seems to be difficult to classify and probably contains several different HGM classes. For example, seeps at the base of a slope may grade into a riverine floodplain, or a small stream within a Depressional wetland has a zone of flooding along its sides. GO BACK AND IDENTIFY WHICH OF THE HYDROLOGIC REGIMES DESCRIBED IN QUESTIONS 1-7 APPLY TO DIFFERENT AREAS IN THE UNIT (make a rough sketch to help you decide). Use the following table to identify the appropriate class to use for the rating system if you have several HGM classes present within the wetland unit being scored.

   NOTE: Use this table only if the class that is recommended in the second column represents 10% or more of the total area of the wetland unit being rated. If the area of the HGM class listed in column 2 is less than 10% of the unit; classify the wetland using the class that represents more than 90% of the total area.

HGM classes within the wetland unit being rated	HGM class to use in rating
Slope + Riverine	Riverine
Slope + Depressional	Depressional
Slope + Lake Fringe	Lake Fringe
Depressional + Riverine along stream within boundary of depression	Depressional
Depressional + Lake Fringe	Depressional
Riverine + Lake Fringe	Riverine
Salt Water Tidal Fringe and any other class of freshwater wetland	Treat as ESTUARINE

*If you are still unable to determine which of the above criteria apply to your wetland, or if you have **more than 2 HGM classes** within a wetland boundary, classify the wetland as Depressional for the rating.*

Wetland name or number 7

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

D 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
D 1.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: Wetland is a depression or flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key) with no surface water leaving it (no outlet). points = 3 Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet. points = 2 Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 1 Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch. points = 1	2
D 1.2. The soil 2 in below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions)*. Yes = 4 No = 0	4
D 1.3. Characteristics and distribution of persistent plants (Emergent, Scrub-shrub, and/or Forested Cowardin classes): Wetland has persistent, ungrazed, plants > 95% of area points = 5 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed, plants > ½ of area points = 3 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > $^1/_{10}$ of area points = 1 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants < $^1/_{10}$ of area points = 0	5
D 1.4. Characteristics of seasonal ponding or inundation: *This is the area that is ponded for at least 2 months. See description in manual.* Area seasonally ponded is > ½ total area of wetland points = 4 Area seasonally ponded is > ¼ total area of wetland points = 2 Area seasonally ponded is < ¼ total area of wetland points = 0	2
Total for D 1 Add the points in the boxes above	13

Rating of Site Potential If score is: X **12-16 = H** ____ **6-11 = M** ____ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
D 2.1. Does the wetland unit receive stormwater discharges? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 2.3. Are there septic systems within 250 ft of the wetland? Yes = 1 No = 0	0
D 2.4. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions D 2.1-D 2.3? Source_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	0
Total for D 2 Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ___ **3 or 4 = H** X **1 or 2 = M** ____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
D 3.1. Does the wetland discharge directly (i.e., within 1 mi) to a stream, river, lake, or marine water that is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where an aquatic resource is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality (*answer YES if there is a TMDL for the basin in which the unit is found*)? Yes = 2 No = 0	0
Total for D 3 Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Value If score is: X **2-4 = H** ____ **1 = M** ____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

Wetland name or number 7

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream degradation

D 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?

D 4.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: Wetland is a depression or flat depression with no surface water leaving it (no outlet) points = 4 Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet points = 2 Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch points = 1 Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 0	1
D 4.2. Depth of storage during wet periods: *Estimate the height of ponding above the bottom of the outlet. For wetlands with no outlet, measure from the surface of permanent water or if dry, the deepest part.* Marks of ponding are 3 ft or more above the surface or bottom of outlet points = 7 Marks of ponding between 2 ft to < 3 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 5 Marks are at least 0.5 ft to < 2 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 3 The wetland is a "headwater" wetland points = 3 Wetland is flat but has small depressions on the surface that trap water points = 1 Marks of ponding less than 0.5 ft (6 in) points = 0	0
D 4.3. Contribution of the wetland to storage in the watershed: *Estimate the ratio of the area of upstream basin contributing surface water to the wetland to the area of the wetland unit itself.* The area of the basin is less than 10 times the area of the unit points = 5 The area of the basin is 10 to 100 times the area of the unit points = 3 The area of the basin is more than 100 times the area of the unit points = 0 Entire wetland is in the Flats class points = 5	3
Total for D 4 Add the points in the boxes above	4

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ___ **12-16 = H** ____ **6-11 = M** __X__ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support hydrologic functions of the site?

D 5.1. Does the wetland receive stormwater discharges? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 5.2. Is >10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate excess runoff? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
D 5.3. Is more than 25% of the contributing basin of the wetland covered with intensive human land uses (residential at >1 residence/ac, urban, commercial, agriculture, etc.)? Yes = 1 No = 0	1
Total for D 5 Add the points in the boxes above	3

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: __X__ **3 = H** ____ **1 or 2 = M** ____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?

D 6.1. The unit is in a landscape that has flooding problems. *Choose the description that best matches conditions around the wetland unit being rated. Do not add points. Choose the highest score if more than one condition is met.* The wetland captures surface water that would otherwise flow down-gradient into areas where flooding has damaged human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds): • Flooding occurs in a sub-basin that is immediately down-gradient of unit. points = 2 • Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient. points = 1 Flooding from groundwater is an issue in the sub-basin. points = 1 The existing or potential outflow from the wetland is so constrained by human or natural conditions that the water stored by the wetland cannot reach areas that flood. *Explain why*_____ points = 0 There are no problems with flooding downstream of the wetland. points = 0	1
D 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? Yes = 2 No = 0	0
Total for D 6 Add the points in the boxes above	1

Rating of Value If score is: ___ **2-4 = H** __X__ **1 = M** ____ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

Wetland name or number 7

RIVERINE AND FRESHWATER TIDAL FRINGE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

R 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
R 1.1. Area of surface depressions within the Riverine wetland that can trap sediments during a flooding event: Depressions cover >$^3/_4$ area of wetland points = 8 Depressions cover > ½ area of wetland points = 4 Depressions present but cover < ½ area of wetland points = 2 No depressions present points = 0	
R 1.2. Structure of plants in the wetland (areas with >90% cover at person height, **not** Cowardin classes) Trees or shrubs > $^2/_3$ area of the wetland points = 8 Trees or shrubs > $^1/_3$ area of the wetland points = 6 Herbaceous plants (> 6 in high) > $^2/_3$ area of the wetland points = 6 Herbaceous plants (> 6 in high) > $^1/_3$ area of the wetland points = 3 Trees, shrubs, and ungrazed herbaceous < $^1/_3$ area of the wetland points = 0	
Total for R 1 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **12-16 = H 6-11 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
R 2.1. Is the wetland within an incorporated city or within its UGA? Yes = 2 No = 0	
R 2.2. Does the contributing basin to the wetland include a UGA or incorporated area? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.3. Does at least 10% of the contributing basin contain tilled fields, pastures, or forests that have been clearcut within the last 5 years? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.4. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 2.5. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions R 2.1-R 2.4 Other sources_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for R 2 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **3-6 = H 1 or 2 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
R 3.1. Is the wetland along a stream or river that is on the 303(d) list or on a tributary that drains to one within 1 mi? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 3.2. Is the wetland along a stream or river that has TMDL limits for nutrients, toxics, or pathogens? Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? (*answer YES if there is a TMDL for the drainage in which the unit is found*) Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for R 3 Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

Wetland name or number 7

RIVERINE AND FRESHWATER TIDAL FRINGE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that site functions to reduce flooding and stream erosion

R 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?		
R 4.1. Characteristics of the overbank storage the wetland provides: *Estimate the average width of the wetland perpendicular to the direction of the flow and the width of the stream or river channel (distance between banks). Calculate the ratio: (average width of wetland)/(average width of stream between banks).* If the ratio is more than 20 If the ratio is 10-20 If the ratio is 5-<10 If the ratio is 1-<5 If the ratio is < 1	 points = 9 points = 6 points = 4 points = 2 points = 1	
R 4.2. Characteristics of plants that slow down water velocities during floods: *Treat large woody debris as forest or shrub. Choose the points appropriate for the best description (polygons need to have >90% cover at person height. These are NOT Cowardin classes).* Forest or shrub for >1/3 area OR emergent plants > 2/3 area Forest or shrub for > 1/10 area OR emergent plants > 1/3 area Plants do not meet above criteria	 points = 7 points = 4 points = 0	
Total for R 4	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **12-16 = H 6-11 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?		
R 5.1. Is the stream or river adjacent to the wetland downcut?	Yes = 0 No = 1	
R 5.2. Does the up-gradient watershed include a UGA or incorporated area?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
R 5.3. Is the up-gradient stream or river controlled by dams?	Yes = 0 No = 1	
Total for R 5	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **3 = H 1 or 2 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?		
R 6.1. Distance to the nearest areas downstream that have flooding problems? *Choose the description that best fits the site*. The sub-basin immediately down-gradient of the wetland has flooding problems that result in damage to human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds) Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient No flooding problems anywhere downstream	 points = 2 points = 1 points = 0	
R 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan?	Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for R 6	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

Wetland name or number 7

LAKE FRINGE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

L 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
L 1.1. Average width of plants along the lakeshore *(use polygons of Cowardin classes)*: Plants are more than 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 6 Plants are more than 16 ft (5 m) wide and <33 ft — points = 3 Plants are more than 6 ft (2 m) wide and <16 ft — points = 1 Plants are less than 6 ft wide — points = 0	
L 1.2. Characteristics of the plants in the wetland: Choose the appropriate description that results in the highest points, and do not include any open water in your estimate of coverage. The herbaceous plants can be either the dominant form or as an understory in a shrub or forest community. *These are not Cowardin classes. Area of cover is total cover in the unit, but it can be in patches. Herbaceous does not include aquatic bed.* Cover of herbaceous plants is >90% of the vegetated area — points = 6 Cover of herbaceous plants is >2/3 of the vegetated area — points = 4 Cover of herbaceous plants is >1/3 of the vegetated area — points = 3 Other plants that are not aquatic bed > 2/3 unit — points = 3 Other plants that are not aquatic bed in > 1/3 vegetated area — points = 1 Aquatic bed plants and open water cover > 2/3 of the unit — points = 0	
Total for L 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **8-12 = H** **4-7 = M** **0-3 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
L 2.1. Is the lake used by power boats? Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of wetland unit on the upland side in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 2.3. Does the lake have problems with algal blooms or excessive plant growth such as milfoil? Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for L 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential: If score is: **2 or 3 = H** **1 = M** **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
L 3.1. Is the lake on the 303(d) list of degraded aquatic resources? Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 3.2. Is the lake in a sub-basin where water quality is an issue (at least one aquatic resource in the basin is on the 303(d) list)? Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? *Answer YES if there is a TMDL for the lake or basin in which the unit is found.* Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for L 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H** **1 = M** **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

Wetland name or number 7

LAKE FRINGE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the wetland unit functions to reduce shoreline erosion

L 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce shoreline erosion?	
L 4.1. Distance along shore and average width of Cowardin classes along the lakeshore (**do not** include Aquatic bed): *Choose the highest scoring description that matches conditions in the wetland.*	
> ¾ of distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 6	
> ¾ of distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 6 ft (2 m) wide — points = 4	
> ¼ distance is Scrub-shrub or Forested at least 33 ft (10 m) wide — points = 4	
Plants are at least 6 ft (2 m) wide (any type except Aquatic bed) — points = 2	
Plants are less than 6 ft (2 m) wide (any type except Aquatic bed) — points = 0	

Rating of Site Potential: If score is: **6 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?		
L 5.1. Is the lake used by power boats with more than 10 hp?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
L 5.2. Is the fetch on the lake side of the unit at least 1 mile in distance?	Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for L 5	Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **2 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

L 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?	
L 6.1. Are there resources along the shore that can be impacted by erosion? If more than one resource is present, choose the one with the highest score.	
There are human structures or old growth/mature forests within 25 ft of OHWM of the shore in the unit — points = 2	
There are nature trails or other paths and recreational activities within 25 ft of OHWM — points = 1	
Other resources that could be impacted by erosion — points = 1	
There are no resources that can be impacted by erosion along the shores of the unit — points = 0	

Rating of Value: If score is: **2 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

NOTES and FIELD OBSERVATIONS:

Wetland name or number 7

SLOPE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

S 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
S 1.1. Characteristics of the average slope of the wetland: *(a 1% slope has a 1 ft vertical drop in elevation for every 100 ft of horizontal distance*) Slope is 1% or less — points = 3 Slope is > 1%-2% — points = 2 Slope is > 2%-5% — points = 1 Slope is greater than 5% — points = 0	
S 1.2. The soil 2 in below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions)*: Yes = 3 No = 0	
S 1.3. Characteristics of the plants in the wetland that trap sediments and pollutants: Choose the points appropriate for the description that best fits the plants in the wetland. *Dense means you have trouble seeing the soil surface (>75% cover), and uncut means not grazed or mowed and plants are higher than 6 in.* Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > 90% of the wetland area — points = 6 Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > ½ of area — points = 3 Dense, woody, plants > ½ of area — points = 2 Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > ¼ of area — points = 1 Does not meet any of the criteria above for plants — points = 0	
Total for S 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: **12 = H 6-11 = M 0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
S 2.1. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft on the uphill side of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 2.2. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in question S 2.1? Other sources_____ Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for S 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: **1-2 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
S 3.1. Does the wetland discharge directly (i.e., within 1 mi) to a stream, river, lake, or marine water that is on the 303(d) list? Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where water quality is an issue? *At least one aquatic resource in the basin is on the 303(d) list*. Yes = 1 No = 0	
S 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? *Answer YES if there is a TMDL for the basin in which unit is found.* Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for S 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is: **2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

Wetland name or number___7

SLOPE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream erosion

S 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and stream erosion?	
S 4.1. Characteristics of plants that reduce the velocity of surface flows during storms: Choose the points appropriate for the description that best fits conditions in the wetland. *Stems of plants should be thick enough (usually > 1/8 in), or dense enough, to remain erect during surface flows.* Dense, uncut, **rigid** plants cover > 90% of the area of the wetland — points = 1 All other conditions — points = 0	

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ___**1 = M**_____**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?	
S 5.1. Is more than 25% of the area within 150 ft upslope of wetland in land uses or cover that generate excess surface runoff? Yes = 1 No = 0	

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is:___**1 = M**_____**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

S 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?	
S 6.1. Distance to the nearest areas downstream that have flooding problems: The sub-basin immediately down-gradient of site has flooding problems that result in damage to human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds) — points = 2 Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient — points = 1 No flooding problems anywhere downstream — points = 0	
S 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? Yes = 2 No = 0	
Total for S 6 — Add the points in the boxes above	

Rating of Value If score is:___**2-4 = H**_____**1 = M**_____**0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

NOTES and FIELD OBSERVATIONS:

Wetland name or number 7

These questions apply to wetlands of all HGM classes.

HABITAT FUNCTIONS - Indicators that site functions to provide important habitat

H 1.0. Does the site have the potential to provide habitat?

H 1.1. Structure of plant community: *Indicators are Cowardin classes and strata within the Forested class.* Check the Cowardin plant classes in the wetland. *Up to 10 patches may be combined for each class to meet the threshold of ¼ ac or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac. Add the number of structures checked.*

____Aquatic bed	4 structures or more: points = 4
_X_Emergent	3 structures: points = 2
____Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover)	2 structures: points = 1
_X_Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover)	1 structure: points = 0

If the unit has a Forested class, check if:

____The Forested class has 3 out of 5 strata (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss/ground-cover) that each cover 20% within the Forested polygon

1

H 1.2. Hydroperiods

Check the types of water regimes (hydroperiods) present within the wetland. The water regime has to cover more than 10% of the wetland or ¼ ac to count (*see text for descriptions of hydroperiods*).

____Permanently flooded or inundated	4 or more types present: points = 3
_X_Seasonally flooded or inundated	3 types present: points = 2
____Occasionally flooded or inundated	2 types present: points = 1
_X_Saturated only	1 type present: points = 0
____Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland	
____Seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland	
____**Lake Fringe wetland**	**2 points**
____**Freshwater tidal wetland**	**2 points**

1

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft^2.

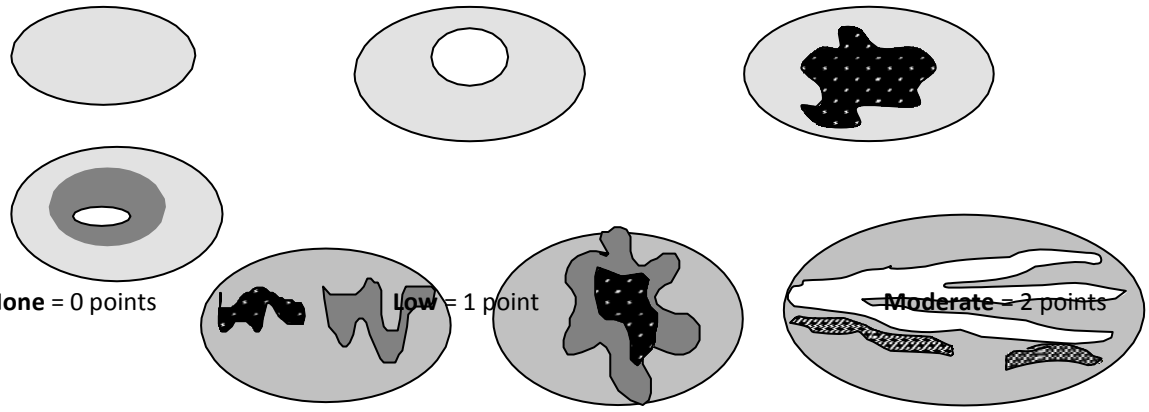
Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. ***Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canadian thistle***

If you counted: > 19 species	points = 2
5 - 19 species	points = 1
< 5 species	points = 0

1

H 1.4. Interspersion of habitats

Decide from the diagrams below whether interspersion among Cowardin plants classes (described in H 1.1), or the classes and unvegetated areas (can include open water or mudflats) is high, moderate, low, or none. *If you have four or more plant classes or three classes and open water, the rating is always high.*



None = 0 points **Low** = 1 point **Moderate** = 2 points

All three diagrams

1

Wetland name or number 7

in this row are **HIGH** = 3points	

Wetland name or number 7

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. *The number of checks is the number of points.* ____Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in diameter and 6 ft long). ____Standing snags (dbh > 4 in) within the wetland ____Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) **and/or** overhanging plants extends at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) ____Stable steep banks of fine material that might be used by beaver or muskrat for denning (> 30 degree slope) OR signs of recent beaver activity are present *(cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed)* ____At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated *(structures for egg-laying by amphibians)* ____Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (*see H 1.1 for list of strata*)	0
Total for H 1 Add the points in the boxes above	4

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ___ **15-18 = H** ____ **7-14 = M** __X__ **0-6 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?	
H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include *only habitat ~~that d~~irectly abuts wetland unit*). ___ _____ *Calculate:* % undisturbed habitat 0 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 2 = 2 % If total accessible habitat is: > 1/3 (33.3%) of 1km Polygon points = 3 20-33% of 1 km Polygon points = 2 10-19% of 1 km Polygon points = 1 < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	0
H 2.2. Undisturbed habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. *Calculate:* % undisturbed habitat 0 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 5 = 5 % Undisturbed habitat > 50% of Polygon points = 3 Undisturbed habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches points = 2 Undisturbed habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches points = 1 Undisturbed habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	0
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: If > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = (- 2) ≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity points = 0	-2
Total for H 2 Add the points in the boxes above	-2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ___ **4-6 = H** ____ **1-3 = M** __X__ **< 1 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?

Wetland name or number 7

H 3.1. Does the site provide habitat for species valued in laws, regulations, or policies? *Choose only the highest score that applies to the wetland being rated.* Site meets ANY of the following criteria: points = 2 — It has 3 or more priority habitats within 100 m (see next page) — It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) — It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW priority species — It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources — It has been categorized as an important habitat site in a local or regional comprehensive plan, in a Shoreline Master Plan, or in a watershed plan Site has 1 or 2 priority habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m points = 1 Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = 0	1

Rating of Value If score is: **2 = H** X **1 = M** **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

Wetland name or number 7

WDFW Priority Habitats

Priority habitats listed by WDFW (see complete descriptions of WDFW priority habitats, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008. Priority Habitat and Species List. Olympia, Washington. 177 pp. http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf or access the list from here: http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/phs/list/)

Count how many of the following priority habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit: ***NOTE:*** *This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the priority habitat.*

— **Aspen Stands:** Pure or mixed stands of aspen greater than 1 ac (0.4 ha).

— **Biodiversity Areas and Corridors**: Areas of habitat that are relatively important to various species of native fish and wildlife (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report*).

— **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.

— **Old-growth/Mature forests:** Old-growth west of Cascade crest – Stands of at least 2 tree species, forming a multi-layered canopy with occasional small openings; with at least 8 trees/ac (20 trees/ha) > 32 in (81 cm) dbh or > 200 years of age. Mature forests – Stands with average diameters exceeding 21 in (53 cm) dbh; crown cover may be less than 100%; decay, decadence, numbers of snags, and quantity of large downed material is generally less than that found in old-growth; 80-200 years old west of the Cascade crest.

— **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report p. 158 – see web link above*).

— **Riparian**: The area adjacent to aquatic systems with flowing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.

— **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report p. 161 – see web link above*).

— **Instream:** The combination of physical, biological, and chemical processes and conditions that interact to provide functional life history requirements for instream fish and wildlife resources.

— **Nearshore**: Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore. (*full descriptions of habitats and the definition of relatively undisturbed are in WDFW report – see web link on previous page).*

— **Caves:** A naturally occurring cavity, recess, void, or system of interconnected passages under the earth in soils, rock, ice, or other geological formations and is large enough to contain a human.

— **Cliffs:** Greater than 25 ft (7.6 m) high and occurring below 5000 ft elevation.

— **Talus:** Homogenous areas of rock rubble ranging in average size 0.5 - 6.5 ft (0.15 - 2.0 m), composed of basalt, andesite, and/or sedimentary rock, including riprap slides and mine tailings. May be associated with cliffs.

X **Snags and Logs:** Trees are considered snags if they are dead or dying and exhibit sufficient decay characteristics to enable cavity excavation/use by wildlife. Priority snags have a diameter at breast height of > 20 in (51 cm) in western Washington and are > 6.5 ft (2 m) in height. Priority logs are > 12 in (30 cm) in diameter at the largest end, and > 20 ft (6 m) long.

Note: All vegetated wetlands are by definition a priority habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed elsewhere.

Wetland name or number 7

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type *Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.*	**Category**
SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? — The dominant water regime is tidal, — Vegetated, and — With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt Yes –Go to **SC 1.1** No= **Not an estuarine wetland**	
SC 1.1. Is the wetland within a National Wildlife Refuge, National Park, National Estuary Reserve, Natural Area Preserve, State Park or Educational, Environmental, or Scientific Reserve designated under WAC 332-30-151? Yes = **Category I** No - Go to **SC 1.2**	**Cat. I**
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? — The wetland is relatively undisturbed (has no diking, ditching, filling, cultivation, grazing, and has less than 10% cover of non-native plant species. (If non-native species are *Spartina*, see page 25) — At least ¾ of the landward edge of the wetland has a 100 ft buffer of shrub, forest, or un-grazed or un-mowed grassland. — The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. Yes = **Category I** No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** **Cat. II**
SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Has the WA Department of Natural Resources updated their website to include the list of Wetlands of High Conservation Value? Yes **–** Go to **SC 2.2** No **–** Go to **SC 2.3** SC 2.2. Is the wetland listed on the WDNR database as a Wetland of High Conservation Value? Yes **= Category I** No **= Not a WHCV** SC 2.3. Is the wetland in a Section/Township/Range that contains a Natural Heritage wetland? http://www1.dnr.wa.gov/nhp/refdesk/datasearch/wnhpwetlands.pdf Yes **– Contact WNHP/WDNR and go to SC 2.4** No **= Not a WHCV** SC 2.4. Has WDNR identified the wetland within the S/T/R as a Wetland of High Conservation Value and listed it on their website? Yes **= Category I** No **= Not a WHCV**	**Cat. I**
SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? *Use the key below.* ***If you answer YES you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** SC 3.1. Does an area within the wetland unit have organic soil horizons, either peats or mucks, that compose 16 in or more of the first 32 in of the soil profile? Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** No – Go to **SC 3.2** SC 3.2. Does an area within the wetland unit have organic soils, either peats or mucks, that are less than 16 in deep over bedrock, or an impermeable hardpan such as clay or volcanic ash, or that are floating on top of a lake or pond? Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** No = **Is not a bog** SC 3.3. Does an area with peats or mucks have more than 70% cover of mosses at ground level, AND at least a 30% cover of plant species listed in Table 4? Yes = **Is a Category I bog** No – Go to **SC 3.4** **NOTE:** If you are uncertain about the extent of mosses in the understory, you may substitute that criterion by measuring the pH of the water that seeps into a hole dug at least 16 in deep. If the pH is less than 5.0 and the plant species in Table 4 are present, the wetland is a bog. SC 3.4. Is an area with peats or mucks forested (> 30% cover) with Sitka spruce, subalpine fir, western red cedar, western hemlock, lodgepole pine, quaking aspen, Engelmann spruce, or western white pine, AND any of the species (or combination of species) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy? Yes = **Is a Category I bog** No **= Is not a bog**	**Cat. I**

Wetland name or number 7

SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands Does the wetland have at least 1 contiguous acre of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as priority habitats? ***If you answer YES you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** — **Old-growth forests** (west of Cascade crest): Stands of at least two tree species, forming a multi-layered canopy with occasional small openings; with at least 8 trees/ac (20 trees/ha) that are at least 200 years of age OR have a diameter at breast height (dbh) of 32 in (81 cm) or more. — **Mature forests** (west of the Cascade Crest): Stands where the largest trees are 80- 200 years old OR the species that make up the canopy have an average diameter (dbh) exceeding 21 in (53 cm). Yes = **Category I** No = **Not a forested wetland for this section**	**Cat. I**
SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon? — The wetland lies in a depression adjacent to marine waters that is wholly or partially separated from marine waters by sandbanks, gravel banks, shingle, or, less frequently, rocks — The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (> 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon *(needs to be measured near the bottom)* Yes – Go to **SC 5.1** No = **Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon** SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions? — The wetland is relatively undisturbed (has no diking, ditching, filling, cultivation, grazing), and has less than 20% cover of aggressive, opportunistic plant species (see list of species on p. 100). — At least ¾ of the landward edge of the wetland has a 100 ft buffer of shrub, forest, or un-grazed or un-mowed grassland. — The wetland is larger than $^{1}/_{10}$ ac (4350 ft^2) Yes = **Category I** No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** **Cat. II**
SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? ***If you answer yes you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.*** In practical terms that means the following geographic areas: — Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103 — Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105 — Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 Yes – Go to **SC 6.1** No = **not an interdunal wetland for rating** SC 6.1. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger and scores an 8 or 9 for the habitat functions on the form (rates H,H,H or H,H,M for the three aspects of function)? Yes = **Category I** No – Go to **SC 6.2** SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger? Yes = **Category II** No – Go to **SC 6.3** SC 6.3. Is the unit between 0.1 and 1 ac, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is between 0.1 and 1 ac? Yes = **Category III** No = **Category IV**	**Cat I** **Cat. II** **Cat. III** **Cat. IV**
Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form	