

APPENDIX C

Washington Wetland Rating Form for Eastern Washington

WETLAND RATING FORM - EASTERN WASHINGTON

Version 2 - Updated June 2006 to increase accuracy and reproducibility among users

Name of wetland (if known): Potholes Reservoir Units A and B Date of site visit: 11/27-11/28/07
 Rated by Tessa Dennis Trained by Ecology? Yes No Date of training March 2007
 SEC-1_36_31_TWN5H:18N_19N_19N_RNGE:27E_27E_28E Is S/TR in Appendix D? Yes No

Map of wetland unit: **Sheets 8-11, Estimated size :**

SUMMARY OF RATING

Category based on FUNCTIONS provided by wetland

I II III IV

Category I = Score >=70
 Category II = Score 51-69
 Category III = Score 30-50
 Category IV = Score < 30

Score for "Water Quality" Functions	9
Score for Hydrologic Functions	16
Score for Habitat Functions	26
TOTAL score for functions	51

Category based on SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS of wetland

I II III Does not Apply

Final Category (choose the "highest" category from above)

II

Summary of basic information about the wetland unit

Wetland Type	Wetland Class
Vernal Pool	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depressional
Alkali	<input type="checkbox"/> Riverine
Natural Heritage Wetland	<input type="checkbox"/> Lake-fringe
Bog	<input type="checkbox"/> Slope
Forest	<input type="checkbox"/>
None of the above	X Check if unit has multiple HGM classes present <input type="checkbox"/>

Does the wetland being rated meet any of the criteria below?

If you answer YES to any of the questions below you will need to protect the wetland according to the regulations regarding the special characteristics found in the wetland.

Check List for Wetlands That Need Special Protection, and That Are Not Included in the Rating	YES	NO
SP1. Has the wetland unit been documented as a habitat for any Federally listed Threatened or Endangered animal or plant species (T/E species)? For the purposes of this rating system, "documented" means the wetland is on the appropriate state or federal database.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SP2. Has the wetland unit been documented as habitat for any State listed Threatened or Endangered animal species? For the purposes of this rating system, "documented" means the wetland is on the appropriate state database. Note: Wetlands with State listed plant species are categorized as Category I Natural Heritage Wetlands (see p. 19 of data form).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SP3. Does the wetland unit contain individuals of Priority species listed by the WDFW for the state?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SP4. Does the wetland unit have a local significance in addition to its functions? For example, the wetland has been identified in the Shoreline Master Program, the Critical Areas Ordinance, or in a local management plan as having special significance.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

To complete the next part of the data sheet you will need to determine the Hydrogeomorphic Class of the wetland being rated.

The hydrogeomorphic classification groups wetlands into those that function in similar ways. Classifying the wetland first simplifies the questions needed to answer how it functions. The Hydrogeomorphic Class of a wetland can be determined using the key below. See p. 20 for more detailed instructions on classifying wetlands.

Comments:

Classification of Vegetated Wetlands for Eastern Washington

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

- Does the entire wetland unit meet both of the following criteria?
 - The vegetated part of the wetland is on the shores of a body of open water (without any vegetation on the surface) at least 20 acres (8 ha) in size;
 - At least 30% of the open water area is deeper than 3 m (10 ft)?
 - NO - go to Step 2
 - YES - The wetland class is **Lake-fringe (lacustrine fringe)**
- 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?**

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 <3ft diameter and less than a foot deep).*

- NO - go to Step 3
- YES - The wetland class is **Slope**
- Is the entire wetland unit in a valley or stream channel where it gets inundated by overbank flooding from that stream or river? In general, the flooding should occur at least once every ten years to answer "yes." *The wetland can contain depressions that are filled with water when the river is not flooding.*
 - NO - go to Step 4
 - YES - The wetland class is **Riverine**
- Is the entire wetland unit in a topographic depression, outside areas that are inundated by overbank flooding, in which water ponds, or is saturated to the surface, at some time of the year. *This means that any outlet, if present, is higher than the interior of the wetland.*
 - NO - go to Step 5
 - YES - The wetland class is **Depressional**

Comments: All wetlands within Units A and B were rated with this one wetland rating form due to their similarities in hydrology, vegetation, and habitat functions. Questions were evaluated considering any range in answers and if any range existed between wetlands, the higher value was selected.

HGM Classes Within One Delineated Wetland Boundary	Class to Use for Rating
Slope + Riverine	Riverine
Slope + Depressional	Depressional
Slope + Lake-fringe	Lake-fringe
Depressional + Riverine (riverine is within boundary of depression)	Depressional
Depressional + Lake-fringe	Depressional

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

Comments:

Depressional Wetlands		Points (only 1 score per box)
WATER QUALITY FUNCTIONS - Indicators that the wetland functions to improve water quality		(see p. 38)
D	D 1.0 Does the wetland unit have the potential to improve water quality?	
D	D 1.1 Characteristics of surface water flows out of the wetland unit: Wetland has no surface water outlet - points = 5 Wetland has an intermittently flowing outlet - points = 3 Wetland has a highly constricted permanently flowing outlet - points = 3 Wetland has a permanently flowing surface outlet - points = 1	5
D	D 1.2 The soil 2 inches below the surface (or duff layer) is clay or organic (use NRCS definitions of soil types) YES points = 3 NO points = 0	0
D	D 1.3 Characteristics of persistent vegetation (emergent, shrub, and/or forest Cowardin class) Wetland has persistent, ungrazed, vegetation for > 2/3 of area points = 5 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed, vegetation from 1/3 to 2/3 of area points = 3 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed vegetation from 1/10 to < 1/3 of area points = 1 Wetland has persistent, ungrazed vegetation < 1/10 of area points = 0 Map of Cowardin vegetation classes	Figure 3
D	D 1.4 Characteristics of seasonal ponding or inundation. This is the area of ponding that fluctuates every year. Do not count the area that is permanently ponded. Area seasonally ponded is > 1/2 total area of wetland points = 3 Area seasonally ponded is 1/4 - 1/2 total area of wetland points = 1 Area seasonally ponded is < 1/4 total area of wetland points = 0 NOTE. See text for indicators of seasonal and permanent inundation/flooding. Map of Hydroperiods	Figure 1
D	Total for D 1 Add the points in the boxes above	9
D	D 2. Does the wetland unit have the opportunity to improve water quality? Answer YES if you know or believe there are pollutants in groundwater or surface water coming into the wetland that would otherwise reduce water quality in streams, lakes or groundwater downgradient from the wetland. Note which of the following conditions provide the sources of pollutants. A unit may have pollutants coming from several sources, but any single source would qualify as opportunity. <input type="checkbox"/> Grazing in the wetland or within 150 ft <input type="checkbox"/> Untreated stormwater discharges to wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Tilled fields or orchards within 150 ft of wetland <input type="checkbox"/> A stream or culvert discharges into wetland that drains developed areas, residential areas, farmed fields, roads, or clear-cut logging <input type="checkbox"/> Residential, urban areas, golf courses are within 150 ft of wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland is fed by groundwater high in phosphorus or nitrogen <input type="checkbox"/> Other YES <input type="checkbox"/> multiplier is 1 NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> multiplier is 1	multiplier 1
D	TOTAL - Water Quality Functions Multiply the score from D1 by the multiplier in D2 Record score on p. 1 of field form	9

Depressional Wetlands

HYDROLOGIC FUNCTIONS - Indicators that wetland functions to reduce flooding and stream erosion

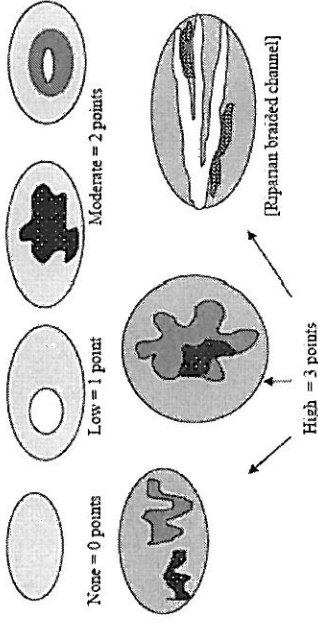
D	D 3.0 Does the wetland unit have the potential to reduce flooding and stream erosion?	(see p. 39)
D	D 3.1 Characteristics of surface water flows out of the wetland unit: Wetland has no surface water outlet - points = 8 Wetland has an intermittently flowing outlet - points = 4 Wetland has a highly constricted permanently flowing outlet - points = 4 Wetland has a permanently flowing surface outlet - points = 0	8
D	D 3.2 Depth of storage during wet periods: Estimate the height of ponding above the surface of the wetland (see text for description of measuring height). In wetlands with permanent ponding, the surface is the lowest elevation of "permanent" water) Marks of ponding are at least 3 ft above the surface points = 8 The wetland is a "headwater" wetland" (see p. 39) points = 6 Marks are 2 ft to < 3 ft from surface points = 6 Marks are 1 ft to < 2 ft from surface points = 4 Marks are 6 in to < 1 ft from surface points = 2 No marks above 6 in. or wetland has only saturated soils points = 0 Total for D 3 Add the points in the boxes above	8
D	D 4.0 Does the wetland unit have the opportunity to reduce flooding and erosion? Answer NO if the major source of water is groundwater, irrigation return flow, or water levels in the wetland are controlled by a reservoir Answer YES if the wetland is in a location in the watershed where the flood storage, or reduction in water velocity, it provides helps protect downstream property and aquatic resources from flooding or excessive and/or erosive flows. Note which of the following conditions apply. <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland is in a headwater of a river or stream that has flooding problems <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland drains to a river or stream that has flooding problems <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland has no outlet and impounds surface runoff water that might otherwise flow into a river or stream that has flooding problems <input type="checkbox"/> Other YES <input type="checkbox"/> multiplier is 2 NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> multiplier is 1	multiplier 1
D	TOTAL - Hydrologic Functions Multiply the score from D3 by the multiplier in D4 Record score on p. 1 of field form	16

Comments

Points (only 1 score per box)	Figure
<p>These questions apply to wetlands of all HGM classes.</p> <p>HABITAT FUNCTIONS - Indicators that wetland functions to provide important habitat</p> <p>H 1.1. Does the wetland unit have the potential to provide habitat for many species?</p> <p>H 1.1 Categories of vegetation structure (see p.62) Check the vegetation classes (as defined by Cowardin) and heights of emergents present. Size threshold for each class or height category is 1/4 acre or more than 10% of the area if unit is < 2.3 acres.</p> <p>___ Aquatic bed ___ Emergent plants 0-12 in. (0 - 30 cm) high are the highest layer and have > 30% cover ___ X Emergent plants >12 - 40 in. (>30 - 100cm) high are the highest layer with >30% cover ___ X Emergent plants > 40 in. (> 100cm) high are the highest layer with >30% cover ___ Scrub/shrub (areas where shrubs have >30% cover) ___ Forested (areas where trees have >30% cover)</p> <p>Add the number of vegetation types that qualify. If you have:</p> <p>4-6 types points = 3 3 types points = 2 2 types points = 1 1 type points = 0</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">1</p>
<p>Map of Cowardin vegetation classes and areas with different heights of emergents</p> <p>H 1.2. Is one of the vegetation types "aquatic bed?" (see p. 64) YES = 1 point NO = 0 points</p>	0
<p>Surface Water (see p.65)</p> <p>H 1.3.1 Does the unit have areas of "open" water (without herbaceous or shrub plants) over at least 1/4 acre or 10% of its area during the spring (March - early June) OR in early fall (August - end of September)? Note: answer YES for Lake-Fringe wetlands ___ YES = 3 points & go to H 1.4 ___ NO = go to H 1.3.2</p> <p>H 1.3.2 Does the unit have an intermittent or permanent stream within its boundaries, or along one side, over at least 1/4 acre or 10% of its area, AND that has an unvegetated bottom (answer yes only if H 1.3.1 is NO)? ___ YES = 3 points ___ NO = 0 points</p> <p>Map showing areas of open water</p>	3
<p>Richness of Plant Species (see p. 66)</p> <p>H 1.4. Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft. (different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold) You do not have to name the species. Do not include Eurasian Milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Russian Olive, Phragmites, Canadian Thistle, Yellow-flag Iris, and Salt Cedar (Tamarisk)</p> <p>If you counted: > 9 species points = 2 4-9 species points = 1 < 4 species points = 0</p> <p>List species below if you wish:</p>	1

H 1.5. Interspersion of habitats (see p. 67)

Decided from the diagrams below whether interspersion between categories of vegetation (described in H 1.1), or categories and un-vegetated areas (can include open water or mudflats) is high, medium, low, or none.



NOTE: If you have four or more vegetation categories or three vegetation categories and open water the rating is always "high". Use maps from H1.1 and H1.3

H 1.6. Special Habitat Features: (see p. 68)

- Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland unit. The number of checks is the number of points you put into the next column.
- Loose rocks larger than 4" or large, downed, woody debris (>4in. diameter) within the area of surface ponding or in stream.
 - Cattails or burrushes are present within the unit.
 - Standing snags (diameter at the bottom > 4 inches) in the wetland unit or within 30 m (100ft) of the edge.
 - Emergent or shrub vegetation in areas that are permanently inundated/ponded. The presence of "yellow flag" Iris is a good indicator of vegetation in areas permanently ponded.
 - Stable steep banks of fine material that might be used by beaver or muskrat for denning (>45 degree slope) OR signs of recent beaver activity
 - Invasive species cover less than 20% in each stratum of vegetation (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss ground cover)

Maximum score possible = 6

TOTAL Potential to provide habitat
Add the scores in the column above

Comments

12

<p>H 2.0 Does the wetland have the opportunity to provide habitat for many species?</p> <p>H 2.1 Buffers (see p. 71) Choose the description that best represents condition of buffer of wetland unit. The highest scoring criterion that applies to the wetland is to be used in the rating. See text for definition of "undisturbed." Relatively undisturbed also means no grazing, no landscaping, no daily human use, and no structures or paving within undisturbed part of buffer. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 330ft (100 m) of relatively undisturbed vegetated areas, rocky areas, or open water <input type="checkbox"/> 95% of circumference <input type="checkbox"/> 330 ft (100 m) of relatively undisturbed vegetated areas, rocky areas, or open water <input type="checkbox"/> 50% circumference <input type="checkbox"/> 170ft (50 m) of relatively undisturbed vegetated areas, rocky areas, or open water <input type="checkbox"/> 95% circumference <input type="checkbox"/> 30ft (100 m) of relatively undisturbed vegetated areas, rocky areas, or open water <input type="checkbox"/> 25% circumference <input type="checkbox"/> 170ft (50 m) of relatively undisturbed vegetated areas, rocky areas, or open water for > 50% circumference If buffer does not meet any of the criteria above <input type="checkbox"/> No paved areas (except paved trails) or buildings within 80ft (25 m) of wetland > 95% circumference. Light to moderate grazing, or lawns are OK. <input type="checkbox"/> No paved areas or buildings within 170ft (50m) of wetland for >50% circumference. Light to moderate grazing, or lawns are OK. Points = 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Heavy grazing in buffer. Points = 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetated buffers are <6.6ft wide (2m) for more than 95% of the circumference (e.g. tilled fields, paving, basalt bedrock extend to edge of wetland). Points = 0 <input type="checkbox"/> Buffer does not meet any of the criteria above. Points = 1 Aerial photo showing buffers</p>	<p>Figure</p> <p>5</p> <p>4</p> <p>H 2.2 Wet Corridors (see p. 72) H 2.2.1 Is the wetland unit part of a relatively undisturbed and unbroken, > 30 ft wide, vegetated corridor at least 1/2 mile long with surface water or flowing water throughout most of the year (> 9 months/yr)? (dams, heavily used gravel roads, paved roads, fields tilled to edge of stream, or pasture to edge of stream are considered breaks in the corridor) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES = 4 points (go to H 2.3) <input type="checkbox"/> NO = go to H 2.2.2 H 2.2.2 Is the unit part of a relatively undisturbed and unbroken, > 30 ft wide, vegetated corridor, at least 1/2 mile long with water flowing seasonally, OR a lake-fringe wetland without a "wet" corridor, OR a riverine wetland without a surface channel connecting to the stream? <input type="checkbox"/> YES = 2 points (go to H 2.3) <input type="checkbox"/> NO go to H 2.2.3 H 2.2.3 Is the wetland within a 1/2 mile of any permanent stream, seasonal stream, or lake (do not include man-made ditches)? <input type="checkbox"/> YES = 1 point <input type="checkbox"/> NO = 0 points</p> <p>Comments:</p>
---	--

<p>H 2.3 Near or adjacent to other priority habitats listed by WDFW (see p. 74) Which of the following priority habitats are within 330ft (100m) of the wetland unit? NOTE: the connections do not have to be relatively undisturbed. These are Df-W definitions. Check with your local Df-W biologist if there are any questions. <input type="checkbox"/> Riparian: The area adjacent to aquatic systems with flowing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other. <input type="checkbox"/> Aspen Stands: Pure or mixed stands of aspen greater than 2 acres. <input type="checkbox"/> Cliffs: Greater than 25 ft high and occurring below 5000 ft. <input type="checkbox"/> Old-growth forests: (east of Cascade crest): In general, stands will be >150 years of age, with 10 trees/acre that are > 21 in dbh, and 1 - 3 snags/acre > 12-14 in diameter. <input type="checkbox"/> Mature forests: Stands with average diameters exceeding 21 in dbh; crown cover may be less than 100%, decay, 80 - 160 years old east of the Cascade crest. <input type="checkbox"/> Prairies and Steppe: Relatively undisturbed areas (as indicated by dominance of native plants) where grasses and/or forbs form the natural climax plant community. <input type="checkbox"/> Shrub-steppe: Tracts of land consisting of plant communities with one or more layers of perennial grasses and a conspicuous but discontinuous layer of shrubs. <input type="checkbox"/> Talus: Homogenous areas of rock rubble ranging in average size 0.5 - 6.5 ft, composed of basalt, andesite, and/or sedimentary rock, including riprap slides and mine tailings. May be associated with cliffs. <input type="checkbox"/> Caves: A naturally occurring cavity, recess, void, or system of interconnected passages <input type="checkbox"/> Oregon white Oak: Woodlands Stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component of the stand is 25%. <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Natural Open Space: A priority species resides within or is adjacent to the open space and uses it for breeding and/or regular feeding; and/or the open space functions as a corridor connecting other priority habitats, especially those that would otherwise be isolated, and/or the open space is an isolated remnant of natural habitat larger than 4 ha (10 acres) and is surrounded by urban development. <input type="checkbox"/> Aspen Stands: Pure or mixed stands of aspen greater than 0.8 ha (2 acres). If wetland has 2 or more Priority Habitats = 4 points If wetland has 1 Priority Habitat = 2 points No Priority habitats = 0 points</p> <p>Note: All vegetated wetlands are by definition a priority habitat but are not included in this list Nearby wetlands are addressed in question H 2.4)</p> <p>Comments:</p>	<p>0</p>
--	----------

<p>H 2.4 Landscape (choose the one description of the landscape around the wetland that best fits) (see p. 76)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The wetland unit is in an area where annual rainfall is less than 12 inches, and its water regime is not influenced by irrigation practices, dams, or water control structures. (Generally, this means outside boundaries of reclamation areas, irrigation district, or reservoirs) points = 5</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> There are at least 3 other wetlands within 1/2 mile, and the connections between them are relatively undisturbed (light grazing in the connection or an open water connection along a lake shore without heavy boat traffic are OK, but connections should NOT be bisected by paved roads, fill, fields, heavy boat traffic or other development) points = 5</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> There are at least 3 other wetlands within 1/2 mile, BUT the connections between them are disturbed? points = 2</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> There is at least 1 wetland within 1/2 mile. points = 1</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Does not meet any of the four criteria above points = 0</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>H 2. TOTAL Score - opportunity for providing habitat <i>Add the scores in the column above</i></p>	
<p>14</p>	
<p>H 3.0 Does the wetland unit have indicators that its ability to provide habitat is reduced?</p> <p>H 3.1 Indicator of reduced habitat functions (see p. 75) Do the areas of open water in the wetland unit have a resident population of carp (see text for indicators of the presence of carp)? (NOTE: This question does not apply to reservoirs with water levels controlled by dams, such as the reservoirs on the Columbia and Snake Rivers) YES = - 5 points NO = 0 points</p>	<p><i>Points will be subtracted</i></p> <p>0</p>
<p>Total Score for Habitat Functions add the points for H 1, H 2, and H 3 and record the result on p. 1</p>	<p>26</p>

Comments:

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Please determine if the wetland unit meets the attributes described below and circle the appropriate Category. NOTE: A wetland may meet the criteria for more than one set of special characteristics. Record all those that apply. NOTE: All units should also be characterized based on their functions.

<p>Wetland Type Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the Category when the appropriate criteria are met.</p>	<p>SC 1.0 Vernal pools (see p. 79)</p> <p>Is the wetland unit less than 4000 ft, and does it meet at least two of the following criteria?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Its only source of water is rainfall or snowmelt from a small contributing basin and has no groundwater input</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Wetland plants are typically present only in the spring, the summer vegetation is typically upland annuals. NOTE: If you find perennial, "obligate", wetland plants the wetland is probably NOT a vernal pool</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The soil in the wetland are shallow (<1ft deep (30 cm)) and is underlain by an impermeable layer such as basalt or clay.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Surface water is present for less than 120 days during the "wet" season.</p> <p>YES = Go to SC 1.1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO - not a vernal pool</p> <p>SC 1.1 Is the vernal pool relatively undisturbed in February and March? YES = Go to SC 1.2 NO - not a vernal pool with special characteristics</p>	<p>Category</p>
		<p><input type="checkbox"/> Cat. II <input type="checkbox"/> Cat. III</p>
<p>SC 1.2 Is the vernal pool in an area where there are at least 3 separate aquatic resources within 0.5 miles (other wetlands, rivers, lakes etc.)? YES = Category II NO = Category III</p>		
<p>SC 2.0 Alkali wetlands (see p. 81)</p>	<p>Does the wetland unit meet one of the following two criteria?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The wetland has a conductivity > 3.0 mS/cm.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The wetland has a conductivity between 2.0 - 3.0 mS, and more than 50% of the plant cover in the wetland can be classified as "alkali" species (see Table 2 for list of plants found in alkali systems)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> If the wetland is dry at the time of your field visit, the central part of the area is covered with a layer of salt.</p>	
<p>OR does the wetland unit meet two of the following three sub-criteria?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Salt encrustations around more than 80% of the edge of the wetland</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> More than 1/4 of the plant cover consists of species listed on Table 2</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A pH above 9.0. All alkali wetlands have a high pH, but please note that some freshwater wetlands may also have a high pH. Thus, pH alone is not a good indicator of alkali wetlands.</p> <p>YES = Category I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO - not an alkali wetland</p>		<p><input type="checkbox"/> Cat. I</p>

<p>SC 3.0 Natural Heritage Wetlands (see p. 81) Natural Heritage wetlands have been identified by the Washington Natural Heritage Program/DNR as either high quality undisturbed wetlands or wetlands that support state Threatened, Endangered, or Sensitive plant species. SC 3.1 Is the wetland unit being rated in a Section/Township/Range that contains a Natural Heritage wetland? (this question is used to screen out most sites before you need to contact WNHP/DNR) S/T/R information from Appendix D <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or accessed from WNHP/DNR database <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> - contact WNHP/DNR (see p. 79) and go to SC 3.2 NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SC 3.2 Has DNR identified the wetland unit as a high quality undisturbed wetland or as or as a site with state threatened, endangered, or sensitive plant species? YES = Category I NO - not a natural heritage wetland</p>	<p>SC 4.0 Bogs (see p. 82) Does the wetland unit (or any part of the wetland unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs. Use the key below to identify if the wetland is a bog. If you answer yes you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.</p> <p>SC 4.1. Does the wetland unit have organic soil horizons (i.e. layers of organic soil), either peats or mucks, that compose 16 inches or more of the first 32 inches of the soil profile? (See Appendix B for a field key to identify organic soils?) Yes - go to SC 4.3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No - go to SC 4.2</p> <p>SC 4.2. Does the unit have organic soils, either peats or mucks that are less than 16 inches 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 4.3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No - Is not a bog for rating</p> <p>SC 4.3. Does the wetland unit have more than 70% cover of mosses at ground level in any area within its boundaries, AND other plants, if present, consist of the "bog" species listed in Table 3 as a significant component of the vegetation (more than 30% of the total shrub and herbaceous cover consists of species in Table 3)? Yes - Category I bog No - go to Q 4.4</p> <p><i>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" deep. If the pH is less than 5.0 and the "bog" plant species in Table 3 are present, the wetland is a bog.</i></p> <p>SC 4.4. Is the unit, or any part of it, forested (> 30% cover) with sitka spruce, subalpine fir, western red cedar, western hemlock, lodgepole pine, quaking aspen, Englemann's spruce, or western white pine. WITH any of the species (or combination of species) on the bog species plant list in Table 3 as a significant component of the ground cover (> 30% coverage of the total shrub/herbaceous cover)? Yes - Category I bog NO</p>
--	--

<p>SC 5.0 Forested Wetlands (see p. 85) Does the wetland unit have an area of forest (you should have identified a forested class, if present, in question H 1.1) rooted within its boundary that meet at least one of the following three criteria? <input type="checkbox"/> The wetland is within the "100 year" floodplain of a river or stream <input type="checkbox"/> aspen (<i>Populus tremuloides</i>) are a dominant or co-dominant of the "woody" vegetation. (Dominant means it represents at least 50% of the cover of woody species, co-dominant means it represents at least 20% of the total cover of woody species) <input type="checkbox"/> There is at least 1/4 acre of trees (even in wetlands smaller than 2.5 acres) that are "mature" or "old-growth" according to the definitions for these priority habitats developed by WDFW (see p. 83) YES = go to SC 5.1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO - not a forested wetland with special characteristics</p>	<p>SC 5.1 Does the wetland unit have a forest canopy where more than 50% of the tree species (by cover) are slow growing native trees Slow growing trees are: western red cedar (<i>Thuja plicata</i>), Alaska yellow cedar (<i>Chamaecyparis nootkatensis</i>), pine spp. mostly "white" pine (<i>Pinus monticola</i>), western hemlock (<i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>), Englemann spruce (<i>Picea engelmannii</i>) YES = Category I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO = go to SC 5.2</p> <p>SC 5.2 Does the unit have areas where aspen (<i>Populus tremuloides</i>) are a dominant or co-dominant species? YES = Category I NO = go to SC 5.3</p> <p>SC 5.3 Does the wetland unit have areas with a forest canopy where more than 50% of the tree species (by cover) are fast growing species. Fast growing species are: Alders - red (<i>Alnus rubra</i>), thin-leaf (<i>A. tenuifolia</i>) Cottonwoods - narrow-leaf (<i>Populus angustifolia</i>), black (<i>P. balsamifera</i>) Willows- peach-leaf (<i>Salix amygdaloides</i>), Sitka (<i>S. sitchensis</i>), Pacific (<i>S. lasianдра</i>), Aspen - (<i>Populus tremuloides</i>), Water Birch (<i>Betula occidentalis</i>) YES = Category II NO = go to SC 5.5</p> <p>SC 5.5 Is the forested component of the wetland within the "100 year floodplain" of a river or stream? YES = Category II</p>
<p>Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics Choose the "highest" rating if wetland falls into several categories. If you answered NO for all types enter "Not Applicable" on p. 1.</p>	