

S.J.C. DEPARTMENT OF  
MAY 18 2018  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

April 30, 2018

Joe Brogan  
1111 Third Avenue, Suite 3000  
Seattle, Washington

**Re: Runstad Wetland and Stream Reconnaissance**  
17921-00

Dear Joe:

At your request, we have conducted a wetland and stream reconnaissance for the Runstad property on Blakely Island, San Juan County, Washington, near the bank stabilization project (the “Project”) constructed along the waterfront (i.e., the bulkhead). This reconnaissance has been prepared in accordance with the guidance provided in San Juan County Code (SCC) 18.35. The reconnaissance was performed by Jim Shannon, a senior biologist with Hart Crowser, Inc. Jim has been conducting wetland and stream reconnaissance surveys in the Salish Sea region for 20 years.

The site reconnaissance conducted on April 23, 2018 identified two wetlands and one stream near the Project: Wetland A, Wetland B, and Stream 1 (Table 1 and Figure 1). These three features are hydrologically connected. Wetland A drains to Stream 1 which flows into and through Wetland B. Wetland B outlets to the marine waters of Thatcher Pass.

**Table 1. Wetlands and Streams in the Project Vicinity.**

Wetland/Stream	Cowardin Type	Hydro geomorphic class	Rating	Approximate Size (feet)	Buffer Water Quality/Habitat (feet)
Wetland A	Emergent	Slope	IV	3,049	40/40
Wetland B	Emergent	Slope	IV	5,663	60/110
Stream 1	Seasonal	n/a	NS5	1 foot wide	75

## Wetland A

Wetland A sits north and above Spencer Road (Attachment A - Photographs). Wetland A is an emergent, slope wetland dominated by *Carex* sp. vegetation. Soils are saturated to the surface and are hydric (i.e., depleted below a dark surface (A11) USACE 2010). Wetland A is rated a category IV (15 points) under SCC 18.35 which follows the Washington State Wetland Rating System for Western Washington: 2014 Update (Hruby 2014, Attachment A).

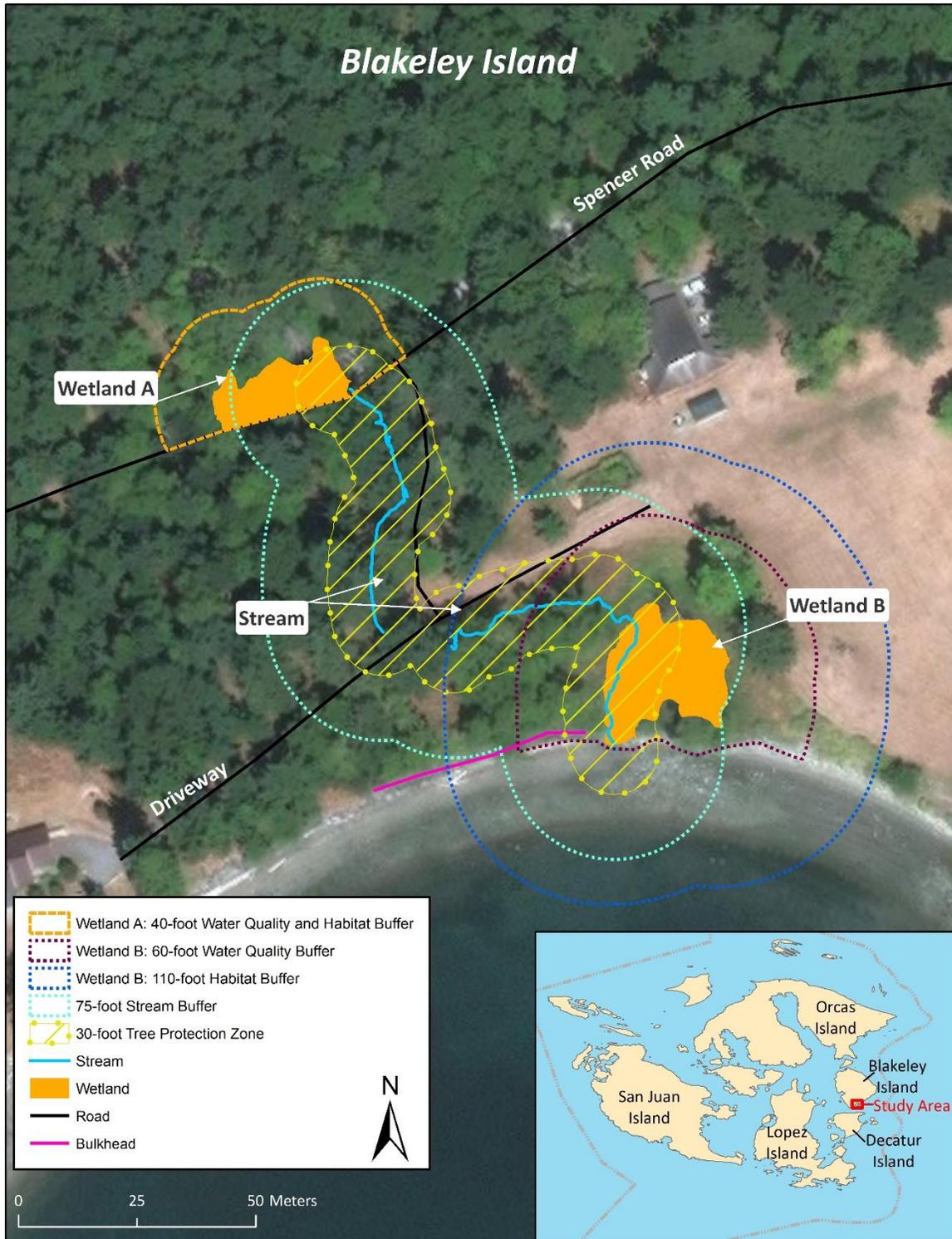


Figure 1. Wetlands, Streams, and Buffers near the Project.



## Stream 1

Stream 1 flows on the north side of Spencer Road before receiving water from Wetland A (Attachment B). Stream 1 then flows under Spencer Road in a culvert, exiting on the south side of Spencer Road. Stream 1 continues for about 200 feet before entering a catch basin that carries Stream 1 under the Runstad driveway in a culvert. Stream 1 exits the culvert flowing east into Wetland B and then south to the marine waters of Thatcher Pass.

Stream 1 is a small, seasonal stream with a riparian zone composed of Douglas fir (*Psuedotsuga menziessii*) and an understory of various grass species. Stream 1 is rated a NS5 stream with a 75-foot water quality buffer and 30-foot tree protection zone under SCC 18.35.130.

## Wetland B

Wetland B is adjacent to marine waters near the shoreline. Wetland B is an emergent, slope wetland dominated by skunk cabbage (*Lysichiton americanus*) and *Carex* sp. vegetation. Soils are saturated to the surface and are hydric (i.e., Histosol (A1) USACE 2010). Wetland B is rated a category III (17 points) using SCC 18.35 which follows the Washington State Wetland Rating System for Western Washington: 2014 Update (Hruby 2014: Attachment A). Category III wetlands with a medium land use intensity receive a 60-foot water quality buffer and 110-foot habitat buffer per SCC 18.35.100.

## References

- Brinson, M.M. 1993. A Hydrogeomorphic Classification for Wetlands. Technical Report WRP DE 4. U.S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, Mississippi. August 1993.
- Cowardin, L.M., V. Carter, F.C. Golet, and E.T. LaRoe 1979. Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States. Office of Biological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, FWS/OBS-79/31, Washington, D.C.
- Hruby, T. 2014. Washington State Wetland Rating System for Western Washington: 2014 Update. Publication #14-06-029. Olympia, WA: Washington Department of Ecology.
- San Juan County. 2018. City of Everett Shoreline Master Plan. Accessed May 7, 2018.  
<http://www.codepublishing.com/WA/SanJuanCounty/#!/SanJuanCounty18/SanJuanCounty1835.html#18.35.090>
- USACE. 2010. Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Western Mountains, Valleys and Coast Region (Version 2.0), ed. J.S. Wakeley, R.W. Lichvar, and C.V. Noble. ERDC/EL TR-10-0. Vicksburg, MS: US Army Engineer Research and Development Center.



Runstad  
May 9, 2018

17921-00  
Page 4

Sincerely,

**HART CROWSER, INC.**

Handwritten signature of James A. Shannon in black ink.

**JAMES A. SHANNON**  
Senior Associate, Wetland Biologist

Handwritten signature of Jean M. Olson in black ink.

**JEAN M. OLSON**  
Project, Biologist

Attachments:  
Wetland Rating Forms  
Photographs

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Reconnaissance\_Draft\_20180509.docx



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Runstad  
May 9, 2018

17921-00  
Page 5

## **Attachment A: Wetland Rating Forms**



## Attachment B: Photographs



Photograph 1. Wetland A facing Spencer Road.



Photograph 2. Stream 1 north side of Spencer Road just uphill from Wetland A.



Photograph 3. Stream 1 exiting Spencer Road culvert adjacent to Runstad driveway.



Photograph 4. Stream 1 catch basin that routes Stream 1 to Wetland B. Note trees in vicinity of Stream 1.



Photograph 5. Wetland B facing west.

## RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #):   A   Date of site visit:   4/23/2018  

Rated by   Jim Shannon   Trained by Ecology?  Yes  No Date of training   Mar-16  

HGM Class used for rating   Slope   Wetland has multiple HGM classes?  Yes  No

**NOTE: Form is not complete with out the figures requested (figures can be combined).**

Source of base aerial photo/map   google  

**OVERALL WETLAND CATEGORY**   IV   (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
- Category III** - Total score = 16 - 19
- X   **Category IV** - Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
<i>List appropriate rating (H, M, L)</i>				
Site Potential	M	M	L	
Landscape Potential	L	L	H	
Value	L	L	H	<b>Total</b>
<b>Score Based on Ratings</b>	4	4	7	<b>15</b>

**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  
 5 = H, L, L  
 5 = M, M, L  
 4 = M, L, L  
 3 = L, L, L

### 2. Category based on SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS of wetland

CHARACTERISTIC	Category
Estuarine	
Wetland of High Conservation Value	
Bog	
Mature Forest	
Old Growth Forest	
Coastal Lagoon	
Interdunal	
None of the above	<b>X</b>

## 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 ( <i>can be added to map of hydroperiods</i> )	D 1.1, D 4.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland ( <i>can be added to another figure</i> )	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 ( <i>can be added to another figure</i> )	R 2.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	
Width of unit vs. width of stream ( <i>can be added to another figure</i> )	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 ( <i>can be added to another figure</i> )	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	Attachment A1
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	Attachment A1
Plant cover of <b>dense</b> trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	S 1.3	Attachment A1
Plant cover of <b>dense, rigid</b> trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants ( <i>can be added to another figure</i> )	S 4.1	Attachment A1
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland ( <i>can be added to another figure</i> )	S 2.1, S 5.1	Attachment A1
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	Attachment A2
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	S 3.1, S 3.2	Attachment A3
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	S 3.3	Attachment A4

## HGM Classification of Wetland in Western Washington

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



Wetland name or number   A

### 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: <i>(a 1% slope has a 1 ft vertical drop in elevation for every 100 ft of horizontal distance)</i>		
Slope is 1% or less	points = 3	1
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 <i>(use NRCS definitions)</i> :	Yes = 3 No = 0	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. <i>Dense means you have trouble seeing the soil surface (&gt;75% cover), and uncut means not grazed or mowed and plants are higher than 6 in.</i>		
Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > 90% of the wetland area	points = 6	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 <span style="float: right;">Add the points in the boxes above</span>		<b>7</b>

**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	0
S 2.2. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in question S 2.1?		0
Other Sources	Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for S 2 <span style="float: right;">Add the points in the boxes above</span>		<b>0</b>

**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	0
S 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where water quality is an issue? <i>At least one aquatic resource in the basin is on the 303(d) list.</i>	Yes = 1 No = 0	0
S 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? <i>Answer YES if there is a TMDL for the basin in which the unit is found?</i>	Yes = 2 No = 0	0
Total for S 3 <span style="float: right;">Add the points in the boxes above</span>		<b>0</b>

**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. <i>Stems of plants should be thick enough (usually &gt; 1/8 in), or dense enough, to remain erect during surface flows.</i>	1
Dense, uncut, <b>rigid</b> 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 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?	0
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:	0
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?	0
Yes = 2    No = 0	
<b>Total for S 6</b>	<b>0</b>
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:  
Drains to Wetland B further downstream.

Wetland name or number   A

**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
  - 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
- Seasonally flooded or inundated 3 types present: points = 2
- Occasionally flooded or inundated 2 types present: points = 1
- Saturated only 1 types 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

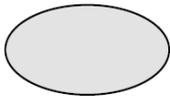
Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft<sup>2</sup>. *Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canadian thistle*

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

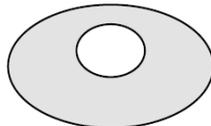
1

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.*



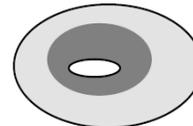
**None = 0 points**



**Low = 1 point**

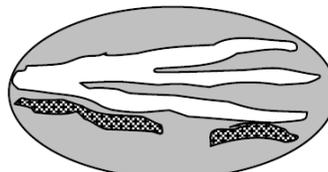
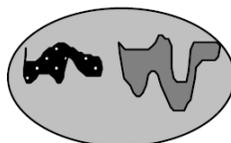


**Moderate = 2 points**



0

All three diagrams in this row are **HIGH = 3 points**



<b>H 1.5. Special habitat features:</b> Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. <i>The number of checks is the number of points.</i>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in diameter and 6 ft long) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Standing snags (dbh > 4 in) within the wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) <b>and/or</b> 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) <input type="checkbox"/> 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 ( <i>cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed</i> ) <input type="checkbox"/> At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated ( <i>structures for egg-laying by amphibians</i> ) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (see H 1.1 for list of strata)	3	
<b>Total for H 1</b>	Add the points in the boxes above	<b>6</b>

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

<b>H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat function of the site?</b>		
<b>H 2.1 Accessible habitat (include <i>only habitat that directly abuts wetland unit</i>).</b> Calculate: 40 % undisturbed habitat + ( <u>      0.1      </u> % moderate & low intensity land uses / 2 ) = 40.05%		
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	3	
<b>H 2.2. Undisturbed habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland.</b> Calculate: 92.4 % undisturbed habitat + ( <u>      7.6      </u> % moderate & low intensity land uses / 2 ) = 96.2%		
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	3	
<b>H 2.3 Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: If</b> > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = (-2) ≤ 50% of 1km Polygon is high intensity points = 0		
<b>Total for H 2</b>	Add the points in the boxes above	<b>6</b>

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

<b>H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?</b>		
<b>H 3.1. Does the site provide habitat for species valued in laws, regulations, or policies? Choose <i>only the highest score that applies to the wetland being rated</i>.</b>		
Site meets ANY of the following criteria: points = 2 <input type="checkbox"/> It has 3 or more priority habitats within 100 m (see next page) <input type="checkbox"/> It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) <input type="checkbox"/> It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW priority species <input type="checkbox"/> It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources <input type="checkbox"/> 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	2	
Site has 1 or 2 priority habitats (listed on next page) with in 100m points = 1		

Wetland name or number   A  

Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = 0

**Rating of Value** If Score is:  **2 = H**    **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

Wetland name or number   A  

addressed elsewhere.

**CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS**

Wetland Type	Category
<i>Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. List the category when the appropriate criteria are met.</i>	
<b>SC 1.0. Estuarine Wetlands</b> Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? <input type="checkbox"/> The dominant water regime is tidal, <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetated, and <input type="checkbox"/> With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Go to <b>SC 1.1</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No = <b>Not an estuarine wetland</b>	
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? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes = <b>Category I</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No - Go to <b>SC 1.2</b>	
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? <input type="checkbox"/> 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 <i>Spartina</i> , see page 25) <input type="checkbox"/> 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. <input type="checkbox"/> The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes = <b>Category I</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No = <b>Category II</b>	
<b>SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV)</b>	
SC 2.1. Has the WA Department of Natural Resources updated their website to include the list of Wetlands of High Conservation Value? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Go to <b>SC 2.2</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No - Go to <b>SC 2.3</b>	
SC 2.2. Is the wetland listed on the WDNR database as a Wetland of High Conservation Value? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes = <b>Category I</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No = <b>Not WHCV</b>	
SC 2.3. Is the wetland in a Section/Township/Range that contains a Natural Heritage wetland? <a href="http://www1.dnr.wa.gov/nhp/refdesk/datasearch/wnhpwetlands.pdf">http://www1.dnr.wa.gov/nhp/refdesk/datasearch/wnhpwetlands.pdf</a> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - <b>Contact WNHP/WDNR and to SC 2.4</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No = <b>Not WHCV</b>	
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? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes = <b>Category I</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No = <b>Not WHCV</b>	
<b>SC 3.0. Bogs</b>	
Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? <i>Use the key below. If you answer YES you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.</i>	
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? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes - Go to <b>SC 3.3</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No - Go to <b>SC 3.2</b>	
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? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Go to <b>SC 3.3</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No = <b>Is not a bog</b>	
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? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes = <b>Is a Category I bog</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No - Go to <b>SC 3.4</b> <b>NOTE:</b> 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)	

Wetland name or number   A  

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**

<p><b>SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands</b>                  Does the wetland have at least <u>1 contiguous acre</u> of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as priority habitats? <b><i>If you answer YES you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.</i></b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Old-growth forests</b> (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.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Mature forests</b> (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).</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes = <b>Category I</b>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No = <b>Not a forested wetland for this section</b></p>	
<p><b>SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons</b>                  Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 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</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (&gt; 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon (<i>needs to be measured near the bottom</i>)</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Go to <b>SC 5.1</b>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No = <b>Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon</b></p> <p><b>SC 5.1.</b> Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 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).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 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.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The wetland is larger than 1/10 ac (4350 ft<sup>2</sup>)</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes = <b>Category I</b>    <input type="checkbox"/> No = <b>Category II</b></p>	
<p><b>SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands</b>                  Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? <b><i>If you answer yes you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.</i></b>                  In practical terms that means the following geographic areas:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Go to <b>SC 6.1</b>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No = <b>Not an interdunal wetland for rating</b></p> <p><b>SC 6.1.</b> 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)?</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes = <b>Category I</b>    <input type="checkbox"/> No - Go to <b>SC 6.2</b></p> <p><b>SC 6.2.</b> Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger?</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes = <b>Category II</b>    <input type="checkbox"/> No - Go to <b>SC 6.3</b></p> <p><b>SC 6.3.</b> 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?</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes = <b>Category III</b>    <input type="checkbox"/> No = <b>Category IV</b></p>	
<p><b>Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics</b>                  If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form</p>	

## RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #):  B  Date of site visit:  4/23/2018

Rated by  Jim Shannon  Trained by Ecology?  Yes  No Date of training  Mar-16

HGM Class used for rating  Slope  Wetland has multiple HGM classes?  Yes  No

**NOTE: Form is not complete with out the figures requested (figures can be combined).**

Source of base aerial photo/map  google, esri

**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

**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  
 5 = H, L, L  
 5 = M, M, L  
 4 = M, L, L  
 3 = L, L, L

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
<i>List appropriate rating (H, M, L)</i>				
Site Potential	M	M	L	
Landscape Potential	M	M	H	
Value	L	L	H	
<b>Score Based on Ratings</b>	5	5	7	<b>17</b>

### 2. Category based on SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS of wetland

CHARACTERISTIC	Category
Estuarine	
Wetland of High Conservation Value	
Bog	
Mature Forest	
Old Growth Forest	
Coastal Lagoon	
Interdunal	
None of the above	<b>X</b>

## 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 ( <i>can be added to map of hydroperiods</i> )	D 1.1, D 4.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland ( <i>can be added to another figure</i> )	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 ( <i>can be added to another figure</i> )	R 2.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	
Width of unit vs. width of stream ( <i>can be added to another figure</i> )	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 ( <i>can be added to another figure</i> )	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	Attachment A1
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	Attachment A1
Plant cover of <b>dense</b> trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	S 1.3	Attachment A1
Plant cover of <b>dense, rigid</b> trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants ( <i>can be added to another figure</i> )	S 4.1	Attachment A1
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland ( <i>can be added to another figure</i> )	S 2.1, S 5.1	Attachment A1
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	Attachment A2
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	S 3.1, S 3.2	Attachment A3
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	S 3.3	Attachment A3

## HGM Classification of Wetland in Western Washington

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

Wetland name or number   B

### 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: <i>(a 1% slope has a 1 ft vertical drop in elevation for every 100 ft of horizontal distance)</i>		1
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 <i>(use NRCS definitions)</i> :	Yes = 3 No = 0	3
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. <i>Dense means you have trouble seeing the soil surface (&gt;75% cover), and uncut means not grazed or mowed and plants are higher than 6 in.</i>		
Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > 90% of the wetland area	points = 6	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 <span style="float: right;">Add the points in the boxes above</span>		10

**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	1
S 2.2. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in question S 2.1?		0
Other Sources	Yes = 1 No = 0	
Total for S 2 <span style="float: right;">Add the points in the boxes above</span>		1

**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	0
S 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where water quality is an issue? <i>At least one aquatic resource in the basin is on the 303(d) list.</i>	Yes = 1 No = 0	0
S 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? <i>Answer YES if there is a TMDL for the basin in which the unit is found?</i>	Yes = 2 No = 0	0
Total for S 3 <span style="float: right;">Add the points in the boxes above</span>		0

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



Wetland name or number   B

**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
  - 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
- Seasonally flooded or inundated 3 types present: points = 2
- Occasionally flooded or inundated 2 types present: points = 1
- Saturated only 1 types 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

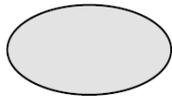
Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft<sup>2</sup>. *Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canadian thistle*

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

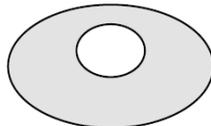
1

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.*



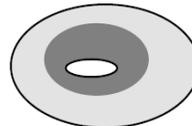
**None = 0 points**



**Low = 1 point**

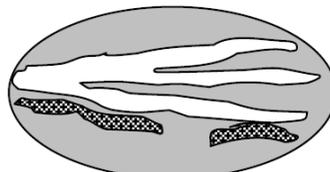
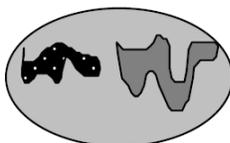


**Moderate = 2 points**



0

All three diagrams in this row are **HIGH = 3 points**



<b>H 1.5. Special habitat features:</b> Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. <i>The number of checks is the number of points.</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in diameter and 6 ft long) <input type="checkbox"/> Standing snags (dbh > 4 in) within the wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) <b>and/or</b> 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) <input type="checkbox"/> 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 ( <i>cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed</i> ) <input type="checkbox"/> At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated ( <i>structures for egg-laying by amphibians</i> ) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (see H 1.1 for list of strata)	1	
<b>Total for H 1</b>	Add the points in the boxes above	<b>4</b>

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

<b>H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat function of the site?</b>		
<b>H 2.1 Accessible habitat (include <i>only habitat that directly abuts wetland unit</i>).</b> Calculate: 52.4 % undisturbed habitat + ( 2.5 % moderate & low intensity land uses / 2 ) = 53.65%		
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	3	
<b>H 2.2. Undisturbed habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland.</b> Calculate: 92.4 % undisturbed habitat + ( 7.6 % moderate & low intensity land uses / 2 ) = 96.2%		
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	3	
<b>H 2.3 Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: If</b> > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = (-2) ≤ 50% of 1km Polygon is high intensity points = 0		
<b>Total for H 2</b>	Add the points in the boxes above	<b>6</b>

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

<b>H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?</b>		
<b>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.</b>		
Site meets ANY of the following criteria: points = 2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> It has 3 or more priority habitats within 100 m (see next page) <input type="checkbox"/> It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) <input type="checkbox"/> It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW priority species <input type="checkbox"/> It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources <input type="checkbox"/> 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	2	
Site has 1 or 2 priority habitats (listed on next page) with in 100m points = 1		

Wetland name or number   B  

Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = 0

**Rating of Value** If Score is:  **2 = H**    **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

Wetland name or number   B  

addressed elsewhere.

**CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS**

Wetland Type	Category
<i>Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. List the category when the appropriate criteria are met.</i>	
<b>SC 1.0. Estuarine Wetlands</b> Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? <input type="checkbox"/> The dominant water regime is tidal, <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetated, and <input type="checkbox"/> With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Go to <b>SC 1.1</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No = <b>Not an estuarine wetland</b>	
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? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes = <b>Category I</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No - Go to <b>SC 1.2</b>	
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? <input type="checkbox"/> 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 <i>Spartina</i> , see page 25) <input type="checkbox"/> 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. <input type="checkbox"/> The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes = <b>Category I</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No = <b>Category II</b>	
<b>SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV)</b> SC 2.1. Has the WA Department of Natural Resources updated their website to include the list of Wetlands of High Conservation Value? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Go to <b>SC 2.2</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No - Go to <b>SC 2.3</b> SC 2.2. Is the wetland listed on the WDNR database as a Wetland of High Conservation Value? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes = <b>Category I</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No = <b>Not WHCV</b> SC 2.3. Is the wetland in a Section/Township/Range that contains a Natural Heritage wetland? <a href="http://www1.dnr.wa.gov/nhp/refdesk/datasearch/wnhpwetlands.pdf">http://www1.dnr.wa.gov/nhp/refdesk/datasearch/wnhpwetlands.pdf</a> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - <b>Contact WNHP/WDNR and to SC 2.4</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No = <b>Not WHCV</b> 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? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes = <b>Category I</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No = <b>Not WHCV</b>	
<b>SC 3.0. Bogs</b> Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? <i>Use the key below. If you answer YES you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.</i> 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? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes - Go to <b>SC 3.3</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No - Go to <b>SC 3.2</b> 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? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Go to <b>SC 3.3</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No = <b>Is not a bog</b> 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? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes = <b>Is a Category I bog</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No - Go to <b>SC 3.4</b> <b>NOTE:</b> 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)	

Wetland name or number   B  

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**

<p><b>SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands</b></p> <p>Does the wetland have at least <u>1 contiguous acre</u> of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as priority habitats? <b><i>If you answer YES you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Old-growth forests</b> (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.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Mature forests</b> (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).</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes = <b>Category I</b>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No = <b>Not a forested wetland for this section</b></p>	
<p><b>SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons</b></p> <p>Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (&gt; 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon (<i>needs to be measured near the bottom</i>)</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Go to <b>SC 5.1</b>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No = <b>Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon</b></p> <p>SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 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.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The wetland is larger than 1/10 ac (4350 ft<sup>2</sup>)</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes = <b>Category I</b>    <input type="checkbox"/> No = <b>Category II</b></p>	
<p><b>SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands</b></p> <p>Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? <b><i>If you answer yes you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.</i></b></p> <p>In practical terms that means the following geographic areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Go to <b>SC 6.1</b>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No = <b>Not an interdunal wetland for rating</b></p> <p>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)?</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes = <b>Category I</b>    <input type="checkbox"/> No - Go to <b>SC 6.2</b></p> <p>SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger?</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes = <b>Category II</b>    <input type="checkbox"/> No - Go to <b>SC 6.3</b></p> <p>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?</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes = <b>Category III</b>    <input type="checkbox"/> No = <b>Category IV</b></p>	
<p><b>Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics</b></p> <p>If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form</p>	