Summary of Changes to the CRAM Slope Wetland Field Book
Version 6.1 to Version 6.2
9/5/2018

Title Page:

- Updated version number and date of release

Release Details:

- Added information stating that only Version 6.1 of eCRAM is currently available for data entry

Basic Information Page:

- Added "Channeled Forested Slope" and "Non-Channeled Forested Slope" as additional types of wetlands
- Removed "Plant Community Composition Sub-metric D: Number of Encroachment Groups"

Identify Wetland Type:

- Updated with new flowchart that has modified description of Episodic Riverine

Slope Wetlands Description:

- Updated description of development status
- Updated language describing Slope Wetlands
- Split the "Forested Slope" type into two sub-types: "Channeled Forested Slope" and "Non-channeled Forested Slope"
- Added a figure to help users determine the correct sub-type within Slope Wetlands

Establish the AA

- Added additional guidance to assist the practitioner in drawing the correct AA
- Added information about drawing AAs that include Riverine wetlands

Water Source

- Added additional details about defining the local watershed, and the timing of water delivery to the wetland
- Removed "sprinklers" and added "clearcutting" in the Guidelines for Features to Consider Table

Hydroperiod

- Added "berms or levees", "sprinklers", and "flood irrigation" to the Field Indicators Table
- Removed the emphasis on delivery of water to the surface in the B text

Hydrologic Connectivity

- Changed the scoring to accommodate "Channeled Forested Slope"
- Changed the emphasis to "dewatering" from "incised channels"
- Added clarification on which bank the bank height measures should occur
- Changed the ratio values within the Bank Height Ratio rating table
- Modified the text to illustrate other examples of dewatering
- Added a clarification about Lodgepole pine
- Added the Percent Dewatered worksheet
- Clarified the wording in the Percent Dewatered rating table

- Modified the text to indicate that dewatering can occur in non-channeled wetlands
- Modified the wording in the Percent Dewatered rating table

Structural Patch Richness

- Created a photo dictionary specific to Slope Wetlands
- Clarified text within patch type definitions
- Created “thatch” as its own patch type
- Removed “concentric or parallel high water marks”
- Added “sand” to the “gravel or cobble” patch type

Topographic Complexity

- Added a clarifying sentence about the scale of relief expected in fens
- Updated the wetland sub-types in the Typical Indicators of Topographic Complexity Table
- Added clarifying text that the sketch should include both the ground surface and the vegetation roughness
- Changed the scoring of this metric so that the score is based upon the Physical Topographic Complexity and the Vegetation Roughness scores. New rating tables exist to score each component. The practitioner then scores the metric based upon the average of the two component scores.
- Added diagrams illustrating the Physical Topographic Complexity and the Vegetation Roughness separately

Plant Community Metric

- Clarified that Method 1 is for use in Channeled Wet Meadows, Channeled Forested Slope, Non-channeled Forested Slope, and Seeps/Springs
- Added text clarifying non native species
- Modified some of the species examples in the layer definitions so that it was more inclusive of vegetation communities across the state
- Modified the number of co-dominants needed for each letter grade in both rating tables
- Removed sub-metric D: Number of Encroachment Groups

Horizontal Interspersion

- Clarified that Channeled Wet Meadows and Channeled Forested Slope wetlands are to be scored with the left-hand column of the diagram

Plant Life Forms

- Modified the life forms included. Added “bryophytes”, “deciduous broadleaf trees”, “evergreen broadleaf trees”, “ferns”, and “vines”
- Alphabetized the list
- Added definitions for each life form
- Modified the scoring bins in the rating table