

CRAM Vernal Pool Modules **Changes made from version 6.1 to 6.2**

General

Pool replicates: reduce number of replicates from 6 to 3.

Endemic Species – Some species added to Appendix 1

Removed periods from Table and Figure captions, except where needed to end full sentences.

Title Page

Change cover photo

Revise appearance of cover page

Basic Information Page

Removed question about hydrologic regime of wetland (relic from Depressional)

Scoring Sheet Page

Changed all text to black and white

Updated page numbers

Identify Wetland Type Page

Replaced with updated flowchart

Table 1: Examples of features that *should* be used to delineate AA boundaries.

Added note about local watershed boundaries as AA boundaries.

Table 3: Recommended maximum and minimum AA sizes for the Vernal Pool wetland type

Changed to reflect 3 pool replicates

Table 4: Steps to delineate a vernal pool system and its component pools

Changed to reflect 3 pool replicates

Attribute 1: Landscape and Buffer Context

Metric 1: Aquatic Area Abundance

Worksheet 1: Aquatic Area Abundance for Vernal Pool Systems

Revised order to cardinal directions in order: north, east, south, west.

Adjusted bins to better reflect distribution of AAA raw scores.

Rating	Old Bins	New Bins
A	21-100%	31-100%
B	11-20%	21-30%
C	6-10%	11-20%
D	0-5%	0-10%

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Metric 2: Buffer

Removed special note for open water, not applicable for vernal pools.

Replaced figures with maps specific to vernal pools.

Table 8: Steps to Estimate Buffer Width

Revised language to clarify procedure

Table 10: Rating for Buffer Condition

Changed “naturalized” back to “non-native” to be consistent with other CRAM modules

Attribute 2: Hydrology

Metric 1: Water Source

Added language to clarify local watershed evaluation

Attribute 3: Physical Structure

Metric 1: Structural Patch

Worksheet 4: Structural Patch Types for Vernal Pool Systems

Added language regarding 3 m² minimum patch size
Increased text font size.

Patch Type Definitions for Vernal Pool Systems

Added clarification to some patch type definitions, particularly regarding the potential location of each patch within the pools or entire AA

Table 15. Rating of Structural Patch Richness

Adjusted bins to better reflect distribution of raw scores for VP Systems. Data were not available for Individual VPs to determine whether changes were needed.

Rating	Old Bins	New Bins
A	≥ 11	≥ 12
B	8-10	9-11
C	5-7	7-8
D	≤ 4	≤ 6

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Metric 2: Pool and Swale Density

Changed method to measure long and short axes rather than cardinal directions. Changed calculations so that shorter axes are not weighted more heavily, rather all measurements of pools and swales are summed and divided by the sum of transect lengths for overall percentage of pool and swale density. Adjusted bins to better reflect distribution of raw scores. Created new figure to show long axis and perpendicular (short) axis.

Rating	Old Bins	New Bins
A	31-100%	36-100%
B	21-30	26-35%
C	11-20%	16-25%
D	0-10%	0-15%

Metric 3: Topographic Complexity

Reduced replicates to 3. Adjusted bins to better reflect distribution of raw scores.

Rating	Old Bins	New Bins
A	≥ 11	≥ 10
B	8-10	8-9
C	5-7	7
D	≤ 4	≤ 6

Attribute 4: Biotic Structure

Metric 1: Horizontal Interspersion and Zonation

Reduced replicates to 3. Adjusted bins to better reflect distribution of raw scores.

Rating	Old Bins	New Bins
A	≥ 11	≥ 11
B	8-10	9-10
C	5-7	7-8
D	≤ 4	≤ 6

Metric 2 Submetric A: Number of Co-dominant Species

For individual vernal pools, added clarification that co-dominant plant species must be at least 10% relative cover within the pool, not including adjacent uplands.

Reduced replicates to 3. Adjusted bins to better reflect distribution of raw scores.

Rating	Old Bins	New Bins
A	≥ 6	≥ 5
B	4-5	4
C	2-3	3
D	1	≤ 2

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Metric 2 Submetric B: Percent Non-native Species

Adjusted bins to better reflect distribution of raw scores and to be in alignment with other modules.

Rating	Old Bins	New Bins
A	0-20%	0-15%
B	21-33%	16-30%
C	34-49%	31-45%
D	≤50%	46-100%

Metric 2 Submetric C: Endemic Species Richness

Added Southern California endemic species.

Adjusted bins to better reflect distribution of raw scores.

Rating	Old Bins	New Bins
A	≥ 9	≥ 7
B	6-8	5-6
C	3-5	3-4
D	0-2	0-2