Basic Information Sheet: Depressional Wetlands

Assessment Area Name:	
Project Name:	
Assessment Area ID #:	
Project ID #:	**Date:**
Assessment Team Members for This AA	

AA Category:

□ Pre-Restoration □ Post-Restoration □ Pre-Mitigation □ Post-Mitigation

□ Pre-Impact □ Post-Impact □ Training □ Ambient

□ Reference □ Other:

Origin of Wetland (if known):

□ Natural system □ Artificial system

Type of Management (if known):

□ waterfowl/birds □ amphibians □ general wildlife □ sediment □ water quality □ stormwater

□ water supply (agriculture) □ water supply (livestock) □ not managed □ other:

Which best describes the type of depressional wetland?

□ freshwater marsh □ alkaline marsh □ brackish marsh

□ other (specify):

AA Encompasses:

□ entire wetland □ portion of the wetland

Which best describes the hydrologic state of the wetland at the time of assessment?

□ ponded/inundated □ saturated soil, but no surface water □ dry

What is the apparent hydrologic regime of the wetland?

Perennially flooded systems contain surface water year-round, *seasonally flooded* depressional wetlands are defined as supporting surface water for 4-11 months of the year (in > 5 out of 10 years.) *Temporarily flooded* depressional wetlands possess surface water between 2 weeks and 4 months of the year.

□ perennially flooded □ seasonally flooded □ temporarily flooded

Does your wetland connect with the floodplain of a nearby stream? □ yes □ no

(system subject to overbank flow, a dammed stream does not count)

Does the wetland have a defined on undefined outlet? □ defined □ undefined

Does the wetland have a defined on undefined inlet? □ defined □ undefined

Are the inlet and outlet at the same location? □ yes □ no

Is the topographic basin of the wetland □ distinct **or** □ indistinct **?**

An *indistinct* topographic basin is one that lacks obvious boundaries between wetland and upland. Examples of such features are seasonal, depressional wetlands in very low-gradient landscapes.

Photo Identification Numbers and Description:

Photos should be taken from edge of AA looking toward the centroid of AA

	Photo ID No.	Description	Latitude	Longitude	Datum
1		(to) North			
2		(to) East			
3		(to) South			
4		(to) West			
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					

Site Location Description and Land Use:

Comments:

Scoring Sheet: Depressional Wetlands

AA Name:			**Date:**	
Attribute 1: Buffer and Landscape Context (pp. 8-15)				**Comments**
Aquatic Area Abundance Score (D)			Alpha.	Numeric
Buffer:				
Buffer submetric A: Percent of AA with Buffer	Alpha.	Numeric		
Buffer submetric B: Average Buffer Width				
Buffer submetric C: Buffer Condition				
Raw Attribute Score = $D+[C \times (A \times B)^{1/2}]^{1/2}$				**Final Attribute Score = (Raw Score/24) x 100**
Attribute 2: Hydrology (pp. 16-21)				
Water Source			Alpha.	Numeric
Hydroperiod				
Hydrologic Connectivity				
Raw Attribute Score = sum of numeric scores				**Final Attribute Score = (Raw Score/36) x 100**
Attribute 3: Physical Structure (pp. 22-28)				
Structural Patch Richness			Alpha.	Numeric
Topographic Complexity				
Raw Attribute Score = sum of numeric scores				**Final Attribute Score = (Raw Score/24) x 100**
Attribute 4: Biotic Structure (pp. 29-39)				
Plant Community Composition (based on submetrics A-C)				
Plant Community submetric A: Number of plant layers	Alpha.	Numeric		
Plant Community submetric B: Number of Co-dominant species				
Plant Community submetric C: Percent Invasion				
Plant Community Composition Metric *(numeric average of submetrics A-C)*				
Horizontal Interspersion				
Vertical Biotic Structure				
Raw Attribute Score = sum of numeric scores				**Final Attribute Score = (Raw Score/36) x 100**
Overall AA Score (average of four final Attribute Scores)				

Worksheet for Aquatic Area Abundance Metric (Method 1)

Percentage of Transect Lines that Contains Aquatic Area of Any Kind	
Segment Direction	Percentage of Transect Length That is an Aquatic Feature
North	
South	
East	
West	
Average Percentage of Transect Length That Is an Aquatic Feature	

Percent of AA with Buffer Worksheet.

In the space provided below make a quick sketch of the AA, or perform the assessment directly on the aerial imagery; indicate where buffer is present, estimate the percentage of the AA perimeter providing buffer functions, and record the estimate amount in the space provided.

Percent of AA with Buffer: _____ %

Worksheet for calculating average buffer width of AA

Line	Buffer Width (m)
A	
B	
C	
D	
E	
F	
G	
H	
Average Buffer Width ***Round to the nearest whole number (integer)***	

Structural Patch Type Worksheet for Depressional Wetlands

Check each type of patch that is observed in the AA and use the total number of observed patches in Table 15.

STRUCTURAL PATCH TYPE (circle for presence)	**Depressional**
Minimum Patch Size	**3 m^2**
Abundant wrack or organic debris in channel, on floodplain, or across depressional wetland plain	
Animal mounds and burrows	
Bank slumps or undercut banks in channels or along shoreline	
Cobbles and Boulders	
Concentric or parallel high water marks	
Filamentous macroalgae or algal mats	
Islands (mostly above high-water)	
Large woody debris	
Non-vegetated flats or bare ground (sandflats, mudflats, gravel flats, etc.)	
Open water	
Plant hummocks and/or sediment mounds	
Soil cracks	
Standing snag(s) (1 or more at least 3 m tall)	
Submerged vegetation	
Swales on floodplain or along shoreline	
Variegated, convoluted, or crenulated foreshore (instead of broadly arcuate or mostly straight)	
Woody vegetation in water	
Total Possible	**17**
No. Observed Patch Types (enter here and use in Table 15 below)	

Worksheet for AA Topographic Complexity

At two locations in the AA, make a sketch of the profile from the AA boundary to AA boundary. Try to capture the major topographic features, slopes and intervening micro-topographic relief. Based on these sketches and the profiles in Figure 7, choose a description in Table 17 that best describes the overall topographic complexity of the AA.

North to South
East to West

Plant Community Metric Worksheet 2 of 8: Co-dominant species richness
(A dominant species represents ≥10% *relative* cover)

** Combine the counts of co-dominant species from all layers to identify the total species count. Each plant species is only counted once when calculating the Number of Co-dominant Species and Percent Invasion submetric scores, regardless of the numbers of layers in which it occurs.*

Floating or Canopy-forming	Invasive?	Short (<0.5 m)	Invasive?
Medium (0.5 – 1.5 m)	**Invasive?**	**Tall (1.5 – 3.0 m)**	**Invasive?**
Very Tall (>3.0 m)	**Invasive?**		
		Total number of co-dominant species for all layers combined (enter here and use in Table 19)	
		Percent Invasion *Round to the nearest whole number (integer)* (enter here and use in Table 19)	

Horizontal Interspersion Worksheet

Use the spaces below to make a sketch of the AA in plan view, outlining the major plant zones (this should take no longer than 10 minutes). Assign names to the zones and record them on the right. Based on the sketch, choose a single profile from Figure 8 that best represents the AA overall.

	Assigned zones: **1)** **2)** **3)** **4)** **5)** **6)**

Wetland disturbances and conversions Worksheet

Has a major disturbance occurred at this wetland?	Yes	No		
If yes, was it a flood, fire, landslide, or other?	flood	fire	landslide	other
If yes, then how severe is the disturbance?	likely to affect site next 5 or more years	likely to affect site next 3-5 years	likely to affect site next 1-2 years	
Has this wetland been converted from another type? If yes, then what was the previous type?	depressional	vernal pool	vernal pool system	
	non-confined riverine	confined riverine	bar-built estuarine	
	perennial saline estuarine	perennial non-saline estuarine	wet meadow	
	lacustrine	seep or spring	playa	

Stressor Checklist Worksheet

HYDROLOGY ATTRIBUTE (WITHIN 50 M OF AA)	Present	Significant negative effect on AA
Point Source (PS) discharges (POTW, other non-stormwater discharge)		
Non-point Source (Non-PS) discharges (urban runoff, farm drainage)		
Flow diversions or unnatural inflows		
Dams (reservoirs, detention basins, recharge basins)		
Flow obstructions (culverts, paved stream crossings)		
Weir/drop structure, tide gates		
Dredged inlet/channel		
Engineered channel (riprap, armored channel bank, bed)		
Dike/levees		
Groundwater extraction		
Ditches (borrow, agricultural drainage, mosquito control, etc.)		
Actively managed hydrology		
Comments		

PHYSICAL STRUCTURE ATTRIBUTE (WITHIN 50 M OF AA)	Present	Significant negative effect on AA
Filling or dumping of sediment or soils **(N/A for restoration areas)**		
Grading/ compaction **(N/A for restoration areas)**		
Plowing/Discing **(N/A for restoration areas)**		
Resource extraction (sediment, gravel, oil and/or gas)		
Vegetation management		
Excessive sediment or organic debris from watershed		
Excessive runoff from watershed		
Nutrient impaired (PS or Non-PS pollution)		
Heavy metal impaired (PS or Non-PS pollution)		
Pesticides or trace organics impaired (PS or Non-PS pollution)		
Bacteria and pathogens impaired (PS or Non-PS pollution)		
Trash or refuse		
Comments		

BIOTIC STRUCTURE ATTRIBUTE (WITHIN 50 M OF AA)	Present	Significant negative effect on AA
Mowing, grazing, excessive herbivory (within AA)		
Excessive human visitation		
Predation and habitat destruction by non-native vertebrates (e.g., *Virginia opossum* and domestic predators, such as feral pets)		
Tree cutting/sapling removal		
Removal of woody debris		
Treatment of non-native and nuisance plant species		
Pesticide application or vector control		
Biological resource extraction or stocking (fisheries, aquaculture)		
Excessive organic debris in matrix (for vernal pools)		
Lack of vegetation management to conserve natural resources		
Lack of treatment of invasive plants adjacent to AA or buffer		
Comments		

BUFFER AND LANDSCAPE CONTEXT ATTRIBUTE (WITHIN 500 M OF AA)	Present	Significant negative effect on AA
Urban residential		
Industrial/commercial		
Military training/Air traffic		
Dams (or other major flow regulation or disruption)		
Dryland farming		
Intensive row-crop agriculture		
Orchards/nurseries		
Commercial feedlots		
Dairies		
Ranching (enclosed livestock grazing or horse paddock or feedlot)		
Transportation corridor		
Rangeland (livestock rangeland also managed for native vegetation)		
Sports fields and urban parklands (golf courses, soccer fields, etc.)		
Passive recreation (bird-watching, hiking, etc.)		
Active recreation (off-road vehicles, mountain biking, hunting, fishing)		
Physical resource extraction (rock, sediment, oil/gas)		
Biological resource extraction (aquaculture, commercial fisheries)		
Comments		