

Is the flow episodic, rather than perennial or intermittent, based upon the following:

- Located in an area with <5 in (<13 cm) of annual precipitation.
- Located in an area with 5-10 in (13-25 cm) of annual precipitation, but the channel is clearly dominated by sandy bedload and is braided or compound in its planform.
- Note: Episodic may be suitable for 1st and 2nd order channels with Physical and Biotic structure that resembles episodic channels for their size rather than aridity.

Yes → Episodic Riverine
 No → Riverine

Marine NOT appropriate for CRAM

Is hydrology fully or partially tidal for at least 1 month during most years?

Yes → Evidence of strong freshwater influence?
 No → Marine NOT appropriate for CRAM

Evidence of strong freshwater influence?

Yes → Estuarine
 No → Marine NOT appropriate for CRAM

START
 Flow through system with channelized flow between distinct inlet and outlet?

No → Is groundwater or shallow overland flow the primary water source?
 Yes → Slope Wetland

Sand bar forms across mouth of system holding back freshwater flow to the marine environment at some point during most years?

Yes → Bar-built Estuarine
 No → Estuarine

Is groundwater or shallow overland flow the primary water source?

No → Prone to seasonal drying under natural hydrologic regime?
 Yes → Is flow within the wetland impounded in a topographic low?

Is flow within the wetland impounded in a topographic low?

Yes → Associated with lentic water body (>8ha and 2m deep)
 No → Depressional

Prone to seasonal drying under natural hydrologic regime?

Yes → Vegetation adapted to seasonal drying?
 No → Lacustrine

Vegetation adapted to seasonal drying?

Yes → Evidence of extreme pH or salinity with vascular vegetation only on perimeter of seasonal wet area?

Yes → Playa
 No → Flora characterized by Vernal Pool specialists?

Flora characterized by Vernal Pool specialists?

Yes → Vernal Pool
 No → Depressional

Many pools hydrologically interconnected?

Yes → Vernal Pool System
 No → Individual Vernal Pool

Episodic Riverine

Riverine

Slope Wetland

Bar-built Estuarine

Estuarine

Depressional

Lacustrine

Playa

Vernal Pool

Vernal Pool System

Individual Vernal Pool