Wetlands and Streams Technical Memorandum

City of Tukwila Allentown Truck Reroute Environmental Impact Statement

City of Tukwila, Washington

February 24, 2025

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Abbreviations

BNSF	BNSF Railway
County	King County
DNR	Washington Department of Natural Resources
Ecology	Washington State Department of Ecology
EEM	estuarine emergent
FGDC	Federal Geographic Data Committee
FWHCA	fish and wildlife habitat conservation area
GIS	geographic information system
GPS	Global Positioning System
HDR	HDR Engineering, Inc.
HGM	hydrogeomorphic
I-5	Interstate 5
iMap	interactive mapping tool
KCC	King County Code
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
OHWM	ordinary high water mark
PEM	palustrine emergent
PFO	palustrine forested
Project	City of Tukwila Allentown Truck Reroute Environmental Impact Statement
PSS	palustrine scrub-shrub
RCW	Revised Code of Washington
ROW	right-of-way
SMC	Seattle Municipal Code
SPAA	Seattle Police Athletic Association
SWIFD	Statewide Washington Integrated Fish Distribution
TMC	Tukwila Municipal Code
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
WAC	Washington Administrative Code
WDFW	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

1.0 Introduction

The BNSF Railway (BNSF) South Seattle Hub in the Allentown neighborhood in the City of Tukwila, Washington, is an important economic link to the Puget Sound region. It serves as an inland port, providing domestic intermodal transloading between truck and rail. Incoming trucks currently access the intermodal facility from the South 129th Street Bridge to South 50th Place. Outgoing trucks leaving the facility can use either the South 129th Street Bridge or take South 124th Street to the 42nd Avenue South Bridge. After the planned replacement of the 42nd Avenue South Bridge, truck traffic will also be able to access the intermodal facility by traveling east on the bridge and reaching the facility via South 124th Street. In order to improve livability and safety in Allentown without compromising the operations of the yard, the City of Tukwila is evaluating new potential truck access routes to the intermodal facility.

This Wetlands and Streams Technical Memorandum identifies existing wetlands and streams in the Project vicinity and documents the wetland and stream components along and near the existing truck route, the No Action Alternative, and three proposed route alternatives for the City of Tukwila Allentown Truck Reroute Environmental Impact Statement (Project).

1.1 Project Location

Allentown's boundaries are formed by the right-of-way (ROW) for a Seattle City Light transmission corridor to the north, Interstate 5 (I-5) and BNSF's South Seattle Intermodal Facility to the east, and the Duwamish River to the south and west. The Project is in the City of Tukwila, City of Seattle, and unincorporated King County (County), Washington (Figure 1).

Zoned for low-density residential development, land use in Allentown is primarily single-family housing, along with several neighborhood parks, the Tukwila Community Center, and the Green River Trail. Natural areas include restored habitat in the Duwamish Hill Reserve, several small wetlands, and the Duwamish River's riparian corridor. In addition to BNSF's South Seattle facility, nearby land uses include the Gateway Corporate Center, single-family development in the Riverton neighborhood, and commercial development along 48th Avenue South, consisting primarily of freight and truck-related services. Several major transportation routes are in the vicinity of Allentown, including I-5 to the east and south and, to the west, State Route 599, Interurban Avenue, East Marginal Way, and an elevated section of Sound Transit's Link Light Rail line.

The Project is in the Duwamish/Green Watershed, Washington Water Resource Inventory Area 9 in Sections 3, 11, 14 and 15, Township 23N, Range 4E, Willamette Meridian.

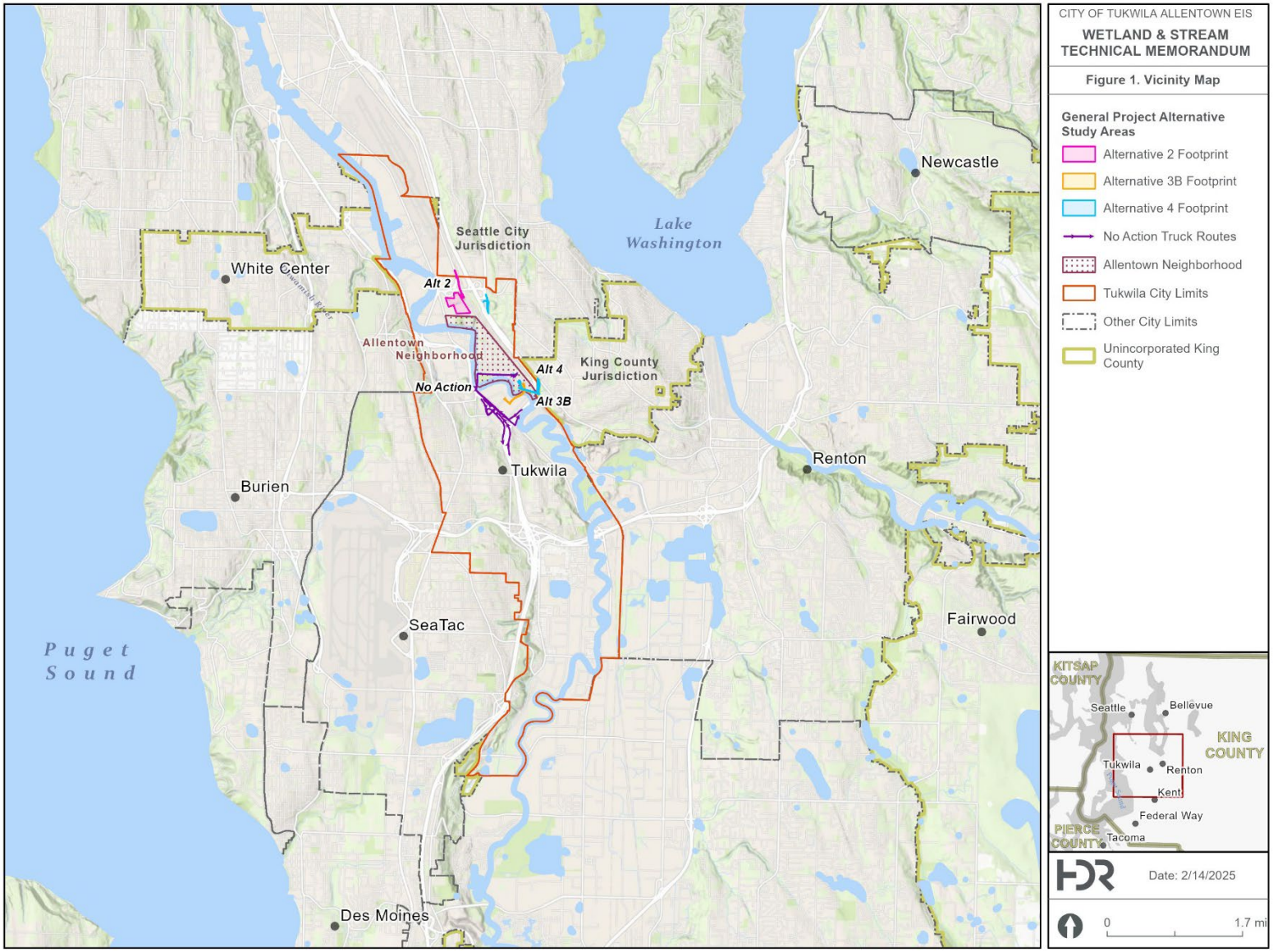

Figure 1. Project Location

1.2 Data Gathered

HDR Engineering, Inc. (HDR), conducted a literature and data review to identify and characterize potentially affected wetlands and streams in and near the Project vicinity. Existing documentation and information were compiled and reviewed first, so that the field reconnaissance effort could focus on filling information gaps. Existing wetland and stream information was gathered from local, state, and federal agencies. This information included published reports, maps, websites, and aerial photographs. The data sources are listed in the following subsections and in Chapter 4.0, References.

1.3 Study Areas

The wetland and stream study areas for Alternatives 2, 3B, and 4 are described below. The No Action Alternative study area is the existing physical footprint and did not include additional survey areas.

1.3.1 Wetlands

The study area for wetlands encompasses the area within 300 feet of the edges of the long-term Project footprint, which is defined as the physical footprint of the truck access routes that would result in permanent impacts on wetlands. This distance was selected to match the typical largest applicable potential buffer width for wetlands within the City of Tukwila, City of Seattle, and unincorporated County. Wetlands evaluated in this technical memorandum include wetlands that are wholly or partly within the study area.

1.3.2 Streams

The study area for streams, which are referred to as waterbodies and aquatic areas by the City of Tukwila and County and as fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas (FWHCAs) by the City of Seattle, encompasses the area within 200 feet of the edges of the long-term Project footprint. This distance was selected to match the largest applicable potential buffer width for streams within the City of Seattle and unincorporated County and shorelines and streams within the City of Tukwila. Streams evaluated in this technical memorandum include streams that are wholly or partly within the study area.

2.0 Study Methods

This section describes the objectives and methods used to study wetlands and streams. Wetlands and streams were identified through a two-step process. HDR biologists first reviewed the existing documents listed in Section 2.1. After this review, HDR biologists completed a field reconnaissance of the study area to ground-truth the locations and extent of inventoried wetlands and streams. Wetlands and streams within the study area were identified, mapped, and classified.

2.1 Review of Existing Information

HDR biologists reviewed the following environmental documents to determine the presence of wetlands, streams, and FWHCAs in the Project area:

- Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Forest Practices Application Mapping Tool (DNR 2024a)
- DNR Washington Natural Heritage Program Wetlands of High Conservation Value Map Viewer (DNR 2024b)
- Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) Water Quality Atlas (Ecology 2024a)
- Ecology water quality improvement projects for King County (Ecology 2024b)
- Statewide Washington Integrated Fish Distribution (SWIFD; WDFW 2024a) data portal
- City of Seattle department of Construction and Inspections GIS (City of Seattle 2024)
- City of Tukwila iMap (City of Tukwila 2024)
- King County iMap (King County 2024)
- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey (NRCS 2024a)
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) website (USFWS 2024)
- USDA NRCS Field Office Climate Data for King County, Seattle-Tacoma International Airport weather station (NRCS 2024b)
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Priority Habitats and Species on the Web (WDFW 2024b)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Tide and Water Levels for the Seattle gauge (Station 9447130) (NOAA 2024)
- Site-wide Wetland Delineation Report for Seattle Police Athletic Association (SPAA) (Watershed 2023)
- Village at 47th Project Critical Areas and Habitat Assessment Report & Mitigation Plan (Wet.land 2022)
- Personal communication with WDFW habitat biologists (WDFW 2023)

These documents provide reference information on the soils, hydrology, wetlands, and streams in the study area. The City of Tukwila iMap is actively being updated, and the iMap results in this technical memorandum are based on the mapping available at the time of this review.

2.2 Field Reconnaissance

Qualified HDR biologists conducted the wetland and stream field reconnaissance for the study area on May 22, 2024.

Weather conditions for the site visit were mild with clear skies, which is typical for spring in the Puget Sound lowlands. Climate data for the Project were determined from the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport weather station, located approximately 2 miles southwest of the Project site. During the 3 full months preceding the field investigation (April to February 2024), a total of 7.09 inches of rainfall were recorded at the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport weather station (NRCS 2024b). Recorded precipitation levels were normal for February and below normal for April and March. According to the Direct Antecedent Rainfall Evaluation Method for determining normal conditions (Sumner et al. 2009), recorded precipitation for the 3 months prior to the site visit was considered drier than normal.

2.2.1 Wetlands

After collecting and reviewing existing information, HDR biologists conducted detailed field reconnaissance surveys within the study area to identify, map, and describe wetlands that could be affected by the Project. Wetland field reconnaissance surveys were conducted on May 22, 2024.

Wetlands in the study area are generally located outside of the public ROW and were visually surveyed from the public ROW; in most cases, from the nearest road or sidewalk.

Biologists documented and recorded vegetation, soil, and hydrology conditions as necessary at representative wetland and upland areas using methods outlined in the Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual (Environmental Laboratory 1987) and the Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region Version 2.0 (USACE 2010). General observations of existing conditions and characteristics were also recorded for each wetland and associated buffer. No wetland determination data forms were collected for wetlands.

Potential wetlands in areas not directly accessible during field reconnaissance surveys were assessed to the extent possible based on visual observations from public areas; current local, state, and federal habitat maps and reports; and the examination of aerial photographs. Areas outside of the public ROW that appeared to possess wetland indicators for vegetation, soil, and hydrology were included in the analysis to provide a conservative estimate of each alternative's impacts.

Mapping

Each wetland identified in the study area received a unique identifier that was tracked in a geographic information system (GIS) database. Estimated wetland boundaries that were documented at sites accessed during the field reconnaissance were mapped in the field using a global positioning system (GPS). Wetlands that were not accessible during field reconnaissance surveys were mapped based on documentation and surveys from

other projects or sources, field observation, aerial imagery, and best professional judgement. All wetlands within the study area for the Preferred Alternative will be delineated during the Final EIS and/or permitting phase of this Project.

Wetland Rating, Classification, and Buffers

Following the field reconnaissance, all wetlands identified in the study area were rated and the hydrogeomorphic (HGM) (Brinson 1993) classification was determined using the Washington State Wetland Rating System for Western Washington – 2014 Update Version 2.0 (Hruby and Yahnke 2023). The Ecology wetland rating system defines three main wetland functions: water quality treatment, hydrologic support, and habitat. The degree to which several functions are performed by a wetland (e.g., enhancing water quality, reducing floods, and providing fish and wildlife habitat) results in category assignment, with Category I offering the highest function and Category IV offering the lowest. A summary of the rating categories and criteria is provided in Table 1, and preliminary rating forms are provided in Attachment A.

Wetland habitats in the study area were classified using the system outlined by the USFWS in Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States (Cowardin et al. 1979; FGDC 2013), typically referred to as the Cowardin system. The Cowardin system classifies wetlands based on the dominant vegetation structure and water regime.

Biologists assigned preliminary wetland buffers to the identified wetlands in the study area based on the local wetland rating systems. The City of Tukwila buffers were based on Tukwila Municipal Code (TMC) 18.45.80.D, and a variation of standard wetland buffer widths were applied for interrupted buffers in accordance with TMC 18.45.80.F.2. Wetlands within the City of Tukwila Shoreline Jurisdiction were regulated in accordance with TMC 18.45A. Within the shoreline jurisdiction, the regulations of TMC 18.45 shall be liberally construed together with the Shoreline Master Program to give full effect to the objectives and purposes of the provisions of the Shoreline Master Program. If there is a conflict or inconsistency between any of the adopted provisions below and the Shoreline Master Program, the most restrictive provisions shall prevail.

The City of Seattle's buffers were based on Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) 25.09.160, Table A. No wetlands were located within the City of Seattle's shoreline jurisdiction.

The County buffers were based on King County Code (KCC) 21A.24.325.A.1, and the wetland buffers were clipped where a legally established roadway transects a wetland buffer as described in KCC 21A.24.325C.4. No wetlands were located within the County shoreline jurisdiction.

Summaries of the buffer width requirements for the City of Tukwila, City of Seattle, and County are provided in Table 2, Table 3, and Table 4, respectively.

Table 1. Summary of Wetland Rating System Categories for Washington State Department of Ecology, City of Tukwila, City of Seattle, and King County

Regulatory Agency	Category			
	I	II	III	IV
Ecology[a] City of Tukwila[b] City of Seattle[c] King County[d]	Category I wetlands include wetlands that are rare, particularly sensitive to disturbance, relatively undisturbed (as described in Hruby and Yahnke 2023) with ecological attributes that are impossible to replace within a human lifetim or provide a high level of functions. They include: • Relatively undisturbed estuarine wetlands more than 1 acre in size • Wetlands of High Conservation Value (formerly call national Heritage Wetlands), specifically • Wetlands identified by the Washington Natural Heritage Program/DNR as important ecosystems for maintaining plant diversity in our state • Bogs • Mature and old-growth forested wetlands more than 1 acre in size • Wetlands in coastal lagoons • Wetlands scoring 23 points or more (out of 27) on the wetland rating form	Category II wetlands provide high levels of some functions and are difficult, though not impossible, to replace. They include: • Estuarine wetlands smaller than 1 acre in size, or disturbed estuarine wetlands larger than 1 acre • Wetlands identified by the DNR Natural Heritage Program as containing “sensitive” plant species • Wetlands scoring between 20 and 22 points (out of 27) on the wetland rating form	Category III wetlands have functions scoring between 16 and 19 points under Ecology's Wetland Rating System for Western Washington. Typically, they have been disturbed and contain less diverse wildlife habitat or are more isolated from other habitat than Category II wetlands.	Category IV wetlands have levels of functions scoring between 9 and 15 points under Ecology's Wetland Rating System for Western Washington. Typically, they are extensively altered.

[a] Hruby and Yahnke 2023
[b] TMC 18.45.80.B
[c] SMC 25.09.160.A
[d] KCC 21A.24.318.B

Table 2. Summary of Standard Wetland Buffers for City of Tukwila

Wetland Category[a]	Standard Wetland Buffer Width (feet)		
	Habitat Score <6	Habitat Score 6–7	Habitat Score 8–9
I	100	150	300
II	100	150	300
III	80	150	300
IV	50	50	50

Source: TMC 18.45.80.D
[a] Hruby and Yahnke 2023.

Table 3. Summary of Wetland Buffers for City of Seattle

Wetland	Wetland Buffer Requirements for Non-Degraded Buffers
Category I Bogs and Wetlands of High Conservation Value over 100 square feet in total size or of any size that abut any Type S, F, Np, or Ns water per WAC 222-16-030 and 222-16-031	200 feet for all levels of habitat functions
Category I and II wetlands over 100 square feet in total size or of any size that abut any Type S, F, Np, or Ns water per WAC 222-16-030 and 222-16-031	200 feet for wetlands with high level of habitat function 110 feet for wetlands with moderate level of habitat function 100 feet for wetlands with low level of habitat function
Category III wetlands over 100 square feet in total size or of any size that abut any Type S, F, Np, or Ns water per WAC 222-16-030 and 222-16-031	200 feet for wetlands with high level of habitat function 110 feet for wetlands with moderate or greater level of habitat function 60 feet for wetlands with low level of habitat function
Category IV wetlands 1,000 square feet or more in total size or of any size that abut any Type S, F, Np, or Ns water per WAC 222-16-030 and 222-16-031	50 feet for all wetlands
Category IV wetlands under 1,000 square feet in total size that do not abut any Type S, F, Np, or Ns water per WAC 222-16-030 and 222-16-031	No buffer. Use mitigation under SMC 25.09.160 and 25.09.065

Source: SMC 25.09.160, Table A

Note: Per SMC 25.09.160.B, wetland habitat function is as follows: (1) high level equals a habitat function score of 8 or 9; (2) moderate level equals a habitat function score of 5, 6 or 7; and (3) low level equals a habitat function score of 3 or 4.

Table 4. Summary of Wetland Buffers for King County

Wetland Category and Characteristics[a]	Intensity of Impact of Adjacent Land Use		
	High Impact	Moderate Impact	Low Impact
Category I			
Wetlands of High Conservation Value	250 feet	190 feet	125 feet
Bog	250 feet	190 feet	125 feet
Estuarine	200 feet	150 feet	100 feet
Coastal Lagoon	200 feet	150 feet	100 feet
Forested	Buffer width to be based on score for habitat functions or water quality functions		
Habitat score from 8 to 9 points (high level of function)	300 feet	225 feet	150 feet
Habitat score from 6 to 7 points (moderate level of function)	150 feet	110 feet	75 feet
Category I wetlands not meeting any of the criteria above	100 feet	75 feet	50 feet
Category II			
Estuarine	150 feet	110 feet	75 feet
Habitat score from 8 to 9 points (high level of function)	300 feet	225 feet	150 feet
Habitat score from 6 to 7 points (moderate level of function)	150 feet	110 feet	75 feet
Category II wetlands not meeting any of the criteria above	100 feet	75 feet	50 feet
Category III			
Habitat score from 8 to 9 points (high level of function)	300 feet	225 feet	150 feet
Habitat score from 6 to 7 points (moderate level of function)	150 feet	110 feet	75 feet
Category III wetlands not meeting any of the criteria above	80 feet	60 feet	40 feet
Category IV	50 feet	40 feet	25 feet

Source: KCC 21A.24.325.A.1

[a] Hruby and Yahnke 2023

2.2.2 Streams

A field reconnaissance survey was conducted to identify, map, and describe streams within the study area. The ordinary high water marks (OHWM) of all streams that may be affected by Project construction will be delineated during the Final Environmental Impact Statement or permitting phase of this Project. Final stream classification determinations, in accordance with WAC 222-16-030 and local jurisdictions' critical areas ordinances, will also be made at that time.

HDR biologists identified the OHWMs of streams in the study area using Ecology's guidance for OHWM identification (Anderson et al. 2016), which is based on the Shoreline Management Act (Revised Code of Washington [RCW] 90.58.030(2)(b) and Washington Administrative Code [WAC] 173-22-030(11)). HDR biologists looked for physical indicators, including but not limited to a natural scour line impressed on the bank, distribution of upland and water-tolerant vegetation, and drift deposits.

Per 33 CFR 328.3(c)(4), the HTL is defined as "the line of intersection of the land with the water's surface at the maximum height reached by a rising tide." The HTL of the Duwamish River was evaluated using gauge data. A method used by the USACE to obtain the HTL uses the Highest Astronomical Tide (HAT) referenced to North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88; 0.0 feet) as reported by NOAA station data for water surface elevations. The HAT refers to the highest predicted astronomical tide expected to occur at a specific station over the National Tidal Datum Epoch. The defined HAT (10.96 feet) relative to NAVD88 Epoch 1983-2001 at the Seattle gauge (Station 9447130) was used to evaluate the HTL/OHWM of the Duwamish River. The USGS station located in the Duwamish River at E Marginal Way Bridge (Station 12113415), which is located approximately 1.5 miles downstream of Allentown, was also used to evaluate the HTL/OHWM of the Duwamish River.

The OHWMs for identified streams within the study area were estimated in the field. The resulting data were incorporated into Project base maps.

Mapping

The OHWMs of streams identified during the field reconnaissance were estimated using GPS. Each stream received a unique identifier that was tracked in a GIS database. Streams that extend beyond the field reconnaissance survey area and other previously mapped streams outside of the public ROWs were also incorporated into the GIS database.

Classification

Stream classification determinations will be completed in accordance with WAC 222-16-030 and local jurisdictions' critical areas ordinances. Biologists assigned preliminary stream buffers to the identified streams in the study area based on the local code. Within the City of Tukwila, watercourses inventoried as Shorelines of the State under RCW 90.58 would be regulated under TMC 18.44, Shoreline Overlay. There were no shorelines within the City of Seattle and County jurisdiction. Other watercourse buffers within the City of Tukwila were determined in compliance with TMC 18.45.100.C.

Riparian corridors in the City of Seattle were determined in compliance with SMC 25.09.12.D.5.a. Watercourse buffers within the County were determined in compliance with KCC 21A.24.358.B.

A summary of the buffer width requirements for the City of Tukwila and King County is provided in Table 5. In the City of Seattle, the riparian management area is the area within 100 feet of the riparian watercourse measured horizontally landward from the OHWM of the watercourse as surveyed in the field, or from the top of the bank if the OHWM cannot be determined.

Table 5. Summary of Stream Buffers for City of Tukwila and King County

Water Type	City of Tukwila Buffer Width (feet)	King County Buffer Width (feet)[a]
Type S	Shoreline Residential – 50[b]	115
	Urban Conservancy (without Levees) – 100[b]	
	Urban Conservancy (with Levees) – 125[b]	
	High Intensity – 100[b]	
Type F	100[c]	115
Type Np	80[c]	65
Type Ns	50[c]	65
Type O	Not applicable	25

[a] KCC 21.A.24.358.B for streams within the Urban Growth Area and outside of a basin or shoreline designated as "high" on the Basin and Shoreline Conditions Map.
[b] TMC 18.44.040
[c] TMC 18.45.100.B

3.0 Results

Twelve wetlands and two streams were identified within the 300-foot study areas of the Project design alternatives (see Figure 2). Of these, three wetlands (Wetlands 1, 2, and 5) were accessed during the field reconnaissance. The remaining nine wetlands and two streams were evaluated using observations from public access points, aerial imagery, and existing documentation. The identified wetlands vary in overall size and were generally depressional wetlands located in low spots or tidal fringe wetlands located on the banks of the Duwamish River. Details for each of these wetlands are summarized in Table 6. Summaries of wetlands and streams in the study area for each alternative are provided in Table 6 and Table 7, respectively.

Wetland rating forms are provided in Attachment A, and site photographs are provided in Attachment B.

Table 6. Summary of Wetlands within the Project Study Areas

Wetland Name	HGM Classification[a]	Cowardin Classification[b]	Wetland Rating[c]	Jurisdiction	Buffer width (feet)	Design Alternative with Potential Direct or Buffer Impacts	Accessed During Field Reconnaissance Surveys
1	Tidal Fringe	PSS/EEM	II (based on estuarine special characteristic); habitat score of 6	City of Tukwila	150[d]	3B, 4	Yes
2	Tidal Fringe	PFO/PSS/EEM	I (based on estuarine special characteristic); habitat score of 6	City of Tukwila	150[d]	3B, 4	Yes
3	Depressional	PFO/PSS	II; habitat score of 5	City of Tukwila	100[d]	3B, 4	No
4a	Depressional	PFO/PSS/PEM	II; habitat score of 5	City of Tukwila	100[d]	2	No
4b	Depressional	PFO/PSS/PEM	III; habitat score of 5	City of Tukwila	80[d]	2	No
5	Depressional	PFO/PSS/PEM	II; habitat score of 5	City of Tukwila	100[d]	2	Yes
6	Depressional	PEM	III; habitat score of 3	City of Tukwila	80[d]	2	No
7	Depressional	PFO/PSS/PEM	II; habitat score of 5	City of Tukwila	100[d]	2	No
8	Tidal Fringe	PSS/EEM	II (based on estuarine special characteristic); habitat score of 6	City of Tukwila	150[d]	3B, 4	No
9	Depressional	PSS/PEM	II; habitat score of 5	City of Tukwila and City of Seattle	75[d] / 110[e]	2	No
10	Depressional / Slope / Riverine	PFO / PSS / PEM	III; habitat score of 6	City of Tukwila	150[d]	4	No
11	Slope	PFO / PSS/ PEM	III; habitat score of 6	City of Tukwila	150[d]	4	No
12a	Riverine / Slope	PFO / PSS	II; habitat score of 6	City of Tukwila	150[d]	4	No
12b	Riverine / Slope	PFO	II; habitat Score of 6	City of Tukwila	150[d]	4	No

[a] Cowardin et al. 1979; FGDC 2013; EEM = estuarine emergent; PEM = palustrine emergent; PFO = palustrine forested; PSS = palustrine scrub-shrub.
[b] Brinson 1993
[c] Hruby and Yahnke 2023
[d] TMC 18.45.80.D.
[e] SMC 25.09.160, Table A, and SMC 25.09.160.B.

Table 7. Summary of Streams within the Study Area

Stream Name	Water Type[a]	Jurisdiction	Buffer width (feet)	Design Alternative with Potential Direct or Buffer Impacts
Duwamish River	Type S	City of Tukwila	50[b] (Shoreline Residential)/ 100[b] (Urban Conservancy without Levees)	3B, 4
Stream 1	Type F	City of Tukwila	100[c]	4

[a] WAC 222-16-030
[b] TMC 18.44.040.
[c] TMC 18.45.100.C.

3.1 No Action Alternative

There were no wetlands or streams identified within the No Action Alternative study area (see Figure 3).

3.2 Alternative 2

Wetlands within the Alternative 2 study area are described in Section 3.2.1. The stream identified within the Alternative 2 study area is described in Section 3.2.2.

3.2.1 Wetlands

Wetlands 4, 5, 6, 7, and 9 were identified within the Alternative 2 study area. These wetlands are described below and shown in Figure 4. There is one wetland mapped by NWI as an excavated and permanently flooded palustrine unconsolidated bottom wetland on the SPAA property. This mapped wetland is an excavated stormwater feature that was constructed in uplands and does not meet the City of Tukwila's definition of a wetland (TMC 18.06.922; Watershed 2023).

Wetland 4a

Wetland 4a is a depressional wetland bordered by road and railroad prisms and a steep hillslope. This wetland is mapped by NWI, WDFW, and the Cities of Seattle and Tukwila (City of Seattle 2024; City of Tukwila 2024; USFWS 2024; WDFW 2024b) and was delineated by Watershed (2023) as Wetland B. The wetland was viewed from the South Boeing Access Road and was observed to have palustrine forested, scrub-shrub, and emergent habitats. The forested habitat was dominated by black cottonwood (*Populus balsamifera*) and willow (*Salix sp.*). The scrub-shrub habitat included red osier dogwood (*Cornus sericea*), salmonberry (*Rubus spectabilis*), and willow species. The herbaceous stratum included reed canarygrass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), other unidentified grasses, and climbing nightshade (*Solanum dulcamara*) occurring as woody vines. The wetland was observed to be deeply ponded with areas of open water and was assumed to have no outlet. The wetland extended to the south and out of view. Watershed (2023) describes a constructed berm, approximately 8 feet tall and 40 feet long, separating Wetlands 4a and 4b.

Wetland 4a was determined to be a Category II wetland with high water quality and hydrologic functions and a moderate level of habitat functions (Attachment A).

Wetland 4b

Wetland 4b is a depressional wetland bordered by road and railroad prisms and a steep hillslope. This wetland is mapped by NWI, WDFW, and the Cities of Seattle and Tukwila (City of Seattle 2024; USFWS 2024; WDFW 2024b) and was delineated by Watershed (2023) as Wetland A. The wetland could not be viewed from the South Boeing Access Road and was reported to have palustrine forested, scrub-shrub, and emergent habitats. The forested habitat was dominated by black cottonwood and red alder. The scrub-shrub habitat included red osier dogwood and Himalayan blackberry. The herbaceous stratum included climbing nightshade occurring as woody vines. The wetland is supported by a high water table and saturation. Watershed (2023) describes a constructed berm, approximately 8 feet tall and 40 feet long, separating Wetlands 4a and 4b.

Wetland 4b was determined to be a Category III wetland with high water quality and hydrologic functions and a moderate level of habitat functions (Attachment A).

Wetland 5

Wetland 5 is a depressional wetland that is in a topographic depression bordered by Airport Way South, South Boeing Access Road, and the BNSF rail yard. This wetland is mapped by NWI, WDFW, and the Cities of Seattle and Tukwila (City of Seattle 2024; City of Tukwila 2024; USFWS 2024; WDFW 2024b). The wetland was viewed from the shoulder of Airport Way South at the northern extent of the wetland. The wetland was observed to have palustrine forested, scrub-shrub, and emergent habitats. The forested habitat was dominated by black cottonwood, willow, and red alder (*Alnus rubra*). The scrub-shrub habitat included red osier dogwood, rose spirea (*Spiraea douglasii*), and willow species. The herbaceous stratum included broadleaf cattail (*Typha latifolia*), reed canarygrass, and other unidentified grasses. The wetland was observed to be deeply ponded with areas of open water. No outlet was observed; however, an outlet was assumed based on the stream mapped by USGS and DNR that drains this wetland area to the Duwamish River approximately 1,200 feet to the west (DNR 2024a). Despite the mapped stream, there was no evidence of a bed or bank within Wetland 5.

Wetland 5 was determined to be a Category II wetland with high water quality and hydrologic functions and a moderate level of habitat functions (Attachment A).

Wetland 6

Wetland 6 is a depressional wetland located on the SPAA property within the shooting range bordered by a sand embankment. This wetland was delineated by Watershed (2023) as Wetland Rifle 3 and is not mapped by the City of Tukwila (2024), Seattle (2024), WDFW (2024b), or NWI (USFWS 2024). The wetland could not be viewed from public ROW. Based on the Watershed (2023) delineation, the wetland is a PEM wetland vegetated by reed canarygrass, creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*), and other facultative grasses. The wetland is supported by seasonally high water table and saturation.

Wetland 6 was determined to be a Category III wetland with moderate water quality and hydrologic functions and a low level of habitat functions (Attachment A).

Wetland 7

Wetland 7 is a depressional wetland located on the Seattle City Light transmission ROW and was not viewable from the public ROW. This wetland was delineated by Watershed (2023) as Wetland F/G and is mapped by the City of Tukwila (2024). This wetland includes palustrine scrub-shrub and emergent habitats within the Project study area and off-site palustrine forested habitat. Aerial imagery shows construction activities and the placement of fill material within Wetland 7 in 2013, with potential compensatory mitigation occurring in 2017. The potential compensatory mitigation is evidenced by the installation of microtopography, large wood material, and sapling plantings. Surface water appears to extend off site under mature trees adjacent to the BNSF rail yard. There is no assumed outlet as determined using available topography.

Wetland 7 was determined to be a Category II wetland with moderate water quality and habitat functions and high hydrologic functions (Attachment A).

Wetland 9

Wetland 9 is a depressional wetland that is assumed to be hydrologically connected to Wetland 5. This wetland is mapped by NWI, WDFW, and the Cities of Seattle and Tukwila (City of Seattle 2024; City of Tukwila 2024; USFWS 2024; WDFW 2024b). Wetland 9 is separated from the Project and Wetland 5 by the approximately 200-foot-wide BNSF rail yard. Wetland 9 was observed from the South Boeing Access Road overpass. The east, west, and southern boundaries of Wetland 9 are marked by the steep fill prisms associated with the rail yard, South Boeing Access Road, and uplands associated with I-5. Wetland 9 could extend offsite to the north. The wetland was observed to have palustrine forested, scrub-shrub, and emergent habitats with vegetation similar to that of Wetland 5. The forested habitat was dominated by willow and red alder. The scrub-shrub habitat included red osier dogwood, rose spirea, and willow species. The herbaceous stratum included broadleaf cattail and reed canarygrass. No outlet was observed; however, an outlet was assumed based on the stream mapped by USGS and DNR that drains this wetland area to Wetland 5 and eventually Duwamish River (DNR 2024a). There was no evidence of a bed or bank within Wetland 9. Wetland 9 was determined to be a Category II wetland with high water quality and hydrologic functions and a moderate level of habitat functions (Attachment A).

3.2.2 Streams

There is a stream mapped by USGS and DNR (2024a) within the Alternative 2 study area. This stream has an unknown duration of flow, no documented fish use and is not mapped by the Cities of Seattle and Tukwila or King County (City of Seattle 2024; City of Tukwila 2024; DNR 2024a; King County 2024; WDFW 2024a, 2024b). The mapped stream flows from the north to south between I-5 and the BNSF railroad before turning and flowing east to west to the north of South Boeing Access Road. The mapped stream is then assumed to be piped to the Duwamish River. Wetlands 5 and 9 were delineated

where the un-piped portions of this mapped stream occur. There was no evidence of a defined bed or bank, and no OHWM indicators were observed within Wetlands 5 and 9 or anywhere else in the study area. These areas have been subject to significant human alteration. Historical aerial imagery from 1936 shows that this area was tilled farmland with an assortment of row crops and hay or pasture fields that were bordered by drainage ditches. This mapped stream was likely created or formed from the stormwater drainage system as the area was developed. Therefore, this mapped stream does not meet the definition of a water course according to WAC 220-660-030(154) and is not included in the results of this technical memorandum.

3.3 Alternative 3B

Wetlands within the Alternative 3B study area are described in Section 3.3.1. The stream identified within the Alternative 3B study area is described in Section 3.3.2.

3.3.1 Wetlands

Wetlands 1, 2, 3, and 8 were identified within the Alternative 3B study area. These wetlands are described below and shown in Figure 5.

Wetland 1

Wetland 1 is a narrow tidal fringe wetland located on the right bank of the Duwamish River. NWI maps the Duwamish River as a permanently flooded tidal riverine wetland with an unconsolidated bottom (USFWS 2024). Wetlands 1 and 8 are contiguous on both banks of the Duwamish River and are separated by an unvegetated channel wider than 50 feet, so these wetlands were treated as separate wetland rating units and received unique identifiers. Wetland 1 was observed from Railroad Avenue and was seen to contain palustrine scrub-shrub and estuarine intertidal emergent habitats. The palustrine scrub-shrub was densely vegetated by Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*) and willow. The herbaceous stratum was vegetated by reed canarygrass, and the high tide during the field reconnaissance covered other potential herbaceous species.

Wetland 1 was determined to be a Category II wetland that met estuarine special characteristics. Habitat functions were assessed and were determined to have a moderate level of habitat functions (Attachment A).

Wetland 2

Wetland 2 is a tidal fringe wetland located within Codiga Park. This wetland is not mapped by NWI, the City of Tukwila, or King County but is a partially restored wetland that has been improved through channel modification, wetland plantings, riparian habitat plantings, and habitat installations (USFWS 2024; City of Tukwila 2024; and King County 2024). The City of Tukwila (2024) maps this area as below the OHWM of the Duwamish River. Palustrine forested and scrub-shrub habitats with estuarine intertidal emergent habitats were observed from Codiga Park's public trail. The palustrine forested habitat was vegetated by black cottonwood and red alder, with the scrub-shrub habitat consisting of willow species. The estuarine intertidal emergent habitat included Lyngbye's sedge (*Carex lyngbyei*) and slough sedge (*C. obnupta*).

Wetland 2 was determined to be a Category I wetland that met estuarine special characteristics. Habitat functions were assessed and determined to have a moderate level of habitat functions (Attachment A).

Wetland 3

Wetland 3 is a depressional wetland that is located in a low spot between two BNSF rail yard storage areas and north of South 129th Street. This wetland is not mapped by NWI, City of Tukwila, King County, or WDFW and was observed from the South 129th Street elevated street surface (City of Tukwila 2024; King County 2024; USFWS 2024; WDFW 2024b). Wetland 3 was seen to have palustrine forested and scrub-shrub habitats comprised of black cottonwood, red alder, and Himalayan blackberry. This wetland is largely supported by high groundwater and surface runoff from the surrounding developments and is located where the City of Tukwila (2024) maps a Type Ns stream. The wetland drains from the north to the south, and a culvert outlet was observed that discharges directly to the Duwamish River approximately 110 feet to the south.

Wetland 3 was determined to be a Category II wetland with high water quality and hydrologic functions and a moderate level of habitat functions (Attachment A).

Wetland 8

Wetland 8 is similar to and shares the same description and functions as Wetland 1. Wetlands 1 and 8 are contiguous on both banks of the Duwamish River and are separated by an unvegetated channel greater than 50 feet, so these wetlands were treated as separate wetland rating units and received unique identifiers.

3.3.2 Streams

The Duwamish River was identified within Alternative 3B study area (see Figure 5) and is described below. The City of Tukwila maps a Type Ns stream and King County maps a separate unclassified stream within the Alternative 3B study area near the intersection of South 129th Street and Railroad Avenue (City of Tukwila 2024; King County 2024). Standing water was observed where the City of Tukwila maps the Type Ns stream and was mapped as Wetland 3 (see Section 3.3.1). This stream is positioned adjacent to the BNSF rail yard and is assumed to be entirely artificial watercourse that was installed for stormwater conveyance. This is supported by historical aerial imagery from 1936, which shows this area was tilled farmland with an assortment of row crops and hay or pasture fields (King County 2024). Therefore, this mapped stream does not meet the definition of a water course according to WAC 220-660-030(154) and is not included in the results of this technical memorandum. No evidence of the unclassified stream mapped by King County was observed near the BNSF railyard or the Martin Luther King Jr Way South crossing.

Duwamish River

The Duwamish River is a Type S stream. The stretch of Duwamish River adjacent to the Alternative 3B study area is located within the Duwamish Estuary, which includes the extent of tidal influence from the mouth to river mile 12 (King County 2001). The

Duwamish River was historically and is regularly dredged to maintain a navigable waterway. This action, paired with the tidally influenced water levels, have resulted in steep and unvegetated banks. Both banks are armored with riprap within the study area and contain patches of unvegetated and subtidal substrates. The OHWM of the Duwamish River was observed and estimated to occur around 12 feet NAVD88, which was higher than the HAT of 10.96 feet NAVD88 (NOAA 2024). The estimated OHWM of the Duwamish River closely matches the OHWM mapped by the City of Tukwila (2024). Two estuarine fringe wetlands (Wetlands 1 and 8) were conservatively estimated along and just above the OHWM of the Duwamish River.

The Duwamish River is on the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list for 10 different parameters (Ecology 2024a) and has an approved Total Maximum Daily Load for Ammonia (Ecology 2024b).

The Duwamish River is documented to provide rearing and migration habitat for Chinook Salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), steelhead trout (*O. mykiss*), and Bull Trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*), which are federally threatened species (WDFW 2024b, 2024c). Other aquatic species documented to occur in the Duwamish Waterway include Coho (*O. kisutch*) and Chum (*O. keta*) Salmon. Pink (*O. gorbuscha*) and Sockeye (*O. nerka*) Salmon and Sea-run Cutthroat Trout (*O. clarkii clarkii*) are also documented to be present but are considered rare (City of Seattle 2015; WDFW 2024b, 2024c).

3.4 Alternative 4

The Alternative 4 study area includes Wetlands 1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 11, and 12, the Duwamish River and Stream 1 (see Figure 6 and Figure 7). Wetland 10 to 12 and Stream 1 are described below. Wetlands 1, 2, 3, and 8 and the Duwamish River are described in Section 3.3 for design Alternative 3B and are not repeated in this section.

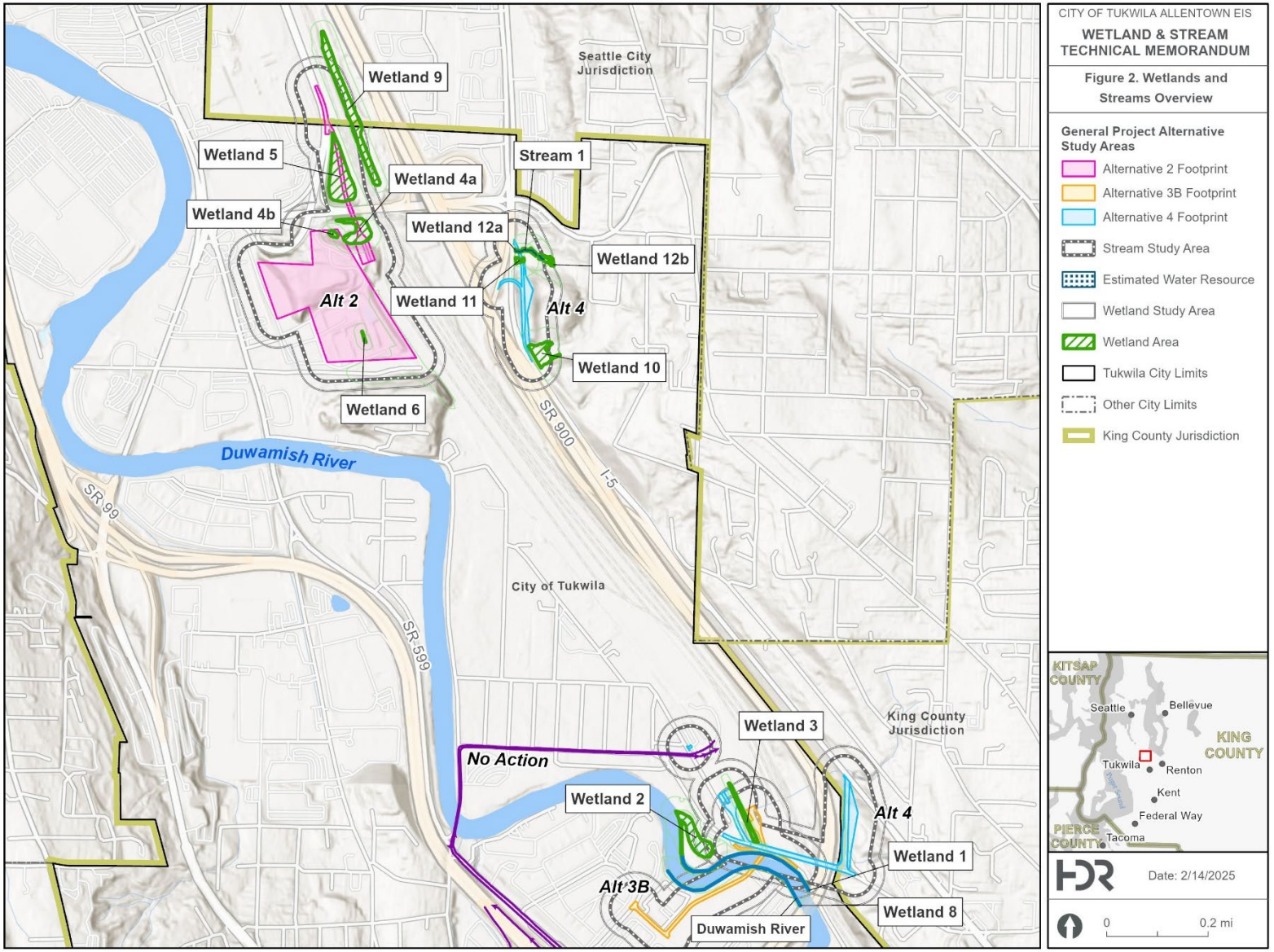

Figure 2. Wetland and Stream Overview Map

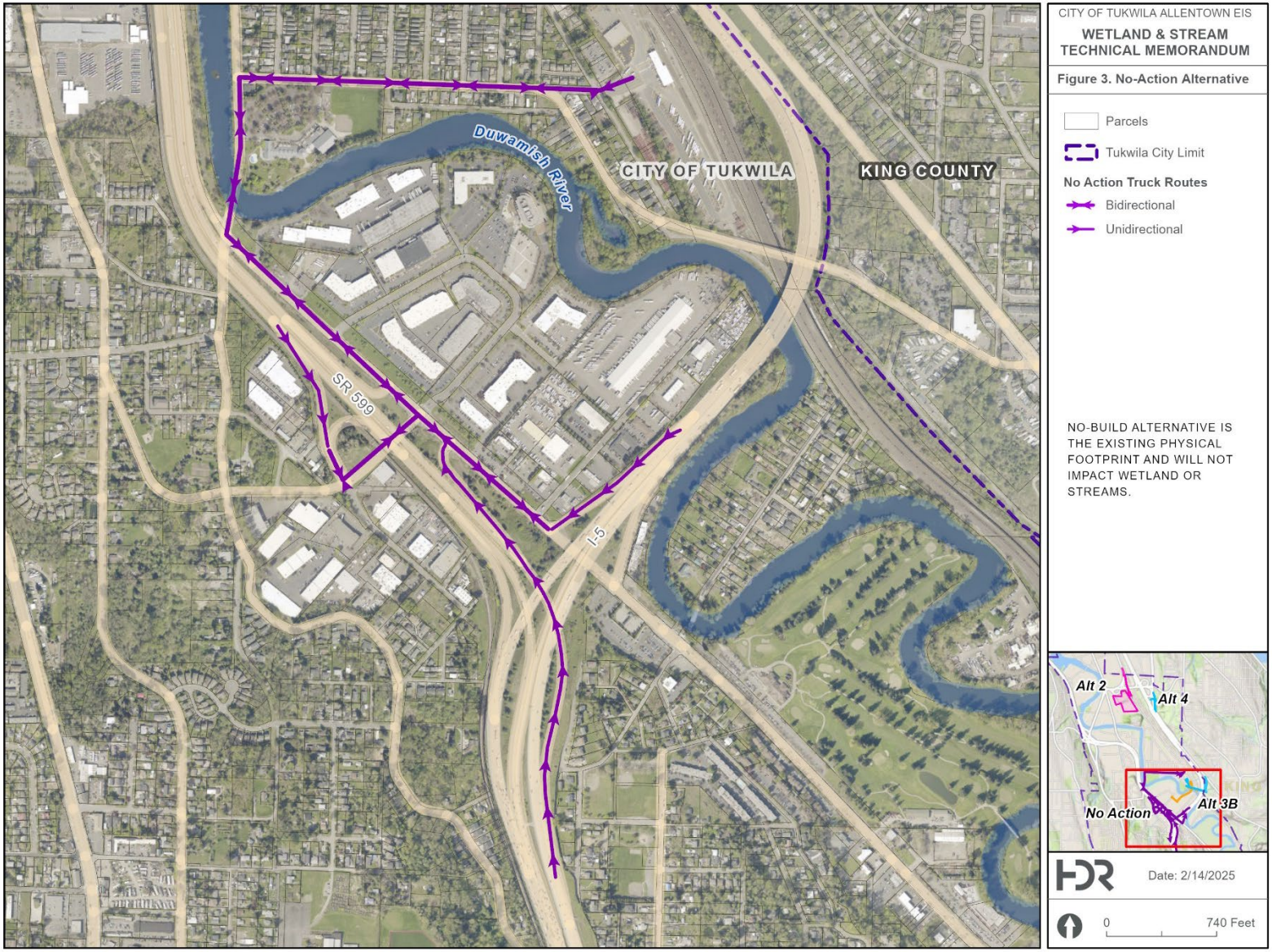

Figure 3. No Action Alternative

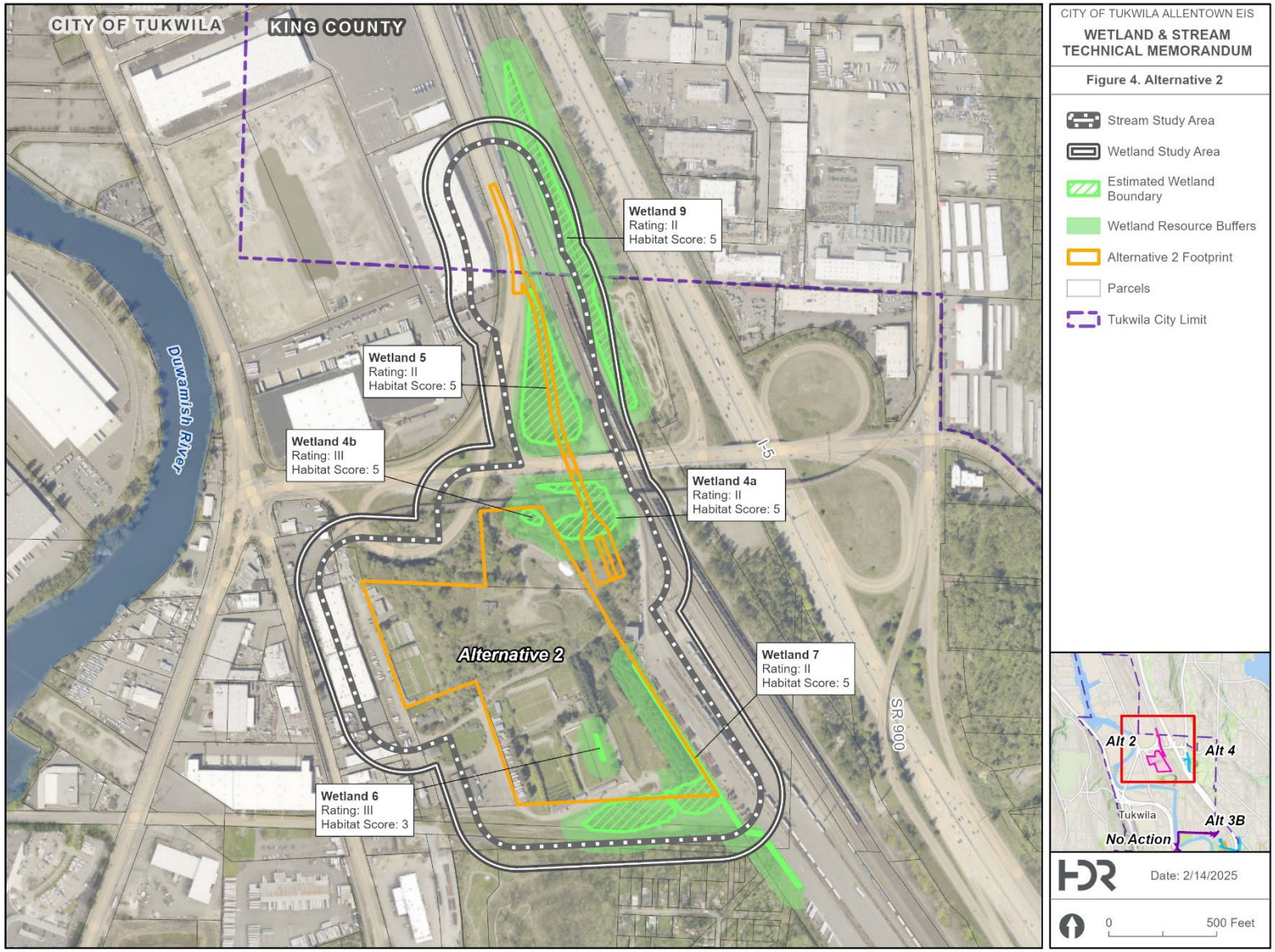

Figure 4. Alternative 2 Wetlands and Streams

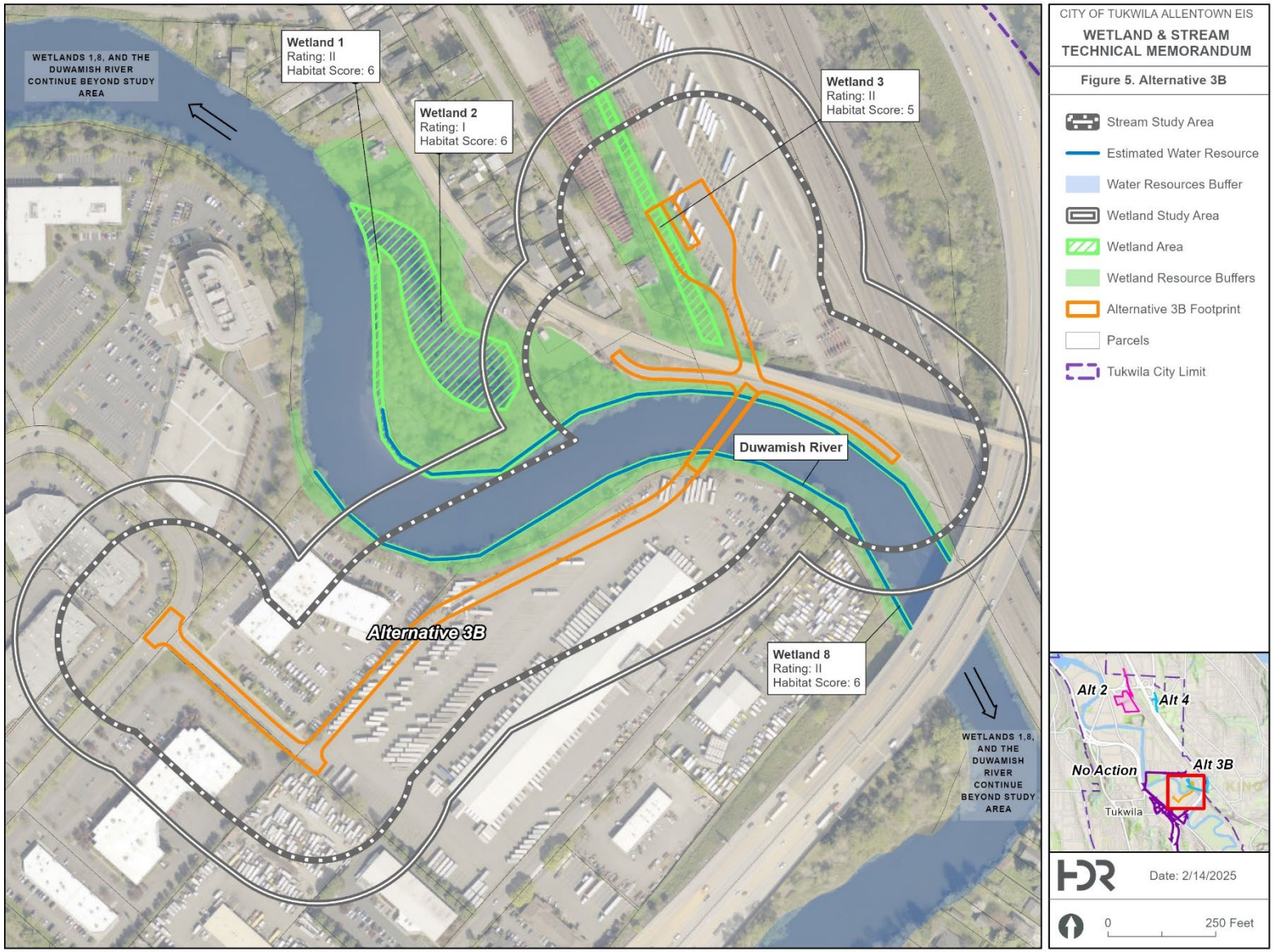

Figure 5. Alternative 3B Wetlands and Streams

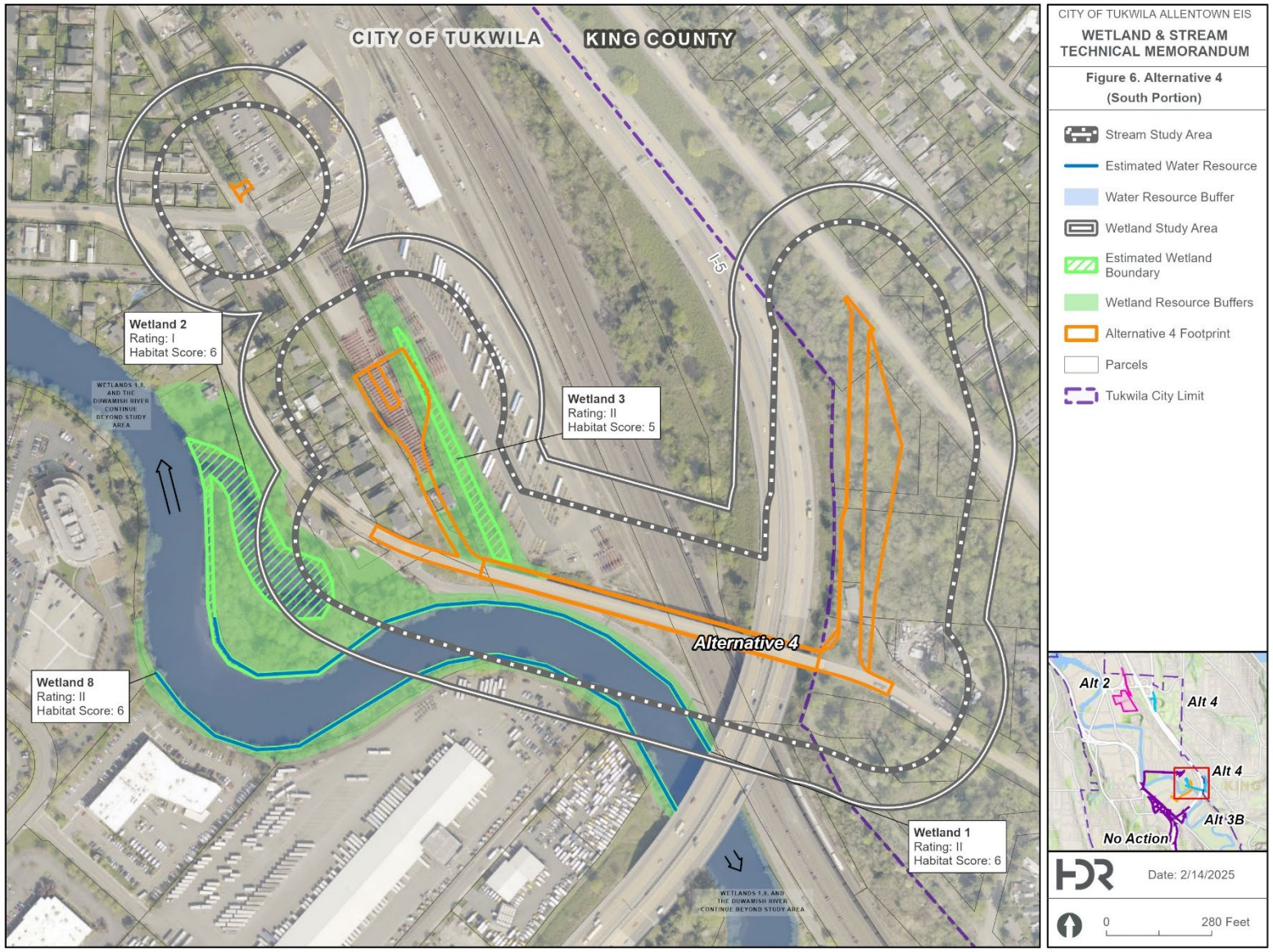

Figure 6. Alternative 4 Wetlands and Streams (Southern Portion)

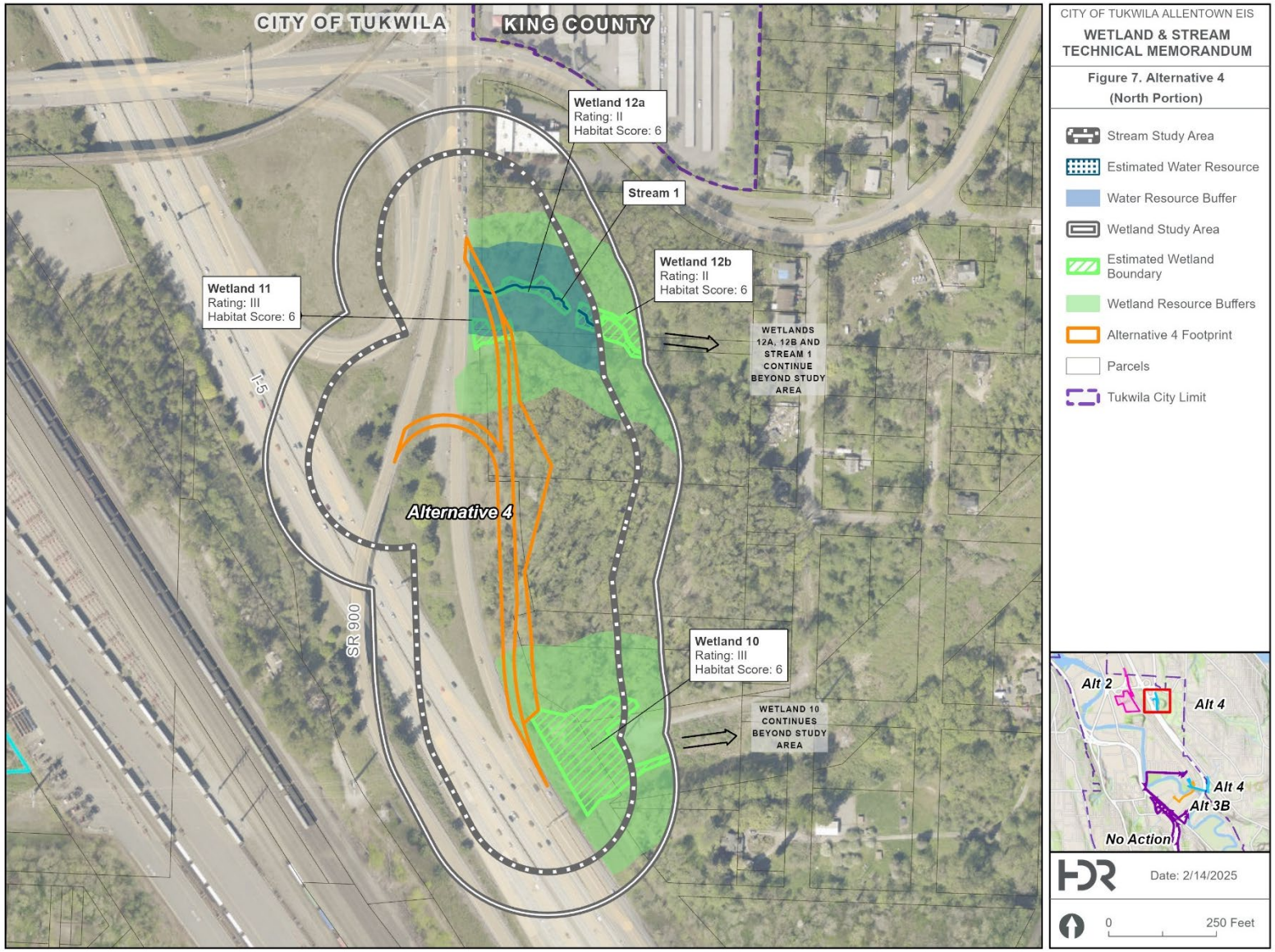

Figure 7. Alternative 4 Wetlands and Streams (Northern Portion)

3.4.1 Wetlands

Wetlands 1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 11, and 12a and 12b, were identified within the Alternative 4 study area. Wetlands 10 to 12 are described below and wetlands 1, 2, 3, and 8 are described in Section 3.3 for design Alternative 3B and are not repeated in this section. One additional wetland was identified in the Wet.land (2022) delineation report but will be filled as part of the proposed Vintage Housing development; therefore, is not included in this technical memorandum.

Wetland 10

Wetland 10 is large slope and depressional wetland with some offsite riverine components. This wetland is located within a drainage that slopes from the northeast to the southwest toward I-5. This wetland was partially delineated by Wet.land (2022; see Wetland C) and is not mapped by NWI, King County, or WDFW (USFWS 2024; King County 2024; WDFW 2024b). Observed wetland vegetation includes willow, black cottonwood, and Himalayan blackberry and Wetlland (2022) describes Oregon ash, English hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), salmonberry, and English Ivy. Surface water near the bottom of the drainage was observed adjacent to I-5 road prism. Based on this, it was assumed that there was no outlet and hydric soils.

The Wetland 10 rating was based on the Wet.land (2022) report but was updated to the Ecology 2014 Update Version 2.0 (Hruby and Yahnke 2023). Based on this, Wetland 10 was determined to be a Category III wetland with moderate water quality, hydrologic, and habitat functions (Attachment A).

Wetland 11

Wetland 11 is a small slope wetland that is located to the south of Stream 1 and Wetlands 12a and 12b. This area is densely forested and cannot be viewed from the road ROW but was estimated in the Wet.land (2022; see Wetland F) report but is not mapped by NWI, King County, or WDFW 2024b (USFWS 2024; King County 2024; WDFW 2024b). Wet.land (2022) describes Wetland 11 as having palustrine forested, scrub-shrub, and emergent habitats vegetated by black cottonwood, Pacific willow (*Salix lucida*), cascara (*Frangula purshiana*), English hawthorn, salmonberry, rose spiraea, lady fern, stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*), and youth-on-age. Wetland 11 is hydrologically supported by a high groundwater table

The Wetland 11 rating was based on the Wet.land (2022) report but was updated to the Ecology 2014 Update Version 2.0 (Hruby and Yahnke 2023). Based on this, Wetland 11 was determined to be a Category III wetland with moderate water quality, hydrologic, and habitat functions (Attachment A).

Wetlands 12a and 12b

Wetlands 12a and 12b are riverine wetlands associated with Stream 1, a Type Np water. This wetland was delineated by Wet.land (2022; see Wetlands A and AA) but is not mapped by NWI, King County, or WDFW (USFWS 2024; King County 2024; WDFW 2024b). Wetlands 12a and 12b are mapped within a ravine that slopes from the east to west beneath a mature broadleaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*) canopy. Wetlands 12a,

12b, and Stream 1 could not be observed from the road ROW. Wet.land (2022) describes the vegetation as being dominated by black cottonwood, red osier dogwood, vine maple (*Acer circinatum*), salmonberry, lady fern (*Athyrium cyclosorum*), and piggyback plant (*Tolmiea menziesii*). The off-site hydrologic connection is described as part of Stream 1 in Section 3.4.2 below.

The rating for Wetlands 12a and 12b were based on the Wet.land (2022) report but was updated to the Ecology 2014 Update Version 2.0 (Hruby and Yahnke 2023). Based on this, Wetlands 12a and 12b were determined to be a Category II wetlands with high water quality and moderate hydrologic and habitat functions (Attachment A).

3.4.2 Streams

The Duwamish River and Stream 1 were identified within the Alternative 4 study area (see Figure 6 and Figure 7). Stream 1 is described below, and the Duwamish River is described in Section 3.3 for design Alternative 3B and is not repeated in this section.

Stream 1

Stream 1, known as Ryan Hill Creek, is mapped by the City of Tukwila (2024) as a Type Np stream with an associated wetland; though, WDFW determined this stream to be a Type F for a development permit despite no documented fish use (WDFW 2023, 2024a, 2024b, 2024c). The stream could not be observed from the public ROW due to access issues and roadside vegetation. Stream 1 was estimated to be 2 to 3 feet wide based on the Wet.land (2022) delineation report and based on available topography and contours. The mapped stream flows through a narrow ravine with a mature broadleaf maple canopy before flowing to Martin Luther King Jr Way South. Inlet protection for a potential culvert or pipe was observed from the roadway in this area. Stream 1 has an unknown outlet and is assumed to discharge to the large wetland complex downslope and in between I-5 and the BNSF rail yard and eventually the Duwamish River.

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Attachment A. Preliminary Wetland Rating Form and Figures

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Wetland name or number WL 1

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): Wetland 1 Date of site visit: 5/22/24

Rated by T. Parry, T. Tumaliuan Trained by Ecology? ☑ Yes ☐ No Date of training 4/19/24

HGM Class used for rating Wetland has multiple HGM classes? ☐ Y ☐ N

NOTE: **Form is not complete without the required figures** (figures can be combined).
Source of base aerial photo/map _____

OVERALL WETLAND CATEGORY II (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
☐ **Category IV** – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
	Circle the appropriate ratings			
Site Potential	H M L	H M L	H M L	
Landscape Potential	H M L	H M L	H M L	
Value	H M L	H M L	H M L	TOTAL
Score Based on Ratings	0	0	0	0

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	I ☐ II ☑
Wetland of High Conservation Value	I ☐
Bog	I ☐
Mature Forest	I ☐
Old Growth Forest	I ☐
Coastal Lagoon	I ☐ II ☐
Interdunal	I ☐ II ☐ III ☐ IV ☐
None of the above	☐

Wetland name or number WL 1

HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

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

If the 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 sheet flow, 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).

Wetland name or number WL 1

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 WL 1

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 if the unit is at least 2.5 ac, or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac.

- ☐ Aquatic bed
- ☑ Emergent
- ☑ Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover)
- ☐ Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover)

If the unit has a Forested class, check if:

- ☐ The Forested class has 3 out of 5 strata (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss/groundcover) that each cover 20% within the Forested polygon

- ☐ 4 structures or more: points = 4
- ☐ 3 structures: points = 2
- ☑ 2 structures: points = 1
- ☐ 1 structure: points = 0

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 if the unit is < 2.5 ac, or ¼ ac if the unit is at least 2.5 ac to count (see text for descriptions of hydroperiods).

- ☐ Permanently flooded or inundated
- ☐ Seasonally flooded or inundated
- ☑ Occasionally flooded or inundated
- ☑ Saturated only
- ☑ Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ Intermittently or seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ **Lake Fringe wetland** **2 points**
- ☐ **Freshwater tidal wetland** **2 points**

- ☐ 4 or more types present: points = 3
- ☑ 3 types present: points = 2
- ☐ 2 types present: points = 1
- ☐ 1 type present: points = 0

2

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft^2.

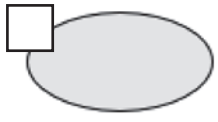
Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. **Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canada thistle**

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

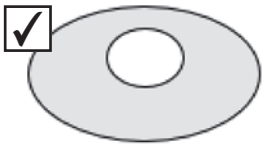
1

H 1.4. Interspersion of habitats

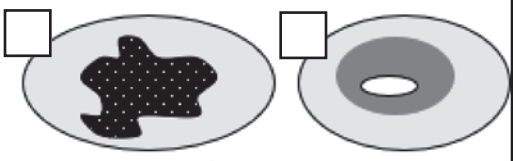
Decide from the diagrams below whether interspersion among Cowardin plants classes (described in H 1.1), or the classes and unvegetated areas (can include open water or mudflats) is high, moderate, low, or none. If you have four or more plant classes or three classes and open water, the rating is always high.

☐ 

None = 0 points

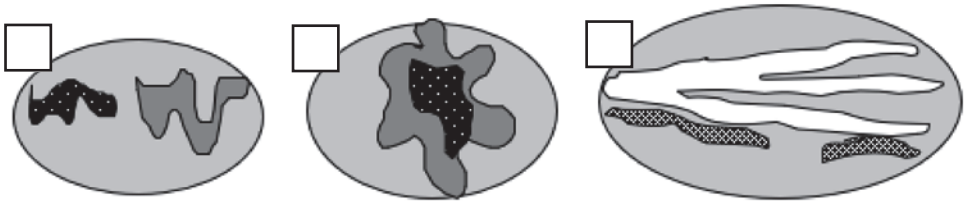
☑ 

Low = 1 point

☐ ☐ 

Moderate = 2 points

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

☐ ☐ ☐ 

1

Wetland name or number WL 1

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. The number of checks is the number of points. ☐ Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in. diameter and 6 ft long). ☐ Standing snags (dbh > 4 in.) within the wetland ☑ Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) **and/or** overhanging plants extend at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over open water or a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) ☐ 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 (cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed) ☑ At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated (structures for egg-laying by amphibians) ☐ Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (see H 1.1 above for the list of strata and H 1.5 in the manual for the list of aggressive plant species)	2
Total for H 1 Add the points in the boxes above	7

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

H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?

H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include only habitat polygons accessible from the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 0.05 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 0.05 = 0.05 % 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	0
H 2.2. Total habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 0.25 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 0.1 = 0.25 % ☐ Total habitat > 50% of Polygon points = 3 ☐ Total habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches points = 2 ☑ Total habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches points = 1 ☐ Total habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	1
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: ☑ > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = (- 2) ☐ ≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity points = 0	-2
Total for H 2 Add the points in the boxes above	-1

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

H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?

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.* ☑ Site meets ANY of the following criteria: points = 2 ☐ It has 3 or more Priority Habitats within 100 m (see next page) ☐ It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) ☐ It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW Priority Species ☐ It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources data ☐ 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 ☐ Site has 1 or 2 Priority Habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m points = 1 ☐ Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = 0	2

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

Wetland name or number WL 1

WDFW Priority Habitats

See complete descriptions of Priority Habitats listed by WDFW, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008 (current year, as revised). Priority Habitat and Species List.[133] This list was updated for consistency with guidance from WDFW.

This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the Priority Habitat. All vegetated wetlands are by definition a Priority Habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed by this rating system.

Count how many of the following Priority Habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit:

☐ **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. This habitat automatically counts if mapped on the PHS online map within 100m of the wetland. If not mapped, a determination can be made in the field.

☐ **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.

☐ **Fresh Deepwater:** Lands permanently flooded with freshwater, including environments where surface water is permanent and often deep, so that water, rather than air, is the principal medium within which the dominant organisms live. Substrate does not support emergent vegetation. Do not select if Instream habitat is also present, or if the entire Deepwater feature is included in the wetland unit being rated (such as a pond with a vegetated fringe).

☐ **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.

☑ **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. Do not select if Fresh Deepwater habitat is also present.

☐ **Nearshore:** Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore.

☐ **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) diameter at breast height (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.

[133] http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 1

☐ **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important. For single oaks or oak stands <0.4 ha in urban areas, WDFW's Management Recommendations for Oregon White Oak[134] provides more detail for determining if they are Priority Habitats

☑ **Riparian:** The area adjacent to freshwater aquatic systems with flowing or standing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.

☐ **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.

☐ **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.

☐ **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie.

[134] https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00030/wdfw00030.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 1

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type *Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.*	**Category**
SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? ☑ The dominant water regime is tidal, ☑ Vegetated, and ☑ With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt ☑ Yes – Go to **SC 1.1** ☐ No= **Not an estuarine wetland**	
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? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No – Go to **SC 1.2**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? ☐ 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 *Spartina*, see chapter 4.8 in the manual. ☐ 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. ☐ The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** ☐ **Cat. II** ☑
SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Does the wetland overlap with any known or historical rare plant or rare & high-quality ecosystem polygons on the WNHP Data Explorer?[135] ☑ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 2.2** SC 2.2. Does the wetland have a rare plant species, rare ecosystem (e.g., plant community), or high-quality common ecosystem that may qualify the site as a WHCV? Contact WNHP for resources to help determine the presence of these elements. ☐ Yes – Submit data to WA Natural Heritage Program for determination,[136] Go to **SC 2.3** ☑ No = **Not a WHCV** SC 2.3. Did WNHP review the site within 30 days and determine that it has a rare plant or ecosystem that meets their criteria? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Not a WHCV**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? *Use the key below.* ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No – Go to **SC 3.2** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No = **Not a bog** 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? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No – Go to **SC 3.4** **NOTE:** 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) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No = **Not a bog**	**Cat. I** ☐

[135] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/NHPdata
[136] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amp_nh_sighting_form.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 1

SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands

Does the wetland have at least 1 contiguous acre of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as Priority Habitats? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.***

☐ **Old-growth forests** (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.

☐ **Mature forests** (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).

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No = **Not a forested wetland for this section**

Cat. I ☐

SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons

Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon?

☐ 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

☐ The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (> 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon *(needs to be measured near the bottom)*

☐ The lagoon retains some of its surface water at low tide during spring tides

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 5.1** ☑ No = **Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon**

Cat. I ☐

SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions?

☐ 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 in H 1.5 in the manual).

☐ 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.

Cat. II ☐

☐ The wetland is larger than $^{1}/_{10}$ ac (4350 ft^2)

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**

SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands

Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.***

In practical terms that means the following geographic areas:

☐ Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103

☐ Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105

☐ Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 and Ocean Shores Blvd SW, including lands west of E. Oceans Shores Blvd SW.

Cat I ☐

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 6.1** ☑ No = **Not an interdunal wetland for rating**

Cat. II ☐

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)? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.2**

SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger?

Cat. III ☐

☐ Yes = **Category II** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.3**

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?

☐ Yes = **Category III** ☐ No = **Category IV**

Cat. IV ☐

Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form	II

Access to Wetland 1 was limited. The wetland rating form questions were informed by aerial photos, existing environmental documentation, and observation made from accessible portions of the wetland. Binoculars were used where necessary.

Wetland name or number WL 2

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): Wetland 2 Date of site visit: 5/22/24

Rated by T. Parry, T. Tumaliuan Trained by Ecology? ☑ Yes ☐ No Date of training 4/19/24

HGM Class used for rating Wetland has multiple HGM classes? ☐ Y ☐ N

NOTE: **Form is not complete without the required figures** (figures can be combined).
Source of base aerial photo/map _____

OVERALL WETLAND CATEGORY I (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
☐ **Category IV** – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
	Circle the appropriate ratings			
Site Potential	H M L	H M L	H M L	
Landscape Potential	H M L	H M L	H M L	
Value	H M L	H M L	H M L	TOTAL
Score Based on Ratings	0	0	0	0

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	I ☑ II ☐
Wetland of High Conservation Value	I ☐
Bog	I ☐
Mature Forest	I ☐
Old Growth Forest	I ☐
Coastal Lagoon	I ☐ II ☐
Interdunal	I ☐ II ☐ III ☐ IV ☐
None of the above	☐

Wetland name or number WL 2

HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

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

If the 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 sheet flow, 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).

Wetland name or number WL 2

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 WL 2

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 if the unit is at least 2.5 ac, or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac.

- ☐ Aquatic bed
- ☑ Emergent
- ☑ Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover)
- ☑ Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover)

If the unit has a Forested class, check if:

- ☐ The Forested class has 3 out of 5 strata (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss/groundcover) that each cover 20% within the Forested polygon

- ☐ 4 structures or more: points = 4
- ☑ 3 structures: points = 2
- ☐ 2 structures: points = 1
- ☐ 1 structure: points = 0

2

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 if the unit is < 2.5 ac, or ¼ ac if the unit is at least 2.5 ac to count (see text for descriptions of hydroperiods).

- ☑ Permanently flooded or inundated
- ☐ Seasonally flooded or inundated
- ☑ Occasionally flooded or inundated
- ☑ Saturated only
- ☑ Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ Intermittently or seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ **Lake Fringe wetland** **2 points**
- ☐ **Freshwater tidal wetland** **2 points**

- ☑ 4 or more types present: points = 3
- ☐ 3 types present: points = 2
- ☐ 2 types present: points = 1
- ☐ 1 type present: points = 0

3

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft^2.

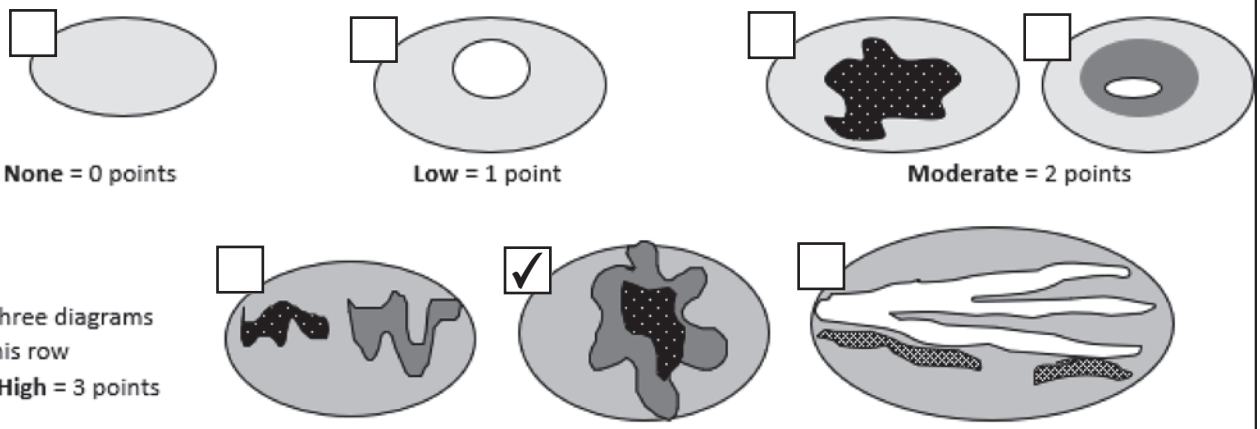
Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. **Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canada thistle**

- ☐ 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

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

☐ ☑ ☐

3

Wetland name or number WL 2

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. The number of checks is the number of points. ☑ Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in. diameter and 6 ft long). ☑ Standing snags (dbh > 4 in.) within the wetland ☑ Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) **and/or** overhanging plants extend at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over open water or a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) ☐ 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 (cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed) ☑ At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated (structures for egg-laying by amphibians) ☐ Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (see H 1.1 above for the list of strata and H 1.5 in the manual for the list of aggressive plant species)	4
Total for H 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	13

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

H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?

H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include only habitat polygons accessible from the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 0.05 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 0.05 = 0.05 % 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	0
H 2.2. Total habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 0.15 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 0.1 = 0.25 % ☐ Total habitat > 50% of Polygon — points = 3 ☐ Total habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches — points = 2 ☑ Total habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches — points = 1 ☐ Total habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon — points = 0	1
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: ☑ > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use — points = (- 2) ☐ ≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity — points = 0	-2
Total for H 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	-1

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

H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?

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.* ☑ Site meets ANY of the following criteria: — points = 2 ☐ It has 3 or more Priority Habitats within 100 m (see next page) ☐ It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) ☐ It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW Priority Species ☐ It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources data ☐ 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 ☐ Site has 1 or 2 Priority Habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m — points = 1 ☐ Site does not meet any of the criteria above — points = 0	2

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

Wetland name or number WL 2

WDFW Priority Habitats

See complete descriptions of Priority Habitats listed by WDFW, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008 (current year, as revised). Priority Habitat and Species List.[133] This list was updated for consistency with guidance from WDFW.

This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the Priority Habitat. All vegetated wetlands are by definition a Priority Habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed by this rating system.

Count how many of the following Priority Habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit:

☐ **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. This habitat automatically counts if mapped on the PHS online map within 100m of the wetland. If not mapped, a determination can be made in the field.

☐ **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.

☐ **Fresh Deepwater:** Lands permanently flooded with freshwater, including environments where surface water is permanent and often deep, so that water, rather than air, is the principal medium within which the dominant organisms live. Substrate does not support emergent vegetation. Do not select if Instream habitat is also present, or if the entire Deepwater feature is included in the wetland unit being rated (such as a pond with a vegetated fringe).

☐ **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.

☑ **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. Do not select if Fresh Deepwater habitat is also present.

☐ **Nearshore:** Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore.

☐ **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) diameter at breast height (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.

[133] http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 2

☐ **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important. For single oaks or oak stands <0.4 ha in urban areas, WDFW's Management Recommendations for Oregon White Oak[134] provides more detail for determining if they are Priority Habitats

☑ **Riparian:** The area adjacent to freshwater aquatic systems with flowing or standing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.

☐ **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.

☐ **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.

☐ **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie.

[134] https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00030/wdfw00030.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 2

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type *Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.*	**Category**
SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? ☑ The dominant water regime is tidal, ☑ Vegetated, and ☑ With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt ☑ Yes – Go to **SC 1.1** ☐ No= **Not an estuarine wetland**	
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? ☑ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 1.2**	**Cat. I** ☑
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? ☑ 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 *Spartina*, see chapter 4.8 in the manual. ☑ 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. ☑ The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. ☑ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** ☐ **Cat. II** ☐
SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Does the wetland overlap with any known or historical rare plant or rare & high-quality ecosystem polygons on the WNHP Data Explorer?[135] ☑ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 2.2** SC 2.2. Does the wetland have a rare plant species, rare ecosystem (e.g., plant community), or high-quality common ecosystem that may qualify the site as a WHCV? Contact WNHP for resources to help determine the presence of these elements. ☐ Yes – Submit data to WA Natural Heritage Program for determination,[136] Go to **SC 2.3** ☑ No = **Not a WHCV** SC 2.3. Did WNHP review the site within 30 days and determine that it has a rare plant or ecosystem that meets their criteria? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Not a WHCV**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? *Use the key below.* ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No – Go to **SC 3.2** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No = **Not a bog** 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? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No – Go to **SC 3.4** **NOTE:** 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) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No = **Not a bog**	**Cat. I** ☐

[135] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/NHPdata
[136] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amp_nh_sighting_form.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 2

SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands

Does the wetland have at least 1 contiguous acre of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as Priority Habitats? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.***

☐ **Old-growth forests** (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.

☐ **Mature forests** (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).

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No = **Not a forested wetland for this section**

Cat. I ☐

SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons

Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon?

☐ 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

☐ The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (> 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon *(needs to be measured near the bottom)*

☐ The lagoon retains some of its surface water at low tide during spring tides

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 5.1** ☑ No = **Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon**

Cat. I ☐

SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions?

☐ 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 in H 1.5 in the manual).

☐ 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.

☐ The wetland is larger than $^{1}/_{10}$ ac (4350 ft^2)

Cat. II ☐

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**

SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands

Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.***

In practical terms that means the following geographic areas:

☐ Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103

☐ Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105

☐ Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 and Ocean Shores Blvd SW, including lands west of E. Oceans Shores Blvd SW.

Cat I ☐

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 6.1** ☑ No = **Not an interdunal wetland for rating**

Cat. II ☐

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)? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.2**

SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger? ☐ Yes = **Category II** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.3**

Cat. III ☐

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? ☐ Yes = **Category III** ☐ No = **Category IV**

Cat. IV ☐

Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics
If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form

I

Access to Wetland 2 was limited. The wetland rating form questions were informed by aerial photos, existing environmental documentation, and observation made from accessible portions of the wetland.

Wetland name or number WL 3

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): Wetland 3 Date of site visit: 5/22/24

Rated by Parry T. Tumaliuan T. Trained by Ecology? ☑ Yes ☐ No Date of training 4/19/24

HGM Class used for rating Depressional Wetland has multiple HGM classes? ☐ Y ☑ N

NOTE: **Form is not complete without the required figures** (figures can be combined).
Source of base aerial photo/map ESRI

OVERALL WETLAND CATEGORY II (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
☐ **Category IV** – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
	Circle the appropriate ratings			
Site Potential	H☐ M☑ L☐	H☐ M☑ L☐	H☐ M☐ L☑	
Landscape Potential	H☐ M☑ L☐	H☑ M☐ L☐	H☐ M☐ L☑	
Value	H☑ M☐ L☐	H☑ M☐ L☐	H☑ M☐ L☐	**TOTAL**
Score Based on Ratings	7	8	5	20

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	I☐ II☐
Wetland of High Conservation Value	I☐
Bog	I☐
Mature Forest	I☐
Old Growth Forest	I☐
Coastal Lagoon	I☐ II☐
Interdunal	I☐ II☐ III☐ IV☐
None of the above	☑

Wetland name or number WL 3

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	1
Hydroperiods	D 1.4, H 1.2	2
Location of outlet (*can be added to map of hydroperiods)*	D 1.1, D 4.1	3
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	D 2.2, D 5.2	4
Map of the contributing basin	D 4.3, D 5.3	5
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	6
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	D 3.1, D 3.2	7
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	D 3.3	8

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 *(can be added to another figure)*	R 2.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	
Width of unit vs. width of stream *(can be added to another figure)*	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 total 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 *(can be added to another figure)*	L 2.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total 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	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Plant cover of **dense** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	S 1.3	
Plant cover of **dense, rigid** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants (*can be added to figure above)*	S 4.1	
Boundary of 150 ft buffer (can be added to another figure)	S 2.1, S 5.1	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	S 3.1, S 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	S 3.3	

Wetland name or number WL 3

HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

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

If the 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 sheet flow, 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).

Wetland name or number WL 3

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

Access to Wetland 3 was limited. The wetland rating form questions were informed by aerial photos, existing environmental documentation, and observation made from accessible portions of the wetland. Binoculars were used in the field where necessary.

Wetland name or number WL 3

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

D 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
D 1.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: ☐ Wetland is a depression or flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key) with no surface water leaving it (no outlet). points = 3 ☑ Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet. points = 2 ☐ Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 1 ☐ Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch. points = 1	2
D 1.2. The soil 2 in. below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions).* Yes = 4 ☐ No = 0 ☑	0
D 1.3. Characteristics and distribution of persistent plants (Emergent, Scrub-shrub, and/or Forested Cowardin classes): ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > 95% of area points = 5 ☑ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > ½ of area points = 3 ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants ≥ 1/10 of area points = 1 ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants < 1/10 of area points = 0	3
D 1.4. Characteristics of seasonal ponding or inundation: *This is the area that is ponded for at least 2 months. See description in manual.* ☑ Area seasonally ponded is > ½ total area of wetland points = 4 ☐ Area seasonally ponded is ≥ ¼ total area of wetland points = 2 ☐ Area seasonally ponded is < ¼ total area of wetland points = 0	4
Total for D 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	9

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ☐ **12-16 = H** ☑ **6-11 = M** ☐ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
D 2.1. Does the wetland unit receive stormwater discharges? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
D 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
D 2.3. Are there septic systems within 250 ft of the wetland? ☐ Yes = 1 ☑ No = 0	0
D 2.4. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions D 2.1-D 2.3? Source_____ ☐ Yes = 1 ☑ No = 0	0
Total for D 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ☐ **3 or 4 = H** ☑ **1 or 2 = M** ☐ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
D 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	1
D 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where an aquatic resource is on the 303(d) list? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
D 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? (Answer YES if there is a TMDL in development or in effect for the basin in which the unit is found.) ☑ Yes = 2 ☐ No = 0	2
Total for D 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	4

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

D3.1&D3.2 - Wetland discharges within 0.03 mi of Green River which is on the 303(d) list for temperature, bacteria, and pH. D3.3 - Wetland is within the 12-digit HUC of the Duwamish Waterway Ammonia-N TMDL

Wetland name or number WL 3

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream degradation

D 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?

D 4.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: **2**

- ☐ Wetland is a depression or flat depression with no surface water leaving it (no outlet) points = 4
- ☑ Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream/ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet points = 2
- ☐ Wetland is a flat depression (question 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch points = 1
- ☐ Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 0

D 4.2. Depth of storage during wet periods: Estimate the height of ponding above the bottom of the outlet. For wetlands with no outlet, measure from the surface of permanent water or if dry, the deepest part. **3**

- ☐ Marks of ponding are 3 ft or more above the surface or bottom of outlet points = 7
- ☐ Marks of ponding between 2 ft to < 3 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 5
- ☑ Marks are at least 0.5 ft to < 2 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 3
- ☐ The wetland is a "headwater" wetland points = 3
- ☐ Wetland is flat but has small depressions on the surface that trap water points = 1
- ☐ Marks of ponding less than 0.5 ft (6 in) points = 0

D 4.3. Contribution of the wetland to storage in the watershed: Estimate the ratio of the area of upstream basin contributing surface water to the area of the wetland unit itself. **3**

- ☐ The area of the basin is less than 10 times the area of the unit points = 5
- ☑ The area of the basin is 10 to 100 times the area of the unit points = 3
- ☐ The area of the basin is more than 100 times the area of the unit points = 0
- ☐ Entire wetland is in the Flats class points = 5

Total for D 4 — Add the points in the boxes above: **8**

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ☐ **12-16 = H** ☑ **6-11 = M** ☐ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support hydrologic functions of the site?

D 5.1. Does the wetland receive stormwater discharges? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0 **1**

D 5.2. Is >10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate excess runoff? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0 **1**

D 5.3. Is more than 25% of the contributing basin of the wetland covered with intensive human land uses (residential at >1 residence/ac, urban, commercial, agriculture, etc.)? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0 **1**

Total for D 5 — Add the points in the boxes above: **3**

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ☑ **3 = H** ☐ **1 or 2 = M** ☐ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?

D 6.1. Is the unit in a landscape that has flooding problems? Choose the description that best matches conditions around the wetland unit being rated. Do not add points. Choose the highest score if more than one condition is met. **2**

The wetland captures surface water that would otherwise flow downgradient into areas where flooding has damaged human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds):

- ☑ Flooding occurs in a sub-basin that is immediately downgradient of unit. points = 2
- ☐ Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther downgradient. points = 1
- ☐ Flooding from groundwater is an issue in the sub-basin. points = 1
- ☐ The existing or potential outflow from the wetland is so constrained by human or natural conditions that the water stored by the wetland cannot reach areas that flood. *Explain why* _____ points = 0
- ☐ There are no problems with flooding downstream of the wetland. points = 0

D 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? ☐ Yes = 2 ☑ No = 0 **0**

Total for D 6 — Add the points in the boxes above: **2**

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

Wetland name or number WL 3

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 if the unit is at least 2.5 ac, or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac.

- ☐ Aquatic bed
- ☐ Emergent
- ☑ Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover)
- ☑ Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover)

If the unit has a Forested class, check if:

- ☐ The Forested class has 3 out of 5 strata (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss/groundcover) that each cover 20% within the Forested polygon

- ☐ 4 structures or more: points = 4
- ☐ 3 structures: points = 2
- ☑ 2 structures: points = 1
- ☐ 1 structure: points = 0

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 if the unit is < 2.5 ac, or ¼ ac if the unit is at least 2.5 ac to count (see text for descriptions of hydroperiods).

- ☐ Permanently flooded or inundated
- ☑ Seasonally flooded or inundated
- ☐ Occasionally flooded or inundated
- ☑ Saturated only
- ☐ Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ Intermittently or seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ **Lake Fringe wetland** **2 points**
- ☐ **Freshwater tidal wetland** **2 points**

- ☐ 4 or more types present: points = 3
- ☐ 3 types present: points = 2
- ☑ 2 types present: points = 1
- ☐ 1 type present: points = 0

1

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft^2.

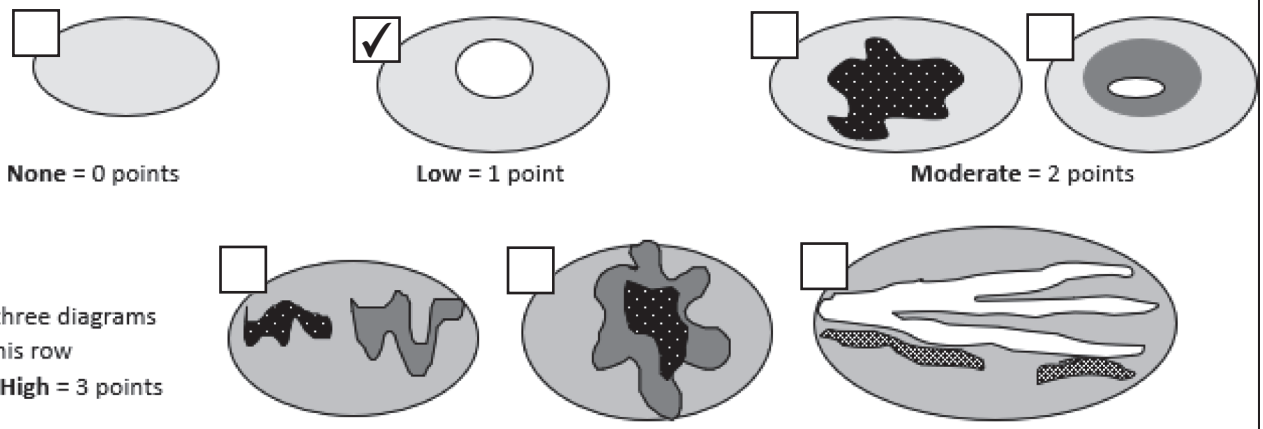
Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. **Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canada thistle**

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

0

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

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

1

Wetland name or number WL 3

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. The number of checks is the number of points. ☑ Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in. diameter and 6 ft long). ☐ Standing snags (dbh > 4 in.) within the wetland ☑ Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) **and/or** overhanging plants extend at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over open water or a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) ☐ 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 (cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed) ☑ At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated (structures for egg-laying by amphibians) ☐ Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (see H 1.1 above for the list of strata and H 1.5 in the manual for the list of aggressive plant species)	3
Total for H 1 Add the points in the boxes above	6

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

H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?

H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include only habitat polygons accessible from the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 0.05 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 0.00 = 0.05 % 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	0
H 2.2. Total habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 0.15 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 0.10 = 0.25 % ☐ Total habitat > 50% of Polygon points = 3 ☐ Total habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches points = 2 ☑ Total habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches points = 1 ☐ Total habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	1
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: ☑ > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = (- 2) ☐ ≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity points = 0	-2
Total for H 2 Add the points in the boxes above	-1

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

H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?

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.* ☑ Site meets ANY of the following criteria: points = 2 ☑ It has 3 or more Priority Habitats within 100 m (see next page) ☐ It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) ☐ It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW Priority Species ☐ It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources data ☐ 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 ☐ Site has 1 or 2 Priority Habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m points = 1 ☐ Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = 0	2

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

Wetland name or number WL 3

WDFW Priority Habitats

See complete descriptions of Priority Habitats listed by WDFW, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008 (current year, as revised). Priority Habitat and Species List.[133] This list was updated for consistency with guidance from WDFW.

This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the Priority Habitat. All vegetated wetlands are by definition a Priority Habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed by this rating system.

Count how many of the following Priority Habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit:

☐ **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. This habitat automatically counts if mapped on the PHS online map within 100m of the wetland. If not mapped, a determination can be made in the field.

☐ **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.

☐ **Fresh Deepwater:** Lands permanently flooded with freshwater, including environments where surface water is permanent and often deep, so that water, rather than air, is the principal medium within which the dominant organisms live. Substrate does not support emergent vegetation. Do not select if Instream habitat is also present, or if the entire Deepwater feature is included in the wetland unit being rated (such as a pond with a vegetated fringe).

☐ **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.

☑ **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. Do not select if Fresh Deepwater habitat is also present.

☐ **Nearshore:** Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore.

☐ **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) diameter at breast height (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.

[133] http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 3

☐ **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important. For single oaks or oak stands <0.4 ha in urban areas, WDFW's Management Recommendations for Oregon White Oak[134] provides more detail for determining if they are Priority Habitats

☑ **Riparian:** The area adjacent to freshwater aquatic systems with flowing or standing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.

☐ **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.

☐ **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.

☐ **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie.

[134] https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00030/wdfw00030.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 3

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type *Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.*	**Category**
SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? ☐ The dominant water regime is tidal, ☐ Vegetated, and ☐ With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 1.1** ☑ No= **Not an estuarine wetland**	
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? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 1.2**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? ☐ 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 *Spartina*, see chapter 4.8 in the manual. ☐ 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. ☐ The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** ☐ **Cat. II** ☐
SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Does the wetland overlap with any known or historical rare plant or rare & high-quality ecosystem polygons on the WNHP Data Explorer?[135] ☑ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 2.2** SC 2.2. Does the wetland have a rare plant species, rare ecosystem (e.g., plant community), or high-quality common ecosystem that may qualify the site as a WHCV? Contact WNHP for resources to help determine the presence of these elements. ☐ Yes – Submit data to WA Natural Heritage Program for determination,[136] Go to **SC 2.3** ☑ No = **Not a WHCV** SC 2.3. Did WNHP review the site within 30 days and determine that it has a rare plant or ecosystem that meets their criteria? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Not a WHCV**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? *Use the key below.* ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No – Go to **SC 3.2** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No = **Not a bog** 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? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No – Go to **SC 3.4** **NOTE:** 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) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No = **Not a bog**	**Cat. I** ☐

[135] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/NHPdata
[136] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amp_nh_sighting_form.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 3

SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands

Does the wetland have at least 1 contiguous acre of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as Priority Habitats? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.***

☐ **Old-growth forests** (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.

☐ **Mature forests** (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).

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No = **Not a forested wetland for this section**

Cat. I ☐

SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons

Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon?

☐ 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

☐ The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (> 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon *(needs to be measured near the bottom)*

☐ The lagoon retains some of its surface water at low tide during spring tides

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 5.1** ☑ No = **Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon**

Cat. I ☐

SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions?

☐ 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 in H 1.5 in the manual).

☐ 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.

☐ The wetland is larger than $^{1}/_{10}$ ac (4350 ft^2)

Cat. II ☐

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**

SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands

Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.***

In practical terms that means the following geographic areas:

☐ Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103

☐ Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105

☐ Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 and Ocean Shores Blvd SW, including lands west of E. Oceans Shores Blvd SW.

Cat I ☐

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 6.1** ☑ No = **Not an interdunal wetland for rating**

Cat. II ☐

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)? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.2**

SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger? ☐ Yes = **Category II** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.3**

Cat. III ☐

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? ☐ Yes = **Category III** ☐ No = **Category IV**

Cat. IV ☐

Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics
If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form

NA

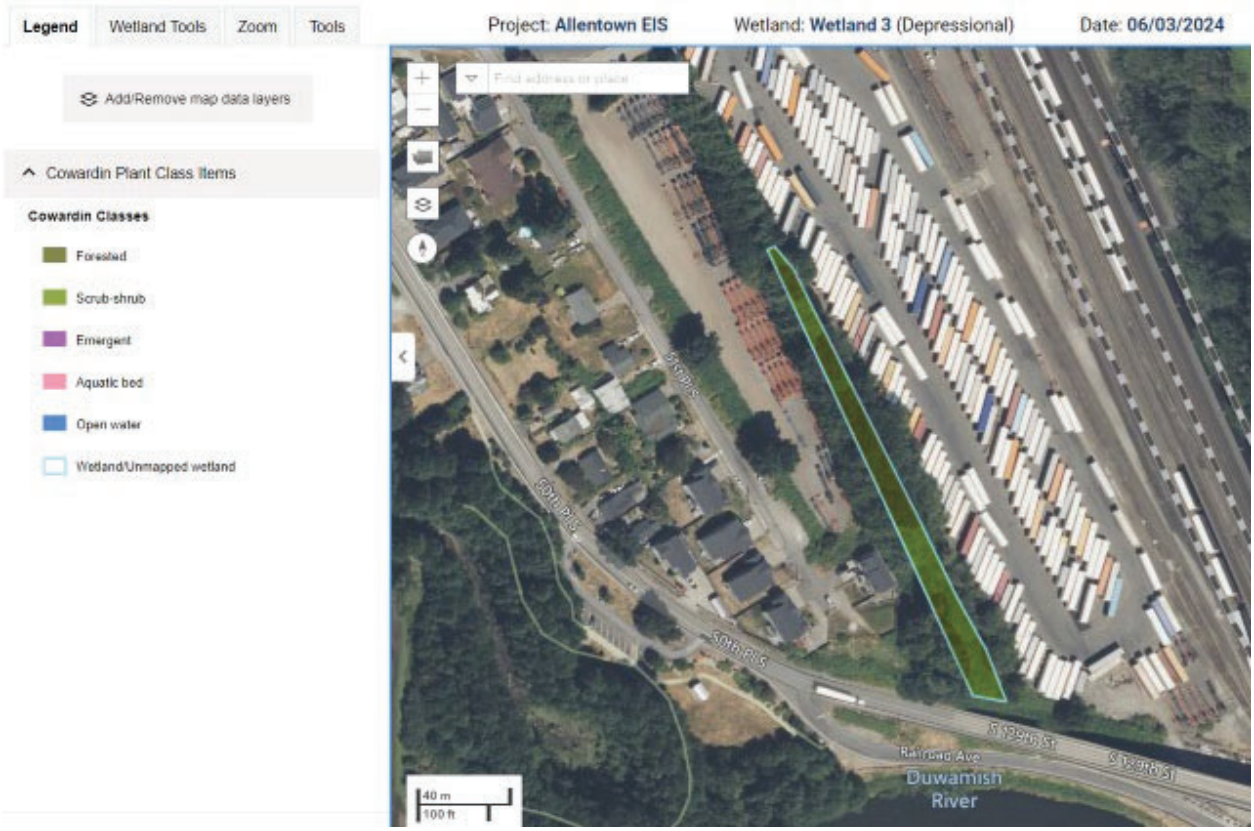


Figure 1: Cowardin plant classes.

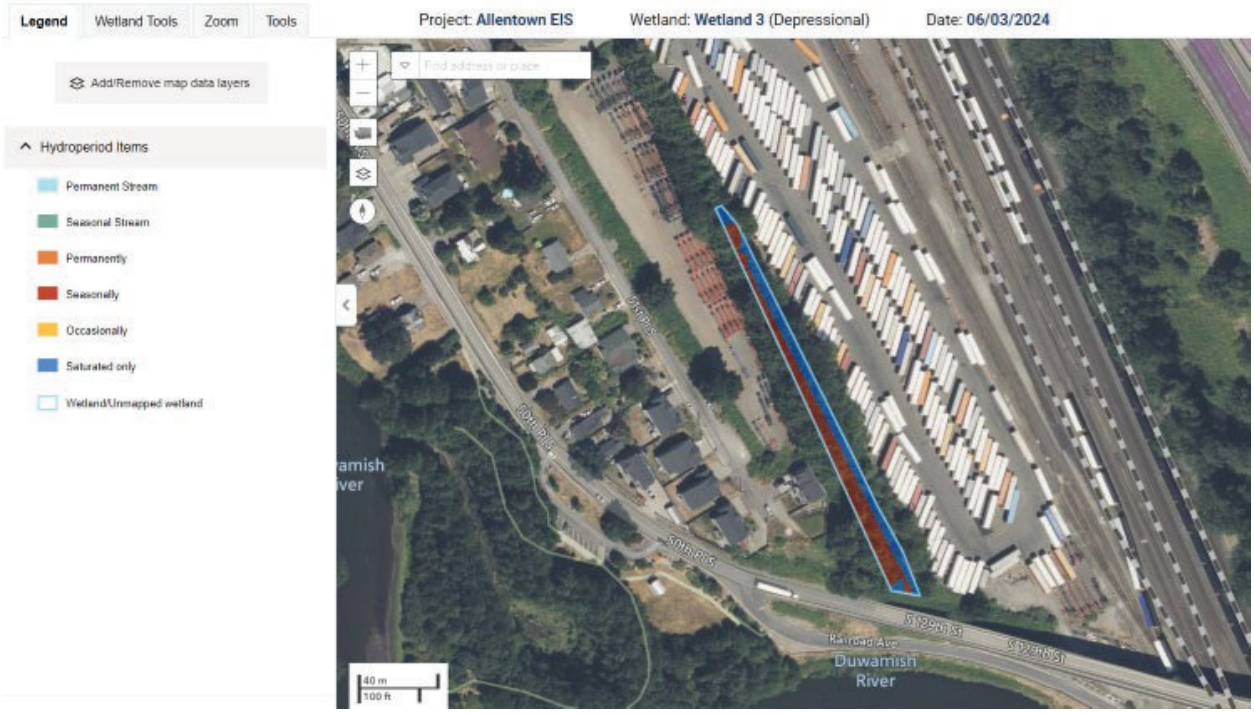


Figure 2: Hydroperiods.

Figure 3: Location of outlet.

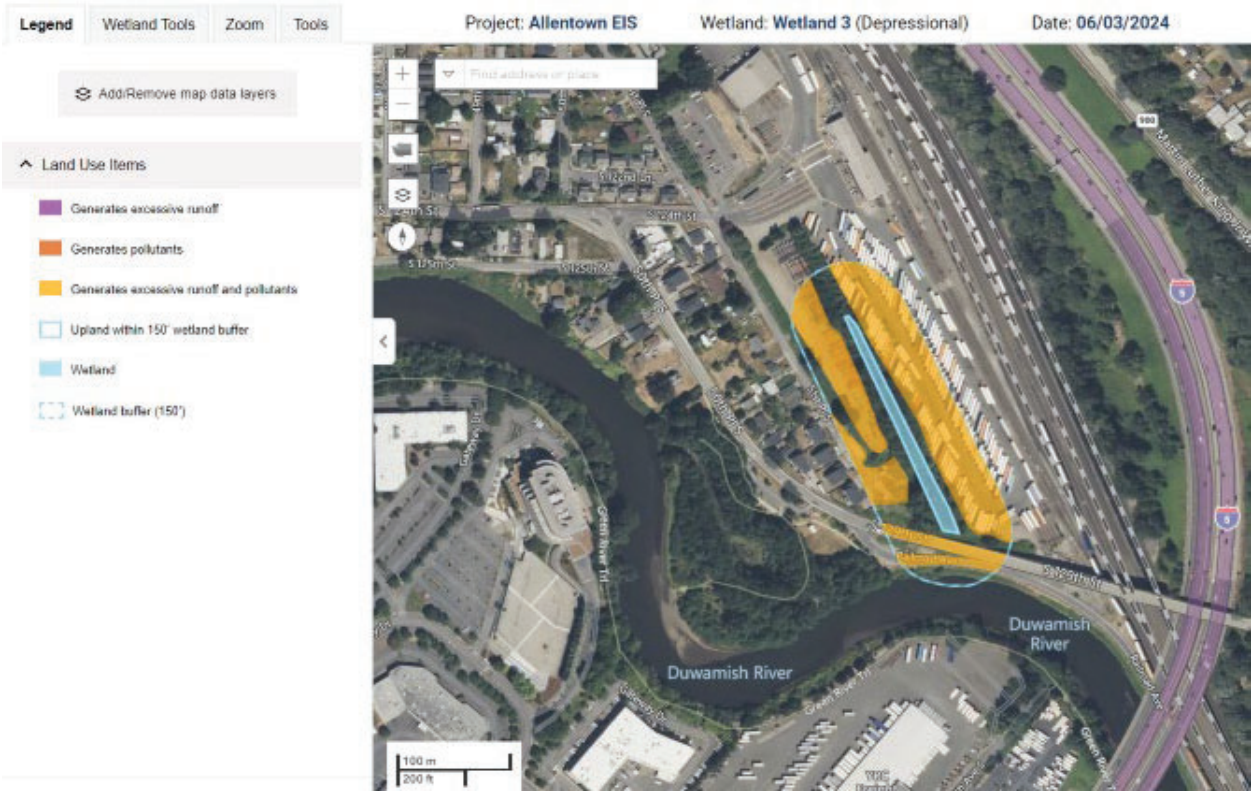


Figure 4: Boundary of area within 150 feet of the wetland.

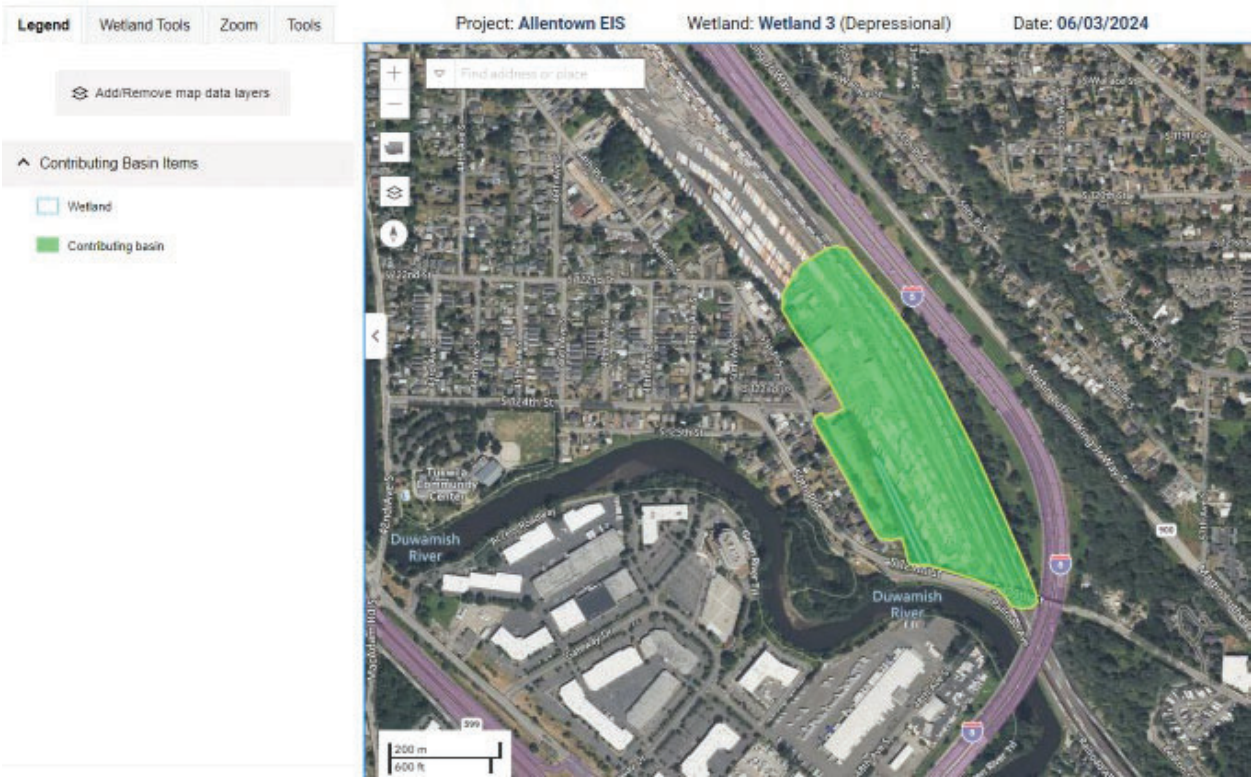


Figure 5: Contributing basin.

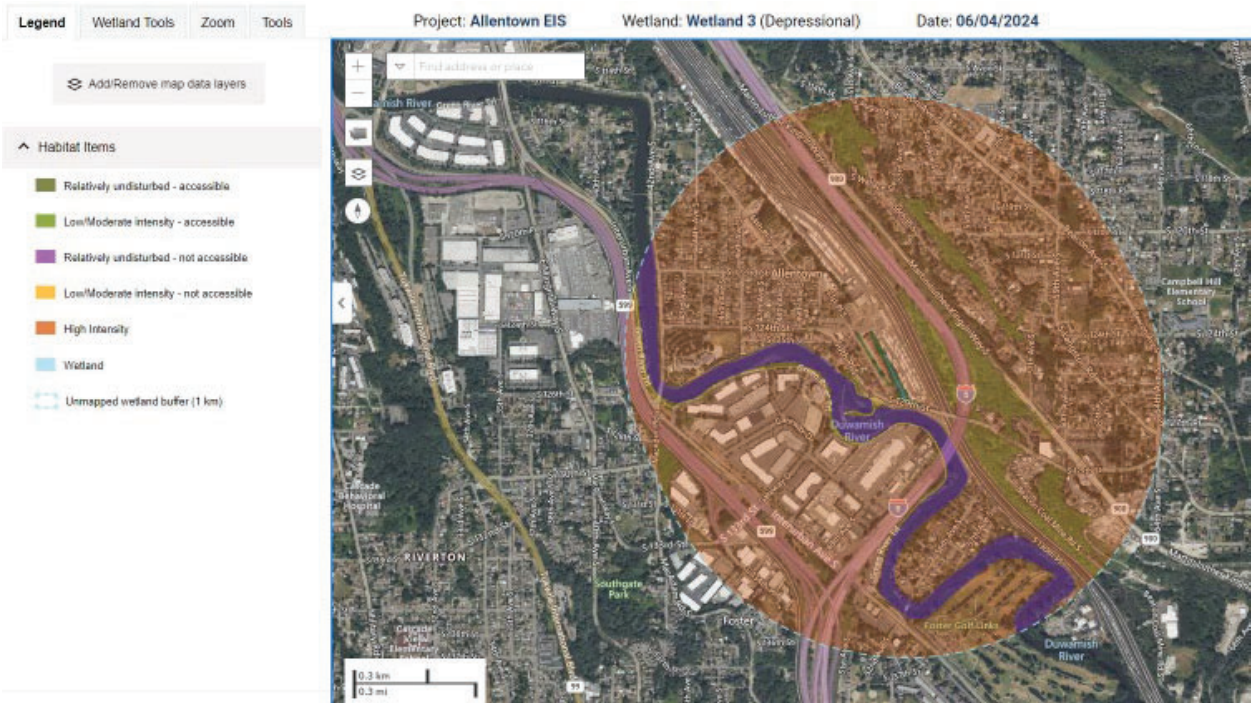


Figure 6: 1km polygon.

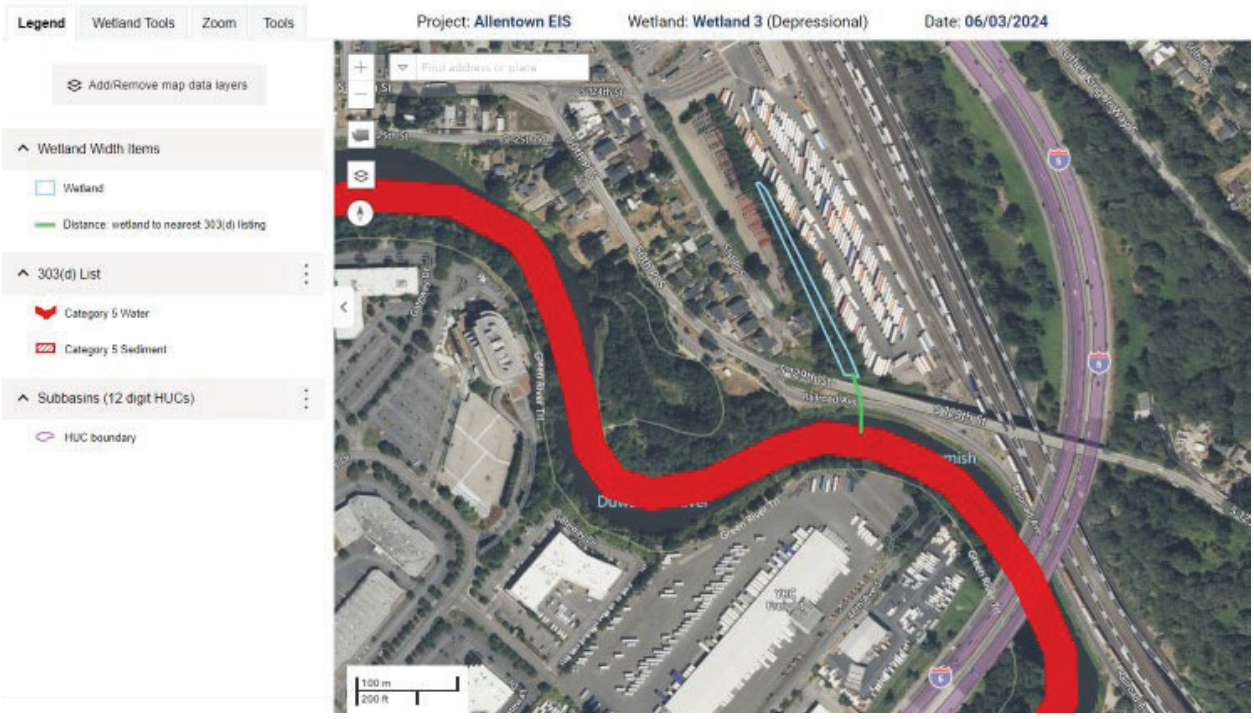


Figure 7: 303(d) listed waters in basin for the HUC12 in which the wetland is found.

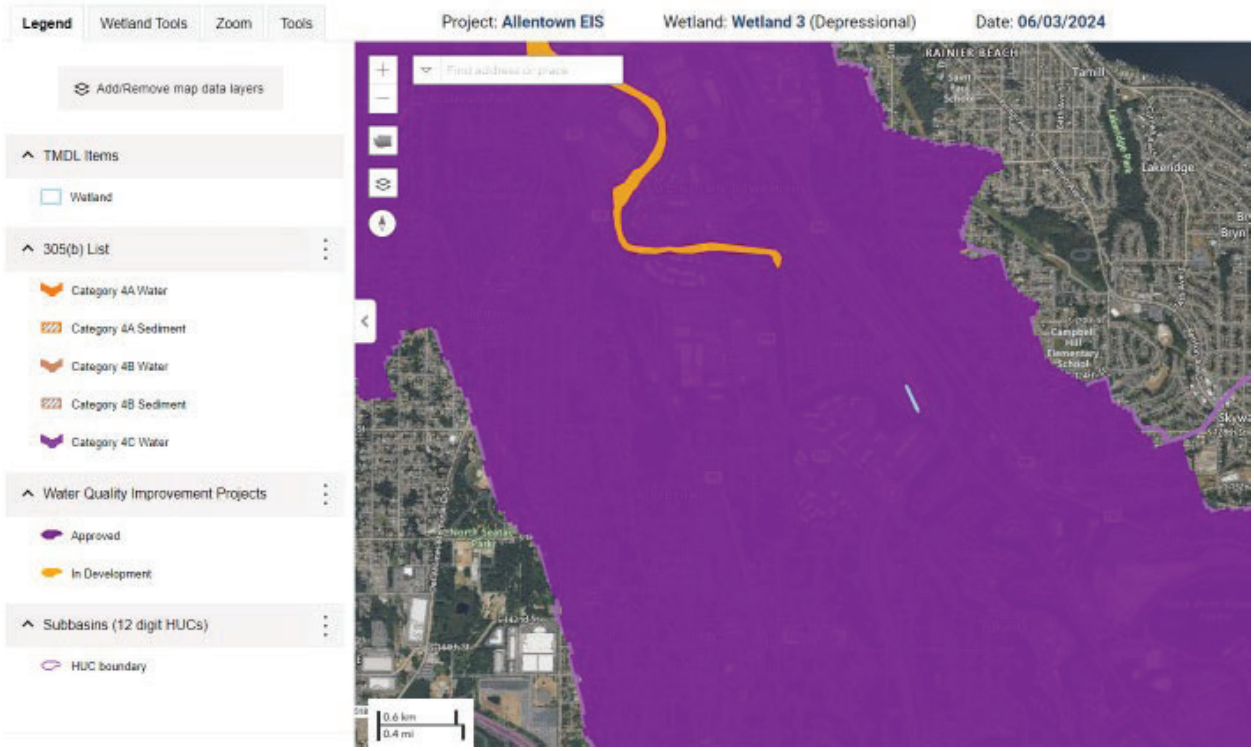


Figure 8. TMDLS for the HUC12 in which the wetland is found.

Wetland name or number WL 4a

Identified as Wetland B in Watershed (2023) report.

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): Wetland 4a Date of site visit: 5/22/24

Rated by T. Parry, T. Tumaliuan Trained by Ecology? ☑ Yes ☐ No Date of training 4/19/24

HGM Class used for rating Depressional Wetland has multiple HGM classes? ☐ Y ☑ N

NOTE: **Form is not complete without the required figures** (figures can be combined).
Source of base aerial photo/map ESRI

OVERALL WETLAND CATEGORY II (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
- ☐ **Category IV** – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
	Circle the appropriate ratings			
Site Potential	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	
Landscape Potential	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☐ M ☐ L ☑	
Value	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	TOTAL
Score Based on Ratings	8	9	5	22

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	I ☐ II ☐
Wetland of High Conservation Value	I ☐
Bog	I ☐
Mature Forest	I ☐
Old Growth Forest	I ☐
Coastal Lagoon	I ☐ II ☐
Interdunal	I ☐ II ☐ III ☐ IV ☐
None of the above	☑

Wetland name or number WL 4a

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	1
Hydroperiods	D 1.4, H 1.2	2
Location of outlet (*can be added to map of hydroperiods)*	D 1.1, D 4.1	2
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	D 2.2, D 5.2	3
Map of the contributing basin	D 4.3, D 5.3	4
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	5
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	D 3.1, D 3.2	6
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	D 3.3	7

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 *(can be added to another figure)*	R 2.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	
Width of unit vs. width of stream *(can be added to another figure)*	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 total 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 *(can be added to another figure)*	L 2.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total 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	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Plant cover of **dense** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	S 1.3	
Plant cover of **dense, rigid** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants (*can be added to figure above)*	S 4.1	
Boundary of 150 ft buffer (can be added to another figure)	S 2.1, S 5.1	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	S 3.1, S 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	S 3.3	

Wetland name or number WL 4

HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

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

If the 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 sheet flow, 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).

Wetland name or number WL 4a

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

Access to Wetland 4a was limited. The wetland rating form questions were informed by aerial photos, Watershed report (2023), existing environmental documentation, and observation made from accessible portions of the wetland. Binoculars were used in the field where necessary.

Wetland name or number WL 4

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

D 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
D 1.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: ☑ Wetland is a depression or flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key) with no surface water leaving it (no outlet). points = 3 ☐ Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet. points = 2 ☐ Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 1 ☐ Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch. points = 1	3
D 1.2. The soil 2 in. below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions).* Yes = 4 ☐ No = 0 ☑	0
D 1.3. Characteristics and distribution of persistent plants (Emergent, Scrub-shrub, and/or Forested Cowardin classes): ☑ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > 95% of area points = 5 ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > ½ of area points = 3 ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants ≥ 1/10 of area points = 1 ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants < 1/10 of area points = 0	5
D 1.4. Characteristics of seasonal ponding or inundation: *This is the area that is ponded for at least 2 months. See description in manual.* ☐ Area seasonally ponded is > ½ total area of wetland points = 4 ☐ Area seasonally ponded is ≥ ¼ total area of wetland points = 2 ☑ Area seasonally ponded is < ¼ total area of wetland points = 0	0
Total for D 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	8

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ☐ **12-16 = H** ☑ **6-11 = M** ☐ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
D 2.1. Does the wetland unit receive stormwater discharges? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
D 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
D 2.3. Are there septic systems within 250 ft of the wetland? ☐ Yes = 1 ☑ No = 0	0
D 2.4. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions D 2.1-D 2.3? Source Railroad/Trash/Dumping ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
Total for D 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	3

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ☑ **3 or 4 = H** ☐ **1 or 2 = M** ☐ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
D 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
D 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where an aquatic resource is on the 303(d) list? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
D 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? (Answer YES if there is a TMDL in development or in effect for the basin in which the unit is found.) ☑ Yes = 2 ☐ No = 0	2
Total for D 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	3

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

D3.1 - No assumed outlet.
D3.2 - Wetland is up-gradient of the Green River which is on the 303(d) list for temperature, bacteria, and pH. D3.3 - Wetland is within the 12-digit HUC of the Duwamish Waterway Ammonia-N TMDL

Wetland name or number WL 4a

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream degradation

D 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?

D 4.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland:

- ☑ Wetland is a depression or flat depression with no surface water leaving it (no outlet) points = 4
- ☐ Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream/ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet points = 2
- ☐ Wetland is a flat depression (question 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch points = 1
- ☐ Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 0

4

D 4.2. Depth of storage during wet periods: Estimate the height of ponding above the bottom of the outlet. For wetlands with no outlet, measure from the surface of permanent water or if dry, the deepest part.

- ☐ Marks of ponding are 3 ft or more above the surface or bottom of outlet points = 7
- ☐ Marks of ponding between 2 ft to < 3 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 5
- ☑ Marks are at least 0.5 ft to < 2 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 3
- ☐ The wetland is a "headwater" wetland points = 3
- ☐ Wetland is flat but has small depressions on the surface that trap water points = 1
- ☐ Marks of ponding less than 0.5 ft (6 in) points = 0

3

D 4.3. Contribution of the wetland to storage in the watershed: Estimate the ratio of the area of upstream basin contributing surface water to the area of the wetland unit itself.

- ☑ The area of the basin is less than 10 times the area of the unit points = 5
- ☐ The area of the basin is 10 to 100 times the area of the unit points = 3
- ☐ The area of the basin is more than 100 times the area of the unit points = 0
- ☐ Entire wetland is in the Flats class points = 5

5

Total for D 4	Add the points in the boxes above	12

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ☑ **12-16 = H** ☐ **6-11 = M** ☐ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support hydrologic functions of the site?

D 5.1. Does the wetland receive stormwater discharges?	☑Yes = 1 ☐No = 0	1
D 5.2. Is >10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate excess runoff?	☑Yes = 1 ☐No = 0	1
D 5.3. Is more than 25% of the contributing basin of the wetland covered with intensive human land uses (residential at >1 residence/ac, urban, commercial, agriculture, etc.)?	☑Yes = 1 ☐No = 0	1
Total for D 5	Add the points in the boxes above	3

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ☑ **3 = H** ☐ **1 or 2 = M** ☐ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?

D 6.1. Is the unit in a landscape that has flooding problems? Choose the description that best matches conditions around the wetland unit being rated. Do not add points. Choose the highest score if more than one condition is met.

The wetland captures surface water that would otherwise flow downgradient into areas where flooding has damaged human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds):

- ☑ Flooding occurs in a sub-basin that is immediately downgradient of unit. points = 2
- ☐ Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther downgradient. points = 1
- ☐ Flooding from groundwater is an issue in the sub-basin. points = 1
- ☐ The existing or potential outflow from the wetland is so constrained by human or natural conditions that the water stored by the wetland cannot reach areas that flood. *Explain why* _____ points = 0
- ☐ There are no problems with flooding downstream of the wetland. points = 0

2

D 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? ☐Yes = 2 ☑No = 0

0

Total for D 6	Add the points in the boxes above	2

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

Wetland name or number WL 4

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 if the unit is at least 2.5 ac, or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac.

- ☐ Aquatic bed
- ☑ Emergent
- ☑ Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover)
- ☑ Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover)

If the unit has a Forested class, check if:

- ☑ The Forested class has 3 out of 5 strata (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss/groundcover) that each cover 20% within the Forested polygon

- ☑ 4 structures or more: points = 4
- ☐ 3 structures: points = 2
- ☐ 2 structures: points = 1
- ☐ 1 structure: points = 0

4

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 if the unit is < 2.5 ac, or ¼ ac if the unit is at least 2.5 ac to count (see text for descriptions of hydroperiods).

- ☑ Permanently flooded or inundated
- ☑ Seasonally flooded or inundated
- ☐ Occasionally flooded or inundated
- ☑ Saturated only
- ☐ Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ Intermittently or seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ **Lake Fringe wetland** **2 points**
- ☐ **Freshwater tidal wetland** **2 points**

- ☐ 4 or more types present: points = 3
- ☑ 3 types present: points = 2
- ☐ 2 types present: points = 1
- ☐ 1 type present: points = 0

2

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft^2.

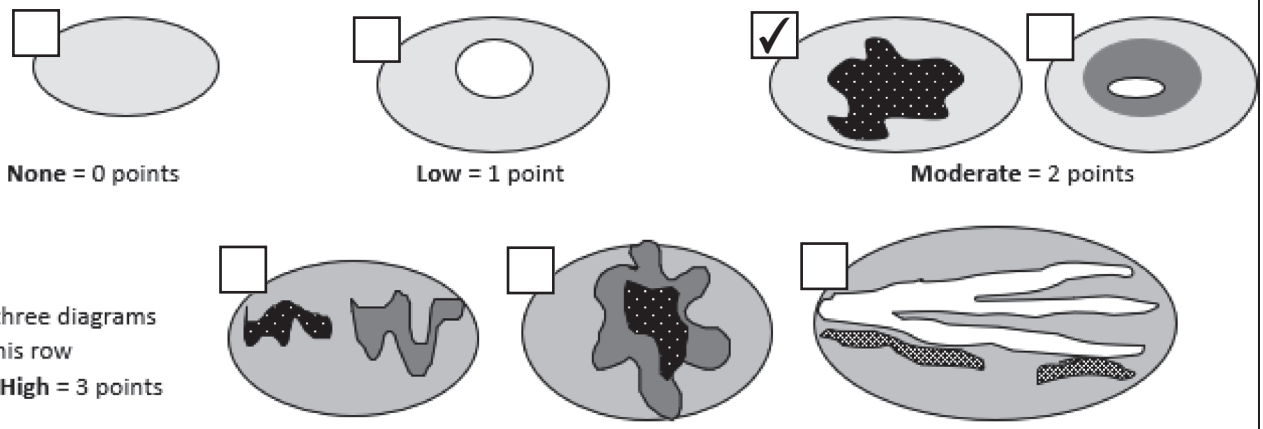
Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. **Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canada thistle**

- ☐ 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

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

2

Wetland name or number WL 4

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. The number of checks is the number of points. ☑ Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in. diameter and 6 ft long). ☐ Standing snags (dbh > 4 in.) within the wetland ☐ Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) **and/or** overhanging plants extend at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over open water or a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) ☐ 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 (cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed) ☐ At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated (structures for egg-laying by amphibians) ☐ Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (see H 1.1 above for the list of strata and H 1.5 in the manual for the list of aggressive plant species)	1
Total for H 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	10

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

H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?

H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include only habitat polygons accessible from the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 0.0 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 0.0 = 0.07 % 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	0
H 2.2. Total habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 4.0 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 7.5 = 11.50 % ☐ Total habitat > 50% of Polygon — points = 3 ☐ Total habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches — points = 2 ☑ Total habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches — points = 1 ☐ Total habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon — points = 0	1
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: ☑ > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use — points = (- 2) ☐ ≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity — points = 0	-2
Total for H 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	-1

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

H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?

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.* ☐ Site meets ANY of the following criteria: — points = 2 ☐ It has 3 or more Priority Habitats within 100 m (see next page) ☐ It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) ☐ It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW Priority Species ☐ It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources data ☐ 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 ☑ Site has 1 or 2 Priority Habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m — points = 1 ☐ Site does not meet any of the criteria above — points = 0	1

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

Wetland name or number WL 4a

WDFW Priority Habitats

See complete descriptions of Priority Habitats listed by WDFW, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008 (current year, as revised). Priority Habitat and Species List.[133] This list was updated for consistency with guidance from WDFW.

This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the Priority Habitat. All vegetated wetlands are by definition a Priority Habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed by this rating system.

Count how many of the following Priority Habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit:

☐ **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. This habitat automatically counts if mapped on the PHS online map within 100m of the wetland. If not mapped, a determination can be made in the field.

☐ **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.

☐ **Fresh Deepwater:** Lands permanently flooded with freshwater, including environments where surface water is permanent and often deep, so that water, rather than air, is the principal medium within which the dominant organisms live. Substrate does not support emergent vegetation. Do not select if Instream habitat is also present, or if the entire Deepwater feature is included in the wetland unit being rated (such as a pond with a vegetated fringe).

☐ **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.

☐ **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. Do not select if Fresh Deepwater habitat is also present.

☐ **Nearshore:** Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore.

☐ **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) diameter at breast height (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.

[133] http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 4

☐ **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important. For single oaks or oak stands <0.4 ha in urban areas, WDFW's Management Recommendations for Oregon White Oak[134] provides more detail for determining if they are Priority Habitats

☐ **Riparian:** The area adjacent to freshwater aquatic systems with flowing or standing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.

☑ **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.

☐ **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.

☐ **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie.

[134] https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00030/wdfw00030.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 4

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type *Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.*	**Category**
SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? ☐ The dominant water regime is tidal, ☐ Vegetated, and ☐ With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 1.1** ☑ No= **Not an estuarine wetland**	
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? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 1.2**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? ☐ 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 *Spartina*, see chapter 4.8 in the manual. ☐ 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. ☐ The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** ☐ **Cat. II** ☐
SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Does the wetland overlap with any known or historical rare plant or rare & high-quality ecosystem polygons on the WNHP Data Explorer?[135] ☑ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 2.2** SC 2.2. Does the wetland have a rare plant species, rare ecosystem (e.g., plant community), or high-quality common ecosystem that may qualify the site as a WHCV? Contact WNHP for resources to help determine the presence of these elements. ☐ Yes – Submit data to WA Natural Heritage Program for determination,[136] Go to **SC 2.3** ☑ No = **Not a WHCV** SC 2.3. Did WNHP review the site within 30 days and determine that it has a rare plant or ecosystem that meets their criteria? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Not a WHCV**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? *Use the key below.* ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No – Go to **SC 3.2** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No = **Not a bog** 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? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No – Go to **SC 3.4** **NOTE:** 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) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No = **Not a bog**	**Cat. I** ☐

[135] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/NHPdata
[136] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amp_nh_sighting_form.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 4

SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands

Does the wetland have at least 1 contiguous acre of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as Priority Habitats? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.***

☐ **Old-growth forests** (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.

☐ **Mature forests** (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).

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No = **Not a forested wetland for this section**

Cat. I ☐

SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons

Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon?

☐ 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

☐ The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (> 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon *(needs to be measured near the bottom)*

☐ The lagoon retains some of its surface water at low tide during spring tides

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 5.1** ☑ No = **Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon**

Cat. I ☐

SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions?

☐ 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 in H 1.5 in the manual).

☐ 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.

☐ The wetland is larger than $^{1}/_{10}$ ac (4350 ft^2)

Cat. II ☐

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**

SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands

Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.***

In practical terms that means the following geographic areas:

☐ Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103

☐ Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105

☐ Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 and Ocean Shores Blvd SW, including lands west of E. Oceans Shores Blvd SW.

Cat I ☐

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 6.1** ☑ No = **Not an interdunal wetland for rating**

Cat. II ☐

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)? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.2**

SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger? ☐ Yes = **Category II** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.3**

Cat. III ☐

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? ☐ Yes = **Category III** ☐ No = **Category IV**

Cat. IV ☐

Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics
If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form

NA

Figure 1: Cowardin plant classes.

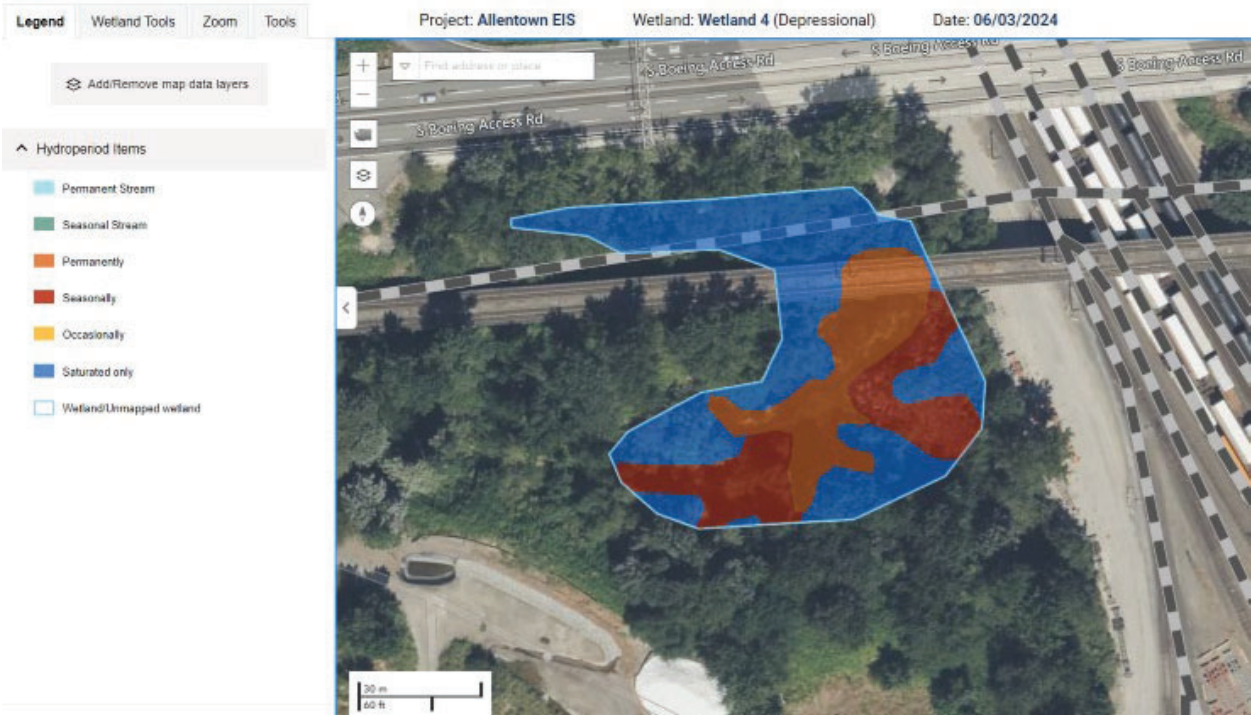


Figure 2: Hydroperiods.

Figure 3: Boundary of area within 150 feet of the wetland.

Figure 4: Contributing basin.

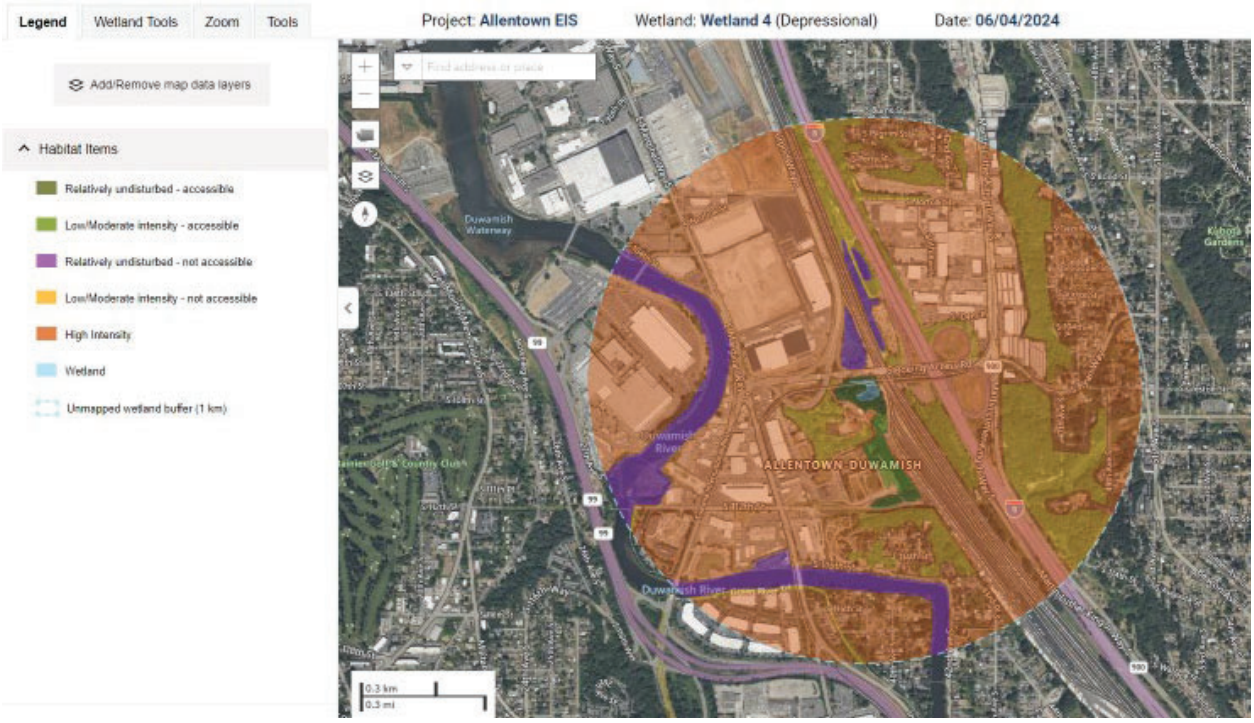


Figure 5: 1km polygon.

Figure 6: 303(d) listed waters in basin for the HUC12 in which the wetland is found.

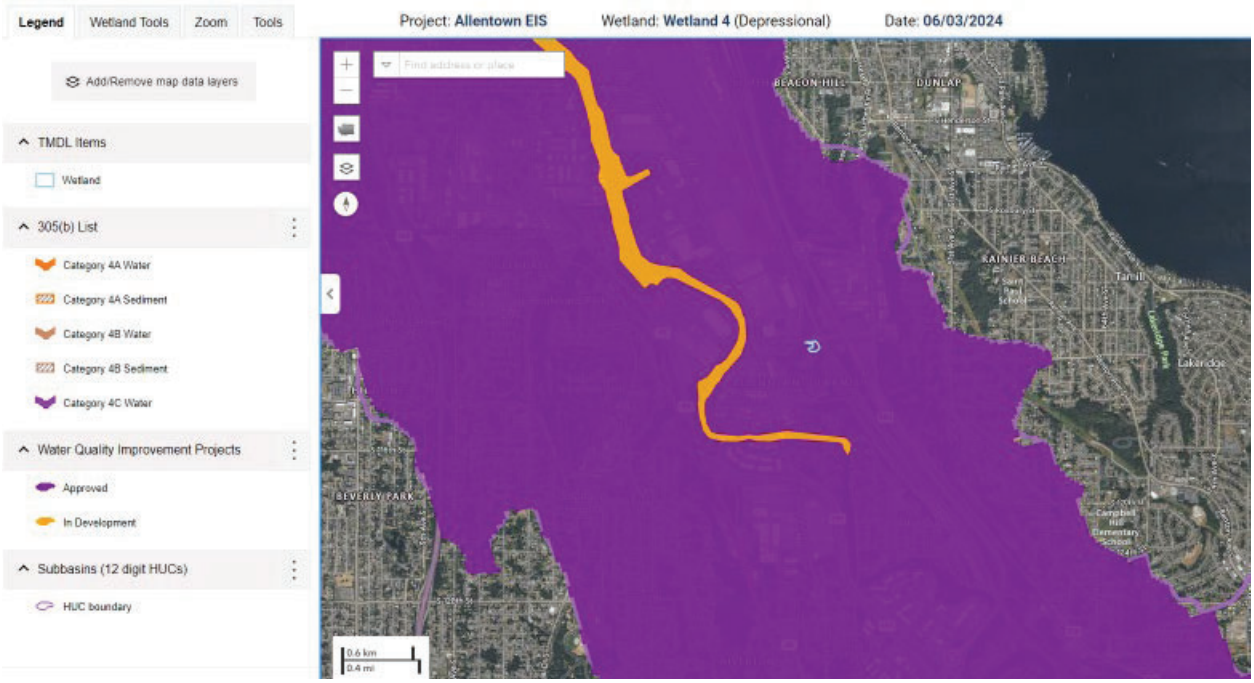


Figure 7. TMDLS for the HUC12 in which the wetland is found.

Wetland name or number WL 4b

Identified as Wetland A in Watershed (2023) report.

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): Wetland 4b Date of site visit: 5/22/24

Rated by T. Parry, T. Tumaliuan Trained by Ecology? ☑ Yes ☐ No Date of training 4/19/24

HGM Class used for rating Depressional Wetland has multiple HGM classes? ☐ Y ☑ N

NOTE: **Form is not complete without the required figures** (figures can be combined).
Source of base aerial photo/map 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
☑ **Category III** – Total score = 16 - 19
☐ **Category IV** – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
	Circle the appropriate ratings			
Site Potential	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	
Landscape Potential	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☐ M ☐ L ☑	
Value	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	TOTAL
Score Based on Ratings	7	7	5	19

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	I ☐ II ☐
Wetland of High Conservation Value	I ☐
Bog	I ☐
Mature Forest	I ☐
Old Growth Forest	I ☐
Coastal Lagoon	I ☐ II ☐
Interdunal	I ☐ II ☐ III ☐ IV ☐
None of the above	☑

Wetland name or number WL 4k

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	1
Hydroperiods	D 1.4, H 1.2	2
Location of outlet (*can be added to map of hydroperiods)*	D 1.1, D 4.1	2
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	D 2.2, D 5.2	3
Map of the contributing basin	D 4.3, D 5.3	4
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	5
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	D 3.1, D 3.2	6
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	D 3.3	7

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 *(can be added to another figure)*	R 2.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	
Width of unit vs. width of stream *(can be added to another figure)*	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 total 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 *(can be added to another figure)*	L 2.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total 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	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Plant cover of **dense** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	S 1.3	
Plant cover of **dense, rigid** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants (*can be added to figure above)*	S 4.1	
Boundary of 150 ft buffer (can be added to another figure)	S 2.1, S 5.1	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	S 3.1, S 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	S 3.3	

Wetland name or number WL 4H

HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

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

If the 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 sheet flow, 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).

Wetland name or number WL 4b

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

Access to Wetland 4b was limited. The wetland rating form questions were informed by aerial photos, Watershed report (2023), existing environmental documentation, and observation made from accessible portions of the wetland. Binoculars were used in the field where necessary.

Wetland name or number WL 4

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

D 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
D 1.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: ☑ Wetland is a depression or flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key) with no surface water leaving it (no outlet). points = 3 ☐ Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet. points = 2 ☐ Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 1 ☐ Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch. points = 1	3
D 1.2. The soil 2 in. below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions).* Yes = 4 No = 0 ☐ ☑	0
D 1.3. Characteristics and distribution of persistent plants (Emergent, Scrub-shrub, and/or Forested Cowardin classes): ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > 95% of area points = 5 ☑ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > ½ of area points = 3 ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants ≥ 1/10 of area points = 1 ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants < 1/10 of area points = 0	3
D 1.4. Characteristics of seasonal ponding or inundation: *This is the area that is ponded for at least 2 months. See description in manual.* ☑ Area seasonally ponded is > ½ total area of wetland points = 4 ☐ Area seasonally ponded is ≥ ¼ total area of wetland points = 2 ☐ Area seasonally ponded is < ¼ total area of wetland points = 0	4
Total for D 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	10

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ☐ **12-16 = H** ☑ **6-11 = M** ☐ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
D 2.1. Does the wetland unit receive stormwater discharges? ☐ Yes = 1 ☑ No = 0	0
D 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
D 2.3. Are there septic systems within 250 ft of the wetland? ☐ Yes = 1 ☑ No = 0	0
D 2.4. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions D 2.1-D 2.3? Source Railroad/Trash/Dumping ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
Total for D 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ☐ **3 or 4 = H** ☑ **1 or 2 = M** ☐ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
D 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
D 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where an aquatic resource is on the 303(d) list? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
D 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? (Answer YES if there is a TMDL in development or in effect for the basin in which the unit is found.) ☑ Yes = 2 ☐ No = 0	2
Total for D 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	3

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

D3.1 - No assumed outlet.
D3.2 - Wetland is up-gradient of the Green River which is on the 303(d) list for temperature, bacteria, and pH. D3.3 - Wetland is within the 12-digit HUC of the Duwamish Waterway Ammonia-N TMDL

Wetland name or number WL 4b

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream degradation

D 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?

D 4.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland:

- ☑ Wetland is a depression or flat depression with no surface water leaving it (no outlet) points = 4
- ☐ Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream/ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet points = 2
- ☐ Wetland is a flat depression (question 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch points = 1
- ☐ Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 0

4

D 4.2. Depth of storage during wet periods: Estimate the height of ponding above the bottom of the outlet. For wetlands with no outlet, measure from the surface of permanent water or if dry, the deepest part.

- ☐ Marks of ponding are 3 ft or more above the surface or bottom of outlet points = 7
- ☐ Marks of ponding between 2 ft to < 3 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 5
- ☑ Marks are at least 0.5 ft to < 2 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 3
- ☐ The wetland is a "headwater" wetland points = 3
- ☐ Wetland is flat but has small depressions on the surface that trap water points = 1
- ☐ Marks of ponding less than 0.5 ft (6 in) points = 0

3

D 4.3. Contribution of the wetland to storage in the watershed: Estimate the ratio of the area of upstream basin contributing surface water to the area of the wetland unit itself.

- ☐ The area of the basin is less than 10 times the area of the unit points = 5
- ☑ The area of the basin is 10 to 100 times the area of the unit points = 3
- ☐ The area of the basin is more than 100 times the area of the unit points = 0
- ☐ Entire wetland is in the Flats class points = 5

3

Total for D 4 — Add the points in the boxes above: **10**

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ☐ **12-16 = H** ☑ **6-11 = M** ☐ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support hydrologic functions of the site?

D 5.1. Does the wetland receive stormwater discharges? ☐Yes = 1 ☑No = 0 — **0**

D 5.2. Is >10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate excess runoff? ☑Yes = 1 ☐No = 0 — **1**

D 5.3. Is more than 25% of the contributing basin of the wetland covered with intensive human land uses (residential at >1 residence/ac, urban, commercial, agriculture, etc.)? ☑Yes = 1 ☐No = 0 — **1**

Total for D 5 — Add the points in the boxes above: **2**

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ☐ **3 = H** ☑ **1 or 2 = M** ☐ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?

D 6.1. Is the unit in a landscape that has flooding problems? Choose the description that best matches conditions around the wetland unit being rated. Do not add points. Choose the highest score if more than one condition is met.

The wetland captures surface water that would otherwise flow downgradient into areas where flooding has damaged human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds):

- ☑ Flooding occurs in a sub-basin that is immediately downgradient of unit. points = 2
- ☐ Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther downgradient. points = 1
- ☐ Flooding from groundwater is an issue in the sub-basin. points = 1
- ☐ The existing or potential outflow from the wetland is so constrained by human or natural conditions that the water stored by the wetland cannot reach areas that flood. *Explain why* _____ points = 0
- ☐ There are no problems with flooding downstream of the wetland. points = 0

2

D 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? ☐Yes = 2 ☑No = 0 — **0**

Total for D 6 — Add the points in the boxes above: **2**

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

Wetland name or number WL 4b

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 if the unit is at least 2.5 ac, or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac.

- ☐ Aquatic bed
- ☑ Emergent
- ☑ Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover)
- ☑ Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover)

If the unit has a Forested class, check if:

- ☑ The Forested class has 3 out of 5 strata (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss/groundcover) that each cover 20% within the Forested polygon

- ☑ 4 structures or more: points = 4
- ☐ 3 structures: points = 2
- ☐ 2 structures: points = 1
- ☐ 1 structure: points = 0

4

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 if the unit is < 2.5 ac, or ¼ ac if the unit is at least 2.5 ac to count (see text for descriptions of hydroperiods).

- ☑ Permanently flooded or inundated
- ☑ Seasonally flooded or inundated
- ☐ Occasionally flooded or inundated
- ☐ Saturated only
- ☐ Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ Intermittently or seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ **Lake Fringe wetland** **2 points**
- ☐ **Freshwater tidal wetland** **2 points**

- ☐ 4 or more types present: points = 3
- ☐ 3 types present: points = 2
- ☑ 2 types present: points = 1
- ☐ 1 type present: points = 0

1

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft^2.

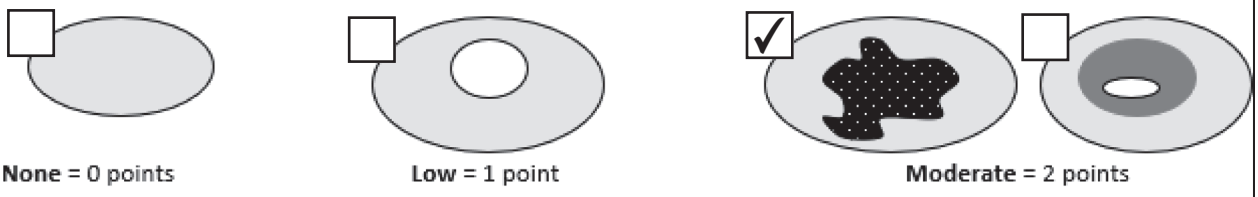
Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. **Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canada thistle**

- ☐ 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

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

2

Wetland name or number WL 4

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. The number of checks is the number of points. ☑ Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in. diameter and 6 ft long). ☑ Standing snags (dbh > 4 in.) within the wetland ☑ Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) **and/or** overhanging plants extend at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over open water or a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) ☐ 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 (cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed) ☑ At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated (structures for egg-laying by amphibians) ☐ Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (see H 1.1 above for the list of strata and H 1.5 in the manual for the list of aggressive plant species)	4
Total for H 1 Add the points in the boxes above	12

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

H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?

H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include only habitat polygons accessible from the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 0.0 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 0.0 = 0.07 % 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	0
H 2.2. Total habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 4.0 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 7.5 = 11.50 % ☐ Total habitat > 50% of Polygon points = 3 ☐ Total habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches points = 2 ☑ Total habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches points = 1 ☐ Total habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	1
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: ☑ > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = (- 2) ☐ ≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity points = 0	-2
Total for H 2 Add the points in the boxes above	-1

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

H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?

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.* ☐ Site meets ANY of the following criteria: points = 2 ☐ It has 3 or more Priority Habitats within 100 m (see next page) ☐ It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) ☐ It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW Priority Species ☐ It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources data ☐ 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 ☑ Site has 1 or 2 Priority Habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m points = 1 ☐ Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = 0	1

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

Wetland name or number WL 4b

WDFW Priority Habitats

See complete descriptions of Priority Habitats listed by WDFW, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008 (current year, as revised). Priority Habitat and Species List.[133] This list was updated for consistency with guidance from WDFW.

This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the Priority Habitat. All vegetated wetlands are by definition a Priority Habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed by this rating system.

Count how many of the following Priority Habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit:

☐ **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. This habitat automatically counts if mapped on the PHS online map within 100m of the wetland. If not mapped, a determination can be made in the field.

☐ **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.

☐ **Fresh Deepwater:** Lands permanently flooded with freshwater, including environments where surface water is permanent and often deep, so that water, rather than air, is the principal medium within which the dominant organisms live. Substrate does not support emergent vegetation. Do not select if Instream habitat is also present, or if the entire Deepwater feature is included in the wetland unit being rated (such as a pond with a vegetated fringe).

☐ **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.

☐ **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. Do not select if Fresh Deepwater habitat is also present.

☐ **Nearshore:** Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore.

☐ **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) diameter at breast height (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.

[133] http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 4H

☐ **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important. For single oaks or oak stands <0.4 ha in urban areas, WDFW's Management Recommendations for Oregon White Oak[134] provides more detail for determining if they are Priority Habitats

☐ **Riparian:** The area adjacent to freshwater aquatic systems with flowing or standing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.

☑ **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.

☐ **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.

☐ **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie.

[134] https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00030/wdfw00030.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 4b

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type *Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.*	**Category**
SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? ☐ The dominant water regime is tidal, ☐ Vegetated, and ☐ With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 1.1** ☑ No= **Not an estuarine wetland**	
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? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 1.2**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? ☐ 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 *Spartina*, see chapter 4.8 in the manual. ☐ 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. ☐ The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** ☐ **Cat. II** ☐
SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Does the wetland overlap with any known or historical rare plant or rare & high-quality ecosystem polygons on the WNHP Data Explorer?[135] ☑ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 2.2** SC 2.2. Does the wetland have a rare plant species, rare ecosystem (e.g., plant community), or high-quality common ecosystem that may qualify the site as a WHCV? Contact WNHP for resources to help determine the presence of these elements. ☐ Yes – Submit data to WA Natural Heritage Program for determination,[136] Go to **SC 2.3** ☑ No = **Not a WHCV** SC 2.3. Did WNHP review the site within 30 days and determine that it has a rare plant or ecosystem that meets their criteria? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Not a WHCV**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? *Use the key below.* ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No – Go to **SC 3.2** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No = **Not a bog** 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? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No – Go to **SC 3.4** **NOTE:** 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) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No = **Not a bog**	**Cat. I** ☐

[135] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/NHPdata
[136] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amp_nh_sighting_form.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 4F

SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands

Does the wetland have at least 1 contiguous acre of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as Priority Habitats? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.***

☐ **Old-growth forests** (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.

☐ **Mature forests** (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).

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No = **Not a forested wetland for this section**

Cat. I ☐

SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons

Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon?

☐ 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

☐ The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (> 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon *(needs to be measured near the bottom)*

☐ The lagoon retains some of its surface water at low tide during spring tides

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 5.1** ☑ No = **Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon**

Cat. I ☐

SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions?

☐ 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 in H 1.5 in the manual).

☐ 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.

☐ The wetland is larger than $^{1}/_{10}$ ac (4350 ft^2)

Cat. II ☐

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**

SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands

Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.***

In practical terms that means the following geographic areas:

☐ Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103

☐ Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105

☐ Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 and Ocean Shores Blvd SW, including lands west of E. Oceans Shores Blvd SW.

Cat I ☐

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 6.1** ☑ No = **Not an interdunal wetland for rating**

Cat. II ☐

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)? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.2**

SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger?

Cat. III ☐

☐ Yes = **Category II** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.3**

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?

☐ Yes = **Category III** ☐ No = **Category IV**

Cat. IV ☐

Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics

If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form

NA

Figure 1: Cowardin plant classes.

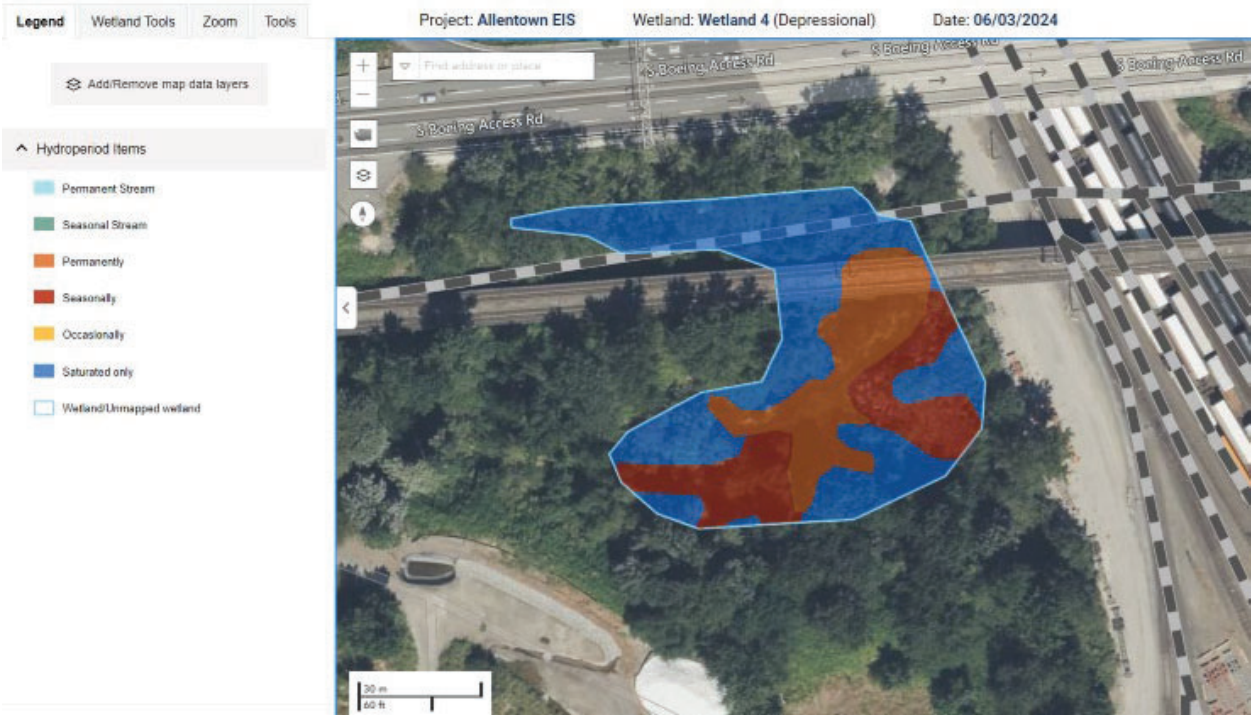


Figure 2: Hydroperiods.

Figure 3: Boundary of area within 150 feet of the wetland.

Figure 4: Contributing basin.

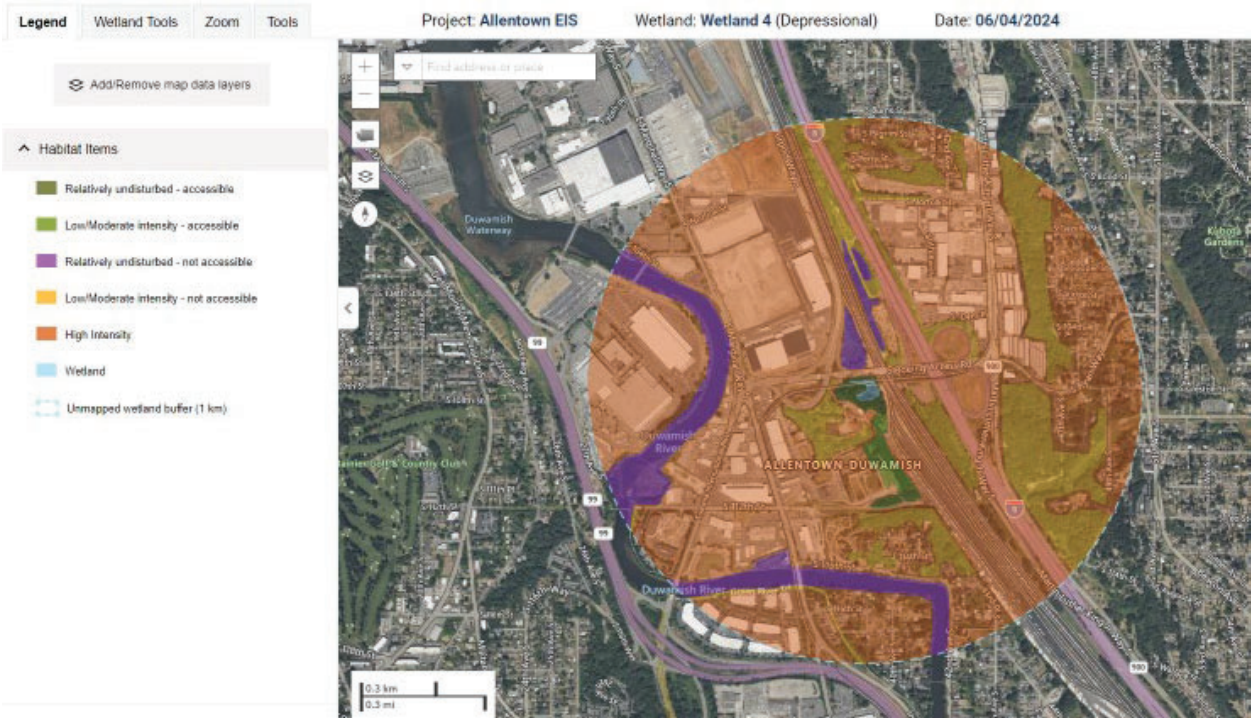


Figure 5: 1km polygon.

Figure 6: 303(d) listed waters in basin for the HUC12 in which the wetland is found.

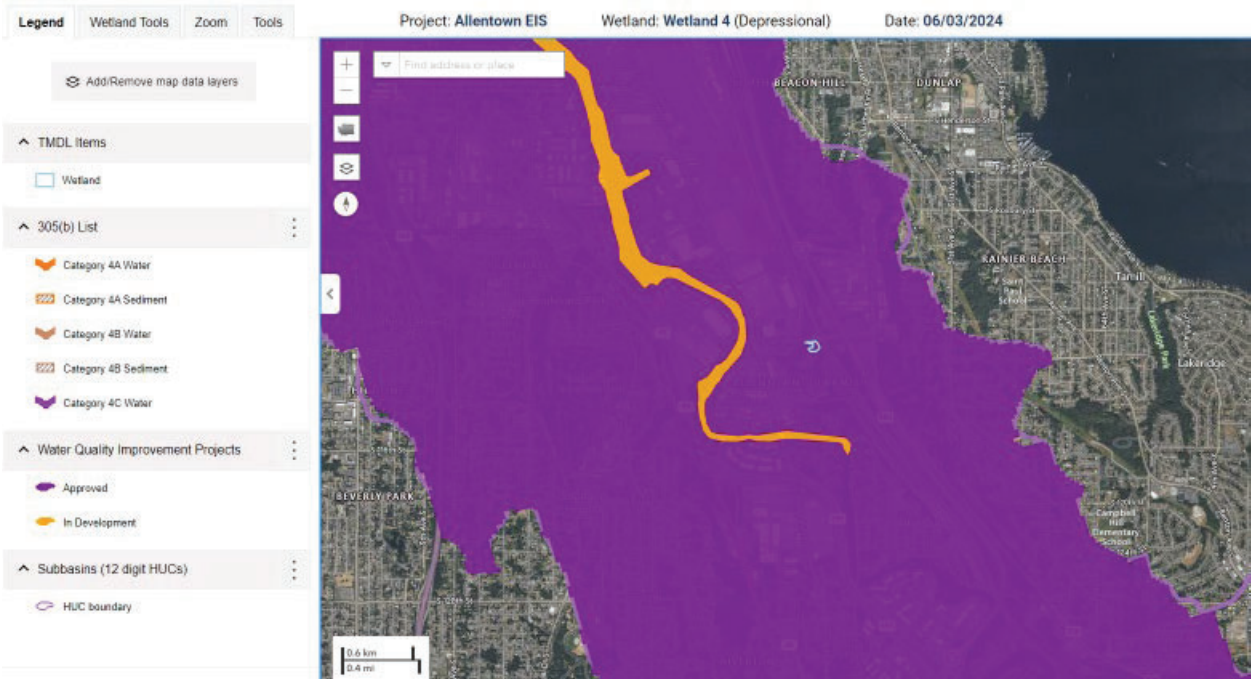


Figure 7. TMDLS for the HUC12 in which the wetland is found.

Wetland name or number WL 5

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): Wetland 5 Date of site visit: 5/22/24

Rated by T. Parry, T. Tumaliuan Trained by Ecology? ☑ Yes ☐ No Date of training 4/19/24

HGM Class used for rating Depressional Wetland has multiple HGM classes? ☐ Y ☑ N

NOTE: **Form is not complete without the required figures** (figures can be combined).
Source of base aerial photo/map ESRI

OVERALL WETLAND CATEGORY II (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
☐ **Category IV** – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
	Circle the appropriate ratings			
Site Potential	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	
Landscape Potential	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☐ M ☐ L ☑	
Value	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	**TOTAL**
Score Based on Ratings	8	8	6	22

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	I ☐ II ☐
Wetland of High Conservation Value	I ☐
Bog	I ☐
Mature Forest	I ☐
Old Growth Forest	I ☐
Coastal Lagoon	I ☐ II ☐
Interdunal	I ☐ II ☐ III ☐ IV ☐
None of the above	☑

Wetland name or number WL 5

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	1
Hydroperiods	D 1.4, H 1.2	2
Location of outlet (*can be added to map of hydroperiods)*	D 1.1, D 4.1	3
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	D 2.2, D 5.2	4
Map of the contributing basin	D 4.3, D 5.3	5
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	6
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	D 3.1, D 3.2	7
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	D 3.3	8

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 *(can be added to another figure)*	R 2.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	
Width of unit vs. width of stream *(can be added to another figure)*	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 total 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 *(can be added to another figure)*	L 2.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total 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	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Plant cover of **dense** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	S 1.3	
Plant cover of **dense, rigid** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants (*can be added to figure above)*	S 4.1	
Boundary of 150 ft buffer (can be added to another figure)	S 2.1, S 5.1	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	S 3.1, S 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	S 3.3	

Wetland name or number WL 5

HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

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

If the 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 sheet flow, 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).

Wetland name or number WL 5

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

Access to Wetland 5 was limited. The wetland rating form questions were informed by aerial photos, existing environmental documentation, and observation made from accessible portions of the wetland. Binoculars were used in the field when necessary.

Wetland name or number WL 5

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

D 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
D 1.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: ☐ Wetland is a depression or flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key) with no surface water leaving it (no outlet). points = 3 ☑ Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet. points = 2 ☐ Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 1 ☐ Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch. points = 1	2
D 1.2. The soil 2 in. below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions).* Yes = 4 ☐ No = 0 ☑	0
D 1.3. Characteristics and distribution of persistent plants (Emergent, Scrub-shrub, and/or Forested Cowardin classes): ☑ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > 95% of area points = 5 ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > ½ of area points = 3 ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants ≥ 1/10 of area points = 1 ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants < 1/10 of area points = 0	5
D 1.4. Characteristics of seasonal ponding or inundation: *This is the area that is ponded for at least 2 months. See description in manual.* ☐ Area seasonally ponded is > ½ total area of wetland points = 4 ☑ Area seasonally ponded is ≥ ¼ total area of wetland points = 2 ☐ Area seasonally ponded is < ¼ total area of wetland points = 0	2
Total for D 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	9

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ☐ **12-16 = H** ☑ **6-11 = M** ☐ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
D 2.1. Does the wetland unit receive stormwater discharges? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
D 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
D 2.3. Are there septic systems within 250 ft of the wetland? ☐ Yes = 1 ☑ No = 0	0
D 2.4. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions D 2.1-D 2.3? Source Railroad/Trash/Dumping ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
Total for D 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	3

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ☑ **3 or 4 = H** ☐ **1 or 2 = M** ☐ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
D 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	1
D 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where an aquatic resource is on the 303(d) list? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
D 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? (Answer YES if there is a TMDL in development or in effect for the basin in which the unit is found.) ☑ Yes = 2 ☐ No = 0	2
Total for D 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	4

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

D3.1&3.2 - Wetland is upgradient and discharges (within 0.30 mi) into the Green River which is on the 303(d) list for temperature, bacteria, and pH). D3.3 - Wetland is within the 12-digit HUC of the Duwamish Waterway Ammonia-N TMDL.

Wetland name or number WL 5

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream degradation

D 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?

D 4.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland:

- ☐ Wetland is a depression or flat depression with no surface water leaving it (no outlet) points = 4
- ☑ Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream/ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet points = 2
- ☐ Wetland is a flat depression (question 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch points = 1
- ☐ Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 0

2

D 4.2. Depth of storage during wet periods: Estimate the height of ponding above the bottom of the outlet. For wetlands with no outlet, measure from the surface of permanent water or if dry, the deepest part.

- ☐ Marks of ponding are 3 ft or more above the surface or bottom of outlet points = 7
- ☑ Marks of ponding between 2 ft to < 3 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 5
- ☐ Marks are at least 0.5 ft to < 2 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 3
- ☐ The wetland is a "headwater" wetland points = 3
- ☐ Wetland is flat but has small depressions on the surface that trap water points = 1
- ☐ Marks of ponding less than 0.5 ft (6 in) points = 0

5

D 4.3. Contribution of the wetland to storage in the watershed: Estimate the ratio of the area of upstream basin contributing surface water to the area of the wetland unit itself.

- ☐ The area of the basin is less than 10 times the area of the unit points = 5
- ☐ The area of the basin is 10 to 100 times the area of the unit points = 3
- ☑ The area of the basin is more than 100 times the area of the unit points = 0
- ☐ Entire wetland is in the Flats class points = 5

0

Total for D 4 — Add the points in the boxes above: **7**

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ☐ **12-16 = H** ☑ **6-11 = M** ☐ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support hydrologic functions of the site?

D 5.1. Does the wetland receive stormwater discharges? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0 — **1**

D 5.2. Is >10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate excess runoff? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0 — **1**

D 5.3. Is more than 25% of the contributing basin of the wetland covered with intensive human land uses (residential at >1 residence/ac, urban, commercial, agriculture, etc.)? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0 — **1**

Total for D 5 — Add the points in the boxes above: **3**

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ☑ **3 = H** ☐ **1 or 2 = M** ☐ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?

D 6.1. Is the unit in a landscape that has flooding problems? Choose the description that best matches conditions around the wetland unit being rated. Do not add points. Choose the highest score if more than one condition is met.

The wetland captures surface water that would otherwise flow downgradient into areas where flooding has damaged human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds):

- ☑ Flooding occurs in a sub-basin that is immediately downgradient of unit. points = 2
- ☐ Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther downgradient. points = 1
- ☐ Flooding from groundwater is an issue in the sub-basin. points = 1
- ☐ The existing or potential outflow from the wetland is so constrained by human or natural conditions that the water stored by the wetland cannot reach areas that flood. *Explain why* _____ points = 0
- ☐ There are no problems with flooding downstream of the wetland. points = 0

2

D 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? ☐ Yes = 2 ☑ No = 0 — **0**

Total for D 6 — Add the points in the boxes above: **2**

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

Wetland name or number WL 5

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 if the unit is at least 2.5 ac, or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac.

- ☐ Aquatic bed
- ☑ Emergent
- ☑ Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover)
- ☑ Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover)

If the unit has a Forested class, check if:

- ☐ The Forested class has 3 out of 5 strata (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss/groundcover) that each cover 20% within the Forested polygon

- ☐ 4 structures or more: points = 4
- ☑ 3 structures: points = 2
- ☐ 2 structures: points = 1
- ☐ 1 structure: points = 0

2

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 if the unit is < 2.5 ac, or ¼ ac if the unit is at least 2.5 ac to count (see text for descriptions of hydroperiods).

- ☑ Permanently flooded or inundated
- ☑ Seasonally flooded or inundated
- ☐ Occasionally flooded or inundated
- ☑ Saturated only
- ☐ Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ Intermittently or seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ **Lake Fringe wetland** **2 points**
- ☐ **Freshwater tidal wetland** **2 points**

- ☐ 4 or more types present: points = 3
- ☑ 3 types present: points = 2
- ☐ 2 types present: points = 1
- ☐ 1 type present: points = 0

2

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft^2.

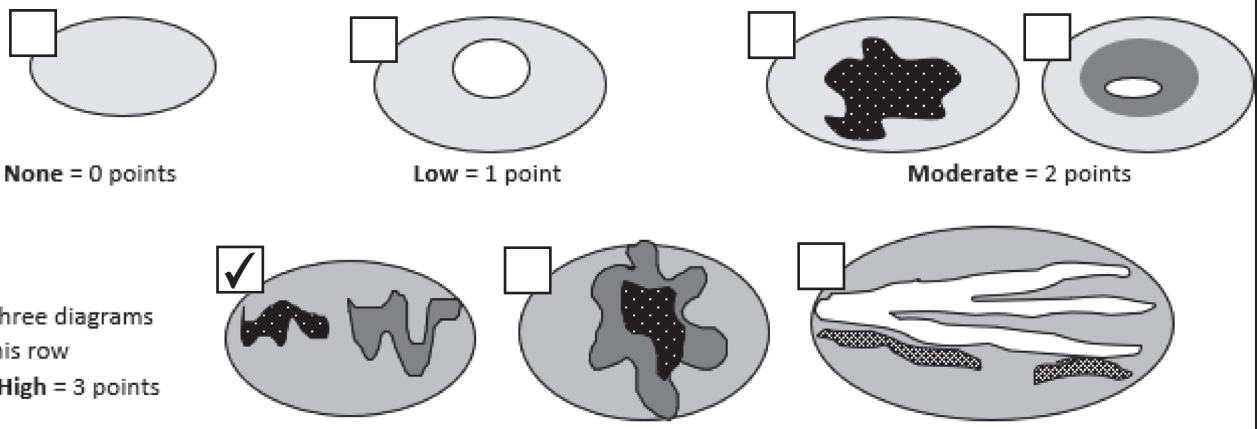
Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. **Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canada thistle**

- ☐ 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

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

3

Wetland name or number WL 5

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. The number of checks is the number of points. ☑ Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in. diameter and 6 ft long). ☑ Standing snags (dbh > 4 in.) within the wetland ☑ Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) **and/or** overhanging plants extend at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over open water or a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) ☐ 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 (cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed) ☑ At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated (structures for egg-laying by amphibians) ☑ Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (see H 1.1 above for the list of strata and H 1.5 in the manual for the list of aggressive plant species)	5
Total for H 1 Add the points in the boxes above	13

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

H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?

H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include only habitat polygons accessible from the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 0.00 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 0.00 = 0.00 % 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	0
H 2.2. Total habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 0.16 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 0.10 = 0.25 % ☐ Total habitat > 50% of Polygon points = 3 ☐ Total habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches points = 2 ☑ Total habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches points = 1 ☐ Total habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	1
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: ☑ > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = (- 2) ☐ ≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity points = 0	-2
Total for H 2 Add the points in the boxes above	-1

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

H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?

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.* ☑ Site meets ANY of the following criteria: points = 2 ☑ It has 3 or more Priority Habitats within 100 m (see next page) ☐ It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) ☐ It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW Priority Species ☐ It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources data ☐ 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 ☐ Site has 1 or 2 Priority Habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m points = 1 ☐ Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = 0	2

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

Wetland name or number WL 5

WDFW Priority Habitats

See complete descriptions of Priority Habitats listed by WDFW, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008 (current year, as revised). Priority Habitat and Species List.[133] This list was updated for consistency with guidance from WDFW.

This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the Priority Habitat. All vegetated wetlands are by definition a Priority Habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed by this rating system.

Count how many of the following Priority Habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit:

☐ **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. This habitat automatically counts if mapped on the PHS online map within 100m of the wetland. If not mapped, a determination can be made in the field.

☐ **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.

☐ **Fresh Deepwater:** Lands permanently flooded with freshwater, including environments where surface water is permanent and often deep, so that water, rather than air, is the principal medium within which the dominant organisms live. Substrate does not support emergent vegetation. Do not select if Instream habitat is also present, or if the entire Deepwater feature is included in the wetland unit being rated (such as a pond with a vegetated fringe).

☐ **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.

☑ **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. Do not select if Fresh Deepwater habitat is also present.

☐ **Nearshore:** Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore.

☐ **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) diameter at breast height (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.

[133] http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 5

☐ **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important. For single oaks or oak stands <0.4 ha in urban areas, WDFW's Management Recommendations for Oregon White Oak[134] provides more detail for determining if they are Priority Habitats

☑ **Riparian:** The area adjacent to freshwater aquatic systems with flowing or standing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.

☑ **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.

☐ **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.

☐ **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie.

[134] https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00030/wdfw00030.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 5

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type *Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.*	**Category**
SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? ☐ The dominant water regime is tidal, ☐ Vegetated, and ☐ With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 1.1** ☑ No= **Not an estuarine wetland**	
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? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 1.2**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? ☐ 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 *Spartina*, see chapter 4.8 in the manual. ☐ 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. ☐ The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** ☐ **Cat. II** ☐
SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Does the wetland overlap with any known or historical rare plant or rare & high-quality ecosystem polygons on the WNHP Data Explorer?[135] ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No – Go to **SC 2.2** SC 2.2. Does the wetland have a rare plant species, rare ecosystem (e.g., plant community), or high-quality common ecosystem that may qualify the site as a WHCV? Contact WNHP for resources to help determine the presence of these elements. ☐ Yes – Submit data to WA Natural Heritage Program for determination,[136] Go to **SC 2.3** ☑ No = **Not a WHCV** SC 2.3. Did WNHP review the site within 30 days and determine that it has a rare plant or ecosystem that meets their criteria? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Not a WHCV**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? *Use the key below.* ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No – Go to **SC 3.2** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No = **Not a bog** 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? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No – Go to **SC 3.4** **NOTE:** 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) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No = **Not a bog**	**Cat. I** ☐

[135] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/NHPdata
[136] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amp_nh_sighting_form.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 5

SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands

Does the wetland have at least 1 contiguous acre of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as Priority Habitats? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.***

☐ **Old-growth forests** (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.

☐ **Mature forests** (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).

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No = **Not a forested wetland for this section**

Cat. I ☐

SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons

Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon?

☐ 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

☐ The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (> 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon *(needs to be measured near the bottom)*

☐ The lagoon retains some of its surface water at low tide during spring tides

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 5.1** ☑ No = **Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon**

Cat. I ☐

SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions?

☐ 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 in H 1.5 in the manual).

☐ 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.

☐ The wetland is larger than $^{1}/_{10}$ ac (4350 ft^2)

Cat. II ☐

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**

SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands

Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.***

In practical terms that means the following geographic areas:

☐ Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103

☐ Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105

☐ Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 and Ocean Shores Blvd SW, including lands west of E. Oceans Shores Blvd SW.

Cat I ☐

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 6.1** ☑ No = **Not an interdunal wetland for rating**

Cat. II ☐

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)? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.2**

SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger? ☐ Yes = **Category II** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.3**

Cat. III ☐

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? ☐ Yes = **Category III** ☐ No = **Category IV**

Cat. IV ☐

Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics
If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form

NA

Figure 1: Cowardin plant classes.

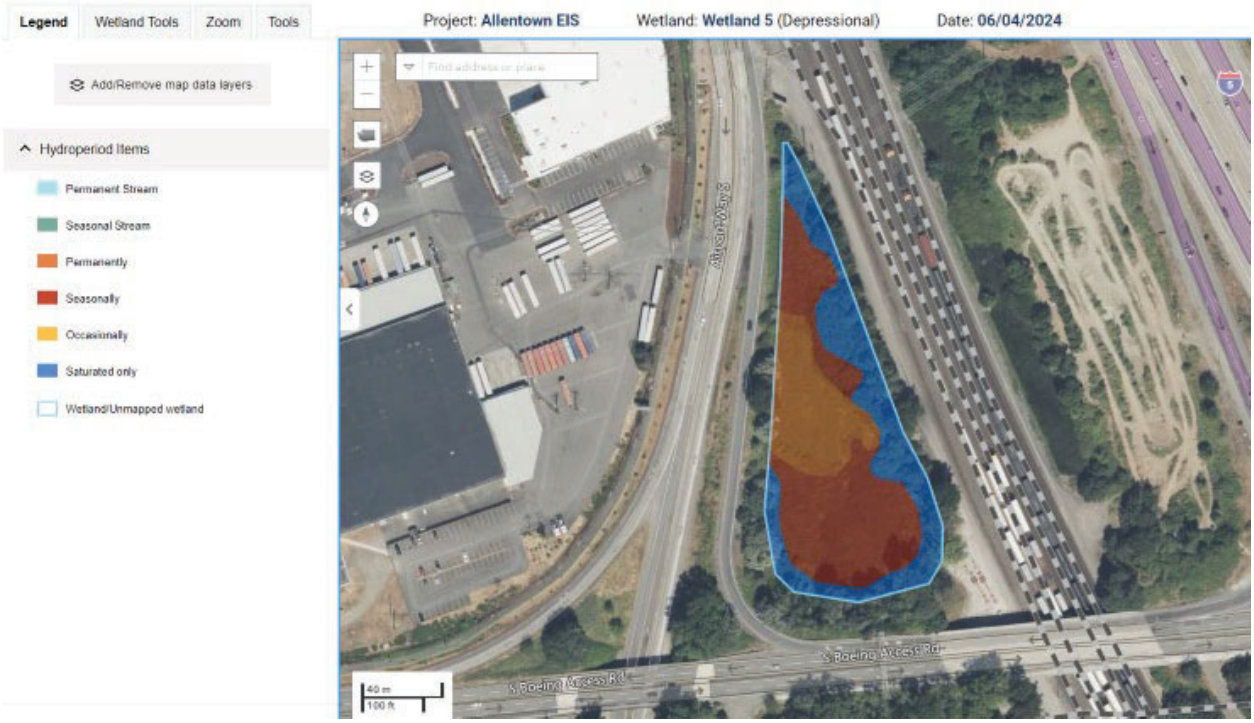


Figure 2: Hydroperiods.

Figure 3: Location of outlet.

Figure 4: Boundary of area within 150 feet of the wetland.

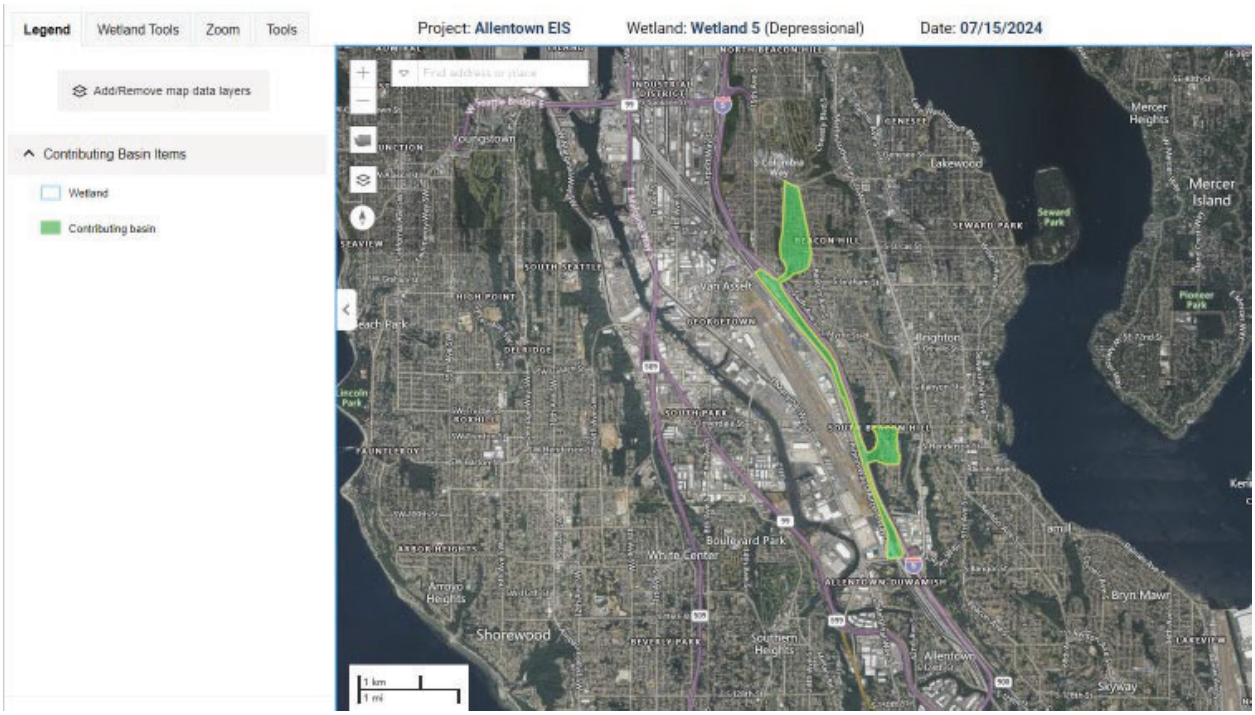


Figure 5: Contributing basin.

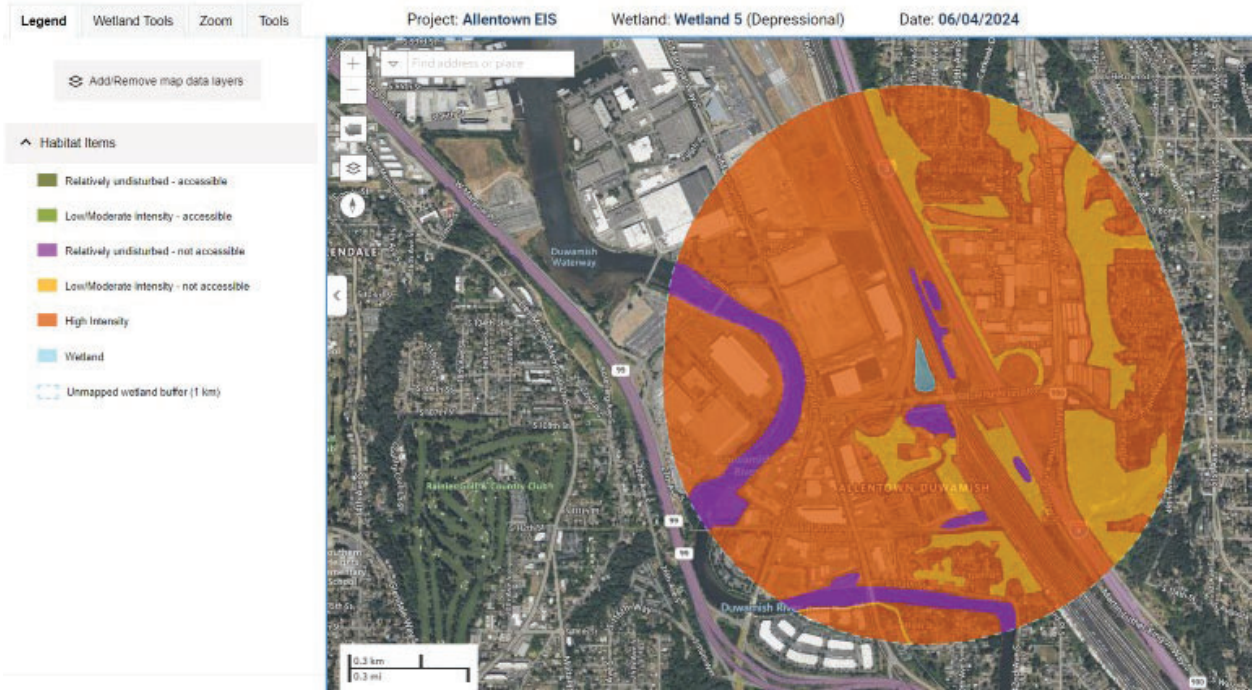


Figure 6: 1km polygon.

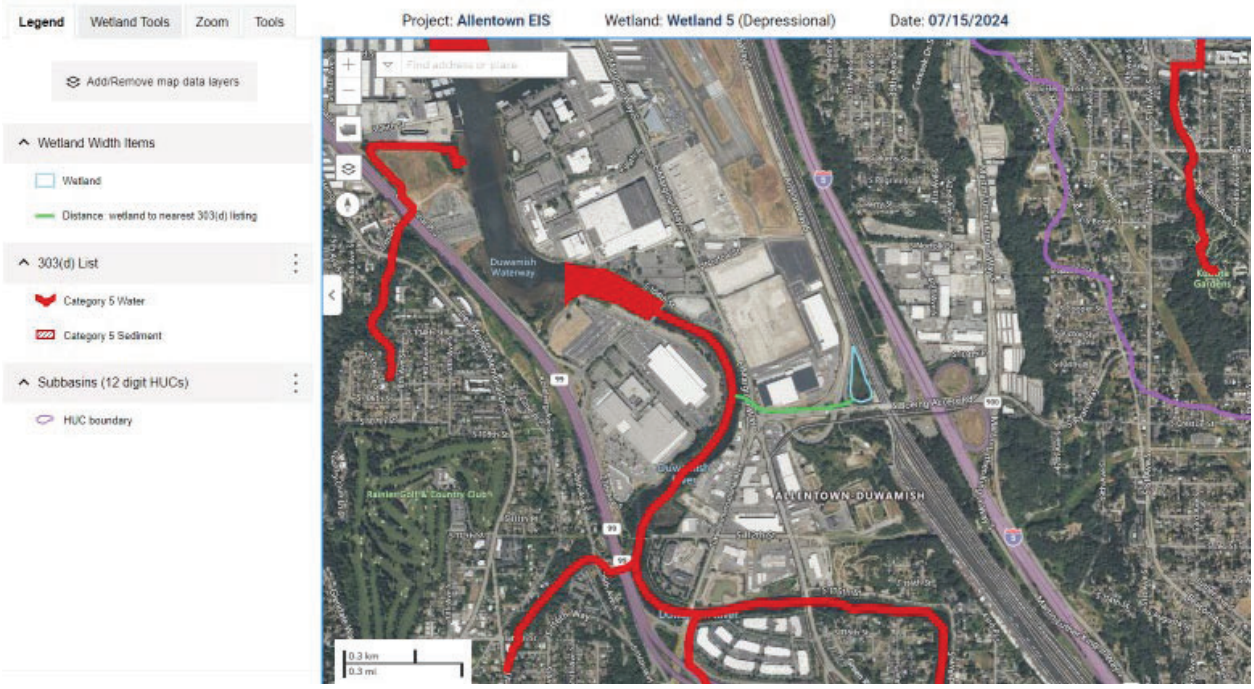


Figure 7: 303(d) listed waters in basin for the HUC12 in which the wetland is found.

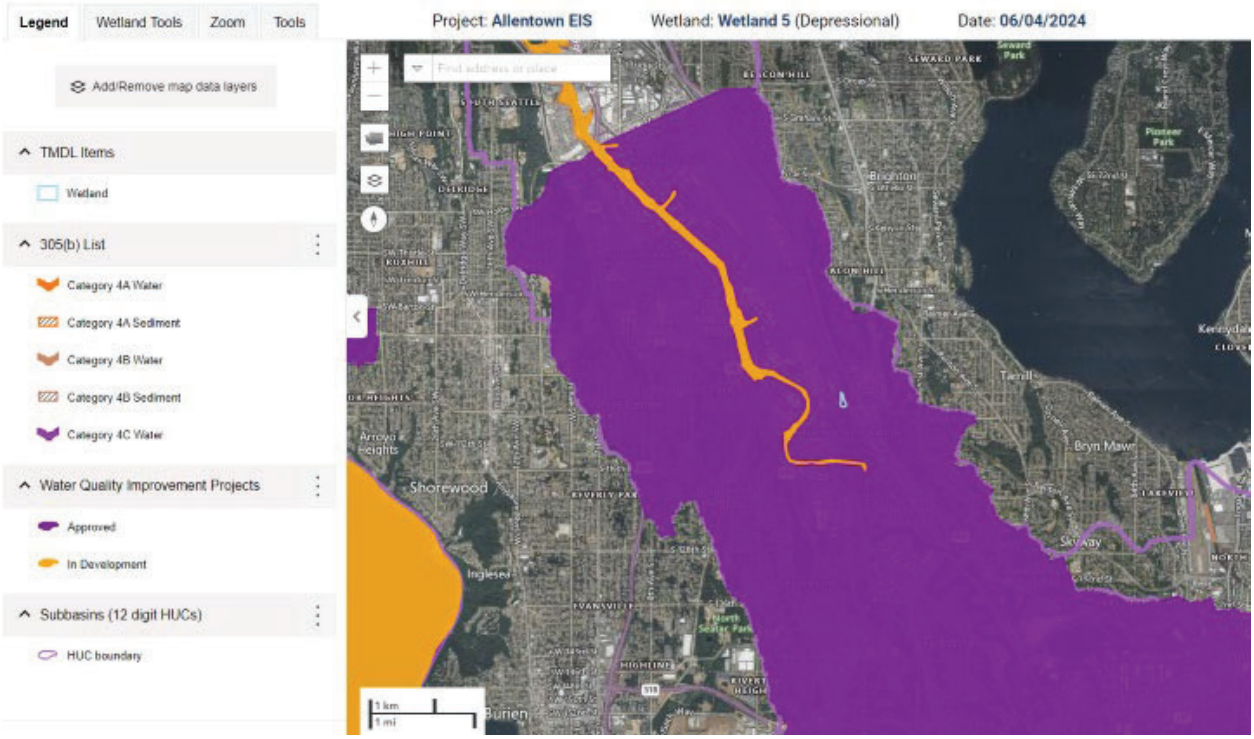


Figure 8. TMDLS for the HUC12 in which the wetland is found.

Wetland name or number WL 6

Identified as Wetland Rifle 3 in Watershed (2023) report.

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): Wetland 6 Date of site visit: 5/22/24

Rated by T. Parry, T. Tumaliuan Trained by Ecology? ☑ Yes ☐ No Date of training 4/19/24

HGM Class used for rating Depressional Wetland has multiple HGM classes? ☐ Y ☑ N

NOTE: **Form is not complete without the required figures** (figures can be combined).
Source of base aerial photo/map 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
☑ **Category III** – Total score = 16 - 19
☐ **Category IV** – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
	Circle the appropriate ratings			
Site Potential	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☐ M ☐ L ☑	H ☐ M ☐ L ☑	
Landscape Potential	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☐ M ☐ L ☑	
Value	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☐ M ☐ L ☑	TOTAL
Score Based on Ratings	7	6	3	16

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	I ☐ II ☐
Wetland of High Conservation Value	I ☐
Bog	I ☐
Mature Forest	I ☐
Old Growth Forest	I ☐
Coastal Lagoon	I ☐ II ☐
Interdunal	I ☐ II ☐ III ☐ IV ☐
None of the above	☑

Wetland name or number WL 6

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	1
Hydroperiods	D 1.4, H 1.2	2
Location of outlet (*can be added to map of hydroperiods)*	D 1.1, D 4.1	2
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	D 2.2, D 5.2	3
Map of the contributing basin	D 4.3, D 5.3	4
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	5
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	D 3.1, D 3.2	6
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	D 3.3	7

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 *(can be added to another figure)*	R 2.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	
Width of unit vs. width of stream *(can be added to another figure)*	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 total 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 *(can be added to another figure)*	L 2.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total 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	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Plant cover of **dense** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	S 1.3	
Plant cover of **dense, rigid** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants (*can be added to figure above)*	S 4.1	
Boundary of 150 ft buffer (can be added to another figure)	S 2.1, S 5.1	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	S 3.1, S 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	S 3.3	

Wetland name or number WL 6

HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

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

If the 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 sheet flow, 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).

Wetland name or number WL 6

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

Access to Wetland 6 was limited. The wetland rating form questions were informed by the Watershed report (2023), aerial photos, and existing environmental documentation.

Wetland name or number WL 6

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

D 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
D 1.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: ☐ Wetland is a depression or flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key) with no surface water leaving it (no outlet). points = 3 ☑ Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet. points = 2 ☐ Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 1 ☐ Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch. points = 1	2
D 1.2. The soil 2 in. below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions).* Yes = 4 ☐ No = 0 ☑	0
D 1.3. Characteristics and distribution of persistent plants (Emergent, Scrub-shrub, and/or Forested Cowardin classes): ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > 95% of area points = 5 ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > ½ of area points = 3 ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants ≥ 1/10 of area points = 1 ☑ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants < 1/10 of area points = 0	0
D 1.4. Characteristics of seasonal ponding or inundation: *This is the area that is ponded for at least 2 months. See description in manual.* ☑ Area seasonally ponded is > ½ total area of wetland points = 4 ☐ Area seasonally ponded is ≥ ¼ total area of wetland points = 2 ☐ Area seasonally ponded is < ¼ total area of wetland points = 0	4
Total for D 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	6

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ☐ **12-16 = H** ☑ **6-11 = M** ☐ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
D 2.1. Does the wetland unit receive stormwater discharges? ☐ Yes = 1 ☑ No = 0	0
D 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
D 2.3. Are there septic systems within 250 ft of the wetland? ☐ Yes = 1 ☑ No = 0	0
D 2.4. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions D 2.1-D 2.3? Source Shooting range ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
Total for D 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ☐ **3 or 4 = H** ☑ **1 or 2 = M** ☐ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
D 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
D 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where an aquatic resource is on the 303(d) list? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
D 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? (Answer YES if there is a TMDL in development or in effect for the basin in which the unit is found.) ☑ Yes = 2 ☐ No = 0	2
Total for D 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	3

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

D3.2 - Wetland is up-gradient of Green River which is on the 303(d) list for temperature, bacteria, and pH). D3.3 - Wetland is within the 12-digit HUC of the Duwamish Waterway Ammonia-N TMDL.

Wetland name or number WL 6

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream degradation

D 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?

D 4.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: **2**

- ☐ Wetland is a depression or flat depression with no surface water leaving it (no outlet) points = 4
- ☑ Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream/ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet points = 2
- ☐ Wetland is a flat depression (question 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch points = 1
- ☐ Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 0

D 4.2. Depth of storage during wet periods: Estimate the height of ponding above the bottom of the outlet. For wetlands with no outlet, measure from the surface of permanent water or if dry, the deepest part. **0**

- ☐ Marks of ponding are 3 ft or more above the surface or bottom of outlet points = 7
- ☐ Marks of ponding between 2 ft to < 3 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 5
- ☐ Marks are at least 0.5 ft to < 2 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 3
- ☐ The wetland is a "headwater" wetland points = 3
- ☐ Wetland is flat but has small depressions on the surface that trap water points = 1
- ☑ Marks of ponding less than 0.5 ft (6 in) points = 0

D 4.3. Contribution of the wetland to storage in the watershed: Estimate the ratio of the area of upstream basin contributing surface water to the area of the wetland unit itself. **3**

- ☐ The area of the basin is less than 10 times the area of the unit points = 5
- ☑ The area of the basin is 10 to 100 times the area of the unit points = 3
- ☐ The area of the basin is more than 100 times the area of the unit points = 0
- ☐ Entire wetland is in the Flats class points = 5

Total for D 4 — Add the points in the boxes above: **5**

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ☐ **12-16 = H** ☐ **6-11 = M** ☑ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support hydrologic functions of the site?

D 5.1. Does the wetland receive stormwater discharges?	☐Yes = 1 ☑No = 0	0
D 5.2. Is >10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate excess runoff?	☑Yes = 1 ☐No = 0	1
D 5.3. Is more than 25% of the contributing basin of the wetland covered with intensive human land uses (residential at >1 residence/ac, urban, commercial, agriculture, etc.)?	☑Yes = 1 ☐No = 0	1
Total for D 5	Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ☐ **3 = H** ☑ **1 or 2 = M** ☐ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?

D 6.1. Is the unit in a landscape that has flooding problems? Choose the description that best matches conditions around the wetland unit being rated. Do not add points. Choose the highest score if more than one condition is met. **2**

The wetland captures surface water that would otherwise flow downgradient into areas where flooding has damaged human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds):

- ☑ Flooding occurs in a sub-basin that is immediately downgradient of unit. points = 2
- ☐ Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther downgradient. points = 1
- ☐ Flooding from groundwater is an issue in the sub-basin. points = 1
- ☐ The existing or potential outflow from the wetland is so constrained by human or natural conditions that the water stored by the wetland cannot reach areas that flood. *Explain why* _____ points = 0
- ☐ There are no problems with flooding downstream of the wetland. points = 0

D 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? ☐Yes = 2 ☑No = 0 **0**

Total for D 6 — Add the points in the boxes above: **2**

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

Wetland name or number WL 6

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 if the unit is at least 2.5 ac, or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac.

- ☐ Aquatic bed
- ☑ Emergent
- ☐ Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover)
- ☐ Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover)

If the unit has a Forested class, check if:

- ☐ The Forested class has 3 out of 5 strata (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss/groundcover) that each cover 20% within the Forested polygon

- ☐ 4 structures or more: points = 4
- ☐ 3 structures: points = 2
- ☐ 2 structures: points = 1
- ☑ 1 structure: points = 0

0

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 if the unit is < 2.5 ac, or ¼ ac if the unit is at least 2.5 ac to count (see text for descriptions of hydroperiods).

- ☐ Permanently flooded or inundated
- ☑ Seasonally flooded or inundated
- ☐ Occasionally flooded or inundated
- ☑ Saturated only
- ☐ Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ Intermittently or seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ **Lake Fringe wetland** **2 points**
- ☐ **Freshwater tidal wetland** **2 points**

- ☐ 4 or more types present: points = 3
- ☐ 3 types present: points = 2
- ☑ 2 types present: points = 1
- ☐ 1 type present: points = 0

1

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft^2.

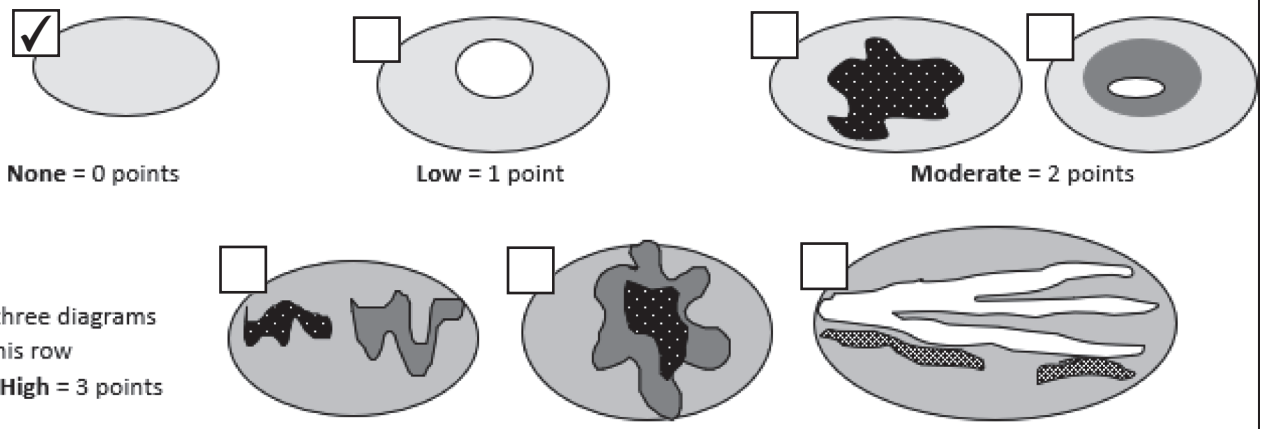
Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. **Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canada thistle**

- ☐ 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

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

0

Wetland name or number WL 6

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. The number of checks is the number of points. ☐ Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in. diameter and 6 ft long). ☐ Standing snags (dbh > 4 in.) within the wetland ☐ Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) **and/or** overhanging plants extend at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over open water or a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) ☐ 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 (cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed) ☐ At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated (structures for egg-laying by amphibians) ☐ Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (see H 1.1 above for the list of strata and H 1.5 in the manual for the list of aggressive plant species)	0
Total for H 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	2

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

H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?

H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include only habitat polygons accessible from the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 0.00 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 2.00 = 2.00 % 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	0
H 2.2. Total habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 4.00 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 9.00 = 13.00 % ☐ Total habitat > 50% of Polygon — points = 3 ☐ Total habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches — points = 2 ☑ Total habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches — points = 1 ☐ Total habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon — points = 0	1
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: ☑ > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use — points = (- 2) ☐ ≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity — points = 0	-2
Total for H 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	-1

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

H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?

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.* ☐ Site meets ANY of the following criteria: — points = 2 ☐ It has 3 or more Priority Habitats within 100 m (see next page) ☐ It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) ☐ It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW Priority Species ☐ It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources data ☐ 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 ☐ Site has 1 or 2 Priority Habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m — points = 1 ☑ Site does not meet any of the criteria above — points = 0	0

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

Wetland name or number WL 6

WDFW Priority Habitats

See complete descriptions of Priority Habitats listed by WDFW, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008 (current year, as revised). Priority Habitat and Species List.[133] This list was updated for consistency with guidance from WDFW.

This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the Priority Habitat. All vegetated wetlands are by definition a Priority Habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed by this rating system.

Count how many of the following Priority Habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit:

☐ **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. This habitat automatically counts if mapped on the PHS online map within 100m of the wetland. If not mapped, a determination can be made in the field.

☐ **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.

☐ **Fresh Deepwater:** Lands permanently flooded with freshwater, including environments where surface water is permanent and often deep, so that water, rather than air, is the principal medium within which the dominant organisms live. Substrate does not support emergent vegetation. Do not select if Instream habitat is also present, or if the entire Deepwater feature is included in the wetland unit being rated (such as a pond with a vegetated fringe).

☐ **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.

☐ **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. Do not select if Fresh Deepwater habitat is also present.

☐ **Nearshore:** Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore.

☐ **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) diameter at breast height (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.

[133] http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 6

☐ **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important. For single oaks or oak stands <0.4 ha in urban areas, WDFW's Management Recommendations for Oregon White Oak[134] provides more detail for determining if they are Priority Habitats

☐ **Riparian:** The area adjacent to freshwater aquatic systems with flowing or standing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.

☐ **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.

☐ **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.

☐ **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie.

[134] https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00030/wdfw00030.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 6

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type *Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.*	**Category**
SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? ☐ The dominant water regime is tidal, ☐ Vegetated, and ☐ With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 1.1** ☑ No= **Not an estuarine wetland**	
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? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 1.2**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? ☐ 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 *Spartina*, see chapter 4.8 in the manual. ☐ 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. ☐ The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** ☐ **Cat. II** ☐
SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Does the wetland overlap with any known or historical rare plant or rare & high-quality ecosystem polygons on the WNHP Data Explorer?[135] ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No – Go to **SC 2.2** SC 2.2. Does the wetland have a rare plant species, rare ecosystem (e.g., plant community), or high-quality common ecosystem that may qualify the site as a WHCV? Contact WNHP for resources to help determine the presence of these elements. ☐ Yes – Submit data to WA Natural Heritage Program for determination,[136] Go to **SC 2.3** ☑ No = **Not a WHCV** SC 2.3. Did WNHP review the site within 30 days and determine that it has a rare plant or ecosystem that meets their criteria? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Not a WHCV**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? *Use the key below.* ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No – Go to **SC 3.2** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No = **Not a bog** 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? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No – Go to **SC 3.4** **NOTE:** 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) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No = **Not a bog**	**Cat. I** ☐

[135] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/NHPdata
[136] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amp_nh_sighting_form.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 6

SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands

Does the wetland have at least 1 contiguous acre of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as Priority Habitats? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.***

☐ **Old-growth forests** (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.

☐ **Mature forests** (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).

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No = **Not a forested wetland for this section**

Cat. I ☐

SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons

Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon?

☐ 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

☐ The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (> 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon *(needs to be measured near the bottom)*

☐ The lagoon retains some of its surface water at low tide during spring tides

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 5.1** ☑ No = **Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon**

Cat. I ☐

SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions?

☐ 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 in H 1.5 in the manual).

☐ 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.

☐ The wetland is larger than $^{1}/_{10}$ ac (4350 ft^2)

Cat. II ☐

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**

SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands

Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.***

In practical terms that means the following geographic areas:

☐ Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103

☐ Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105

☐ Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 and Ocean Shores Blvd SW, including lands west of E. Oceans Shores Blvd SW.

Cat I ☐

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 6.1** ☑ No = **Not an interdunal wetland for rating**

Cat. II ☐

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)? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.2**

SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger? ☐ Yes = **Category II** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.3**

Cat. III ☐

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? ☐ Yes = **Category III** ☐ No = **Category IV**

Cat. IV ☐

Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics
If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form

NA

Figure 1: Cowardin plant classes.

Figure 2: Hydroperiods.

Figure 3: Boundary of area within 150 feet of the wetland.

Figure 4: Contributing basin.

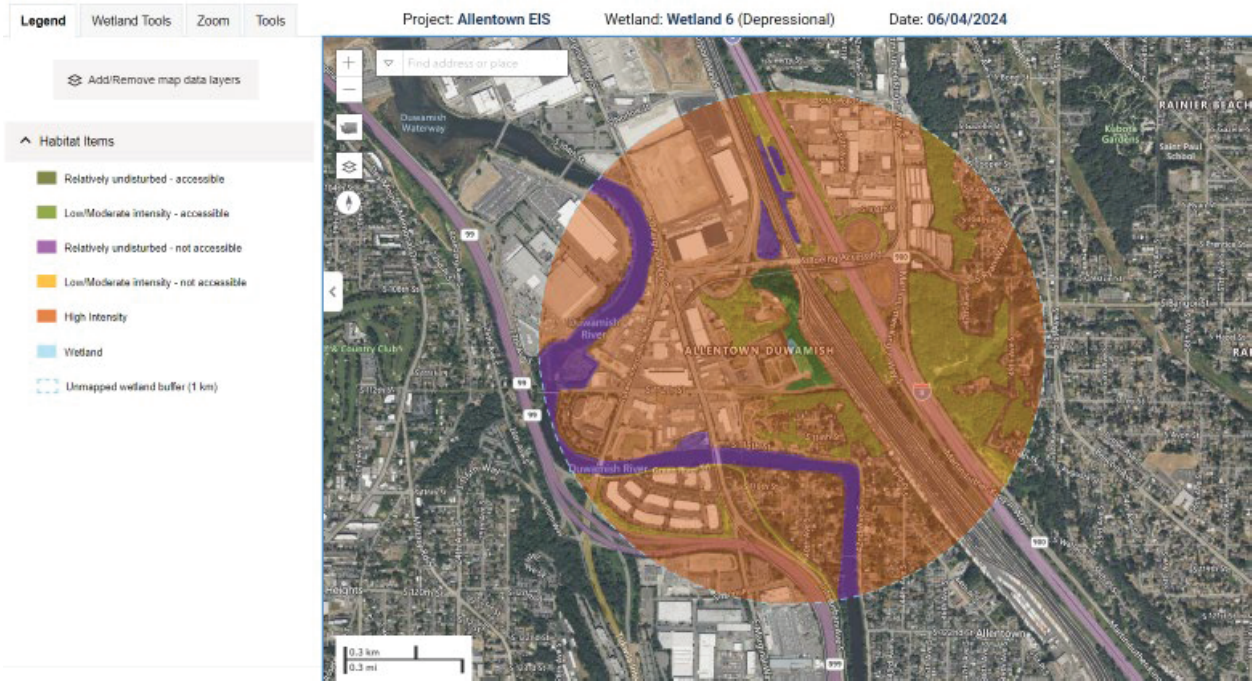


Figure 5: 1km polygon.

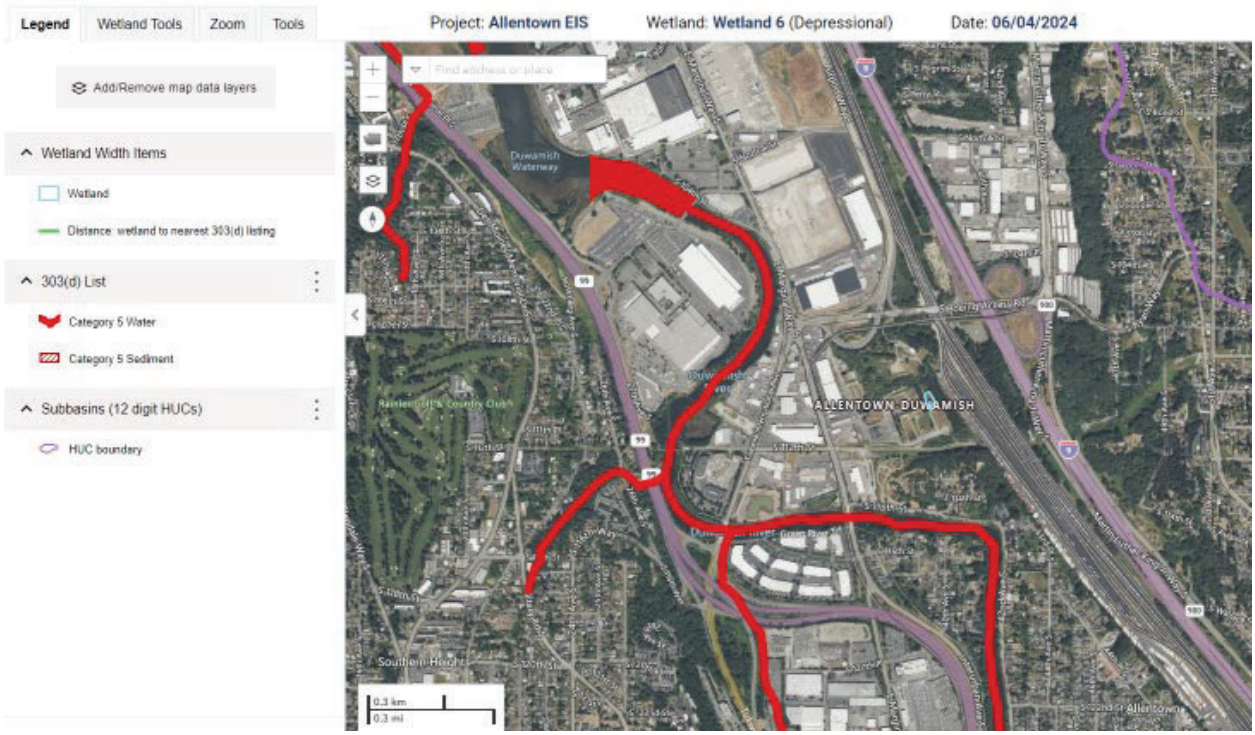


Figure 6: 303(d) listed waters in basin for the HUC12 in which the wetland is found.

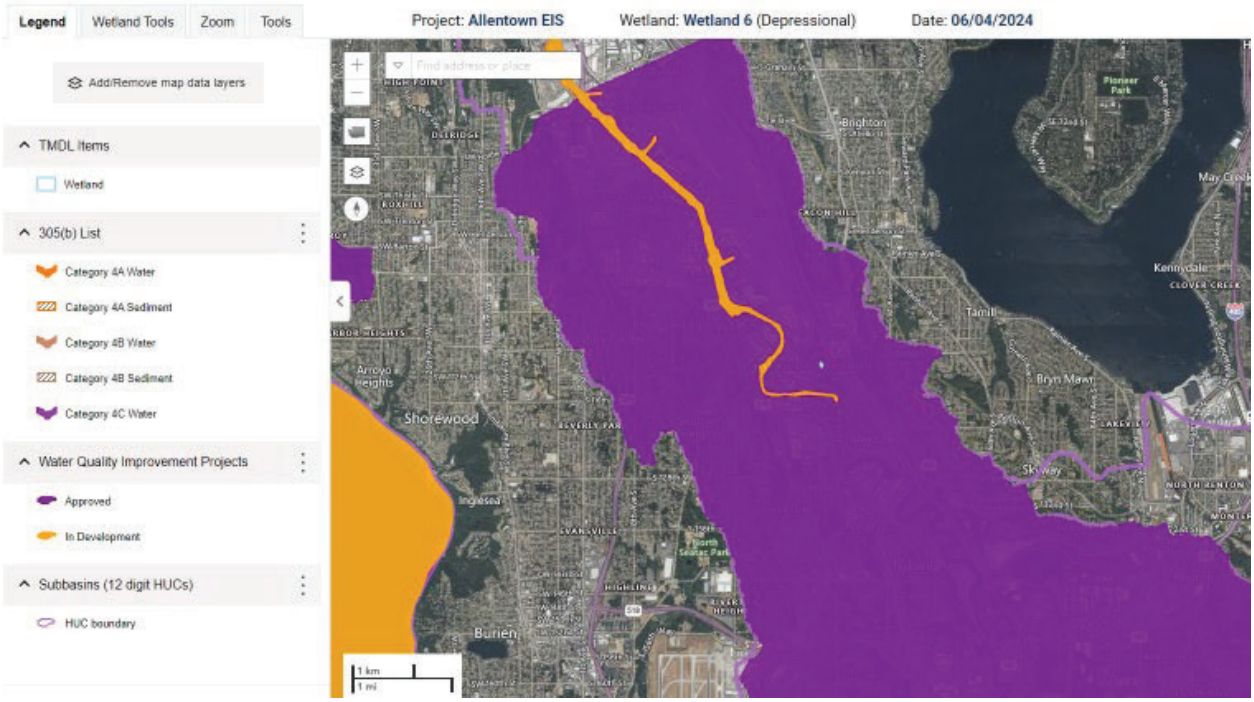


Figure 7. TMDLS for the HUC12 in which the wetland is found.

Wetland name or number WL 7

Identified as Wetland F/G in Watershed (2023) report.

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): Wetland 7 Date of site visit: 5/29/24

Rated by T. Parry, T. Tumaliuan Trained by Ecology? ☑ Yes ☐ No Date of training 4/19/24

HGM Class used for rating Depressional Wetland has multiple HGM classes? ☐ Y ☑ N

NOTE: **Form is not complete without the required figures** (figures can be combined).
Source of base aerial photo/map ESRI

OVERALL WETLAND CATEGORY II (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
☐ **Category IV** – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
	Circle the appropriate ratings			
Site Potential	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	
Landscape Potential	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☐ M ☐ L ☑	
Value	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	TOTAL
Score Based on Ratings	7	8	5	20

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	I ☐ II ☐
Wetland of High Conservation Value	I ☐
Bog	I ☐
Mature Forest	I ☐
Old Growth Forest	I ☐
Coastal Lagoon	I ☐ II ☐
Interdunal	I ☐ II ☐ III ☐ IV ☐
None of the above	☑

Wetland name or number WL 7

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	1
Hydroperiods	D 1.4, H 1.2	2
Location of outlet (*can be added to map of hydroperiods)*	D 1.1, D 4.1	2
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	D 2.2, D 5.2	3
Map of the contributing basin	D 4.3, D 5.3	4
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	5
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	D 3.1, D 3.2	6
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	D 3.3	7

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 *(can be added to another figure)*	R 2.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	
Width of unit vs. width of stream *(can be added to another figure)*	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 total 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 *(can be added to another figure)*	L 2.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total 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	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Plant cover of **dense** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	S 1.3	
Plant cover of **dense, rigid** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants (*can be added to figure above)*	S 4.1	
Boundary of 150 ft buffer (can be added to another figure)	S 2.1, S 5.1	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	S 3.1, S 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	S 3.3	

Wetland name or number WL 7

HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

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

If the 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 sheet flow, 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).

Wetland name or number WL 7

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

Access to Wetland 7 was limited. The wetland rating form questions were informed by the Watershed (2023) report, aerial photos, and existing environmental documentation.

Wetland name or number WL 7

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

D 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
D 1.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: ☐ Wetland is a depression or flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key) with no surface water leaving it (no outlet). points = 3 ☑ Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet. points = 2 ☐ Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 1 ☐ Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch. points = 1	2
D 1.2. The soil 2 in. below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions).* Yes = 4 ☐ No = 0 ☑	0
D 1.3. Characteristics and distribution of persistent plants (Emergent, Scrub-shrub, and/or Forested Cowardin classes): ☑ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > 95% of area points = 5 ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > ½ of area points = 3 ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants ≥ 1/10 of area points = 1 ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants < 1/10 of area points = 0	5
D 1.4. Characteristics of seasonal ponding or inundation: *This is the area that is ponded for at least 2 months. See description in manual.* ☑ Area seasonally ponded is > ½ total area of wetland points = 4 ☐ Area seasonally ponded is ≥ ¼ total area of wetland points = 2 ☐ Area seasonally ponded is < ¼ total area of wetland points = 0	4
Total for D 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	11

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ☐ **12-16 = H** ☑ **6-11 = M** ☐ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
D 2.1. Does the wetland unit receive stormwater discharges? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
D 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
D 2.3. Are there septic systems within 250 ft of the wetland? ☐ Yes = 1 ☑ No = 0	0
D 2.4. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions D 2.1-D 2.3? Source_____ ☐ Yes = 1 ☑ No = 0	0
Total for D 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ☐ **3 or 4 = H** ☑ **1 or 2 = M** ☐ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
D 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
D 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where an aquatic resource is on the 303(d) list? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
D 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? (Answer YES if there is a TMDL in development or in effect for the basin in which the unit is found.) ☑ Yes = 2 ☐ No = 0	2
Total for D 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	3

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

D3.2 - Wetland is up-gradient of Green River which is on the 303(d) list for temperature, bacteria, and pH). D3.3 - Wetland is within the 12-digit HUC of the Duwamish Waterway Ammonia-N TMDL.

Wetland name or number WL 7

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream degradation

D 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?

D 4.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: **2**

- ☐ Wetland is a depression or flat depression with no surface water leaving it (no outlet) points = 4
- ☑ Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream/ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet points = 2
- ☐ Wetland is a flat depression (question 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch points = 1
- ☐ Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 0

D 4.2. Depth of storage during wet periods: Estimate the height of ponding above the bottom of the outlet. For wetlands with no outlet, measure from the surface of permanent water or if dry, the deepest part. **3**

- ☐ Marks of ponding are 3 ft or more above the surface or bottom of outlet points = 7
- ☐ Marks of ponding between 2 ft to < 3 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 5
- ☑ Marks are at least 0.5 ft to < 2 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 3
- ☐ The wetland is a "headwater" wetland points = 3
- ☐ Wetland is flat but has small depressions on the surface that trap water points = 1
- ☐ Marks of ponding less than 0.5 ft (6 in) points = 0

D 4.3. Contribution of the wetland to storage in the watershed: Estimate the ratio of the area of upstream basin contributing surface water to the area of the wetland unit itself. **3**

- ☐ The area of the basin is less than 10 times the area of the unit points = 5
- ☑ The area of the basin is 10 to 100 times the area of the unit points = 3
- ☐ The area of the basin is more than 100 times the area of the unit points = 0
- ☐ Entire wetland is in the Flats class points = 5

Total for D 4	Add the points in the boxes above	8

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ☐ **12-16 = H** ☑ **6-11 = M** ☐ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support hydrologic functions of the site?

D 5.1. Does the wetland receive stormwater discharges?	☑Yes = 1 ☐No = 0	1
D 5.2. Is >10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate excess runoff?	☑Yes = 1 ☐No = 0	1
D 5.3. Is more than 25% of the contributing basin of the wetland covered with intensive human land uses (residential at >1 residence/ac, urban, commercial, agriculture, etc.)?	☑Yes = 1 ☐No = 0	1
Total for D 5	Add the points in the boxes above	3

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ☑ **3 = H** ☐ **1 or 2 = M** ☐ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?

D 6.1. Is the unit in a landscape that has flooding problems? Choose the description that best matches conditions around the wetland unit being rated. Do not add points. Choose the highest score if more than one condition is met. **2**

The wetland captures surface water that would otherwise flow downgradient into areas where flooding has damaged human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds):

- ☑ Flooding occurs in a sub-basin that is immediately downgradient of unit. points = 2
- ☐ Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther downgradient. points = 1
- ☐ Flooding from groundwater is an issue in the sub-basin. points = 1
- ☐ The existing or potential outflow from the wetland is so constrained by human or natural conditions that the water stored by the wetland cannot reach areas that flood. *Explain why* _____ points = 0
- ☐ There are no problems with flooding downstream of the wetland. points = 0

D 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? ☐Yes = 2 ☑No = 0 **0**

Total for D 6	Add the points in the boxes above	2

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

Wetland name or number WL 7

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 if the unit is at least 2.5 ac, or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac.

- ☐ Aquatic bed
- ☑ Emergent
- ☑ Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover)
- ☐ Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover)

If the unit has a Forested class, check if:

- ☐ The Forested class has 3 out of 5 strata (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss/groundcover) that each cover 20% within the Forested polygon

- ☐ 4 structures or more: points = 4
- ☐ 3 structures: points = 2
- ☑ 2 structures: points = 1
- ☐ 1 structure: points = 0

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 if the unit is < 2.5 ac, or ¼ ac if the unit is at least 2.5 ac to count (see text for descriptions of hydroperiods).

- ☑ Permanently flooded or inundated
- ☑ Seasonally flooded or inundated
- ☐ Occasionally flooded or inundated
- ☑ Saturated only
- ☐ Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ Intermittently or seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ **Lake Fringe wetland** **2 points**
- ☐ **Freshwater tidal wetland** **2 points**

- ☐ 4 or more types present: points = 3
- ☑ 3 types present: points = 2
- ☐ 2 types present: points = 1
- ☐ 1 type present: points = 0

2

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft^2.

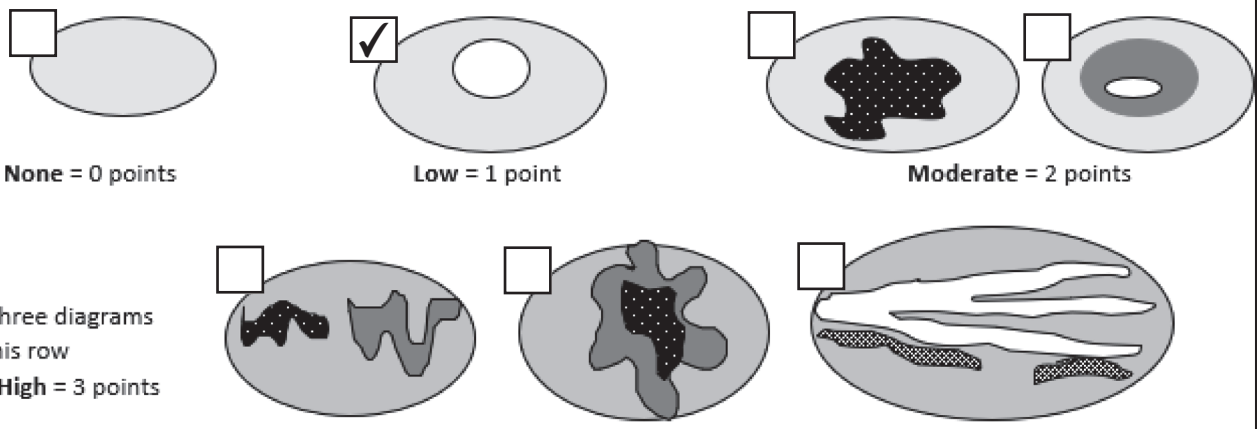
Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. **Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canada thistle**

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

2

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

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

1

Wetland name or number WL 7

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. The number of checks is the number of points. ☑ Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in. diameter and 6 ft long). ☑ Standing snags (dbh > 4 in.) within the wetland ☐ Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) **and/or** overhanging plants extend at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over open water or a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) ☐ 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 (cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed) ☐ At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated (structures for egg-laying by amphibians) ☑ Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (see H 1.1 above for the list of strata and H 1.5 in the manual for the list of aggressive plant species)	3
Total for H 1 Add the points in the boxes above	9

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

H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?

H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include only habitat polygons accessible from the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 0.00 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 2.00 = 2.00 % 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	0
H 2.2. Total habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 3.00 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 6.00 = 9.00 % ☐ Total habitat > 50% of Polygon points = 3 ☐ Total habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches points = 2 ☑ Total habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches points = 1 ☐ Total habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	1
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: ☑ > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = (- 2) ☐ ≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity points = 0	-2
Total for H 2 Add the points in the boxes above	-1

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

H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?

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.* ☐ Site meets ANY of the following criteria: points = 2 ☐ It has 3 or more Priority Habitats within 100 m (see next page) ☐ It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) ☐ It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW Priority Species ☐ It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources data ☐ 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 ☑ Site has 1 or 2 Priority Habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m points = 1 ☐ Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = 0	1

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

Wetland name or number WL 7

WDFW Priority Habitats

See complete descriptions of Priority Habitats listed by WDFW, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008 (current year, as revised). Priority Habitat and Species List.[133] This list was updated for consistency with guidance from WDFW.

This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the Priority Habitat. All vegetated wetlands are by definition a Priority Habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed by this rating system.

Count how many of the following Priority Habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit:

☐ **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. This habitat automatically counts if mapped on the PHS online map within 100m of the wetland. If not mapped, a determination can be made in the field.

☐ **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.

☐ **Fresh Deepwater:** Lands permanently flooded with freshwater, including environments where surface water is permanent and often deep, so that water, rather than air, is the principal medium within which the dominant organisms live. Substrate does not support emergent vegetation. Do not select if Instream habitat is also present, or if the entire Deepwater feature is included in the wetland unit being rated (such as a pond with a vegetated fringe).

☐ **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.

☐ **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. Do not select if Fresh Deepwater habitat is also present.

☐ **Nearshore:** Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore.

☐ **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) diameter at breast height (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.

[133] http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 7

☐ **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important. For single oaks or oak stands <0.4 ha in urban areas, WDFW's Management Recommendations for Oregon White Oak[134] provides more detail for determining if they are Priority Habitats

☐ **Riparian:** The area adjacent to freshwater aquatic systems with flowing or standing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.

☑ **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.

☐ **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.

☐ **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie.

[134] https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00030/wdfw00030.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 7

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type *Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.*	**Category**
SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? ☐ The dominant water regime is tidal, ☐ Vegetated, and ☐ With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 1.1** ☑ No= **Not an estuarine wetland**	
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? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 1.2**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? ☐ 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 *Spartina*, see chapter 4.8 in the manual. ☐ 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. ☐ The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** ☐ **Cat. II** ☐
SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Does the wetland overlap with any known or historical rare plant or rare & high-quality ecosystem polygons on the WNHP Data Explorer?[135] ☑ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 2.2** SC 2.2. Does the wetland have a rare plant species, rare ecosystem (e.g., plant community), or high-quality common ecosystem that may qualify the site as a WHCV? Contact WNHP for resources to help determine the presence of these elements. ☐ Yes – Submit data to WA Natural Heritage Program for determination,[136] Go to **SC 2.3** ☑ No = **Not a WHCV** SC 2.3. Did WNHP review the site within 30 days and determine that it has a rare plant or ecosystem that meets their criteria? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Not a WHCV**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? *Use the key below.* ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No – Go to **SC 3.2** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No = **Not a bog** 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? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No – Go to **SC 3.4** **NOTE:** 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) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No = **Not a bog**	**Cat. I** ☐

[135] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/NHPdata
[136] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amp_nh_sighting_form.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 7

SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands

Does the wetland have at least 1 contiguous acre of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as Priority Habitats? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.***

☐ **Old-growth forests** (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.

☐ **Mature forests** (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).

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No = **Not a forested wetland for this section**

Cat. I ☐

SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons

Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon?

☐ 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

☐ The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (> 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon *(needs to be measured near the bottom)*

☐ The lagoon retains some of its surface water at low tide during spring tides

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 5.1** ☑ No = **Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon**

Cat. I ☐

SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions?

☐ 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 in H 1.5 in the manual).

☐ 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.

☐ The wetland is larger than $^{1}/_{10}$ ac (4350 ft^2)

Cat. II ☐

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**

SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands

Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.***

In practical terms that means the following geographic areas:

☐ Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103

☐ Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105

☐ Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 and Ocean Shores Blvd SW, including lands west of E. Oceans Shores Blvd SW.

Cat I ☐

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 6.1** ☑ No = **Not an interdunal wetland for rating**

Cat. II ☐

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)? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.2**

SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger? ☐ Yes = **Category II** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.3**

Cat. III ☐

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? ☐ Yes = **Category III** ☐ No = **Category IV**

Cat. IV ☐

Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics
If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form

NA

Figure 1: Cowardin plant classes.

Figure 2: Hydroperiods.

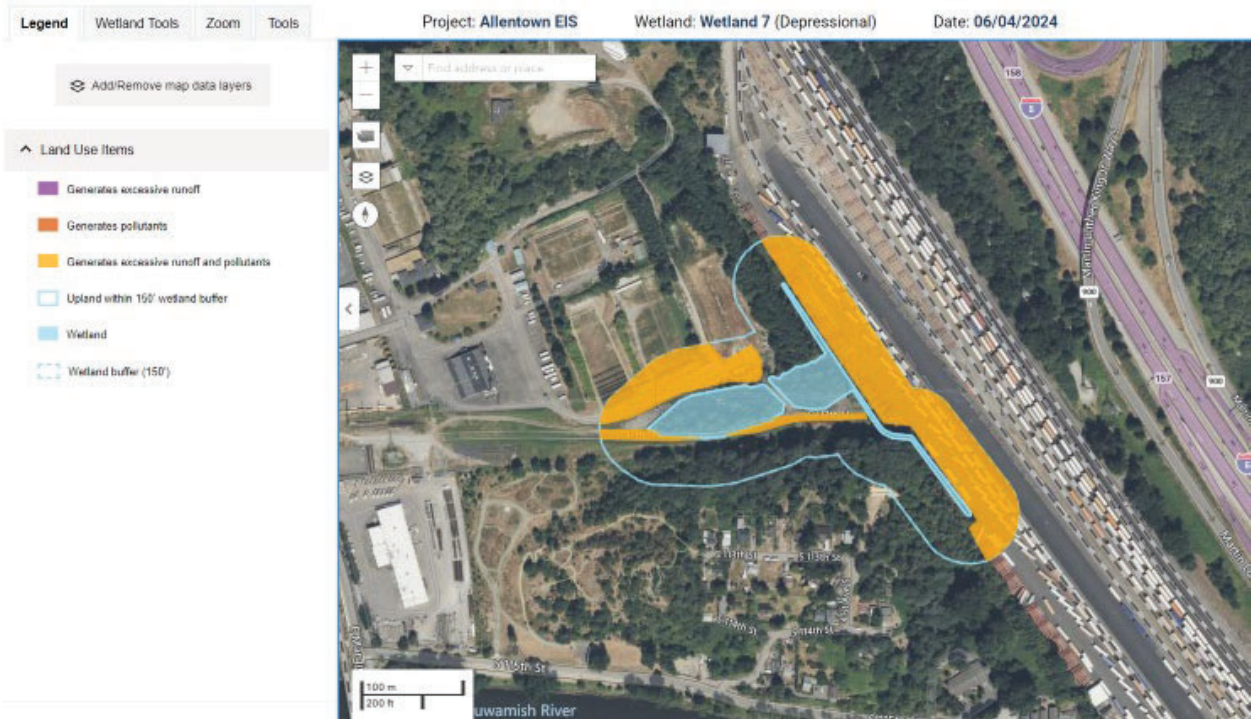


Figure 3: Boundary of area within 150 feet of the wetland.

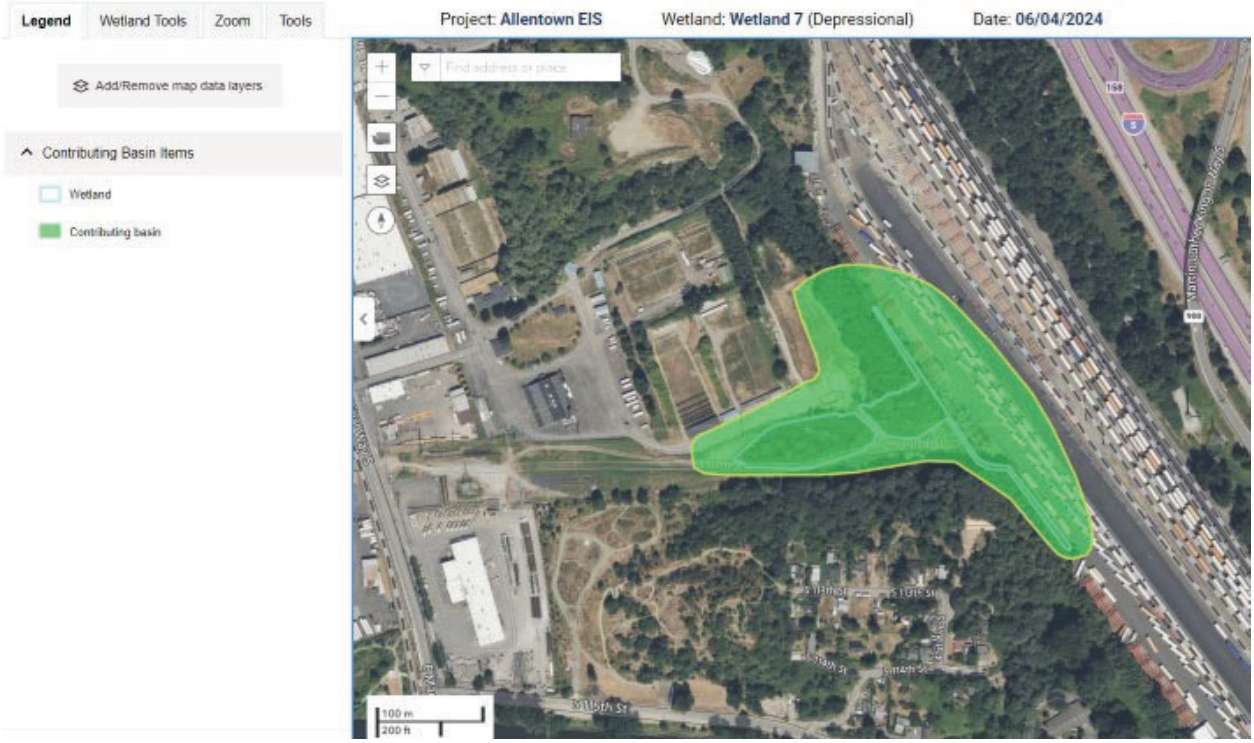


Figure 4: Contributing basin.

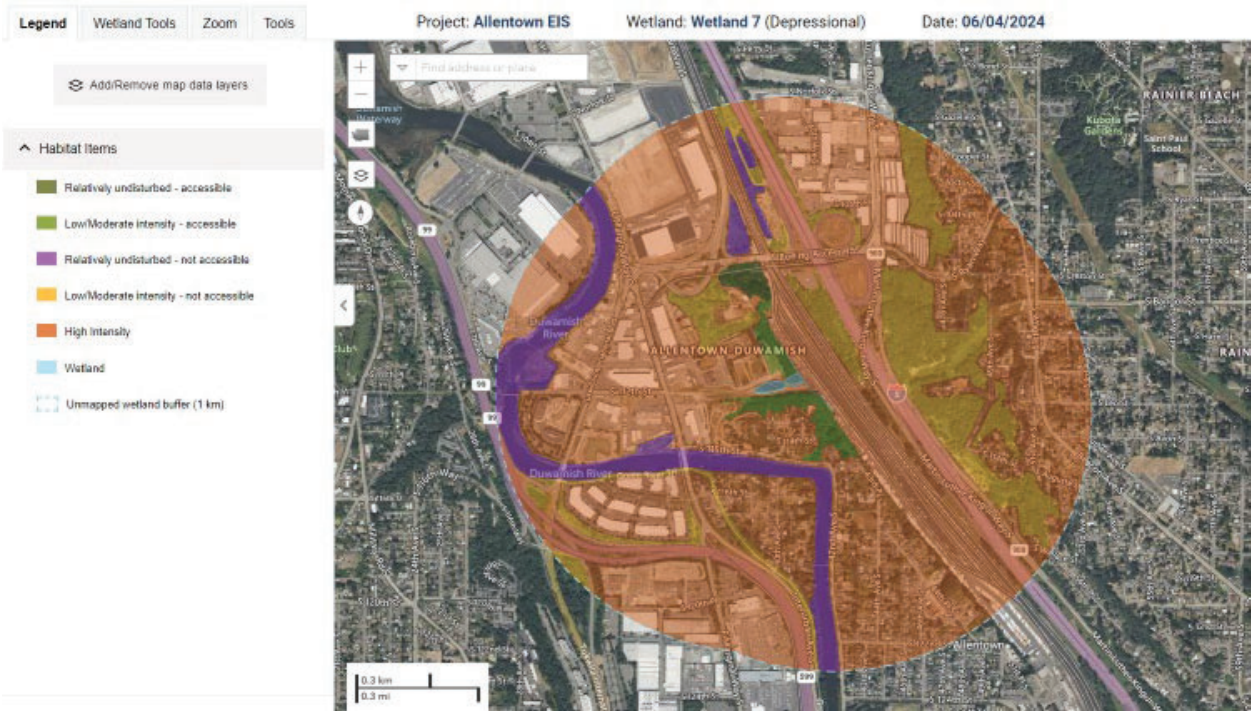


Figure 5: 1km polygon.

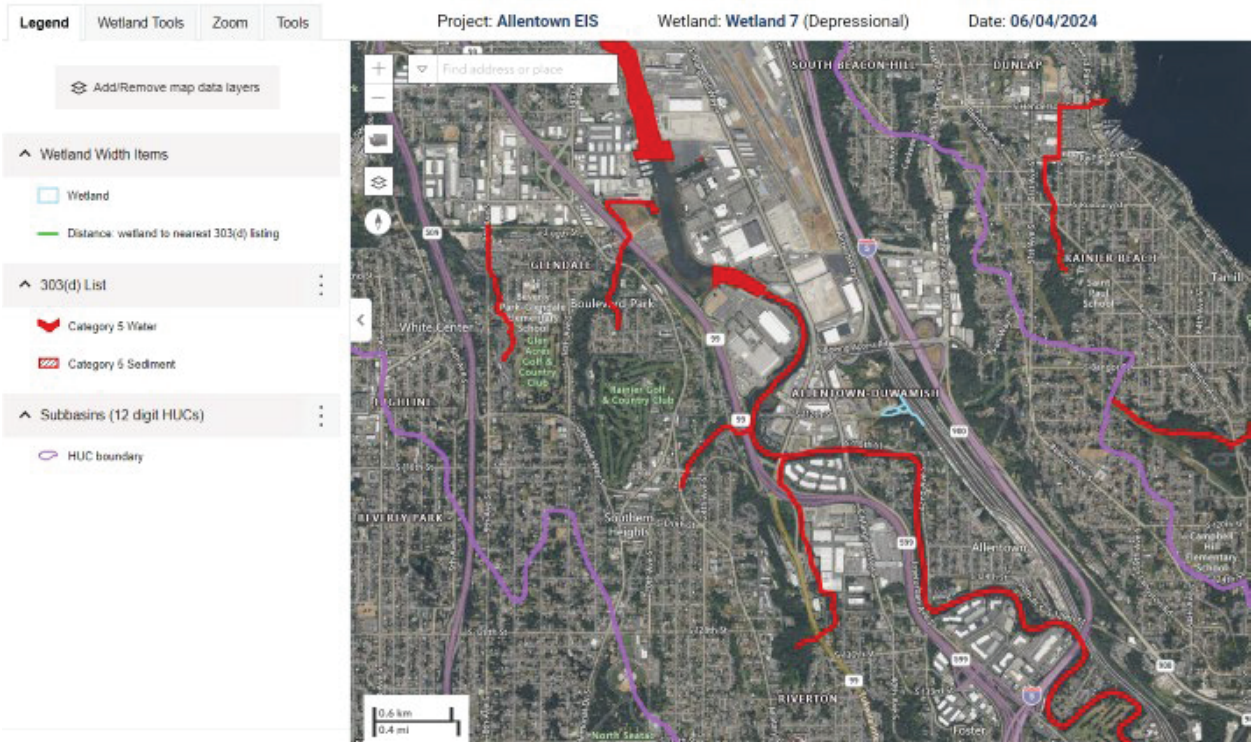


Figure 6: 303(d) listed waters in basin for the HUC12 in which the wetland is found.

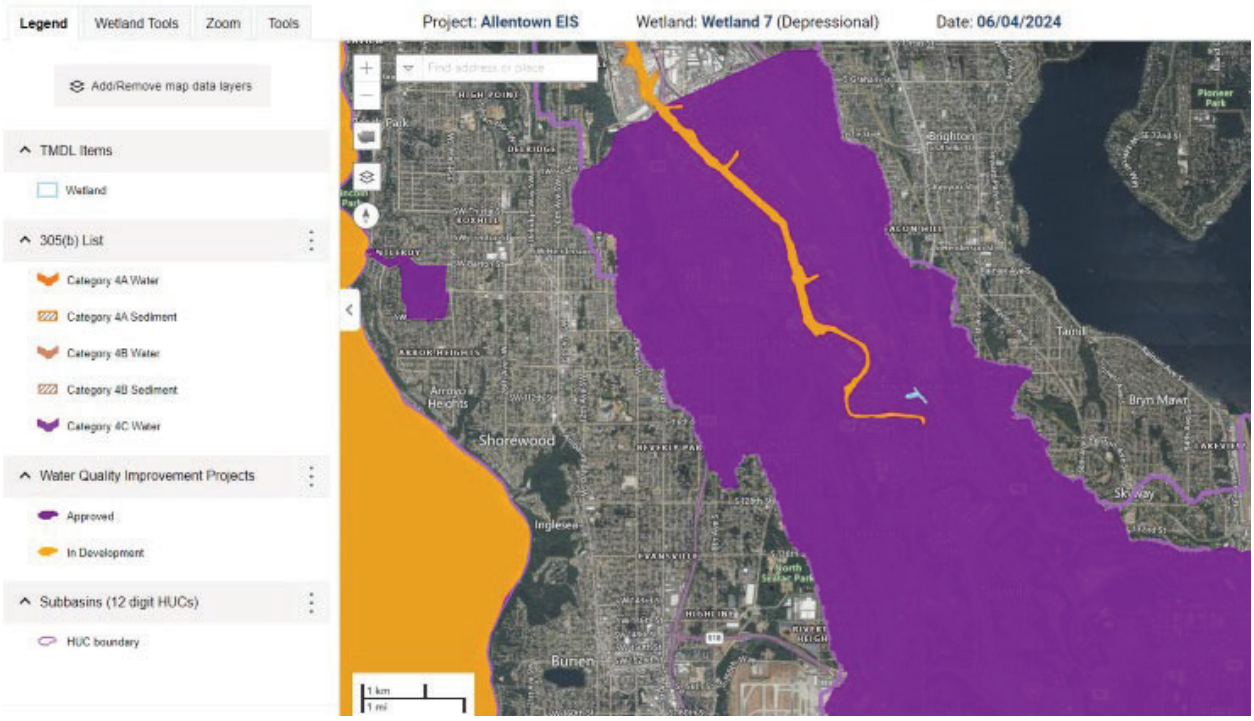


Figure 7. TMDLS for the HUC12 in which the wetland is found.

Wetland name or number WL 8

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): Wetland 8 Date of site visit: 5/22/24

Rated by T. Parry, T. Tumaliuan Trained by Ecology? ☑ Yes ☐ No Date of training 4/19/24

HGM Class used for rating Wetland has multiple HGM classes? ☐ Y ☐ N

NOTE: **Form is not complete without the required figures** (figures can be combined).
Source of base aerial photo/map _____

OVERALL WETLAND CATEGORY _____ (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
☐ **Category IV** – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
	Circle the appropriate ratings			
Site Potential	H M L	H M L	H M L	
Landscape Potential	H M L	H M L	H M L	
Value	H M L	H M L	H M L	TOTAL
Score Based on Ratings	0	0	0	0

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	I ☐ II ☑
Wetland of High Conservation Value	I ☐
Bog	I ☐
Mature Forest	I ☐
Old Growth Forest	I ☐
Coastal Lagoon	I ☐ II ☐
Interdunal	I ☐ II ☐ III ☐ IV ☐
None of the above	☐

Wetland name or number WL 8

HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

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

If the 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 sheet flow, 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).

Wetland name or number WL 8

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 WL 8

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 if the unit is at least 2.5 ac, or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac.

- ☐ Aquatic bed
- ☑ Emergent
- ☑ Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover)
- ☐ Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover)

If the unit has a Forested class, check if:

- ☐ The Forested class has 3 out of 5 strata (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss/groundcover) that each cover 20% within the Forested polygon

- ☐ 4 structures or more: points = 4
- ☑ 3 structures: points = 2
- ☐ 2 structures: points = 1
- ☐ 1 structure: points = 0

2

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 if the unit is < 2.5 ac, or ¼ ac if the unit is at least 2.5 ac to count (see text for descriptions of hydroperiods).

- ☐ Permanently flooded or inundated
- ☐ Seasonally flooded or inundated
- ☑ Occasionally flooded or inundated
- ☑ Saturated only
- ☑ Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ Intermittently or seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ **Lake Fringe wetland** **2 points**
- ☐ **Freshwater tidal wetland** **2 points**

- ☐ 4 or more types present: points = 3
- ☑ 3 types present: points = 2
- ☐ 2 types present: points = 1
- ☐ 1 type present: points = 0

2

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft^2.

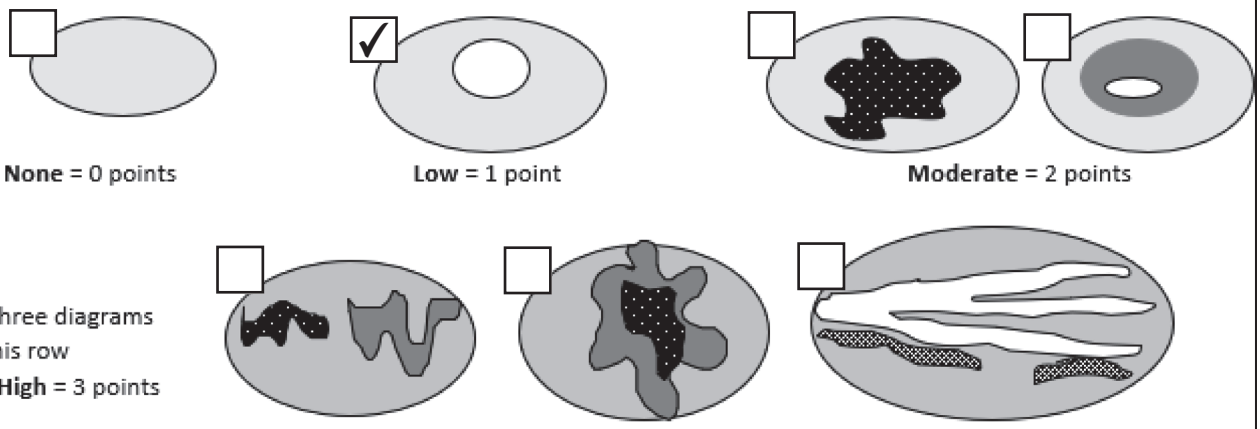
Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. **Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canada thistle**

- ☐ 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

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

1

Wetland name or number WL 8

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. The number of checks is the number of points. ☐ Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in. diameter and 6 ft long). ☐ Standing snags (dbh > 4 in.) within the wetland ☑ Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) **and/or** overhanging plants extend at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over open water or a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) ☐ 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 (cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed) ☑ At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated (structures for egg-laying by amphibians) ☐ Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (see H 1.1 above for the list of strata and H 1.5 in the manual for the list of aggressive plant species)	2
Total for H 1 Add the points in the boxes above	8

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

H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?

H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include only habitat polygons accessible from the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 0.05 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 0.05 = 0.05 % 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	0
H 2.2. Total habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 0.25 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 0.1 = 0.25 % ☐ Total habitat > 50% of Polygon points = 3 ☐ Total habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches points = 2 ☑ Total habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches points = 1 ☐ Total habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	1
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: ☑ > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = (- 2) ☐ ≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity points = 0	-2
Total for H 2 Add the points in the boxes above	-1

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

H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?

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.* ☑ Site meets ANY of the following criteria: points = 2 ☑ It has 3 or more Priority Habitats within 100 m (see next page) ☐ It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) ☐ It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW Priority Species ☐ It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources data ☐ 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 ☐ Site has 1 or 2 Priority Habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m points = 1 ☐ Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = 0	2

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

Wetland name or number WL 8

WDFW Priority Habitats

See complete descriptions of Priority Habitats listed by WDFW, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008 (current year, as revised). Priority Habitat and Species List.[133] This list was updated for consistency with guidance from WDFW.

This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the Priority Habitat. All vegetated wetlands are by definition a Priority Habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed by this rating system.

Count how many of the following Priority Habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit:

☐ **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. This habitat automatically counts if mapped on the PHS online map within 100m of the wetland. If not mapped, a determination can be made in the field.

☐ **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.

☐ **Fresh Deepwater:** Lands permanently flooded with freshwater, including environments where surface water is permanent and often deep, so that water, rather than air, is the principal medium within which the dominant organisms live. Substrate does not support emergent vegetation. Do not select if Instream habitat is also present, or if the entire Deepwater feature is included in the wetland unit being rated (such as a pond with a vegetated fringe).

☐ **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.

☑ **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. Do not select if Fresh Deepwater habitat is also present.

☐ **Nearshore:** Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore.

☐ **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) diameter at breast height (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.

[133] http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 8

☐ **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important. For single oaks or oak stands <0.4 ha in urban areas, WDFW's Management Recommendations for Oregon White Oak[134] provides more detail for determining if they are Priority Habitats

☑ **Riparian:** The area adjacent to freshwater aquatic systems with flowing or standing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.

☐ **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.

☐ **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.

☐ **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie.

[134] https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00030/wdfw00030.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 8

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type *Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.*	**Category**
SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? ☑ The dominant water regime is tidal, ☑ Vegetated, and ☑ With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt ☑ Yes – Go to **SC 1.1** ☐ No= **Not an estuarine wetland**	
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? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No – Go to **SC 1.2**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? ☐ 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 *Spartina*, see chapter 4.8 in the manual. ☐ 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. ☐ The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** ☐ **Cat. II** ☑
SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Does the wetland overlap with any known or historical rare plant or rare & high-quality ecosystem polygons on the WNHP Data Explorer?[135] ☑ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 2.2** SC 2.2. Does the wetland have a rare plant species, rare ecosystem (e.g., plant community), or high-quality common ecosystem that may qualify the site as a WHCV? Contact WNHP for resources to help determine the presence of these elements. ☐ Yes – Submit data to WA Natural Heritage Program for determination,[136] Go to **SC 2.3** ☑ No = **Not a WHCV** SC 2.3. Did WNHP review the site within 30 days and determine that it has a rare plant or ecosystem that meets their criteria? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Not a WHCV**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? *Use the key below.* ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No – Go to **SC 3.2** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No = **Not a bog** 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? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No – Go to **SC 3.4** **NOTE:** 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) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No = **Not a bog**	**Cat. I** ☐

[135] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/NHPdata
[136] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amp_nh_sighting_form.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 8

SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands

Does the wetland have at least 1 contiguous acre of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as Priority Habitats? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.***

☐ **Old-growth forests** (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.

☐ **Mature forests** (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).

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No = **Not a forested wetland for this section**

Cat. I ☐

SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons

Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon?

☐ 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

☐ The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (> 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon *(needs to be measured near the bottom)*

☐ The lagoon retains some of its surface water at low tide during spring tides

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 5.1** ☑ No = **Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon**

Cat. I ☐

SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions?

☐ 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 in H 1.5 in the manual).

☐ 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.

☐ The wetland is larger than $^{1}/_{10}$ ac (4350 ft^2)

Cat. II ☐

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**

SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands

Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.***

In practical terms that means the following geographic areas:

☐ Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103

☐ Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105

☐ Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 and Ocean Shores Blvd SW, including lands west of E. Oceans Shores Blvd SW.

Cat I ☐

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 6.1** ☑ No = **Not an interdunal wetland for rating**

Cat. II ☐

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)? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.2**

SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger?

Cat. III ☐

☐ Yes = **Category II** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.3**

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?

☐ Yes = **Category III** ☐ No = **Category IV**

Cat. IV ☐

Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics
If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form

II

Access to Wetland 8 was limited. The wetland rating form questions were informed by aerial photos, existing environmental documentation, and observation made from accessible portions of the wetland.

Wetland name or number WL 9

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): Wetland 9 Date of site visit: 5/22/24

Rated by T. Parry, T. Tumaliuan Trained by Ecology? ☑ Yes ☐ No Date of training 4/19/24

HGM Class used for rating Depressional Wetland has multiple HGM classes? ☑ Y ☑ N

NOTE: **Form is not complete without the required figures** (figures can be combined).
Source of base aerial photo/map WATOR

OVERALL WETLAND CATEGORY II (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
- ☐ **Category IV** – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
	Circle the appropriate ratings			
Site Potential	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☐ M ☐ L ☑	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	
Landscape Potential	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☐ M ☐ L ☑	
Value	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	**TOTAL**
Score Based on Ratings	8	7	5	20

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	I ☐ II ☐
Wetland of High Conservation Value	I ☐
Bog	I ☐
Mature Forest	I ☐
Old Growth Forest	I ☐
Coastal Lagoon	I ☐ II ☐
Interdunal	I ☐ II ☐ III ☐ IV ☐
None of the above	☑

Wetland name or number WL 9

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	1
Hydroperiods	D 1.4, H 1.2	2
Location of outlet (*can be added to map of hydroperiods)*	D 1.1, D 4.1	3
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	D 2.2, D 5.2	4
Map of the contributing basin	D 4.3, D 5.3	5
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	6
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	D 3.1, D 3.2	7
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	D 3.3	8

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 *(can be added to another figure)*	R 2.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	
Width of unit vs. width of stream *(can be added to another figure)*	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 total 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 *(can be added to another figure)*	L 2.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total 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	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Plant cover of **dense** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	S 1.3	
Plant cover of **dense, rigid** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants (*can be added to figure above)*	S 4.1	
Boundary of 150 ft buffer (can be added to another figure)	S 2.1, S 5.1	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	S 3.1, S 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	S 3.3	

Wetland name or number WL 9

HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

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

If the 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 sheet flow, 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).

Wetland name or number WL 9

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 WL 9

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

D 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
D 1.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: ☐ Wetland is a depression or flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key) with no surface water leaving it (no outlet). points = 3 ☑ Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet. points = 2 ☐ Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 1 ☐ Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch. points = 1	2
D 1.2. The soil 2 in. below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions).* Yes = 4 ☐ No = 0 ☑	0
D 1.3. Characteristics and distribution of persistent plants (Emergent, Scrub-shrub, and/or Forested Cowardin classes): ☑ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > 95% of area points = 5 ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > ½ of area points = 3 ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants ≥ 1/10 of area points = 1 ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants < 1/10 of area points = 0	5
D 1.4. Characteristics of seasonal ponding or inundation: *This is the area that is ponded for at least 2 months. See description in manual.* ☐ Area seasonally ponded is > ½ total area of wetland points = 4 ☑ Area seasonally ponded is ≥ ¼ total area of wetland points = 2 ☐ Area seasonally ponded is < ¼ total area of wetland points = 0	2
Total for D 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	9

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ☐ **12-16 = H** ☑ **6-11 = M** ☐ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
D 2.1. Does the wetland unit receive stormwater discharges? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
D 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
D 2.3. Are there septic systems within 250 ft of the wetland? ☐ Yes = 1 ☑ No = 0	0
D 2.4. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions D 2.1-D 2.3? Source Railroad ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
Total for D 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	3

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ☑ **3 or 4 = H** ☐ **1 or 2 = M** ☐ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
D 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	1
D 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where an aquatic resource is on the 303(d) list? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
D 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? (Answer YES if there is a TMDL in development or in effect for the basin in which the unit is found.) ☑ Yes = 2 ☐ No = 0	2
Total for D 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	4

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

D3.1&3.2 - Wetland is upgradient and discharges (within 0.30 mi) into the Green River which is on the 303(d) list for temperature, bacteria, and pH). D3.3 - Wetland is within the 12-digit HUC of the Duwamish Waterway Ammonia-N TMDL.

Wetland name or number WL 9

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream degradation

D 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?

D 4.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland:

- ☐ Wetland is a depression or flat depression with no surface water leaving it (no outlet) points = 4
- ☑ Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream/ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet points = 2
- ☐ Wetland is a flat depression (question 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch points = 1
- ☐ Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 0

2

D 4.2. Depth of storage during wet periods: Estimate the height of ponding above the bottom of the outlet. For wetlands with no outlet, measure from the surface of permanent water or if dry, the deepest part.

- ☐ Marks of ponding are 3 ft or more above the surface or bottom of outlet points = 7
- ☐ Marks of ponding between 2 ft to < 3 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 5
- ☑ Marks are at least 0.5 ft to < 2 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 3
- ☐ The wetland is a "headwater" wetland points = 3
- ☐ Wetland is flat but has small depressions on the surface that trap water points = 1
- ☐ Marks of ponding less than 0.5 ft (6 in) points = 0

3

D 4.3. Contribution of the wetland to storage in the watershed: Estimate the ratio of the area of upstream basin contributing surface water to the area of the wetland unit itself.

- ☐ The area of the basin is less than 10 times the area of the unit points = 5
- ☐ The area of the basin is 10 to 100 times the area of the unit points = 3
- ☑ The area of the basin is more than 100 times the area of the unit points = 0
- ☐ Entire wetland is in the Flats class points = 5

0

Total for D 4 — Add the points in the boxes above: **5**

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ☐ **12-16 = H** ☐ **6-11 = M** ☑ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support hydrologic functions of the site?

D 5.1. Does the wetland receive stormwater discharges? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0 — **1**

D 5.2. Is >10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate excess runoff? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0 — **1**

D 5.3. Is more than 25% of the contributing basin of the wetland covered with intensive human land uses (residential at >1 residence/ac, urban, commercial, agriculture, etc.)? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0 — **1**

Total for D 5 — Add the points in the boxes above: **3**

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ☑ **3 = H** ☐ **1 or 2 = M** ☐ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?

D 6.1. Is the unit in a landscape that has flooding problems? Choose the description that best matches conditions around the wetland unit being rated. Do not add points. Choose the highest score if more than one condition is met.

The wetland captures surface water that would otherwise flow downgradient into areas where flooding has damaged human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds):

- ☑ Flooding occurs in a sub-basin that is immediately downgradient of unit. points = 2
- ☐ Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther downgradient. points = 1
- ☐ Flooding from groundwater is an issue in the sub-basin. points = 1
- ☐ The existing or potential outflow from the wetland is so constrained by human or natural conditions that the water stored by the wetland cannot reach areas that flood. *Explain why* _____ points = 0
- ☐ There are no problems with flooding downstream of the wetland. points = 0

2

D 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? ☐ Yes = 2 ☑ No = 0 — **0**

Total for D 6 — Add the points in the boxes above: **2**

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

Wetland name or number WL 9

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 if the unit is at least 2.5 ac, or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac.

- ☐ Aquatic bed
- ☑ Emergent
- ☑ Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover)
- ☐ Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover)

If the unit has a Forested class, check if:

- ☐ The Forested class has 3 out of 5 strata (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss/groundcover) that each cover 20% within the Forested polygon

- ☐ 4 structures or more: points = 4
- ☐ 3 structures: points = 2
- ☑ 2 structures: points = 1
- ☐ 1 structure: points = 0

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 if the unit is < 2.5 ac, or ¼ ac if the unit is at least 2.5 ac to count (see text for descriptions of hydroperiods).

- ☑ Permanently flooded or inundated
- ☑ Seasonally flooded or inundated
- ☐ Occasionally flooded or inundated
- ☑ Saturated only
- ☐ Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☑ Intermittently or seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ **Lake Fringe wetland** **2 points**
- ☐ **Freshwater tidal wetland** **2 points**

- ☑ 4 or more types present: points = 3
- ☐ 3 types present: points = 2
- ☐ 2 types present: points = 1
- ☐ 1 type present: points = 0

3

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft^2.

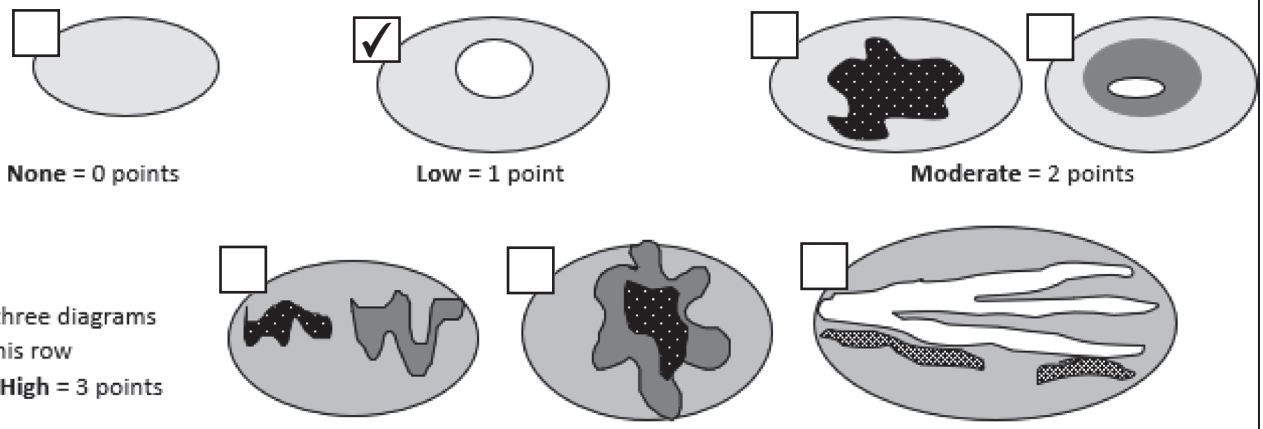
Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. **Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canada thistle**

- ☐ 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

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

☐ ☐ ☐

1

Wetland name or number WL 9

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. The number of checks is the number of points. ☐ Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in. diameter and 6 ft long). ☐ Standing snags (dbh > 4 in.) within the wetland ☑ Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) **and/or** overhanging plants extend at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over open water or a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) ☐ 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 (cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed) ☑ At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated (structures for egg-laying by amphibians) ☐ Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (see H 1.1 above for the list of strata and H 1.5 in the manual for the list of aggressive plant species)	2
Total for H 1 Add the points in the boxes above	8

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

H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?	
H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include only habitat polygons accessible from the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 0.04 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 0.00 = 0.04 % 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	0
H 2.2. Total habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 0.04 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 0.21 = 0.25 % ☐ Total habitat > 50% of Polygon points = 3 ☐ Total habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches points = 2 ☑ Total habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches points = 1 ☐ Total habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	1
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: ☑ > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = (- 2) ☐ ≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity points = 0	-2
Total for H 2 Add the points in the boxes above	-1

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

H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?	
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.* ☐ Site meets ANY of the following criteria: points = 2 ☐ It has 3 or more Priority Habitats within 100 m (see next page) ☐ It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) ☐ It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW Priority Species ☐ It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources data ☐ 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 ☑ Site has 1 or 2 Priority Habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m points = 1 ☐ Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = 0	1

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

Wetland name or number WL 9

WDFW Priority Habitats

See complete descriptions of Priority Habitats listed by WDFW, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008 (current year, as revised). Priority Habitat and Species List.[133] This list was updated for consistency with guidance from WDFW.

This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the Priority Habitat. All vegetated wetlands are by definition a Priority Habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed by this rating system.

Count how many of the following Priority Habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit:

☐ **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. This habitat automatically counts if mapped on the PHS online map within 100m of the wetland. If not mapped, a determination can be made in the field.

☐ **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.

☐ **Fresh Deepwater:** Lands permanently flooded with freshwater, including environments where surface water is permanent and often deep, so that water, rather than air, is the principal medium within which the dominant organisms live. Substrate does not support emergent vegetation. Do not select if Instream habitat is also present, or if the entire Deepwater feature is included in the wetland unit being rated (such as a pond with a vegetated fringe).

☐ **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.

☑ **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. Do not select if Fresh Deepwater habitat is also present.

☐ **Nearshore:** Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore.

☐ **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) diameter at breast height (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.

[133] http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 9

☐ **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important. For single oaks or oak stands <0.4 ha in urban areas, WDFW's Management Recommendations for Oregon White Oak[134] provides more detail for determining if they are Priority Habitats

☑ **Riparian:** The area adjacent to freshwater aquatic systems with flowing or standing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.

☐ **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.

☐ **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.

☐ **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie.

[134] https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00030/wdfw00030.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 9

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type *Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.*	**Category**
SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? ☐ The dominant water regime is tidal, ☐ Vegetated, and ☐ With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 1.1** ☑ No= **Not an estuarine wetland**	
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? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No – Go to **SC 1.2**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? ☐ 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 *Spartina*, see chapter 4.8 in the manual. ☐ 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. ☐ The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** ☐ **Cat. II** ☐
SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Does the wetland overlap with any known or historical rare plant or rare & high-quality ecosystem polygons on the WNHP Data Explorer?[135] ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No – Go to **SC 2.2** SC 2.2. Does the wetland have a rare plant species, rare ecosystem (e.g., plant community), or high-quality common ecosystem that may qualify the site as a WHCV? Contact WNHP for resources to help determine the presence of these elements. ☐ Yes – Submit data to WA Natural Heritage Program for determination,[136] Go to **SC 2.3** ☑ No = **Not a WHCV** SC 2.3. Did WNHP review the site within 30 days and determine that it has a rare plant or ecosystem that meets their criteria? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Not a WHCV**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? *Use the key below.* ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No – Go to **SC 3.2** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No = **Not a bog** 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? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No – Go to **SC 3.4** **NOTE:** 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) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No = **Not a bog**	**Cat. I** ☐

[135] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/NHPdata
[136] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amp_nh_sighting_form.pdf

Wetland name or number WL 9

SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands

Does the wetland have at least 1 contiguous acre of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as Priority Habitats? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.***

☐ **Old-growth forests** (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.

☐ **Mature forests** (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).

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No = **Not a forested wetland for this section**

Cat. I ☐

SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons

Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon?

☐ 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

☐ The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (> 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon *(needs to be measured near the bottom)*

☐ The lagoon retains some of its surface water at low tide during spring tides

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 5.1** ☑ No = **Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon**

Cat. I ☐

SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions?

☐ 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 in H 1.5 in the manual).

☐ 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.

☐ The wetland is larger than $^{1}/_{10}$ ac (4350 ft^2)

Cat. II ☐

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**

SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands

Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.***

In practical terms that means the following geographic areas:

☐ Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103

☐ Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105

☐ Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 and Ocean Shores Blvd SW, including lands west of E. Oceans Shores Blvd SW.

Cat I ☐

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 6.1** ☑ No = **Not an interdunal wetland for rating**

Cat. II ☐

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)? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.2**

SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger? ☐ Yes = **Category II** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.3**

Cat. III ☐

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? ☐ Yes = **Category III** ☐ No = **Category IV**

Cat. IV ☐

Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics
If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form

NA

Figure 1: Cowardin plant classes.

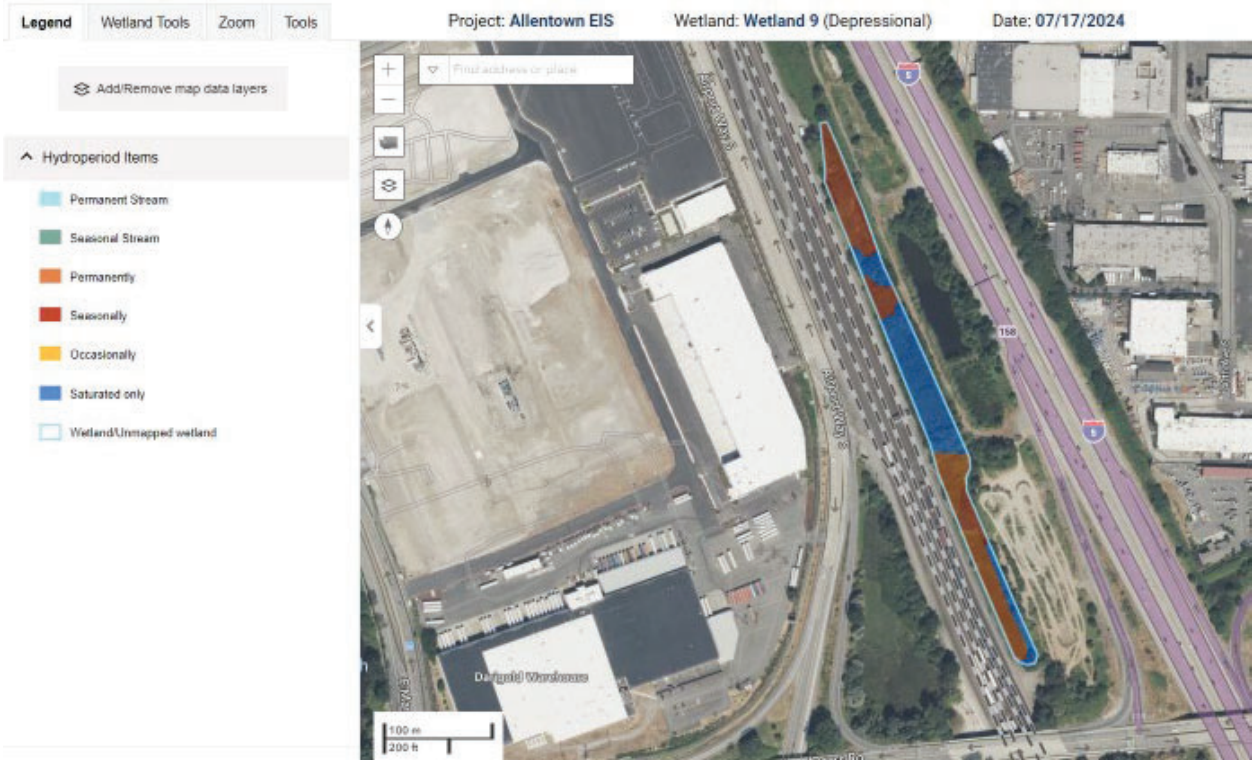


Figure 2: Hydroperiods.

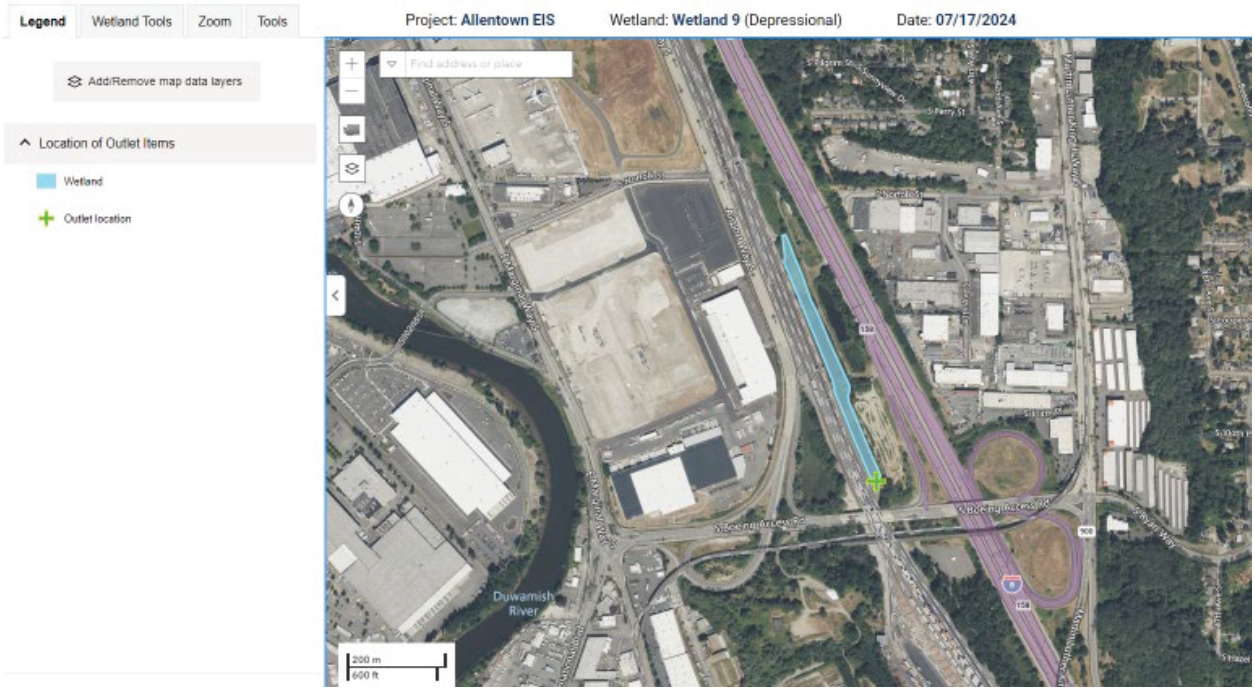


Figure 3: Location of outlet.

Figure 4: Boundary of area within 150 feet of the wetland.

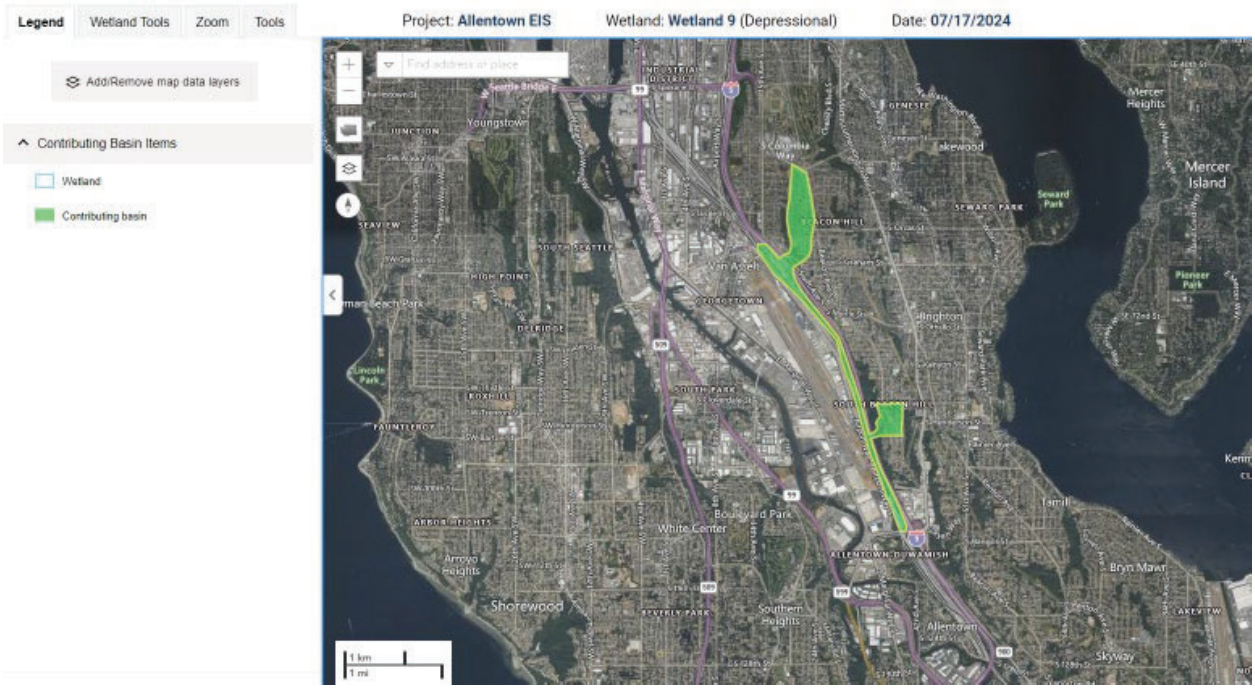


Figure 5: Contributing basin.

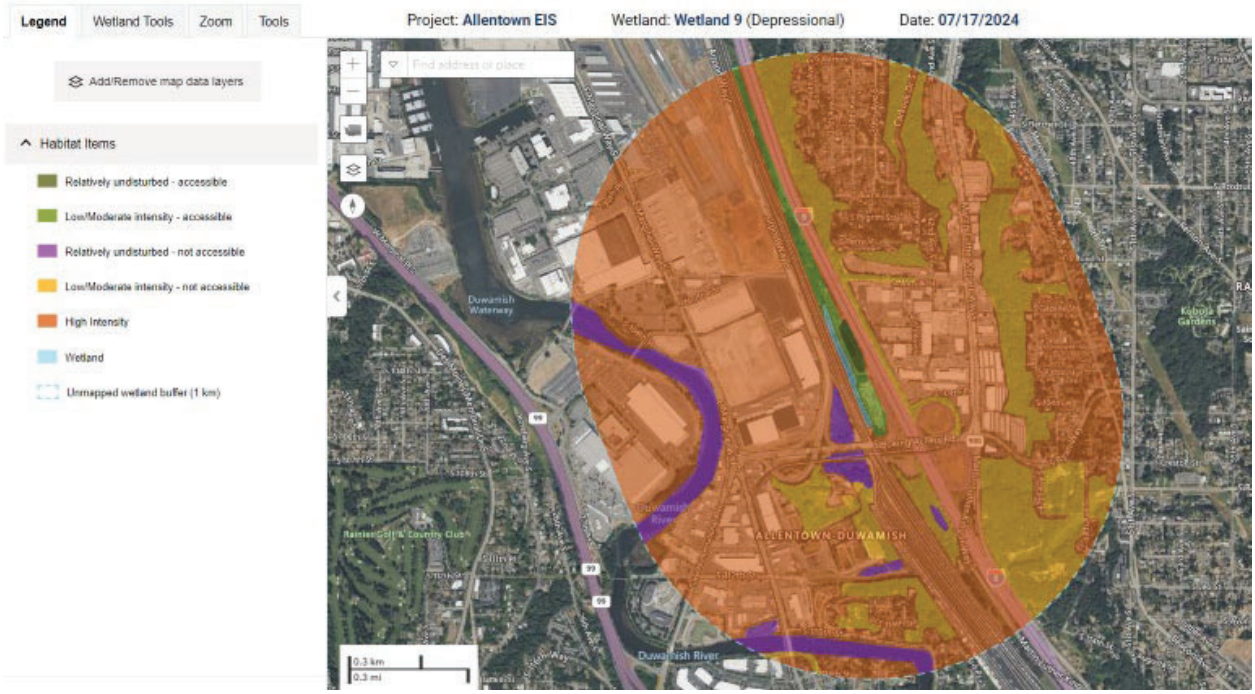


Figure 6: 1km polygon.

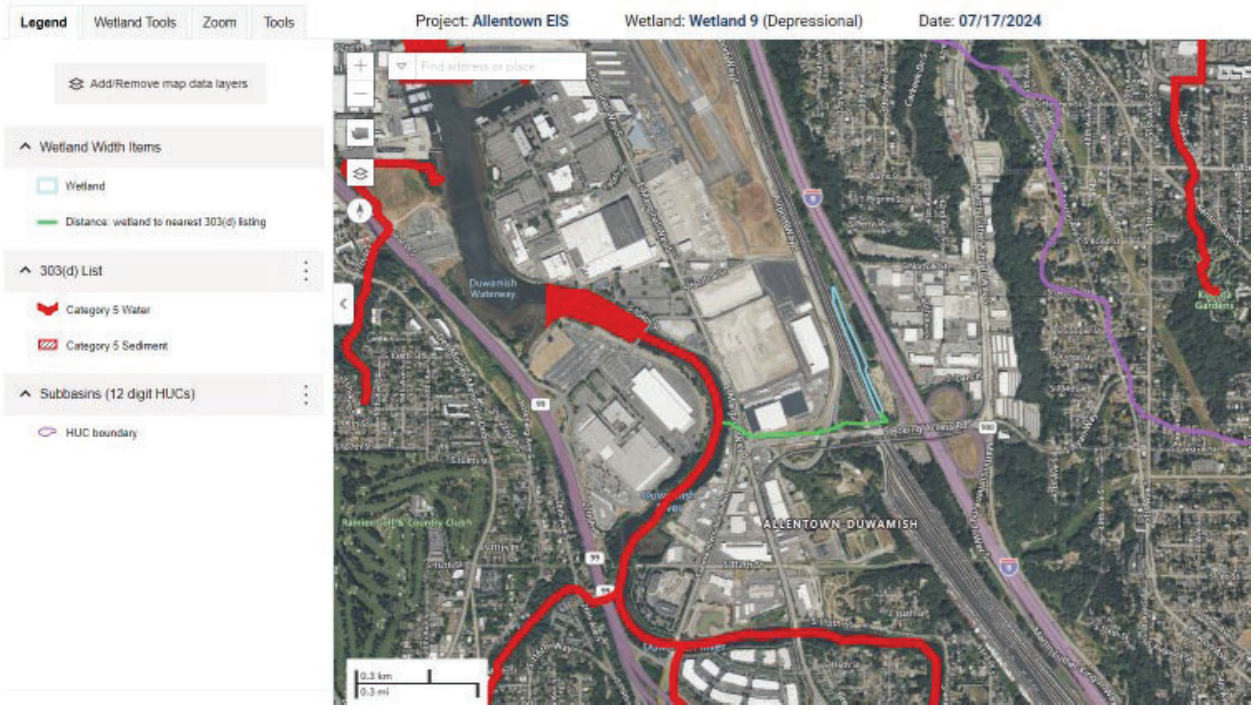


Figure 7: 303(d) listed waters in basin for the HUC12 in which the wetland is found.

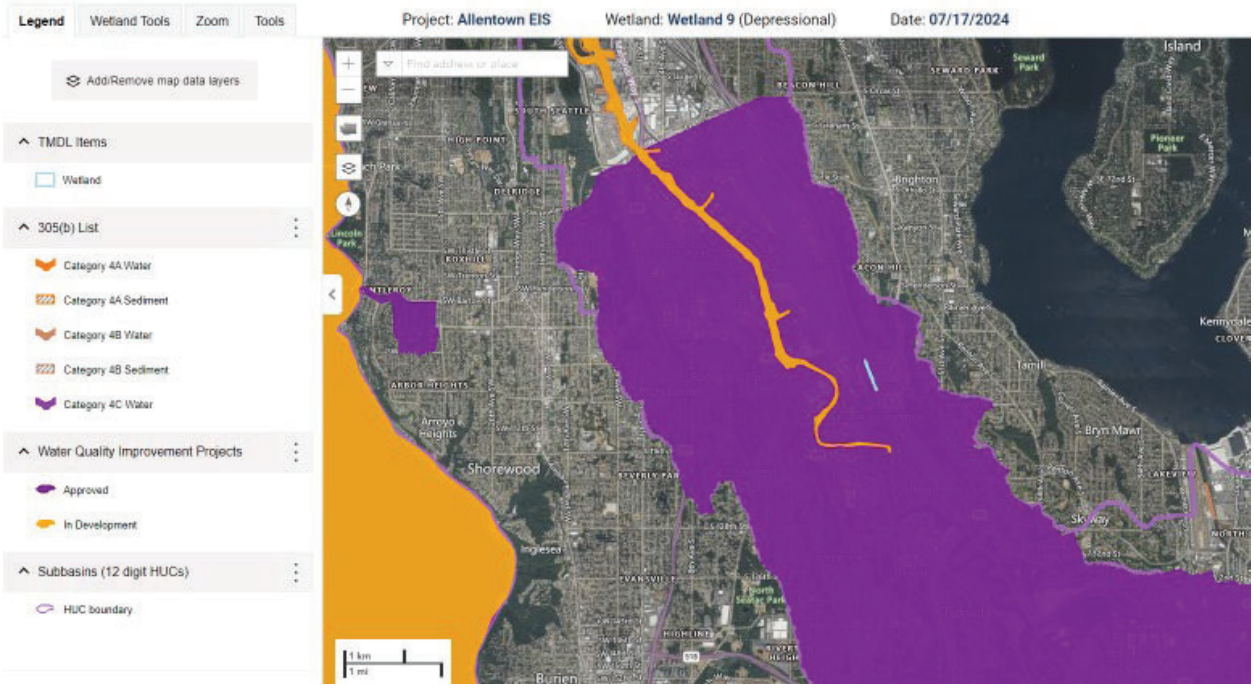


Figure 8. TMDLS for the HUC12 in which the wetland is found.

Identified as Wetland C in Wet.land (2022) report

Wetland name or number 10

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): Wetland 10 Date of site visit: 5/22/24

Rated by T. Parry, T. Tumaliuan Trained by Ecology? ☑ Yes ☐ No Date of training 4/19/24

HGM Class used for rating Depressional Wetland has multiple HGM classes? ☑ Y ☑ N

NOTE: **Form is not complete without the required figures** (figures can be combined).
Source of base aerial photo/map WATOR

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
- ☑ **Category III** – Total score = 16 - 19
- ☐ **Category IV** – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
	Circle the appropriate ratings			
Site Potential	H ☐ M ☐ L ☑	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	
Landscape Potential	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☐ M ☐ L ☑	
Value	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	TOTAL
Score Based on Ratings	6	6	6	18

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	I ☐ II ☐
Wetland of High Conservation Value	I ☐
Bog	I ☐
Mature Forest	I ☐
Old Growth Forest	I ☐
Coastal Lagoon	I ☐ II ☐
Interdunal	I ☐ II ☐ III ☐ IV ☐
None of the above	☑

Wetland name or number 10

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	1
Hydroperiods	D 1.4, H 1.2	2
Location of outlet (*can be added to map of hydroperiods)*	D 1.1, D 4.1	3
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	D 2.2, D 5.2	4
Map of the contributing basin	D 4.3, D 5.3	5
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	6
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	D 3.1, D 3.2	7
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	D 3.3	8

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 *(can be added to another figure)*	R 2.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	
Width of unit vs. width of stream *(can be added to another figure)*	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 total 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 *(can be added to another figure)*	L 2.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total 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	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Plant cover of **dense** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	S 1.3	
Plant cover of **dense, rigid** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants (*can be added to figure above)*	S 4.1	
Boundary of 150 ft buffer (can be added to another figure)	S 2.1, S 5.1	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	S 3.1, S 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	S 3.3	

Wetland name or number 10

HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

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

If the 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 sheet flow, 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).

Wetland name or number 10

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 10

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

D 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
D 1.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland: ☐ Wetland is a depression or flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key) with no surface water leaving it (no outlet). points = 3 ☑ Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet. points = 2 ☐ Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 1 ☐ Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch. points = 1	2
D 1.2. The soil 2 in. below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions).* Yes = 4 ☐ No = 0 ☑	0
D 1.3. Characteristics and distribution of persistent plants (Emergent, Scrub-shrub, and/or Forested Cowardin classes): ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > 95% of area points = 5 ☑ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > ½ of area points = 3 ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants ≥ 1/10 of area points = 1 ☐ Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants < 1/10 of area points = 0	3
D 1.4. Characteristics of seasonal ponding or inundation: *This is the area that is ponded for at least 2 months. See description in manual.* ☐ Area seasonally ponded is > ½ total area of wetland points = 4 ☐ Area seasonally ponded is ≥ ¼ total area of wetland points = 2 ☑ Area seasonally ponded is < ¼ total area of wetland points = 0	0
Total for D 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	5

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ☐ **12-16 = H** ☐ **6-11 = M** ☑ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
D 2.1. Does the wetland unit receive stormwater discharges? ☐ Yes = 1 ☑ No = 0	0
D 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
D 2.3. Are there septic systems within 250 ft of the wetland? ☐ Yes = 1 ☑ No = 0	0
D 2.4. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions D 2.1-D 2.3? Source_____ ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
Total for D 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ☐ **3 or 4 = H** ☑ **1 or 2 = M** ☐ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
D 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	1
D 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where an aquatic resource is on the 303(d) list? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
D 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? (Answer YES if there is a TMDL in development or in effect for the basin in which the unit is found.) ☑ Yes = 2 ☐ No = 0	2
Total for D 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	4

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

Wetland name or number 10

DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream degradation

D 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?

D 4.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland:

- ☐ Wetland is a depression or flat depression with no surface water leaving it (no outlet) points = 4
- ☑ Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream/ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet points = 2
- ☐ Wetland is a flat depression (question 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch points = 1
- ☐ Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 0

2

D 4.2. Depth of storage during wet periods: Estimate the height of ponding above the bottom of the outlet. For wetlands with no outlet, measure from the surface of permanent water or if dry, the deepest part.

- ☐ Marks of ponding are 3 ft or more above the surface or bottom of outlet points = 7
- ☑ Marks of ponding between 2 ft to < 3 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 5
- ☐ Marks are at least 0.5 ft to < 2 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 3
- ☐ The wetland is a "headwater" wetland points = 3
- ☐ Wetland is flat but has small depressions on the surface that trap water points = 1
- ☐ Marks of ponding less than 0.5 ft (6 in) points = 0

5

D 4.3. Contribution of the wetland to storage in the watershed: Estimate the ratio of the area of upstream basin contributing surface water to the area of the wetland unit itself.

- ☐ The area of the basin is less than 10 times the area of the unit points = 5
- ☑ The area of the basin is 10 to 100 times the area of the unit points = 3
- ☐ The area of the basin is more than 100 times the area of the unit points = 0
- ☐ Entire wetland is in the Flats class points = 5

3

Total for D 4 — Add the points in the boxes above: **10**

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ☐ **12-16 = H** ☑ **6-11 = M** ☐ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support hydrologic functions of the site?

D 5.1. Does the wetland receive stormwater discharges? ☐Yes = 1 ☑No = 0 — **0**

D 5.2. Is >10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate excess runoff? ☑Yes = 1 ☐No = 0 — **1**

D 5.3. Is more than 25% of the contributing basin of the wetland covered with intensive human land uses (residential at >1 residence/ac, urban, commercial, agriculture, etc.)? ☐Yes = 1 ☑No = 0 — **0**

Total for D 5 — Add the points in the boxes above: **1**

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ☐ **3 = H** ☑ **1 or 2 = M** ☐ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

D 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?

D 6.1. Is the unit in a landscape that has flooding problems? Choose the description that best matches conditions around the wetland unit being rated. Do not add points. Choose the highest score if more than one condition is met.

The wetland captures surface water that would otherwise flow downgradient into areas where flooding has damaged human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds):

- ☐ Flooding occurs in a sub-basin that is immediately downgradient of unit. points = 2
- ☐ Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther downgradient. points = 1
- ☑ Flooding from groundwater is an issue in the sub-basin. points = 1
- ☐ The existing or potential outflow from the wetland is so constrained by human or natural conditions that the water stored by the wetland cannot reach areas that flood. *Explain why* _____ points = 0
- ☐ There are no problems with flooding downstream of the wetland. points = 0

1

D 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? ☐Yes = 2 ☑No = 0 — **0**

Total for D 6 — Add the points in the boxes above: **1**

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

Wetland name or number 10

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 if the unit is at least 2.5 ac, or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac.

- ☐ Aquatic bed
- ☑ Emergent
- ☑ Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover)
- ☑ Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover)

If the unit has a Forested class, check if:

- ☐ The Forested class has 3 out of 5 strata (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss/groundcover) that each cover 20% within the Forested polygon

- ☐ 4 structures or more: points = 4
- ☑ 3 structures: points = 2
- ☐ 2 structures: points = 1
- ☐ 1 structure: points = 0

2

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 if the unit is < 2.5 ac, or ¼ ac if the unit is at least 2.5 ac to count (see text for descriptions of hydroperiods).

- ☐ Permanently flooded or inundated
- ☑ Seasonally flooded or inundated
- ☑ Occasionally flooded or inundated
- ☑ Saturated only
- ☑ Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ Intermittently or seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ **Lake Fringe wetland** **2 points**
- ☐ **Freshwater tidal wetland** **2 points**

- ☑ 4 or more types present: points = 3
- ☐ 3 types present: points = 2
- ☐ 2 types present: points = 1
- ☐ 1 type present: points = 0

3

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft^2.

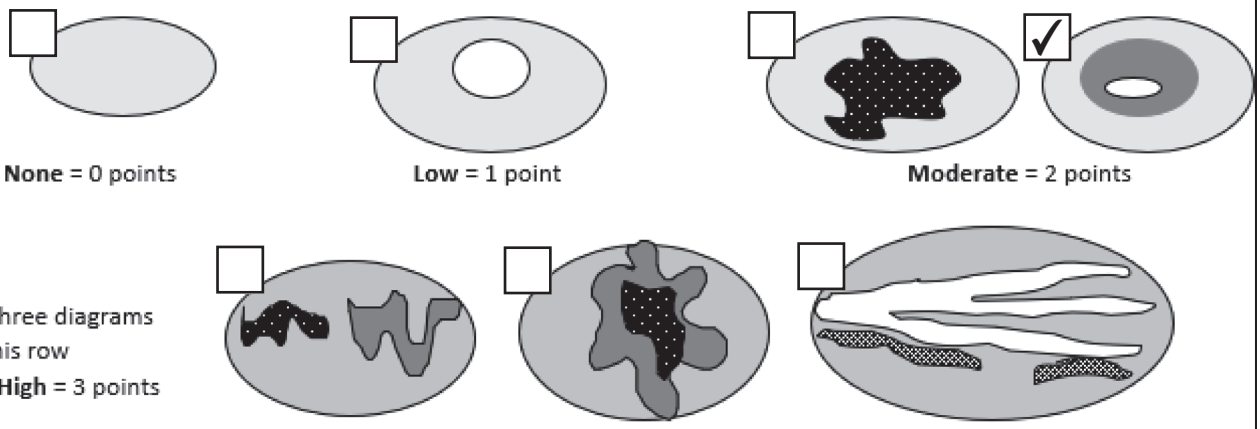
Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. **Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canada thistle**

- ☐ 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

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

2

Wetland name or number 10

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. The number of checks is the number of points. ☑ Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in. diameter and 6 ft long). ☑ Standing snags (dbh > 4 in.) within the wetland ☐ Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) **and/or** overhanging plants extend at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over open water or a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) ☐ 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 (cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed) ☐ At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated (structures for egg-laying by amphibians) ☐ Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (see H 1.1 above for the list of strata and H 1.5 in the manual for the list of aggressive plant species)	2
Total for H 1 Add the points in the boxes above	10

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

H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?	
H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include only habitat polygons accessible from the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 2.00 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 2.00 = 4.00 % 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	0
H 2.2. Total habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 3.00 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 5.50 = 8.50 % ☐ Total habitat > 50% of Polygon points = 3 ☐ Total habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches points = 2 ☑ Total habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches points = 1 ☐ Total habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	1
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: ☑ > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = (- 2) ☐ ≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity points = 0	-2
Total for H 2 Add the points in the boxes above	-1

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

H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?	
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.* ☑ Site meets ANY of the following criteria: points = 2 ☑ It has 3 or more Priority Habitats within 100 m (see next page) ☐ It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) ☐ It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW Priority Species ☐ It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources data ☐ 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 ☐ Site has 1 or 2 Priority Habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m points = 1 ☐ Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = 0	2

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

Wetland name or number 10

WDFW Priority Habitats

See complete descriptions of Priority Habitats listed by WDFW, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008 (current year, as revised). Priority Habitat and Species List.[133] This list was updated for consistency with guidance from WDFW.

This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the Priority Habitat. All vegetated wetlands are by definition a Priority Habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed by this rating system.

Count how many of the following Priority Habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit:

☐ **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. This habitat automatically counts if mapped on the PHS online map within 100m of the wetland. If not mapped, a determination can be made in the field.

☐ **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.

☐ **Fresh Deepwater:** Lands permanently flooded with freshwater, including environments where surface water is permanent and often deep, so that water, rather than air, is the principal medium within which the dominant organisms live. Substrate does not support emergent vegetation. Do not select if Instream habitat is also present, or if the entire Deepwater feature is included in the wetland unit being rated (such as a pond with a vegetated fringe).

☐ **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.

☑ **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. Do not select if Fresh Deepwater habitat is also present.

☐ **Nearshore:** Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore.

☐ **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) diameter at breast height (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.

[133] http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf

☐ **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important. For single oaks or oak stands <0.4 ha in urban areas, WDFW's Management Recommendations for Oregon White Oak[134] provides more detail for determining if they are Priority Habitats

☑ **Riparian:** The area adjacent to freshwater aquatic systems with flowing or standing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.

☑ **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.

☐ **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.

☐ **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie.

[134] https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00030/wdfw00030.pdf

Wetland name or number 10

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type *Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.*	**Category**
SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? ☐ The dominant water regime is tidal, ☐ Vegetated, and ☐ With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 1.1** ☑ No= **Not an estuarine wetland**	
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? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No – Go to **SC 1.2**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? ☐ 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 *Spartina*, see chapter 4.8 in the manual. ☐ 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. ☐ The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** ☐ **Cat. II** ☐
SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Does the wetland overlap with any known or historical rare plant or rare & high-quality ecosystem polygons on the WNHP Data Explorer?[135] ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No – Go to **SC 2.2** SC 2.2. Does the wetland have a rare plant species, rare ecosystem (e.g., plant community), or high-quality common ecosystem that may qualify the site as a WHCV? Contact WNHP for resources to help determine the presence of these elements. ☐ Yes – Submit data to WA Natural Heritage Program for determination,[136] Go to **SC 2.3** ☑ No = **Not a WHCV** SC 2.3. Did WNHP review the site within 30 days and determine that it has a rare plant or ecosystem that meets their criteria? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Not a WHCV**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? *Use the key below.* ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No – Go to **SC 3.2** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No = **Not a bog** 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? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No – Go to **SC 3.4** **NOTE:** 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) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No = **Not a bog**	**Cat. I** ☐

[135] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/NHPdata
[136] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amp_nh_sighting_form.pdf

Wetland name or number 10

SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands

Does the wetland have at least 1 contiguous acre of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as Priority Habitats? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.***

☐ **Old-growth forests** (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.

☐ **Mature forests** (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).

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No = **Not a forested wetland for this section**

Cat. I ☐

SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons

Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon?

☐ 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

☐ The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (> 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon *(needs to be measured near the bottom)*

☐ The lagoon retains some of its surface water at low tide during spring tides

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 5.1** ☑ No = **Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon**

Cat. I ☐

SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions?

☐ 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 in H 1.5 in the manual).

☐ 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.

☐ The wetland is larger than $^{1}/_{10}$ ac (4350 ft^2)

Cat. II ☐

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**

SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands

Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.***

In practical terms that means the following geographic areas:

☐ Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103

☐ Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105

☐ Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 and Ocean Shores Blvd SW, including lands west of E. Oceans Shores Blvd SW.

Cat I ☐

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 6.1** ☑ No = **Not an interdunal wetland for rating**

Cat. II ☐

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)? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.2**

SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger? ☐ Yes = **Category II** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.3**

Cat. III ☐

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? ☐ Yes = **Category III** ☐ No = **Category IV**

Cat. IV ☐

Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics
If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form

NA

Identified as Wetland F in Wetl.land (2022) report

Wetland name or number 11

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): Wetland 11 Date of site visit: 5/12/24

Rated by T. Parry Trained by Ecology? ☑ Yes ☐ No Date of training 10/16/24

HGM Class used for rating Slope Wetland has multiple HGM classes? ☐ Y ☑ N

NOTE: **Form is not complete without the required figures** (figures can be combined).
Source of base aerial photo/map WATOR

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
☑ **Category III** – Total score = 16 - 19
☐ **Category IV** – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
	Circle the appropriate ratings			
Site Potential	H ☐ M ☐ L ☑	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	
Landscape Potential	H ☐ M ☐ L ☑	H ☐ M ☐ L ☑	H ☐ M ☐ L ☑	
Value	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	TOTAL
Score Based on Ratings	5	5	6	16

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	I ☐ II ☐
Wetland of High Conservation Value	I ☐
Bog	I ☐
Mature Forest	I ☐
Old Growth Forest	I ☐
Coastal Lagoon	I ☐ II ☐
Interdunal	I ☐ II ☐ III ☐ IV ☐
None of the above	☑

Wetland name or number 11

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 (*can be added to map of hydroperiods)*	D 1.1, D 4.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	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 total 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 *(can be added to another figure)*	R 2.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	
Width of unit vs. width of stream *(can be added to another figure)*	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 total 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 *(can be added to another figure)*	L 2.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total 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	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Plant cover of **dense** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	S 1.3	
Plant cover of **dense, rigid** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants (*can be added to figure above)*	S 4.1	
Boundary of 150 ft buffer (can be added to another figure)	S 2.1, S 5.1	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	S 3.1, S 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	S 3.3	

Wetland name or number 11

HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

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

If the 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 sheet flow, 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).

Wetland name or number 11

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

Access to Wetland 11 was limited. The wetland rating form questions were informed by aerial photos and existing environmental documentation. No field observations could be made.

Wetland name or number 11

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: (A 1% slope has a 1 ft vertical change in elevation for every 100 ft of horizontal distance.) ☐ 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	0
S 1.2. The soil 2 in. below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic *(use NRCS definitions)*: 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. Dense means you have trouble seeing the soil surface (>75% cover), and uncut means not grazed or mowed, and plants are higher than 6 in. ☐ Dense, uncut, herbaceous plants > 90% of the wetland area — points = 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	3
Total for S 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	3

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? Other sources _____ ☐ Yes = 1 ☑ No = 0	0
Total for S 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	0

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	1
S 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where water quality is an issue? (At least one aquatic resource in the basin is on the 303(d) list.) ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
S 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? (Answer YES if there is a TMDL in development or in effect for the basin in which unit is found.) ☑ Yes = 2 ☐ No = 0	2
Total for S 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	4

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

Wetland name or number 11

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. Stems of plants should be thick enough (usually > 1/8 in), or dense enough, to remain erect during surface flows. ☑ Dense, uncut, **rigid** plants cover > 90% of the area of the wetland — points = 1 ☐ All other conditions — points = 0	1

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 the 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? ☐ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	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: ☐ The sub-basin immediately downgradient 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 downgradient — points = 1 ☐ No flooding problems anywhere downstream — points = 0	1
S 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan? ☐ Yes = 2 ☑ No = 0	0
Total for S 6 — Add the points in the boxes above	1

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

NOTES and FIELD OBSERVATIONS:

Wetland name or number 11

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 if the unit is at least 2.5 ac, or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac.

- ☐ Aquatic bed
- ☑ Emergent
- ☑ Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover)
- ☑ Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover)

If the unit has a Forested class, check if:

- ☑ The Forested class has 3 out of 5 strata (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss/groundcover) that each cover 20% within the Forested polygon

- ☑ 4 structures or more: points = 4
- ☐ 3 structures: points = 2
- ☐ 2 structures: points = 1
- ☐ 1 structure: points = 0

4

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 if the unit is < 2.5 ac, or ¼ ac if the unit is at least 2.5 ac to count (see text for descriptions of hydroperiods).

- ☐ Permanently flooded or inundated
- ☐ Seasonally flooded or inundated
- ☐ Occasionally flooded or inundated
- ☑ Saturated only
- ☐ Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ Intermittently or seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ **Lake Fringe wetland** **2 points**
- ☐ **Freshwater tidal wetland** **2 points**

- ☐ 4 or more types present: points = 3
- ☐ 3 types present: points = 2
- ☐ 2 types present: points = 1
- ☑ 1 type present: points = 0

0

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft^2.

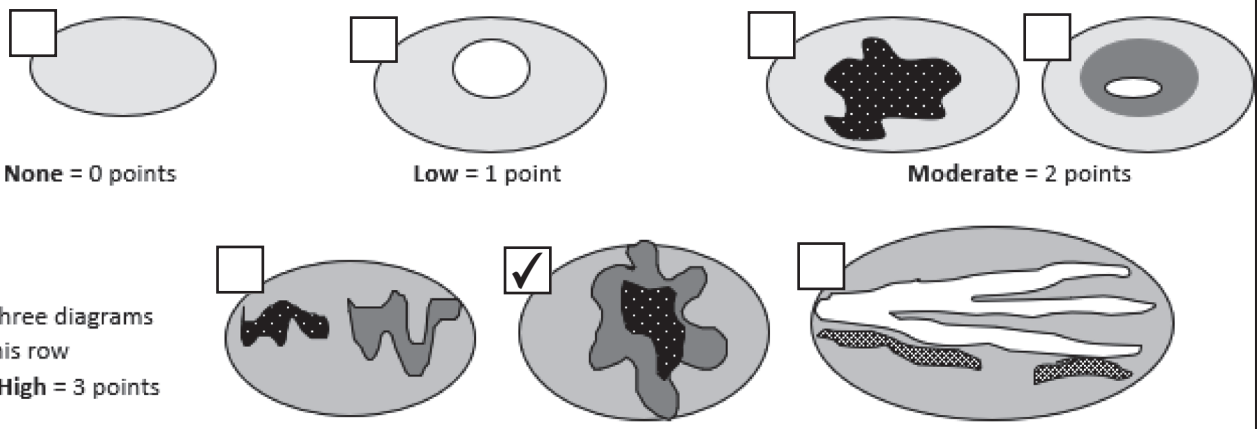
Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. **Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canada thistle**

- ☐ 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

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

3

Wetland name or number 11

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. The number of checks is the number of points. ☑ Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in. diameter and 6 ft long). ☐ Standing snags (dbh > 4 in.) within the wetland ☐ Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) **and/or** overhanging plants extend at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over open water or a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) ☐ 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 (cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed) ☐ At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated (structures for egg-laying by amphibians) ☐ Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (see H 1.1 above for the list of strata and H 1.5 in the manual for the list of aggressive plant species)	1
Total for H 1 Add the points in the boxes above	9

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

H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?

H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include only habitat polygons accessible from the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 2.00 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 2.00 = 4.00 % 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	0
H 2.2. Total habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 3.00 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 5.50 = 8.50 % ☐ Total habitat > 50% of Polygon points = 3 ☐ Total habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches points = 2 ☐ Total habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches points = 1 ☑ Total habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	0
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: ☑ > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = (- 2) ☐ ≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity points = 0	-2
Total for H 2 Add the points in the boxes above	-2

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

H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?

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.* ☑ Site meets ANY of the following criteria: points = 2 ☑ It has 3 or more Priority Habitats within 100 m (see next page) ☐ It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) ☐ It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW Priority Species ☐ It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources data ☐ 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 ☐ Site has 1 or 2 Priority Habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m points = 1 ☐ Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = 0	2

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

Wetland name or number 11

WDFW Priority Habitats

See complete descriptions of Priority Habitats listed by WDFW, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008 (current year, as revised). Priority Habitat and Species List.[133] This list was updated for consistency with guidance from WDFW.

This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the Priority Habitat. All vegetated wetlands are by definition a Priority Habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed by this rating system.

Count how many of the following Priority Habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit:

☐ **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. This habitat automatically counts if mapped on the PHS online map within 100m of the wetland. If not mapped, a determination can be made in the field.

☐ **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.

☐ **Fresh Deepwater:** Lands permanently flooded with freshwater, including environments where surface water is permanent and often deep, so that water, rather than air, is the principal medium within which the dominant organisms live. Substrate does not support emergent vegetation. Do not select if Instream habitat is also present, or if the entire Deepwater feature is included in the wetland unit being rated (such as a pond with a vegetated fringe).

☐ **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.

☑ **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. Do not select if Fresh Deepwater habitat is also present.

☐ **Nearshore:** Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore.

☐ **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) diameter at breast height (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.

[133] http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf

Wetland name or number 11

☐ **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important. For single oaks or oak stands <0.4 ha in urban areas, WDFW's Management Recommendations for Oregon White Oak[134] provides more detail for determining if they are Priority Habitats

☑ **Riparian:** The area adjacent to freshwater aquatic systems with flowing or standing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.

☑ **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.

☐ **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.

☐ **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie.

[134] https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00030/wdfw00030.pdf

Wetland name or number 11

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type *Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.*	**Category**
SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? ☐ The dominant water regime is tidal, ☐ Vegetated, and ☐ With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 1.1** ☑ No= **Not an estuarine wetland**	
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? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 1.2**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? ☐ 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 *Spartina*, see chapter 4.8 in the manual. ☐ 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. ☐ The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** ☐ **Cat. II** ☐
SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Does the wetland overlap with any known or historical rare plant or rare & high-quality ecosystem polygons on the WNHP Data Explorer?[135] ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No – Go to **SC 2.2** SC 2.2. Does the wetland have a rare plant species, rare ecosystem (e.g., plant community), or high-quality common ecosystem that may qualify the site as a WHCV? Contact WNHP for resources to help determine the presence of these elements. ☐ Yes – Submit data to WA Natural Heritage Program for determination,[136] Go to **SC 2.3** ☑ No = **Not a WHCV** SC 2.3. Did WNHP review the site within 30 days and determine that it has a rare plant or ecosystem that meets their criteria? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Not a WHCV**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? *Use the key below.* ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No – Go to **SC 3.2** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No = **Not a bog** 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? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No – Go to **SC 3.4** **NOTE:** 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) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No = **Not a bog**	**Cat. I** ☐

[135] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/NHPdata
[136] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amp_nh_sighting_form.pdf

Wetland name or number 11

SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands

Does the wetland have at least 1 contiguous acre of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as Priority Habitats? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.***

☐ **Old-growth forests** (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.

☐ **Mature forests** (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).

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No = **Not a forested wetland for this section** — **Cat. I** ☐

SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons

Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon?

☐ 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

☐ The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (> 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon *(needs to be measured near the bottom)*

☐ The lagoon retains some of its surface water at low tide during spring tides

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 5.1** ☑ No = **Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon** — **Cat. I** ☐

SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions?

☐ 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 in H 1.5 in the manual).

☐ 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. — **Cat. II** ☐

☐ The wetland is larger than $^{1}/_{10}$ ac (4350 ft^2)

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**

SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands

Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.***

In practical terms that means the following geographic areas:

☐ Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103

☐ Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105 — **Cat I** ☐

☐ Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 and Ocean Shores Blvd SW, including lands west of E. Oceans Shores Blvd SW.

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 6.1** ☑ No = **Not an interdunal wetland for rating** — **Cat. II** ☐

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)? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.2**

SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger? — **Cat. III** ☐

☐ Yes = **Category II** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.3**

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? — **Cat. IV** ☐

☐ Yes = **Category III** ☐ No = **Category IV**

Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics
If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form — NA

Identified as Wetland A in Wetl.land (2022) report

Wetland name or number 12a

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): 12a Date of site visit: 12/31/24

Rated by Trey Parry Trained by Ecology? ☑ Yes ☐ No Date of training 10/14/16

HGM Class used for rating Riverine Wetland has multiple HGM classes? ☑ Y ☐ N

NOTE: **Form is not complete without the required figures** (figures can be combined).
Source of base aerial photo/map WATOR

OVERALL WETLAND CATEGORY II (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
- ☐ **Category IV** – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
	Circle the appropriate ratings			
Site Potential	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	
Landscape Potential	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☐ M ☐ L ☑	
Value	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	TOTAL
Score Based on Ratings	8	7	6	21

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	I ☐ II ☐
Wetland of High Conservation Value	I ☐
Bog	I ☐
Mature Forest	I ☐
Old Growth Forest	I ☐
Coastal Lagoon	I ☐ II ☐
Interdunal	I ☐ II ☐ III ☐ IV ☐
None of the above	☑

Wetland name or number 12a

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 (*can be added to map of hydroperiods)*	D 1.1, D 4.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	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 total 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 *(can be added to another figure)*	R 2.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	
Width of unit vs. width of stream *(can be added to another figure)*	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 total 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 *(can be added to another figure)*	L 2.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total 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	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Plant cover of **dense** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	S 1.3	
Plant cover of **dense, rigid** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants (*can be added to figure above)*	S 4.1	
Boundary of 150 ft buffer (can be added to another figure)	S 2.1, S 5.1	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	S 3.1, S 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	S 3.3	

Wetland name or number 12a

HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

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

If the 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 sheet flow, 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).

Wetland name or number 12a

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 12a

RIVERINE AND FRESHWATER TIDAL FRINGE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

R 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?

R 1.1. Area of surface depressions within the Riverine wetland that can trap sediments during a flooding event:		
☐ Depressions cover >3/4 area of wetland	points = 8	2
☐ Depressions cover > ½ area of wetland	points = 4	
☑ Depressions present but cover ≤ ½ area of wetland	points = 2	
☐ No depressions present	points = 0	
R 1.2. Structure of plants in the wetland (areas with >90% cover at person height, **not** Cowardin classes)		8
☑ Trees or shrubs > 2/3 area of the wetland	points = 8	
☐ Trees or shrubs > 1/3 area of the wetland	points = 6	
☐ Herbaceous plants (> 6 in. high) > 2/3 area of the wetland	points = 6	
☐ Herbaceous plants (> 6 in. high) > 1/3 area of the wetland	points = 3	
☐ Trees, shrubs, and ungrazed herbaceous < 1/3 area of the wetland	points = 0	
Total for R 1 — Add the points in the boxes above		10

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ☐ **12-16 = H** ☑ **6-11 = M** ☐ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?

R 2.1. Is the wetland within an incorporated city or within its UGA?	☑ Yes = 2 ☐ No = 0	2
R 2.2. Does the contributing basin to the wetland include a UGA or incorporated area?	☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
R 2.3. Does at least 10% of the contributing basin contain tilled fields, pastures, or forests that have been clearcut within the last 5 years?	☐ Yes = 1 ☑ No = 0	0
R 2.4. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants?	☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
R 2.5. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions R 2.1-R 2.4? Other sources _____	☐ Yes = 1 ☑ No = 0	0
Total for R 2 — Add the points in the boxes above		4

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ☑ **3-6 = H** ☐ **1 or 2 = M** ☐ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?

R 3.1. Is the wetland along a stream or river that is on the 303(d) list or on a tributary that drains to one within 1 mi?	☐ Yes = 1 ☑ No = 0	0
R 3.2. Is the wetland along a stream or river that has TMDL limits for nutrients, toxics, or pathogens?	☐ Yes = 1 ☑ No = 0	0
R 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? (Answer YES if there is a TMDL in development or in effect for the drainage in which the unit is found.)	☑ Yes = 2 ☐ No = 0	2
Total for R 3 — Add the points in the boxes above		2

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

Wetland name or number 12a

RIVERINE AND FRESHWATER TIDAL FRINGE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that site functions to reduce flooding and stream erosion

R 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?

R 4.1. Characteristics of the overbank storage the wetland provides: Estimate the average width of the wetland perpendicular to the direction of the flow and the width of the stream or river channel (distance between banks). Calculate the ratio: (average width of wetland)/(average width of stream between banks). ☐ If the ratio is more than 20	points = 9 points = 6 points = 4 points = 2 points = 1	6
R 4.2. Characteristics of plants that slow down water velocities during floods: Treat large woody debris as forest or shrub. Choose the points appropriate for the best description (polygons need to have >90% cover at person height. These are NOT Cowardin classes). ☑ Forest or shrub for >1/3 area OR emergent plants > 2/3 area ☐ Forest or shrub for > 1/10 area OR emergent plants > 1/3 area ☐ Plants do not meet above criteria	points = 7 points = 4 points = 0	7
Total for R 4	Add the points in the boxes above	13

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ☑ **12-16 = H** ☐ **6-11 = M** ☐ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?

R 5.1. Is the stream or river adjacent to the wetland downcut?	☑ Yes = 0 ☐ No = 1	0
R 5.2. Does the upgradient watershed include a UGA or incorporated area?	☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
R 5.3. Is the upgradient stream or river controlled by dams?	☐ Yes = 0 ☑ No = 1	1
Total for R 5	Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ☐ **3 = H** ☑ **1 or 2 = M** ☐ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?

R 6.1. Distance to the nearest areas downstream that have flooding problems? Choose the description that best fits the site. The sub-basin immediately downgradient of the wetland has flooding problems that result in damage to ☐ human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds) ☑ Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther downgradient ☐ No flooding problems anywhere downstream	points = 2 points = 1 points = 0	1
R 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan?	☐ Yes = 2 ☑ No = 0	0
Total for R 6	Add the points in the boxes above	1

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

Wetland name or number 12a

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 if the unit is at least 2.5 ac, or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac.

- ☐ Aquatic bed
- ☐ Emergent
- ☑ Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover)
- ☑ Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover)

If the unit has a Forested class, check if:

- ☑ The Forested class has 3 out of 5 strata (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss/groundcover) that each cover 20% within the Forested polygon

- ☐ 4 structures or more: points = 4
- ☑ 3 structures: points = 2
- ☐ 2 structures: points = 1
- ☐ 1 structure: points = 0

2

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 if the unit is < 2.5 ac, or ¼ ac if the unit is at least 2.5 ac to count (see text for descriptions of hydroperiods).

- ☐ Permanently flooded or inundated
- ☐ Seasonally flooded or inundated
- ☑ Occasionally flooded or inundated
- ☑ Saturated only
- ☑ Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ Intermittently or seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ **Lake Fringe wetland** **2 points**
- ☐ **Freshwater tidal wetland** **2 points**

- ☐ 4 or more types present: points = 3
- ☑ 3 types present: points = 2
- ☐ 2 types present: points = 1
- ☐ 1 type present: points = 0

2

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft^2.

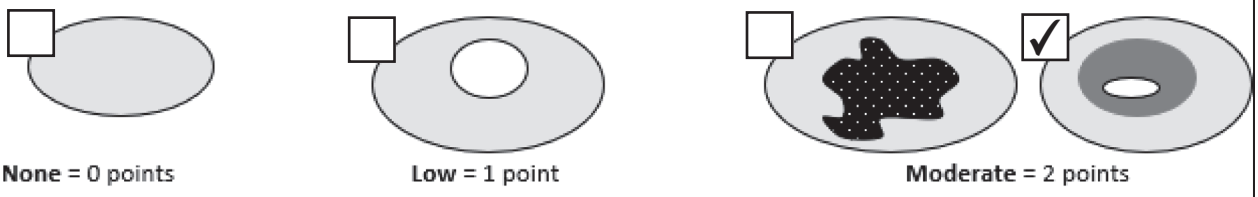
Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. **Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canada thistle**

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

2

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

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

2

Wetland name or number 12a

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. The number of checks is the number of points. ☑ Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in. diameter and 6 ft long). ☑ Standing snags (dbh > 4 in.) within the wetland ☑ Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) **and/or** overhanging plants extend at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over open water or a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) ☐ 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 (cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed) ☐ At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated (structures for egg-laying by amphibians) ☐ Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (see H 1.1 above for the list of strata and H 1.5 in the manual for the list of aggressive plant species)	3
Total for H 1 Add the points in the boxes above	11

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

H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?

H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include only habitat polygons accessible from the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 2.00 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 2.00 = 4.00 % 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	0
H 2.2. Total habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 3.00 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 5.50 = 8.50 % ☐ Total habitat > 50% of Polygon points = 3 ☐ Total habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches points = 2 ☐ Total habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches points = 1 ☑ Total habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	0
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: ☑ > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = (- 2) ☐ ≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity points = 0	-2
Total for H 2 Add the points in the boxes above	-2

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

H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?

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.* ☑ Site meets ANY of the following criteria: points = 2 ☑ It has 3 or more Priority Habitats within 100 m (see next page) ☐ It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) ☐ It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW Priority Species ☐ It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources data ☐ 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 ☐ Site has 1 or 2 Priority Habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m points = 1 ☐ Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = 0	2

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

Wetland name or number 12a

WDFW Priority Habitats

See complete descriptions of Priority Habitats listed by WDFW, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008 (current year, as revised). Priority Habitat and Species List.[133] This list was updated for consistency with guidance from WDFW.

This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the Priority Habitat. All vegetated wetlands are by definition a Priority Habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed by this rating system.

Count how many of the following Priority Habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit:

☐ **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. This habitat automatically counts if mapped on the PHS online map within 100m of the wetland. If not mapped, a determination can be made in the field.

☐ **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.

☐ **Fresh Deepwater:** Lands permanently flooded with freshwater, including environments where surface water is permanent and often deep, so that water, rather than air, is the principal medium within which the dominant organisms live. Substrate does not support emergent vegetation. Do not select if Instream habitat is also present, or if the entire Deepwater feature is included in the wetland unit being rated (such as a pond with a vegetated fringe).

☐ **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.

☑ **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. Do not select if Fresh Deepwater habitat is also present.

☐ **Nearshore:** Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore.

☐ **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) diameter at breast height (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.

[133] http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf

Wetland name or number 12a

☐ **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important. For single oaks or oak stands <0.4 ha in urban areas, WDFW's Management Recommendations for Oregon White Oak[134] provides more detail for determining if they are Priority Habitats

☑ **Riparian:** The area adjacent to freshwater aquatic systems with flowing or standing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.

☑ **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.

☐ **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.

☐ **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie.

[134] https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00030/wdfw00030.pdf

Wetland name or number 12a

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type *Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.*	**Category**
SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? ☐ The dominant water regime is tidal, ☐ Vegetated, and ☐ With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt ☑ Yes – Go to **SC 1.1** ☐ No= **Not an estuarine wetland**	
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? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No – Go to **SC 1.2**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? ☑ 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 *Spartina*, see chapter 4.8 in the manual. ☑ 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. ☑ The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** ☐ **Cat. II** ☐
SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Does the wetland overlap with any known or historical rare plant or rare & high-quality ecosystem polygons on the WNHP Data Explorer?[135] ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No – Go to **SC 2.2** SC 2.2. Does the wetland have a rare plant species, rare ecosystem (e.g., plant community), or high-quality common ecosystem that may qualify the site as a WHCV? Contact WNHP for resources to help determine the presence of these elements. ☐ Yes – Submit data to WA Natural Heritage Program for determination,[136] Go to **SC 2.3** ☑ No = **Not a WHCV** SC 2.3. Did WNHP review the site within 30 days and determine that it has a rare plant or ecosystem that meets their criteria? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Not a WHCV**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? *Use the key below.* ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No – Go to **SC 3.2** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No = **Not a bog** 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? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No – Go to **SC 3.4** **NOTE:** 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) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No = **Not a bog**	**Cat. I** ☐

[135] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/NHPdata
[136] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amp_nh_sighting_form.pdf

Wetland name or number 12a

SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands

Does the wetland have at least 1 contiguous acre of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as Priority Habitats? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.***

☐ **Old-growth forests** (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.

☐ **Mature forests** (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).

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No = **Not a forested wetland for this section** — **Cat. I** ☐

SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons

Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon?

☐ 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

☐ The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (> 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon *(needs to be measured near the bottom)*

☐ The lagoon retains some of its surface water at low tide during spring tides

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 5.1** ☑ No = **Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon** — **Cat. I** ☐

SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions?

☐ 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 in H 1.5 in the manual).

☐ 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. — **Cat. II** ☐

☐ The wetland is larger than $^{1}/_{10}$ ac (4350 ft^2)

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**

SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands

Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.***

In practical terms that means the following geographic areas:

☐ Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103

☐ Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105 — **Cat I** ☐

☐ Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 and Ocean Shores Blvd SW, including lands west of E. Oceans Shores Blvd SW.

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 6.1** ☑ No = **Not an interdunal wetland for rating** — **Cat. II** ☐

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)? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.2**

SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger? — **Cat. III** ☐

☐ Yes = **Category II** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.3**

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? — **Cat. IV** ☐

☐ Yes = **Category III** ☐ No = **Category IV**

Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics
If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form — NA

Wetland name or number 12b

Identified as Wetland AA in Wetl.land (2022) report

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): 12b Date of site visit: 12/31/24

Rated by Trey Parry Trained by Ecology? ☑ Yes ☐ No Date of training 10/14/16

HGM Class used for rating Riverine Wetland has multiple HGM classes? ☑ Y ☐ N

NOTE: **Form is not complete without the required figures** (figures can be combined).

Source of base aerial photo/map WATOR

OVERALL WETLAND CATEGORY II (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

☐ **Category IV** – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
	Circle the appropriate ratings			
Site Potential	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	
Landscape Potential	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☐ M ☐ L ☑	
Value	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	H ☐ M ☑ L ☐	H ☑ M ☐ L ☐	TOTAL
Score Based on Ratings	8	7	6	21

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	I ☐ II ☐
Wetland of High Conservation Value	I ☐
Bog	I ☐
Mature Forest	I ☐
Old Growth Forest	I ☐
Coastal Lagoon	I ☐ II ☐
Interdunal	I ☐ II ☐ III ☐ IV ☐
None of the above	☑

Wetland name or number 12b

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 (*can be added to map of hydroperiods)*	D 1.1, D 4.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	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 total 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	1
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	2
Ponded depressions	R 1.1	3
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland *(can be added to another figure)*	R 2.4	4
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	5
Width of unit vs. width of stream *(can be added to another figure)*	R 4.1	6
Map of the contributing basin	R 2.2, R 2.3, R 5.2	7
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	8
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	R 3.1	9
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	R 3.2, R 3.3	10

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 *(can be added to another figure)*	L 2.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total 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	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Plant cover of **dense** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	S 1.3	
Plant cover of **dense, rigid** trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants (*can be added to figure above)*	S 4.1	
Boundary of 150 ft buffer (can be added to another figure)	S 2.1, S 5.1	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	S 3.1, S 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	S 3.3	

Wetland name or number 12b

HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

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

If the 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 sheet flow, 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).

Wetland name or number 12b

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 12b

RIVERINE AND FRESHWATER TIDAL FRINGE WETLANDS

Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality

R 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?	
R 1.1. Area of surface depressions within the Riverine wetland that can trap sediments during a flooding event: ☐ Depressions cover >3/4 area of wetland — points = 8 ☐ Depressions cover > ½ area of wetland — points = 4 ☐ Depressions present but cover ≤ ½ area of wetland — points = 2 ☑ No depressions present — points = 0	0
R 1.2. Structure of plants in the wetland (areas with >90% cover at person height, **not** Cowardin classes) ☑ Trees or shrubs > 2/3 area of the wetland — points = 8 ☐ Trees or shrubs > 1/3 area of the wetland — points = 6 ☐ Herbaceous plants (> 6 in. high) > 2/3 area of the wetland — points = 6 ☐ Herbaceous plants (> 6 in. high) > 1/3 area of the wetland — points = 3 ☐ Trees, shrubs, and ungrazed herbaceous < 1/3 area of the wetland — points = 0	8
Total for R 1 — Add the points in the boxes above	8

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ☐ **12-16 = H** ☑ **6-11 = M** ☐ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?	
R 2.1. Is the wetland within an incorporated city or within its UGA? ☑ Yes = 2 ☐ No = 0	2
R 2.2. Does the contributing basin to the wetland include a UGA or incorporated area? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
R 2.3. Does at least 10% of the contributing basin contain tilled fields, pastures, or forests that have been clearcut within the last 5 years? ☐ Yes = 1 ☑ No = 0	0
R 2.4. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants? ☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
R 2.5. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions R 2.1-R 2.4? Other sources _____ ☐ Yes = 1 ☑ No = 0	0
Total for R 2 — Add the points in the boxes above	4

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ☑ **3-6 = H** ☐ **1 or 2 = M** ☐ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?	
R 3.1. Is the wetland along a stream or river that is on the 303(d) list or on a tributary that drains to one within 1 mi? ☐ Yes = 1 ☑ No = 0	0
R 3.2. Is the wetland along a stream or river that has TMDL limits for nutrients, toxics, or pathogens? ☐ Yes = 1 ☑ No = 0	0
R 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? (Answer YES if there is a TMDL in development or in effect for the drainage in which the unit is found.) ☑ Yes = 2 ☐ No = 0	2
Total for R 3 — Add the points in the boxes above	2

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

Wetland name or number 12b

RIVERINE AND FRESHWATER TIDAL FRINGE WETLANDS

Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that site functions to reduce flooding and stream erosion

R 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?

R 4.1. Characteristics of the overbank storage the wetland provides: Estimate the average width of the wetland perpendicular to the direction of the flow and the width of the stream or river channel (distance between banks). Calculate the ratio: (average width of wetland)/(average width of stream between banks). ☐ If the ratio is more than 20	points = 9	6
☑ If the ratio is 10-20	points = 6	
☐ If the ratio is 5-<10	points = 4	
☐ If the ratio is 1-<5	points = 2	
☐ If the ratio is < 1	points = 1	
R 4.2. Characteristics of plants that slow down water velocities during floods: Treat large woody debris as forest or shrub. Choose the points appropriate for the best description (polygons need to have >90% cover at person height. These are NOT Cowardin classes). ☑ Forest or shrub for >1/3 area OR emergent plants > 2/3 area	points = 7	7
☐ Forest or shrub for > 1/10 area OR emergent plants > 1/3 area	points = 4	
☐ Plants do not meet above criteria	points = 0	
Total for R 4	Add the points in the boxes above	13

Rating of Site Potential If score is: ☑ **12-16 = H** ☐ **6-11 = M** ☐ **0-5 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the hydrologic functions of the site?

R 5.1. Is the stream or river adjacent to the wetland downcut?	☑ Yes = 0 ☐ No = 1	0
R 5.2. Does the upgradient watershed include a UGA or incorporated area?	☑ Yes = 1 ☐ No = 0	1
R 5.3. Is the upgradient stream or river controlled by dams?	☐ Yes = 0 ☑ No = 1	1
Total for R 5	Add the points in the boxes above	2

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: ☐ **3 = H** ☑ **1 or 2 = M** ☐ **0 = L** *Record the rating on the first page*

R 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?

R 6.1. Distance to the nearest areas downstream that have flooding problems? Choose the description that best fits the site. The sub-basin immediately downgradient of the wetland has flooding problems that result in damage to ☐ human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds)	points = 2	1
☑ Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther downgradient	points = 1	
☐ No flooding problems anywhere downstream	points = 0	
R 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan?	☐ Yes = 2 ☑ No = 0	0
Total for R 6	Add the points in the boxes above	1

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

Wetland name or number 12b

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 if the unit is at least 2.5 ac, or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac.

- ☐ Aquatic bed
- ☐ Emergent
- ☐ Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover)
- ☑ Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover)

☐ 4 structures or more: points = 4
☐ 3 structures: points = 2
☑ 2 structures: points = 1
☐ 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/groundcover) 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 if the unit is < 2.5 ac, or ¼ ac if the unit is at least 2.5 ac to count (see text for descriptions of hydroperiods).

- ☐ Permanently flooded or inundated
- ☐ Seasonally flooded or inundated
- ☐ Occasionally flooded or inundated
- ☑ Saturated only
- ☑ Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ Intermittently or seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- ☐ **Lake Fringe wetland** **2 points**
- ☐ **Freshwater tidal wetland** **2 points**

☐ 4 or more types present: points = 3
☐ 3 types present: points = 2
☑ 2 types present: points = 1
☐ 1 type present: points = 0

1

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft^2.

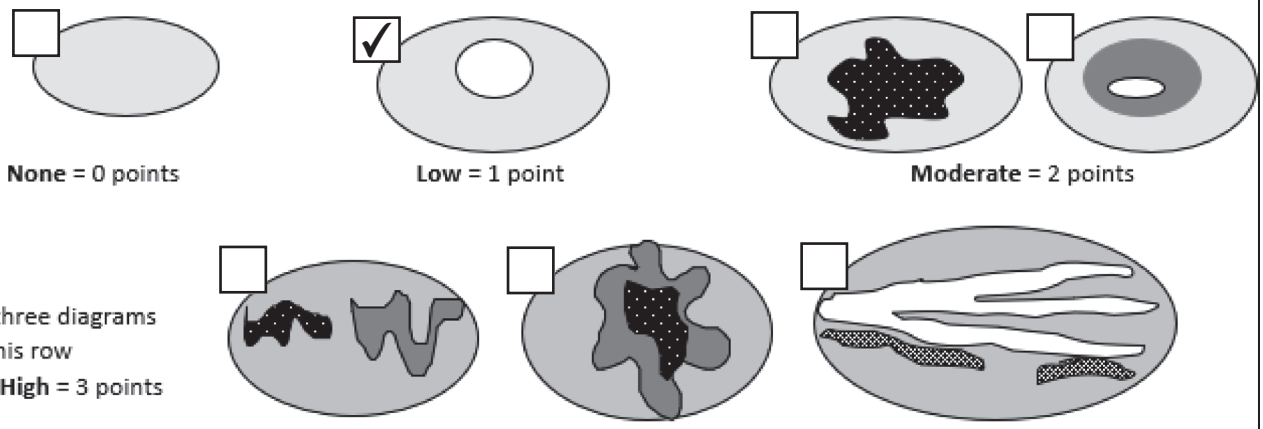
Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. **Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canada thistle**

- ☐ 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

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

1

Wetland name or number 12b

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. The number of checks is the number of points. ☑ Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in. diameter and 6 ft long). ☑ Standing snags (dbh > 4 in.) within the wetland ☑ Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) **and/or** overhanging plants extend at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over open water or a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) ☐ 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 (cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed) ☐ At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated (structures for egg-laying by amphibians) ☐ Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (see H 1.1 above for the list of strata and H 1.5 in the manual for the list of aggressive plant species)	3
Total for H 1 Add the points in the boxes above	7

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

H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?	
H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include only habitat polygons accessible from the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 2.00 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 2.00 = 4.00 % 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	0
H 2.2. Total habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. *Calculate:* % relatively undisturbed habitat 3.00 + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] 5.50 = 8.50 % ☐ Total habitat > 50% of Polygon points = 3 ☐ Total habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches points = 2 ☐ Total habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches points = 1 ☑ Total habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0	0
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: ☑ > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = (- 2) ☐ ≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity points = 0	-2
Total for H 2 Add the points in the boxes above	-2

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

H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?	
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.* ☑ Site meets ANY of the following criteria: points = 2 ☑ It has 3 or more Priority Habitats within 100 m (see next page) ☐ It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists) ☐ It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW Priority Species ☐ It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources data ☐ 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 ☐ Site has 1 or 2 Priority Habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m points = 1 ☐ Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = 0	2

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

Wetland name or number 12b

WDFW Priority Habitats

See complete descriptions of Priority Habitats listed by WDFW, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008 (current year, as revised). Priority Habitat and Species List.[133] This list was updated for consistency with guidance from WDFW.

This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the Priority Habitat. All vegetated wetlands are by definition a Priority Habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed by this rating system.

Count how many of the following Priority Habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit:

☐ **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. This habitat automatically counts if mapped on the PHS online map within 100m of the wetland. If not mapped, a determination can be made in the field.

☐ **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.

☐ **Fresh Deepwater:** Lands permanently flooded with freshwater, including environments where surface water is permanent and often deep, so that water, rather than air, is the principal medium within which the dominant organisms live. Substrate does not support emergent vegetation. Do not select if Instream habitat is also present, or if the entire Deepwater feature is included in the wetland unit being rated (such as a pond with a vegetated fringe).

☐ **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.

☑ **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. Do not select if Fresh Deepwater habitat is also present.

☐ **Nearshore:** Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore.

☐ **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) diameter at breast height (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.

[133] http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf

Wetland name or number 12b

☐ **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important. For single oaks or oak stands <0.4 ha in urban areas, WDFW's Management Recommendations for Oregon White Oak[134] provides more detail for determining if they are Priority Habitats

☑ **Riparian:** The area adjacent to freshwater aquatic systems with flowing or standing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.

☑ **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.

☐ **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.

☐ **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie.

[134] https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00030/wdfw00030.pdf

Wetland name or number 12b

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type *Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.*	**Category**
SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands? ☐ The dominant water regime is tidal, ☐ Vegetated, and ☐ With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt ☑ Yes – Go to **SC 1.1** ☐ No= **Not an estuarine wetland**	
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? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No – Go to **SC 1.2**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 1.2. Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions? ☑ 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 *Spartina*, see chapter 4.8 in the manual. ☑ 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. ☑ The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands. ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No = **Category II**	**Cat. I** ☐ **Cat. II** ☐
SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Does the wetland overlap with any known or historical rare plant or rare & high-quality ecosystem polygons on the WNHP Data Explorer?[135] ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No – Go to **SC 2.2** SC 2.2. Does the wetland have a rare plant species, rare ecosystem (e.g., plant community), or high-quality common ecosystem that may qualify the site as a WHCV? Contact WNHP for resources to help determine the presence of these elements. ☐ Yes – Submit data to WA Natural Heritage Program for determination,[136] Go to **SC 2.3** ☑ No = **Not a WHCV** SC 2.3. Did WNHP review the site within 30 days and determine that it has a rare plant or ecosystem that meets their criteria? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Not a WHCV**	**Cat. I** ☐
SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? *Use the key below.* ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.*** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No – Go to **SC 3.2** 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? ☐ Yes – Go to **SC 3.3** ☑ No = **Not a bog** 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? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No – Go to **SC 3.4** **NOTE:** 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) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy? ☐ Yes = **Category I bog** ☐ No = **Not a bog**	**Cat. I** ☐

[135] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/NHPdata
[136] https://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amp_nh_sighting_form.pdf

Wetland name or number 12b

SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands

Does the wetland have at least 1 contiguous acre of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as Priority Habitats? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.***

☐ **Old-growth forests** (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.

☐ **Mature forests** (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).

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☑ No = **Not a forested wetland for this section** — **Cat. I** ☐

SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons

Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon?

☐ 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

☐ The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (> 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon *(needs to be measured near the bottom)*

☐ The lagoon retains some of its surface water at low tide during spring tides

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 5.1** ☑ No = **Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon** — **Cat. I** ☐

SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions?

☐ 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 in H 1.5 in the manual).

☐ 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. — **Cat. II** ☐

☐ The wetland is larger than $^{1}/_{10}$ ac (4350 ft^2)

☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No = **Category II**

SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands

Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? ***If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.***

In practical terms that means the following geographic areas:

☐ Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103

☐ Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105 — **Cat I** ☐

☐ Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 and Ocean Shores Blvd SW, including lands west of E. Oceans Shores Blvd SW.

☐ Yes – Go to **SC 6.1** ☑ No = **Not an interdunal wetland for rating** — **Cat. II** ☐

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)? ☐ Yes = **Category I** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.2**

SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger? — **Cat. III** ☐

☐ Yes = **Category II** ☐ No – Go to **SC 6.3**

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? — **Cat. IV** ☐

☐ Yes = **Category III** ☐ No = **Category IV**

Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics
If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form — NA

Attachment B. Site Photos

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Photograph 1: Wetland 1 as photographed facing east along the right bank of the Duwamish River and along Railroad Avenue.

Photograph 2: Wetland 2 as photographed along the trail system within Codiga Park.

Photograph 3: Wetland 3 as photographed from the South 129th Street ramp. Surface water is visible through the overhead canopy.

Photograph 4: Wetland 4a as photographed from the South Boeing Access Road. Surface water and hydrophytic vegetation is visible through the overhead canopy.

Photograph 5: Wetland 5 photographed facing south from the northern extent of the wetland near Airport Way South.

Photograph 6: Wetland 8 as photographed facing south across the Duwamish River from Railroad Avenue.

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