

Habitat Type Index (HTI) Worksheet for Wetland Habitat

Participant: _____

Field Name: _____

Date: _____

Tract No.: _____

County: _____

Field No.: _____

Watershed: _____

Acres: _____

Question/Criterion	Points
Hydrologic Function	
Functioning ditches drain the wetland	1
Ditches present that alter most of the hydrology	5
Evidence of frequent saturation but signs of hydrologic alterations	10
Evidence of saturation/inundation, hydrology restored	15
Retention of Water in Soil	
Entire area ditched and drained, water table lowered	1
Subsurface or surface drainage alters water retention over most of the site	5
Minor ditches remove surface water, evidence of saturation	10
Hydric soils present, no alterations to hydrology, ditches plugged	15
Nutrient cycling	
All vegetation has been removed, no signs of decaying biomass, detritus (>75 % of site)	1
2 vegetative strata (tree, shrub, herb) removed or missing, limited signs of decaying biomass or detritus (> 25% to 75% of the site)	5
1 vegetative strata (tree, shrub, herb) removed or missing, limited signs of decaying biomass or detritus (< 25% of the site)	8
Evidence of woody vegetation, primary production, organic material, decaying biomass, detritus present (>50 % of site), 3 or more vegetative strata present.	15
Vegetative complexity	
Wetland severely impacted, no vegetative diversity or woody vegetation, invasive species dominate	1
1 vegetative strata present, little evidence of complexity of vegetation, obvious signs of invasive species present	5
2 vegetative strata present, signs of regeneration of vegetation, small isolated areas of invasive species	10
All typical vegetative strata (3 or more) present within the wetland, signs of natural regeneration, no invasive species present	14
Wildlife Habitat	
Wetland contains very limited cover, limited vegetative diversity and provides limited wildlife habitat benefit	1
Wetland lacks overall diversity and wildlife cover	5
Wetland has moderate diversity of vegetation but lacks snags, large woody debris or herbaceous cover	10
Wetland contains diverse vegetative strata, snags, mature trees, herbaceous cover, and large woody debris.	14

Interspersion, Connectivity and Complexity of Habitat	
Wetland habitat is limited due to isolation from other wildlife habitat, limited complexity of vegetation and general poor habitat quality	1
Wetland has good habitat and cover but complexity and diversity are limited and there is development (urban) and/or encroachment that limits habitat potential	5
Wetland has good habitat, cover, complexity and diversity but has elements of development and/or encroachment (crop, pasture) that limits it habitat potential	8
Wetland contains complex habitat, vegetation and diversity and is within 500 feet of wooded or wildlife habitat typical for the county	12
Presence of exotic invasive vegetation observed over entire planning area:	
Vegetation consists of > 71% invasive species	0
Vegetation consists of 41 - 70% invasive species	5
Vegetation consists of 11 - 40% invasive species	10
Vegetation consists of 0 - 10% invasive species	15