# ANCHORAGE WETLANDS ASSESSMENT METHOD

## **Data Sheets**

Date	e of Field Work	Investigator	s:	
A.	WETLAND NAME AND/OR NUMBER	R:		
B.	MAP #			
C.	DESIGNATION IN AWMP(If not designated in the AWMP, check he			
D.	MUNICIPALITY SUB-REGION, GEOZ	ZONE		
E.	LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
	Section Township Range _	Quarter		
	Subdivision	Lot	Block	
F.	GENERAL LOCATION AND DESCRI	PTION OF WETLA	ND BOUNDARY	
G.	MAP AND AIR PHOTO REFERENCES	3		
	<ol> <li>USGS 1:63,360</li> <li>National Wetlands Inventory</li> <li>Aerial Photos:         <ul> <li>Date most recent photo tal</li> <li>Scale</li> <li>Flight Line #</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	ken		
H.	WETLAND SIZE			
	Total Wetland Size: Acres			

# SECTION 1. HYDROLOGICAL COMPONENT

## FLOW STABILIZATION

1.1	TYPE OF STORMWATER THAT WETLANDS DETAINS (Check one)
	<ul> <li>(10) Man-induced and natural (ambient) storm flows</li> <li>(5) Man-induced stormwater flows only</li> <li>(2) Natural (ambient) stormwater flow</li> <li>(1) Minimal stormwater detention</li> </ul>
1.2	POSITION OF WETLANDS WITHIN WATERSHED (State Park or National Forest boundary as upper limit)
	(10) In upper third of watershed (5) In middle third of watershed (2) In lower third of watershed
1.3	LAND USE ALONG WATERWAY OR WETLANDS FOR .5 MILES BELOW WETLAND (Check one)
	(10) Developed residential/commercial/industrial area located within .5 miles of outflow
	(5) Lands below outflow are undeveloped and/or outflow enters lake, stream or wetland
	(2) Developed residential/commercial/industrial area located >.5 miles downstream of outflow

#### <u>SIZE</u>

# 1.4 SIZE EVALUATION

Wetland Size (Acres)	Total Points	Wetland Size (Acres)	Total Points
< 1	1	44 - 53	10
1 - 4	2	54 - 64	12
5 - 8	3	65 - 77	14
9 - 12	4	78 - 92	16
13 - 17	5	93 - 110	18
18 - 22	6	111 - 128	20
23 - 28	7	129 - 160	22
29 - 35	8	161 - 200	24
36 - 43	9	> 200	25

Points:	(max	imum = 25	points)

## FLOW RETENTION/FLOOD CONTROL

1.5	SIZE OF CATCHMENT BASIN	acres	
	Wetlands area as a % of catchment basin size		_%

#### Catchment Basin Evaluation Points Table

Basin Size (acres)				Wetland	Area as %	of Basin S	Size		
	<3	3-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	71-80+
<1	1	1	3	5	7	9	11	13	15
1 - 3	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18
4 - 9	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20
10 - 27	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22
28 - 81	9	11	13	15	18	21	23	25	25
82 - 243	12	15	18	21	24	25	25	25	25
244 - 729	15	19	23	25	25	25	25	25	25
730 - 2,100	18	22	25	25	25	25	25	25	25
2,101 - 6,500+	22	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25

Points for Flow Augmentation: \_\_\_\_\_ (maximum = 25 points)

1.6	SUBJECT WETLANDS AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL WETLANDS ACREAGE IN CATCHMENT BASIN
	(2) 0-20% (5) 21-40% (10) 41-60% (15) 61-80% (20) 81-100%
WATE	ER QUALITY
1.7	SITE TYPE (Check dominant site)
	(1) Palustrine (isolated) (5) Palustrine (with permanent or ephemeral flow) (7) Riverine (10) Riverine (at river mouth) (8) Lacustrine (exposed to lake)
1.8	SENSITIVE AREAS BELOW SUBJECT WETLANDS (Identify types of areas/uses downstream of outlet or downgradient of groundwater outflow that are positively influenced by subject wetlands.)
	Check all that apply.
	Fish spawning and rearing habitat Sport fishing area Potable water sources Contact water recreation area Waterbird nesting habitat (high numbers and diversity of nesting species)
	2 points each (maximum = 10 points)
1.9	ACTUAL WETLANDS AREA DOMINATED BY ROBUST EMERGENTS AND SUBMERGENTS (Check one)
	(1) < 5% coverage (2) 5-10% coverage (3) 10-20% coverage (6) 20-40% coverage (10) 40-60% coverage (15) >60% coverage

1.10	GENERALIZED	LAND USE IN CATCHMENT BASIN (Check one)
	(1)	Mainly parks and open space
	(3)	Mixture of parks/open space and residential
	(5)	Mainly residential
	(7)	Mixture of residential and commercial
	(9)	Mainly commercial
	(11)	•
	(15)	Mainly industrial
1.11	LONG-TERM N	UTRIENT TRAP (Check one)
	(10)	Wetland with organic soils on 50%+ of area
	(5)	Wetland with organic soils on < 50% of area, mineral soils or very
		shallow peat
1.12	WATER QUALI	TY MAINTENANCE (Check one)
	(20)	Inflow to wetlands is of poor quality (e.g., storm drains, snow disposal,
		industrial runoff) and detention time is several days and storage capacity
		is high. Wetlands is obvious filter and/or is a nutrient sink
	(12)	Inflow is from stream flows or from storm event overflow and detention
		time is moderate. Area has moderate storage capacity and moderate
	(8)	nutrient uptake Inflow is from stream flows or storm events but is from relatively
	(6)	undisturbed or undeveloped areas and detention time and storage
		capacity are moderate
	(2)	Essentially no inflow and/or very short detention time and low storage capacity
FROS	ION CONTROL	
LICOS	IOI COI IIIOL	
1.13	EROSION BUFF	FER (Lacustrine/Riverine only)
	Riverine Wetland	ds (shoreland and floodplain) (check principal vegetation form)
	(10)	Trees or shrubs
	(5)	Emergents, submergents
	(1)	Sparsely vegetated

(10)	Trees or shrubs
(8)	Emergents
(4)	Submergents or floating
(1)	Sparsely vegetated
TAL FOR HYD	ROLOGIC COMPONENT:
aximum = 200 pc	oints)

Lacustrine Wetlands (including floodplain)

# SECTION 2. HABITAT COMPONENT

## HABITAT STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION

2.1	VEGETATION COMMUNITY STRUCTURE (see Figs., this Appendix.) Identify forms for each community type in subject wetland. Particular form must cover at least 5 percent of site. (Maximum points = 25)				
	<b>Example</b> : Subject wetlands has 4 communities. Within each community, identify each (and all) form(s) and fill in appropriate lines below:				
	A. One Form (1 point per community)				
	Community # List Form				
	B. Two Forms (2 points per community)				
	Community # List Forms				
	C. Three Forms (3 points per community)				
	Community # List Forms				
	D. Four Forms (4 points per community)				
	Community # List Forms				

	E. Five Forms (5	points per community)
	Community #	List Forms
	F. Six or More F	forms (6 points per community)
	Community #	List Forms
SPATI	AL ATTRIBUTES	
2.2		ETLANDS PLANT COMMUNITIES (From Hogan and Tande, 1983, ities list, this Appendix.) (Count only numbered plant communities.)
	(5)	> 7 List Communities: 5 - 7
	(4)	5 - 7 2 - 4
	(1)	1
2.3		N/EDGE EFFECT OF COMMUNITY TYPES (See Figures, this pattern which most closely resembles subject wetlands)
	(1)	Type 1
	(2)	
	(3)(4)	Type 3 Type 4
2.4		SURROUNDING HABITAT (Check all that apply) (Within .25 mile of ligratory Corridors) (maximum = 12 points)
	(1)	Pasture, open fields, nursery or sod farm
	(2)	Mixed deciduous/coniferous forest
	(1)(3)	Urban residential development Open lake
	(2)	Undulating, undeveloped terrain and/or wooded ravines
	(3)	Creeks, drainageways or ephemeral streams

2.5	PROXIMITY TO	O OTHER WETLANDS HABITATS
	(10)	Hydrologically connected by surface flow to other wetlands (different
	(8)	type) within .25 mile Hydrologically connected by surface flow to other wetlands (different
	(0)	type) from .25 to .5 miles away
	(6)	Hydrologically connected by surface flow to other wetlands (same type) or open water within .25 mile
	(5)	Hydrologically connected by surface flow to other wetlands (same type) or open water from .25 to .5 mile away
	(4)	Within .5 mile of other wetlands (different type) or open water, but not hydrologically connected by surface flow
	(2)	Within .5 mile of other wetlands (same type) but not hydrologically connected by surface flow
	(0)	No wetland within .5 mile
2.6	(0) (4) (5) (12) (4) (7) (3) (3)	TYPES (See Figures; this Appendix.) (Find pattern which most closely wetlands.)  No open water Type 1 Type 2 Type 3 Type 4 Type 5 Type 6 Type 7 Type 8
<u>WET</u>	LAND PRODUCT	TIVITY
2.7	HARDINESS Z	ONE (See Appendix B.) (Extrapolate for outlying areas.)
	(5)	Zone 5-6
	(3)	Zone 4
	(2)	Type 3
	(1)	Type 2

	% of Area			
Mi	neral	X 5		
		X 2		
Cla	ays	X 1		
TYF	PE OF WETLAND (smal	lest unit = 4,000 sq	ft)	
<u>Ap</u>	proximate Area (acres)		% of Total	
	Palustrine (iso	olated)	X 2 =	
	Palustrine (wi	*	X 3 =	
	Riverine	·	X 4=	
	Riverine (at m	• \	X 5 =	
	Lacustrine (ne	ext to lake)	X 4 =	
-	Lacustrine (op	en water)	X 2 =	
	To	otal Points =		
NUT		ading and calculate	Total Dissolved Solids (T	
	Write conductivity rea	ading and calculate		ect wetlands
	Write conductivity reatables in Appendix C.	ading and calculate Readings to be tak  Initial Specific	ken at all outflows of subje	ect wetlands
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	Write conductivity reatables in Appendix C.	ading and calculate Readings to be tak  Initial Specific	Temperature  ———————————————————————————————————	ect wetlands
	Write conductivity reatables in Appendix C.	ading and calculate Readings to be tak  Initial Specific  Conductants	Temperature  ———————————————————————————————————	ect wetlands.
A.	Write conductivity reatables in Appendix C.  Location Sampled	ading and calculate Readings to be tak  Initial Specific  Conductants	Temperature  ———————————————————————————————————	
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## WATER REGIME

2.11	SURFACE WATER PE period April to July)	RSISTENCE (% probability of surface water present during the
	(6) 50 to	0% of April-July <100% of April-July of April-July
2.12	WATER BODY SIZE ( July)	Estimate size of smallest open water body during period April-
	(2) 400 so (5) 400 so (10)5 acr (15) > 4 ac	e to 4 acres
2.13	WETLAND CONTIGUI	TY WITH STREAM OR LAKE
	(3) Wetla	and isolated from stream/lake and drains/is connected to stream/lake m or lake lies within wetland

#### 2.14 WETLAND SIZE

\*Add points from 2.1 to 2.13

Size (Habitat Component) Evaluation Table

Acres	Sum of Habitat Component Points*						
	< 15	15 - 30	31 - 45	46 - 60	61 - 75	76 - 90	> 90
< 2	4	6	7	8	9	10	11
2 - 4	4	6	8	9	10	11	14
5 - 8	5	7	9	11	13	15	18
9 - 12	5	8	10	12	14	17	20
13 - 17	6	9	11	14	16	19	24
18 - 23	6	11	14	16	18	22	29
24 - 28	7	11	14	18	20	27	35
29 - 37	7	12	16	21	25	32	39
38 - 49	7	13	18	23	27	34	44
50 - 62	8	15	20	26	31	38	48
63 - 81	8	17	23	32	36	43	53
82 - 105	9	18	26	34	38	47	57
106 - 137	9	19	29	36	42	52	62
138 - 178	10	20	32	39	45	57	67
179 - 233	10	22	36	43	48	62	72
234 - 302	10	24	39	48	52	68	78
303 - 400	11	26	43	53	56	73	80
> 400	11	30	46	58	63	78	80

Total Points: \_\_\_\_\_ (maximum = 80)

TOTAL FOR HABITAT POTENTIAL COMPONENT: \_\_\_\_\_\_ (Maximum = 200 points)

# SECTION 3. SPECIES OCCURRENCE COMPONENT

Note: Answers to all sections marked with an \* should be listed on the final page score sheet.

RARITY AND/OR SCARCITY
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3.1*			SIGNIFICANCE (See ka; or known from a ver	
	Name of Species:	(1 species = 10 p (2 species = 15 p (3+ species = 25 (0 species = 0 p	points) points)	
3.2*	ANADROMOUS	NIFICANT TO	HABITAT FOR BIRE THE MUNICIPALITY e this Appendix.)	
	Name of Species:	(1 species = 5 po (2 species = 8 po (3+ species = 15 (0 species = 0 po	points)	
3.3*	HABITAT FOR PI ANCHORAGE (Sec	E OR UNIQUE II	N THE MUNICIPALIT	Y OF
	Name of Species:	(1 species = 4 po (2 species = 7 po (3 species = 12 po	oints)	

3.4	SCARCITY	VALUE	(Subject	we tlands	type	as	%	of	total	type	in	catchment	basin;
	calculate % f	or all type	s in subje	ct area.)									

Wetland Type in Acres (A)	Total Acreage of Type in Basin (B)	A/B as %	A/B (%) X 10

Total Points:	(maximum =	16 points)	)
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#### SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

1.5		COLONIAL WATERBIRDS (Red-necked Grebe, Canada Goose, /Herring Gull, Mew Gull, Bonaparte's Gull)
	(12)* (9) (6) (3) (0)	Currently nesting; name species Known to have nested in past 5 years; name species Active feeding area in nesting season Staging area for colonial waterbirds None known
3.6	WATERFOWL S'	TAGING (Check highest level)
	(15)*	High importance within Municipality; supports high numbers of several species
	(10)	Moderate importance
	(5)	Very local importance
	(0)	Not used for staging

3.7	WATERBIRD PRODUCTION (Check highest level)
	(15)* High importance; produces several broods of several species
	(10) Moderate importance
	(5) Minimal or no significance
3.8	BREEDING BIRD DIVERSITY
	(25)* Nesting occurs for >8 obligate wetlands species, and/or (circle one) >15 total species
	(15) Nesting occurs for 4 to 8 obligate wetlands species, and/or (circle one) 8-15 total species
	(5) Nesting occurs for <4 obligate wetlands species, and/or (circle 1) <8 total species
3.9	MIGRATORY BIRD STAGING AREA (Non-waterfowl species)
	(15)* High significance (annual use by >25 species)
	(5) Moderate significance (can occasionally be significant; annual use by 10-25 species)
	(1) No significance (annual use by <10 species)
3.10	SIGNIFICANCE FOR FISH SPAWNING (Number of species that spawn in immediately adjacent waterbody)
	(25)* 5+ species
	(15) 2-4 species
	(5) 1 species
	(0) No species
3.11	SIGNIFICANCE FOR FISH REARING (Number of fish species that use wetlands or immediately adjacent waterbody for rearing)
	(25)* 5+ species
	(5) 1 species
	(0) No species
	AL FOR SPECIES OCCURRENCE COMPONENT:
тот	(25)*

#### **SECTION 4.** SOCIAL FUNCTION COMPONENT

#### **EXISTING RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

#### 4.1 TYPE OF WETLAND-ASSOCIATED USE

Use Intensity (see definitions below)	Hunting	Passive Recreation	Fishing	Boating	Other	
High (10 points)						
Moderate (5 points)						
Low (2 points)						
None Known/Not Possible (0 points)						
Use Intensities:	Moderate Us	sed in several se sed in one to to ea) and/or by a s sed irregularly b	wo seasons by single group	a few individu		
Points:	(maximur	m = 50 points)				
1.2 EDUCATIO	NAL USE (Knov	wn or potential)				
(15) (8) (4) (2) (0)	Occasiona Infrequent No known	Used 5+ time l: Used 2-5 tim : Used by orga educational use or potential use	es per year inized groups or e but in close pr	nce/year		
List groups ι	tilizing the wetla	ands:				
4.3 FACILITIES	AND PROGRA	AMS				
(5)	Area has i	nterpretive trail	or other educati	onal function		

No facilities or programs

## WETLANDS RECREATION POTENTIAL

4.4	LANDSCAPE DISTINCTNESS (Identify subject wetland's relative position and value to viewshed from all perspectives.)
	(15) Clearly distinct in urban area (8) Distinct in rural area (0) Indistinct
4.5	TYPES OF DISTURBANCE (Check all that apply and total.)
	Roads/trails Buried utility corridor Surface utility corridor Channelization Drainage Filling Water pollution Clearing/grubbing ORV use  Add and subtract from total points (either 0 or a minus number)
4.6	DEGREE OF DISTURBANCE/AESTHETIC VALUES
	<ul> <li>(15) Human disturbance absent or nearly so</li> <li>(10) One or several single, or local disturbances</li> <li>(6) Moderate disturbance or local water pollution</li> <li>(2) Impaired natural quality is intense in some areas or severe local water pollution</li> <li>(0) Extremely intense disturbance or widespread, severe water pollution</li> </ul>
4.7	PUBLIC USE/OPEN SPACE VALUE (Deficiency is based on Municipal park plans)
	Wetland is within 1 mile of area known to be relatively deficient in parkland/open space or provides direct access to adjacent public lands  Wetland is within 1 to 2.5 miles of an area known to be deficient in
	parkland or could (but does not) provide access to adjacent public lands  (0) Wetland is >2.5 miles away from area known to be deficient in parkland and does not provide access to public lands

1.8 LAND I	DENTIFICATIO	ENTIFICATION AS PARKLAND (Specific to Municipality of Anchorage)			
(10) _ (5) _	Wetlan	Wetlands identified as dedicated parkland in Municipal document Wetlands identified as potential future park, open space or trail ir			
(2)		Trails plan	Municipal color	otion from State or	is in Usritasa
(2) _			e commercial val	ction from State or lue	is in Heritage
(0)		plicable	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		
4.9 RESEAI	RCH AND STUI	DIES			
(5)	One or	r more wetland-1	related paper pub	olished	
(2)				e aspect of the wet	lands
(0)	No rep	orts or papers			
List repo	orts or papers				
	_				
	_				
	_				
4.10 OWNER	OSHID/ACCESSI	RII ITV (Ectime	ota % of area ar	nter in the space, a	nd multiply by
				hole number and t	
	Ownership				
	Public/ Unrestricted	Public/ Restricted	Private/Open to Public	Private/Closed to Public	Private/ Posted
Easy by Road, Water or Trail	(20)	(15)	(8)	(3)	(2)
Easy Only at Certain Times	(15)	(8)	(4)	(3)	(2)
Limited, With Some Effort	(8)	(7)	(4)	(3)	(2)
Difficult	(7)	(6)	(3)	(2)	(0)
Total Points:	<u> </u>		I .		
	_				
_	OR SOCIAL	<b>FUNCTIO</b>	ON COMPO	ONENT:	
(Maximum -	<b>150 points)</b>				

SECTION 1. HYDROLOGIC COMPONENT SECTION 2. HABITAT COMPONENT SECTION 3. SPECIES OCCURRENCE COMPONENT SECTION 4. SOCIAL FUNCTION COMPONENT
List all significant features marked with an * in Sections 3.1 - 3.11
MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:
MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS/EXISTING CONDITIONS:

SKETCH MAP OF AREA AND IMPORTANT FEATURES (on back of sheet, if appropriate):

**POINTS TOTALS:**