



memorandum

date June 13, 2016
to Glen Pickus - City of Mukilteo
from Michael Muscari, Professional Wetland Scientist (PWS)
subject Wetland Delineation and Rating Review - ICOM Harbour Pointe Blvd, Mukilteo

This memo provides a brief summary of our review of the wetland delineation and rating conducted by Wetland Resources, Inc. at the ICOM Harbour Point Blvd property (Tax Parcel Number 00441200002800) Mukilteo, Washington. ESA's scope includes conducting an on-site review of the wetland delineation, conducting an independent rating of the wetland using the Washington Department of Ecology 2014 rating system, commenting on any differences found in the delineation or rating, and commenting on the proposed buffer averaging plan.

Background Documents

The City provided three documents related to the site.

- Critical Areas Study and Buffer Averaging Plan for ICOM – Harbour Point Blvd (Wetland Resources April 11, 2016)
- Critical Areas Study and Buffer Mitigation Plan for ICOM – Harbour Point Blvd (Wetland Resources April 15, 2014)
- Email memo from Doug Gresham (Ecology) to the City, dated May 11, 2016

Prior to visiting the site, ESA reviewed Sheet 1 in the 2016 report that displays the location and size of the wetland delineated on the property.

Site Review of Wetland Delineation

ESA wetland ecologist (Michael Muscari) and City of Mukilteo Planning Manager (Glen Pickus) met on site on June 7, 2016. The purpose of the site visit was to observe the site conditions on the property and review the wetland delineation and rating. We observed existing soil, hydrologic, and vegetation conditions in order to make a determination whether conditions on the site meet the definition of wetland in the Mukilteo Municipal Code (MMC). No efforts to delineate the boundary of identified wetlands were made during the June site visit.

Site conditions were assessed based on the methodology in the *Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coasts Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers 1987 Wetlands Delineation Manual*. The methodology outlined in the manual is based upon three essential characteristics of wetlands: (1) hydrophytic vegetation; (2) hydric soils; and (3) wetland hydrology. Field indicators of these three characteristics must all be present in order to determine that an area is a wetland (unless problem areas or atypical situations are encountered).

Based on our observations during the site visit, a small wetland occurs in the northwest corner of the property where criteria were met for all three wetland parameters (wetland data sheet attached). The location of the wetland



corresponds with the small wetland shown on Sheet 1 of the 2016 report. We found only two flagged wetland boundary points during our effort to review the delineated wetland boundary. However, the location and size of the wetland shown on Sheet 1 is consistent with the location and general size of the wetland we observed on the property. No problem area or atypical conditions were noted during the site visit.

Wetland Rating

ESA rated the wetland on site following the Ecology 2014 rating system (rating forms attached). The wetland rates as Category IV based on receiving a total of 15 points (5 Improving Water Quality, 5 Hydrologic, and 5 Habitat). The Mukilteo Municipal Code (MMC17.52B.090) requires 40 foot buffers around all Category IV wetlands.

The Wetland Resources 2016 report also rated the wetland Category IV based on a total of 14 points (5 Improving Water Quality, 5 Hydrologic, and 4 Habitat). There were a few differences in answers on ESA rating vs Wetland Resource rating, only the Habitat questions affected the final total points. ESA gave two more points for Habitat Functions (H1.1 and H1.4) as a result of the southern portion of the wetland extends out into a scrub-shrub vegetation community, and one additional point for H1.5 because of invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area. The differences between ESA and Wetland Resources rating points did not result in a different rating, and the one point difference for Habitat score does not affect the required buffer width since MCC has the same 40 foot buffer for all Category IV wetlands.

Buffer Averaging Plan

The 2016 Wetland Resources report includes a plan to use buffer averaging to reduce a portion of the 40 foot wetland buffer to allow for driveway access in exchange for greater area added to the buffer along the south side of the wetland. The MMC (17.52B.100G) allows for buffer averaging given certain conditions are met. The MMC conditions are listed below in italics, followed by ESA comments on the proposed plan.

2. *Averaging to allow reasonable use of a parcel may be permitted when all of the following are met:*

a. *There are no feasible alternatives to the site design that could be accomplished without buffer averaging.*

As described in the WRI 2016 report, the only available location for an access driveway is the location specified that impacts a portion of the buffer on the east side.

b. *The averaged buffer will not result in degradation of the wetland's functions and values as demonstrated by a report from a qualified wetland professional.*

The WRI 2016 report concludes that the buffer averaging plan will not result in degradation of the wetlands functions and values. The plan includes enhancement of disturbed buffer area with native trees, weeding, and annual monitoring for five years. If the planted trees are established and self-supporting after 5 years, we agree that the plan would protect wetland functions.

c. *The total buffer area after being averaged is equal to the area required without the averaging.*

The WRI 2016 report shows the area of proposed buffer reduction to be 2,172 SF and the additional buffer area to be 2,236 SF; therefore, in total, more area will be dedicated as buffer.



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d. *The buffer at its narrowest point is never less than fifty percent of the required buffer width.*

Plan Sheet 1 in the 2016 report shows that the buffer will be reduced to 20 ft. at the narrowest point: 50% of the required 40 foot buffer.

e. *Mitigation sufficient to compensate for the impacts as determined by a qualified specialist is provided for all buffer averaging proposals.*

Additional buffer area (buffer averaging) and the planting of native trees in the area of the added buffer should compensate for the reduction in buffer area.

In my professional opinion, the buffer averaging plan in the WRI 2016 report appears to meet the requirements in MMC 17.52B.100G2. ESA generally agrees with the buffer averaging plan, but we have a few comments on details that we feel should be revised.

Recommendations

Based upon this review, we have the following recommendations:

- The plan does not appear to include irrigation of the trees beyond the time of planting, and the planting time indicates either fall or spring. If the trees are not to be irrigated, the planting time should be restricted to late fall in order to take advantage of fall rains to ensure survival.
- The plan includes instructions to remove non-native weeds from around each planted tree. Because of the presence of Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus bifrons*) in the added buffer area, the weed removal area should include the entire buffer area, to improve the chances of controlling this aggressive invasive non-native plant.
- The number of trees specified (10) was calculated based on 15-foot on-center. We feel this is an appropriate density target for this buffer; however, we recommend planting more than 10 trees to allow for trees that may die in years after monitoring has been completed.

Limitations

Within the limitations of schedule, budget, seasonal constraints, and scope-of-work, we warrant that this study was conducted in accordance with generally accepted environmental science practices, including the technical guidelines and criteria in effect at the time this study was performed. The results and conclusions of this report represent the authors' best professional judgment, based upon information provided by the project proponent in addition to that obtained during the course of this study. No other warranty, expressed or implied, is made. The wetland boundaries, classifications and ratings should be considered subject to change until reviewed and approved by regulatory agencies.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Region

Project/Site: Icom Harbor Pt. gw City/County: Mukiteo Sampling Date: 6-7-2016
 Applicant/Owner: _____ State: _____ Sampling Point: SG1
 Investigator(s): Michael Muscari Section, Township, Range: _____
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): flat top of hill Local relief (concave, convex, none): _____ Slope (%): 1%
 Subregion (LRR): _____ Lat: _____ Long: _____ Datum: _____
 Soil Map Unit Name: _____ NWI classification: _____

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes No _____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)
 Are Vegetation _____, Soil _____, or Hydrology _____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes No _____
 Are Vegetation _____, Soil _____, or Hydrology _____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No _____	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No _____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No _____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No _____	
Remarks: <u>sample plot ~ 3 ft. NE of pink "WL boundary" flag "WL A4"</u>			

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: _____)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status	Dominance Test worksheet:
1. <u>Alnus rubra</u>	<u>98%</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>FAC</u>	Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>2</u> (A)
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>2</u> (B)
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>100%</u> (A/B)
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	Prevalence Index worksheet: Total % Cover of: _____ Multiply by: _____ OBL species _____ x 1 = _____ FACW species _____ x 2 = _____ FAC species _____ x 3 = _____ FACU species _____ x 4 = _____ UPL species _____ x 5 = _____ Column Totals: _____ (A) _____ (B) Prevalence Index = B/A = _____
<u>98</u> = Total Cover				
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: _____)				
1. <u>Rubus spectabilis</u>	<u>40%</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>FAC</u>	
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	
_____ = Total Cover				
Herb Stratum (Plot size: _____)				
1. <u>N/A</u>	_____	_____	_____	
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	
9. _____	_____	_____	_____	
10. _____	_____	_____	_____	
11. _____	_____	_____	_____	
_____ = Total Cover				
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: _____)				
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	
_____ = Total Cover				
% Bare Ground in Herb Stratum <u>10%</u>				
Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No _____				
Remarks: <u>other plants in wetland: Salix scouleriana Rubus arvensis</u> <u>Veronica americana Malus fusca</u> <u>Juncus effusus</u>				

SOIL

Sampling Point: A

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth (inches)	Matrix		Redox Features				Texture	Remarks
	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type ¹	Loc ²		
0-10	10YR3/2						silt loam	
10-16+	10YR2/1	95	10YR4/3	5	matrix		sandy loam	

¹Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. ²Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators: (Applicable to all LRRs, unless otherwise noted.)

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Histosol (A1) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Redox (S5) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2 cm Muck (A10) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Histic Epipedon (A2) | <input type="checkbox"/> Stripped Matrix (S6) | <input type="checkbox"/> Red Parent Material (TF2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black Histic (A3) | <input type="checkbox"/> Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1) (except MLRA 1) | <input type="checkbox"/> Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrogen Sulfide (A4) | <input type="checkbox"/> Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain in Remarks) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11) | <input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Matrix (F3) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thick Dark Surface (A12) | <input type="checkbox"/> Redox Dark Surface (F6) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1) | <input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Dark Surface (F7) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4) | <input type="checkbox"/> Redox Depressions (F8) | |
- ³Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Restrictive Layer (if present):

Type: _____
Depth (inches): _____

Hydric Soil Present? Yes No

Remarks: depleted below dark surface

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

- | | |
|---|--|
| Primary Indicators (minimum of one required; check all that apply) | Secondary Indicators (2 or more required) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Surface Water (A1) | <input type="checkbox"/> Water-Stained Leaves (B9) (MLRA 1, 2, 4A, and 4B) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High Water Table (A2) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drainage Patterns (B10) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Saturation (A3) | <input type="checkbox"/> Dry-Season Water Table (C2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Marks (B1) | <input type="checkbox"/> Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment Deposits (B2) | <input type="checkbox"/> Geomorphic Position (D2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drift Deposits (B3) | <input type="checkbox"/> Shallow Aquitard (D3) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Algal Mat or Crust (B4) | <input type="checkbox"/> FAC-Neutral Test (D5) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Iron Deposits (B5) | <input type="checkbox"/> Raised Ant Mounds (D6) (LRR A) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Surface Soil Cracks (B6) | <input type="checkbox"/> Frost-Heave Hummocks (D7) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7) | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8) | |

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present? Yes ___ No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Depth (inches): _____	Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No ___
Water Table Present? Yes ___ No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Depth (inches): _____	
Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe) Yes ___ No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Depth (inches): _____	

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks: moist soil from surface to depth of at least 16" and sparsely veg. (muddy) concave area at low point of property. suggests that soil is saturated earlier in growing season.

Wetland name or number A

RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): Wetland A Date of site visit: 6-7-2016

Rated by Michael Muscari Trained by Ecology? Yes No Date of training _____

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

NOTE: Form is not complete without the figures requested (figures can be combined).

Source of base aerial photo/map Google Earth 2015 imagery

OVERALL WETLAND CATEGORY IV (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

X Category IV – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality	Hydrologic	Habitat	
<i>Circle the appropriate ratings</i>				
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	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>15</u>

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 _____

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	1
Location of outlet (<i>can be added to map of hydroperiods</i>)	D 1.1, D 4.1	1
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland (<i>can be added to another figure</i>)	D 2.2, D 5.2	1
Map of the contributing basin	D 4.3, D 5.3	2
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	2
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	D 3.1, D 3.2	3
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 (<i>can be added to another figure</i>)	R 2.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	
Width of unit vs. width of stream (<i>can be added to another figure</i>)	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 undisturbed 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 (<i>can be added to another figure</i>)	L 2.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed 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 (<i>can be added to figure above</i>)	S 4.1	
Boundary of 150 ft buffer (<i>can be added to another figure</i>)	S 2.1, S 5.1	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and undisturbed 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	

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 sheetflow, 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).

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.

Wetland name or number A

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 A

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 = <u>2</u>	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	
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 = <u>0</u>		
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 = <u>5</u>	5
Wetland has persistent, ungrazed, plants > 1/2 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	
D 1.4. Characteristics of seasonal ponding or inundation:		
<i>This is the area that is ponded for at least 2 months. See description in manual.</i>		
Area seasonally ponded is > 1/2 total area of wetland	points = 4	2
Area seasonally ponded is > 1/4 total area of wetland	points = <u>2</u>	
Area seasonally ponded is < 1/4 total area of wetland	points = 0	
Total for D 1		

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 = <u>0</u>	0
D 2.2. Is > 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants?	Yes = <u>1</u> No = 0	1
D 2.3. Are there septic systems within 250 ft of the wetland?	Yes = 1 No = <u>0</u>	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 = <u>0</u>	
Total for D 2		1

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 = <u>0</u>	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 = <u>0</u>	0
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 for the basin in which the unit is found)?	Yes = 2 No = 0	0
Total for D 3		0

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

Wetland name or number A

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: <i>Seasonal outflow to roadside ditch</i>		
Wetland is a depression or flat depression with no surface water leaving it (no outlet)	points = 4	2
Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or 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.		
Marks of ponding are 3 ft or more above the surface or bottom of outlet	points = 7	0
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 wetland 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	3
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? <i>Driveway to East does not flow onsite</i> 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. The unit is 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 down-gradient into areas where flooding has damaged human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds): <i>picnic point cr.</i>		
• Flooding occurs in a sub-basin that is immediately down-gradient of unit.	points = 2	1
• Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther down-gradient.	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	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 A

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 or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac. Add the number of structures checked.*

- 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/ground-cover) 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 or ¼ 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
- Seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland
- Lake Fringe wetland
- Freshwater tidal wetland

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

2 points
 2 points

1

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft².

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, Canadian thistle

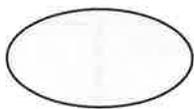
- If you counted: > 19 species
- 5 - 19 species
- < 5 species

points = 2
 points = 1
 points = 0

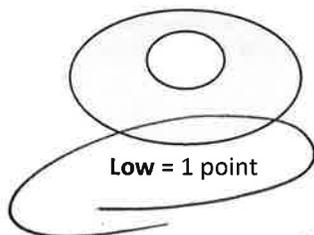
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H 1.4. Interspersion of habitats

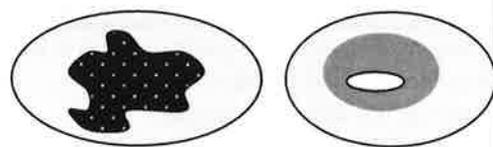
Decide from the diagrams below whether interspersion among Cowardin plants classes (described in H 1.1), or the classes and unvegetated areas (can include open water or mudflats) is high, moderate, low, or none. *If you have four or more plant classes or three classes and open water, the rating is always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



None = 0 points

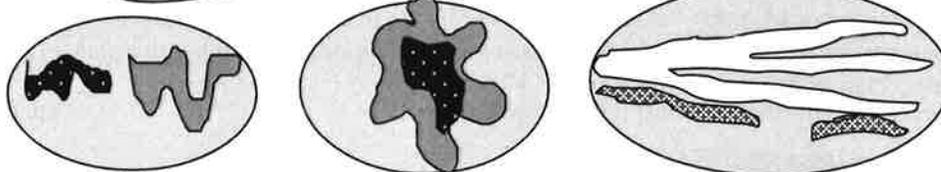


Low = 1 point



Moderate = 2 points

All three diagrams in this row are HIGH = 3points



1

Wetland name or number A

H 1.5. Special habitat features: Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. <i>The number of checks is the number of points.</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (> 4 in diameter and 6 ft long). <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Standing snags (dbh > 4 in) within the wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) and/or overhanging plants extends at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m) <input type="checkbox"/> 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 (<i>cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated (<i>structures for egg-laying by amphibians</i>) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (<i>see H 1.1 for list of strata</i>)		3
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 that directly abuts wetland unit). <i>Calculate:</i> % undisturbed habitat $\frac{30}{5} + [(\% \text{ moderate and low intensity land uses})/2]$ <u>0</u> = <u>30.5</u> % If 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 = <u>0</u>		0
H 2.2. Undisturbed habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland. <i>Calculate:</i> % undisturbed habitat $\frac{30}{5} + [(\% \text{ moderate and low intensity land uses})/2]$ <u>0</u> = <u>30</u> % Undisturbed habitat > 50% of Polygon points = 3 Undisturbed habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches points = 2 Undisturbed habitat 10-50% and > 3 patches points = <u>1</u> Undisturbed habitat < 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0		1
H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon: If > 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = <u>(-2)</u> ≤ 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 X < 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 — 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 = <u>1</u> Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = <u>0</u>		1

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

Wetland name or number A

WDFW Priority Habitats

Priority habitats listed by WDFW (see complete descriptions of WDFW priority habitats, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008. Priority Habitat and Species List. Olympia, Washington. 177 pp. <http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf> or access the list from here: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/phs/list/>)

Count how many of the following priority habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit: **NOTE:** *This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the priority habitat.*

- **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 (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report*).
- **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.
- 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) 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. *Cotton wood to the south.*
- **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report p. 158 – see web link above*).
- **Riparian:** The area adjacent to aquatic systems with flowing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.
- **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie (*full descriptions in WDFW PHS report p. 161 – see web link above*).
- **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.
- **Nearshore:** Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore. (*full descriptions of habitats and the definition of relatively undisturbed are in WDFW report – see web link on previous page*).
- **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.
- **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.
- 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.

Note: All vegetated wetlands are by definition a priority habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed elsewhere.

Wetland name or number A

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type	Category
<p><i>Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.</i></p>	
<p>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</p>	
<p>Yes – Go to SC 1.1 No – Not an estuarine wetland</p>	
<p>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</p> <p>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 <i>Spartina</i>, see page 25) — At least ¾ of the landward edge of the wetland has a 100 ft buffer of shrub, forest, or un-grazed or unmowed 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</p>	<p>Cat. I</p> <p>Cat. I</p> <p>Cat. II</p>
<p>SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV) SC 2.1. Has the WA Department of Natural Resources updated their website to include the list of Wetlands of High Conservation Value? Yes – Go to SC 2.2 No – Go to SC 2.3 SC 2.2. Is the wetland listed on the WDNR database as a Wetland of High Conservation Value? Yes = Category I No = Not a WHCV SC 2.3. Is the wetland in a Section/Township/Range that contains a Natural Heritage wetland? http://www1.dnr.wa.gov/nhp/refdesk/datasearch/wnhpwetlands.pdf Yes – Contact WNHP/WDNR and go to SC 2.4 No = Not a WHCV SC 2.4. Has WDNR identified the wetland within the S/T/R as a Wetland of High Conservation Value and listed it on their website? Yes = Category I No = Not a WHCV</p>	<p>Cat. I</p>
<p>SC 3.0. Bogs Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? <i>Use the key below. If you answer YES you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.</i></p> <p>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</p> <p>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 = Is not a bog</p> <p>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 = Is a 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.</p> <p>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 = Is a Category I bog No = Is not a bog</p>	<p>Cat. I</p>

Wetland name or number A

<p>SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands</p> <p>Does the wetland have at least <u>1 contiguous acre</u> of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife's forests as priority habitats? <i>If you answer YES you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — 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). <p style="text-align: right;">Yes = Category I No = Not a forested wetland for this section</p>	<p>Cat. I</p>
<p>SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons</p> <p>Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — 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 (<i>needs to be measured near the bottom</i>) <p style="text-align: right;">Yes – Go to SC 5.1 No = Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon</p> <p>SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — 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 on p. 100). — At least ¼ 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 ft²) <p style="text-align: right;">Yes = Category I No = Category II</p>	<p>Cat. I</p> <p>Cat. II</p>
<p>SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands</p> <p>Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? <i>If you answer yes you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.</i></p> <p>In practical terms that means the following geographic areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — 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 <p style="text-align: right;">Yes – Go to SC 6.1 No = not an interdunal wetland for rating</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p>	<p>Cat I</p> <p>Cat. II</p> <p>Cat. III</p> <p>Cat. IV</p>
<p>Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics If you answered No for all types, enter "Not Applicable" on Summary Form</p>	<p>NA</p>

Wetland name or number _____

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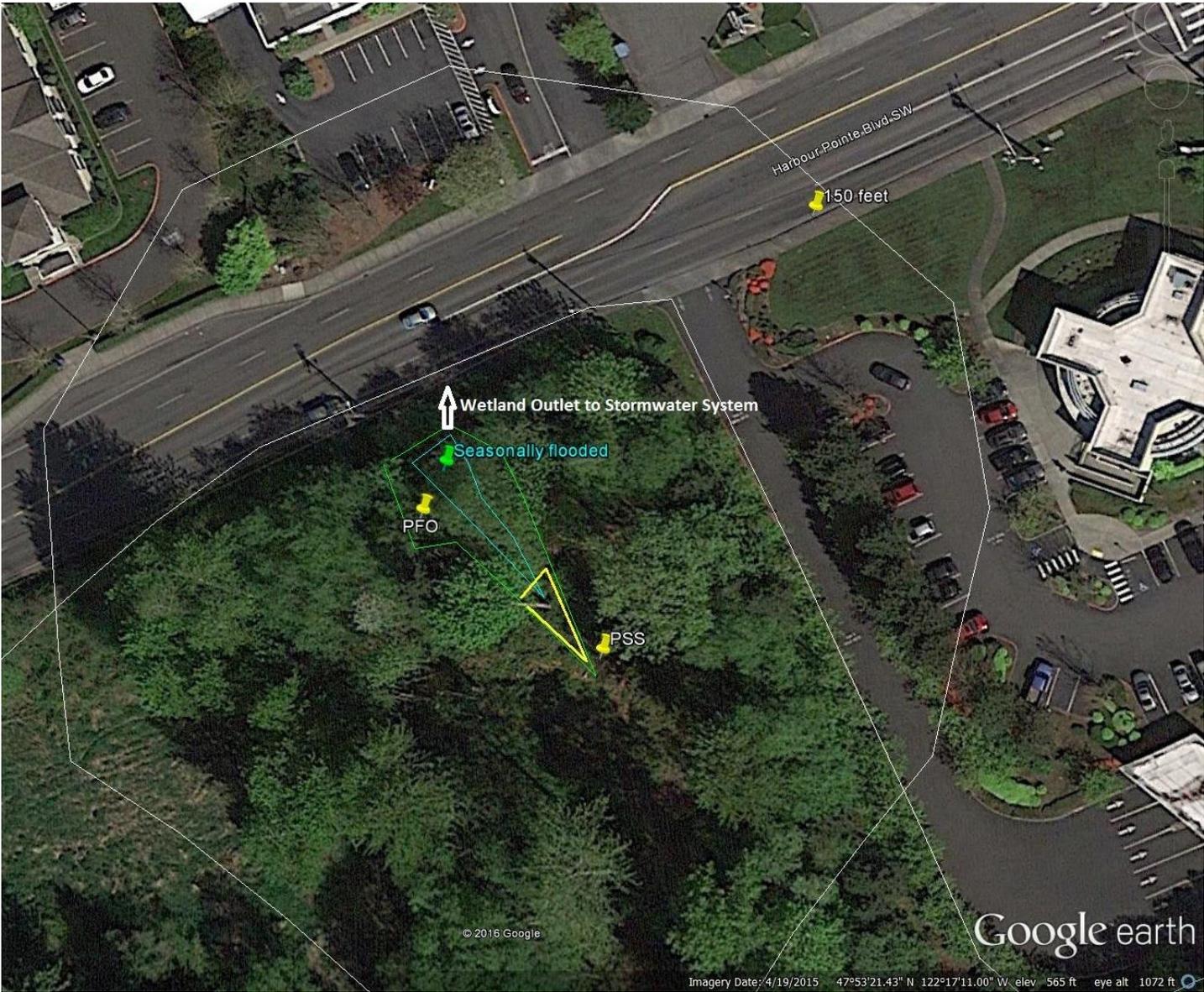


Figure 1: Cowardin Class, Hydrologic Regime, Location of outlet, 150 foot radius



Figure 2: Contributing Basin, 1KM radius

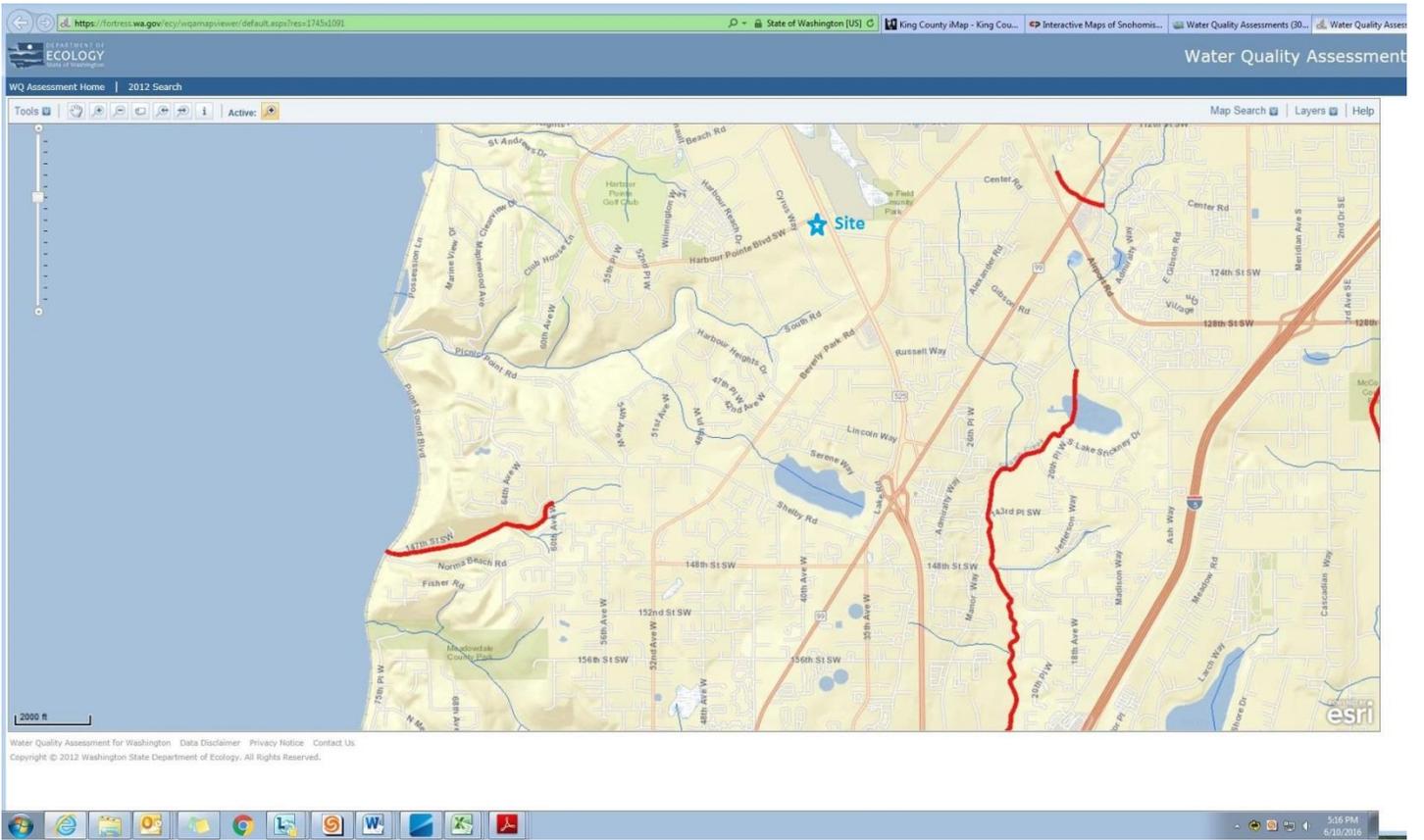


Figure 3: 303(d) list