

CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Determine if the wetland meets the attributes described below and circle the appropriate answers and Category.

| WETLAND TYPE | CATEGORY |
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| <p>Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the appropriate Category when the appropriate criteria are met.</p> | |
| <p>SC 1.0 Estuarine Wetlands</p> <p>Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The dominant water regime is tidal</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Vegetated, and</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> With a salinity of greater than 0.5 ppt.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">YES = go to question SC 1.1 NO = not an Estuarine for the purpose of rating.</p> | No |
| <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?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">YES = Category I NO = go to question SC 1.2</p> | Category I |
| <p>SC 1.2 Is the wetland at least 1 acre in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The wetland is relatively undisturbed (has no diking, ditching, filling, cultivation, grazing, and less than 10% cover of non-native plant species). If the non-native <i>Spartina</i> spp. are the only species that cover more than 10% of the wetland, then the wetland should be given a dual rating of I/II. The area of <i>Spartina</i> would be rated as a Category II, while the relatively undisturbed upper marsh with native species should be rated a Category I. Do not, however, exclude the area of <i>Spartina</i> in determining the size threshold of 1 acre.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 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.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The wetland has at least 2 of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands.</p> | |

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| <p>SC 4.0 Forested Wetland</p> <p>Does the wetland have at least 1 acre of forest that meets one of the following criteria for the Department of Fish and Wildlife’s forest as priority habitats?</p> <p>If the answer is YES the wetland still needs to be rated based on its functions.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Old-growth forests: (west of the Cascade crest) Stands of at least two tree species, forming a multi-layered canopy with occasional small openings; with at least 8 trees/acres (20 trees/ha) that are at least 200 years of age OR have a dbh of 32 inches (81cm) or more.</p> <p>NOTE: The criterion for dbh is based on measurement for upland forests. Two-hundred year old trees in wetland will often have a smaller dbh because their growth rates are often slower. The DFW criterion is and “OR” so old-growth forests do not necessarily have to have trees of this diameter.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mature forests: (west of the Cascade crest). Stands where the largest trees are 80 to 200 years old OR have average dbh exceeding 21 inches (53cm); crown cover may be less than 100%; decay, decadence, numbers of snags, and quality of large downed material is generally less than that found in old-growth forests.</p> <p>YES = Category I NO = not a forested wetland for purposes of rating</p> | <p><u>Category I</u></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> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The wetland lies in a depression adjacent to marine waters that is wholly or partially separated from marine waters by a sandbank, gravel bank, shingle, or less frequently by rocks.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains surface water that is saline or brackish (>0.5ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon (needs to be measured near the bottom).</p> <p>YES = go to question SC 5.1 <u>NO = not a wetland in a coastal lagoon</u></p> | |
| <p>SC 5.1 Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The wetland is relatively undisturbed (has no diking, ditching, filling, cultivation, grazing), and has less than 20% cover of invasive plant species.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 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.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The wetland is larger than 1/10 acre (4350 square feet).</p> <p>YES = Category I NO = Category II</p> | <p>Category I</p> <p>Category II</p> |
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| <p>SC 6.0 Interdunal Wetlands</p> <p>Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership of WBUO)?</p> <p>In practical terms that mean the following geographic areas:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The Long Beach Peninsula- lands west of SR 103</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Grayland, Westport- lands west of SR 105</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Shores, Copalis- lands west of SR 115 and SR 109</p> <p>If the answer is YES the wetland still need to be rated based on its functions. YES = go to question SC6.1 <u>NO = not an interdunal wetland for rating purposes</u></p> | |
| <p>SC 6.1 Is the wetland one are or larger, or is it a mosaic of wetlands that is one acre or larger?</p> <p>YES = Category II NO = go to question SC 6.2</p> | <p>Category II</p> |
| <p>SC 6.2 Is the wetland between 0.1 and 1 acre, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that are between 0.1 and 1 acre?</p> <p>YES = Category III</p> | <p>Category III</p> |
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| <p>Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics</p> <p>Choose the "highest" rating if wetland falls into several categories, and record on p. 1. If NO was answered for all types enter "Not Applicable" on p. 1.</p> | <p>I</p> |