



Site name: _____ Surveyors: _____ Date: _____
Property/Management Unit Name: _____ Assessment Area (AA) name: _____ AA acres: _____
GPS start: _____ GPS end: _____ Attach digital or hand-drawn map of AA.

COMPOSITION METRICS

1) Total % cover of major native grasses and sedges: big bluestem, little bluestem, Indian grass, switchgrass, prairie dropseed, prairie cordgrass, and sedges (Carex spp.).

Table with 9 columns: A (Excellent), B (Good), C (Fair), D (Poor), E (Very Poor), Your obs (e.g. 45%), Letter rank (A-E), Score (4, 3, 2, 1, 0), Notes. Rows show percentage ranges for each category.

2) Total % cover of non-native invasive grasses: reed canary grass (Phalaris arundinacea), Kentucky bluegrass (Poa pratensis), smooth brome (Bromus inermis), wild timothy (Phleum pratense), redtop (Agrostis gigantea), non-native Phragmites (Phragmites australis var. australis), etc. For the Score field, A minus = 3.5; C minus = 1.5.

Table with 9 columns: A, B, C, D, E, Your obs, Letter rank, Score, Notes. Rows show percentage ranges for each category.

3) Total % cover of forb disturbance indicators: Canada goldenrod (Solidago canadensis), Queen Anne's lace (Daucus carota), wild parsnip (Pastinaca sativa), and sweet clover (Melilotus spp.). Include only bolting/ flowering/fruitlet individuals, NOT basal rosettes.

Table with 9 columns: A, B, C, D, E, Your obs, Letter rank, Score, Notes. Rows show percentage ranges for each category.

4) Number of native forb species indicative of high-quality habitat (see checklist below). Optimal survey time is August.

Table with 9 columns: A, B, C, D, E, Your obs, Letter rank, Score, Notes. Rows show species count ranges for each category.



swamp thistle* (Cirsium muticum), false toadflax (Comandra umbellata), purple prairie clover (Dalea purpurea), showy tick-trefoil (Desmodium canadense), northern bedstraw* (Galium boreale), blazing-star (Liatris sp.), Michigan lily (Lilium michiganense)



puccoon spp. (Lithospermum spp.), prairie loosestrife* (Lysimachia quadriflora), winged loosestrife* (Lythrum alatum), stiff cowbane* (Oxypolis rigidior), wood betony (Pedicularis canadensis), yellow coneflower (Ratibida pinnata), compass-plant (Silphium laciniatum)



prairie dock (S. terebinthaceum), Riddell's goldenrod* (Solidago riddellii), stiff goldenrod* (Solidago rigida), sky-blue aster* (Aster oolentangiensis), Culver's-root (Veronicastrum virginicum), golden Alexanders (Zizia aurea)

*Similar species may occur in your sample area. A field guide may be useful to ensure accurate ID.



Composition Subrank: Enter the AVERAGE score of metrics 1-4, then convert to letter rank using 'Comp subrank score range' in table at lower right.

Avg score	Letter rank	Notes

STRUCTURE METRICS

5) Total % cover of non-native invasive shrubs: honeysuckle, common buckthorn, glossy buckthorn, etc.

A	B	C	D	E	Your obs	Letter rank	Notes
<1%	1-3%	C: 4-10% C-: 11-30%	31%-50	>50%			

6) Total % cover of native shrubs and trees >3ft tall: dogwood, willow, hazelnut, viburnum, aspen, elm, oak, etc.

A	B	C	D	E	Your obs	Letter rank	Notes
0-5%	6-10%	C: 11-20% C-: 21-30%	31-70%	>70%			

Structure subrank: Take the LOWEST score of metrics 5-6:

Metric #	Letter rank	Notes

HYDROLOGY METRICS

7) Are there hydrologic impairments affecting the site? Consider each stressor and check the box if current or historic stressors are affecting the assessment area. Rank the estimated level of impact as low, medium, or high. See SOP manual for examples.

Stressor	Currently within AA	Within a buffer of:	Historically within AA	Impact Level (L, M, H)	Notes
Ditch or excavated pond		100m			
Channelized stream		100m			
Effect of berm, dike, road, or RR grade		30-100m			
Mowing, haying, or grazing		-			
Plowing or drain tile		30m			
Sedimentation/legacy sediments		30m			
Nutrient enrichment		30m			
Stormwater/drain tile input		30m			

Hydrology metric subrank:

- A: None evident
- B: Minimal: 1-2 alterations, all low impact
- C: Moderate: 3-5 alterations of low impact OR 1-2 of moderate impact
- D: Major: 3-5 alterations of moderate impact OR 1 of high impact
- E: Severe: 2+ alterations of high impact OR 1 high impact & 3+ moderate impact

Letter rank	Notes

SUMMARY: Enter composition, structure, and hydrology subranks, then use summary rank column in table below for final rank.

Metric name	Letter rank	Notes
Composition subrank		
Structure subrank		
Hydrology subrank		
FINAL RANK		

	Comp subrank score range	Summary rank: Subranks are:
A	3.80 – 4.0	All As
A-	3.79 – 3.5	2 A, 1 A- or B
B	3.49 – 3.0	1 A, 2 Bs OR 3 Bs
B-	2.99 – 2.5	2 Bs, 1 C
C	2.49 – 2.0	1 B, 2 Cs
C-	1.99 – 1.5	3 Cs OR 1 C-
D	1.49 – 1.0	1 or more Ds
E	<1.0	1 or more Es

Management recommendations: _____

Guide to percent cover:

