

APPENDIX D

CO₂ CALCULATIONS

Table 1: Baseline GHG Quantification - Higgins Mountain Wind Farm Project

Project #20-7376

Power Generation via Coal			
Parameter/Variable	Value	Unit	Comments
Quantity of Power Generated via Coal	153,440,079 kWh/year	Based on 49% of electricity generated by NSPI in 2021	
Emission Factors			
Parameter/Variable	Value	Unit	Comments
Coal Generated Electricity Conversion Factor	1.0251 kg CO ₂ e/kWh 0.001 t CO ₂ e/kWh	[Source: USEIA, 2022] 1 kg = 0.001 Tonnes	
Emissions	157,294.34 t CO ₂ e/year	B5*B8*B9	
Power Generation via Oil			
Parameter/Variable	Value	Unit	Comments
Quantity of Power Generated via Oil	34,445,732 kWh/year	Based on 11% of electricity generated by NSPI in 2021	
Emission Factors			
Parameter/Variable	Value	Unit	Comments
Oil Generated Electricity Conversion Factor	1.1068 kg CO ₂ e/kWh 0.001 t CO ₂ e/kWh	[Source: USEIA, 2022] 1 kg = 0.001 Tonnes	
Emissions	38,123.33 t CO ₂ e/year	B14*B17*B18	
Power Generation via Natural Gas			
Parameter/Variable	Value	Unit	Comments
Quantity of Power Generated via Natural Gas	34,445,732 kWh/year	Based on 11% of electricity generated by NSPI in 2021	
Emission Factors			
Parameter/Variable	Value	Unit	Comments
Natural Gas Generated Electricity Conversion Factor	0.4400 kg CO ₂ e/kWh 0.001 t CO ₂ e/kWh	[Source: USEIA, 2022] 1 kg = 0.001 Tonnes	
Emissions	15,155.59 t CO ₂ e/year	B23*B26*B27	
Power Generation via Wind			
Parameter/Variable	Value	Unit	Comments
Quantity of Power Generated via Wind	90,811,476 kWh/year	Based on 29% of electricity generated by NSPI in 2021	
Emission Factors			
Parameter/Variable	Value	Unit	Comments
Wind Generated Electricity	0 t CO ₂ e/kWh		
Emissions	0 t CO ₂ e/year	B32*B35	
Total Emissions	210,573.26 t CO ₂ e/year	B10+B19+B28	

User input data
Compiled data

Table 2: Construction Phase GHG Quantification - Higgins Mountain Wind Farm Project

Project # 20-7376

Turbine Fabrication			
Parameter/Variable	Value	Unit	Comments
Turbine Steel	948,601 948.60	kg/Turbine tonne/Turbine	Based on weights provided in Siemens Gamesa Product Design Detailed Documentation [Siemens, 2020] 1 kg = 0.001 Tonnes
Emission Factors			
Parameter/Variable	Value	Unit	Comments
General Steel	1.5 kg CO ₂ e/kg		Estimated from the UK's mixture of steel types, excluding stainless steel (Inventory of Carbon & Energy (ICE), Version 2.0).
Conversion Factor	0.001 t CO ₂ e/kg		1 kg = 0.001 Tonnes
Emissions	24,189.33 t CO ₂ e		B5*B9*B10*17(WT)
Turbine Transportation			
Parameter/Variable	Value	Unit	Comments
Transportation Vehicle			
Heavy Duty Truck (Diesel)	1 ea		
Distance Travelled	539,828.31 km		
Freight Weight	79.05 tonne		From Fort Madison, IA to Norfolk, VA and Sheet Harbour, NS to Wind Turbine Laydowns (includes all the wind turbine components for all wind turbines). Estimate of each component; 948.6 tonnes/12 components
Marine Cargo and Containers (Diesel)	1 ea		
Distance Travelled	25,500 km		From Norfolk, VA to Sheet Harbour, NS (includes 17 windturbines).
Freight Weight	948.60 tonne		Cell B6
Emission Factors			
Parameter/Variable	Value	Unit	Comments
Heavy Duty Truck	135 g CO ₂ e/tonne-km		Freight emissions for calculating GHGs from freight (materials delivery, shipment of product to market, etc.) [Source: GHGenius v5.0d]
Conversion Factor	0.000001 t CO ₂ e/tonne-km		1 g = 0.000001 Tonnes
Emissions	5,760.92 t CO ₂ e/year		B16*B17*B21*B24*B25
Marine Cargo and Containers (Diesel)	15.1 g CO ₂ e/tonne-km		Freight emissions for calculating GHGs from freight (materials delivery, shipment of product to market, etc.) [Source: GHGenius v5.0d]
Conversion Factor	0.000001 t CO ₂ e/tonne-km		1 g = 0.000001 Tonnes
Emissions	365.26 t CO ₂ e/year		B20*B21*B27*B28
Concrete Tower Foundation and Pedestal			
Parameter/Variable	Value	Unit	Comments
Concrete Production Quantity	2,500,000 kg 2,500 tonne 18 tonne/truck		Based on a volume of 1,000 m ³ (per Wind Turbine Pad) and density of 2,500 kg/m ³ 1 kg = 0.001 Tonnes
Concrete Transportation			
Concrete Truck	140 ea		[Source: Kenter, 2017]
Distance Travelled (freight)	823.09 km		Based on one-way trip from Concrete Supplier to each Wind Turbine Pad
Distance Travelled (no freight)	823.09 km		Based on one-way trip from each Wind Turbine Pad to Concrete Supplier
Emission Factors			
Parameter/Variable	Value	Unit	Comments
Concrete Production	300 g CO ₂ e/kg		0.3 kg CO ₂ e/kg [Source: GHGenius v5.0d].
Concrete Truck (freight)	135 g CO ₂ e/tonne-km		Freight emissions for calculating GHGs from freight (materials delivery, shipment of product to market, etc.) [Source: GHGenius v5.0d].
Concrete Truck (no freight)	1,106 g CO ₂ e/km		Emissions for calculating GHGs where the volume of fuel consumed is unknown but the distance travelled is known [Source: GHGenius v5.0d].
Conversion Factor	0.000001 t CO ₂ e/tonne-km		1 g = 0.000001 Tonnes
Concrete Production Emissions	12,750.00 t CO ₂ e/year		B33*B42*B45*17(WT)
Concrete Truck (freight) Emissions	277.79 t CO ₂ e/year		B35*B37*B38*B43*B45
Concrete Truck (no freight) Emissions	127.45 t CO ₂ e/year		B37*B39*B44*B45
Total Concrete Tower Foundation and Pedestal	13,155.24 t CO ₂ e/year		B46+B47+B48
Total Emissions (Construction Phase)	43,470.74 t CO₂e		B11+B26+B29+B49

User input data
Compiled data

Table 3: Construction Phase GHG Quantification - Higgins Mountain Wind Farm Project

Project #20-7376

Wind Energy			
Parameter/Variable	Value	Unit	Comments
Quantity of Power Generation via Wind	313,143,016 kWh/year	See Equation	$kWh = 17\text{Turbines} \times \frac{6.6MW}{\text{Turbine}} \times \frac{365\text{days}}{\text{year}} \times \frac{24\text{hours}}{\text{day}} \times 0.3186 \times \frac{1000kW}{MW} = 313,143,019.2kWh/\text{year}$
Emission Factors			
Parameter/Variable	Value	Unit	Comments
Wind Generated Electricity	0 t CO ₂ e/kWh		
Emissions	0 t CO ₂ e/year	B5*B8	
Maintenance			
Parameter/Variable	Value	Unit	Comments
Nacelle Components Replacement	10,379 kg/Turbine		15% of Nacelle [Source: Source: Padey et al., 2012]
Blade Replacement	21,141 kg/Turbine		[Source: Source: Padey et al., 2012]
Emission Factors			
Parameter/Variable	Value	Unit	Comments
General Steel	1.5 kg CO ₂ e/kg		Estimated from the UK's mixture of steel types, excluding stainless steel (Inventory of Carbon & Energy (ICE), Version 2.0).
Conversion Factor	0.001 t CO ₂ e/kg		1 kg = 0.001 Tonnes
Emissions	47.28 t CO ₂ e/turbine	(B13+B14)*B17*B18	
Total Emissions	803.76 t CO₂e		B9+B19*17 (WT)

User input data
Compiled data

APPENDIX E

GROUNDWATER WELLS

Well Number	Address	Community	County	Date Inserted	Well Depth (m)	Bedrock Depth (m)	Static (m)	Yield (Lpm)	Elevation (m)	Well Type	Water Use	Easting	Northing
1750		Folly Lake	Colchester	2000-10-12	31.36	3.65		36.32	302.45056	Drilled	Domestic	456500	5043500
1759		Folly Lake	Colchester	2000-07-02	43.54		15.22	68.10	302.45056	Drilled	Domestic	456500	5043500
2396	119 Sutherland Lake Road, Sutherlands Lake	Castlereagh	Colchester	2000-10-27	61.51	3.04	4.57	3.40	248.60089	Drilled	Domestic	446500	5040500
2509	RR#1	Londonderry	Colchester	2000-11-14	18.27	5.48	2.44	136.20	82	Drilled	Domestic	453500	5035500
2515	RR#5 Truro	Truro	Colchester	2000-09-25	24.36	9.14	4.26	68.10	248.60089	Drilled	Domestic	446500	5040500
2631	Pinneilla Point Drive	Folly Lake	Colchester	2000-05-09	39.58		9.14	22.70	184.06395	Drilled	Domestic	457500	5043500
10723		Londonderry	Colchester	2001-10-12	22.84	3.65	2.44	54.48	83	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5035500
10724	Baseline Road	Londonderry	Colchester	2001-10-12	25.27			13.62	151.38138	Drilled	Domestic	454500	5036500
12583	1614 Highway #4	Folly Mountain	Colchester	2001-06-20	61.51		5.48	6.81	114	Drilled	Domestic	458500	5036500
12664	Stevens Road, Aikens	Folly Lake	Colchester	2001-09-12	67.60	2.74	0.03	18.16	183.9861	Drilled	Domestic	457500	5042500
12665	Old Station Road	Wentworth Station	Cumberland	2001-09-11	91.96	6.70	9.74	1.14	120.75946	Drilled	Domestic	455500	5050500
12666	369 Stevens Road	Folly Lake	Colchester	2001-09-13	61.51	19.79	8.53	15.89	183.9861	Drilled	Domestic	457500	5042500
13227	RR#1	Londonderry	Colchester	2001-09-06	42.63	2.44	4.57	22.70	85	Drilled	Domestic	451500	5035500
13234	397 Upper Road	Londonderry	Colchester	2001-10-05	60.90	7.61		0.00	104.30134	Drilled	Domestic	451958	5036353
13235	Sutherland Lake	Castlereagh	Colchester	2001-10-12	48.72	3.65	7.31	9.08	248.60089	Drilled	Domestic	446500	5040500
20409	Londonderry, PO BOX 28		Colchester	2002-05-23	19.18	3.04	1.83	81.72	83	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5035500
22161		Wentworth Station	Cumberland	2002-07-11	38.06	3.04	10.66	22.70	162.22354	Drilled	Domestic	4501500	5051500
22173		Lornevale	Colchester	2002-05-23	106.58	3.35	2.44	4.54	246.45575	Drilled	Public (not municipal)	446814	5038629
22174		Lornevale	Colchester	2002-05-23	92.87	3.04	2.44	9.08	246.45575	Drilled	Public (not municipal)	446814	5038629
22522	1 THGIR FO YAW	Wentworth Station	Cumberland	2002-11-06	37.15	21.62	10.66	45.40	120.75946	Drilled	Domestic	455500	5050500
22674	Stevens Road	Folly Lake	Colchester	2002-05-27	36.84	19.49	3.35	136.20	183.9861	Drilled	Domestic	457500	5042500
30458		Wentworth Station	Cumberland	2003-08-19	21.01	9.14	4.57	15.89	253.29225	Drilled	Domestic	454500	5050500
30549		Wentworth Station	Cumberland	2003-07-17	18.27		4.57	90.80	99.01385	Drilled	Domestic	455500	5051500
31282	Barclay Road	Wentworth Station	Cumberland	2003-11-08	49.02	27.10	0.30	18.16	124.82906	Drilled	Domestic	456500	5050500
31285	Valley Road	Westchester Station	Cumberland	2003-11-10	49.63	20.71	0.91	6.81	140.83902	Drilled	Domestic	453500	5051500
31927		Londonderry	Colchester	2003-05-31	19.79		1.52	45.40	88	Drilled	Domestic	453500	5034500
31931	Valley Road	Wentworth Station	Cumberland	2003-06-13	44.15	33.50		22.70	99.01385	Drilled	Domestic	455500	5051500
32089	3673 Mines Bass River Road	Londonderry	Colchester	2003-07-19	40.50	8.83	2.44	13.62	159	Drilled	Domestic	455500	5036500
32115		Wentworth Valley	Cumberland	2003-10-26	66.99		1.52	45.40	153.19803	Drilled	Domestic	455500	5049500
32130	Pennsilla Drive	Folly Lake	Colchester	2003-12-17	49.63			54.48	198.95682	Drilled	Domestic	457500	5046500
41627		Lornevale	Colchester	2004-12-15	80.69	2.44	3.04	6.81	301.737	Drilled	Domestic	447772	5041029
41768	38	Lornevale	Colchester	2004-10-04	16.14	1.22		27.24	245.68622	Drilled	Domestic	446760	5041450
41793	148 Highway #4	Folly Lake	Colchester	2004-05-31	61.81	4.26	4.57	11.35	203.10896	Drilled	Domestic	456993	5043649
41982	68 North End Road, Sutherlands Lake	Castlereagh	Colchester	2004-08-27	55.42	4.57	3.04	4.54	239.38637	Drilled	Domestic	446805	5041267
41994	Fisher Mountain Road, Sutherlands Lake	Castlereagh	Colchester	2004-08-26	49.63	2.44	2.74	6.81	264.15112	Drilled	Domestic	447157	5041645
42042	Blueberry Lane	Folly Lake	Colchester	2004-08-23	37.15	8.83	2.74	136.20	186.6505	Drilled	Domestic	457669	5042650
42305	16 Timber Ridge Road	Wentworth	Cumberland	2004-12-16	25.88	6.70	3.65	36.32	103.31783	Drilled	Domestic	452722	5051695
42452		Wentworth Valley	Cumberland	2004-11-01	3.04			106.00478	Dug	Domestic	456352	5049526	
42815	Wentworth Valley	Wentworth Valley	Cumberland	2004-11-01	3.04			106.00478	Dug	Domestic	456352	5049526	
50469	135 Baseline Road	Londonderry	Colchester	2005-09-07	31.97	4.26		13.62	98	Drilled	Domestic	453098	5036115
50780	802 Valley Road	Wentworth	Cumberland	2005-11-11	16.75	5.48		45.40	115.66856	Drilled	Domestic	452746	5051540
50802	Highway #104, Maple Ridge	Wentworth	Cumberland	2005-08-18	36.54		10.66	45.40	73.96877	Drilled	Domestic	455795	5049625
52059	Valley Road	Wentworth Station	Cumberland	2005-11-25	7.31		3.65	227.00	99.01385	Dug	Domestic	455500	5051500
52561	Old Station Road	Wentworth	Cumberland	2005-11-18	43.24	8.22		31.78	76.34205	Drilled	Domestic	455659	5050616
52730	Folly Lake	Folly Lake	Colchester	2005-10-24	12.18		6.09	90.80	183.95071	Drilled	Domestic	457609	5043672
61050	668 Highway #4	Folly Lake	Colchester	2006-05-01	31.36	6.09	7.61	20.43	192.00337	Drilled	Domestic	457163	5041118
61621	Mountain View Lane	Wentworth	Cumberland	2006-12-09	35.93			18.16	73.92668	Drilled	Domestic	455815	5049530
62097	255 Stevens Road	Folly Lake	Colchester	2006-01-12	73.08	5.18	-0.03	181.60	193.88168	Drilled	Domestic	457676	5042225
62103	1600 Station Road	Londonderry	Colchester	2006-01-21	31.06	3.96	4.26	90.80	86	Drilled	Domestic	454196	5035131
62314	Station Road	Londonderry Station	Colchester	2006-09-18	31.06	4.87	5.18	90.80	88	Drilled	Domestic	453008	5035787
62392	15 Raspberry Drive, Sutherland Lake	Lornevale	Colchester	2006-11-07	12.18	6.09	0.30	18.16	235.50449	Drilled	Domestic	446884	5041102
62408	Sunset Cove Road	Folly Lake	Colchester	2006-05-12	39.58		5.48	272.40	183.95071	Drilled	Domestic	457609	5043672
70317	Mountain View Lane, Wentworth	Wentworth Valley	Cumberland	2007-10-22	3.65			64.66109	Dug	Domestic	456112	5049671	
70455	82 Mountain View Lane, Wentworth	Folly Lake	Colchester	2007-08-22	25.27			227.00	78.08739	Drilled	Domestic	455820	5049445
70464	683 (668?) Highway #4, Folly Lake	Folly Lake Station	Colchester	2007-07-09	55.72	1.52		22.70	191.73508	Drilled	Domestic	457180	5041115
71726	634 Baseline Road	Londonderry	Colchester	2007-07-30	24.97	3.04	3.04	68.10	140	Drilled	Domestic	455497	5036220
71739	Upper Road #1 (Mines Bass River Road)	Londonderry	Colchester	2007-07-31	50.24	4.26	30.45	13.62	110	Drilled	Domestic	451846	5036027
71746	133 Peninsula Drive	Folly Lake	Colchester	2007-11-17	31.06		7.92	68.10	187.59084	Drilled	Domestic	457496	5043570
71747	136 Peninsula Drive	Folly Lake	Colchester	2007-11-21	49.33		9.14	18.16	187.28424	Drilled	Domestic	457476	5043526
71749	Highway #4 (Alexander Cottam Lane)	Folly Mountain	Colchester	2007-11-27	98.35	2.44	0.91	6.81	184.61743	Drilled	Domestic	458070	5037961
71814	105 Peninsula Drive	Folly Lake	Colchester	2007-06-06	36.54		11.88	90.80	187.17841	Drilled	Domestic	457516	5043639
72299	31 Maple Drive	Sutherland Lake	Cumberland	2007-09-21	56.33	1.52	0.91	9.08	329.37219	Drilled	Domestic	448716	5043083
80340	Highway #4, Wentworth	Wentworth Station	Cumberland	2008-11-26	3.65			60.01511	Dug	Domestic	456005	5050241	
80703	86 Old Station Road, Wentworth	Wentworth Station	Cumberland	2008-07-23	31.36	11.57		27.24	74.78485	Drilled	Domestic	455688	5050488

Well Number	Address	Community	County	Date Inserted	Well Depth (m)	Bedrock Depth (m)	Static (m)	Yield (Lpm)	Elevation (m)	Well Type	Water Use	Easting	Northing
80704	14812 Highway #4 (Highway #104), Wentworth	Wentworth Valley	Cumberland	2008-07-23	12.79			90.80	67.2385	Drilled	Domestic	455940	5049687
90481	168 (167) Ridge Road	Sutherland Lake	Cumberland	2009-07-31	43.54	4.87		5.68	301.737	Drilled	Domestic	447772	5041029
91369	14627 Highway #4, Wentworth	Wentworth Valley	Cumberland	2009-10-21	30.45		2.13	90.80	62.28248	Drilled	Domestic	456218	5050554
91372	785 Valley Road, Wentworth	Wentworth Station	Cumberland	2009-10-29	61.51	6.39	4.57	6.81	105.26714	Drilled	Domestic	452654	5051683
91376	61 Miller Court, Wentworth	Wentworth Valley	Cumberland	2009-12-04	18.88	11.57	2.13	136.20	54.13494	Drilled	Domestic	455993	5051089
91377	788 Valley Road, Wentworth	Wentworth Station	Cumberland	2009-12-02	37.15	3.65	-0.03	68.10	112.12479	Drilled	Domestic	452656	5051552
100742	63 Eastside Road (Sutherland Lake Road)	Westchester Mountain	Cumberland	2010-11-03	74.60	6.70	3.04	27.24	240.3466	Drilled	Domestic	447268	5040920
100746	45 Sutherland Lake Road, Sutherland Lake	Westchester Mountain	Cumberland	2010-11-17	56.33	2.44	3.04	181.60	240.84422	Drilled	Domestic	447327	5040850
100747	45 Sutherland Lake Road, Sutherland Lake	Westchester Mountain	Cumberland	2010-11-18	38.06	2.44	3.04	54.48	246.60863	Drilled	Domestic	447373	5040870
100786	80 Barclay Road, Wentworth	Wentworth Valley	Cumberland	2010-05-24	61.20	10.35	6.70	4.54	64.535	Drilled	Public (not municipal)	456239	5050540
100801	68 (66?) Maple Drive, Sutherland Lake	Westchester Mountain	Cumberland	2010-07-14	61.51	1.22		4.54	250.13466	Drilled	Domestic	446706	5041627
100865	80 7060 Road (Londonderry to Westchester)	Londonderry	Colchester	2010-04-05	30.45	12.79	9.14	13.62	102.4962	Drilled	Domestic	452640	5036667
100953	110 Sunset Lane (Sunset Cove Road)	Folly Lake	Colchester	2010-08-16	76.12	17.36	3.04	18.16	185.98518	Drilled	Domestic	457795	5043488
100954	14722 Highway #4, Wentworth	Wentworth Valley	Colchester	2010-08-19	57.86		3.04	90.80	60.7366	Drilled	Domestic	456051	5050162
100955	32 Miller Court, Wentworth	Wentworth Valley	Cumberland	2010-08-19	36.54		0.91	113.50	52.32552	Drilled	Domestic	456123	5051186
101764	12 PATS BOULEVARD, SutherlandS ALE	Castlereagh	Cumberland	2010-10-21	8.22	3.65	1.52	54.48	267.59882	Drilled	Domestic	446788	5040111
110201	73 Barclay Road (Highway #104), Wentworth	Wentworth Valley	Cumberland	2011-03-16	6.09		1.22	45.40	59.14537	Drilled	Domestic	456162	5050520
110675	Highway #4, Debert/ Folly Mountain	Folly Mountain	Colchester	2011-07-13	37.45	8.22		45.40	108	Drilled	Domestic	458640	5036201
110990	49 Mountain View Lane, Wentworth	Wentworth Valley	Cumberland	2011-12-14	54.51		3.35	68.10	68.93109	Drilled	Domestic	455900	5049557
111564	70 Wyllies Lane, Sutherlands Lake	Westchester Mountain	Cumberland	2011-10-12	56.33	1.22	1.83	11.35	265.09665	Drilled	Domestic	446869	5041808
120457	12 Ridge Road, Londonderry (NR SutherlandS Lake)	Londonderry	Colchester	2012-11-26	19.18	3.65		9.08	237.34225	Drilled	Domestic	447501	5040076
120728	Mines Bass River Road (39 CHAPEL Road)	Londonderry	Colchester	2012-06-13	49.33	1.22	7.61	45.40	88	Drilled	Domestic	452022	5036024
120730	197 Westchester Road	Londonderry	Colchester	2012-06-14	43.24	3.65	4.57	31.78	106.84424	Drilled	Domestic	452246	5037030
120799	1387 Valley Road, Wentworth	Wentworth Station	Cumberland	2012-10-03	49.33	6.39	5.79	9.08	64.51112	Drilled	Domestic	455341	5052261
120802	29 ON TIXE Road	Wentworth	Cumberland	2012-10-11	110.23	4.87	10.35	1.14	82.92368	Drilled	Domestic	455651	5050272
120825	360 (359?) Stevens Road Extension	Folly Lake	Colchester	2012-11-27	18.88	14.01	2.74	136.20	188.08772	Drilled	Domestic	457690	5042773
130776	Highway #2 (Highway #4?)	Folly Mountain	Colchester	2013-10-28	49.33	4.57	7.00	81.72	91	Drilled	Domestic	458742	5035545
130790	1154 Valley Road, Wentworth	Wentworth Station	Cumberland	2013-11-26	31.06	3.35	-0.03	54.48	86.2095	Drilled	Domestic	454043	5051965
140589	345 Station Road (Wentworth Station RD), Wentworth	Wentworth Station	Cumberland	2014-01-31	79.78	7.61	0.61	3.40	111.48637	Drilled	Domestic	455319	5051539
140624	24 Tote Road, Wentworth	Wentworth Station	Cumberland	2014-06-25	37.15	5.18	7.61	54.48	92.94639	Drilled	Domestic	454028	5051874
140659	1650 Highway #4	Folly Mountain	Colchester	2014-08-12	43.24	5.48	7.31	45.40	110	Drilled	Domestic	458577	5036346
140709	Station Road	Londonderry	Colchester	2014-10-29	24.66	4.26	4.26	113.50	88	Drilled	Domestic	454199	5035370
140714	Miller Court, Wentworth Valley	Wentworth Valley	Cumberland	2014-11-05	36.84	29.54	0.91	90.80	52.2844	Drilled	Domestic	456079	5051150
140730	Hardwood Drive (Westchester Road), Sutherland Lake	Castlereagh	Cumberland	2014-12-17	70.04	4.26	3.04	6.81	274.73962	Drilled	Domestic	447264	5041838
150182	64 Ridge Road, Sutherland Lake	Castlereagh	Cumberland	2015-11-03	68.51	1.83	3.04	6.81	232.10924	Drilled	Domestic	447715	5040314
150183	50 Hardwood Drive (Westchester RD) Sutherland Lake	Westchester Mountain	Cumberland	2015-11-02	56.33	1.52	3.04	6.81	274.6532	Drilled	Domestic	447135	5041831
150716	65 Timberline Trail, Wentworth	Wentworth Station	Cumberland	2015-10-27	49.33	7.61		11.35	99.65978	Drilled	Domestic	453814	5051836
160486	25 IMA Road	Wentworth	Cumberland	2016-06-13	91.96	9.14	11.88	2.27	115.29028	Drilled	Domestic	455194	5051481
160489	15 Tote Road	Wentworth	Cumberland	2016-06-14	49.02	4.87		18.16	91.36079	Drilled	Domestic	454095	5051877
160530	311 Wentworth Station Road	Wentworth	Cumberland	2016-10-20	122.41	8.83		3.40	120.71942	Drilled	Domestic	455398	5051463
160612	45 Miller Court	Wentworth	Cumberland	2016-11-08	24.97	18.27	1.52	136.20	52.47352	Drilled	Domestic	456057	5051154
160616	667 Base Line Road	Londonderry	Colchester	2016-12-21	49.33	3.65		9.08	164.02264	Drilled	Domestic	455698	5036534
170831	3855 Mines Bass River Road	Londonderry	Colchester	2017-01-05	49.33	3.35	0.61	22.70	119	Drilled	Domestic	451143	5035682
170849	151 SutherlandS Lake Road	Sutherlands Lake	Cumberland	2017-05-15	55.42	4.87		3.40	238.47557	Drilled	Domestic	446862	5041180
170851	67 White Birch Drive	Wentworth	Cumberland	2017-05-25	6.09		1.52	68.10	46.6713	Drilled	Domestic	455843	5052078
170891	IMA Road	Wentworth	Cumberland	2017-09-20	79.78	7.61	7.92	13.62	121.15089	Drilled	Domestic	455128	5051415
170926	14926 Highway 4	Wentworth	Cumberland	2017-11-20	7.92		0.91	68.10	68.22859	Drilled	Domestic	456153	5049248
180557	Pinnisula Drive	Folly Lake	Colchester	2018-10-23	48.72			68.10	189.44528	Drilled	Domestic	457488	5043291
180644	285 Stevens Road	Folly Lake	Cumberland	2018-05-14	18.88	15.22	1.22	181.60	184.85219	Drilled	Domestic	457555	5042439
180645	Pinnisula Drive	Folly Lake	Cumberland	2018-05-10	51.76		12.18	68.10	188.46466	Drilled	Domestic	457462	5043318
650214		Londonderry	Colchester	1965-08-06	24.36	9.44	4.87	54.48	83	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5035500
650458		Londonderry	Colchester	1965-08-11	10.96	7.31	1.83	27.24	83	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5035500
650460		Londonderry	Colchester	1965-10-24	22.23	10.66	4.26	27.24	83	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5035500
650474		Londonderry	Colchester	1965-07-12	19.79	8.22	3.65	27.24	83	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5035500

Well Number	Address	Community	County	Date Inserted	Well Depth (m)	Bedrock Depth (m)	Static (m)	Yield (Lpm)	Elevation (m)	Well Type	Water Use	Easting	Northing
670892		Wentworth Valley	Cumberland	1967-11-24	42.63	12.18		13.62	124.82906	Drilled	Domestic	456500	5050500
680373		Folly Mountain	Colchester	1968-12-18	8.22			27.24	85	Drilled	Domestic	458500	5035500
680514		Londonderry	Colchester	1968-07-07	27.40	10.66	8.53	31.78	83	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5035500
680523		Londonderry	Colchester	1968-06-13	12.79	7.92	2.74	31.78	83	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5035500
681013		Wentworth Valley	Cumberland	1968-12-01	30.45	18.27			124.82906	Drilled	Domestic	456500	5050500
691022		Wentworth	Cumberland	1969-07-02	24.36	4.87		18.16	169.96172	Drilled	Domestic	455322	5050229
691023		Wentworth	Cumberland	1969-10-01	12.18	5.18		13.62	169.96172	Drilled	Domestic	455322	5050229
720380	Sutherland Lake	Lornevale	Colchester	1972-06-13	12.18	1.52	3.04	13.62	239.41095	Drilled	Domestic	447121	5041034
720447		Londonderry	Colchester	1972-08-30	20.71	10.96		4.54	83	Drilled		452500	5035500
720789		Folly Lake	Colchester	1972-10-20	27.40	0.91	1.52	4.54	302.45056	Drilled	Domestic	456500	5043500
730716		Londonderry	Colchester	1973-08-08	30.45	10.05	4.57	22.70	83	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5035500
730722		Londonderry	Colchester	1973-08-14	17.66	11.57	4.26	22.70	83	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5035500
730735		Londonderry	Colchester	1973-11-24	30.45	17.36	7.00	22.70	83	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5035500
740550		Londonderry	Colchester	1974-09-10	28.93	5.18	10.05	18.16	83	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5035500
750718		Folly Lake	Colchester	1975-07-14	23.75	5.79	7.00	22.70	302.45056	Drilled	Domestic	456500	5043500
750750		Londonderry	Colchester	1975-05-09	20.10	7.31	3.96	22.70	83	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5035500
750770		Folly Lake	Colchester	1975-07-12	28.01	7.61	8.22	22.70	302.45056	Drilled	Domestic	456500	5043500
750775		Londonderry	Colchester	1975-04-08	28.01	4.26	4.26	22.70	83	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5035500
750785		Londonderry	Colchester	1975-05-12	38.06	7.92	7.92	22.70	83	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5035500
760493		Londonderry	Colchester	1976-11-15	18.27	5.48	3.65	54.48	83	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5035500
760501		Folly Mountain	Colchester	1976-09-23	36.54	9.14	10.05	36.32	85	Drilled	Domestic	458500	5035500
760682		Folly Lake	Colchester	1976-06-12	44.15	4.26	5.79	22.70	302.45056	Drilled	Domestic	456500	5043500
760733		Londonderry	Colchester	1976-08-24	42.63	5.18	6.39	22.70	83	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5035500
760751		Londonderry	Colchester	1976-06-14	22.84	4.26	4.87	22.70	83	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5035500
770480		Londonderry	Colchester	1977-06-15	30.75	6.39	8.53	22.70	83	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5035500
770491		Folly Mountain	Colchester	1977-09-27	44.76	6.39	8.83	22.70	85	Drilled	Domestic	458500	5035500
770507		Londonderry	Colchester	1977-09-06	29.54	4.26	5.79	22.70	83	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5035500
780214		Londonderry	Colchester	1978-12-31	12.18	4.87	1.83	113.50	81	Drilled	Domestic	453583	5034810
780215		Londonderry	Colchester	1978-12-31	18.27	3.65	0.91	36.32	127.4156	Drilled	Domestic	453595	5036354
780216		Londonderry	Colchester	1978-12-31	18.27	9.14	4.57	18.16	127.4156	Drilled	Domestic	453595	5036354
780217		Londonderry	Colchester	1978-12-31	30.45	4.87	18.27	9.08	127.4156	Drilled	Domestic	453595	5036354
780218		Londonderry	Colchester	1978-12-31	18.27	5.48	10.96	9.08	127.4156	Drilled	Domestic	453595	5036354
780500		Wentworth Station	Cumberland	1978-12-31	42.63		3.04	2.27	221.23167	Drilled	Domestic	458510	5040948
790284	Londonderry Mines	Londonderry	Colchester	1979-04-06	56.64	1.52	17.66	18.16	104.06554	Drilled	Domestic	451967	5036366
790309		Londonderry	Colchester	1979-03-07	36.54		15.53	18.16	206.18231	Drilled	Domestic	456862	5037873
790343	Sutherland Lake	Castlereagh	Colchester	1979-09-17	19.18		0.91	27.24	239.41095	Drilled	Domestic	447121	5041034
790351		Londonderry	Colchester	1979-03-12	31.67		4.87	22.70	127.4156	Drilled	Domestic	453595	5036354
790352	Vimy Road, Bible Hill	Castlereagh	Colchester	1979-09-18	37.76		2.13	13.62	239.41095	Drilled	Domestic	447121	5041034
790357		Londonderry	Colchester	1979-03-10	75.52		6.09	2.27	127.4156	Drilled	Domestic	453595	5036354
790465		Folly Lake	Colchester	1979-10-17	37.76		16.75	90.80	237.5668	Drilled	Domestic	456904	5044045
790485	Sutherland Lake	Lornevale	Colchester	1979-05-21	12.18	3.04	0.91	27.24	239.41095	Drilled	Domestic	447121	5041034
790522	Sutherland Lake	Castlereagh	Colchester	1979-05-22	18.27	4.87	5.18	27.24	239.41095	Drilled	Domestic	447121	5041034
800276	Londonderry	Londonderry Station	Colchester	1980-09-18	31.67		19.18	18.16	103	Drilled	Domestic	455212	5034799
800332		Londonderry	Colchester	1980-03-05	25.27		24.36	13.62	127.4156	Drilled	Domestic	453595	5036354
800490		Londonderry	Colchester	1980-10-18	12.18	3.04	1.83	45.40	81	Drilled	Domestic	453583	5034810
800492	Sutherland Lake	Castlereagh	Colchester	1980-06-17	36.54	1.83	21.32	4.54	239.41095	Drilled	Domestic	447121	5041034
801269		Wentworth	Cumberland	1980-10-22	19.49	9.14		27.24	169.96172	Drilled	Domestic	455322	5050229
810237	27 Fairview Drive	Londonderry	Colchester	1981-03-09	25.58		2.44	36.32	127.4156	Drilled	Domestic	453595	5036354
810263		Londonderry	Colchester	1981-11-12	25.27		2.13	27.24	127.4156	Drilled	Domestic	453595	5036354
810352	Folly Mountain	Folly Lake	Colchester	1981-10-15	35.93		19.79	340.50	182.68723	Drilled	Domestic	457486	5045420
810363		Londonderry	Colchester	1981-08-21	18.27	3.65	3.04	22.70	104.06554	Drilled	Domestic	451967	5036366
810397		Londonderry	Colchester	1981-06-08	12.18	3.04	2.44	31.78	127.4156	Drilled	Domestic	453595	5036354
810409		Londonderry	Colchester	1981-08-19	48.72	5.48	19.79	31.78	104.06554	Drilled	Domestic	451967	5036366
810413		Londonderry	Colchester	1981-10-22	24.36	3.65	0.91	181.60	104.06554	Drilled	Domestic	451967	5036366
820256		Londonderry	Colchester	1982-06-02	18.27	2.44	7.92	27.24	113	Drilled	Domestic	456851	5036330
820282	RR#1 Londonderry	Folly Mountain	Colchester	1982-09-20	42.63	3.65	3.65	3.18	107	Drilled	Domestic	458480	5036319
820303		Londonderry	Colchester	1982-12-11	24.36	2.44	7.92	45.40	134	Drilled	Domestic	455223	5036342
830498	310 Prince Street, Truro	Wentworth Station	Cumberland	1983-08-23	30.45	13.09	12.79	13.62	221.23167	Drilled	Domestic	458510	5040948
831950	Folly Mountain	Londonderry	Colchester	1983-05-19	25.27		5.79	22.70	107	Drilled	Domestic	458480	5036319
840155	Sutherland Lake	Lornevale	Colchester	1984-12-05	18.27	3.04	5.79	13.62	239.41095	Drilled	Domestic	447121	5041034
840182	Sutherland Lake	Lornevale	Colchester	1984-12-04	36.54	4.57	6.70	22.70	239.41095	Drilled	Domestic	447121	5041034
840202	Folly Lake	Folly Lake	Colchester	1984-12-10	18.27	4.57	10.35	36.32	215.18271	Drilled	Domestic	456894	5042502
840234	Sutherland Lake	Lornevale	Colchester	1984-12-05	18.27	6.09	6.09	13.62	239.41095	Drilled	Domestic	447121	5041034
842189	Londonderry	Folly Mountain	Colchester	1984-04-03	24.97				113	Drilled		456851	5036330
850220		Londonderry	Colchester	1985-07-31	18.27	4.26	1.22	90.80	81	Drilled	Domestic	453583	5034810
850249		Londonderry	Colchester	1985-07-31	30.45	2.44	12.79	13.62	127.4156	Drilled	Domestic	453595	5036354
850851	Higgins Mountain	Westchester Station	Cumberland	1985-10-22	38.06	29.54		22.70	278.24362	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5049500

Well Number	Address	Community	County	Date Inserted	Well Depth (m)	Bedrock Depth (m)	Static (m)	Yield (Lpm)	Elevation (m)	Well Type	Water Use	Easting	Northing	
850852	Higgins Mountain	Westchester Station	Cumberland	1985-10-14	48.11				278.24362	Drilled		452500	5049500	
850853		Wentworth Station	Cumberland	1985-10-14	48.11				278.24362	Drilled		452500	5049500	
850868		Wentworth Valley	Cumberland	1985-07-18	27.40		2.13	68.10	153.19803	Drilled	Domestic	455500	5049500	
870451		Londonderry Station	Colchester	1987-06-22	22.23		13.70	45.40	98	Drilled	Domestic	455500	5034500	
870463	Sutherlands Lake	Castlereagh	Colchester	1987-07-08	23.45		23.45	9.08	248.60089	Drilled	Domestic	446500	5040500	
872416	RR#1 Londonderry	Folly Lake	Colchester	1987-11-10	26.80		10.35	181.60	191.97868	Drilled	Domestic	457500	5044500	
881364	RR#1 Londonderry	Folly Mountain	Colchester	1988-07-14	18.27	9.14	4.57	68.10	121	Drilled	Domestic	457500	5036500	
892618	Station Road	Wentworth	Cumberland	1989-10-11	63.03	8.83	11.57	9.08	99.01385	Drilled		455500	5051500	
892619	Station Road	Wentworth	Cumberland	1989-10-13	56.64	6.09	10.35	13.62	99.01385	Drilled		455500	5051500	
892909	Folly Lake	Colchester		1989-11-08	41.41		9.14	272.40	183.9861	Drilled		457500	5042500	
900678	Station Road	Wentworth Station	Cumberland	1990-07-19	63.34		3.04	36.32	120.75946	Drilled		455500	5050500	
901933	Argyle Street	Londonderry	Colchester	1990-09-07	31.36		5.18	90.80	83	Drilled		452500	5035500	
901964	Old Station Road	Wentworth	Cumberland	1990-11-02	31.97	24.36	1.83	22.70	120.75946	Drilled		455500	5050500	
901972	Londonderry Mines	Londonderry	Colchester	1990-11-20	31.97		5.48	90.80	83	Drilled		452500	5035500	
901984	SutherlandS Lake	GILBERT Mountain	Cumberland	1990-12-19	63.34	1.52	3.04	4.54	248.60089	Drilled		446500	5040500	
902032	Folly Lake	Colchester		1990-09-14	8.53	5.48	5.48	31.78	302.45056	Drilled		456500	5043500	
902452	RR#1	Londonderry	Colchester	1990-03-21	42.63	3.65			27.24	90.6402	Drilled		452500	5036500
902825	SutherlandS Lake	Lornevale	Colchester	1990-05-10	25.88				13.62	248.60089	Drilled		446500	5040500
911837	RR#5	Londonderry	Colchester	1991-05-24	18.27	3.65	5.48	45.40	82	Drilled	Domestic	453500	5035500	
912030		Londonderry Station	Colchester	1991-12-30	37.76		0.30	13.62	98	Drilled	Domestic	455500	5034500	
920243	SutherlandS Lake	Castlereagh	Colchester	1992-07-03	19.49	4.26	2.74	108.96	248.60089	Drilled	Domestic	446500	5040500	
921822		Great Village	Colchester	1992-09-29	18.27	6.09	11.27	136.20	219.63974	Drilled	Domestic	453500	5038500	
921831		Londonderry	Colchester	1992-11-02	24.36		6.09	54.48	119	Drilled	Domestic	456500	5036500	
921869	SutherlandS Lake	Castlereagh	Colchester	1992-12-05	44.46	5.79	4.26	36.32	248.60089	Drilled	Domestic	446500	5040500	
922195		Londonderry	Colchester	1992-09-28	30.45	0.61	6.09	27.24	90.6402	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5036500	
931579	Wentworth Valley	Cumberland		1993-09-28	25.58		10.96	45.40	88.50678	Drilled	Domestic	456500	5047500	
932145		Londonderry	Colchester	1993-06-24	18.88	3.04	3.65	54.48	88	Drilled	Domestic	453500	5034500	
932149		Londonderry	Colchester	1993-05-25	18.27	1.52	4.57	90.80	108	Drilled	Domestic	455500	5035500	
940276	RR#1 Londonderry	Folly Lake	Colchester	1994-05-04	45.68	2.44	15.22	6.81	183.9861	Drilled	Domestic	457500	5042500	
940302	Community Centre	Londonderry	Colchester	1994-07-20	21.01	4.57	9.14	90.80	83	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5035500	
940771		Folly Lake	Colchester	1994-05-04	45.68	2.44		0.00	183.95679	Drilled	Domestic	457500	5041500	
941372	Valley Road, RR#1 Wentworth	Wentworth Station	Cumberland	1994-12-20	30.15		5.79	22.70	99.01385	Drilled	Domestic	455500	5051500	
941394	Baseline Road	Londonderry	Colchester	1994-11-07	73.99	2.44	1.83	3.18	151.38138	Drilled	Domestic	454500	5036500	
950007	Valley Road	Wentworth Station	Cumberland	1995-04-09	5.79				63.56	162.22354	Dug	Domestic	454500	5051500
950353		Wentworth Station	Cumberland	1995-07-29	42.63		2.74	158.90	63.79677	Drilled	Commercial	456078	5049792	
950373	SutherlandS Lake	Lornevale	Colchester	1995-07-10	44.15	3.65	5.48	45.40	248.60089	Drilled	Domestic	446500	5040500	
950439		Folly Lake	Colchester	1995-03-24	37.45	5.48	0.46	181.60	302.45056	Drilled	Domestic	456500	5043500	
950459		Folly Lake	Colchester	1995-08-02	58.46		5.48	90.80	184.06395	Drilled	Domestic	457500	5043500	
951109	Upper Road	Londonderry	Colchester	1995-05-05	31.97		4.57	22.70	164.46364	Drilled	Domestic	451500	5036500	
951989	Sutherland Lake	Lornevale	Colchester	1995-11-13	43.24	4.57	3.65	4.54	235.12679	Drilled	Domestic	447500	5040500	
951993	293 Baseline Road	Londonderry	Colchester	1995-10-28	31.67	3.35		27.24	121	Drilled	Domestic	453868	5036227	
952014	Sunset Cove	Folly Lake	Colchester	1995-09-25	18.88	16.44	7.00	90.80	184.06395	Drilled	Domestic	457500	5043500	
952668	RR#1 Londonderry	Lornevale	Colchester	1995-08-02	36.54	6.09	6.09	9.08	248.60089	Drilled	Domestic	446500	5040500	
952671	82 Church Street	Londonderry	Colchester	1995-07-12	36.54	5.48	2.44		82	Drilled	Domestic	453500	5035500	
960749		Wentworth Station	Cumberland	1996-08-28	37.76	6.09	3.04	45.40	115.881	Drilled	Domestic	452500	5051500	
960768	SutherlandS Lake, Toll Booth Station	Lornevale	Colchester	1996-07-27	106.58	5.18	1.52	4.54	246.45575	Drilled	Other	446814	5038629	
960814	14826 Highway #104	Wentworth Station	Cumberland	1996-06-17	20.40		2.44	45.40	65.00831	Drilled	Domestic	456129	5049699	
960830	Baseline Road	Folly Mountain	Colchester	1996-06-07	31.06		0.61	13.62	114	Drilled	Domestic	458500	5036500	
960968		Lornevale	Colchester	1996-10-31	28.01	3.04	3.35	36.32	254.474	Drilled	Commercial	447067	5041440	
961403	106 Lorne Street	Londonderry	Colchester	1996-09-10	12.18	3.65	3.04	36.32	89	Drilled	Domestic	453050	5035627	
961438		Lornevale	Colchester	1996-05-06	36.54	5.48	3.65	54.48	248.60089	Drilled	Domestic	446500	5040500	
961441	SutherlandS Lake	Lornevale	Colchester	1996-01-16	6.09		0.91	90.80	248.60089	Drilled	Domestic	446500	5040500	
961442	SutherlandS Lake	Lornevale	Colchester	1996-01-11	18.27	4.57	2.44	13.62	248.60089	Drilled	Domestic	446500	5040500	
961761	(#610)	Londonderry	Colchester	1996-09-20	31.36	3.65	6.70	36.32	164.46364	Drilled	Domestic	451500	5036500	
962498		Wentworth Valley	Cumberland	1996-11-23	5.48		1.83	45.40	223.59875	Dug	Domestic	455500	5048500	
970520	RR#1 Wentworth	Folly Lake	Colchester	1997-08-27					31.78	179.58293	Drilled	Commercial	457500	5045500
970521	RR#1 Wentworth	Folly Lake	Colchester	1997-08-27					90.80	179.58293	Drilled	Commercial	457500	5045500
971151	Sutherland Lake	Lornevale	Colchester	1997-06-06	54.81		3.04	4.54	233.54448	Drilled	Domestic	446500	5041500	
972147	Westchester Road	Londonderry	Colchester	1997-09-05	43.54				11.35	85	Drilled	Domestic	451500	5035500
972442	44 Peninsula Drive	Folly Lake	Colchester	1997-10-08	61.81		8.22	68.10	186.02948	Drilled	Domestic	457424	5043951	
972499	Station Road	Wentworth Station	Cumberland	1997-08-18	79.47	10.96	12.18	9.08	99.01385	Drilled	Domestic	455500	5051500	
972800	RR#6 Truro	Castlereagh	Colchester	1997-05-26	36.54	6.09	12.18	4.54	248.60089	Drilled	Domestic	446500	5040500	
972807	Stewiacke	Lornevale	Colchester	1997-06-26	12.18		5.79	136.20	235.12679	Drilled	Domestic	447500	5040500	
980183	Spring Street	Londonderry	Colchester	1998-06-15	10.35		2.44	22.70	82	Drilled	Domestic	453500	5035500	
981276	Station Road	Wentworth Station	Cumberland	1998-11-06	79.78	1.83	0.91	2.27	120.75946	Drilled	Domestic	455500	5050500	
981314	SutherlandS Lake	Lornevale	Colchester	1998-09-14	49.33	9.14		13.62	235.12679	Drilled	Domestic	447500	5040500	
981621		Lorneville	Cumberland	1998-07-22	42.63		14.01	136.20	248.60089	Drilled	Domestic	446500	5040500	

Appendix E: Groundwater Wells within 2 km of the Study Area

Project #21-7376

Well Number	Address	Community	County	Date Inserted	Well Depth (m)	Bedrock Depth (m)	Static (m)	Yield (Lpm)	Elevation (m)	Well Type	Water Use	Easting	Northing
981644	RR#5 Truro	Lorneville	Cumberland	1998-11-26	33.50	7.61	16.75	13.62	248.60089	Drilled	Domestic	446500	5040500
981646	78 Melrose Terrace, Truro	Folly Lake	Colchester	1998-12-10	54.81	2.44	7.31	2.27	245.29375	Drilled	Domestic	456500	5042500
982781		Wentworth Valley	Cumberland	1998-08-20	48.72			36.32	88.50678	Drilled	Domestic	456500	5047500
991155		Londonderry	Colchester	1999-12-03	4.87		2.44		90.6402	Dug	Domestic	452500	5036500
992168	Wentworth Station Road	Wentworth	Cumberland	1999-07-28	55.42		11.57	68.10	120.75946	Drilled	Domestic	455500	5050500
992642		Folly Lake	Colchester	1999-10-06	19.18			45.40	302.45056	Drilled	Domestic	456500	5043500
Statistics				Minimum	1965-07-12	3.04	0.61	-0.03	0.00	46.67			
				Maximum	2018-10-23	122.41	33.50	30.45	340.50	329.37			
				Average	n/a	36.85	6.68	5.83	45.64	154.23			

APPENDIX F

WATERBODIES AND WATERCOURSES

Watercourse ID	Watercourse Type	Watercourse Measurements (m)	Substrate (%)	Substrate Notes	Drainage Direction	Aquatic Habitat	Dominant Riparian Habitat	In Stream Cover/ Vegetation*	Bank Characteristics	Bank Notes	Fish Bearing Potential	Evidence of Alteration	Other Observations
WC1	Small permanent	Channel depth = 0.24 Water depth = 0.29 Bankful width = 1.47 Wetted width = 1.34 Pool depth = 0.38	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 5 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 25 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 65 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 5 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 0 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Primarily cobble	South	Pool; Run; Flat; Cascade; Meander	Graminoids	Boulders = N Overhanging vegetation = M Large woody debris = N Small woody debris = A Deep pools = M Undercut banks = T Instream vegetation = M	Undercut; Vegetated; Well defined; Good condition	One side of WC is mainly graminoids, other half is shrubby and wooded	Possible	Yes, open-bottom wooden bridge allows water to pass under road.	One side is a fen with open grass and snags, other side is just watercourse, no wetland. Crosses existing road with bridge.
WC2	Small permanent	Channel depth = 0.2 Water depth = 0.13 Bankful width = 1.1 Wetted width = 1 Pool depth = 0.17	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 0 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 70 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 20 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 10 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 0 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Primarily rubble	South	Run; Riffle; Cascade; Meander	Hardwood	Boulders = N Overhanging vegetation = M Large woody debris = N Small woody debris = M Deep pools = N Undercut banks = T Instream vegetation = T	Undercut; Well defined; Good condition	Banks appear to be in good condition	Possible	Yes, metal culvert installation for road crossing.	Lots and lots of rubble through entire watercourse which is visible from road. Culvert present.
WC3	Large permanent	Channel depth = 0.11 Water depth = 0.09 Bankful width = 3.73 Wetted width = 3.73 Pool depth = 0.7	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 10 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 15 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 20 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 35 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 20 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Predominately gravelly substrate	South	Pool; Riffle; Run; Meander	Hardwood	Boulders = M Overhanging vegetation = A Large woody debris = T Small woody debris = T Deep pools = T Undercut banks = A Instream vegetation = N	Undercut; Vegetated; Well defined; Good condition	Banks are slightly undercut, but well defined with lots of vegetation	Possible	Yes, metal culvert installation for road crossing.	Waterway passes through road culvert. Flow through culvert is deep and not likely a significant barrier to fish. A single very deep pool provides good overwintering fish habitat. Gravely substrate provides good rearing habitat.
WC4	Large permanent	Channel depth = 1.22 Water depth = 0.14 Bankful width = 5.23 Wetted width = 3.41 Pool depth = 0.31	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 0 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 0 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 15 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 25 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 25 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 35	Very mucky substrate, lots of organic material	West	Run; Flat; Pool	Graminoids	Boulders = N Overhanging vegetation = N Large woody debris = N Small woody debris = N Deep pools = N Undercut banks = N Instream vegetation = A	Vegetated; Good condition	Sedge dominant banks	Possible	Yes, decaying wooden structure allows water to pass under road.	Watercourse is in wetland.
WC5	Small permanent	Channel depth = 0.25 Water depth = 0.2 Bankful width = 2 Wetted width = 1 Pool depth = 0.3	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 10 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 30 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 40 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 20 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 0 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Lots of vegetation covering substrate	West	Riffle; Flat; Pool; Cascade; Run	Herbaceous	Boulders = N Overhanging vegetation = A Large woody debris = A Small woody debris = A Deep pools = N Undercut banks = M Instream vegetation = M	Undercut; Vegetated; Well defined; Good condition; Sloped	Very sloped but vegetated	Unlikely due to barriers to fish passage	None observed.	Many large trees down over river with branches in water. Could impede fish passage
WC6	Small permanent	Channel depth = 0.2 Water depth = 0.05 Bankful width = 1.2 Wetted width = 1 Pool depth = 0.24	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 0 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 30 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 60 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 10 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 0 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Mainly cobble	West	Meander; Cascade; Flat; Riffle	Hardwood	Boulders = N Overhanging vegetation = A Large woody debris = M Small woody debris = A Deep pools = N Undercut banks = N Instream vegetation = T	Vegetated; Eroded; Well defined; Good condition	Slightly eroded, likely from hurricane	Unlikely due to barriers to fish passage	None observed.	Fish passage is unlikely but not impossible. Higher water levels can create fish passage.
WC7	Small permanent	Channel depth = 0.69 Water depth = 0.13 Bankful width = 2.06 Wetted width = 0.67 Pool depth = 0.16	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 20 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 25 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 15 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 25 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 15 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Substrate is primarily rubble mixed with cobble and gravel	West	Run; Pool; Flat; Cascade; Meander	Hardwood	Boulders = N Overhanging vegetation = A Large woody debris = N Small woody debris = A Deep pools = N Undercut banks = M Instream vegetation = N	Undercut; Vegetated	Banks have heavy hardwood presence, with a large distance from the channel to the water proper	Possible	Yes, decaying wooden structure allows water to pass under road.	Culverts are wooden and collapsing.
WC8	Small permanent	Channel depth = 0.3 Water depth = 0.15 Bankful width = 1.53 Wetted width = 1 Pool depth = 0.3	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 0 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 0 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 5 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 40 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 25 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 30	Gravel dominant	West	Riffle	Herbaceous	Boulders = N Overhanging vegetation = M Large woody debris = N Small woody debris = M Deep pools = N Undercut banks = N Instream vegetation = A	Vegetated; Sloped	Banks in decent condition. Vegetated slopes	Possible	Yes, decaying wooden structure allows water to pass under road.	Collapsing wooden culvert allows water passage.
WC9	Small permanent	Channel depth = 0.25 Water depth = 0.05 Bankful width = 0.8 Wetted width = 0.51 Pool depth = 0.1	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 15 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 25 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 15 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 30 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 0 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 15	Gravel dominant	West	Pool; Riffle; Cascade; Meander	Hardwood	Boulders = N Overhanging vegetation = N Large woody debris = N Small woody debris = T Deep pools = N Undercut banks = T Instream vegetation = N	Undercut; Well defined; Good condition; Sloped	Good condition with one side being sloped	Unlikely due to the nature of the feature. Many barriers to fish passage.	Yes, metal culvert installation for road crossing.	Low water. Splits into multiple branches downstream. Culvert in poor condition.
WC10	Large permanent	Channel depth = 0.45 Water depth = 0.19 Bankful width = 6.91 Wetted width = 4.35 Pool depth = 0.99	Bedrock = 10 Boulder (>25 cm) = 25 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 25 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 10 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 20 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 10 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Substrate is primarily rubble with gravel and some sand	West	Run; Cascade; Pool	Softwood	Boulders = A Overhanging vegetation = N Large woody debris = M Small woody debris = N Deep pools = N Undercut banks = N Instream vegetation = N	Sloped; Undercut	Banks are very sloped and well defined with heavy softwood presence. Disturbed by recent storm.	Possible	None observed.	Many downed trees.

Watercourse ID	Watercourse Type	Watercourse Measurements (m)	Substrate (%)	Substrate Notes	Drainage Direction	Aquatic Habitat	Dominant Riparian Habitat	In Stream Cover/ Vegetation*	Bank Characteristics	Bank Notes	Fish Bearing Potential	Evidence of Alteration	Other Observations
WC11	Small permanent	Channel depth = 0.27 Water depth = 0.13 Bankful width = 1.4 Wetted width = 1.1 Pool depth = 0.14	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 30 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 30 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 30 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 5 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 5 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Primarily rubble and boulders	West	Riffle; Run; Flat; Pool	Hardwood	Boulders = A Overhanging vegetation = A Large woody debris = M Small woody debris = M Deep pools = N Undercut banks = N Instream vegetation =	Vegetated; Muddy	Hardwood dominant, lots of debris due to recent storm	Possible	Yes, metal culvert installation for road crossing.	Many downed trees. WC passes under road through metal culvert.
WC12	Small permanent	Channel depth = 0.34 Water depth = 0.23 Bankful width = 0.97 Wetted width = 0.84 Pool depth = 0.38	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 20 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 40 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 30 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 5 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 5 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Lots of red stone present	North	Riffle; Run; Cascade; Meander; Pool	Softwood	Boulders = T Overhanging vegetation = A Large woody debris = M Small woody debris = A Deep pools = T Undercut banks = N Instream vegetation = M	Vegetated; Well defined; Good condition	Banks are solid and well defined with plenty of vegetation	Possible. Culvert is elevated.	Yes, metal culvert installation for road crossing.	Culvert is raised, no fish passage downstream.
WC13	Small permanent	Channel depth = 0.1 Water depth = 0.1 Bankful width = 0.52 Wetted width = 0.36 Pool depth = 0.99	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 0 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 5 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 50 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 35 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 10 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Substrate is mostly cobble and gravel	North	Flat; Meander; Run; Pool	Softwood	Boulders = N Overhanging vegetation = A Large woody debris = N Small woody debris = N Deep pools = N Undercut banks = T Instream vegetation = N	Sloped; Undercut; Good condition; Well defined; Vegetated	Banks are largely well defined and in good condition, with some sloping and undercutting in areas	Possible	Yes, plastic culvert installation for road crossing.	Upstream is a wetland flowing from several bodies of water.
WC14	Large permanent	Channel depth = 0.25 Water depth = 0.15 Bankful width = 0.58 Wetted width = 0.45 Pool depth = 0.99	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 30 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 20 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 15 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 15 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 15 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 5	Moss covered boulders rather prevalent, with some instream vegetation in small amounts	South	Riffle; Run	Graminoids	Boulders = M Overhanging vegetation = A Large woody debris = N Small woody debris = M Deep pools = N Undercut banks = N Instream vegetation = T	Vegetated	Banks have heavy sugar maple (<i>Acer saccharum</i>) and yellow birch (<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>) presence	Possible	Yes, metal culvert installation for road crossing.	Culvert in need of an upgrade. Rubble and organic material blocking the entrance.
WC15	Large permanent	Channel depth = 0.85 Water depth = 0.44 Bankful width = 4 Wetted width = 3.5 Pool depth = 1.2	Bedrock = 15 Boulder (>25 cm) = 15 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 25 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 25 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 15 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 5 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Cobble/rubble dominant	South	Pool; Riffle; Run; Flat; Rapids; Cascade	Softwood	Boulders = A Overhanging vegetation = N Large woody debris = N Small woody debris = N Deep pools = M Undercut banks = N Instream vegetation = N	Well defined; Good condition; Sloped	Sloped, WC is in a canyon with steep sloped topography. Banks are primarily bedrock.	Possible	None observed.	Difficult to access. Drainage flows into the WC
WC16	Small permanent	Channel depth = 0.2 Water depth = 0.05 Bankful width = 1 Wetted width = 0.5 Pool depth = 0.4	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 0 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 5 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 30 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 45 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 20 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Gravel dominant	South	Pool; Riffle; Meander	Hardwood	Boulders = N Overhanging vegetation = N Large woody debris = T Small woody debris = T Deep pools = T Undercut banks = T Instream vegetation = N	Undercut; Vegetated; Sloped	Banks vary between sloped and vegetated to undercut	Unlikely due to the nature of the feature. Many barriers to fish passage.	No, but runs perpendicular to road.	Steady flow, but low water levels. Plenty of leaf litter and small woody debris.
WC17	Large permanent	Channel depth = 0.2 Water depth = 0.15 Bankful width = 4.09 Wetted width = 3.12 Pool depth = 0.25	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 20 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 25 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 50 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 5 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 0 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Very rocky, lots of exposed bedrock	South	Pool; Riffle; Run; Cascade; Meander	Hardwood	Boulders = M Overhanging vegetation = M Large woody debris = A Small woody debris = A Deep pools = M Undercut banks = T Instream vegetation = N	Undercut; Vegetated; Well defined; Good condition; Sloped	Very sloped, in a valley with many fallen trees	Possible	None observed.	Good pools, lots of riffles and cascades, cold water and good cover
WC18	Large permanent	Channel depth = 0.5 Water depth = 1 Bankful width = 6 Wetted width = 5 Pool depth = 2	Bedrock = 20 Boulder (>25 cm) = 40 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 25 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 10 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 4 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 1 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Lots of rocks and no instream vegetation	South	Pool; Riffle; Run; Rapids; Cascade	Hardwood	Boulders = A Overhanging vegetation = A Large woody debris = A Small woody debris = A Deep pools = M Undercut banks = M Instream vegetation = N	Undercut; Vegetated; Well defined; Good condition; Sloped	Rocky, vegetated, very sloped banks. Bedrock outcrops into river	Yes - Fish observed	None observed.	In a valley with plenty of downed trees.

*N = None, T = Trace, M = Moderate, A = Abundant

APPENDIX G

ACCDC REPORT

DATA REPORT 7248: Higgins Mountain, NS

Prepared 22 April 2022
by J. Pender, Data Manager

CONTENTS OF REPORT

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 - 1.2 Restrictions
 - 1.3 Additional Information
- Map 1: Buffered Study Area

2.0 Rare and Endangered Species

- 2.1 Flora
 - 2.2 Fauna
- Map 2: Flora and Fauna

3.0 Special Areas

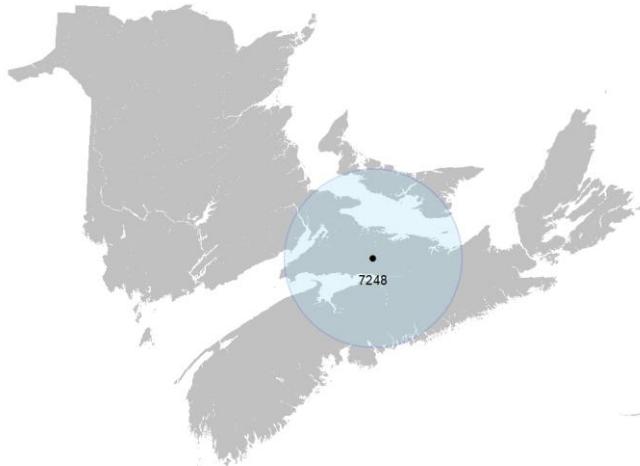
- 3.1 Managed Areas
 - 3.2 Significant Areas
- Map 3: Special Areas

4.0 Rare Species Lists

- 4.1 Fauna
- 4.2 Flora
- 4.3 Location Sensitive Species
- 4.4 Source Bibliography

5.0 Rare Species within 100 km

- 5.1 Source Bibliography



Map 1. A 100 km buffer around the study area

1.0 PREFACE

The Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre (AC CDC; www.accdc.com) is part of a network of NatureServe data centres and heritage programs serving 50 states in the U.S.A, 10 provinces and 1 territory in Canada, plus several Central and South American countries. The NatureServe network is more than 30 years old and shares a common conservation data methodology. The AC CDC was founded in 1997, and maintains data for the jurisdictions of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland and Labrador. Although a non-governmental agency, the AC CDC is supported by 6 federal agencies and 4 provincial governments, as well as through outside grants and data processing fees.

Upon request and for a fee, the AC CDC queries its database and produces customized reports of the rare and endangered flora and fauna known to occur in or near a specified study area. As a supplement to that data, the AC CDC includes locations of managed areas with some level of protection, and known sites of ecological interest or sensitivity.

1.1 DATA LIST

Included datasets:

<u>Filename</u>	<u>Contents</u>
HigginsMtNS_7248ob.xls	Rare or legally-protected Flora and Fauna in your study area
HigginsMtNS_7248ob100km.xls	A list of Rare and legally protected Flora and Fauna within 100 km of your study area
HigginsMtNS_7248msa.xls	Managed and Biologically Significant Areas in your study area
HigginsMtNS_7248ff_py.xls	Rare Freshwater Fish in your study area (DFO database)

1.2 RESTRICTIONS

The AC CDC makes a strong effort to verify the accuracy of all the data that it manages, but it shall not be held responsible for any inaccuracies in data that it provides. By accepting AC CDC data, recipients assent to the following limits of use:

- a) Data is restricted to use by trained personnel who are sensitive to landowner interests and to potential threats to rare and/or endangered flora and fauna posed by the information provided.
- b) Data is restricted to use by the specified Data User; any third party requiring data must make its own data request.
- c) The AC CDC requires Data Users to cease using and delete data 12 months after receipt, and to make a new request for updated data if necessary at that time.
- d) AC CDC data responses are restricted to the data in our Data System at the time of the data request.
- e) Each record has an estimate of locational uncertainty, which must be referenced in order to understand the record's relevance to a particular location. Please see attached Data Dictionary for details.
- f) AC CDC data responses are not to be construed as exhaustive inventories of taxa in an area.
- g) The absence of a taxon cannot be inferred by its absence in an AC CDC data response.

1.3 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The accompanying Data Dictionary provides metadata for the data provided.

Please direct any additional questions about AC CDC data to the following individuals:

Plants, Lichens, Ranking Methods, All other Inquiries

Sean Blaney
Senior Scientist / Executive Director
(506) 364-2658
sean.blaney@accdc.ca

Animals (Fauna)

John Klymko
Zoologist
(506) 364-2660
john.klymko@accdc.ca

Data Management, GIS

James Churchill
Conservation Data Analyst / Field Biologist
(902) 679-6146
james.churchill@accdc.ca

Billing

Jean Breau
Financial Manager / Executive Assistant
(506) 364-2657
jean.breau@accdc.ca

Questions on the biology of Federal Species at Risk can be directed to AC CDC: (506) 364-2658, with questions on Species at Risk regulations to: Samara Eaton, Canadian Wildlife Service (NB and PE): (506) 364-5060 or Julie McKnight, Canadian Wildlife Service (NS): (902) 426-4196.

For provincial information about rare taxa and protected areas, or information about game animals, deer yards, old growth forests, archeological sites, fish habitat etc., in New Brunswick, please contact Hubert Askanas, Energy and Resource Development: (506) 453-5873.

For provincial information about rare taxa and protected areas, or information about game animals, deer yards, old growth forests, archeological sites, fish habitat etc., in Nova Scotia, please contact Donna Hurlburt, NS DLF: (902) 679-6886. To determine if location-sensitive species (section 4.3) occur near your study site please contact a NS DLF Regional Biologist:

Western: Emma Vost
(902) 670-8187
Emma.Vost@novascotia.ca

Western: Sarah Spencer
(902) 541-0081
Sarah.Spencer@novascotia.ca

Central: Shavonne Meyer
(902) 893-0816
Shavonne.Meyer@novascotia.ca

Central: Kimberly George
(902) 890-1046
Kimberly.George@novascotia.ca

Eastern: Harrison Moore
(902) 497-4119
Harrison.Moore@novascotia.ca

Eastern: Maureen Cameron-MacMillan
(902) 295-2554
Maureen.Cameron-MacMillan@novascotia.ca

Eastern: Elizabeth Walsh
(902) 563-3370
Elizabeth.Walsh@novascotia.ca

For provincial information about rare taxa and protected areas, or information about game animals, fish habitat etc., in Prince Edward Island, please contact Garry Gregory, PEI Dept. of Communities, Land and Environment: (902) 569-7595.

2.0 RARE AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

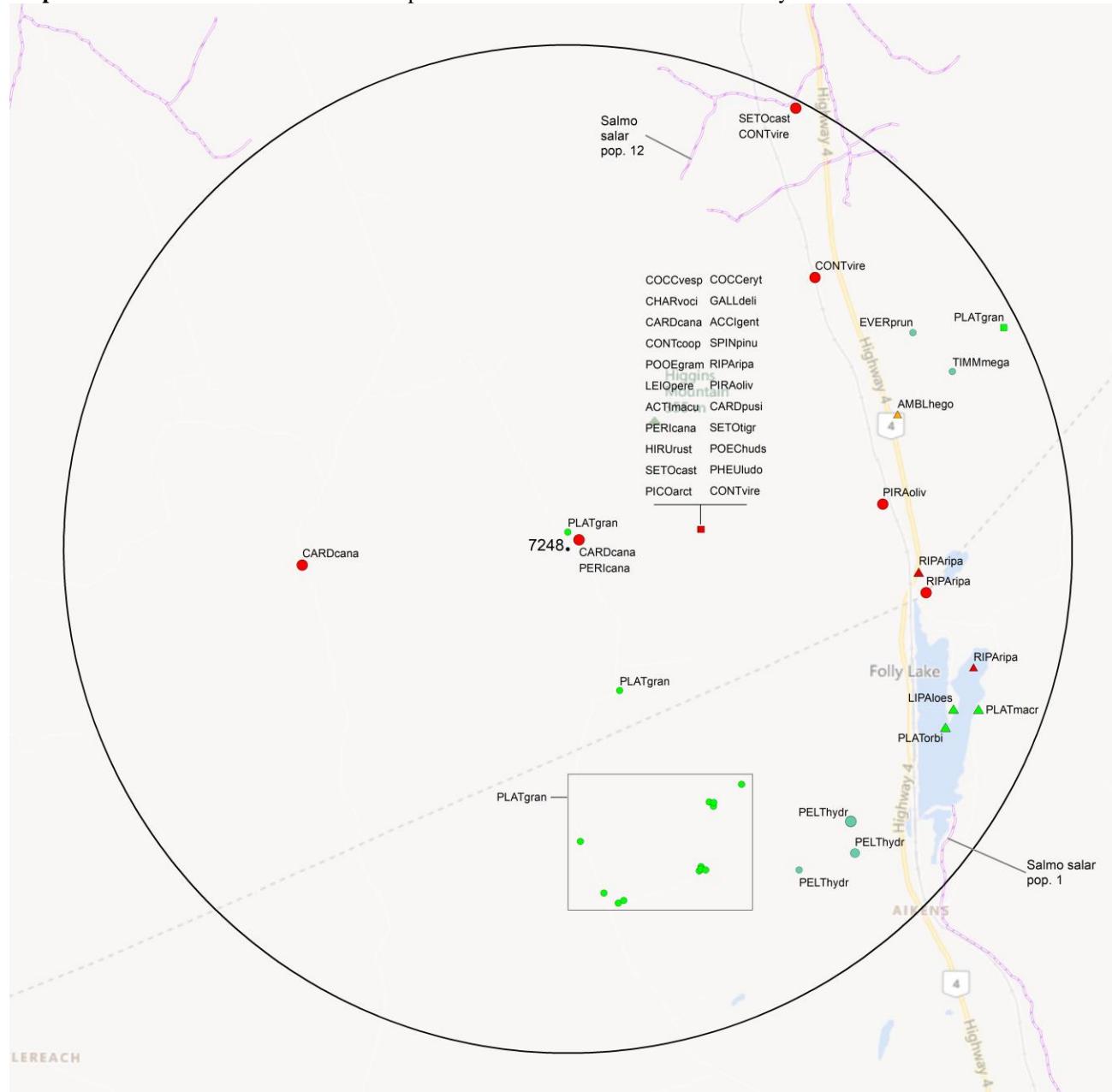
2.1 FLORA

The study area contains 20 records of 4 vascular, 7 records of 3 nonvascular flora (Map 2 and attached: *ob.xls), excluding 'location-sensitive' species.

2.2 FAUNA

The study area contains 56 records of 22 vertebrate, 1 record of 1 invertebrate fauna (Map 2 and attached data files - see 1.1 Data List), excluding 'location-sensitive' species. Please see section 4.3 to determine if 'location-sensitive' species occur near your study site.

Map 2: Known observations of rare and/or protected flora and fauna within the study area.



RESOLUTION

- 4.7 within 50s of kilometers
- 4.0 within 10s of kilometers
- 3.7 within 5s of kilometers
- 3.0 within kilometers
- 2.7 within 500s of meters
- 2.0 within 100s of meters
- 1.7 within 10s of meters

HIGHER TAXON

- vertebrate fauna
- invertebrate fauna
- vascular flora
- nonvascular flora

3.0 SPECIAL AREAS

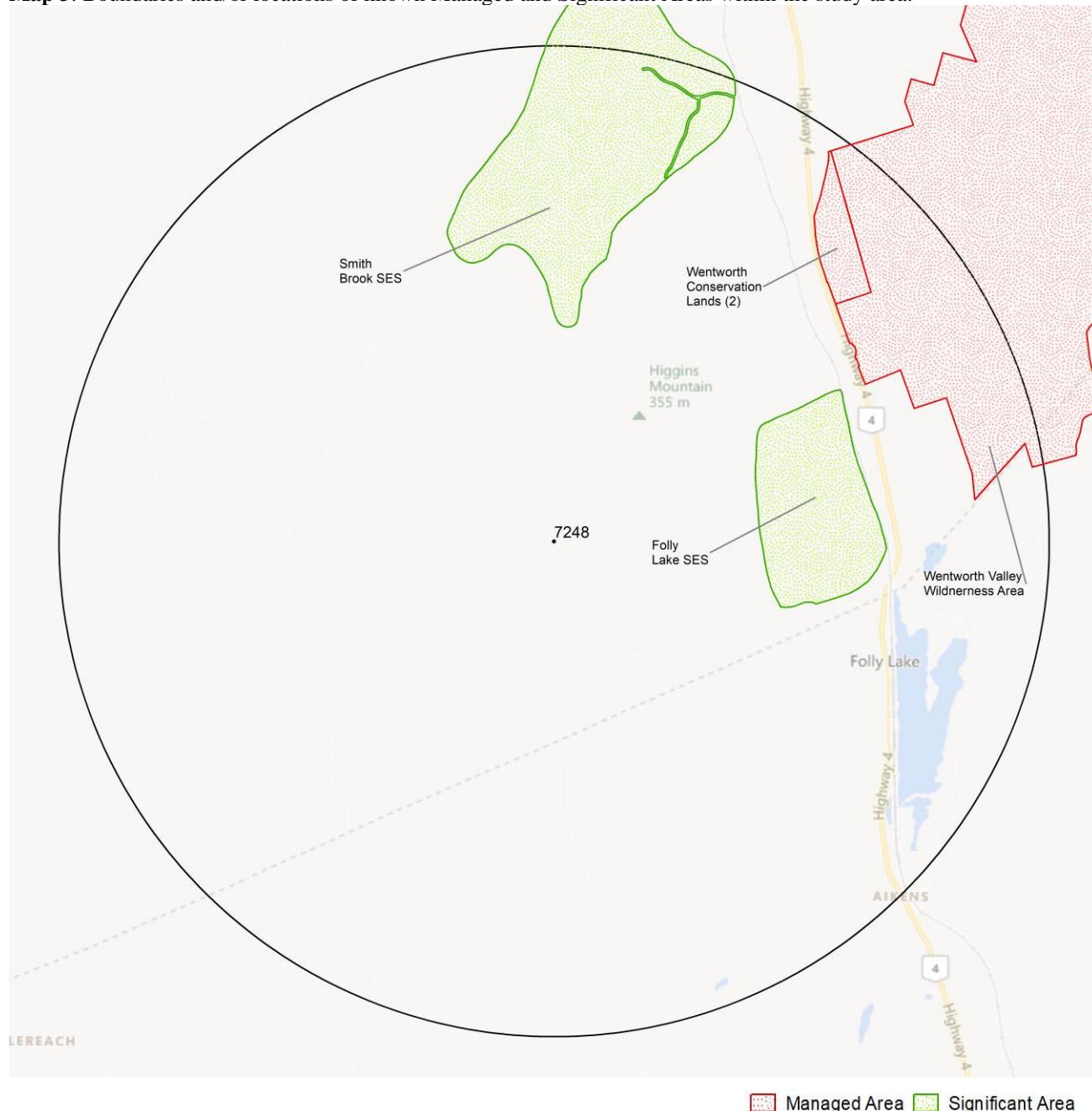
3.1 MANAGED AREAS

The GIS scan identified 2 managed areas in the vicinity of the study area (Map 3 and attached file: *msa.xls).

3.2 SIGNIFICANT AREAS

The GIS scan identified 2 biologically significant sites in the vicinity of the study area (Map 3 and attached file: *msa.xls).

Map 3: Boundaries and/or locations of known Managed and Significant Areas within the study area.



4.0 RARE SPECIES LISTS

Rare and/or endangered taxa (excluding “location-sensitive” species, section 4.3) within the study area listed in order of concern, beginning with legally listed taxa, with the number of observations per taxon and the distance in kilometers from study area centroid to the closest observation (\pm the precision, in km, of the record). [P] = vascular plant, [N] = nonvascular plant, [A] = vertebrate animal, [I] = invertebrate animal, [C] = community. Note: records are from attached files *ob.xls/*ob.shp only.

4.1 FLORA

	Scientific Name	Common Name	COSEWIC	SARA	Prov Legal Prot	Prov Rarity Rank	# recs	Distance (km)
N	<i>Peltigera hydrothyria</i>	Eastern Waterfan	Threatened	Threatened	Threatened	S1	5	3.9 \pm 0.0
N	<i>Timmia megapolitana</i>	Metropolitan Timmia Moss				S1S2	1	4.2 \pm 0.0
N	<i>Evernia prunastri</i>	Valley Oakmoss Lichen				S3S4	1	4.0 \pm 0.0
P	<i>Platanthera macrophylla</i>	Large Round-Leaved Orchid				S2	2	4.4 \pm 1.0
P	<i>Platanthera grandiflora</i>	Large Purple Fringed Orchid				S3	15	0.2 \pm 0.0
P	<i>Liparis loeselii</i>	Loesel's Twayblade				S3S4	1	4.1 \pm 1.0
P	<i>Platanthera orbiculata</i>	Small Round-leaved Orchid				S3S4	2	4.1 \pm 3.0

4.2 FAUNA

	Scientific Name	Common Name	COSEWIC	SARA	Prov Legal Prot	Prov Rarity Rank	# recs	Distance (km)
A	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	Bank Swallow	Threatened	Threatened	Endangered	S2B	5	1.3 \pm 7.0
A	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Barn Swallow	Special Concern	Threatened	Endangered	S3B	1	1.3 \pm 7.0
A	<i>Cardellina canadensis</i>	Canada Warbler	Special Concern	Threatened	Endangered	S3B	9	0.1 \pm 0.0
A	<i>Contopus cooperi</i>	Olive-sided Flycatcher	Special Concern	Threatened	Threatened	S3B	2	1.3 \pm 7.0
A	<i>Coccothraustes vespertinus</i>	Evening Grosbeak	Special Concern	Special Concern	Vulnerable	S3B,S3N,S3M	2	1.3 \pm 7.0
A	<i>Contopus virens</i>	Eastern Wood-Pewee	Special Concern	Special Concern	Vulnerable	S3S4B	5	1.3 \pm 7.0
A	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	Northern Goshawk	Not At Risk			S3S4	1	1.3 \pm 7.0
A	<i>Pooecetes gramineus</i>	Vesper Sparrow				S1S2B,SUM	1	1.3 \pm 7.0
A	<i>Piranga olivacea</i>	Scarlet Tanager				S2B,SUM	2	1.3 \pm 7.0
A	<i>Perisoreus canadensis</i>	Canada Jay				S3	4	0.1 \pm 0.0
A	<i>Poecile hudsonicus</i>	Boreal Chickadee				S3	2	1.3 \pm 7.0
A	<i>Spinus pinus</i>	Pine Siskin				S3	2	1.3 \pm 7.0
A	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	Killdeer				S3B	2	1.3 \pm 7.0
A	<i>Coccyzus erythrophthalmus</i>	Black-billed Cuckoo				S3B	1	1.3 \pm 7.0
A	<i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i>	Rose-breasted Grosbeak				S3B	3	1.3 \pm 7.0
A	<i>Gallinago delicata</i>	Wilson's Snipe				S3B,S5M	1	1.3 \pm 7.0
A	<i>Cardellina pusilla</i>	Wilson's Warbler				S3B,S5M	1	1.3 \pm 7.0
A	<i>Setophaga tigrina</i>	Cape May Warbler				S3B,SUM	2	1.3 \pm 7.0
A	<i>Picoides arcticus</i>	Black-backed Woodpecker				S3S4	2	1.3 \pm 7.0
A	<i>Setophaga castanea</i>	Bay-breasted Warbler				S3S4B,S4S5M	4	1.3 \pm 7.0
A	<i>Actitis macularius</i>	Spotted Sandpiper				S3S4B,S5M	2	1.3 \pm 7.0
A	<i>Leiothlypis peregrina</i>	Tennessee Warbler				S3S4B,S5M	2	1.3 \pm 7.0
I	<i>Amblyscirtes hegon</i>	Pepper and Salt Skipper				S3S4	1	3.5 \pm 0.0

4.3 LOCATION SENSITIVE SPECIES

The Department of Natural Resources in each Maritimes province considers a number of species “location sensitive”. Concern about exploitation of location-sensitive species precludes inclusion of precise coordinates in this report. Those intersecting your study area are indicated below with “YES”.

Nova Scotia				
Scientific Name	Common Name	SARA	Prov Legal Prot	Known within the Study Site?
<i>Fraxinus nigra</i>	Black Ash	Threatened	Threatened	No
<i>Emydoidea blandingii</i>	Blanding's Turtle - Nova Scotia pop.	Endangered	Vulnerable	No
<i>Glyptemys insculpta</i>	Wood Turtle	Threatened	Threatened	YES
<i>Falco peregrinus</i> pop. 1	Peregrine Falcon - anatum/tundrius pop.	Special Concern	Vulnerable	No
Bat hibernaculum or bat species occurrence		[Endangered] ¹	[Endangered] ¹	No

¹ *Myotis lucifugus* (Little Brown Myotis), *Myotis septentrionalis* (Long-eared Myotis), and *Perimyotis subflavus* (Tri-colored Bat or Eastern Pipistrelle) are all Endangered under the Federal Species at Risk Act and the NS Endangered Species Act.

4.4 SOURCE BIBLIOGRAPHY

The recipient of these data shall acknowledge the AC CDC and the data sources listed below in any documents, reports, publications or presentations, in which this dataset makes a significant contribution.

# recs	CITATION
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1	Neily, T.H. & Pepper, C.; Toms, B. 2020. Nova Scotia lichen database [as of 2020-03-18]. Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute.

5.0 RARE SPECIES WITHIN 100 KM

A 100 km buffer around the study area contains 50245 records of 144 vertebrate and 1654 records of 71 invertebrate fauna; 8268 records of 281 vascular, 1937 records of 168 nonvascular flora (attached: *ob100km.xls).

Taxa within 100 km of the study site that are rare and/or endangered in the province in which the study site occurs (including “location-sensitive” species). All ranks correspond to the province in which the study site falls, even for out-of-province records. Taxa are listed in order of concern, beginning with legally listed taxa, with the number of observations per taxon and the distance in kilometers from study area centroid to the closest observation (\pm the precision, in km, of the record).

Taxonomic Group	Scientific Name	Common Name	COSEWIC	SARA	Prov Legal Prot	Prov Rarity Rank	# recs	Distance (km)	Prov
A	<i>Coregonus huntsmani</i>	Atlantic Whitefish	Endangered	Endangered	Endangered	S1	1	80.5 \pm 1.0	NS
A	<i>Myotis lucifugus</i>	Little Brown Myotis	Endangered	Endangered	Endangered	S1	152	9.6 \pm 0.0	NS
A	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Northern Myotis	Endangered	Endangered	Endangered	S1	89	9.6 \pm 0.0	NS
A	<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>	Tricolored Bat	Endangered	Endangered	Endangered	S1	15	32.4 \pm 1.0	NS
A	<i>Salmo salar</i> pop. 1	Atlantic Salmon - Inner Bay of Fundy population	Endangered	Endangered		S1	52	9.0 \pm 1.0	NS
A	<i>Salmo salar</i> pop. 6	Atlantic Salmon - Nova Scotia Southern Upland population	Endangered			S1	17	74.9 \pm 0.0	NS
A	<i>Charadrius melanotos</i>	Piping Plover melanotos subspecies	Endangered	Endangered	Endangered	S1B	585	31.6 \pm 0.0	NS
A	<i>Sterna dougallii</i>	Roseate Tern	Endangered	Endangered	Endangered	S1B	1	99.6 \pm 0.0	NS
A	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i> pop. 2	Leatherback Sea Turtle - Atlantic population	Endangered	Endangered		S1S2N	2	64.6 \pm 1.0	NB
A	<i>Morone saxatilis</i> pop. 2	Striped Bass - Bay of Fundy population	Endangered			S2S3B,S2S3N	4	62.8 \pm 0.0	NS
A	<i>Antrostomus vociferus</i>	Eastern Whip-Poor-Will	Threatened	Threatened	Threatened	S1?B	10	27.5 \pm 7.0	NS
A	<i>Cathartes bicknelli</i>	Bicknell's Thrush	Threatened	Threatened	Endangered	S1B	1	44.3 \pm 7.0	NS
A	<i>Asio flammeus</i>	Short-eared Owl	Threatened	Special Concern		S1B	49	32.2 \pm 7.0	NS
A	<i>Glyptemys insculpta</i>	Wood Turtle	Threatened	Threatened	Threatened	S2	968	3.3 \pm 1.0	NS
A	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	Bank Swallow	Threatened	Threatened	Endangered	S2B	2660	1.3 \pm 7.0	NS
A	<i>Chaetura pelasgica</i>	Chimney Swift	Threatened	Threatened	Endangered	S2S3B,S1M	385	11.3 \pm 7.0	NS
A	<i>Limosa haemastica</i>	Hudsonian Godwit	Threatened			S2S3M	255	19.2 \pm 0.0	NS
A	<i>Acipenser oxyrinchus</i>	Atlantic Sturgeon	Threatened			S2S3N	7	49.9 \pm 0.0	NS
A	<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>	Bobolink	Threatened	Threatened		S3B	2123	9.1 \pm 0.0	NS
A	<i>Hydrobates leucorhous</i>	Leach's Storm-Petrel	Threatened		Vulnerable	S3B	1	96.3 \pm 0.0	NB
A	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>	Lesser Yellowlegs	Threatened			S3M	1602	18.4 \pm 0.0	NS
A	<i>Anguilla rostrata</i>	American Eel	Threatened			S3N	59	10.2 \pm 1.0	NS
A	<i>Sturnella magna</i>	Eastern Meadowlark	Threatened	Threatened		SHB	5	69.5 \pm 1.0	NB
A	<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>	Least Bittern	Threatened	Threatened		SUB	14	56.9 \pm 0.0	NS
A	<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>	Wood Thrush	Threatened	Threatened		SUB	59	21.1 \pm 7.0	NS
A	<i>Salmo salar</i> pop. 12	Atlantic Salmon - Gaspe - Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence population	Special Concern			S1	31	13.6 \pm 50.0	
A	<i>Bucephala islandica</i>	Barrow's Goldeneye	Special Concern	Special Concern		S1N,SUM	31	35.8 \pm 1.0	NS
A	<i>Euphagus carolinus</i>	Rusty Blackbird	Special Concern	Special Concern	Endangered	S2B	222	11.3 \pm 7.0	NS
A	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	Fin Whale	Special Concern	Special Concern		S2S3	1	94.4 \pm 1.0	NB
A	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	Red-necked Phalarope	Special Concern	Special Concern		S2S3M	19	20.2 \pm 0.0	NS
A	<i>Histrionicus histrionicus</i> pop. 1	Harlequin Duck - Eastern population	Special Concern	Special Concern	Endangered	S2S3N,SUM	2	74.7 \pm 0.0	NS
A	<i>Chelydra serpentina</i>	Snapping Turtle	Special Concern	Special Concern	Vulnerable	S3	123	6.5 \pm 0.0	NS
A	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Barn Swallow	Special Concern	Threatened	Endangered	S3B	1827	1.3 \pm 7.0	NS
A	<i>Cardellina canadensis</i>	Canada Warbler	Special Concern	Threatened	Endangered	S3B	1104	0.1 \pm 0.0	NS
A	<i>Chordeiles minor</i>	Common Nighthawk	Special Concern	Threatened	Threatened	S3B	436	9.9 \pm 7.0	NS
A	<i>Contopus cooperi</i>	Olive-sided Flycatcher	Special Concern	Threatened	Threatened	S3B	1004	1.3 \pm 7.0	NS
A	<i>Coccothraustes vespertinus</i>	Evening Grosbeak	Special Concern	Special Concern	Vulnerable	S3B,S3N,S3M	735	1.3 \pm 7.0	NS

Taxonomic Group	Scientific Name	Common Name	COSEWIC	SARA	Prov Legal Prot	Prov Rarity Rank	# recs	Distance (km)	Prov
A	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	Horned Grebe	Special Concern	Special Concern	S3N,SUM	29	65.6 ± 0.0	NB	
A	<i>Contopus virens</i>	Eastern Wood-Pewee	Special Concern	Special Concern	Vulnerable	S3S4B	1203	1.3 ± 7.0	NS
A	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	Harbour Porpoise	Special Concern			S4	1	81.8 ± 0.0	NB
A	<i>Chrysemys picta picta</i>	Eastern Painted Turtle	Special Concern	Special Concern		S4	211	11.0 ± 5.0	NS
A	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	Cooper's Hawk	Not At Risk			S1?B,SUN,SUM	6	61.3 ± 7.0	NS
A	<i>Fulica americana</i>	American Coot	Not At Risk			S1B	55	35.8 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	Black Tern	Not At Risk			S1B	180	56.6 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Falco peregrinus</i> pop. 1	Peregrine Falcon - anatum/tundrius	Not At Risk	Special Concern	Vulnerable	S1B,SUM	272	43.0 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Sorex dispar</i>	Long-tailed Shrew	Not At Risk			S2	5	13.4 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Aegolius funereus</i>	Boreal Owl	Not At Risk			S2?B,SUM	9	14.8 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Lynx canadensis</i>	Canada Lynx	Not At Risk		Endangered	S2S3	4	83.5 ± 1.0	NB
A	<i>Globicephala melas</i>	Long-finned Pilot Whale	Not At Risk			S2S3	1	77.3 ± 100.0	NS
A	<i>Hemidactylum scutatum</i>	Four-toed Salamander	Not At Risk			S3	26	18.3 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	Humpback Whale	Not At Risk			S3	1	66.0 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Common Tern	Not At Risk			S3B	356	28.7 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Sialia sialis</i>	Eastern Bluebird	Not At Risk			S3B	186	10.6 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Buteo lagopus</i>	Rough-legged Hawk	Not At Risk			S3N	17	62.9 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	Northern Goshawk	Not At Risk			S3S4	165	1.3 ± 7.0	NS
A	<i>Glaucomys volans</i>	Southern Flying Squirrel	Not At Risk			S3S4	6	76.8 ± 10.0	NS
A	<i>Lagenorhynchus acutus</i>	Atlantic White-sided Dolphin	Not At Risk			S3S4	3	32.9 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Ammospiza nelsoni</i>	Nelson's Sparrow	Not At Risk			S3S4B	933	19.8 ± 7.0	NS
A	<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>	Red Knot rufa subspecies - Tierra del Fuego / Patagonia wintering population	E,SC	Endangered	Endangered	S2M	581	19.0 ± 0.0	
A	<i>Morone saxatilis</i>	Striped Bass	E,SC			S2S3B,S2S3N	7	30.6 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Alces alces americana</i>	Moose			Endangered	S1	186	11.6 ± 3.0	NS
A	<i>Picoides dorsalis</i>	American Three-toed Woodpecker				S1?	6	38.2 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Passerina cyanea</i>	Indigo Bunting				S1?B,SUM	43	18.1 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Black-crowned Night-heron				S1B	2	69.5 ± 1.0	NB
A	<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>	Ruddy Duck				S1B	77	57.3 ± 7.0	NS
A	<i>Gallinula galeata</i>	Common Gallinule				S1B	52	29.0 ± 7.0	NS
A	<i>Myiarchus crinitus</i>	Great Crested Flycatcher				S1B	35	20.2 ± 7.0	NS
A	<i>Cistothorus palustris</i>	Marsh Wren				S1B	62	56.7 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	Northern Mockingbird				S1B	109	20.2 ± 7.0	NS
A	<i>Toxostoma rufum</i>	Brown Thrasher				S1B	22	25.8 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>	Semipalmated Plover				S1B,S4M	2010	18.4 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>	Least Sandpiper				S1B,S4M	1305	18.4 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Anas acuta</i>	Northern Pintail				S1B,SUM	146	22.8 ± 7.0	NS
A	<i>Vireo gilvus</i>	Warbling Vireo				S1B,SUM	41	23.6 ± 7.0	NS
A	<i>Vesptertilionidae</i> sp.	bat species				S1S2	152	15.5 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Pooecetes gramineus</i>	Vesper Sparrow				S1S2B,SUM	85	1.3 ± 7.0	NS
A	<i>Vireo philadelphicus</i>	Philadelphia Vireo				S2?B,SUM	107	15.5 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	Atlantic Puffin				S2B	1	66.6 ± 0.0	NB
A	<i>Empidonax traillii</i>	Willow Flycatcher				S2B	54	13.1 ± 7.0	NS
A	<i>Molothrus ater</i>	Brown-headed Cowbird				S2B	264	9.9 ± 7.0	NS
A	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>	Northern Shoveler				S2B,SUM	282	19.1 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Mareca strepera</i>	Gadwall				S2B,SUM	322	29.4 ± 7.0	NS
A	<i>Piranga olivacea</i>	Scarlet Tanager				S2B,SUM	32	1.3 ± 7.0	NS
A	<i>Calidris alba</i>	Sanderling				S2N,S3M	1484	18.4 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Asio otus</i>	Long-eared Owl				S2S3	31	15.2 ± 7.0	NS
A	<i>Rallus limicola</i>	Virginia Rail				S2S3B	275	19.1 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	Black-legged Kittiwake				S2S3B	2	23.1 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i>	Cliff Swallow				S2S3B	518	9.8 ± 0.0	NS
A	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	Great Cormorant				S2S3B,S2S3N	99	66.0 ± 1.0	NB
A	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Turkey Vulture				S2S3B,S4S5M	138	49.7 ± 7.0	NS
A	<i>Setophaga pinus</i>	Pine Warbler				S2S3B,S4S5M	61	8.4 ± 0.0	NS

Taxonomic Group	Scientific Name	Common Name	COSEWIC	SARA	Prov Legal Prot	Prov Rarity Rank	# recs	Distance (km)	Prov	
A	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	Common Goldeneye			S2S3B,S5N,S5M	128	20.8 ± 5.0	NS		
A	<i>Icterus galbula</i>	Baltimore Oriole			S2S3B,SUM	92	10.3 ± 7.0	NS		
A	<i>Pluvialis dominica</i>	American Golden-Plover			S2S3M	187	18.4 ± 0.0	NS		
A	<i>Numenius phaeopus hudsonicus</i>	Whimbrel			S2S3M	210	30.4 ± 0.0	NS		
A	<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>	Red Phalarope			S2S3M	1	84.6 ± 0.0	NB		
A	<i>Perisoreus canadensis</i>	Canada Jay			S3	640	0.1 ± 0.0	NS		
A	<i>Poecile hudsonicus</i>	Boreal Chickadee			S3	659	1.3 ± 7.0	NS		
A	<i>Spinus pinus</i>	Pine Siskin			S3	545	1.3 ± 7.0	NS		
A	<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>	Brook Trout			S3	61	16.4 ± 0.0	NS		
A	<i>Salvelinus namaycush</i>	Lake Trout			S3	3	74.0 ± 0.0	NS		
A	<i>Sorex maritimensis</i>	Maritime Shrew			S3	105	68.1 ± 1.0	NB		
A	<i>Synaptomys cooperi</i>	Southern Bog Lemming			S3	17	71.9 ± 0.0	NS		
A	<i>Pekania pennanti</i>	Fisher			S3	6	43.4 ± 0.0	NS		
A	<i>Calcarius lapponicus</i>	Lapland Longspur			S3?N,SUM	34	65.6 ± 0.0	NB		
A	<i>Spatula discors</i>	Blue-winged Teal			S3B	528	19.8 ± 7.0	NS		
A	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	Killdeer			S3B	1060	1.3 ± 7.0	NS		
A	<i>Tringa semipalmata</i>	Willet			S3B	1249	19.8 ± 7.0	NS		
A	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	Arctic Tern			S3B	5	66.0 ± 0.0	NB		
A	<i>Coccyczus erythrophthalmus</i>	Black-billed Cuckoo			S3B	135	1.3 ± 7.0	NS		
A	<i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>	Eastern Kingbird			S3B	500	9.9 ± 7.0	NS		
A	<i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i>	Rose-breasted Grosbeak			S3B	736	1.3 ± 7.0	NS		
A	<i>Alosa pseudoharengus</i>	Alewife			S3B	29	25.0 ± 0.0	NS		
A	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	Common Eider			S3B,S3M,S3N	129	36.0 ± 12.0	NS		
A	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	Greater Yellowlegs			S3B,S4M	2545	18.4 ± 0.0	NS		
A	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	American Kestrel			S3B,S4S5M	613	8.7 ± 7.0	NS		
A	<i>Gallinago delicata</i>	Wilson's Snipe			S3B,S5M	1406	1.3 ± 7.0	NS		
A	<i>Setophaga striata</i>	Blackpoll Warbler			S3B,S5M	84	15.0 ± 7.0	NS		
A	<i>Cardellina pusilla</i>	Wilson's Warbler			S3B,S5M	112	1.3 ± 7.0	NS		
A	<i>Pinicola enucleator</i>	Pine Grosbeak			S3B,S5N,S5M	118	11.8 ± 0.0	NS		
A	<i>Setophaga tigrina</i>	Cape May Warbler			S3B,SUM	286	1.3 ± 7.0	NS		
A	<i>Branta bernicla</i>	Brant			S3M	27	41.1 ± 0.0	NS		
A	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	Black-bellied Plover			S3M	1997	18.4 ± 0.0	NS		
A	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Ruddy Turnstone			S3M	737	19.0 ± 0.0	NS		
A	<i>Calidris pusilla</i>	Semipalmated Sandpiper			S3M	2421	18.4 ± 0.0	NS		
A	<i>Calidris melanotos</i>	Pectoral Sandpiper			S3M	413	19.2 ± 0.0	NS		
A	<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>	Short-billed Dowitcher			S3M	1409	18.4 ± 0.0	NS		
A	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	Black-headed Gull			S3N	7	61.7 ± 4.0	NB		
A	<i>Picoides arcticus</i>	Black-backed Woodpecker			S3S4	159	1.3 ± 7.0	NS		
A	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	Red Crossbill			S3S4	167	14.3 ± 0.0	NS		
A	<i>Sorex palustris</i>	American Water Shrew			S3S4	2	68.1 ± 1.0	NB		
A	<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>	American Bittern			S3S4B,S4S5M	998	9.9 ± 7.0	NS		
A	<i>Setophaga castanea</i>	Bay-breasted Warbler			S3S4B,S4S5M	674	1.3 ± 7.0	NS		
A	<i>Actitis macularius</i>	Spotted Sandpiper			S3S4B,S5M	993	1.3 ± 7.0	NS		
A	<i>Leiothlypis peregrina</i>	Tennessee Warbler			S3S4B,S5M	604	1.3 ± 7.0	NS		
A	<i>Passerella iliaca</i>	Fox Sparrow			S3S4B,S5M	49	21.1 ± 7.0	NS		
A	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	Red-breasted Merganser			S3S4B,S5M,S5N	175	13.4 ± 0.0	NS		
A	<i>Calidris maritima</i>	Purple Sandpiper			S3S4N	96	57.9 ± 15.0	NS		
A	<i>Lanius borealis</i>	Northern Shrike			S3S4N	32	58.6 ± 0.0	NS		
A	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	Northern Gannet			SHB	81	46.8 ± 4.0	NS		
A	<i>Aythya americana</i>	Redhead			SHB	12	57.3 ± 7.0	NS		
A	<i>Leucophaeus atricilla</i>	Laughing Gull			SHB	6	62.5 ± 0.0	NB		
A	<i>Progne subis</i>	Purple Martin			SHB	28	27.5 ± 7.0	NS		
A	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>	Horned Lark			SHB,S4S5N,S5M	24	19.8 ± 7.0	NS		
I	<i>Bombus bohemicus</i>	Ashton Cuckoo Bumble Bee	Endangered	Endangered	Endangered	S1	32	16.5 ± 5.0	NS	
I	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Monarch	Endangered	Special Concern	Endangered	S2?B,S3M	380	7.4 ± 0.0	NS	
I	<i>Danaus plexippus plexippus</i>	Monarch	Endangered	Special Concern		S2?B,S3M	1	73.4 ± 0.0	NS	
I	<i>Gomphurus ventricosus</i>	Skillet Clubtail	Endangered	Endangered		SH	2	69.4 ± 0.0	NS	

Taxonomic Group	Scientific Name	Common Name	COSEWIC	SARA	Prov Legal Prot	Prov Rarity Rank	# recs	Distance (km)	Prov
	<i>Barnea truncata</i>	Atlantic Mud-piddock	Threatened	Threatened	S1	1	22.8 ± 1.0	NS	
	<i>Bombus suckleyi</i>	Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee	Threatened		SH	1	32.4 ± 5.0	NS	
	<i>Alasmidonta varicosa</i>	Brook Floater	Special Concern	Special Concern	Threatened	S3	10	11.7 ± 0.0	NS
	<i>Bombus terricola</i>	Yellow-banded Bumble Bee	Special Concern	Special Concern	Vulnerable	S3	151	10.9 ± 0.0	NS
	<i>Coccinella transversoguttata richardsoni</i>	Transverse Lady Beetle	Special Concern		Endangered	SH	13	17.7 ± 2.0	NS
	<i>Cicindela formosa</i>	Big Sand Tiger Beetle			S1	1	88.1 ± 1.0	NS	
	<i>Erota laeta</i>	Early Hairstreak			S1	1	75.6 ± 0.0	PE	
	<i>Pachydiplax longipennis</i>	Blue Dasher			S1	4	94.6 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Atlanticoncha ochracea</i>	Tidewater Mucket			S1	29	45.2 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Polygonia comma</i>	Eastern Comma			S1?	12	79.7 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Polygonia satyrus</i>	Satyr Comma			S1?	16	34.8 ± 5.0	NS	
	<i>Euphyes bimacula</i>	Two-spotted Skipper			S1S2	3	79.2 ± 1.0	NB	
	<i>Boloria chariclea</i>	Arctic Fritillary			S1S2	10	20.2 ± 2.0	NS	
	<i>Somatochlora brevicincta</i>	Quebec Emerald			S1S2	2	58.0 ± 1.0	NS	
	<i>Tharsalea dospassosi</i>	Maritime Copper			S2	98	29.4 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Satyrium acadica</i>	Acadian Hairstreak			S2	16	14.6 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Neurocordulia michaeli</i>	Broad-tailed Shadowdragon			S2	6	84.4 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Coenagrion resolutum</i>	Taiga Bluet			S2	38	19.0 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>	Eastern Pearlshell			S2	127	7.8 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Pantala hymenaea</i>	Spot-Winged Glider			S2?B	1	58.0 ± 1.0	NS	
	<i>Nymphalis l-album</i>	Compton Tortoiseshell			S2S3	13	26.9 ± 2.0	NS	
	<i>Aglais milberti</i>	Milbert's Tortoiseshell			S2S3	22	16.3 ± 2.0	NS	
	<i>Aglais milberti milberti</i>	Milbert's Tortoise Shell			S2S3	6	30.8 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Lanthus vernalis</i>	Southern Pygmy Clubtail			S2S3	1	99.4 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Somatochlora kennedyi</i>	Kennedy's Emerald			S2S3	4	56.8 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Somatochlora williamsoni</i>	Williamson's Emerald			S2S3	8	62.0 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Williamsonia fletcheri</i>	Ebony Boghaunter			S2S3	11	20.5 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Stylurus scudderi</i>	Zebra Clubtail			S2S3	6	65.4 ± 1.0	NS	
	<i>Alasmidonta undulata</i>	Triangle Floater			S2S3	33	50.2 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Astyleiopus variegatus</i>	Variegated Long-horned Beetle			S3	1	58.0 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Strophiona nitens</i>	Chestnut Bark Long-horned Beetle			S3	1	97.4 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Hippodamia parenthesis</i>	Parenthesis Lady Beetle			S3	2	73.1 ± 0.0	NB	
	<i>Naemia seriata</i>	Seaside Lady Beetle			S3	21	70.3 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Chilocorus stigma</i>	Twice-stabbed Lady Beetle			S3	1	82.8 ± 0.0	PE	
	<i>Myzia pullata</i>	Streaked Lady Beetle			S3	1	77.9 ± 0.0	NB	
	<i>Monochamus marmorator</i>	Balsam Fir Sawyer			S3	1	91.9 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Trachysida aspera</i>	Rough Flower Longhorn Beetle			S3	2	94.3 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Dicerca tenebrosa</i>	Dark Jewel Beetle			S3	1	92.3 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Astylopsis sexguttata</i>	Six-speckled Long-horned Beetle			S3	1	83.3 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Satyrum calanus</i>	Banded Hairstreak			S3	46	16.8 ± 2.0	NS	
	<i>Callophrys lanoraieensis</i>	Bog Elfin			S3	12	53.3 ± 1.0	NS	
	<i>Strymon melinus</i>	Gray Hairstreak			S3	4	56.0 ± 2.0	NS	
	<i>Phanogomphus descriptus</i>	Harpoon Clubtail			S3	4	14.9 ± 1.0	NS	
	<i>Ophiogomphus aspersus</i>	Brook Snaketail			S3	5	27.8 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Ophiogomphus mainensis</i>	Maine Snaketail			S3	14	59.3 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Ophiogomphus rupinsulensis</i>	Rusty Snaketail			S3	21	69.3 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Epitheca princeps</i>	Prince Baskettail			S3	17	14.9 ± 1.0	NS	
	<i>Somatochlora forcipata</i>	Forcipate Emerald			S3	2	93.9 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Enallagma vernale</i>	Vernal Bluet			S3	6	14.9 ± 1.0	NS	
	<i>Strophitus undulatus</i>	Creeper			S3	6	29.7 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Polygonia interrogationis</i>	Question Mark			S3B	162	8.3 ± 0.0	NS	
	<i>Cecropterus pylades</i>	Northern Cloudywing			S3S4	20	11.9 ± 1.0	NS	

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I	<i>Amblyscirtes hegon</i>	Pepper and Salt Skipper			S3S4	23	3.5 ± 0.0	NS	
I	<i>Cupido comyntas</i>	Eastern Tailed Blue			S3S4	22	13.0 ± 0.0	NS	
I	<i>Argynnis aphrodite</i>	Aphrodite Fritillary			S3S4	41	8.0 ± 2.0	NS	
I	<i>Polygonia faunus</i>	Green Comma			S3S4	19	13.7 ± 2.0	NS	
I	<i>Oeneis jutta</i>	Jutta Arctic			S3S4	35	48.1 ± 0.0	NS	
I	<i>Aeshna clepsydra</i>	Mottled Darner			S3S4	9	65.4 ± 0.0	NS	
I	<i>Aeshna constricta</i>	Lance-Tipped Darner			S3S4	40	13.9 ± 0.0	NS	
I	<i>Boyeria grafiana</i>	Ocellated Darner			S3S4	4	13.9 ± 0.0	NS	
I	<i>Gomphaeschna furcillata</i>	Harlequin Darner			S3S4	7	57.5 ± 1.0	NS	
I	<i>Somatochlora franklini</i>	Delicate Emerald			S3S4	7	16.9 ± 1.0	NS	
I	<i>Nannothemis bella</i>	Elfin Skimmer			S3S4	24	53.5 ± 1.0	NS	
I	<i>Sympetrum danae</i>	Black Meadowhawk			S3S4	2	83.1 ± 1.0	PE	
I	<i>Amphiagrion saucium</i>	Eastern Red Damsel			S3S4	6	30.8 ± 1.0	NS	
I	<i>Icaricia saepiolus</i>	Greenish Blue			SH	3	29.0 ± 5.0	NS	
I	<i>Polygonia gracilis</i>	Hoary Comma			SH	2	33.1 ± 2.0	NS	
N	<i>Erioderma mollissimum</i>	Graceful Felt Lichen	Endangered	Endangered	Endangered	S1	10	82.0 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Erioderma pedicellatum</i> (Atlantic pop.)	Boreal Felt Lichen - Atlantic pop.	Endangered	Endangered	Endangered	S1	197	80.6 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Peltigera hydrothyria</i>	Eastern Waterfan	Threatened	Threatened	Threatened	S1	98	3.9 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Pannaria lurida</i>	Wrinkled Shingle Lichen	Threatened	Threatened	Threatened	S2S3	120	53.1 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Anzia colpodes</i>	Black-foam Lichen	Threatened	Threatened	Threatened	S3	33	26.9 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Fuscopannaria leucosticta</i>	White-rimmed Shingle Lichen	Threatened			S3	4	80.2 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Pectenia plumbea</i>	Blue Felt Lichen	Special Concern	Special Concern	Vulnerable	S3	78	16.6 ± 5.0	NS
N	<i>Sclerophora peronella</i> (Atlantic pop.)	Frosted Glass-whiskers (Atlantic population)	Special Concern	Special Concern		S3S4	16	59.2 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Pseudevernia cladonia</i>	Ghost Antler Lichen	Not At Risk			S2S3	4	86.9 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Fissidens exilis</i>	Pygmy Pocket Moss	Not At Risk			S3	14	41.1 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Chaenotheca servitii</i>	Flexuous Golden Stubble	Data Deficient			S1	1	88.0 ± 1.0	NS
N	<i>Aloina brevirostris</i>	Short-Beaked Rigid Screw Moss				S1	1	74.3 ± 2.0	NS
N	<i>Sematophyllum demissum</i>	a Moss				S1	1	81.8 ± 2.0	NS
N	<i>Tetraphontium brownianum</i>	Little Georgia				S1	1	50.3 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Cyrtio-hypnum minutulum</i>	Tiny Cedar Moss				S1	1	88.2 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Blennothallia crispa</i>	Crinkled Jelly Lichen				S1	1	52.3 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Umbilicaria vellea</i>	Grizzled Rocktripe Lichen				S1	1	97.4 ± 5.0	NS
N	<i>Usnea perplexans</i>	Powdered Beard Lichen				S1	1	63.4 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Scytinium dactylinum</i>	Brown-buttoned Jellyskin Lichen				S1	1	85.5 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Lathagrium cristatum</i>	Fingered Jelly Lichen				S1	3	70.2 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Ephebe perspinulosa</i>	Thread Lichen				S1	1	85.7 ± 1.0	NS
N	<i>Fuscopannaria praetermissa</i>	Moss Shingles Lichen				S1	1	76.1 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Scytinium schraderi</i>	Wrinkled Jellyskin Lichen				S1	1	35.0 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Polychidium muscicola</i>	Eyed Mossthorns				S1	2	70.8 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Leptogium hibernicum</i>	Woollybear Lichen				S1	1	93.8 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Peltigera lepidophora</i>	Hibernia Jellyskin Lichen				S1	5	68.7 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Calypogeia neogaea</i>	Scaly Pelt Lichen				S1?	1	45.0 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Aloina rigida</i>	Common Pouchwort				S1?	5	9.3 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Imbribryum muehlenbeckii</i>	Aloe-Like Rigid Screw Moss				S1?	2	92.7 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Campylostelium saxicola</i>	Muehlenbeck's Bryum Moss				S1?	2	75.4 ± 0.0	PE
N	<i>Tortula obtusifolia</i>	a Moss				S1?	3	31.8 ± 1.0	NS
N	<i>Didymodon tophaceus</i>	a Moss				S1?	1	52.3 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Paludella squarrosa</i>	Olive Beard Moss				S1?	3	67.1 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Physcomitrium immersum</i>	Tufted Fen Moss				S1?	1	78.1 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Schistostega pennata</i>	a Moss				S1?	1	62.7 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Sytrichia ruralis</i>	Luminous Moss				S1?	1	87.0 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Arrhenopterum</i>	a Moss				S1S2	2	39.6 ± 1.0	NS
		One-sided Groove Moss							

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N	<i>heterostichum</i>				S1S2	1	96.9 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Brachythecium turgidum</i>	Thick Ragged Moss			S1S2	1	98.5 ± 3.0	NS	
N	<i>Hypnum pratense</i>	Meadow Plait Moss			S1S2	1	74.2 ± 2.0	NS	
N	<i>Mnium thomsonii</i>	Thomson's Leafy Moss			S1S2	1	95.5 ± 2.0	NS	
N	<i>Tortula acaulon</i>	Cuspidate Earth Moss			S1S2	1	41.3 ± 3.0	NS	
N	<i>Plagiothecium latebricola</i>	Alder Silk Moss			S1S2	1	75.6 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Platydictya confervoides</i>	a Moss			S1S2	1	50.5 ± 3.0	NS	
N	<i>Seligeria donniana</i>	Donian Beardless Moss			S1S2	2	70.5 ± 6.0	NS	
N	<i>Sematophyllum marylandicum</i>	a Moss			S1S2	3	4.2 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Timmia megapolitana</i>	Metropolitan Timmia Moss			S1S2	1	65.0 ± 3.0	NS	
N	<i>Tortula mucronifolia</i>	Mucronate Screw Moss			S1S2	2	42.3 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Pseudotaxiphyllum distichaceum</i>	a Moss			S1S2	1	27.4 ± 5.0	NS	
N	<i>Haplocladium microphyllum</i>	Tiny-leaved Haplocladium Moss			S1S2	1	70.6 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Enchylium bachmanianum</i>	Bachman's Jelly Lichen			S1S2	1	68.6 ± 6.0	NS	
N	<i>Placidium squamulosum</i>	Limy Soil Stipplescale Lichen			S1S2	2	65.0 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Peltigera porojensis</i>	Pale-bellied Pelt Lichen			S1S2	2	28.9 ± 3.0	NS	
N	<i>Pilophorus cereolus</i>	Powdered Matchstick Lichen			S1S2	5	69.6 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Parmotrema reticulatum</i>	Netted Ruffle Lichen			S1S2	3	85.3 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Parmeliella parvula</i>	Poor-man's Shingles Lichen			S1S3	1	5.8 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Stereocaulon grande</i>	Grand Foam Lichen			S1S3	2	72.5 ± 2.0	NS	
N	<i>Stereocaulon intermedium</i>	Pacific Brain Foam Lichen			S2	1	41.3 ± 3.0	NS	
N	<i>Anacamptodon splachnoides</i>	a Moss			S2	2	78.8 ± 3.0	NS	
N	<i>Sphagnum platyphyllum</i>	Flat-leaved Peat Moss			S2	2	96.3 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Cystocoleus ebeneus</i>	Rockgossamer Lichen			S2	1	94.7 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Hypotrachyna catawbiensis</i>	Powder-tipped Antler Lichen			S2	1	77.0 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Nephroma arcticum</i>	Arctic Kidney Lichen			S2	4	87.8 ± 1.0	NS	
N	<i>Nephroma resupinatum</i>	a lichen			S2	1	75.3 ± 17.0	NS	
N	<i>Placynthium flabellosum</i>	Scaly Ink Lichen			S2?	1	80.7 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Riccardia multifida</i>	Delicate Germanderwort			S2?	1	13.1 ± 5.0	NS	
N	<i>Anomodon viticulosus</i>	a Moss			S2?	2	18.4 ± 5.0	NS	
N	<i>Weissia muhlenbergiana</i>	a Moss			S2?	1	74.2 ± 1.0	NS	
N	<i>Atrichum angustatum</i>	Lesser Smoothcap Moss			S2?	3	52.4 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Ptychostomum pendulum</i>	Drooping Bryum			S2?	1	98.5 ± 3.0	NS	
N	<i>Drepanocladus polygamus</i>	Polygamous Hook Moss			S2?	1	98.5 ± 3.0	NS	
N	<i>Pseudocampylium radicale</i>	Long-stalked Fine Wet Moss			S2?	2	77.4 ± 0.0	PE	
N	<i>Dicranum condensatum</i>	Condensed Broom Moss			S2?	1	95.6 ± 10.0	NS	
N	<i>Ditrichum rhynchostegium</i>	a Moss			S2?	1	80.0 ± 2.0	NS	
N	<i>Kiaeria starkei</i>	Starke's Fork Moss			S2?	2	37.8 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Orthotrichum anomalum</i>	Anomalous Bristle Moss			S2?	1	59.7 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Philonotis marchica</i>	a Moss			S2?	1	28.2 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Platydictya jungermannioides</i>	False Willow Moss			S2?	4	67.7 ± 25.0	NS	
N	<i>Saelania glaucescens</i>	Blue Dew Moss			S2?	4	41.3 ± 3.0	NS	
N	<i>Cyrtomnium hymenophylloides</i>	Short-pointed Lantern Moss			S2?	1	99.9 ± 2.0	NS	
N	<i>Platyiomella lescurii</i>	a Moss			S2?	1	88.8 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Phylliscum demangeonii</i>	Black Rock-wafer Lichen			S2?	1	67.7 ± 25.0	NS	
N	<i>Oxyrrhynchium hians</i>	Light Beaked Moss			S2S3	4	41.3 ± 3.0	NS	
N	<i>Platydictya subtilis</i>	Bark Willow Moss			S2S3	1	67.0 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Plagiomnium rostratum</i>	Long-beaked Leafy Moss			S2S3	37	42.5 ± 3.0	NS	
N	<i>Scorpidium revolvens</i>	Limprichtia Moss			S2S3	1	81.0 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Moelleropsis nebulosa</i>	Blue-gray Moss Shingle Lichen			S2S3	1			
N	<i>Moelleropsis nebulosa</i> ssp.	Blue-gray Moss Shingle			S2S3	1			

Taxonomic Group	Scientific Name	Common Name	COSEWIC	SARA	Prov Legal Prot	Prov Rarity Rank	# recs	Distance (km)	Prov
	<i>frullaniae</i>	Lichen							
N	<i>Ramalina thrausta</i>	Angelhair Ramalina Lichen			S2S3		11	38.0 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Collema leptaleum</i>	Crumpled Bat's Wing Lichen			S2S3		71	20.2 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Usnea ceratina</i>	Warty Beard Lichen			S2S3		1	39.0 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Usnea rubicunda</i>	Red Beard Lichen			S2S3		3	33.9 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Ahtiaria aurescens</i>	Eastern Candlewax Lichen			S2S3		9	67.1 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Usnocetraria oakesiana</i>	Yellow Band Lichen			S2S3		12	65.3 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Cladonia mateocyatha</i>	Mixed-up Pixie-cup			S2S3		3	88.5 ± 1.0	NS
N	<i>Cladonia parasitica</i>	Fence-rail Lichen			S2S3		3	14.3 ± 1.0	NS
N	<i>Scyphium tenuissimum</i>	Birdnest Jellyskin Lichen			S2S3		7	26.1 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Melanohalea septentrionalis</i>	Northern Camouflage Lichen			S2S3		1	62.8 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Myelochroa aurulenta</i>	Powdery Axil-bristle Lichen			S2S3		4	32.9 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Parmelia fertilis</i>	Fertile Shield Lichen			S2S3		7	17.2 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Hypotrachyna minarum</i>	Hairless-spined Shield Lichen			S2S3		1	92.0 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Parmeliopsis ambigua</i>	Green Starburst Lichen			S2S3		2	69.4 ± 1.0	NS
N	<i>Racodium rupestre</i>	Rockhair Lichen			S2S3		1	87.1 ± 1.0	NS
N	<i>Umbilicaria polyphylla</i>	Petaled Rocktripe Lichen			S2S3		1	85.1 ± 2.0	NS
N	<i>Usnea cavernosa</i>	Pitted Beard Lichen			S2S3		2	63.4 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Usnea mutabilis</i>	Bloody Beard Lichen			S2S3		1	63.5 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Fuscopannaria sorediata</i>	a Lichen			S2S3		2	87.1 ± 1.0	NS
N	<i>Stereocaulon condensatum</i>	Granular Soil Foam Lichen			S2S3		9	54.8 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Physcia subtilis</i>	Slender Rosette Lichen			S2S3		1	80.2 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Cladonia coccifera</i>	Eastern Boreal Pixie-cup Lichen			S2S3		2	64.9 ± 4.0	NS
N	<i>Cladonia deformis</i>	Lesser Sulphur-cup Lichen			S2S3		3	72.5 ± 2.0	NS
N	<i>Cladonia phyllophora</i>	Felt Lichen			S2S3		2	92.7 ± 4.0	NS
N	<i>Ephemerum serratum</i>	a Moss			S3		5	41.1 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Fissidens taxifolius</i>	Yew-leaved Pocket Moss			S3		8	41.1 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Anomodon tristis</i>	a Moss			S3		7	67.7 ± 1.0	NS
N	<i>Sphagnum contortum</i>	Twisted Peat Moss			S3		3	45.6 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Tetraphodon angustatus</i>	Toothed-leaved Nitrogen Moss			S3		1	92.5 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Rostmania occultata</i>	Crusted Tarpaper Lichen			S3		2	46.4 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Collema nigrescens</i>	Blistered Tarpaper Lichen			S3		16	30.0 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Solorina saccata</i>	Woodland Owl Lichen			S3		10	61.2 ± 2.0	NS
N	<i>Fuscopannaria ahlneri</i>	Corrugated Shingles Lichen			S3		49	9.9 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Heterodermia squamulosa</i>	Scaly Fringe Lichen			S3		74	67.4 ± 3.0	NS
N	<i>Scyphium lichenoides</i>	Tattered Jellyskin Lichen			S3		25	34.5 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Leptogium milligranum</i>	Stretched Jellyskin Lichen			S3		8	8.6 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Nephroma bellum</i>	Naked Kidney Lichen			S3		8	13.8 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Placynthium nigrum</i>	Common Ink Lichen			S3		2	69.7 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Punctelia appalachensis</i>	Appalachian Speckleback Lichen			S3		105	64.8 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Viridothelium virens</i>				S3		2	68.0 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Ephebe lanata</i>	Waterside Rockshag Lichen			S3		2	70.8 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Phaeophyscia adiastola</i>	Powder-tipped Shadow Lichen			S3		2	91.7 ± 0.0	PE
N	<i>Phaeophyscia pusilloides</i>	Pompom-tipped Shadow Lichen			S3		9	55.9 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Peltigera collina</i>	Tree Pelt Lichen			S3		5	25.6 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Metzgeria conjugata</i>	Rock Veilwort			S3?		1	85.3 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Barbula convoluta</i>	Lesser Bird's-claw Beard Moss			S3?		3	75.6 ± 0.0	NS
N	<i>Calliergon giganteum</i>	Giant Spear Moss			S3?		2	72.0 ± 3.0	NS
N	<i>Drummondia prorepens</i>	a Moss			S3?		1	84.3 ± 5.0	NS
N	<i>Elodium blandowii</i>	Blandow's Bog Moss			S3?		5	48.3 ± 3.0	NS
N	<i>Mnium stellare</i>	Star Leafy Moss			S3?		3	39.6 ± 1.0	NS

Taxonomic Group	Scientific Name	Common Name	COSEWIC	SARA	Prov Legal Prot	Prov Rarity Rank	# recs	Distance (km)	Prov	
N	<i>Sphagnum riparium</i>	Streamsider Peat Moss			S3?		2	87.7 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Cladonia stygia</i>	Black-footed Reindeer Lichen			S3?		4	82.3 ± 0.0	NB	
N	<i>Anomodon rugelii</i>	Rugel's Anomodon Moss			S3S4		2	68.1 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Dichelyma capillaceum</i>	Hairlike Dichelyma Moss			S3S4		1	85.4 ± 3.0	NS	
N	<i>Dicranum leioneuron</i>	a Dicranum Moss			S3S4		1	95.2 ± 0.0	NB	
N	<i>Encalypta ciliata</i>	Fringed Extinguisher Moss			S3S4		2	65.0 ± 3.0	NS	
N	<i>Encalypta procera</i>	Slender Extinguisher Moss			S3S4		1	50.5 ± 3.0	NS	
N	<i>Myurella julacea</i>	Small Mouse-tail Moss			S3S4		1	28.2 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Splachnum ampullaceum</i>	Cruet Dung Moss			S3S4		2	65.9 ± 0.0	NB	
N	<i>Thamnobryum alleghaniense</i>	a Moss			S3S4		16	22.7 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Tomentypnum nitens</i>	Golden Fuzzy Fen Moss			S3S4		1	67.0 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Schistidium agassizii</i>	Elf Bloom Moss			S3S4		1	94.8 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Hylocomiastrum pyrenaicum</i>	a Feather Moss			S3S4		1	50.5 ± 3.0	NS	
N	<i>Enchylium tenax</i>	Soil Tarpaper Lichen			S3S4		7	34.6 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Sticta fuliginosa</i>	Peppered Moon Lichen			S3S4		37	14.3 ± 1.0	NS	
N	<i>Arctoparmelia incurva</i>	Finger Ring Lichen			S3S4		5	98.7 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Scytirium teretiusculum</i>	Curly Jellyskin Lichen			S3S4		12	62.3 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Leptogium acadiense</i>	Acadian Jellyskin Lichen			S3S4		21	8.7 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Scytirium subtile</i>	Appressed Jellyskin Lichen			S3S4		11	25.1 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Vahliella leucophaea</i>	Shelter Shingle Lichen			S3S4		17	21.8 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Heterodermia speciosa</i>	Powdered Fringe Lichen			S3S4		40	5.3 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Leptogium corticola</i>	Blistered Jellyskin Lichen			S3S4		35	67.6 ± 4.0	NS	
N	<i>Melanohalea olivacea</i>	Spotted Camouflage Lichen			S3S4		5	63.4 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Parmeliopsis hyperopta</i>	Gray Starburst Lichen			S3S4		4	22.0 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Parmotrema perlatum</i>	Powdered Ruffle Lichen			S3S4		10	69.5 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Coccocarpia palmicola</i>	Salted Shell Lichen			S3S4		233	58.1 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Physcia caesia</i>	Blue-gray Rosette Lichen			S3S4		1	78.8 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Physcia tenella</i>	Fringed Rosette Lichen			S3S4		2	96.6 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Anaptychia palmulata</i>	Shaggy Fringed Lichen			S3S4		99	18.8 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Evernia prunastri</i>	Valley Oakmoss Lichen			S3S4		37	4.0 ± 0.0	NS	
N	<i>Heterodermia neglecta</i>	Fringe Lichen			S3S4		70	47.2 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Fraxinus nigra</i>	Black Ash	Threatened		Threatened		S1S2	529	11.3 ± 1.0	NS
P	<i>Bartonia paniculata</i> ssp. <i>paniculata</i>	Branched Bartonia	Threatened	Threatened			SNA	1	73.1 ± 10.0	NS
P	<i>Lilaeopsis chinensis</i>	Eastern Lilaeopsis	Special Concern	Special Concern	Vulnerable		S3	16	28.5 ± 1.0	NS
P	<i>Isoetes prototypus</i>	Prototype Quillwort	Special Concern	Special Concern	Vulnerable		S3	13	7.8 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Floerkea proserpinacoides</i>	False Mermaidweed	Not At Risk				S2S3	37	37.1 ± 7.0	NS
P	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	Silver Maple					S1	11	90.0 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Osmorhiza depauperata</i>	Blunt Sweet Cicely					S1	1	79.8 ± 5.0	NS
P	<i>Antennaria rosea</i> ssp. <i>arida</i>	Rosy Pussytoes					S1	1	96.9 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Andersonglossum boreale</i>	Northern Wild Comfrey					S1	5	72.0 ± 1.0	NS
P	<i>Lobelia spicata</i>	Pale-Spiked Lobelia					S1	13	19.8 ± 7.0	NS
P	<i>Stellaria crassifolia</i>	Fleshy Stitchwort					S1	1	94.6 ± 5.0	PE
P	<i>Hudsonia tomentosa</i>	Woolly Beach-heath					S1	13	77.5 ± 0.0	NB
P	<i>Elatine americana</i>	American Waterwort					S1	2	38.6 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Astragalus robbinsii</i> var. <i>minor</i>	Robbins' Milkvetch					S1	28	96.2 ± 2.0	NS
P	<i>Ribes americanum</i>	Wild Black Currant					S1	5	31.8 ± 5.0	NS
P	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	Red Ash					S1	15	25.7 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Polygonum achoreum</i>	Leathery Knotweed					S1	2	70.1 ± 0.0	NB
P	<i>Persicaria careyi</i>	Carey's Smartweed					S1	1	51.1 ± 3.0	NS
P	<i>Phytolacca americana</i>	Common Pokeweed					S1	1	94.6 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Montia fontana</i>	Water Blinks					S1	3	94.0 ± 5.0	PE
P	<i>Lysimachia quadrifolia</i>	Whorled Yellow Loosestrife					S1	1	97.1 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Anemone parviflora</i>	Small-flowered Anemone					S1	9	89.2 ± 0.0	NB
P	<i>Clematis occidentalis</i>	Purple Clematis					S1	3	57.1 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Ranunculus pensylvanicus</i>	Pennsylvania Buttercup					S1	32	11.8 ± 0.0	NS

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P	<i>Amelanchier nantucketensis</i>	Nantucket Serviceberry			S1	1	57.3 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Salix myrtillifolia</i>	Blueberry Willow			S1	26	69.4 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Salix serissima</i>	Autumn Willow			S1	2	69.4 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex garberi</i>	Garber's Sedge			S1	4	39.2 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex granularis</i>	Limestone Meadow Sedge			S1	3	61.2 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex laxiflora</i>	Loose-Flowered Sedge			S1	1	71.4 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex ormostachya</i>	Necklace Spike Sedge			S1	1	69.0 ± 1.0	NB	
P	<i>Carex plantaginea</i>	Plantain-Leaved Sedge			S1	4	33.0 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex prairea</i>	Prairie Sedge			S1	3	87.3 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex tenuiflora</i>	Sparse-Flowered Sedge			S1	5	60.1 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex tincta</i>	Tinged Sedge			S1	2	82.4 ± 0.0	PE	
P	<i>Carex viridula</i> var. <i>saxillitoralis</i>	Greenish Sedge			S1	1	78.9 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Cyperus lupulinus</i> ssp. <i>macilentus</i>	Hop Flatsedge			S1	2	74.0 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Scirpus atrovirens</i>	Dark-green Bulrush			S1	4	28.3 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Blysmopsis rufa</i>	Red Bulrush			S1	4	88.9 ± 1.0	PE	
P	<i>Iris prismatica</i>	Slender Blue Flag			S1	1	100.0 ± 100.0	NS	
P	<i>Juncus secundus</i>	Secund Rush			S1	1	97.7 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Juncus vaseyi</i>	Vasey Rush			S1	4	33.5 ± 10.0	NS	
P	<i>Trillium grandiflorum</i>	White Trillium			S1	3	87.3 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Malaxis monophyllos</i> var. <i>brachypoda</i>	North American White Adder's-mouth			S1	5	37.8 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Spiranthes casei</i> var. <i>casei</i>	Case's Ladies'-Tresses			S1	1	97.6 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Calamagrostis stricta</i> ssp. <i>inexpansa</i>	Slim-stemmed Reed Grass			S1	1	68.1 ± 1.0	NB	
P	<i>Elymus hystrix</i>	Spreading Wild Rye			S1	12	34.8 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Adiantum pedatum</i>	Northern Maidenhair Fern			S1	11	30.0 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Equisetum palustre</i>	Marsh Horsetail			S1	1	89.0 ± 5.0	NS	
P	<i>Selaginella rupestris</i>	Rock Spikemoss			S1	1	72.1 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Solidago hispida</i>	Hairy Goldenrod			S1?	3	89.0 ± 10.0	NB	
P	<i>Suaeda rolandii</i>	Roland's Sea-Blite			S1?	8	31.3 ± 2.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex pensylvanica</i>	Pennsylvania Sedge			S1?	3	24.1 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Bolboschoenus robustus</i>	Sturdy Bulrush			S1?	2	29.6 ± 5.0	NS	
P	<i>Allium schoenoprasum</i>	Wild Chives			S1?	9	17.2 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Allium schoenoprasum</i> var. <i>sibiricum</i>	Wild Chives			S1?	1	29.1 ± 7.0	NS	
P	<i>Cypripedium arietinum</i>	Ram's-Head Lady's-Slipper	Endangered		S1S2	291	21.4 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Sanicula odorata</i>	Clustered Sanicle			S1S2	13	34.8 ± 10.0	NS	
P	<i>Ageratina altissima</i>	White Snakeroot			S1S2	12	90.9 ± 10.0	NS	
P	<i>Draba glabella</i>	Rock Whitlow-Grass			S1S2	4	64.9 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Proserpinaca intermedia</i>	Intermediate Mermaidweed			S1S2	1	66.2 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Anemone virginiana</i> var. <i>alba</i>	Virginia Anemone			S1S2	5	29.1 ± 7.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex haydenii</i>	Hayden's Sedge			S1S2	4	30.4 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Platanthera huronensis</i>	Fragrant Green Orchid			S1S2	1	66.3 ± 10.0	NS	
P	<i>Calamagrostis stricta</i> ssp. <i>stricta</i>	Slim-stemmed Reed Grass			S1S2	11	48.7 ± 7.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex vacillans</i>	Estuarine Sedge			S1S3	4	62.7 ± 0.0	NB	
P	<i>Zizia aurea</i>	Golden Alexanders			S2	39	36.7 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Antennaria parlinii</i> ssp. <i>fallax</i>	Parlin's Pussytoes			S2	13	47.8 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>	Cut-Leaved Coneflower			S2	32	37.4 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i> var. <i>laciniata</i>	Cut-Leaved Coneflower			S2	7	80.6 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Solidago multiradiata</i>	Multi-rayed Goldenrod			S2	19	90.0 ± 0.0	NB	
P	<i>Arabis pycnocarpa</i>	Cream-flowered Rockcress			S2	1	42.9 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Cardamine maxima</i>	Large Toothwort			S2	2	71.9 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Hudsonia ericoides</i>	Pinebarren Golden Heather			S2	4	92.3 ± 0.0	NS	

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P	<i>Desmodium canadense</i>	Canada Tick-trefoil			S2	22	32.7 ± 5.0	NS	
P	<i>Hylodesmum glutinosum</i>	Large Tick-trefoil			S2	19	63.4 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Oxytropis campestris</i> var. <i>johannensis</i>	Field Locoweed			S2	26	96.4 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Conopholis americana</i>	American Cancer-root			S2	3	83.7 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Anemonastrum canadense</i>	Canada Anemone			S2	4	33.1 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Hepatica americana</i>	Round-lobed Hepatica			S2	62	21.5 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Ranunculus sceleratus</i>	Cursed Buttercup			S2	17	89.3 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Galium boreale</i>	Northern Bedstraw			S2	10	7.7 ± 5.0	NS	
P	<i>Comandra umbellata</i>	Bastard's Toadflax			S2	5	80.1 ± 1.0	NB	
P	<i>Gratiola neglecta</i>	Clammy Hedge-Hyssop			S2	19	41.5 ± 2.0	NS	
P	<i>Dirca palustris</i>	Eastern Leatherwood			S2	66	49.8 ± 7.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex chordorrhiza</i>	Creeping Sedge			S2	54	57.6 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex gynocrates</i>	Northern Bog Sedge			S2	2	69.4 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex pellita</i>	Woolly Sedge			S2	12	24.2 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex livida</i>	Livid Sedge			S2	22	60.1 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Juncus greenei</i>	Greene's Rush			S2	9	33.5 ± 5.0	NS	
P	<i>Juncus alpinarticulatus</i> ssp. <i>americanus</i>	Northern Green Rush			S2	1	94.5 ± 3.0	PE	
P	<i>Allium tricoccum</i>	Wild Leek			S2	32	41.8 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Lilium canadense</i>	Canada Lily			S2	118	13.9 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Cypripedium parviflorum</i> var. <i>pubescens</i>	Yellow Lady's-slipper			S2	24	45.5 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Cypripedium parviflorum</i> var. <i>makasin</i>	Small Yellow Lady's-Slipper			S2	12	71.6 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Cypripedium reginae</i>	Showy Lady's-Slipper			S2	59	18.7 ± 7.0	NS	
P	<i>Platanthera flava</i> var. <i>flava</i>	Southern Rein Orchid			S2	1	77.0 ± 7.0	NS	
P	<i>Platanthera flava</i> var. <i>herbiola</i>	Pale Green Orchid			S2	11	41.3 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Platanthera macrophylla</i>	Large Round-Leaved Orchid			S2	15	4.4 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Bromus latiglumis</i>	Broad-Glumed Brome			S2	33	22.2 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Cinna arundinacea</i>	Sweet Wood Reed Grass			S2	20	52.3 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Elymus wiegandii</i>	Wiegand's Wild Rye			S2	21	13.9 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Festuca subverticillata</i>	Nodding Fescue			S2	13	27.9 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Cryptogramma stelleri</i>	Steller's Rockbrake			S2	3	28.8 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Cuscuta cephalanthi</i>	Buttonbush Dodder			S2?	4	66.7 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Rumex persicariaoides</i>	Peach-leaved Dock			S2?	1	81.3 ± 5.0	PE	
P	<i>Crataegus submollis</i>	Quebec Hawthorn			S2?	5	21.1 ± 7.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex peckii</i>	White-Tinged Sedge			S2?	4	29.7 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	Eastern White Cedar		Vulnerable	S2S3	979	22.4 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Osmorrhiza longistylis</i>	Smooth Sweet Cicely			S2S3	33	22.0 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Bidens hyperborea</i>	Estuary Beggarticks			S2S3	2	28.9 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Erigeron philadelphicus</i>	Philadelphia Fleabane			S2S3	6	57.3 ± 7.0	NS	
P	<i>Lactuca hirsuta</i>	Hairy Lettuce			S2S3	4	79.6 ± 2.0	NS	
P	<i>Impatiens pallida</i>	Pale Jewelweed			S2S3	4	41.7 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Caulophyllum thalictroides</i>	Blue Cohosh			S2S3	93	22.0 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Boechera stricta</i>	Drummond's Rockcress			S2S3	12	20.5 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Draba arabisans</i>	Rock Whitlow-Grass			S2S3	19	54.8 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Stellaria humifusa</i>	Saltmarsh Starwort			S2S3	14	39.4 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Oxybasis rubra</i>	Red Goosefoot			S2S3	2	70.6 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Hypericum majus</i>	Large St John's-wort			S2S3	7	16.8 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Hypericum x dissimulatum</i>	Disguised St. John's-wort			S2S3	4	8.0 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Empetrum atropurpureum</i>	Purple Crowberry			S2S3	1	99.6 ± 7.0	NS	
P	<i>Euphorbia polygonifolia</i>	Seaside Spurge			S2S3	4	61.4 ± 0.0	NB	
P	<i>Myriophyllum farwellii</i>	Farwell's Water Milfoil			S2S3	12	29.9 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Hedeoma pulegioides</i>	American False Pennyroyal			S2S3	16	23.0 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Oenothera fruticosa</i> ssp. <i>tetragona</i>	Narrow-leaved Evening Primrose			S2S3	6	29.1 ± 7.0	NS	

Taxonomic Group	Scientific Name	Common Name	COSEWIC	SARA	Prov Legal Prot	Prov Rarity Rank	# recs	Distance (km)	Prov
P	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> ssp. <i>buxiforme</i>	Box Knotweed			S2S3		7	19.6 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Polygonum oxyspermum</i>	Sharp-fruit Knotweed			S2S3		1	88.2 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Rumex triangulivalvis</i>	Triangular-valve Dock			S2S3		12	11.1 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Primula mistassinica</i>	Mistassini Primrose			S2S3		16	29.1 ± 7.0	NS
P	<i>Anemone quinquefolia</i>	Wood Anemone			S2S3		18	12.5 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Yellow Marsh Marigold			S2S3		46	66.5 ± 1.0	NB
P	<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	Fernald's Serviceberry			S2S3		1	39.8 ± 5.0	NS
P	<i>Potentilla canadensis</i>	Canada Cinquefoil			S2S3		5	35.2 ± 5.0	NS
P	<i>Galium obtusum</i>	Blunt-leaved Bedstraw			S2S3		1	69.0 ± 1.0	NB
P	<i>Salix pellita</i>	Satin Willow			S2S3		8	20.2 ± 7.0	NS
P	<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>	Heart-leaved Foamflower			S2S3		232	30.0 ± 1.0	NS
P	<i>Agalinis purpurea</i> var. <i>parviflora</i>	Small-flowered Purple False Foxglove			S2S3		24	25.3 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Boehmeria cylindrica</i>	Small-spike False-nettle			S2S3		2	62.8 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Carex adusta</i>	Lesser Brown Sedge			S2S3		6	12.0 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Carex capillaris</i>	Hairlike Sedge			S2S3		9	42.6 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Carex comosa</i>	Bearded Sedge			S2S3		13	15.0 ± 7.0	NS
P	<i>Carex houghtoniana</i>	Houghton's Sedge			S2S3		5	29.8 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Carex hystericina</i>	Porcupine Sedge			S2S3		11	29.6 ± 1.0	NS
P	<i>Eleocharis ovata</i>	Ovate Spikerush			S2S3		14	10.8 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Scirpus pedicellatus</i>	Stalked Bulrush			S2S3		7	55.3 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Vallisneria americana</i>	Wild Celery			S2S3		6	38.6 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Najas gracillima</i>	Thread-Like Naiad			S2S3		2	73.5 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Goodyera pubescens</i>	Downy Rattlesnake-Plantain			S2S3		14	55.9 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Spiranthes lucida</i>	Shining Ladies'-Tresses			S2S3		28	37.9 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Calamagrostis stricta</i>	Slim-stemmed Reed Grass			S2S3		8	58.9 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Potamogeton friesii</i>	Fries' Pondweed			S2S3		19	34.3 ± 5.0	NS
P	<i>Woodsia glabella</i>	Smooth Cliff Fern			S2S3		2	7.0 ± 1.0	NS
P	<i>Botrychium lanceolatum</i> ssp. <i>angustisegmentum</i>	Narrow Triangle Moonwort			S2S3		16	21.5 ± 1.0	NS
P	<i>Botrychium simplex</i>	Least Moonwort			S2S3		5	28.2 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Ophioglossum pusillum</i>	Northern Adder's-tongue			S2S3		7	42.0 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Potamogeton pulcher</i>	Spotted Pondweed		Vulnerable	S3		3	68.7 ± 2.0	NS
P	<i>Angelica atropurpurea</i>	Purple-stemmed Angelica			S3		21	43.8 ± 2.0	NS
P	<i>Conioselinum chinense</i>	Chinese Hemlock-parsley			S3		11	43.0 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Hieracium robinsonii</i>	Robinson's Hawkweed			S3		3	33.9 ± 1.0	NS
P	<i>Iva frutescens</i>	Big-leaved Marsh-elder			S3		33	66.6 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Senecio pseudoarnica</i>	Seabeach Ragwort			S3		1	29.1 ± 7.0	NS
P	<i>Symphytum boreale</i>	Boreal Aster			S3		29	18.7 ± 7.0	NS
P	<i>Symphytum undulatum</i>	Wavy-leaved Aster			S3		7	70.7 ± 1.0	NS
P	<i>Symphytum ciliolatum</i>	Fringed Blue Aster			S3		30	18.7 ± 7.0	NS
P	<i>Betula pumila</i> var. <i>pumila</i>	Bog Birch			S3		1	59.2 ± 1.0	NS
P	<i>Betula michauxii</i>	Michaux's Dwarf Birch			S3		25	71.8 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Betula pumila</i>	Bog Birch			S3		14	69.9 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Cardamine parviflora</i>	Small-flowered Bittercress			S3		7	64.7 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Palustricodon aparinoides</i>	Marsh Bellflower			S3		43	14.7 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Mononeuria groenlandica</i>	Greenland Stitchwort			S3		22	78.9 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Stellaria longifolia</i>	Long-leaved Starwort			S3		18	28.9 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Ceratophyllum echinatum</i>	Prickly Hornwort			S3		37	22.3 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Triosteum aurantiacum</i>	Orange-fruited Tinker's Weed			S3		65	29.9 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Viburnum edule</i>	Squashberry			S3		2	48.7 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Empetrum eamesii</i>	Pink Crowberry			S3		3	73.5 ± 5.0	PE
P	<i>Geranium bicknellii</i>	Bicknell's Crane's-bill			S3		12	21.7 ± 2.0	NS
P	<i>Myriophyllum verticillatum</i>	Whorled Water Milfoil			S3		15	53.1 ± 1.0	NS
P	<i>Epilobium strictum</i>	Downy Willowherb			S3		29	32.5 ± 5.0	NS
P	<i>Polygala sanguinea</i>	Blood Milkwort			S3		26	10.0 ± 5.0	NS

Taxonomic Group	Scientific Name	Common Name	COSEWIC	SARA	Prov Legal Prot	Prov Rarity Rank	# recs	Distance (km)	Prov
P	<i>Persicaria arifolia</i>	Halberd-leaved Tearthumb			S3	107	11.4 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Plantago rugelii</i>	Rugel's Plantain			S3	9	11.1 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Primula laurentiana</i>	Laurentian Primrose			S3	22	70.8 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Samolus parviflorus</i>	Seaside Brookweed			S3	14	24.2 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Pyrola minor</i>	Lesser Pyrola			S3	4	41.9 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Anemone virginiana</i>	Virginia Anemone			S3	17	31.9 ± 7.0	NS	
P	<i>Galium labradoricum</i>	Labrador Bedstraw			S3	88	55.0 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Salix pedicellaris</i>	Bog Willow			S3	75	56.5 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Salix sericea</i>	Silky Willow			S3	1	69.8 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Saxifraga paniculata</i> ssp. <i>laestadii</i>	Laestadius' Saxifrage			S3	12	64.6 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Lindernia dubia</i>	Yellow-seeded False Pimperel			S3	48	12.2 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Laportea canadensis</i>	Canada Wood Nettle			S3	59	22.5 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Pilea pumila</i>	Dwarf Clearweed			S3	26	41.4 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Viola nephrophylla</i>	Northern Bog Violet			S3	10	30.6 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex bebbii</i>	Bebb's Sedge			S3	38	15.0 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex castanea</i>	Chestnut Sedge			S3	26	52.1 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex cryptolepis</i>	Hidden-scaled Sedge			S3	20	21.5 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex eburnea</i>	Bristle-leaved Sedge			S3	10	34.9 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex hirtifolia</i>	Pubescent Sedge			S3	53	13.4 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex lupulina</i>	Hop Sedge			S3	48	23.2 ± 10.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex rosea</i>	Rosy Sedge			S3	41	28.5 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex swanii</i>	Swan's Sedge			S3	3	89.5 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex tenera</i>	Tender Sedge			S3	12	11.1 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex tribuloides</i>	Blunt Broom Sedge			S3	18	21.3 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex tuckermanii</i>	Tuckerman's Sedge			S3	48	9.9 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Carex atratiformis</i>	Scabrous Black Sedge			S3	3	53.2 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Eleocharis nitida</i>	Quill Spikerush			S3	16	30.3 ± 7.0	NS	
P	<i>Eleocharis flavescens</i> var. <i>olivacea</i>	Bright-green Spikerush			S3	5	51.5 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Eriophorum gracile</i>	Slender Cottongrass			S3	54	21.6 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Juncus stygius</i> ssp. <i>americanus</i>	Moor Rush			S3	13	59.7 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Coeloglossum viride</i>	Long-bracted Frog Orchid			S3	13	13.4 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Cypripedium parviflorum</i>	Yellow Lady's-slipper			S3	553	45.5 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Neottia bifolia</i>	Southern Twayblade			S3	88	25.3 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Platanthera grandiflora</i>	Large Purple Fringed Orchid			S3	115	0.2 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Platanthera hookeri</i>	Hooker's Orchid			S3	26	21.5 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Dichanthelium linearifolium</i>	Narrow-leaved Panic Grass			S3	7	38.1 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Piptatheropsis canadensis</i>	Canada Ricegrass			S3	8	18.7 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Poa glauca</i>	Glaucous Blue Grass			S3	8	42.6 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Potamogeton praelongus</i>	White-stemmed Pondweed			S3	25	21.5 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Potamogeton richardsonii</i>	Richardson's Pondweed			S3	9	41.3 ± 7.0	NS	
P	<i>Potamogeton zosteriformis</i>	Flat-stemmed Pondweed			S3	27	43.2 ± 2.0	NS	
P	<i>Asplenium viride</i>	Green Spleenwort			S3	12	8.7 ± 7.0	NS	
P	<i>Dryopteris fragrans</i>	Fragrant Wood Fern			S3	15	6.3 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Sceptridium dissectum</i>	Dissected Moonwort			S3	9	28.3 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Polypodium appalachianum</i>	Appalachian Polypody			S3	22	13.1 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Persicaria amphibia</i> var. <i>emersa</i>	Long-root Smartweed			S3?	2	62.8 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Spiranthes ochroleuca</i>	Yellow Ladies'-tresses			S3?	31	19.8 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Diphastiastrum x sabinifolium</i>	Savin-leaved Ground-cedar			S3?	13	5.7 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Bidens vulgata</i>	Tall Beggarticks			S3S4	7	32.4 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Erigeron hyssopifolius</i>	Hyssop-leaved Fleabane			S3S4	48	12.1 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Hieracium paniculatum</i>	Panicled Hawkweed			S3S4	19	39.6 ± 0.0	NS	
P	<i>Bidens beckii</i>	Water Beggarticks			S3S4	28	17.6 ± 1.0	NS	
P	<i>Packera paupercula</i>	Balsam Groundsel			S3S4	93	34.5 ± 5.0	NS	

Taxonomic Group	Scientific Name	Common Name	COSEWIC	SARA	Prov Legal Prot	Prov Rarity Rank	# recs	Distance (km)	Prov
P	<i>Packera paupercula</i> var. <i>paupercula</i>	Balsam Groundsel			S3S4		1	73.4 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Atriplex glabriuscula</i> var. <i>franktonii</i>	Frankton's Saltbush			S3S4		18	35.6 ± 5.0	NS
P	<i>Shepherdia canadensis</i>	Soapberry			S3S4		143	68.6 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Vaccinium boreale</i>	Northern Blueberry			S3S4		5	44.6 ± 1.0	NS
P	<i>Vaccinium cespitosum</i>	Dwarf Bilberry			S3S4		49	38.7 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>	Highbush Blueberry			S3S4		2	56.3 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	American Beech			S3S4		307	6.1 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Bartonia virginica</i>	Yellow Bartonia			S3S4		1	69.8 ± 7.0	NS
P	<i>Proserpinaca pectinata</i>	Comb-leaved Mermaidweed			S3S4		5	58.2 ± 5.0	NS
P	<i>Nuphar microphylla</i>	Small Yellow Pond-lily			S3S4		8	13.0 ± 1.0	NS
P	<i>Persicaria pensylvanica</i>	Pennsylvania Smartweed			S3S4		39	12.3 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Fallopia scandens</i>	Climbing False Buckwheat			S3S4		34	16.6 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Rumex pallidus</i>	Seabeach Dock			S3S4		2	98.2 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Pyrola asarifolia</i>	Pink Pyrola			S3S4		12	15.5 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Endotropis alnifolia</i>	alder-leaved buckthorn			S3S4		247	13.4 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Amelanchier spicata</i>	Running Serviceberry			S3S4		18	19.0 ± 5.0	NS
P	<i>Crataegus succulenta</i>	Fleshy Hawthorn			S3S4		5	89.4 ± 5.0	PE
P	<i>Fragaria vesca</i> ssp. <i>americana</i>	Woodland Strawberry			S3S4		81	29.9 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	Woodland Strawberry			S3S4		2	28.3 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Galium aparine</i>	Common Bedstraw			S3S4		14	32.4 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Geocaulon lividum</i>	Northern Comandra			S3S4		8	30.6 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Limosella australis</i>	Southern Mudwort			S3S4		22	25.2 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Ulmus americana</i>	White Elm			S3S4		104	11.0 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Verbena hastata</i>	Blue Vervain			S3S4		214	8.8 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Viola sagittata</i> var. <i>ovata</i>	Arrow-Leaved Violet			S3S4		13	64.5 ± 2.0	NS
P	<i>Viola selkirkii</i>	Great-Spurred Violet			S3S4		10	13.2 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Symplocarpus foetidus</i>	Eastern Skunk Cabbage			S3S4		128	56.3 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Carex argyrantha</i>	Silvery-flowered Sedge			S3S4		9	64.5 ± 2.0	NS
P	<i>Triglochin gaspensis</i>	Gasp - Arrowgrass			S3S4		7	69.7 ± 1.0	NB
P	<i>Juncus acuminatus</i>	Sharp-Fruit Rush			S3S4		7	29.3 ± 2.0	NS
P	<i>Juncus subcaudatus</i>	Woods-Rush			S3S4		23	18.2 ± 3.0	NS
P	<i>Luzula parviflora</i> ssp. <i>melanocarpa</i>	Black-fruited Woodrush			S3S4		4	29.0 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Goodyera repens</i>	Lesser Rattlesnake-plantain			S3S4		19	39.8 ± 100.0	NS
P	<i>Liparis loeselii</i>	Loesel's Twayblade			S3S4		20	4.1 ± 1.0	NS
P	<i>Platanthera obtusata</i>	Blunt-leaved Orchid			S3S4		10	38.4 ± 1.0	NS
P	<i>Platanthera orbiculata</i>	Small Round-leaved Orchid			S3S4		42	4.1 ± 3.0	NS
P	<i>Alopecurus aequalis</i>	Short-awned Foxtail			S3S4		29	13.8 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Dichanthelium clandestinum</i>	Deer-tongue Panic Grass			S3S4		100	49.6 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Panicum philadelphicum</i>	Philadelphia Panicgrass			S3S4		16	12.1 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Koeleria spicata</i>	Narrow False Oats			S3S4		21	37.4 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	Maidenhair Spleenwort			S3S4		18	57.3 ± 1.0	NS
P	<i>Equisetum pratense</i>	Meadow Horsetail			S3S4		17	12.9 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Diphastiastrum complanatum</i>	Northern Ground-cedar			S3S4		20	7.1 ± 0.0	NS
P	<i>Diphastiastrum sitchense</i>	Sitka Ground-cedar			S3S4		6	30.6 ± 5.0	NS
P	<i>Huperzia appressa</i>	Mountain Firmoss			S3S4		18	6.3 ± 1.0	NS
P	<i>Sceptridium multifidum</i>	Leathery Moonwort			S3S4		14	28.9 ± 3.0	NS
P	<i>Botrychium matricariifolium</i>	Daisy-leaved Moonwort			S3S4		11	35.9 ± 1.0	NS
P	<i>Viola canadensis</i>	Canada Violet			SH		2	37.1 ± 7.0	NS

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The recipient of these data shall acknowledge the AC CDC and the data sources listed below in any documents, reports, publications or presentations, in which this dataset makes a significant contribution.

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180	Blaney, C.S. & Mazerolle, D.M. 2011. Field data from NCC properties at Musquash Harbour NB & Goose Lake NS. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, 1739 recs.
180	Island Nature Trust. 2016. Farmland birds project. Mader, Shannon (ed.) .
178	Bryson, I. 2013. Nova Scotia rare plant records. CBCL Ltd., 180 records.
169	Brunelle, P.-M. (compiler). 2009. ADIP/MDDS Odonata Database: data to 2006 inclusive. Atlantic Dragonfly Inventory Program (ADIP), 24200 recs.
168	Toms, B. 2018. Bat Species data from www.batconservation.ca for Nova Scotia. Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute, 547 Records.
146	Chapman-Lam, C.J. 2021. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre 2020 botanical fieldwork. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, 17309 recs.
131	Manthorne, A. 2014. MaritimesSwiftwatch Project database 2013-2014. Bird Studies Canada, Sackville NB, 326 recs.
124	Pepper, C. 2013. 2013 rare bird and plant observations in Nova Scotia., 181 records.
123	Hicks, Andrew. 2009. Coastal Waterfowl Surveys Database, 2000-08. Canadian Wildlife Service, Sackville, 46488 recs (11149 non-zero).
117	Munro, Marian K. Nova Scotia Provincial Museum of Natural History Herbarium Database. Nova Scotia Provincial Museum of Natural History, Halifax, Nova Scotia. 2013.
115	Blaney, C.S. 2000. Fieldwork 2000. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre. Sackville NB, 1265 recs.
115	Neily, T.H. & Pepper, C.; Toms, B. 2013. Nova Scotia lichen location database. Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute, 1301 records.
115	Wilhelm, S.I. et al. 2011. Colonial Waterbird Database. Canadian Wildlife Service, Sackville, 2698 sites, 9718 recs (8192 obs).
113	Richardson, Leif. 2018. Maritimes Bombus records from various sources. Richardson, Leif.
109	McAlpine, D.F. 1998. NBM Science Collections databases to 1998. New Brunswick Museum, Saint John NB, 241 recs.
105	Chapman, C.J. 2018. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre botanical fieldwork 2018. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, 11171 recs.
103	Bryson, I.C. 2020. Nova Scotia flora and lichen observations 2020. Nova Scotia Environment, 139 recs.
103	e-Butterfly. 2019. Export of Maritimes records and photos. McFarland, K. (ed.) e-butterfly.org.
101	Churchill, J.L.; Walker, J. 2017. Species at Risk Surveys at Correctional Services Canada Properties in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre.

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97	Cameron, R.P. 2009. Cyanolichen database. Nova Scotia Environment & Labour, 1724 recs.
96	LaPaix, R.W.; Crowell, M.J.; MacDonald, M.; Neily, T.D.; Quinn, G. 2017. Stantec Nova Scotia rare plant records, 2012-2016. Stantec Consulting.
91	Munro, Marian K. Tracked lichen specimens, Nova Scotia Provincial Museum of Natural History Herbarium. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre. 2019.
90	Blaney, C.S. 2018. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre Fieldwork 2018. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre.
90	iNaturalist. 2018. iNaturalist Data Export 2018. iNaturalist.org and iNaturalist.ca, Web site: 11700 recs.
87	MacDonald, M. 2008. PEI Power Corridor Floral Surveys, 2004-08. Jacques Whitford Ltd, 2238 recs (979 rare).
87	McNeil, J.A. 2018. Wood Turtle records, 2018. Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute, 68 recs.
86	e-Butterfly. 2016. Export of Maritimes records and photos. Maxim Larrivee, Sambo Zhang (ed.) e-butterfly.org.
86	Tims, J. & Craig, N. 1995. Environmentally Significant Areas in New Brunswick (NBESA). NB Dept of Environment & Nature Trust of New Brunswick Inc, 6042 recs. https://doi.org/10.1037/arc0000014 .
85	Mazerolle, D.M. 2018. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre botanical fieldwork 2018. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, 13515 recs.
85	Stewart, J.I. 2010. Peregrine Falcon Surveys in New Brunswick, 2002-09. Canadian Wildlife Service, Sackville, 58 recs.
82	Belliveau, A.G. 2016. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre Fieldwork 2016. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, 10695 recs.
80	Zinck, M. & Roland, A.E. 1998. Roland's Flora of Nova Scotia. Nova Scotia Museum, 3rd ed., rev. M. Zinck; 2 Vol., 1297 pp.
77	Nussey, Pat & NCC staff. 2019. AEI tracked species records, 2016-2019. Chapman, C.J. (ed.) Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, 333.
76	Brazner, J. 2016. Nova Scotia Forested Wetland Bird Surveys. Nova Scotia Department of Lands and Forestry.
76	Mazerolle, D.M. 2016. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre Fieldwork 2017. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre.
75	Blaney, C.S. 2020. Sean Blaney 2020 field data. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, 4407 records.
75	Cattling, P.M., Erskine, D.S. & McLaren, R.B. 1985. The Plants of Prince Edward Island with new records, nomenclatural changes & corrections & deletions, 1st Ed. Research Branch, Agriculture Canada, Ottawa, Publication 1798. 22pp.
74	Burns, L. 2013. Personal communication concerning bat occurrence on PEI. Winter 2013. Pers. comm.
73	Phinney, Lori. 2020. Pre- and post White-nose Syndrome bat acoustic monitoring, NS. Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute, 1279 recs.
71	Blaney, C.S. 2016. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre Fieldwork 2016. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, 6719 recs.
68	Blaney, C.S.; Mazerolle, D.M.; Belliveau, A.B. 2013. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre Fieldwork 2013. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, 9000+ recs.
68	NatureServe Canada. 2019. iNaturalist Maritimes Butterfly Records. iNaturalist.org and iNaturalist.ca.
67	Belland, R.J. Maritimes moss records from various herbarium databases. 2014.
65	Belliveau, A.G. 2014. Plant Records from Southern and Central Nova Scotia. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, 919 recs.
64	Roland, A.E. & Smith, E.C. 1969. The Flora of Nova Scotia, 1st Ed. Nova Scotia Museum, Halifax, 743pp.
63	Blaney, C.S.; Mazerolle, D.M.; Oberndorfer, E. 2007. Fieldwork 2007. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre. Sackville NB, 13770 recs.
61	Glen, W. 1991. 1991 Prince Edward Island Forest Biomass Inventory Data. PEI Dept of Energy and Forestry, 10059 recs.
60	Belliveau, A.G. 2018. E.C. Smith Herbarium and Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre Fieldwork 2018. E.C. Smith Herbarium, 6226 recs.
58	Blaney, C.S. 2003. Fieldwork 2003. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre. Sackville NB, 1042 recs.
58	Staicer, C. & Bliss, S.; Achenbach, L. 2017. Occurrences of tracked breeding birds in forested wetlands. , 303 records.
57	Cameron, R.P. 2011. Lichen observations, 2011. Nova Scotia Environment & Labour, 731 recs.
57	iNaturalist. 2020. iNaturalist butterfly records selected for the Maritimes Butterfly Atlas. iNaturalist.
56	Churchill, J.L. 2020. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre Fieldwork 2020. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, 1083 recs.
53	Blaney, C.S.; Spicer, C.D.; Rothfels, C. 2004. Fieldwork 2004. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre. Sackville NB, 1343 recs.
51	Blaney, C.S.; Mazerolle, D.M.; Klymko, J.; Spicer, C.D. 2006. Fieldwork 2006. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre. Sackville NB, 8399 recs.
51	Sollows, M.C., 2008. NBM Science Collections databases: mammals. New Brunswick Museum, Saint John NB, download Jan. 2008, 4983 recs.
50	Hall, R.A. 2003. NS Freshwater Mussel Fieldwork. Nova Scotia Dept Natural Resources, 189 recs.
49	Blaney, C.S.; Spicer, C.D.; Popma, T.M.; Hanel, C. 2002. Fieldwork 2002. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre. Sackville NB, 2252 recs.
49	Hall, R.A. 2001. S.. NS Freshwater Mussel Fieldwork. Nova Scotia Dept Natural Resources, 178 recs.
49	Layberry, R.A. & Hall, P.W., LaFontaine, J.D. 1998. The Butterflies of Canada. University of Toronto Press. 280 pp+plates.
48	Neily, T.H. 2017. Nova Scotia lichen records. Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute.
47	Blaney, C.S.; Spicer, C.D.; Mazerolle, D.M. 2005. Fieldwork 2005. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre. Sackville NB, 2333 recs.
46	Blaney, C.S.; Spicer, C.D. 2001. Fieldwork 2001. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre. Sackville NB, 981 recs.
46	Chapman, C.J. 2019. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre 2019 botanical fieldwork. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, 11729 recs.
45	Porter, Caitlin. 2021. Field data for 2020 in various locations across the Maritimes. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, 3977 records.
45	Spicer, C.D. & Harries, H. 2001. Mount Allison Herbarium Specimens. Mount Allison University, 128 recs.
40	Blaney, C.S. 2017. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre Fieldwork 2017. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre.
40	Cameron, E. 2007. Canadian Gypsum Co. survey 2005-07. Dillon Consulting Ltd, 40 recs.
38	Benedict, B. Connell Herbarium Specimens. University New Brunswick, Fredericton. 2003.
38	Benjamin, L.K. (compiler). 2001. Significant Habitat & Species Database. Nova Scotia Dept of Natural Resources, 15 spp, 224 recs.
38	Thomas, P. 2018. CSC Dorchester Bobolink Survey. Environment Canada, Canadian Wildlife Service.
37	Klymko, J. 2016. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre Fieldwork 2016. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre.
36	Blaney, C.S.; Mazerolle, D.M. 2008. Fieldwork 2008. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre. Sackville NB, 13343 recs.
36	Churchill, J.L. 2018. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre Fieldwork 2017. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, 2318 recs.
36	Klymko, J.J.D.; Robinson, S.L. 2012. 2012 field data. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, 447 recs.
36	Mazerolle, D.M. 2017. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre Fieldwork 2017. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre.
35	Erskine, A.J. 1999. Maritime Nest Records Scheme (MNRS) 1937-1999. Canadian Wildlife Service, Sackville, 313 recs.

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35	MacDonald, E.C. 2018. CWS Piping Plover Census, 2010-2017. Canadian Wildlife Service, 672 recs.
34	Blaney, C.S.; Mazerolle, D.M.; Hill, N.M. 2011. Nova Scotia Crown Share Land Legacy Trust Fieldwork. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, 5022 recs.
34	MacDonald, E.C. 2018. Piping Plover nest records from 2010-2017. Canadian Wildlife Service.
33	Arsenault, M. 2019. Cormorant colony nest counts. PE Department of Communities, Land, and Environment.
32	Clayden, S.R. 1998. NBM Science Collections databases: vascular plants. New Brunswick Museum, Saint John NB, 19759 recs.
32	Klymko, J.J.D. 2012. Insect fieldwork & submissions, 2011. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre. Sackville NB, 760 recs.
31	Popma, T.M. 2003. Fieldwork 2003. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre. Sackville NB, 113 recs.
29	Neily, T.H. 2019. Tom Neily NS Bryophyte records (2009-2013). T.H. Neily, Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, 1029 specimen records.
29	Wallace, S. 2020. Stewardship Department species occurrence data on NTNB preserves. Nature Trust of New Brunswick.
28	Cameron, R.P. 2009. Erioderma pedicellatum database, 1979-2008. Dept. Environment & Labour, 103 recs.
27	Canadian Wildlife Service, Dartmouth. 2010. Piping Plover censuses 2007-09, 304 recs.
27	Ogden, J. NS DNR Butterfly Collection Dataset. Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources. 2014.
27	Pepper, Chris. 2012. Observations of breeding Canada Warbler's along the Eastern Shore, NS. Pers. comm. to S. Blaney, Jan. 20, 28 recs.
27	Walker, J. 2017. Bird inventories at French River, NS, and Memramcook, NB, for Nature Conservancy of Canada. Pers. comm. to AC CDC.
27	Westwood, A., Staicer, C. 2016. Nova Scotia landbird Species at Risk observations. Dalhousie University.
26	Amirault, D.L., McKnight, J. 2003. Piping Plover Database 1991-2003. Canadian Wildlife Service, Sackville, unpublished data. 7 recs.
26	Patrick, Allison. 2021. Animal and plant records from NCC properties from 2019 and 2020. Nature Conservancy Canada.
26	Pepper, C. 2021. Rare bird, plant and mammal observations in Nova Scotia, 2017-2021.
25	Klymko, J.J.D. 2016. 2015 field data. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre.
24	Belliveau, A.G. 2021. New Black ash site records near Kentville, NS. Acadia University, 47 records.
24	Mersey Tobetic Research Institute. 2021. 2020 Monarch records from the MTRI monitoring program. Mersey Tobetic Research Institute, 72 records.
24	Powell, B.C. 1967. Female sexual cycles of Chrysemys picta & Clemmys insculpta in Nova Scotia. Can. Field-Nat., 81:134-139. 26 recs.
23	Benjamin, L.K. 2011. NSDNR fieldwork & consultant reports 1997, 2009-10. Nova Scotia Dept Natural Resources, 85 recs.
22	Manthorne, A. 2019. Incidental aerial insectivore observations. Birds Canada.
22	Neily, T.H. & Pepper, C.; Toms, B. 2015. Nova Scotia lichen location database [as of 2015-02-15]. Mersey Tobetic Research Institute, 1691 records.
22	Nelly, T.H. 2006. Cypripedium arietinum in Hants Co. Pers. comm. to C.S. Blaney. 22 recs, 22 recs.
21	Belliveau, A. 2013. Rare species records from Nova Scotia. Mersey Tobetic Research Institute, 296 records. 296 recs.
21	Cameron, R.P. 2018. Degelia plumbea records. Nova Scotia Environment.
21	Churchill, J.L., Klymko, J.D.D. 2016. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre Fieldwork 2016. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre.
21	Erskine, D. 1960. The plants of Prince Edward Island, 1st Ed. Research Branch, Agriculture Canada, Ottawa., Publication 1088. 1238 recs.
20	Benedict, B. Connell Herbarium Specimens (Data) . University New Brunswick, Fredericton. 2003.
20	Phinney, Lori; Toms, Brad; et. al. 2016. Bank Swallows (<i>Riparia riparia</i>) in Nova Scotia: inventory and assessment of colonies. Merset Tobeciatc Research Institute, 25 recs.
19	Archibald, D.R. 2003. NS Freshwater Mussel Fieldwork. Nova Scotia Dept Natural Resources, 213 recs.
19	Blaney, C.S.; Mazerolle, D.M. 2011. Fieldwork 2011. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre. Sackville NB.
19	Ferguson, D.C. 1954. The Lepidoptera of Nova Scotia. Part I, macrolepidoptera. Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science, 23(3), 161-375.
19	Godbout, V. 2002. SAR Inventory: Birds in Fort Beauséjour NHS. Parks Canada, Atlantic, SARINV02-01. 202 recs.
19	NS DNR. 2017. Black Ash records from NS DNR Permanent Sample Plots (PSPs), 1965-2016. NS Dept of Natural Resources.
18	Klymko, J.J.D. 2018. 2017 field data. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre.
18	Porter, C.J.M. 2014. Field work data 2007-2014. Nova Scotia Nature Trust, 96 recs.
17	Blaney, C.S.; Mazerolle, D.M. 2009. Fieldwork 2009. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre. Sackville NB, 13395 recs.
17	Cameron, R.P. 2014. 2013-14 rare species field data. Nova Scotia Department of Environment, 35 recs.
17	Curley, F.R. 2005. PEF&W Collection 2003-04. PEI Fish & Wildlife Div., 716 recs.
17	Munro, Marian K. Nova Scotia Provincial Museum of Natural History Herbarium Database. Nova Scotia Provincial Museum of Natural History, Halifax, Nova Scotia. 2014.
17	Neily, T.H. 2010. Erioderma Pedicellatum records 2005-09. Mersey Tobatic Research Institute, 67 recs.
16	McNeil, J.A. 2016. Blanding's Turtle (<i>Emydoidea blandingii</i>), Eastern Ribbonsnake (<i>Thamnophis sauritus</i>), Wood Turtle (<i>Glyptemys insculpta</i>), and Snapping Turtle (<i>Chelydra serpentina</i>) sightings, 2016. Mersey Tobecatic Research Institute, 774 records.
15	Basquill, S.P. 2011 vascular plant field data. Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, 37 recs.
15	Blaney, C.S. 2019. Sean Blaney 2019 field data. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, 4407 records.
15	Bryson, I. 2020. Nova Scotia and Newfoundland rare species observations, 2018-2020. Nova Scotia Environment.
15	Cameron, R.P. 2013. 2013 rare species field data. Nova Scotia Department of Environment, 71 recs.
15	Chiasson, R. 2018. Breeding bird observations from NBWTF project. pers. comm. to S. Blaney.
15	Klymko, J.J.D.; Robinson, S.L. 2014. 2013 field data. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre.
15	Ogden, K. Nova Scotia Museum butterfly specimen database. Nova Scotia Museum. 2017.
15	Richardson, D., Anderson, F., Cameron, R., McMullin, T., Clayden, S. 2014. Field Work Report on Black Foam Lichen (<i>Anzia colpodes</i>). COSEWIC.
14	Neily, T.H. & Pepper, C.; Toms, B. 2020. Nova Scotia lichen database [as of 2020-03-18]. Mersey Tobetic Research Institute.
13	Doucet, D.A. 2007. Lepidopteran Records, 1988-2006. Doucet, 700 recs.
13	eBird. 2021. eBird Basic Dataset. Version: EBD_relOct-2020. Ithaca, New York. Oct 2020, Prince Edward Island Bird SAR subset. Cornell Lab of Ornithology.
13	Nova Scotia Nature Trust. 2014. Ladyslipper records from Saint Croix Nova Scotia, JLC Ed. Nova Scotia Nature Trust.
12	Basquill, S.P. 2012. 2012 rare vascular plant field data. Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, 37 recs.

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12	e-Butterfly. 2018. Selected Maritimes butterfly records from 2016 and 2017. Maxim Larrivee, Sambo Zhang (ed.) e-butterfly.org.
12	Gilhen, J. 1984. Amphibians & Reptiles of Nova Scotia, 1st Ed. Nova Scotia Museum, 164pp.
12	Klymko, J. Dataset of butterfly records at the New Brunswick Museum not yet accessioned by the museum. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre. 2016.
12	Oldham, M.J. 2000. Oldham database records from Maritime provinces. Oldham, M.J.; ONHIC, 487 recs.
11	Bateman, M.C. 2001. Coastal Waterfowl Surveys Database, 1965-2001. Canadian Wildlife Service, Sackville, 667 recs.
11	Benedict, B. Connell Herbarium Specimen Database Download 2004. Connell Memorial Herbarium, University of New Brunswick. 2004.
11	Chaput, G. 2002. Atlantic Salmon: Maritime Provinces Overview for 2001. Dept of Fisheries & Oceans, Atlantic Region, Science Stock Status Report D3-14. 39 recs.
11	Doucet, D.A. 2009. Census of Globally Rare, Endemic Butterflies of Nova Scotia Gulf of St Lawrence Salt Marshes. Nova Scotia Dept of Natural Resources, Species at Risk, 155 recs.
11	Epworth, W. 2012. Species at Risk records, 2009-11. Fort Folly Habitat Recovery Program, 162 recs.
11	Neily, T.H. & Pepper, C. 2020. Nova Scotia SMP lichen surveys 2020. Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute.
11	Pike, E., Tingley, S. & Christie, D.S. 2000. Nature NB Listserv. University of New Brunswick, listserv.unb.ca/archives/naturenb. 68 recs.
10	Adams, J. & Herman, T.B. 1998. Thesis, Unpublished map of <i>C. insculpta</i> sightings. Acadia University, Wolfville NS, 88 recs.
10	Basquill, S.P. 2003. Fieldwork 2003. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, Sackville NB, 69 recs.
10	Blaney, C.S. Miscellaneous specimens received by ACCDC (botany). Various persons. 2001-08.
10	Clayden, S.R. 2007. NBM Science Collections databases: vascular plants. New Brunswick Museum, Saint John NB, download Mar. 2007, 6914 recs.
10	Goltz, J.P. & Bishop, G. 2005. Confidential supplement to Status Report on Prototype Quillwort (<i>Isoetes prototypus</i>). Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada, 111 recs.
10	Neily, T. H. 2018. Lichen and Bryophyte records, AEI 2017-2018. Tom Neily; Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre.
9	Benjamin, L.K. 2006. <i>Cypripedium arietinum</i> . Pers. comm. to D. Mazerolle. 9 recs, 9 recs.
9	Cameron, R.P. 2006. <i>Erioderma pedicellatum</i> 2006 field data. NS Dept of Environment, 9 recs.
9	Chapman, C.N. (Cody). 2020. Nova Scotia Black Ash (<i>Fraxinus nigra</i>) field observations by Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq. Forestry Program, Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq.
9	Downes, C. 1998-2000. Breeding Bird Survey Data. Canadian Wildlife Service, Ottawa, 111 recs.
9	Hill, N.M. 1994. Status report on the Long's bulrush <i>Scirpus longii</i> in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada, 7 recs.
9	Sollows, M.C., 2009. NBM Science Collections databases: molluscs. New Brunswick Museum, Saint John NB, download Jan. 2009, 6951 recs (2957 in Atlantic Canada).
9	Webster, R.P. Atlantic Forestry Centre Insect Collection, Maritimes butterfly records. Natural Resources Canada. 2014.
8	Benjamin, L.K. 2012. NSDNR fieldwork & consultant reports 2008-2012. Nova Scotia Dept Natural Resources, 196 recs.
8	Holder, M.L.; Kingsley, A.L. 2000. Kingsey and Holder observations from 2000 field work.
8	King, Katie; Jean, Samuel. 2021. Black ash observations near Brooklyn, NS. E.C. Smith Herbarium.
7	Cameron, B. 2006. Hepatica americana Survey at Scotia Mine Site in Gays River, and Discovery of Three Yellow-listed Species. Conestoga-Rovers and Associates, (a consulting firm), october 25. 7 recs.
7	Cameron, R.P. 2017. 2017 rare species field data. Nova Scotia Environment, 64 recs.
7	O'Neil, S. 1998. Atlantic Salmon: Northumberland Strait Nova Scotia part of SFA 18. Dept of Fisheries & Oceans, Atlantic Region, Science. Stock Status Report D3-08. 9 recs.
7	Olsen, R. Herbarium Specimens. Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Truro. 2003.
7	Richardson, D., Anderson, F., Cameron, R., Pepper, C., Clayden, S. 2015. Field Work Report on the Wrinkled Shingle lichen (<i>Pannaria lurida</i>). COSEWIC.
7	Speers, L. 2008. Butterflies of Canada database: New Brunswick 1897-1999. Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada, Biological Resources Program, Ottawa, 2048 recs.
7	Webster, R.P. & Edsall, J. 2007. 2005 New Brunswick Rare Butterfly Survey. Environmental Trust Fund, unpublished report, 232 recs.
6	Bagnell, B.A. 2001. New Brunswick Bryophyte Occurrences. B&B Botanical, Sussex, 478 recs.
6	Benjamin, L.K. 2009. Boreal Felt Lichen, Mountain Avens, Orchid and other recent records. Nova Scotia Dept Natural Resources, 105 recs.
6	Curley, F.R. 2007. PEF&W Collection. PEI Fish & Wildlife Div., 199 recs.
6	Epworth, W. 2016. Species at Risk records, 2014-2016. Fort Folly Habitat Recovery Program, 38 recs.
6	Hall, R. 2008. Rare plant records in old fieldbook notes from Truro area. Pers. comm. to C.S. Blaney. 6 recs, 6 recs.
6	Hinds, H.R. 1999. Connell Herbarium Database. University New Brunswick, Fredericton, 131 recs.
6	Klymko, J. 2019. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre zoological fieldwork 2018. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre.
6	Klymko, J. 2021. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre zoological fieldwork 2020. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre.
6	Matthew Smith. 2010. Field trip report from Avon Caving Club outlining the discovery of <i>Cypripedium arietinum</i> and <i>Hepatica nobilis</i> populations. Public Works and Government Services Canada.
6	Mazerolle, D.M. 2020. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre botanical fieldwork 2019. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre.
6	McAlpine, D.F. 1983. Status & Conservation of Solution Caves in New Brunswick. New Brunswick Museum, Publications in Natural Science, no. 1, 28pp.
6	Nova Scotia Nature Trust. 2013. Nova Scotia Nature Trust 2013 Species records. Nova Scotia Nature Trust, 95 recs.
6	Tingley, S. (compiler). 2001. Butterflies of New Brunswick. , Web site: www.geocities.com/Yosemite/8425/butterfly. 142 recs.
6	White, S. 2019. Notable species sightings, 2018. East Coast Aquatics.
5	Cameron, R.P. 2005. <i>Erioderma pedicellatum</i> unpublished data. NS Dept of Environment, 9 recs.
5	Cameron, R.P. 2012. Additional rare plant records, 2009. , 7 recs.
5	Carter, Jeff; Churchill, J.; Churchill, I.; Churchill, L. 2020. Bank Swallow colony Scots Bay, NS. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre.
5	Dauray, R.W. & Bateman, M.C. 1996. The Barrow's Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala islandica</i>) in the Atlantic Provinces and Maine. Canadian Wildlife Service, Sackville, 47pp.
5	Giberson, D. 2008. UPEI Insect Collection. University of Prince Edward Island, 157 recs.
5	Harding, R.W. 2008. Harding Personal Insect Collection 1999-2007. R.W. Harding, 309 recs.
5	Majka, C.G. 2008. Lepidoptera at St Patricks, 1993-2007. Pers. comm. to R. Curley, 8 Jan. 29 recs, 29 recs.
5	Neily, T.H. & Pepper, C.; Toms, B. 2020. Nova Scotia lichen database [as of 2020-05-25]. Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute, 668 recs.
5	Neily, Tom. 2020. Lichen surveys for PEI Forested Landscapes Priority Place. Chapman, C.J. (ed.) Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, 158 records.
5	Sabine, D.L. 2013. Dwaine Sabine butterfly records, 2009 and earlier.
5	Smith, M.E.M. 2008. AgCan Collection. Agriculture Canada, Charlottetown PE, 44 recs.

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5	Towell, C. 2014. 2014 Northern Goshawk and Common Nighthawk email reports, NS. NS Department of Natural Resources.
4	Basset, I.J. & Crompton, C.W. 1978. The Genus <i>Suaeda</i> (Chenopodiaceae) in Canada. Canadian Journal of Botany, 56: 581-591.
4	Belland, R.J. 2012. PEI moss records from Devonian Botanical Garden. DBG Cryptogam Database, Web site: https://secure.devonian.ualberta.ca/bryo_search.php 748 recs.
4	Benjamin, L.K. 2009. NSDNR Fieldwork & Consultants Reports. Nova Scotia Dept Natural Resources, 143 recs.
4	Bredin, K.A. 2002. NS Freshwater Mussel Fieldwork. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centere, 30 recs.
4	Cameron-MacMillan, Maureen. 2020. Northern Goshawk Nests in Eastern Nova Scotia, as of November, 2020. Nova Scotia Department of Lands and Forestry.
4	Cody, W.J. 2003. Nova Scotia specimens of <i>Equisetum pratense</i> at the DAO herbarium in Ottawa., Pers. comm. to C.S. Blaney. 4 recs.
4	Forsythe, B. 2006. <i>Cypripedium arietinum</i> at Meadow Pond, Hants Co. Pers. comm. to C.S. Blaney. 4 recs, 4 recs.
4	Goltz, J.P. 2012. Field Notes, 1989-2005. , 1091 recs.
4	Klymko, J.J.D. 2012. Insect field work & submissions. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, 852 recs.
4	Majka, C. 2009. Université de Moncton Insect Collection: Carabidae, Cerambycidae, Coccinellidae. Université de Moncton, 540 recs.
4	Mazerolle, D.M. 2005. Bouctouche Irving Eco-Centre rare coastal plant fieldwork results 2004-05. Irving Eco-centre, la Dune du Bouctouche, 174 recs.
4	McNeil, J.A. 2020. Snapping Turtle and Eastern Painted Turtle records, 2020. Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute.
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4	Neily, T.H. Tom Neily NS Sphagnum records (2009-2014). T.H. Neily, Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre. 2019.
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APPENDIX H

FISH & FISH HABITAT

Watercourse	Position in stream	Bankfull width (m)	Wetted width (m)	Average depth (m)	Direction of flow	Velocity (m/s)	Water Chemistry	Substrate (%)	In-Stream Habitat Types (Present, Absent)	In-stream Cover (Trace, Moderate, Abundant)	Riparian Habitat Types (Present, Absent)	Bank Characteristics (Trace, Moderate, Abundant)	Fish Habitat (Poor, Moderate, High)	Barriers to Fish Passage (>0.5 cm)	Probability for Fish Present
Higgins Brook	Downstream	3.2	2.7	0.25	East	0.12	Temp. (°C) = 12.2 DO (mg/L) = 8.47 DO (%) = 79.3 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.021 pH = 6.05	Bedrock = 10 Boulder (>25 cm) = 40 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 30 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 15 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 5 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 0 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Pools = Present Riffles = Present Runs = Present Flat = Absent Rapids = Absent Cascade = Absent	Boulders = Abundant Overhanging vegetation = Moderate Large woody debris = Moderate Small woody debris = Moderate Deep pools = Moderate Undercut banks = Trace Instream vegetation = Trace	Herbaceous = Present Graminoids = Absent Shrub = Present Softwood = Present Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = None Eroding banks = None Bank stability = Abundant Degree of siltation = None Undercut banks = Trace	Spawning = Moderate Rearing = Moderate Overwintering = Moderate	Yes, there is a waterfall upstream of the upstream reach.	High. Caught 19 brook trout during electrofishing survey.
	Crossing	5.9	5.9	0.27	East	0.07	Temp. (°C) = 12.3 DO (mg/L) = 7.41 DO (%) = 69.5 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.021 pH = 6.27	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 30 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 30 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 20 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 15 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 5 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Pools = Present Riffles = Present Runs = Absent Flat = Present Rapids = Absent Cascade = Present	Boulders = Abundant Overhanging vegetation = Moderate Large woody debris = Moderate Small woody debris = Moderate Deep pools = Moderate Undercut banks = Moderate Instream vegetation = Trace	Herbaceous = Present Graminoids = Absent Shrub = Present Softwood = Present Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = None Eroding banks = None Bank stability = Abundant Degree of siltation = None Undercut banks = Trace	Spawning = Moderate Rearing = Moderate Overwintering = Moderate		
	Upstream	2.8	1.5	0.17	East	0.31	Temp. (°C) = 11.7 DO (mg/L) = 8.05 DO (%) = 74.3 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.02 pH = 5.92	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 30 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 30 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 40 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 0 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 0 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Pools = Present Riffles = Present Runs = Present Flat = Absent Rapids = Absent Cascade = Absent	Boulders = Abundant Overhanging vegetation = Moderate Large woody debris = Moderate Small woody debris = Moderate Deep pools = Trace Undercut banks = Trace Instream vegetation = Trace	Herbaceous = Present Graminoids = Absent Shrub = Absent Softwood = Present Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = None Eroding banks = None Bank stability = Abundant Degree of siltation = None Undercut banks = None	Spawning = High Rearing = High Overwintering = Moderate		
Smiths Brook	Downstream	2.2	2	0.14	East	0.19	Temp. (°C) = 8.4 DO (mg/L) = 10.55 DO (%) = 90.9 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.022 pH = 7.17	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 10 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 40 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 40 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 10 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 0 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Pools = Present Riffles = Present Runs = Present Flat = Absent Rapids = Absent Cascade = Present	Boulders = Abundant Overhanging vegetation = Abundant Large woody debris = Abundant Small woody debris = Abundant Deep pools = Moderate Undercut banks = None Instream vegetation = Trace	Herbaceous = Present Graminoids = Present Shrub = Present Softwood = Present Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = None Eroding banks = None Bank stability = Abundant Degree of siltation = Trace Undercut banks = None	Spawning = High Rearing = High Overwintering = High	No	High. Caught 24 brook trout during electrofishing survey.
	Crossing	2.4	2.4	0.21	East	0.41	Temp. (°C) = 8.5 DO (mg/L) = 11.62 DO (%) = 107.1 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.022 pH = 6.91	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 30 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 40 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 20 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 10 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 0 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Pools = Present Riffles = Present Runs = Present Flat = Absent Rapids = Absent Cascade = Present	Boulders = Abundant Overhanging vegetation = Abundant Large woody debris = Abundant Small woody debris = Abundant Deep pools = Abundant Undercut banks = None Instream vegetation = Trace	Herbaceous = Present Graminoids = Present Shrub = Present Softwood = Present Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = None Eroding banks = None Bank stability = Abundant Degree of siltation = Trace Undercut banks = None	Spawning = High Rearing = High Overwintering = High		
	Upstream	2	1.3	0.16	East	0.24	Temp. (°C) = 8.8 DO (mg/L) = 15.40 DO (%) = 138.6 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.022 pH = 7.66	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 10 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 30 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 40 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 20 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 0 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Pools = Present Riffles = Present Runs = Present Flat = Absent Rapids = Absent Cascade = Present	Boulders = Moderate Overhanging vegetation = Abundant Large woody debris = Abundant Small woody debris = Abundant Deep pools = Abundant Undercut banks = None Instream vegetation = Trace	Herbaceous = Present Graminoids = Present Shrub = Present Softwood = Present Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = Trace Eroding banks = None Bank stability = Abundant Degree of siltation = Trace Undercut banks = None	Spawning = High Rearing = High Overwintering = High		
Tributary to east branch of Great Village River	Downstream	3.1	2.7	0.1	West	0.062	Temp. (°C) = 10.4 DO (mg/L) = 9.39 DO (%) = 83 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.021 pH = 6.33	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 40 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 30 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 20 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 10 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 0 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Pools = Present Riffles = Present Runs = Present Flat = Absent Rapids = Absent Cascade = Absent	Boulders = Abundant Overhanging vegetation = Abundant Large woody debris = Abundant Small woody debris = Moderate Deep pools = Moderate Undercut banks = Trace Instream vegetation = Moderate	Herbaceous = Present Graminoids = Absent Shrub = Present Softwood = Present Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = Trace Eroding banks = Trace Bank stability = Abundant Degree of siltation = Trace Undercut banks = Trace	Spawning = Moderate Rearing = Moderate Overwintering = Moderate	No	High. Caught 11 brook trout during electrofishing survey.
	Crossing	2.4	2.3	0.32	West	0.05	Temp. (°C) = 10.4 DO (mg/L) = 8.45 DO (%) = 76 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.02 pH = 6.21	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 30 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 30 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 30 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 10 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 5 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Pools = Present Riffles = Present Runs = Present Flat = Absent Rapids = Absent Cascade = Absent	Boulders = Abundant Overhanging vegetation = Moderate Large woody debris = Moderate Small woody debris = Moderate Deep pools = Trace Undercut banks = Trace Instream vegetation = Trace	Herbaceous = Present Graminoids = Absent Shrub = Present Softwood = Present Hardwood = Absent	Evidence of siltation = Trace Eroding banks = Trace Bank stability = Abundant Degree of siltation = Trace Undercut banks = Trace	Spawning = Moderate Rearing = Moderate Overwintering = Moderate		
	Upstream	3.2	2.6	0.15	West	0.077	Temp. (°C) = 10.7 DO (mg/L) = 8.58 DO (%) = 77 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.02 pH = 6.21	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 20 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 40 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 20 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 10 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 10 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Pools = Present Riffles = Absent Runs = Present Flat = Present Rapids = Absent Cascade = Absent	Boulders = Trace Overhanging vegetation = Abundant Large woody debris = Abundant Small woody debris = Abundant Deep pools = Trace Undercut banks = Trace Instream vegetation = Trace	Herbaceous = Present Graminoids = Absent Shrub = Present Softwood = Present Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = Trace Eroding banks = Trace Bank stability = Abundant Degree of siltation = Trace Undercut banks = Trace	Spawning = Poor Rearing = Moderate Overwintering = Moderate		
Tributary to Rockland Brook 2 (tributary 1 was too warm to fish)	Downstream	1.25	1	0.12	East	0.1	Temp. (°C) = 12.1 DO (mg/L) = 7.33 DO (%) = 68.1 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.018 pH = 6.43	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 20 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 20 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 40 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 10 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 10 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Pools = Absent Riffles = Absent Runs = Present Flat = Absent Rapids = Absent Cascade = Absent	Boulders = Abundant Overhanging vegetation = Abundant Large woody debris = Abundant Small woody debris = Trace Deep pools = None Undercut banks = None Instream vegetation = Moderate	Herbaceous = Present Graminoids = Present Shrub = Absent Softwood = Present Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = Moderate Eroding banks = None Bank stability = Abundant Degree of siltation = Trace Undercut banks = None	Spawning = Poor Rearing = Poor Overwintering = Poor	No	Low. Upstream turns into a wetland. No fish caught during electrofishing survey.
	Crossing	2	1.2	0.07	East	0.11	Temp. (°C) = 12.3 DO (mg/L) = 7.80 DO (%) = 74 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.019 pH = 6.73	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 0 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 0 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 40 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 40 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 10 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 10	Pools = Absent Riffles = Present Runs = Present Flat = Absent Rapids = Absent Cascade = Absent	Boulders = None Overhanging vegetation = Abundant Large woody debris = Trace Small woody debris = Trace Deep pools = None Undercut banks = None Instream vegetation = Moderate	Herbaceous = Present Graminoids = Present Shrub = Absent Softwood = Absent Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = Moderate Eroding banks = None Bank stability = Abundant Degree of siltation = Trace Undercut banks = None	Spawning = Moderate Rearing = Moderate Overwintering = Poor		
	Upstream	3	2.4	0.07	East	0.11	Temp. (°C) = 12.7 DO (mg/L) = 4.91 DO (%) = 46.1 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.021 pH = 6.22	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 30 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 20 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 10 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 20 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 10 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 10	Pools = Absent Riffles = Absent Runs = Present Flat = Absent Rapids = Absent Cascade = Absent	Boulders = Abundant Overhanging vegetation = Abundant Large woody debris = Abundant Small woody debris = Abundant Deep pools = None Undercut banks = None Instream vegetation = Moderate	Herbaceous = Present Graminoids = Present Shrub = Absent Softwood = Absent Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = Moderate Eroding banks = None Bank stability = Abundant Degree of siltation = Moderate Undercut banks = None	Spawning = Poor Rearing = Poor Overwintering = Poor		

Watercourse	Position in stream	Bankfull width (m)	Wetted width (m)	Average depth (m)	Direction of flow	Velocity (m/s)	Water Chemistry	Substrate (%)	In-Stream Habitat Types (Present, Absent)	In-stream Cover (Trace, Moderate, Abundant)	Riparian Habitat Types (Present, Absent)	Bank Characteristics (Trace, Moderate, Abundant)	Fish Habitat (Poor, Moderate, High)	Barriers to Fish Passage (>0.5 cm)	Probability for Fish Present
Tributary to Village Brook 1	Downstream	4.1	3.7	0.15	North	0.052	Temp. (°C) = 13.9 DO (mg/L) = 6.6 DO (%) = 63.6 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.020 pH = 5.83	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 0 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 10 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 60 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 20 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 10 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Pools = Present Riffles = Present Runs = Present Flat = Absent Rapids = Absent Cascade = Absent	Boulders = None Overhanging vegetation = Abundant Large woody debris = Abundant Small woody debris = Abundant Deep pools = Trace Undercut banks = None Instream vegetation = Trace	Herbaceous = Present Graminoids = Present Shrub = Present Softwood = Present Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = Moderate Eroding banks = None Bank stability = Abundant Degree of siltation = Trace Undercut banks = None	Spawning = Moderate Rearing = Moderate Overwintering = Moderate	Yes, elevated culvert upstream, inadequate water levels.	Moderate. No fish caught during electrofishing survey.
	Crossing	2.7	2.5	0.09	North	0.11	Temp. (°C) = 15.1 DO (mg/L) = 6.90 DO (%) = 68.5 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.019 pH = 6.12	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 20 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 30 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 30 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 20 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 0 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Pools = Present Riffles = Present Runs = Present Flat = Absent Rapids = Absent Cascade = Absent	Boulders = Abundant Overhanging vegetation = Abundant Large woody debris = Abundant Small woody debris = Moderate Deep pools = Trace Undercut banks = None Instream vegetation = Trace	Herbaceous = Present Graminoids = Present Shrub = Present Softwood = Present Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = Moderate Eroding banks = None Bank stability = Abundant Degree of siltation = Trace Undercut banks = None	Spawning = Moderate Rearing = Moderate Overwintering = Moderate		
	Upstream	4.4	4.1	0.09	North	0.36	Temp. (°C) = 14.1 DO (mg/L) = 11.45 DO (%) = 109.7 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.022 pH = 7.73	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 0 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 10 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 60 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 20 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 10 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Pools = Present Riffles = Present Runs = Present Flat = Absent Rapids = Absent Cascade = Absent	Boulders = None Overhanging vegetation = Abundant Large woody debris = Abundant Small woody debris = Abundant Deep pools = Trace Undercut banks = None Instream vegetation = Trace	Herbaceous = Present Graminoids = Present Shrub = Absent Softwood = Present Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = Moderate Eroding banks = None Bank stability = Abundant Degree of siltation = Trace Undercut banks = None	Spawning = Poor Rearing = Poor Overwintering = Poor		
Tributary to Village Brook 2	Downstream	3.1	2.75	0.16	North	0.36	Temp. (°C) = 11.6 DO (mg/L) = 7.85 DO (%) = 72.4 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.020 pH = 6.01	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 10 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 10 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 40 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 30 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 10 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Pools = Present Riffles = Present Runs = Present Flat = Absent Rapids = Absent Cascade = Absent	Boulders = Trace Overhanging vegetation = Abundant Large woody debris = Abundant Small woody debris = Abundant Deep pools = Trace Undercut banks = None Instream vegetation = Abundant	Herbaceous = Present Graminoids = Present Shrub = Absent Softwood = Present Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = Trace Eroding banks = None Bank stability = Abundant Degree of siltation = Trace Undercut banks = None	Spawning = High Rearing = High Overwintering = High	No	Moderate. No fish were caught during electrofishing survey.
	Crossing	2.5	2.2	0.15	North	0.56	Temp. (°C) = 11.8 DO (mg/L) = 8.6 DO (%) = 80.3 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.02 pH = 6.69	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 0 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 0 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 10 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 30 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 40 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 20	Pools = Absent Riffles = Present Runs = Present Flat = Absent Rapids = Absent Cascade = Absent	Boulders = None Overhanging vegetation = Moderate Large woody debris = None Small woody debris = Moderate Deep pools = None Undercut banks = None Instream vegetation = Moderate	Herbaceous = Present Graminoids = Present Shrub = Present Softwood = Present Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = Trace Eroding banks = None Bank stability = Abundant Degree of siltation = Trace Undercut banks = None	Spawning = Moderate Rearing = Moderate Overwintering = Poor		
	Upstream	4.5	2.1	0.11	North	0.27	Temp. (°C) = 11.9 DO (mg/L) = 7.88 DO (%) = 73.2 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.019 pH = 6.05	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 30 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 20 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 40 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 10 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 0 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Pools = Absent Riffles = Present Runs = Present Flat = Absent Rapids = Absent Cascade = Absent	Boulders = Abundant Overhanging vegetation = Abundant Large woody debris = Abundant Small woody debris = Abundant Deep pools = None Undercut banks = None Instream vegetation = None	Herbaceous = Present Graminoids = Present Shrub = Absent Softwood = Present Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = Trace Eroding banks = None Bank stability = Abundant Degree of siltation = Trace Undercut banks = None	Spawning = High Rearing = High Overwintering = Poor		
Tunnel Brook	Downstream	2.2	1.8	0.14	South	0.07	Temp. (°C) = 14.7 DO (mg/L) = 6.73 DO (%) = 66.7 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.024 pH = 6.25	Bedrock = 60 Boulder (>25 cm) = 5 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 15 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 15 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 5 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 0 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Pools = Present Riffles = Present Runs = Absent Flat = Absent Rapids = Present Cascade = Absent	Boulders = Trace Overhanging vegetation = Moderate Large woody debris = Trace Small woody debris = Moderate Deep pools = None Undercut banks = None Instream vegetation = Trace	Herbaceous = Absent Graminoids = Absent Shrub = Absent Softwood = Present Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = None Eroding banks = None Bank stability = Moderate Degree of siltation = None Undercut banks = None	Spawning = Moderate Rearing = Moderate Overwintering = Poor	No	High. Caught 16 brook trout during electrofishing survey.
	Crossing	3.78	1.62	0.13	South	0.21	Temp. (°C) = 15.1 DO (mg/L) = 6.69 DO (%) = 66.7 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.023 pH = 6.28	Bedrock = 0 Boulder (>25 cm) = 25 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 25 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 40 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 10 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 0 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Pools = Present Riffles = Present Runs = Absent Flat = Absent Rapids = Present Cascade = Absent	Boulders = Abundant Overhanging vegetation = Abundant Large woody debris = Trace Small woody debris = Abundant Deep pools = None Undercut banks = Trace Instream vegetation = Trace	Herbaceous = Absent Graminoids = Absent Shrub = Present Softwood = Present Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = None Eroding banks = None Bank stability = None Degree of siltation = None Undercut banks = Trace	Spawning = Moderate Rearing = Moderate Overwintering = Poor		
	Upstream	2.3	2	0.11	South	0.14	Temp. (°C) = 16 DO (mg/L) = 7.18 DO (%) = 73 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.023 pH = 6.58	Bedrock = 15 Boulder (>25 cm) = 35 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 25 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 10 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 15 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 0 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Pools = Present Riffles = Present Runs = Absent Flat = Present Rapids = Absent Cascade = Absent	Boulders = Moderate Overhanging vegetation = Abundant Large woody debris = Moderate Small woody debris = Moderate Deep pools = Moderate Undercut banks = Trace Instream vegetation = Trace	Herbaceous = Absent Graminoids = Absent Shrub = Present Softwood = Present Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = Abundant Eroding banks = Trace Bank stability = Moderate Degree of siltation = Moderate Undercut banks = Trace	Spawning = Moderate Rearing = Moderate Overwintering = High		
Near Carter Lake	Downstream	2.5	1.9	0.1	South	0.1	Temp. (°C) = 14.3 DO (mg/L) = 8.2 DO (%) = 80 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.019 pH = 6.42	Bedrock = 20 Boulder (>25 cm) = 40 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 30 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 10 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 0 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 0 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Pools = Absent Riffles = Absent Runs = Present Flat = Absent Rapids = Absent Cascade = Present	Boulders = Abundant Overhanging vegetation = Moderate Large woody debris = Moderate Small woody debris = Moderate Deep pools = Trace Undercut banks = Trace Instream vegetation = Trace	Herbaceous = Present Graminoids = Absent Shrub = Absent Softwood = Present Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = None Eroding banks = None Bank stability = Moderate Degree of siltation = None Undercut banks = None	Spawning = Moderate Rearing = Moderate Overwintering = Poor	No	High. Caught 7 brook trout during electrofishing survey.
	Crossing	0.9	0.7	0.12	South	0.13	Temp. (°C) = 14.4 DO (mg/L) = 8.6 DO (%) = 85 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.019 pH = 6.5	Bedrock = 20 Boulder (>25 cm) = 30 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 20 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 20 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 10 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 0 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Pools = Absent Riffles = Absent Runs = Present Flat = Absent Rapids = Absent Cascade = Present	Boulders = Abundant Overhanging vegetation = Moderate Large woody debris = Moderate Small woody debris = Trace Deep pools = Trace Undercut banks = Trace Instream vegetation = Trace	Herbaceous = Present Graminoids = Absent Shrub = Absent Softwood = Present Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = None Eroding banks = None Bank stability = Moderate Degree of siltation = None Undercut banks = None	Spawning = Moderate Rearing = Moderate Overwintering = Poor		
	Upstream	2	1.2	0.1	South	0.12	Temp. (°C) = 15 DO (mg/L) = 7.65 DO (%) = 76 Cond. (mS/cm) = 0.018 pH = 6.4	Bedrock = 10 Boulder (>25 cm) = 20 Rubble (14-25 cm) = 30 Cobble (3-13 cm) = 25 Gravel (2 mm-3 cm) = 5 Sand (0.06-2 mm) = 0 Fines (<0.06 mm) = 0	Pools = Absent Riffles = Absent Runs = Present Flat = Present Rapids = Absent Cascade = Absent	Boulders = Moderate Overhanging vegetation = Moderate Large woody debris = Moderate Small woody debris = Trace Deep pools = Trace Undercut banks = Trace Instream vegetation = Trace	Herbaceous = Present Graminoids = Absent Shrub = Present Softwood = Present Hardwood = Present	Evidence of siltation = None Eroding banks = None Bank stability = Moderate Degree of siltation = None Undercut banks = None	Spawning = Moderate Rearing = Moderate Overwintering = Poor		

HIGGINS BROOK		
DOWNSTREAM	CROSSING	UPSTREAM
		
Photo 1. A representative photo of the electrofished downstream reach of Higgins Brook.	Photo 2. A representative photo of the electrofished crossing of Higgins Brook.	Photo 3. A representative photo of the electrofished upstream reach of Higgins Brook.
		
Photo 4. A Brook trout (<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>) caught in this watercourse during electrofishing surveys.	Photo 5. A Brook trout (<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>) caught in this watercourse during electrofishing surveys.	Photo 6. A Brook trout (<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>) caught in this watercourse during electrofishing surveys.

SMITHS BROOK		
DOWNSTREAM	CROSSING	UPSTREAM
		
Photo 7. A representative photo of the electrofished downstream reach of Smiths Brook.	Photo 8. A representative photo of the electrofished crossing of Smiths Brook.	Photo 9. A representative photo of the electrofished upstream reach of Smiths Brook.
		
Photo 10. A Brook trout (<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>) caught in this watercourse during electrofishing surveys.	Photo 11. A Brook trout (<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>) caught in this watercourse during electrofishing surveys.	Photo 12. A Brook trout (<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>) caught in this watercourse during electrofishing surveys.

TRIBUTARY TO EAST BRANCH OF GREAT VILLAGE RIVER		
DOWNSTREAM	CROSSING	UPSTREAM
		
Photo 13. A representative photo of the electrofished downstream reach of a tributary to the east branch of the Great Village River.	Photo 14. A representative photo of the electrofished crossing of a tributary to the east branch of the Great Village River.	Photo 15. A representative photo of the electrofished upstream reach of a tributary to the east branch of the Great Village River.
		
Photo 16. A Brook trout (<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>) caught in this watercourse during electrofishing surveys.	Photo 17. A Brook trout (<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>) caught in this watercourse during electrofishing surveys.	Photo 18. A Brook trout (<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>) caught in this watercourse during electrofishing surveys.

TRIBUTARY TO ROCKLAND BROOK 2		
DOWNSTREAM	CROSSING	UPSTREAM
		
Photo 19. A representative photo of the electrofished downstream reach of a tributary to Rockland Brook (2).	Photo 20. A representative photo of the electrofished crossing of a tributary to Rockland Brook (2).	Photo 21. A representative photo of the electrofished upstream reach of a tributary to Rockland Brook (2).

TRIBUTARY TO VILLAGE BROOK 1		
DOWNSTREAM	CROSSING	UPSTREAM
		
Photo 22. A representative photo of the electrofished downstream reach of a tributary to Village Brook (1).	Photo 23. A representative photo of the electrofished crossing of a tributary to Village Brook (1).	Photo 24. A representative photo of the electrofished upstream reach of a tributary to Village Brook (1).

TRIBUTARY TO VILLAGE BROOK 2		
DOWNSTREAM	CROSSING	UPSTREAM
		

Photo 25. A representative photo of the electrofished downstream reach of a tributary to Village Brook (2).

Photo 26. A representative photo of the electrofished crossing of a tributary to Village Brook (2).

Photo 27. A representative photo of the electrofished upstream reach of a tributary to Village Brook (2).

TUNNEL BROOK		
DOWNSTREAM	CROSSING	UPSTREAM
		
Photo 28. A representative photo of the electrofished downstream reach of Tunnel Brook.	Photo 29. A representative photo of the electrofished crossing of Tunnel Brook.	Photo 30. A representative photo of the electrofished upstream reach of Tunnel Brook.
		
Photo 31. A Brook trout (<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>) caught in this watercourse during electrofishing surveys.	Photo 32. A Brook trout (<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>) caught in this watercourse during electrofishing surveys.	Photo 33. A Brook trout (<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>) caught in this watercourse during electrofishing surveys.

SOUTH OF CARTER LAKE		
DOWNSTREAM	CROSSING	UPSTREAM
		
Photo 34. A representative photo of the electrofished downstream reach of a stream south of Carter Lake.	Photo 35. A representative photo of the electrofished crossing of a stream south of Carter Lake.	Photo 36. A representative photo of the electrofished upstream reach of a stream south of Carter Lake.
		
Photo 37. A Brook trout (<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>) caught in this watercourse during electrofishing surveys.	Photo 38. A Brook trout (<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>) caught in this watercourse during electrofishing surveys.	Photo 39. A Brook trout (<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>) caught in this watercourse during electrofishing surveys.

APPENDIX I

WETLANDS

Wetland ID	Wetland Type	Area (m ²)	Landform	Direction of Flow	Soil Type	Surface/Hydrologic Conditions	Fish-Bearing Potential	Dominant Vegetation			Upland Habitat
								Herbaceous	Shrub	Trees	
WL1	Fen	19810	Slope	South	A1: Histosol	Surface water; High water table; Saturation	Moderate	Carex Sp.; Canada goldenrod (<i>Solidago canadensis</i>)	Steeplebush (<i>Spiraea tomentosa</i>)	N/A	Young mixedwood stand
WL2	Bog	8106.23	Basin	None observed	A1: Histosol	High water table; Saturation; Surface water	Low	Velvet-leaved blueberry (<i>Vaccinium myrtilloides</i>); Three-leaved false Solomon's seal (<i>Maianthemum trifolium</i>); Northern wild raisin (<i>Viburnum cassinoides</i>)	Common winterberry (<i>Ilex verticillata</i>); Black spruce (<i>Picea mariana</i>)	Black spruce (<i>Picea mariana</i>); Red maple (<i>Acer rubrum</i>)	Upland is along road edge
WL3	Treed swamp	2121.97	Basin	West	A2: Histic epipedon	Surface water; High water table; Saturation	Moderate	Bristly dewberry (<i>Rubus hispida</i>); Wild strawberry (<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>); Marsh blue violet (<i>Viola cucullata</i>); Canada goldenrod (<i>Solidago canadensis</i>); Common woolly bulrush (<i>Scirpus cyperinus</i>)	N/A	N/A	Upland on bedrock, shallow soils. Softwood dominant
WL4	Treed swamp	3547	Basin	West	A1: Histosol	Surface water; High water table; Saturation; Water-stained leaves; Drainage patterns	Low	Cinnamon fern (<i>Oundastrum cinnamomeum</i>); Whorled wood aster (<i>Oclemena acuminata</i>); Dwarf red raspberry (<i>Rubus pubescens</i>)	Balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>); Speckled alder (<i>Alnus incana</i>)	Speckled alder (<i>Alnus incana</i>); Balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>); Red maple (<i>Acer rubrum</i>); Yellow birch (<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>); Red spruce (<i>Picea rubens</i>)	Area littered with fallen trees, primarily softwood
WL5	Treed swamp	3324.53	Basin	None observed	A1: Histosol	Surface water; High water table; Saturation	Low	Cinnamon fern (<i>Oundastrum cinnamomeum</i>); Canada goldenrod (<i>Solidago canadensis</i>); Carex Sp.	Bebb's willow (<i>Salix bebbiana</i>); Speckled alder (<i>Alnus incana</i>); Black spruce (<i>Picea mariana</i>); Red spruce (<i>Picea rubens</i>)	Bebb's willow (<i>Salix bebbiana</i>); Speckled alder (<i>Alnus incana</i>); Black spruce (<i>Picea mariana</i>); Red spruce (<i>Picea rubens</i>)	Mixedwood stand. Organic soils before bedrock refusal.
WL6	Treed swamp	562.61	Slope	South	A2: Histic epipedon	High water table; Saturation	Low	Wild strawberry (<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>); Bog aster (<i>Oclemena nemoralis</i>); Marsh blue violet (<i>Viola cucullata</i>)	N/A	Red spruce (<i>Picea rubens</i>); Yellow birch (<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>); Balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>)	Roadside upland habitat
WL7	Treed swamp	1489.97	Flat	None observed	A2: Histic epipedon	Surface water; High water table; Saturation	Low	Cinnamon fern (<i>Oundastrum cinnamomeum</i>); Bunchberry (<i>Cornus canadensis</i>); Bristly blackberry (<i>Rubus setosus</i>)	Balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>); Red maple (<i>Acer rubrum</i>)	Red spruce (<i>Picea rubens</i>); Balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>); Yellow birch (<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>)	Dense softwood-dominant forest

Wetland ID	Wetland Type	Area (m2)	Landform	Direction of Flow	Soil Type	Surface/Hydrologic Conditions	Fish-Bearing Potential	Dominant Vegetation			Upland Habitat
								Herbaceous	Shrub	Trees	
WL8	Treed swamp	2654.24	Slope	North	A2: Histic epipedon	Surface water; High water table; Saturation; Drainage patterns	Low	Tawny cottongrass (<i>Eriophorum virginicum</i>); Creeping snowberry (<i>Gaultheria hispida</i>); Bog aster (<i>Oclemena nemoralis</i>); Wild strawberry (<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>); Marsh blue violet (<i>Viola cucullata</i>)	Balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>); Sugar maple (<i>Acer saccharum</i>); Speckled alder (<i>Alnus incana</i>)	Balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>); Red spruce (<i>Picea rubens</i>)	Mixedwood, hardwood-dominant
WL9	Treed swamp	660.22	Basin	None observed	A2: Histic epipedon	Surface water; High water table; Saturation	Low	Marsh blue violet (<i>Viola cucullata</i>); Bristly blackberry (<i>Rubus setosus</i>); Common woolly bulrush (<i>Scirpus cyperinus</i>); <i>Carex</i> Sp.	White meadowsweet (<i>Spiraea alba</i>)	Red spruce (<i>Picea rubens</i>); Grey birch (<i>Betula populifolia</i>); Balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>)	Low shrubs
WL10	Treed swamp	5029.38	Basin	None observed	A2: Histic epipedon	Surface water; Drainage patterns; Saturation; High water table	Low	Wild strawberry (<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>); Bristly dewberry (<i>Rubus hispida</i>); Creeping snowberry (<i>Gaultheria hispida</i>); Flat topped aster (<i>Doellingeria umbellata</i>); Common woolly bulrush (<i>Scirpus cyperinus</i>)	Canada goldenrod (<i>Solidago canadensis</i>); Balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>); Bebb's willow (<i>Salix bebbiana</i>); White birch (<i>Betula papyrifera</i>)	Eastern larch (<i>Larix laricina</i>); Black spruce (<i>Picea mariana</i>); Balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>)	Upward slope into Black spruce (<i>Picea mariana</i>) stand
WL11	Treed swamp	1812.44	Slope	North	A1: Histosol	Surface water; Saturation; Water-stained leaves	Low	Cinnamon fern (<i>Oundastrum cinnamomeum</i>); New York fern (<i>Thelypteris noveboracensis</i>); Flat topped aster (<i>Doellingeria umbellata</i>); Canada goldenrod (<i>Solidago canadensis</i>); Dwarf red raspberry (<i>Rubus pubescens</i>)	Balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>); Sugar maple (<i>Acer saccharum</i>); Speckled alder (<i>Alnus incana</i>)	Red maple (<i>Acer rubrum</i>); Yellow birch (<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>); Sugar maple (<i>Acer saccharum</i>); Balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>)	Mixedwood forest
WL12	Shrub swamp	2414.03	Basin	East	A1: Histosol, A12: Thick dark surface	Surface water; Saturation; High water table	High	<i>Carex</i> Sp.; Wild strawberry (<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>); Sensitive fern (<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>); Marsh blue violet (<i>Viola cucullata</i>)	Speckled alder (<i>Alnus incana</i>); Balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>)	N/A	Balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>) dominant stand with shallow organic soils
WL13	Treed swamp	739.89	Basin	East	A1: Histosol	Surface water; High water table; Saturation; Water marks; Water-stained leaves; Drainage patterns; Sparsely vegetated concave surfaces	Moderate	Bunchberry (<i>Cornus canadensis</i>); Common wood sorrel (<i>Oxalis montana</i>); Northern star flower (<i>Lysimachia borealis</i>); <i>Carex</i> Sp.	Yellow birch (<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>); Balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>); Speckled alder (<i>Alnus incana</i>); Red maple (<i>Acer rubrum</i>); Sugar maple (<i>Acer saccharum</i>)	Yellow birch (<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>); Balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>); Red spruce (<i>Picea rubens</i>)	Softwood dominant stand

Wetland ID	Wetland Type	Area (m2)	Landform	Direction of Flow	Soil Type	Surface/Hydrologic Conditions	Fish-Bearing Potential	Dominant Vegetation			Upland Habitat
								Herbaceous	Shrub	Trees	
WL14	Fen	3539.88	Basin	North	A2: Histic epipedon, F8: Redox depressions	Surface water; High water table; Saturation; Drainage patterns	Moderate	Common woolly bulrush (<i>Scirpus cyperinus</i>); Marsh blue violet (<i>Viola cucullata</i>); Bog aster (<i>Oclemena nemoralis</i>); <i>Carex Sp.</i>	Steeplebush (<i>Spiraea tomentosa</i>); Canada goldenrod (<i>Solidago canadensis</i>); White meadowsweet (<i>Spiraea alba</i>)	N/A	Coniferous stand with inclusions of yellow birch (<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>). Shallow soils
WL15	Fen / Shrub swamp	484.99	Basin	North	S1: Sandy mucky mineral	Surface water; High water table; Saturation; Drainage patterns	Moderate	Marsh blue violet (<i>Viola cucullata</i>); Common woolly bulrush (<i>Scirpus cyperinus</i>); Canada goldenrod (<i>Solidago canadensis</i>); <i>Carex Sp.</i>	Bebb's willow (<i>Salix bebbiana</i>); White birch (<i>Betula papyrifera</i>); Speckled alder (<i>Alnus incana</i>); Balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>); Sweet gale (<i>Myrica gale</i>)	N/A	Coniferous stand with some <i>Betula Sp.</i> inclusions
WL16	Bog	4004.13	Flat	None observed	A1: Histosol	High water table; Water marks; Saturation; Water-stained leaves; Sparsely vegetated concave surfaces; Hydrogen sulfide odor	Low	Fowl manna grass (<i>Glyceria striata</i>); Common marsh bedstraw (<i>Galium palustre</i>); Common wooly bullrush (<i>Scirpus cyperinus</i>)	Red spruce (<i>Picea rubens</i>); Speckled alder (<i>Alnus incana</i>)	Balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>); Red spruce (<i>Picea rubens</i>); Speckled alder (<i>Alnus incana</i>)	Dense red spruce (<i>Picea rubens</i>) regen with relatively empty herb stratum
WL17	Vernal pool	734.31	Basin	None observed	A1: Histosol	Surface water; Saturation; Water marks; Water-stained leaves; Sparsely vegetated concave surfaces	Low	Crested woodfern (<i>Dryopteris cristata</i>); <i>Carex Sp.</i>	Yellow birch (<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>); Red maple (<i>Acer rubrum</i>); Sugar maple (<i>Acer saccharum</i>); Red spruce (<i>Picea rubens</i>); Balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>)	Yellow birch (<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>); Red maple (<i>Acer rubrum</i>)	Mixed aged hardwood dominant forest
WL18	Bog	6368.76	Basin	Southwest	A1: Histosol	High water table; Saturation	Low	Tawny cottongrass (<i>Eriophorum virginicum</i>); Common St. John's wort (<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>);	Speckled alder (<i>Alnus incana</i>); White spruce (<i>Picea glauca</i>)	Speckled alder (<i>Alnus incana</i>); White spruce (<i>Picea glauca</i>); White birch (<i>Betula papyrifera</i>); Grey birch (<i>Betula populifolia</i>)	Upward sloped single aged red spruce (<i>Picea rubens</i>) balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>) forest. Estimated age 30-60 years
WL19	Shrub swamp	3708.85	Basin	West	A1: Histosol	Saturation; High water table	Low	Bristly dewberry (<i>Rubus hispida</i>); Canada goldenrod (<i>Solidago canadensis</i>); <i>Carex Sp.</i>	Speckled alder (<i>Alnus incana</i>)	Speckled alder (<i>Alnus incana</i>); Balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>)	Tight softwood regen. Balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>) and red spruce (<i>Picea rubens</i>) mix.



Photo 1. A representative photo of WL1.



Photo 2. A representative photo of WL2.



Photo 3. A representative photo of WL3.



Photo 4. A representative photo of WL4.



Photo 5. A representative photo of WL5.



Photo 6. A representative photo of WL6.

	
<p>Photo 7. A representative photo of WL7.</p>	<p>Photo 8. A representative photo of WL8.</p>
	
<p>Photo 9. A representative photo of WL9.</p>	<p>Photo 10. A representative photo of WL10.</p>
	
<p>Photo 11. A representative photo of WL11.</p>	<p>Photo 12. A representative photo of WL12.</p>

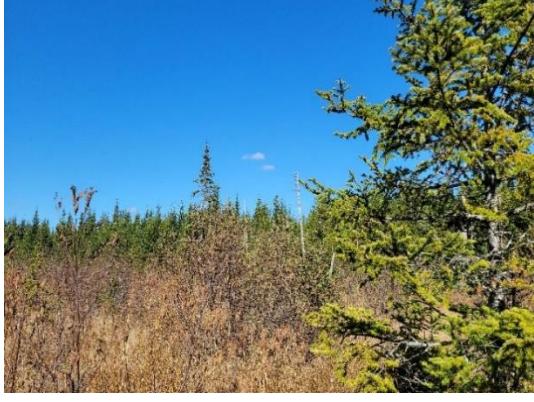
	
<p>Photo 13. A representative photo of WL13.</p>	<p>Photo 14. A representative photo of WL14.</p>
	
<p>Photo 15. A representative photo of WL15.</p>	<p>Photo 16. A representative photo of WL16.</p>
	
<p>Photo 17. A representative photo of WL17.</p>	<p>Photo 18. A representative photo of WL18.</p>



Photo 19. A representative photo of WL19.

Cover Page: Basic Description of Assessment	WESP-AC version 2
Site Name:	Higgins Mountain - Central Dicks Meadows
Investigator Name:	Angus Doane
Date of Field Assessment:	Summer 2020
Nearest Town:	Wentworth
Latitude (decimal degrees):	45.55381111111111
Longitude (decimal degrees):	-63.57014166666667
Is a map based on a formal on-site wetland delineation available?	No
Approximate size of the Assessment Area (AA, in hectares):	20
AA as percent of entire wetland (approx.). Attach sketch map if AA is smaller than the entire contiguous wetland.	85
What percent (approx.) of the wetland were you able to visit?	85
What percent (approx.) of the AA were you able to visit?	100
Were you able to ask the site owner/manager about any of the questions?	No
Indicate here if you intentionally surveyed for rare plants, calciphile plants, or rare animals:	Rare plants and Animals
Have you attended a WESP-AC training session? If so, indicate approximate month & year.	September 2021
How many wetlands have you assessed previously using WESP-AC? (approx.)	12
Comments about the site or this WESP-AC assessment (attach extra page if desired):	AA included both waterbodies and the interconnecting Wetlands of the north flowing portion of Dick's Meadows complex. Presumed to be connected via groundwater to south flowing portion (WESP-AC 1)

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date: August 8, 2020	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain - Central Dicks Meadows		Investigator: Angus Doane	
2	Form OF (Office). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia wetlands only. DIRECTIONS: Conduct an assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answering many of the questions below will require using these online map viewers: Google Earth Pro: https://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html Provincial Landscape Viewer: https://nsgis.novascotia.ca/plv/ For most wetlands, completing this office data form will require 1-2 hours. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see bracketed abbreviations in the Definitions/Explanations column. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.				
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations
4	OF1	Province	Mark the province in which the AA is located by changing the 0 in the column next to it to a "1". Mark only one.		This determines to which province's calibration wetlands the raw score of any wetland is normalised. In the function and benefits models, it also triggers the automatic exclusion of indicators for which no spatial data exists in a particular province.
5			New Brunswick	0	
6			Nova Scotia	1	
7			Prince Edward Island	0	
8			Newfoundland-Labrador	0	
9	OF2	Ponded Area Within 1 km.	The area of surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		"Adjacent" means not separated from the AA by a wide expanse (>50 m) of upland (including roads >50 m wide). Include ponded areas likely to be hidden by wetland vegetation. If surface water extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. Do not include tidal areas. Measure the area from aerial imagery using Google Earth Pro (click on Ruler icon in toolbar, then Polygon in pop-up menu). [PH, SBM, WBN]
10			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
11			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
12			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
13			1 to 10 hectares.	1	
14			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
15			>100 hectares.	0	
16	OF3	Ponded Water & Wetland Within 1 km.	The area of wetlands and surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. If the AA's wetland vegetation extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. "Ponded" means not flowing in rivers or streams. [Sens, WBF]
17			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
18			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
19			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
20			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
21			10 to 100 hectares.	1	
22			>100 hectares.	0	
23	OF4	Size of Largest Nearby Vegetated Tract or Corridor	The largest vegetated patch or corridor that includes the AA's vegetation plus all adjacent upland vegetation that is not lawn, row crops, heavily grazed lands, conifer plantation is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. Use Google Earth Pro's polygon ruler (as described above). Exclude conifer plantations only if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens]
24			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
25			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
26			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
27			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
28			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
29			100 to 1000 hectares.	0	
30			>1000 hectares. <i>[This is nearly always the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]</i>	1	

A	B	C	D	E
31	OF5 Distance to Large Vegetated Tract	The minimum distance from the edge of the AA to the edge of the closest vegetated land (but excluding row crops, lawn, conifer plantation) larger than 375 hectares (about 2 km on a side), is:	1	To measure distance, use Google Earth Pro (Ruler > Line tool). The 375-ha criterion is from the Fundy Model Forest Project. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
32		<50 m, and not separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, bare ground, lawn, or impervious surface. Or the AA itself contains >375 ha of vegetation. [This is often the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]		
33		<50 m, but completely separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by those features, and AA does not contain >375 ha of vegetation.		
34		50-500 m, and not separated .		
35		50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
36		0.5 - 5 km, and not separated .		
37		0.5 - 5 km, but separated by those features.		
38		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors which are that large are >5 km away).		
39	OF6 Herbaceous Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 5 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 1 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "1". [* NOTE: Exclude lawns, row crops, heavily grazed lands, forest, shrublands. Include moss as well as grasslike plants in this use of "herbaceous vegetation"]	3	For this question only, consider moss to be herbaceous vegetation. Determine the score by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth after successively drawing or estimating the boundaries of the buffers of 5 km, 1 km, and 100 m radius focused on the center of the AA. Circles of specified radius can be drawn in Google Earth Pro by clicking on the Ruler icon, then Circle in the pop-up menu. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
40	OF7 Woody Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% woody* but uplands within 5 km have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 1 km have <10% woody cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "1" [* NOTE: woody cover = trees & shrubs taller than 1 m.]	0	See above. Do not consider conifer plantations to be forest if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv]
41	OF8 Local Vegetated Cover Percentage	Draw a 5-km radius circle measured from the center of the AA. Ignoring all permanent water in the circle, the percent of the remaining area that is wooded or unmanaged herbaceous vegetation (NOT lawn, row crops, bare or heavily grazed land, clearcuts, or conifer plantations) is:	0	In Google Earth, draw the 5 km buffer and then estimate land cover percentages, or do GIS analysis of an appropriate land cover layer. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
42		<5% of the land.		
43		5 to 20% of the land.		
44		20 to 60% of the land.		
45		60 to 90% of the land.		
46		>90% of the land. SKIP to OF10.		
47	OF9 Type of Land Cover Alteration	Within the 5-km radius circle, and ignoring all permanent water, the land area that is bare or non-perennial cover is mostly:	[AM, SBM]	
48		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
49		Bare pervious surface, e.g., lawn, recent (<5 yrs ago) clearcut, dirt or gravel road, cropland, landslide, conifer plantation.		
50	OF10 Distance by Road to Nearest Population Center	Measured along the maintained road nearest the AA, the distance to the nearest population center is:	0	"Population center" means a settled area with more than about 5 regularly- inhabited structures per square kilometer. In Google Earth Pro, click on the Ruler icon, then Path, and draw and measure the route. [FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, WBFv]
51		<100 m.		
52		100 - 500 m.		
53		0.5- 1 km.		
54		1 - 5 km.		
55		>5 km.		

A	B	C	D	E
56	OF11 Distance to Nearest Maintained Road	From the center of the AA, the distance to the nearest maintained public road (dirt or paved) is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth Pro and measuring with the Ruler>Line tool [AM, FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBN]
57		<10 m.	0	
58		10 - 25 m.	0	
59		25 - 50 m.	0	
60		50 - 100 m.	0	
61		100 - 500 m.	0	
62		>500 m.	1	
63	OF12 Wildlife Access	Draw a circle of radius of 5 km from the center of the AA. If mammals and amphibians can move from the center of the AA to ALL other separate wetlands and ponds located within the circle without being forced to cross pavement (any width), lawns, bare ground, and/or marine waters, mark 1= yes can move to all, 0= no. Change to blank if there are no other wetlands within 5 km.	0	Draw the 5 km circle in Google Earth Pro using the Circle tool and search for roads and wetlands within it, being alert for roads hidden under forest canopy. [AM, SBM, STR]
64	OF13 Distance to Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) ponded water body visible in GoogleEarth imagery is:		In Google Earth Pro, zoom in closely to examine the surrounding landscape for ponds, lakes, and wetlands that appear to be permanently flooded. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
65		<50 m, and not separated by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, lawn, bare ground, or impervious surface.	0	
66		<50 m, but completely separated by those features.	0	
67		50-500 m, and not separated.	0	
68		50-500 m, but separated by those features.	0	
69		0.5 - 1 km, and not separated.	1	
70		0.5 - 1 km, but separated by those features.	0	
71		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors that large are >1 km away).	0	
72	OF14 Distance to Large Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate)non-tidal body of water that is ponded during most of the year and is larger than 8 hectares during most of a normal year is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth. [Sens, WBF, WBN]
73		<100 m.	0	
74		100 m - 1 km.	0	
75		1-2 km.	0	
76		2-5 km.	1	
77		5-10 km.	0	
78		>10 km.	0	
79	OF15 Tidal Proximity	The distance from the AA edge to the closest tidal water body (regardless of its salinity) is:		In Google Earth, measure the distance to the ocean (including Bay of Fundy) or tidal river, whichever is closer. If you need to see how far upriver a river is tidal, see the KMZ file provided with this calculator for NS (NS Headtide). Points shown in those files are only an approximation, so local information if available may be preferable. [FA, WBF]
80		<100 m.	0	
81		100 m - 1 km.	0	
82		1 - 5 km.	0	
83		5-10 km.	0	
84		10-40 km.	1	
85		>40 km.	0	
86	OF16 Upland Edge Contact	Select one:		[NR, SBM, Sens]
87		The AA has no upland edge (or upland is <1% of perimeter). The AA is entirely surrounded by (& contiguous with) other wetlands or water.	0	
88		1-25% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland (including filled areas). The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0	
89		25-50% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0	
90		50-75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0	
91		More than 75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. Any remainder adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA. This will be true for most assessments done with WESP-AC.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
92	OF17 Flood Damage from Non-tidal Waters	Within 5 km downstream or downslope of the AA (select first true choice):	0	Contact local authorities to determine if such maps exist. Where available, LiDAR imagery can provide finer elevational resolution useful for flood modeling. [WSv]
93		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding not caused by tidal storm surges.		
94		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas, but infrastructure is absent or is not vulnerable to floods from a non-tidal river. In some cases levees, upriver dams, or other measures may partly limit damage or risk from smaller events.		
95		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
96		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there is no infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
97	OF18 Relative Elevation in Watershed	In Google Earth, enable the Terrain layer (lower left menu) and open the NS_Watersheds Secondary KMZ file that accompanies this calculator. Then determine the AA's approximate elevation (bottom right, NOT the "eye alt"). Then move cursor around to determine the watershed's maximum and minimum elevation. Divide the AA's elevation by the (max-min).	0.93	[FA, NR, Sens, SFSv, WCv, WSv]
98	OF19 Water Quality Sensitive Watershed or Area	The AA is in a Protected Water Supply area (Designated Water Supply Area, Natural Watershed Municipal Surface Water Supply Area, or Municipal Water Supply Area) according to the provided KMZ overlay ("NS Protected Water Supply Areas"). Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	If an ACCDC report is available for this AA, it also may contain such information. [NRv]
99	OF20 Degraded Water Upstream	Sampling indicates a problem with concentrations of metals, hydrocarbons, nutrients, or other substances (excluding bacteria, acidic water, high temperatures) being present at levels harmful to aquatic life or humans, and:	0	May use existing data, or sample those waters as part of this wetland assessment. "Harmful" should be evaluated with regard to current federal or provincial water quality standards. [AM, FA, FR, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WBF, WBN]
100		The condition is present within the AA.		
101		The condition is present in waters within 1 km that flow into the AA, but has not been documented in the AA itself.		
102		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
103		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
104	OF21 Degraded Water Downstream	The problem described above is downslope from the AA, and:	0	May use existing data, or monitor waters as part of this wetland assessment. [NRv, PRv, SRv]
105		The condition is present within 1 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel.		
106		The condition is present within 5 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel, or within 1 km but not connected to the AA by a channel.		
107		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
108		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
109	OF22 Wetland as a % of Its Contributing Area (Catchment)	From a topographic map and field observations, estimate the approximate boundaries of the catchment (CA) of the entire wetland of which the AA may be only a part. Then adjust those boundaries if necessary based on your field observations of the surrounding terrain, and/or by using procedures described in the Manual. Divide the area of the wetland (not just the AA) by the approximate area of its catchment excluding the area of the wetland itself. When doing the calculation, if ponded water is adjacent to the wetland, include that in the wetland area. The result is:	0	Topographic maps may be viewed online at the National Atlas of Canada (Toporama): http://atlas.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html [NR, PR, Sens, SR, WS]
110		<0.01, or catchment size unknown due to stormwater pipes that collect water from an indeterminate area.		
111		0.01 to 0.1.		
112		0.1 to 1.		
113		>1 (wetland is larger than its catchment (e.g., wetland with flat surrounding terrain and no inlet, or is entirely isolated by dikes, or is a raised bog)).		
114	OF23 Unvegetated Surface in the Contributing Area	The proportion of the AA's contributing area (measured to no more than 1000 m upslope) that is comprised of buildings, roads, parking lots other pavement, exposed bedrock, landslides, and other mostly-bare surface is about :	0	[FA, INV, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WCv, WSv]
115		<10%.		
116		10 to 25%.		
117		>25%.		

A	B	C	D	E
118	OF24	Transport From Upslope A relatively large proportion of the precipitation that falls farther upslope in the CA reaches this wetland quickly as runoff (surface water), as indicated by the following: (a) input channel is present, (b) input channels have been straightened, (c) upslope wetlands have been ditched extensively, (d) land cover is mostly non-forest, (e) CA slopes are steep, and/or (f) most CA soils are shallow (bedrock near surface) and/or have high runoff coefficients. This statement is:		[NRv, PRv, SRv, WSv]
119		Mostly true.	0	
120		Somewhat true.	0	
121		Mostly untrue.	1	
122	OF25	Aspect The overland flow direction of most surface water (in streams, rivers, or runoff) that enters the AA is:		[AM, NR, SFS, WC, WS]
123		Northward (N, NE). north-facing contributing area.	0	
124		Southward (S, SW). south-facing contributing area.	1	
125		Other (E, SE, W, NW), or no detectable uphill slope or input channel (flat).	0	
126	OF26	Internal Flow Distance (Path Length) The horizontal flow distance from the wetland's inlet to outlet is:		Identify inlets and outlets, if any, from topographic maps (use elevations to determine which are inlets and which are outlets) and augment by field inspection. With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, select Nova Scotia Topo as the Basemap. Also enable the layer Forestry>WAM Predicted Flow. Then measure the inlet-outlet distance. [NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
127		<10 m.	0	
128		10 - 50 m.	0	
129		50 - 100 m.	0	
130		100 - 1000 m.	1	
131		1-2 km.	0	
132		>2 km, or wetland lacks an inlet and outlet.	0	
133	OF27	Growing Degree Days In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called NS_GrowingDegreeDays. Place your cursor over the AA and left-click. From the pop-up window, enter the GRIDCODE number in the next column.	1908	This layer was provided by Dr. Dan McKenney of the Canadian Forest Service [AM, CS, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WCv, WS]
134	OF28	Fish Access or Use According to agency biologists and/or your own observations, the AA. [Mark just the first choice that is true.]:		Regarding the last choice, if uncertain if an AA is fishless, consider the possibility its waters have been stocked. [AM, FA, FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
135		Is known to support rearing and/or spawning by Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels. Go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife>Significant Habitat>Species at Risk. Contact local fishery biologists, review the ACCDC report, and visit these websites: http://www.salmontlas.com/atlanticsalmon/canada-east/index.1.html http://atlanticssalmofederation.org/rivers/introduction.html	0	
136		Has not been documented to support Atlantic salmon rearing and/or spawning, but is connected to nearby waters likely to contain Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels and is probably accessed by those during some conditions.	0	
137		Is probably not accessed by any anadromous fish species but is known or likely to have other fish at least seasonally.	1	
138		Is known or likely to be fishless (e.g., too small, dry, and/or not accessible even temporarily, and not stocked).	0	
139	OF29	Species of Conservation Concern Within the past 10 years, in the AA (or in its adjoining waters or wetland), qualified observers have documented [mark all applicable]:		Request information from ACCDC and/or conduct your own survey at an appropriate season using an approved protocol. For birds, also check eBird.org. NOTE for NS: If your WESP-AC is being completed for a Wetland Alteration Application to NS-ECC, your ACCDC results and any taxon-specific survey results must be submitted along with your WESP-AC results, and application. [AMv, EC, PHv, POLv, SBMv, Sens, WBFv, WBNv]
140		Presence of one or more of the plant species listed in the Plants_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, or the AA is within a mapped Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora Buffer (go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones).	0	
141		Presence of one or more of the amphibian or reptile species (AM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
142		Presence of one or more of the waterbird species (WBF, WBN) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
143		Presence of one or more of the nesting songbird or raptor species (SBM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, during their nesting season (May-July for most species).	0	
144		None of the above, or no data.	1	
145	OF30	Important Bird Area (IBA) In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called IBAs_Canada. The AA is all or part of an officially designated IBA. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	The source of this layer, which should be checked periodically for updates, is: http://www.ibacanada.com/mapviewer.jsp?lang=EN [SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]

	A	B	C	D	E
146	OF31	Black Duck Nesting Area	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called BlackDuck. Adjust its alignment and opacity. Determine the predicted density (pairs per 25 sq. km) of nesting American Black Duck in the AA's vicinity: <10 (enter 0), 10-20 (enter 1), 20-30 (enter 2), >30 (enter 3). If outside of region shown in map, change to blank.	0	This was provided by Dr. David Leske. [WBNv]
147	OF32	Wintering Deer or Moose Concentration Areas	If AA is on private land with no information, change to blank (not 0). Otherwise: With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, for Wintering Moose, go to Wildlife> Significant Habitat. For Mainland Moose Concentration Areas, go to Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0.	1	[SBM]
148	OF33	Other Conservation Designation	The AA is all or part of an area designated by government, First Nations, or the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) for its exceptional ecological features or highly intact natural conditions. With Provincial Landscape Viewer, see Protected Areas. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If uncertain, consult NCC and agencies for more recent information.	0	See: https://novascotia.ca/parksandprotectedareas/plan/interactive-map/ [PU]
149	OF34	Conservation Investment	The AA is part of or contiguous to a wetland on which public or private organizational funds were spent to preserve, create, restore, or enhance the wetland (excluding mitigation wetlands). Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank (not 0).	0	[PU]
150	OF35	Mitigation Investment	The AA is all or part of a mitigation site used explicitly to offset impacts elsewhere. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.		[PU]
151	OF36	Sustained Scientific Use	Plants, animals, or water in the AA have been monitored for >2 years, unrelated to any regulatory requirements, and data are available to the public. Or the AA is part of an area that has been designated by an agency or institution as a benchmark, reference, or status-trends monitoring area. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.		[PU]
152	OF37	Calcareous Region	The AA is NOT in a subregion that has been heavily exposed to acid precipitation. Enter "1" if true (green or yellow in map in Appendix A of the Manual). Enter "0" if false. If no information, change to blank.	0	[AM, FA, FR, INV, PH]
153	OF38	Ownership	Select the ONE ownership that covers the most of the AA. In Google Earth, open KMZ file called NS_CrownlandsUse more recent information if available.		"Private lands" may include those owned or leased by non-governmental organizations, e.g., charitable conservation land trusts, DUC, TNC. [PU, STR]
154			New timber harvest, roads, mineral extraction, and intensive summer recreation (e.g., off-road vehicles) are permanently prohibited. Includes many publicly-owned Protected Lands, and private lands under long-term (30+ year) legal agreements to maintain nearly-unaltered conditions.	0	
155			Ownership is public (e.g., municipal, Crown Reservations/Notations) but some or all of the above activities are allowed.	0	
156			Ownership is private but public access is allowed, and/or a shorter-term conservation easement (whether renewable or not) is in place.	1	
157			Ownership is private and owner does not allow access, or access permission unknown, and not a conservation easement.	0	

	A	B	C	D	E		
1	Date: August 8, 2020	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain - Central Dicks Meadows		Investigator: Angus Doane			
2	Form F (Field). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia. DIRECTIONS: Walk for no less than 10 minutes from the wetland edge towards its core, in the part of the AA that is proposed for alteration. If no alteration is proposed, walk in a portion that appears to be most representative of the wetland overall. Walk only where it is safe and legal to do so. Conduct the assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answer these questions primarily based on your onsite observations and interpretations. Do not write in shaded parts of this data form. Answering some questions accurately may require conferring with the landowner or other knowledgeable persons, and/or reviewing aerial imagery. For most wetlands, completing this field data form will require 1-2 hours on a site. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see the accompanying Interpretations form. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage & Delay, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.						
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations		
4	F1	Wetland Type	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the vegetated part of the AA:		<p>Ericaceous shrubs are ones in the heather family (Ericaceae). Most have leathery evergreen leaves. They include rhododendron, azalea, swamp laurel, leatherleaf, Labrador tea, and others. Most require acidic soil. Although not in the family Ericaceae, sweetgale (<i>Myrica gale</i>) should be counted also. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, Sens, SFS, WBF, WBN]</p>		
5	A. Moss and/or lichen cover more than 25% of the ground. Often dominated by ericaceous shrubs (e.g., Labrador tea) or other acid-tolerant plants (e.g., bog cranberry, pitcher plant, sundew, orchids). Substrate is mostly undecomposed peat. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.						
6	A1. Surface water is usually absent or, if present, pH is typically <4.5 and conductivity is usually <100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Trees are absent or nearly so. Sedge cover usually sparse or absent but cottongrass and/or lichen cover may be extensive, as well as cloudberry, lingonberry, sheep laurel, and a sedge (<i>Carex rariflora</i>). Wetland surface and surrounding landscape are seldom sloping and wetland often is domed (convex). Inlet and outlet channels are usually absent. If known, pH of peat is <4.0.		0				
7	A2. Not A1. Surface water, if present, has pH typically >4.5 and conductivity is usually >100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Sedge cover is usually extensive, and/or tree and tall shrub cover is extensive. Sometimes at toe of slope or edge of water body. An exit channel is usually present. Wetter than A1 and peat depth may be shallower (<2 m).		1				
8	B. Moss and/or lichen cover less than 25% of the ground. Soil is mineral or decomposed organic (muck). Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column:						
9	B1. Trees and shrubs taller than 1 m comprise more than 25% of the vegetated cover. Surface water is mostly absent or inundates the vegetation only seasonally (e.g., vernal pools or floodplain).		0				
10	B2. Not B1. Tree & tall shrubs comprise less than 25% of the vegetated cover. Vegetation is mostly herbaceous, e.g., cattail, bulrush, burreed, pond lily, horsetail. Surface water may be extensive and fluctuates seasonally, being either persistent or drying up partly or entirely.		0				
11	Reminder: For all questions, the AA should include all persistent waters in ponds smaller than 8 hectares (~283 m on a side) that are adjacent to the AA. The AA should also include part of the water area of adjacent ponded water larger than 8 ha and adjacent rivers wider than 20 m. Specifically, the AA should include the open water part adjacent to wetland vegetation and equal in width to the average width of that vegetated zone. Throughout this data form, "adjacent" is used synonymously with abutting, adjoining, bordering, contiguous – and means no upland (manmade or natural) completely separates the described features along their directly shared edge. Features joined only by a channel are not necessarily considered to be adjacent – a large portion of their edges must match. The features do not have to be hydrologically connected in order to be considered adjacent.						
12	F2		Wetland Types - Adjoining or Subordinate	If the AA is smaller than 1 ha, mark all other types that occupy more than 1% of the vegetated AA. If the AA is larger than 1 ha, mark all other types which are within or adjacent to the AA and occupy more than 1 ha, as visible from the AA or as interpreted from aerial imagery. Do not mark again the type marked in F1.			1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, INV, SBM, WBF]
13	A1.			1			
14	A2.	0					
15	B1.	1					
16	B2.	1					
17	F3	Woody Height & Form Diversity	Following EACH row below, indicate with a number code the percentage of the living vegetation in the AA which is occupied by that feature (6 if >95%, 5 if 75-95%, 4 if 50-75%, 3 if 25-50%, 2 if 5-25%, 1 if <5%, 0 if none). If the vegetated part of the AA is largely herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation, these percentages should not sum to 100%.		<p>Deciduous shrubs in this region usually include buttonbush, Labrador tea, bayberry (<i>Morella</i>), huckleberry, cranberry, cloudberry, sweetgale, alder, willow, birch, ash, dogwood, and a few others. If you assigned a code of 3 or higher to any of the first four choices and the ground cover beneath the trees/shrubs is <25% moss, then question F1 might be "B1". [CS, INV, NR, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]</p>		
18	coniferous trees (may include tamarack) taller than 3 m.		2				
19	deciduous trees taller than 3 m.		2				
20	coniferous or ericaceous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.		2				
21	deciduous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.		2				
22	coniferous or ericaceous shrubs <1 m tall not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.		2				
23	deciduous shrubs or trees <1 m tall (e.g., deciduous seedlings) not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.		3				

A	B	C	D	E
24		<i>Note: If none of top 4 rows in F3 was marked 2 or greater , SKIP to F9 (N fixers).</i>		
25	F4	Dominance of Most Abundant Shrub Species	Determine which two woody plant species comprise the greatest portion of the low (<3 m) woody cover . Then choose one: those species together comprise > 50% of such cover. those species together do not comprise > 50% of such cover.	[PH, POL, SBM, Sens] 0 1
26				
27				
28	F5	Woody Diameter Classes	Mark ALL the types that comprise >5% of the woody canopy cover in the AA or >5% of the wooded areas (if any) along its upland edge (perimeter). The edge should include only the trees whose canopies extend into the AA. coniferous, 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall. broad-leaved deciduous 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall. coniferous, 10-19 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous 10-19 cm diameter. coniferous, 20-40 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous 20-40 cm diameter. coniferous, >40 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous >40 cm diameter.	Estimate the diameters at chest height. If small-diameter trees are overtopped (shaded) by larger ones, visualise a "subcanopy" at the average height of the smaller-dbh trees, to serve as a basis for the minimum 5% canopy requirement in this question. The trees and shrubs need not be wetland species. [AM, CS, POL, SBM, Sens, WBN] 1 1 1 1 0 0
29				
30				
31				
32				
33				
34				
35				
36				
37	F6	Height Class Interspersion	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the AA: A. Neither the vegetation taller than 1 m nor the vegetation shorter than that comprise >70% of the vegetated part of the AA. They each comprise 30-70%. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below. A1. The two height classes are mostly scattered and intermixed throughout the AA. A2. Not A1. The two height classes are mostly in separate zones or bands, or in proportionately large clumps. B. Either the vegetation shorter than 1 m comprises >70% of the vegetated part of the AA, or the vegetation taller than that does. One size class might even be totally absent. Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly scattered and intermixed within the prevalent one. B2. Not B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly located apart from the prevalent one, in separate zones or clumps, or is completely absent.	[AM, INV, NR, PH, SBM, Sens] 1 0 1 0 0
38				
39				
40				
41				
42				
43				
44	F7	Large Snags (Dead Standing Trees)	The number of large snags (diameter >20 cm) in the AA plus adjacent upland area within 10 m of the wetland edge is: None, or fewer than 8/ hectare which exceed this diameter. Several (>8/hectare) and a pond, lake, or slow-flowing water wider than 10 m is within 1 km. Several (>8/hectare) but above not true.	Snags are dead standing trees that often (not always) lack bark and foliage. Include only ones that are at least 2 m tall. [POL, SBM, WBN] 0 1 0
45				
46				
47				
48	F8	Downed Wood	The number of downed wood pieces longer than 2 m and with diameter >10 cm, and not persistently submerged, is: Few or none that meet these criteria. Several (>5 if AA is >5 hectares, less for smaller AAs) meet these criteria.	Exclude temporary "burn piles." [AM, INV, POL, SBM] 0 1
49				
50				
51	F9	N Fixers	The percentage of the AA's vegetated cover that contains nitrogen-fixing plants (e.g., alder, sweetgale, clover, lupine, alfalfa, other legumes) is: <1% or none. 1-25% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). 25-50% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). 50-75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). >75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	Do not include N-fixing algae or lichens. [FA, FR, INV, NRv, OE, PH, SBM, Sens] 0 0 1 0 0
52				
53				
54				
55				
56				

A	B	C	D	E
57	F10 Sphagnum Moss Extent	The cover of Sphagnum moss (or any moss that forms a dense cushion many centimeters thick), including the moss obscured by taller sedges and other plants rooted in it, is:		Exclude moss growing on trees and rocks. [CS, PH]
58		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA.		
59		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.		
60		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
61		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
62		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
63	F11 % Bare Ground & Thatch	Consider the parts of the AA that lack surface water at the driest time of the growing season. Viewed from directly above the ground layer, the predominant condition in those areas at that time is:		Thatch is dead plant material (stems, leaves) resting on the ground surface. Bare ground that is present under a tree or shrub canopy should be counted. Boulders count as bare ground. Wetlands with mineral soils and that are heavily shaded or are dominated by annual plant species tend to have more extensive areas that are bare during the early growing season. [AM, EC, INV, NR, OE, POL, PR, SBM, Sens]
64		Little or no (<5%) bare ground is visible between erect stems or under canopy anywhere in the vegetated AA. Ground is extensively blanketed by dense thatch, moss, lichens, graminoids with great stem densities, or plants with ground-hugging foliage.	1	
65		Slightly bare ground (5-20% bare between plants) is visible in places, but those areas comprise less than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
66		Much bare ground (20-50% bare between plants) is visible in places, and those areas comprise more than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
67		Other conditions.	0	
68		Not applicable. Surface water (either open or obscured by emergent plants) covers all of the AA all the time.	0	
69	F12 Ground Irregularity	Imagine the AA without any living vegetation. Excluding the portion of the AA that is always under water, the number of hummocks, small pits, raised mounds, animal burrows, ruts, gullies, natural levees, microdepressions, and other areas of peat or mineral soil that are raised or depressed >10 cm compared to most of the area within a few meters surrounding them is:		The depressions may be of human or natural origin. [AM, EC, INV, NR, PH, POL, PR, SBM, SR, WS]
70		Few or none (minimal microtopography; <1% of the land has such features, or entire AA is always water-covered).		
71		Intermediate.		
72		Several (extensive micro-topography).	1	
73	F13 Upland Inclusions	Within the AA, inclusions of upland are:		[AM, NR, SBM]
74		Few or none.		
75		Intermediate (1 - 10% of vegetated part of the AA).	1	
76		Many (e.g., wetland-upland "mosaic"; >10% of the vegetated AA).		
77	F14 Soil Texture	In parts of the AA that lack persistent water, the texture of soil in the uppermost layer is mostly: [To determine this, use a trowel to check in at least 3 widely spaced locations, and use the soil texture key (in Appendix A of the Manual).]		[CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, WS]
78		Loamy: soils that may contain a little fine grit and do not make a "ribbon" longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.		
79		Fines: includes silt, clay, silt, soils that make a ribbon longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.		
80		Deep Peat, to 40 cm depth or greater.	1	
81		Shallow Peat or organic <40 cm deep.	0	
82		Coarse: includes sand, loamy sand, gravel, cobble, soils that do not make a ribbon when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
83	F15 Shorebird Feeding Habitats	During any 2 consecutive weeks of the growing season, the extent of mudflats, bare unshaded saturated areas not covered by thatch, and unshaded waters shallower than 6 cm is: [Include also any area that is adjacent to the AA.]		This addresses needs of many but not all migratory sandpipers, plovers, and related species. [WBF]
84		None, or <100 sq. m.		
85		100-1000 sq. m.		
86		1000 – 10,000 sq. m.	1	
87		>10,000 sq. m.	0	
88	F16 Herbaceous % of Vegetated Wetland	In aerial ("ducks eye") view, the maximum annual cover of herbaceous vegetation (all non-woody plants except moss) is:		[AM, WBF, WBN]
89		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA or <0.01 hectare (whichever is less). Mark "1" here and SKIP to F20 (Invasive Plant Cover).	0	
90		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
91		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
92		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
93		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
94	F17 Forb Cover	Within parts of the AA having herbaceous cover (excluding SAV), the areal cover of forbs reaches an annual maximum of:		Forbs are flowering plants. Do not include grasses, sedges, cattail, other graminoids, ferns, horsetails, or others that lack showy flowers. [POL]
95		<5% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		0
96		5-25% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		0
97		25-50% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		1
98		50-95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		0
99		>95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		0
100	F18 Sedge Cover	Sedges (<i>Carex</i> spp.) and cottongrass (<i>Eriophorum</i> spp.) occupy:		[CS]
101		<5% of the vegetated area, or none.		0
102		5-50% of the vegetated area.		1
103		50-95% of the vegetated area.		0
104		>95% of the vegetated area.		0
105	F19 Dominance of Most Abundant Herbaceous Species	Determine which two herbaceous species comprise the greatest portion of the herbaceous cover (excluding mosses and floating-leaved aquatic plants). Then choose one of the following:		For this question, include ferns as well as graminoids and forbs. [EC, INV, PH, POL, Sens]
106		those species together comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		0
107		those species together do not comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		1
108	F20 Invasive Plant Cover	How extensive is the cover of invasive plant species in the AA? For species, see Plants_invasive worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file.		[EC, PH, POL, Sens]
109		invasive species appear to be absent in the AA, or are present only in trace amount (a few individuals).		
110		invasive species are present in more than trace amounts, but comprise <5% of herbaceous cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
111		invasive species comprise 5-20% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
112		invasive species comprise 20-50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
113		invasive species comprise >50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
114	F21 Invasive Cover Along Upland Edge	Along the wetland-upland boundary, the percent of the upland edge (within 3 m upslope from the wetland) that is occupied by invasive plant species is:		If a plant cannot be identified to species (e.g., winter conditions) but its genus contains an exotic species, assume the unidentified plant to also be exotic. If vegetation is so senesced that exotic species cannot be identified, answer "none". [PH, STR]
115		none of the upland edge (invasives apparently absent), or AA has no upland edge.		
116		some (but <5%) of the upland edge.		
117		5-50% of the upland edge.		
118		most (>50%) of the upland edge.		
119	F22 Fringe Wetland	During most of the year, open water within or adjacent to the vegetated part of the wetland is much wider than the maximum width of the vegetated zone within the wetland. Enter "1" if true, "0" if false.	1	[WBF, WBN, WCv]
120	F23 Lacustrine Wetland	The vegetated part of the AA is within or adjacent to a body of non-tidal standing open water whose size exceeds 8 hectares during most of a normal year.	0	[FR, PR, PU, WBF, WBN]
121	F24 % of AA Without Surface Water	The percentage of the AA that <u>never</u> contains <u>surface</u> water during an average year (that is, except perhaps for a few hours after snowmelt or rainstorms), but which is still a wetland, is:		1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SRv, WBF, WBN, WC]
122		<1% .. In other words, all or nearly all of the AA is covered by water permanently or at least seasonally.		
123		1-25% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha never contains surface water.		
124		25-50% of the AA never contains surface water.		
125		50-75% of the AA never contains surface water.		
126		75-99% of the AA never contains surface water, OR >99% and there is at least one persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha in the AA.		
127		99-100%. AND there is no persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha within the AA. Enter "1" and SKIP to F42 (Channel Connection).		
128	F25 % of AA with Persistent Surface Water	Identify the parts of the AA that still contain surface water (flowing or ponded, open or hidden beneath vegetation) even during the driest times of a normal year, i.e., when the AA's surface water is at its lowest annual level. At that time, the percentage of the AA that still contains surface water is:		If you are unable to determine the condition at the driest time of year, ask the land owner or neighbors about it if possible. Indicators of persistence may include fish, some dragonflies, beaver, and muskrat. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, POL, PR, SBM, WBF, WBN]
129		None. The AA dries up completely (no water in channels either) or never has surface water during most years. SKIP to F27.		
130		1-20% of the AA.		
131		20-50% of the AA.		
132		50-95% of the AA.		
133		>95% of the AA. True for many fringe wetlands.		

A	B	C	D	E
134	F26 % of Summertime Water that Is Shaded	At mid-day during the warmest time of year, the area of surface water <u>within</u> the AA that is shaded by vegetation and other features <u>that are within</u> the AA at that time is:		[FA, WC]
135		<5% of the water is shaded, or no surface water is present then.	0	
136		5-25% of the water is shaded.	1	
137		25-50% of the water is shaded.	0	
138		50-75% of the water is shaded.	0	
139		>75% of the water is shaded.	0	
140	F27 % of AA that is Flooded Only Seasonally	The percentage of the AA's area that is between the annual high water and the annual low water (surface water) is:		Flood marks (algal mats, adventitious roots, debris lines, ice scour, etc.) are often evident when not fully inundated. Also, such areas often have a larger proportion of upland and annual (vs. perennial) plant species. In riverine systems, the extent of this zone can be estimated by multiplying by 2 the bankfull height and visualising where that would intercept the land along the river. [CS, FA, INV, NR, OE, PH, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
141		None, or <0.01 hectare and <1% of the AA. SKIP to F29.	0	
142		1-20% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha.	1	
143		20-50% of the AA.	0	
144		50-95% of the AA.	0	
145		>95% of the AA.	0	
146	F28 Annual Water Fluctuation Range	The annual fluctuation in surface water level within most of the parts of the AA that contain surface water at least temporarily is:		Look for flood marks (see above). Because the annual range of water levels is difficult to estimate without multiple visits, consider asking the land owner or neighbors about it. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SR, WBN, WS]
147		<10 cm change (stable or nearly so).	0	
148		10 cm - 50 cm change.	1	
149		0.5 - 1 m change.	0	
150		1-2 m change.	0	
151		>2 m change.	0	
152	Is the AA plus adjacent ponded water smaller than 0.01 hectare (about 10m x 10m, or 1m x 100 m)? If so, enter "1" in column D and SKIP TO F42 (Connection).			0
153	F29 Predominant Depth Class	During most of the time when surface water is present during the growing season, its depth, averaged over the entire inundated part of the AA, is:		If a boat is unavailable, estimate this by considering wetland size and local topography. Or if timing and safety allow, depths may be measured by drilling through winter ice. This question is asking about the spatial median depth that occurs during most of that time, even if inundation is only seasonal or temporary. If inundation in most but not all of the wetland is brief, the answer will be based on the depth of the most persistently inundated part of the wetland. Include surface water in channels and ditches as well as ponded areas. [CS, FA, FR, INV, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
154		<10 cm deep (but >0).	0	
155		10 - 50 cm deep.	0	
156		0.5 - 1 m deep.	0	
157		1-2 m deep.	0	
158		>2 m deep. True for many fringe wetlands.	1	
159	F30 Depth Classes - Evenness of Proportions	When present, surface water in most of the AA usually consists of (select one):		Estimate these proportions by considering the gradient and microtopography of the site. [FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
160		One depth class that comprises >90% of the AA's inundated area (use the classes in the question above).	0	
161		One depth class that comprises 50-90% of the AA's inundated area.	1	
162		Neither of above. There are 3 or more depth classes and none occupy >50%.	0	
163	F31 % of Water That is Ponded (not Flowing)	During most times when surface water is present, the percentage that is (1) ponded (stagnant, or flows so slowly that fine sediment is not held in suspension) AND (2) is likely to be deeper than 0.5 m in some places, is:		Nearly all wetlands with surface water have some ponded water. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WBN, WC, WS]
164		<5% of the water, or it occupies <100 sq.m cumulatively. Nearly all the surface water is flowing. SKIP to F34.	0	
165		5-30% of the water.	0	
166		30-70% of the water.	0	
167		70-95% of the water.	1	
168		>95% of the water.	0	
169	F32 Ponded Open Water - Minimum Size	During most of the growing season, the largest patch of open water that is ponded and is in or bordering the AA is >0.01 hectare (about 10 m by 10 m) and mostly deeper than 0.5 m. If true enter "1" and continue. If false, enter "0" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	1	Open water is not obscured by vegetation in aerial ("duck's eye") view. It includes vegetation floating on the water surface or entirely submerged beneath it.
170	F33 % of Ponded Water that is Open	In ducks-eye aerial view, the percentage of the ponded water that is open (lacking emergent vegetation during most of the growing season, and unhidden by a forest or shrub canopy) is:		[AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
171		None, or <1% of the AA and largest pool occupies <0.01 hectares. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
172		1-4% of the ponded water. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
173		5-30% of the ponded water.	0	
174		30-70% of the ponded water.	0	
175		70-99% of the ponded water.	1	
176		100% of the ponded water.	0	
177	F34 Width of Vegetated Zone within Wetland	At the time during the growing season when the AA's water level is lowest, the average width of vegetated area <u>in the AA</u> that separates adjoining uplands from open water within the AA is:		"Vegetated area" does not include underwater or floating-leaved plants, i.e., aquatic bed. Width may include wooded riparian areas if they have wetland soil or plant indicators. [AM, CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SR, WBN]
178		<1 m.	0	
179		1 - 9 m.	0	
180		10 - 29 m.	1	
181		30 - 49 m.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
182		50 - 100 m.	0	
183		> 100 m, or open water is absent at that time.	0	
F35	Flat Shoreline Extent	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the percentage of the AA's water edge length that is nearly flat (a slope less than about 5% measured within 5 m landward of the water) is:		If several isolated pools are present in early summer, estimate the percent of their collective shorelines that has such a gentle slope. [SR, WBN]
184		<1% of the water edge.		
185		1-25% of the water edge.		
186		25-50% of the water edge.		
187		50-75% of the water edge.	1	
188		>75% of the water edge.	0	
189				
F36	Robust Emergents	The percentage of the emergent vegetation cover in the AA that is cattail (<i>Typha</i> spp.), common reed (<i>Phragmites</i>), or tall (>1m) bulrush is:		Emergent vegetation is herbaceous plants whose stems are partly above and partly below the water surface during most of the time water is present. [WBN]
190		<1% of the emergent vegetation, or emergent vegetation is absent. SKIP to F38.		
191		1-25% of the emergent vegetation.		
192		25-75% of the emergent vegetation.	1	
193		>75% of the emergent vegetation.	0	
194				
F37	Interspersion of Emergents & Open Water	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the spatial pattern of emergent vegetation within the water is mostly:		[AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, SR, WBF, WBN]
195		Scattered. More than 30% of such vegetation forms small islands or corridors surrounded by water.		
196		Intermediate.		
197		Clumped. More than 70% of such vegetation is in bands along the wetland perimeter or is clumped at one or a few sides of the surface water area.	1	
F38	Persistent Deepwater Area	If the deepest patch of surface water (flowing or ponded) in or directly adjacent to the AA is mostly deeper than 0.5 m for >2 weeks during the growing season, enter "1" and continue. If not, enter "0" and SKIP to F42. (Connection).	1	
F39	Non-vegetated Aquatic Cover	During most of the growing season and in waters deeper than 0.5 m, the cover for fish, aquatic invertebrates, and/or amphibians that is provided NOT by living vegetation, but by accumulations of dead wood and undercut banks is:		For this question, consider only the wood that is at or above the water surface. Estimates of underwater wood based only on observations from terrestrial viewpoints are unreliable so should not be attempted. [AM, FA, FR, INV]
200		Little or none.		
201		Intermediate.	1	
202		Extensive.	0	
F40	Isolated Island	The AA contains (or is part of) an island or beaver lodge within a lake, pond, or river, and is isolated from the shore by water depths >1 m on all sides during an average June. The island may be solid, or it may be a floating vegetation mat that is sufficiently large and dense to support a waterbird nest.	1	[WBN]
F41	Floating Algae & Duckweed	At some time of the year, mats of algae and/or duckweed are likely to cover >50% of the AA's otherwise-unshaded water surface, or blanket >50% of the underwater substrate. If true, enter "1" in next column. If untrue or uncertain, enter "0".	0	[EC, PR, WBF]
F42	Channel Connection & Outflow Duration	The most persistent surface water connection (outlet channel or pipe, ditch, or overbank water exchange) between the AA and a downslope stream network is: [Note: If the AA represents only part of a wetland, answer this according to whichever is the least permanent surface connection: the one between the AA and the rest of the wetland, or the surface connection between the wetland and the downslope stream network.]		Consider the connection regardless of whether the surface water is frozen. The "downslope stream network" could consist of ditches, rivers, ponds, or lakes which eventually connect to the ocean. If this cannot be determined while visiting the AA, consult topographic maps perhaps by viewing these online with Toporama (http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html) [CS, FA, FR, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WCv, WS]
206		Persistent (surface water flows out for >9 months/year).	1	
207		Seasonal (surface water flows out for 14 days to 9 months/year, not necessarily consecutive).	0	
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A	B	C	D	E
209		Temporary (surface water flows out for <14 days, not necessarily consecutive).	0	
210		None – but maps show a stream network downslope from the AA and within a distance that is less than the AA's length. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	
211		No surface water flows out of the wetland except possibly during extreme events (<once per 10 years). Or, water flows only into a wetland, ditch, or lake that lacks an outlet. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	
212	F43 Outflow Confinement	During major runoff events, in the places where surface water exits the AA or connected waters nearby, the water:	1	"Major runoff events" would include biennial high water caused by storms and/or rapid snowmelt. [CS, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, STR, WS]
213		Mostly passes through a pipe, culvert, narrowly breached dike, berm, beaver dam, or other partial obstruction (other than natural topography) that does not appear to drain the wetland artificially during most of the growing season.		
214		Leaves through natural exits (channels or diffuse outflow), not mainly through artificial or temporary features.		
215		Is exported more quickly than usual due to ditches or pipes within the AA or connected to its outlet, or within 10 m of the AA's edge, which drain the wetland artificially, or water is pumped out of the AA.		
216		At least once annually, surface water from a tributary channel that is >100 m long moves into the AA. Or, surface water from a larger permanent water body adjacent to the AA spills into the AA. If it enters only via a pipe, that pipe must be fed by a mapped stream or lake further upstream. If no, SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	1	
217	F44 Tributary Channel	Based on lack of shade, water source characteristics, or actual temperature measurements, the inflow is likely to be warmer than surface water in the AA during part of most years. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	If inlet tributaries cannot be searched for due to inaccessibility of part of the AA, follow suggestions in F42 above. [NRv, PH, PRv, SRv]
218	F46 Throughflow Resistance	During its travel through the AA at the time of peak annual flow, water arriving in channels: [select only the ONE encountered by most of the incoming water].	0	[FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
219		Does not bump into many plant stems as it travels through the AA. Nearly all the water continues to travel in unvegetated (often incised) channels that have minimal contact with wetland vegetation, or through a zone of open water such as an instream pond or lake.		
220		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
221		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation and mostly spreads throughout, or is in widely meandering, multi-branched, or braided channels.		
222		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
223		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems and follows a fairly indirect path from entrance to exit (meandering, multi-branched, or braided).	0	
224	F47 pH Measurement	The pH in most of the AA's surface water:	1	Preferably, measure this in larger areas of ponded surface water within the AA, or in streams that have passed through (not along) most of the AA. Unless surface water is completely absent, do not dig holes or make depressions in peat in order to provide water for this measurement. Avoid measuring near roads or in puddles formed only by recent rain. [AM, FA, FR, NR, WBF, PH, PR, Sens, WBF, WBN]
225		Was measured, and is: [enter the reading in the column to the right.]		
226		Was not measured but surface water is present and is darkly tea-coloured. Or if no surface water, then mosses and plants that indicate peatland (e.g., Labrador tea) are prevalent. Enter "1".		
227		Neither of above. Enter "1".		
228	F48 TDS and/or Conductivity	The TDS (total dissolved solids) or conductivity off the AA's surface water is: (select the first true row with information):	0	See above for measurement guidance. [FR, INV, NRv, PH, PRv, Sens]
229		TDS is: [Enter the reading in ppm or mg/L in the column to the right, if measured, or answer next row.]		
230		Conductivity is [Enter the reading in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ in the column to the right.]		
231		Was not measured, but plants that indicate saline conditions cover much of the vegetated AA. Enter "1".		
232		Neither of above		
233	F49 Beaver Probability	Use of the AA by beaver during the past 5 years is (select most applicable ONE):	1	[FA, FR, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
234		Evident from direct observation or presence of gnawed limbs, dams, tracks, dens, lodges, or extensive stands of water-killed trees (snags).		
235		Likely based on known occurrence in the region and proximity to suitable habitat, which may include: (a) a persistent freshwater wetland, pond, or lake, or a perennial low or mid-gradient (<10%) channel, and (b) a corridor or multiple stands of hardwood trees and shrubs in vegetated areas near surface water.		
236		Unlikely because site characteristics above are deficient, and/or this is a settled area or other area where beaver are routinely removed.		
237		Select first applicable choice:		
238	F50 Groundwater Strength of Evidence	Springs are known to be present within the AA, or if groundwater levels have been monitored, that has demonstrated that groundwater primarily discharges to the wetland for longer periods during the year than periods when the wetland recharges the groundwater.	0	Adhere to these criteria strictly – do not use personal judgment based on fen conditions, pH, or other evidence. Consult topographic maps to detect breaks in slope described here. Rust deposits associated with groundwater seeps may be most noticeable as orange discoloration in ice formations along streams during early winter. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PRv, SFS, WC, WS]
239		Most of the AA has a slope of >5%, or is very close to the base of a natural slope longer than 100 m and much steeper than the slope of the AA, AND the pH of surface water, if known, is >5.5.	0	
240		Neither of above is true, although some groundwater may discharge to or flow through the AA. Or groundwater influx is unknown.	1	

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241	F51 Internal Gradient	The gradient along most of the flow path within the AA is: <2% or the AA has no surface water outlet (not even seasonally). 2-5%. 6-10%. >10%.	1 0 0 0	This is not the same as the shoreline slope. It is the elevational difference between the AA's inlet and outlet, divided by the flow-distance between them and converted to percent. If available, use a clinometer to measure this. Free clinometer apps can be downloaded to smartphones. If the wetland is large (longer than ~1 km), this may be estimated using Google Earth to determine the minimum and maximum elevation within the AA, then dividing by length and multiplying by 100. [CS, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
242		Note for the next three questions: If the AA lacks an upland edge, evaluate based on the AA's entire perimeter, and moving outward into whatever areas are adjacent. In many situations, these questions are best answered by measuring from aerial images.		
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247	F52 Vegetated Buffer as % of Perimeter	Within a zone extending 30 m laterally from the AA's edge with upland and/or other wetlands, the percentage that contains perennial vegetation cover (except lawns, row crops, heavily grazed land, conifer plantations) is: <5%. 5 to 30%. 30 to 60%. 60 to 90%. >90%, or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands. SKIP to F55.	0 0 0 0 1	[AM, FA, FR, INV, NRv, PH, POL, PRv, SBM, Sens, SRv, STR, WBN]
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253	F53 Type of Cover in Buffer	Within 30 m upslope of where the wetland transitions to upland, the upland land cover that is NOT perennial vegetation is mostly (mark ONE): Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock. Bare or nearly bare pervious surface or managed vegetation, e.g., lawn, row crops, unpaved road, dike, landslide.	0 0	[AM, FA, INV, NRv, PH, POL, SBM, STR, WBN]
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256	F54 Buffer Slope	The steepest and/or most disturbed part of the upland area that is within 30 m of the wetland and occupies >10% of that upland area has a percent slope of: <1% (flat -- almost no noticeable slope) or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands. 2-5%. 5-30%. >30%.	0 0 0 0	[NRv, PRv, Sens, SRv]
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261	F55 Cliffs or Steep Banks	In the AA or within 100 m, there are elevated terrestrial features such as cliffs, talus slopes, stream banks, or excavated pits (but not riprap) that extend at least 2 m nearly vertically, are unvegetated, and potentially contain crevices or other substrate suitable for nesting or den areas. Enter 1 (yes) or 0 (no).	1	Do not include upturned trees as potential den sites. [POL, SBM]
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263	F56 New or Expanded Wetland	Human actions within or adjacent to the AA have persistently expanded a naturally occurring wetland or created a wetland where there previously was none (e.g., by excavation, impoundment): No. Yes, and created or expanded 20 - 100 years ago. Yes, and created or expanded 3-20 years ago. Yes, and created or expanded within last 3 years. Yes, but time of origin or expansion unknown. Unknown if new or expanded within 20 years or not.	0 0 0 0 0 1	Determine this using historical aerial photography, old maps, soil maps, or permit files as available [CS, NR, OE, PH, Sens]
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269	F57 Burn History	More than 1% of the AA's previously vegetated area: Burned within past 5 years. Burned 6-10 years ago. Burned 11-30 years ago. Burned >30 years ago, or no evidence of a burn and no data.	0 0 0 0 1	Look for charred soil or stumps (in multiple widely-spaced locations) or ask landowner. [CS, PH, STR]
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274	F58 Visibility	The maximum percentage of the wetland that is visible from the best vantage point on public roads, public parking lots, public buildings, or public maintained trails that intersect, adjoin, or are within 100 m of the AA (select one) is: <25%. 25-50%. >50%.	1 0 0	[PU, STR, WBFv]
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278	F59 Non-consumptive Uses - Actual or Potential	Assuming access permission was granted, select ALL statements that are true of the AA as it currently exists: For an average person, walking is physically possible <u>in</u> (not just near) >5% of the AA during most of the growing season, e.g., free of deep water and dense shrub thickets. Maintained roads, parking areas, or foot-trails are within 10 m of the AA, or the AA can be accessed part of the year by boats arriving via contiguous waters. Within or near the AA, there is an interpretive center, trails with interpretive signs or brochures, and/or regular guided interpretive tours.	0 0 0	[PU, STR]
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282	F60 Unvisited Core Area	The percentage of the AA almost never visited by humans during an average growing season probably comprises: [Note: Only include the part actually walked or driven (not simply viewed from) with a vehicle or boat. Do not include visitors on trails outside of the AA unless more than half the wetland is visible from the trails and they are within 30 m of the wetland edge. In that case include only the area occupied by the trail.] <5% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	[AM, FAv, FRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
283				

A	B	C	D	E
284		<5% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
285		5-50% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
286		5-50% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
287		50-95%, with or without inhabited building nearby.	0	
288		>95% of the AA with or without inhabited building nearby.	1	
289	F61 Frequently Visited Area	The part of the AA visited by humans almost daily for several weeks during an average growing season probably comprises: [See note above.]	0	[AM, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
290		<5%. If F60 was answered ">95%" (mostly never visited), SKIP to F64.	1	
291		5-50%.	0	
292		50-95%.	0	
293		>95% of the AA.	0	
294	F62 BMP - Soils	Boardwalks, paved trails, fences or other infrastructure and/or well-enforced regulations appear to effectively prevent visitors from walking on soil within nearly all of the AA when the soil is unfrozen. Enter "1" if true.	0	[PH, PU]
295	F63 BMP - Wildlife Protection	Fences, observation blinds, platforms, paved trails, exclusion periods, and/or well-enforced prohibitions on motorised boats, off-leash pets, and off road vehicles appear to effectively exclude or divert visitors and their pets from the AA at critical times in order to minimize disturbance of wildlife (except during hunting seasons). Enter "1" if true.	0	[AM, PU, WBF, WBN]
296	F64 Consumptive Uses (Provisioning Services)	Recent evidence was found within the AA of the following potentially-sustainable consumptive uses. Select ALL that apply.	0	[FAv, FRv, WBFv]
297		Low-impact commercial timber harvest (e.g., selective thinning).	0	
298		Commercial or traditional-use harvesting of native plants, their fruits, or mushrooms.	0	
299		Waterfowl hunting.	0	
300		Fishing.	0	
301		Trapping of furbearers.	0	
302	F65 Domestic Wells	None of the above.	1	[NRv]
303		The closest wells or water bodies that currently provide drinking water are:	0	
304		Within 0-100 m. of the AA.	0	
305		100-500 m. away.	0	
306		>500 m. away, or no information.	1	
307	F66 Calcareous Fen	The AA is, or is part of, a calcareous fen. See the Plants_Calcar worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file for list of plant indicators (calciphiles). Enter 1 if more than two Strong or more than five Moderate calciphile species are present; otherwise enter 0, but if not able to identify those and no information, change to blank.	0	[PH, PR]

Investigator: Angus Doane	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain - Central Dicks Meadows	Date: August 8, 2020		
Stressor (S) Data Form for Non-Tidal Wetlands. WESP-AC for Nova Scotia version 2.				
S1	Aberrant Timing of Water Inputs	Data		
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item that is likely to have caused the timing of water inputs (but not necessarily their volume) to shift by hours, days, or weeks, becoming either more muted (smaller or less frequent peaks spread over longer times, more temporal homogeneity of flow or water levels) or more flashy (larger or more frequent spikes but over shorter times). [FA, FR, INV, PH, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater from impervious surfaces that drains directly to the wetland.</p> <p>Water subsidies from wastewater effluent, septic system leakage, snow storage areas, or irrigation.</p> <p>Regular removal of surface or groundwater for irrigation or other consumptive use.</p> <p>Flow regulation in tributaries or water level regulation in adjoining water body, or other control structure at water entry points that regulates inflow to the wetland.</p> <p>A dam, dike, levee, weir, berm, or fill -- within or downgradient from the wetland -- that interferes with surface or subsurface flow in/out of the AA (e.g., road fill, wellpads, pipelines).</p> <p>Excavation within the wetland, e.g., dugout, artificial pond, dead-end ditch.</p> <p>Artificial drains or ditches in or near the wetland.</p> <p>Accelerated downcutting or channelization of an adjacent or internal channel (incised below the historical water table level).</p> <p>Logging within the wetland.</p> <p>Subsidence or compaction of the wetland's substrate as a result of machinery, livestock, fire, drainage, or off road vehicles.</p> <p>Straightening, ditching, dredging, and/or lining of tributary channels.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items had no measurable effect on the timing of water conditions in any part of the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>				
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
Spatial extent of timing shift within the wetland:	>95% of wetland.	5-95% of wetland.	<5% of wetland.	0
When most of the timing shift began:	<3 yrs ago.	3-9 yrs ago.	10-100 yrs ago.	0
Score the following 2 rows only if the altered inputs began within past 10 years, and only for the part of the wetland that experiences those.				
Input timing now vs. previously:	Shift of weeks.	Shift of days.	Shift of hours or minutes.	0
Flashiness or muting:	Became very flashy or controlled.	Intermediate.	Became mildly flashy or controlled.	0
			Sum=	0
			Stressor subscore=	0.00
S2	Accelerated Inputs of Contaminants and/or Salts			
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item – occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of contaminants or salts to the AA. [AM, FA, PH, POL, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills, industrial facilities.</p> <p>Metals & chemical wastes from mining, shooting ranges, snow storage areas, oil/gas extraction, other sources (download many locations from National Pollutant Release Inventory and view KMZ overlay in Google Earth. https://www.ec.gc.ca/inrp-npri/default.asp?lang=En&n=B85A1846-1</p> <p>Road salt.</p> <p>Spraying of pesticides, as applied to lawns, croplands, roadsides, or other areas in the CA.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly higher levels of contaminants and/or salts, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>				
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
Usual toxicity of most toxic contaminants:	Industrial effluent, mining waste, unmanaged landfill.	Cropland, managed landfill, pipeline or transmission rights-of-way.	Low density residential.	0
Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
			Sum=	0
			Stressor subscore=	0.00

S3	Accelerated Inputs of Nutrients				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item – occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of nutrients to the wetland. [NRv, PRv, STR]</i>				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills.				
	Fertilizers applied to lawns, ag lands, or other areas in the CA.				
	Livestock, dogs.				
	Artificial drainage of upslope lands.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly more nutrients, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Type of loading:	High density of unmaintained septic, some types of industrial sources.	Moderate density septic, cropland, secondary wastewater treatment plant.	Livestock, pets, low density residential.	0
	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
	AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
				Sum=	0
				Stressor subscore=	0.00
S4	Excessive Sediment Loading from Contributing Area				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the CA that is likely to have elevated the load of waterborne or windborne sediment reaching the wetland from its CA. [FA, FR, INV, PH, SRv, STR]</i>				
	Erosion from plowed fields, fill, timber harvest, dirt roads, vegetation clearing, fires.				
	Erosion from construction, in-channel machinery in the CA.				
	Erosion from off-road vehicles in the CA.				
	Erosion from livestock or foot traffic in the CA.				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent.				
	Sediment from road sanding, gravel mining, other mining, oil/gas extraction.				
	Accelerated channel downcutting or headcutting of tributaries due to altered land use.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points (3, 2, or 1 as shown in header) in the last column. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively add significantly more sediment or suspended solids to the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Erosion in CA:	Extensive evidence, high intensity.*	Potentially (based on high-intensity* land use) or scattered evidence.	Potentially (based on low-intensity* land use) with little or no direct evidence.	0
	Recentness of significant soil disturbance in the CA:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0
	Duration of sediment inputs to the wetland:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
	AA proximity to actual or potential sources:	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
	* high-intensity= extensive off-road vehicle use, plowing, grading, excavation, erosion with or without veg removal; low-intensity= veg removal only with little or no apparent erosion or disturbance of soil or sediment.			Sum=	0
				Stressor subscore=	0.00

S5	Soil or Sediment Alteration Within the Assessment Area				
<p><i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the wetland that is likely to have compacted, eroded, or otherwise altered the wetland's soil. Consider only items occurring within past 100 years or since wetland was created or restored (whichever is less). [CS, INV, NR, PH, SR, STR]</i></p> <p>Compaction from machinery, off-road vehicles, livestock, or mountain bikes, especially during wetter periods.</p> <p>Leveling or other grading not to the natural contour.</p> <p>Tillage, plowing (but excluding disking for enhancement of native plants).</p> <p>Fill or riprap, excluding small amounts of upland soils containing organic amendments (compost, etc.) or small amounts of topsoil imported from another wetland.</p> <p>Excavation.</p> <p>Ditch cleaning or dredging in or adjacent to the wetland.</p> <p>Boat traffic in or adjacent to the wetland and sufficient to cause shore erosion or stir bottom sediments.</p> <p>Artificial water level or flow manipulations sufficient to cause erosion or stir bottom sediments.</p>					
<p><i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not measurably alter the soil structure and/or topography, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i></p>					
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
Spatial extent of altered soil:	>95% of wetland or >95% of its upland edge (if any).	5-95% of wetland or 5-95% of its upland edge (if any).	<5% of wetland and <5% of its upland edge (if any).	0	
Recentness of significant soil alteration in wetland:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0	
Duration:	Long-lasting, minimal veg recovery.	Long-lasting but mostly revegetated.	Short-term, revegetated, not intense.	0	
Timing of soil alteration:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Mainly during one-time or scattered events.	0	
			Sum=	0	
			Stressor subscore=	0.00	

Assessment Area (AA) Results:

Wetland ID: Higgins Mountain - Central Dicks Meadows

Date: August 8, 2020

Observer: Angus Doane

Latitude & Longitude (decimal degrees): 45.55381111111111, -63.57014166666667

Scores will appear below after data are entered in worksheets OF, F, and S. See Manual for definitions and descriptions of how scores were computed.

Wetland Functions or Other Attributes:	Function Score (Normalised)	Function Rating	Benefits Score (Normalised)	Benefits Rating	Function Score (raw)	Benefits Score (raw)
Water Storage & Delay (WS)	1.94	Lower	8.06	Higher	3.39	3.58
Stream Flow Support (SFS)	6.90	Higher	9.75	Higher	5.56	6.49
Water Cooling (WC)	5.75	Higher	3.80	Moderate	3.83	2.06
Sediment Retention & Stabilisation (SR)	4.40	Moderate	7.64	Higher	5.63	3.74
Phosphorus Retention (PR)	2.86	Lower	6.86	Higher	5.54	5.33
Nitrate Removal & Retention (NR)	4.12	Moderate	10.00	Higher	5.75	10.00
Carbon Sequestration (CS)	3.39	Moderate			6.80	
Organic Nutrient Export (OE)	7.52	Higher			4.92	
Anadromous Fish Habitat (FA)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Resident Fish Habitat (FR)	8.35	Higher	2.42	Moderate	4.54	1.51
Aquatic Invertebrate Habitat (INV)	7.31	Higher	7.97	Higher	6.48	5.54
Amphibian & Turtle Habitat (AM)	7.22	Higher	7.99	Higher	6.90	8.35
Waterbird Feeding Habitat (WBF)	9.92	Higher	10.00	Higher	7.55	10.00
Waterbird Nesting Habitat (WBN)	9.30	Higher	10.00	Higher	6.74	10.00
Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat (SBM)	8.60	Higher	10.00	Higher	7.49	10.00
Pollinator Habitat (POL)	9.82	Higher	10.00	Higher	8.13	10.00
Native Plant Habitat (PH)	9.36	Higher	8.54	Higher	7.63	8.54
Public Use & Recognition (PU)			0.23	Lower		0.46
Wetland Sensitivity (Sens)			7.37	Higher		4.27
Wetland Ecological Condition (EC)			10.00	Higher		10.00
Wetland Stressors (STR) (higher score means more stress)			4.76	Moderate		2.47
Summary Ratings for Grouped Functions:						
HYDROLOGIC Group (WS)	1.94	Lower	8.06	Higher	3.39	3.58
WATER QUALITY SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SR, PR, NR, CS)	4.05	Moderate	9.08	Higher	6.37	8.18
AQUATIC SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SFS, INV, OE, WC)	7.20	Higher	8.46	Higher	5.84	5.59
AQUATIC HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of FA, FR, AM, WBF, WBN)	8.44	Higher	8.04	Higher	6.35	7.99
TRANSITION HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of SBM, PH, POL)	9.54	Higher	9.76	Higher	7.94	9.76
WETLAND CONDITION (EC)			10.00	Higher		10.00
WETLAND RISK (average of Sensitivity & Stressors)			6.07	Moderate		3.37
	NOTE: A score of 0 does not mean the function or benefit is absent from the wetland. It means only that this wetland has a capacity that is equal or less than the lowest-scoring one, for that function or benefit, from among all the NS calibration wetlands that were assessed previously.					

NOVA SCOTIA - Functional WSS Interpretation Tool

Function-Benefit Product (FBP)	FBP SCORE	FBP SCORE CATEGORY
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - HYDROLOGIC	15.6580146	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - WATER QUALITY SUPPORT	36.74039297	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC SUPPORT	60.88031048	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC HABITAT	67.8443187	Moderate
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - TRANSITION HABITAT	93.05199646	High

Habitat Rule Satisfied? YES

Support Rule Satisfied? NO

Habitat/Support Hybrid Rule Satisfied? NO

CONCLUSION: Site is a WSS

Cover Page: Basic Description of Assessment	WESP-AC version 2
Site Name:	Higgins Mountain, WL1
Investigator Name:	Rohan Kariyawansa, Matt Stanbrook
Date of Field Assessment:	Oct 13, 2022
Nearest Town:	Masstown
Latitude (decimal degrees):	45.301190
Longitude (decimal degrees):	63.331318
Is a map based on a formal on-site wetland delineation available?	no
Approximate size of the Assessment Area (AA, in hectares):	1.99
AA as percent of entire wetland (approx.). Attach sketch map if AA is smaller than the entire contiguous wetland.	75
What percent (approx.) of the wetland were you able to visit?	90
What percent (approx.) of the AA were you able to visit?	99
Were you able to ask the site owner/manager about any of the questions?	no
Indicate here if you intentionally surveyed for rare plants, calciphile plants, or rare animals:	yes
Have you attended a WESP-AC training session? If so, indicate approximate month & year.	yes, Oct 2022
How many wetlands have you assessed previously using WESP-AC? (approx.)	3-4 dozen
Comments about the site or this WESP-AC assessment (attach extra page if desired):	

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date: October 13 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL1		Investigator: Rohan Kariyawansa	
2	<p>Form OF (Office). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia wetlands only. DIRECTIONS: Conduct an assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answering many of the questions below will require using these online map viewers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Google Earth Pro: https://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html Provincial Landscape Viewer: https://nsgl.novascotia.ca/plv/ <p>For most wetlands, completing this office data form will require 1-2 hours. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see bracketed abbreviations in the Definitions/Explanations column. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.</p>				
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations
4	OF1	Province	Mark the province in which the AA is located by changing the 0 in the column next to it to a "1". Mark only one.		<p>This determines to which province's calibration wetlands the raw score of any wetland is normalised. In the function and benefits models, it also triggers the automatic exclusion of indicators for which no spatial data exists in a particular province.</p>
5			New Brunswick	0	
6			Nova Scotia	1	
7			Prince Edward Island	0	
8			Newfoundland-Labrador	0	
9	OF2	Ponded Area Within 1 km.	The area of surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		<p>"Adjacent" means not separated from the AA by a wide expanse (>50 m) of upland (including roads >50 m wide). Include ponded areas likely to be hidden by wetland vegetation. If surface water extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. Do not include tidal areas. Measure the area from aerial imagery using Google Earth Pro (click on Ruler icon in toolbar, then Polygon in pop-up menu). [PH, SBM, WBN]</p>
10			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
11			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
12			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
13			1 to 10 hectares.	11	
14			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
15			>100 hectares.	0	
16	OF3	Ponded Water & Wetland Within 1 km.	The area of wetlands and surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		<p>See definition of adjacent in OF2. If the AA's wetland vegetation extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. "Ponded" means not flowing in rivers or streams. [Sens, WBF]</p>
17			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
18			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
19			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
20			1 to 10 hectares.	1	
21			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
22			>100 hectares.	0	
23	OF4	Size of Largest Nearby Vegetated Tract or Corridor	The largest vegetated patch or corridor that includes the AA's vegetation plus all adjacent upland vegetation that is not lawn, row crops, heavily grazed lands, conifer plantation is:		<p>See definition of adjacent in OF2. Use Google Earth Pro's polygon ruler (as described above). Exclude conifer plantations only if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens]</p>
24			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
25			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
26			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
27			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
28			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
29			100 to 1000 hectares.	0	
30			>1000 hectares. <i>[This is nearly always the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]</i>	1	

	A	B	C	D	E
31	OF5 Distance to Large Vegetated Tract		The minimum distance from the edge of the AA to the edge of the closest vegetated land (but excluding row crops, lawn, conifer plantation) larger than 375 hectares (about 2 km on a side), is:		To measure distance, use Google Earth Pro (Ruler > Line tool). The 375-ha criterion is from the Fundy Model Forest Project. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
32			<50 m, and not separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, bare ground, lawn, or impervious surface. Or the AA itself contains >375 ha of vegetation. [This is often the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]		
33			<50 m, but completely separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by those features, and AA does not contain >375 ha of vegetation.		
34			50-500 m, and not separated.		
35			50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
36			0.5 - 5 km, and not separated.		
37			0.5 - 5 km, but separated by those features.		
38			None of the above (the closest patches or corridors which are that large are >5 km away).		
39	OF6 Herbaceous Uniqueness		The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 5 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 1 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "1". [* NOTE: Exclude lawns, row crops, heavily grazed lands, forest, shrublands. Include moss as well as grasslike plants in this use of "herbaceous vegetation"]	1	For this question only, consider moss to be herbaceous vegetation. Determine the score by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth after successively drawing or estimating the boundaries of the buffers of 5 km, 1 km, and 100 m radius focused on the center of the AA. Circles of specified radius can be drawn in Google Earth Pro by clicking on the Ruler icon, then Circle in the pop-up menu. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
40	OF7 Woody Uniqueness		The AA's vegetation cover is >10% woody* but uplands within 5 km have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 1 km have <10% woody cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "1" [* NOTE: woody cover = trees & shrubs taller than 1 m.]	2	See above. Do not consider conifer plantations to be forest if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv]
41	OF8 Local Vegetated Cover Percentage		Draw a 5-km radius circle measured from the center of the AA. Ignoring all permanent water in the circle, the percent of the remaining area that is wooded or unmanaged herbaceous vegetation (NOT lawn, row crops, bare or heavily grazed land, clearcuts, or conifer plantations) is:		In Google Earth, draw the 5 km buffer and then estimate land cover percentages, or do GIS analysis of an appropriate land cover layer. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
42			<5% of the land.		
43			5 to 20% of the land.		
44			20 to 60% of the land.		
45			60 to 90% of the land.		
46			>90% of the land. SKIP to OF10.		
47	OF9 Type of Land Cover Alteration		Within the 5-km radius circle, and ignoring all permanent water, the land area that is bare or non-perennial cover is mostly:		[AM, SBM]
48			Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
49			Bare pervious surface, e.g., lawn, recent (<5 yrs ago) clearcut, dirt or gravel road, cropland, landslide, conifer plantation.		
50	OF10 Distance by Road to Nearest Population Center		Measured along the maintained road nearest the AA, the distance to the nearest population center is:		"Population center" means a settled area with more than about 5 regularly-inhabited structures per square kilometer. In Google Earth Pro, click on the Ruler icon, then Path, and draw and measure the route. [FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, WBFv]
51			<100 m.		
52			100 - 500 m.		
53			0.5 - 1 km.		
54			1 - 5 km.		
55			>5 km.		
56	OF11 Distance to Nearest Maintained Road		From the center of the AA, the distance to the nearest maintained public road (dirt or paved) is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth Pro and measuring with the Ruler>Line tool. [AM, FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBN]
57			<10 m.		
58			10 - 25 m.		
59			25 - 50 m.		
60			50 - 100 m.		
61			100 - 500 m.		
62			>500 m.		

	A	B	C	D	E
63	OF12	Wildlife Access	Draw a circle of radius of 5 km from the center of the AA. If mammals and amphibians can move from the center of the AA to ALL other separate wetlands and ponds located within the circle without being forced to cross pavement (any width), lawns, bare ground, and/or marine waters, mark 1= yes can move to all, 0= no. Change to blank if there are no other wetlands within 5 km.	1	Draw the 5 km circle in Google Earth Pro using the Circle tool and search for roads and wetlands within it, being alert for roads hidden under forest canopy. [AM, SBM, STR]
64	OF13	Distance to Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) ponded water body visible in GoogleEarth imagery is:		In Google Earth Pro, zoom in closely to examine the surrounding landscape for ponds, lakes, and wetlands that appear to be permanently flooded. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
65			<50 m, and not separated by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, lawn, bare ground, or impervious surface.	0	
66			<50 m, but completely separated by those features.	0	
67			50-500 m, and not separated.	0	
68			50-500 m, but separated by those features.	0	
69			0.5 - 1 km, and not separated.	1	
70			0.5 - 1 km, but separated by those features.	0	
71			None of the above (the closest patches or corridors that large are >1 km away).	0	
72	OF14	Distance to Large Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) non-tidal body of water that is ponded during most of the year and is larger than 8 hectares during most of a normal year is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth. [Sens, WBF, WBN]
73			<100 m.	0	
74			100 m - 1 km.	0	
75			1-2 km.	0	
76			2-5 km.	1	
77			5-10 km.	0	
78			>10 km.	0	
79	OF15	Tidal Proximity	The distance from the AA edge to the closest tidal water body (regardless of its salinity) is:		In Google Earth, measure the distance to the ocean (including Bay of Fundy) or tidal river, whichever is closer. If you need to see how far upriver a river is tidal, see the KMZ file provided with this calculator for NS (NS Headtide). Points shown in those files are only an approximation, so local information if available may be preferable. [FA, WBF]
80			<100 m.	0	
81			100 m - 1 km.	0	
82			1 - 5 km.	0	
83			5-10 km.	0	
84			10-40 km.	1	
85			>40 km.	0	
86	OF16	Upland Edge Contact	Select one:		[NR, SBM, Sens]
87			The AA has no upland edge (or upland is <1% of perimeter). The AA is entirely surrounded by (& contiguous with) other wetlands or water.	0	
88			1-25% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland (including filled areas). The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0	
89			25-50% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0	
90			50-75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	1	
91			More than 75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. Any remainder adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA. This will be true for most assessments done with WESP-AC.	0	
92	OF17	Flood Damage from Non-tidal Waters	Within 5 km downstream or downslope of the AA (select first true choice):		Contact local authorities to determine if such maps exist. Where available, LiDAR imagery can provide finer elevational resolution useful for flood modeling. [WSv]
93			Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding not caused by tidal storm surges.	0	
94			Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas, but infrastructure is absent or is not vulnerable to floods from a non-tidal river. In some cases levees, upriver dams, or other measures may partly limit damage or risk from smaller events.	0	
95			Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.	0	
96			Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there is no infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.	1	
97	OF18	Relative Elevation in Watershed	In Google Earth, enable the Terrain layer (lower left menu) and open the NS_Watersheds Secondary KMZ file that accompanies this calculator. Then determine the AA's approximate elevation (bottom right, NOT the "eye alt"). Then move cursor around to determine the watershed's maximum and minimum elevation. Divide the AA's elevation by the (max-min).	0.65	[FA, NR, Sens, SFSv, WCv, WSv]

	A	B	C	D	E
98	OF19	Water Quality Sensitive Watershed or Area	The AA is in a Protected Water Supply area (Designated Water Supply Area, Natural Watershed Municipal Surface Water Supply Area, or Municipal Water Supply Area) according to the provided KMZ overlay ("NS Protected Water Supply Areas"). Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	If an ACCDC report is available for this AA, it also may contain such information. [NRv]
99	OF20	Degraded Water Upstream	Sampling indicates a problem with concentrations of metals, hydrocarbons, nutrients , or other substances (excluding bacteria, acidic water, high temperatures) being present at levels harmful to aquatic life or humans, and: The condition is present within the AA.	0	May use existing data, or sample those waters as part of this wetland assessment. "Harmful" should be evaluated with regard to current federal or provincial water quality standards. [AM, FA, FR, NRV, PRv, SRv, STR, WBF, WBN]
100			The condition is present in waters within 1 km that flow into the AA, but has not been documented in the AA itself.	0	
101			Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.	0	
102			Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.	1	
103	OF21	Degraded Water Downstream	The problem described above is downslope from the AA, and: The condition is present within 1 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel. The condition is present within 5 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel, or within 1 km but not connected to the AA by a channel. Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters. Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.	0 0 0 0 1	May use existing data, or monitor waters as part of this wetland assessment. [NRv, PRv, SRv]
104	OF22	Wetland as a % of Its Contributing Area (Catchment)	From a topographic map and field observations, estimate the approximate boundaries of the catchment (CA) of the entire wetland of which the AA may be only a part. Then adjust those boundaries if necessary based on your field observations of the surrounding terrain, and/or by using procedures described in the Manual. Divide the area of the wetland (not just the AA) by the approximate area of its catchment excluding the area of the wetland itself. When doing the calculation, if ponded water is adjacent to the wetland, include that in the wetland's area. The result is: <0.1, or catchment size unknown due to stormwater pipes that collect water from an indeterminate area.	0	Topographic maps may be viewed online at the National Atlas of Canada (Toporama): http://atlas.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html [NR, PR, Sens, SR, WS]
105			0.01 to 0.1.	1	
106			0.1 to 1.	0	
107			>1 (wetland is larger than its catchment (e.g., wetland with flat surrounding terrain and no inlet, or is entirely isolated by dikes, or is a raised bog).	0	
108	OF23	Unvegetated Surface in the Contributing Area	The proportion of the AA's contributing area (measured to no more than 1000 m upslope) that is comprised of buildings, roads, parking lots, other pavement, exposed bedrock, landslides, and other mostly-bare surface is about : <10%. 10 to 25%. >25%.	0 1 0 0	[FA, INV, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WCv, WSy]
109	OF24	Transport From Upslope	A relatively large proportion of the precipitation that falls farther upslope in the CA reaches this wetland quickly as runoff (surface water), as indicated by the following: (a) input channel is present, (b) input channels have been straightened, (c) upslope wetlands have been ditched extensively, (d) land cover is mostly non-forest, (e) CA slopes are steep, and/or (f) most CA soils are shallow (bedrock near surface) and/or have high runoff coefficients. This statement is: Mostly true. Somewhat true. Mostly untrue.	0 0 1	[NRv, PRv, SRv, WSy]
110			Mostly true.	0	
111			Somewhat true.	0	
112			Mostly untrue.	1	
113	OF25	Aspect	The overland flow direction of most surface water (in streams, rivers, or runoff) that enters the AA is: Northward (N, NE). north-facing contributing area. Southward (S, SW). south-facing contributing area. Other (E, SE, W, NW), or no detectable uphill slope or input channel (flat).	0 1 0	[AM, NR, SFS, WC, WS]
114			Northward (N, NE). north-facing contributing area.	0	
115			Southward (S, SW). south-facing contributing area.	1	
116			Other (E, SE, W, NW), or no detectable uphill slope or input channel (flat).	0	
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A	B	C	D	E
126	OF26 Internal Flow Distance (Path Length)	The horizontal flow distance from the wetland's inlet to outlet is:		Identify inlets and outlets, if any, from topographic maps (use elevations to determine which are inlets and which are outlets) and augment by field inspection. With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, select Nova Scotia Topo as the Basemap. Also enable the layer Forestry>WAM Predicted Flow. Then measure the inlet-outlet distance. [NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
127		<10 m.		0
128		10 - 50 m.		0
129		50 - 100 m.		0
130		100 - 1000 m.		1
131		1-2 km.		0
132		>2 km, or wetland lacks an inlet and outlet.		0
133	OF27 Growing Degree Days	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called NS_GrowingDegreeDays. Place your cursor over the AA and left-click. From the pop-up window, enter the GRIDCODE number in the next column.	1821	This layer was provided by Dr. Dan McKenney of the Canadian Forest Service [AM, CS, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WCv, WS]
134	OF28 Fish Access or Use	According to agency biologists and/or your own observations, the AA. [Mark just the first choice that is true.] :		Regarding the last choice, if uncertain if an AA is fishless, consider the possibility its waters have been stocked. [AM, FA, FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
135		Is known to support rearing and/or spawning by Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels. Go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife>Significant Habitat>Species at Risk. Contact local fishery biologists, review the ACCDC report, and visit these websites: http://www.salmoneas.com/atlanticssalmon/canada-east/index.1.html http://atlanticssalmofederation.org/rivers/introduction.html		
136		Has not been documented to support Atlantic salmon rearing and/or spawning, but is connected to nearby waters likely to contain Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels and is probably accessed by those during some conditions.		
137		Is probably not accessed by any anadromous fish species but is known or likely to have other fish at least seasonally.		
138		Is known or likely to be fishless (e.g., too small, dry, and/or not accessible even temporarily, and not stocked).		
139	OF29 Species of Conservation Concern	Within the past 10 years, in the AA (or in its adjoining waters or wetland), qualified observers have documented [mark all applicable]:		Request information from ACCDC and/or conduct your own survey at an appropriate season using an approved protocol. For birds, also check eBird.org. NOTE for NS: If your WESP-AC is being completed for a Wetland Alteration Application to NS-ECC, your ACCDC results and any taxon-specific survey results must be submitted along with your WESP-AC results, and application. [AMv, EC, PHv, POLv, SBMv, Sens, WBFv, WBNv]
140		Presence of one or more of the plant species listed in the Plants_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, or the AA is within a mapped Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora Buffer (go to Provincial Landscape Viewer> Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones).		
141		Presence of one or more of the amphibian or reptile species (AM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.		
142		Presence of one or more of the waterbird species (WBF, WBN) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.		
143		Presence of one or more of the nesting songbird or raptor species (SBM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, during their nesting season (May-July for most species).		
144		None of the above, or no data.		
145	OF30 Important Bird Area (IBA)	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called IBAs_Canada. The AA is all or part of an officially designated IBA. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	The source of this layer, which should be checked periodically for updates, is: http://www.ibacanada.com/mapviewer.jsp?lang=EN [SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
146	OF31 Black Duck Nesting Area	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called BlackDuck. Adjust its alignment and opacity. Determine the predicted density (pairs per 25 sq. km) of nesting American Black Duck in the AA's vicinity: <10 (enter 0), 10-20 (enter 1), 20-30 (enter 2), >30 (enter 3). If outside of region shown in map, change to blank.	0	This was provided by Dr. David Leske. [WBNv]
147	OF32 Wintering Deer or Moose Concentration Areas	If AA is on private land with no information, change to blank (not 0). Otherwise: With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, for Wintering Moose, go to Wildlife> Significant Habitat. For Mainland Moose Concentration Areas, go to Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0.	1	[SBM]
148	OF33 Other Conservation Designation	The AA is all or part of an area designated by government, First Nations, or the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) for its exceptional ecological features or highly intact natural conditions. With Provincial Landscape Viewer, see Protected Areas. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If uncertain, consult NCC and agencies for more recent information.	0	See: https://novascotia.ca/parksandprotectedareas/plan/interactive-map/ [PU]
149	OF34 Conservation Investment	The AA is part of or contiguous to a wetland on which public or private organizational funds were spent to preserve, create, restore, or enhance the wetland (excluding mitigation wetlands). Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank (not 0).	0	[PU]
150	OF35 Mitigation Investment	The AA is all or part of a mitigation site used explicitly to offset impacts elsewhere. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.	0	[PU]
151	OF36 Sustained Scientific Use	Plants, animals, or water in the AA have been monitored for >2 years, unrelated to any regulatory requirements, and data are available to the public. Or the AA is part of an area that has been designated by an agency or institution as a benchmark, reference, or status-trends monitoring area. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.	0	[PU]
152	OF37 Calcareous Region	The AA is NOT in a subregion that has been heavily exposed to acid precipitation. Enter "1" if true (green or yellow in map in Appendix A of the Manual). Enter "0" if false. If no information, change to blank.	0	[AM, FA, FR, INV, PH]

	A	B	C	D	E
153	OF38	Ownership	Select the ONE ownership that covers the most of the AA. In Google Earth, open KMZ file called NS_Crownlands. Use more recent information if available.		"Private lands" may include those owned or leased by non-governmental organizations, e.g., charitable conservation land trusts, DUC, TNC. [PU, STR]
154			New timber harvest, roads, mineral extraction, and intensive summer recreation (e.g., off-road vehicles) are permanently prohibited. Includes many publicly-owned Protected Lands, and private lands under long-term (30+ year) legal agreements to maintain nearly-unaltered conditions.	0	
155			Ownership is public (e.g., municipal, Crown Reservations/Notations) but some or all of the above activities are allowed.	1	
156			Ownership is private but public access is allowed, and/or a shorter-term conservation easement (whether renewable or not) is in place.	0	
157			Ownership is private and owner does not allow access, or access permission unknown, and not a conservation easement.	0	

	A	B	C	D	E	
1	Date: October 13 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL1		Investigator: Rohan Kariyawansa, Matt Stanbrook		
<p>Form F (Field). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia. DIRECTIONS: Walk for no less than 10 minutes from the wetland edge towards its core, in the part of the AA that is proposed for alteration. If no alteration is proposed, walk in a portion that appears to be most representative of the wetland overall. Walk only where it is safe and legal to do so. Conduct the assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answer these questions primarily based on your onsite observations and interpretations. Do not write in shaded parts of this data form. Answering some questions accurately may require conferring with the landowner or other knowledgeable persons, and/or reviewing aerial imagery. For most wetlands, completing this field data form will require 1-2 hours on a site. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see the accompanying Interpretations form. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage & Delay, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.</p>						
2	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations	
3	F1	Wetland Type	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the vegetated part of the AA: A. Moss and/or lichen cover more than 25% of the ground. Often dominated by ericaceous shrubs (e.g., Labrador tea) or other acid-tolerant plants (e.g., bog cranberry, pitcher plant, sundew, orchids). Substrate is mostly undecomposed peat. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below. A1. Surface water is usually absent or, if present, pH is typically <4.5 and conductivity is usually <100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Trees are absent or nearly so. Sedge cover usually sparse or absent but cottongrass and/or lichen cover may be extensive, as well as cloudberry, lingonberry, sheep laurel, and a sedge (<i>Carex rariflora</i>). Wetland surface and surrounding landscape are seldom sloping and wetland often is domed (convex). Inlet and outlet channels are usually absent. If known, pH of peat is <4.0. A2. Not A1. Surface water, if present, has pH typically >4.5 and conductivity is usually >100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Sedge cover is usually extensive, and/or tree and tall shrub cover is extensive. Sometimes at toe of slope or edge of water body. An exit channel is usually present. Wetter than A1 and peat depth may be shallower (<2 m). B. Moss and/or lichen cover less than 25% of the ground. Soil is mineral or decomposed organic (muck). Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column. B1. Trees and shrubs taller than 1 m comprise more than 25% of the vegetated cover. Surface water is mostly absent or inundates the vegetation only seasonally (e.g., vernal pools or floodplain). B2. Not B1. Tree & tall shrubs comprise less than 25% of the vegetated cover. Vegetation is mostly herbaceous, e.g., cattail, bulrush, burreed, pond lily, horsetail. Surface water may be extensive and fluctuates seasonally, being either persistent or drying up partly or entirely.	0 1 0 0	Ericaceous shrubs are ones in the heather family (Ericaceae). Most have leathery evergreen leaves. They include rhododendron, azalea, swamp laurel, leatherleaf, Labrador tea, and others. Most require acidic soil. Although not in the family Ericaceae, sweetgale (<i>Myrica gale</i>) should be counted also. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, Sens, SFS, WBF, WBN]	
4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	Reminder: For all questions, the AA should include all persistent waters in ponds smaller than 8 hectares (~283 m on a side) that are adjacent to the AA. The AA should also include part of the water area of adjacent ponded water larger than 8 ha and adjacent rivers wider than 20 m. Specifically, the AA should include the open water part adjacent to wetland vegetation and equal in width to the average width of that vegetated zone. Throughout this data form, "adjacent" is used synonymously with abutting, adjoining, bordering, contiguous – and means no upland (manmade or natural) completely separates the described features along their directly shared edge. Features joined only by a channel are not necessarily considered to be adjacent – a large portion of their edges must match. The features do not have to be hydrologically connected in order to be considered adjacent.				11	
12	F2	Wetland Types - Adjoining or Subordinate	If the AA is smaller than 1 ha, mark all other types that occupy more than 1% of the vegetated AA. If the AA is larger than 1 ha, mark all other types which are within or adjacent to the AA and occupy more than 1 ha, as visible from the AA or as interpreted from aerial imagery. Do not mark again the type marked in F1.	0 0 0 0	1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, INV, SBM, WBF]	
13	14	15	16			
17	F3	Woody Height & Form Diversity	Following EACH row below, indicate with a number code the percentage of the living vegetation in the AA which is occupied by that feature (6 if >95%, 5 if 75-95%, 4 if 50-75%, 3 if 25-50%, 2 if 5-25%, 1 if <5%, 0 if none). If the vegetated part of the AA is largely herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation, these percentages should not sum to 100%.	0 0 0 0 0 0	Deciduous shrubs in this region usually include buttonbush, Labrador tea, bayberry (<i>Morella</i>), huckleberry, cranberry, cloudberry, sweetgale, alder, willow, birch, ash, dogwood, and a few others. If you assigned a code of 3 or higher to any of the first four choices and the ground cover beneath the trees/shrubs is <25% moss, then question F1 might be "B1". [CS, INV, NR, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]	
18	19	20	21	22	23	

A	B	C	D	E
24		<i>Note: If none of top 4 rows in F3 was marked 2 or greater , SKIP to F9 (N fixers).</i>		
25	F4	Dominance of Most Abundant Shrub Species	Determine which two woody plant species comprise the greatest portion of the low (<3 m) woody cover . Then choose one: those species together comprise > 50% of such cover. those species together do not comprise > 50% of such cover.	[PH, POL, SBM, Sens] 0 0
26				
27				
28	F5	Woody Diameter Classes	Mark ALL the types that comprise >5% of the woody canopy cover in the AA or >5% of the wooded areas (if any) along its upland edge (perimeter). The edge should include only the trees whose canopies extend into the AA. coniferous, 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall. broad-leaved deciduous 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall. coniferous, 10-19 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous 10-19 cm diameter. coniferous, 20-40 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous 20-40 cm diameter. coniferous, >40 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous >40 cm diameter.	Estimate the diameters at chest height. If small-diameter trees are overtopped (shaded) by larger ones, visualise a "subcanopy" at the average height of the smaller-dbh trees, to serve as a basis for the minimum 5% canopy requirement in this question. The trees and shrubs need not be wetland species. [AM, CS, POL, SBM, Sens, WBN] 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
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37	F6	Height Class Interspersion	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the AA: A. Neither the vegetation taller than 1 m nor the vegetation shorter than that comprise >70% of the vegetated part of the AA. They each comprise 30-70%. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below. A1. The two height classes are mostly scattered and intermixed throughout the AA. A2. Not A1. The two height classes are mostly in separate zones or bands, or in proportionately large clumps. B. Either the vegetation shorter than 1 m comprises >70% of the vegetated part of the AA, or the vegetation taller than that does. One size class might even be totally absent. Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly scattered and intermixed within the prevalent one. B2. Not B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly located apart from the prevalent one, in separate zones or clumps, or is completely absent.	[AM, INV, NR, PH, SBM, Sens] 0 0 0 0 0
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44	F7	Large Snags (Dead Standing Trees)	The number of large snags (diameter >20 cm) in the AA plus adjacent upland area within 10 m of the wetland edge is: None, or fewer than 8/ hectare which exceed this diameter. Several (>8/hectare) and a pond, lake, or slow-flowing water wider than 10 m is within 1 km. Several (>8/hectare) but above not true.	Snags are dead standing trees that often (not always) lack bark and foliage. Include only ones that are at least 2 m tall. [POL, SBM, WBN] 0 0 1
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46				
47				
48	F8	Downed Wood	The number of downed wood pieces longer than 2 m and with diameter >10 cm, and not persistently submerged, is: Few or none that meet these criteria. Several (>5 if AA is >5 hectares, less for smaller AAs) meet these criteria.	Exclude temporary "burn piles." [AM, INV, POL, SBM] 0 1
49				
50				
51	F9	N Fixers	The percentage of the AA's vegetated cover that contains nitrogen-fixing plants (e.g., alder, sweetgale, clover, lupine, alfalfa, other legumes) is: <1% or none. 1-25% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). 25-50% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). 50-75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). >75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	Do not include N-fixing algae or lichens. [FA, FR, INV, NRv, OE, PH, SBM, Sens] 0 1 0 0 0
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A	B	C	D	E
57	F10 Sphagnum Moss Extent	The cover of Sphagnum moss (or any moss that forms a dense cushion many centimeters thick), including the moss obscured by taller sedges and other plants rooted in it, is:		Exclude moss growing on trees and rocks. [CS, PH]
58		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
59		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
60		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
61		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
62		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
63	F11 % Bare Ground & Thatch	Consider the parts of the AA that lack surface water at the driest time of the growing season. Viewed from directly above the ground layer, the predominant condition in those areas at that time is:		Thatch is dead plant material (stems, leaves) resting on the ground surface. Bare ground that is present under a tree or shrub canopy should be counted. Boulders count as bare ground. Wetlands with mineral soils and that are heavily shaded or are dominated by annual plant species tend to have more extensive areas that are bare during the early growing season. [AM, EC, INV, NR, OE, POL, PR, SBM, Sens]
64		Little or no (<5%) bare ground is visible between erect stems or under canopy anywhere in the vegetated AA. Ground is extensively blanketed by dense thatch, moss, lichens, graminoids with great stem densities, or plants with ground-hugging foliage.	1	
65		Slightly bare ground (5-20% bare between plants) is visible in places, but those areas comprise less than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
66		Much bare ground (20-50% bare between plants) is visible in places, and those areas comprise more than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
67		Other conditions.	0	
68		Not applicable. Surface water (either open or obscured by emergent plants) covers all of the AA all the time.	0	
69	F12 Ground Irregularity	Imagine the AA without any living vegetation. Excluding the portion of the AA that is always under water, the number of hummocks, small pits, raised mounds, animal burrows, ruts, gullies, natural levees, microdepressions, and other areas of peat or mineral soil that are raised or depressed >10 cm compared to most of the area within a few meters surrounding them is:		The depressions may be of human or natural origin. [AM, EC, INV, NR, PH, POL, PR, SBM, SR, WS]
70		Few or none (minimal microtopography; <1% of the land has such features, or entire AA is always water-covered).	0	
71		Intermediate.	1	
72		Several (extensive micro-topography).	0	
73	F13 Upland Inclusions	Within the AA, inclusions of upland are:		[AM, NR, SBM]
74		Few or none.	0	
75		Intermediate (1 - 10% of vegetated part of the AA).	1	
76		Many (e.g., wetland-upland "mosaic"; >10% of the vegetated AA).	0	
77	F14 Soil Texture	In parts of the AA that lack persistent water, the texture of soil in the uppermost layer is mostly: [To determine this, use a trowel to check in at least 3 widely spaced locations, and use the soil texture key (in Appendix A of the Manual).]		[CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, WS]
78		Loamy: soils that may contain a little fine grit and do not make a "ribbon" longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	1	
79		Fines: includes silt, clay, silt, soils that make a ribbon longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
80		Deep Peat, to 40 cm depth or greater.	0	
81		Shallow Peat or organic <40 cm deep.	0	
82		Coarse: includes sand, loamy sand, gravel, cobble, soils that do not make a ribbon when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
83	F15 Shorebird Feeding Habitats	During any 2 consecutive weeks of the growing season, the extent of mudflats, bare unshaded saturated areas not covered by thatch, and unshaded waters shallower than 6 cm is: [Include also any area that is adjacent to the AA.]		This addresses needs of many but not all migratory sandpipers, plovers, and related species. [WBF]
84		None, or <100 sq. m.	0	
85		100-1000 sq. m.	1	
86		1000 – 10,000 sq. m.	0	
87		>10,000 sq. m.	0	
88	F16 Herbaceous % of Vegetated Wetland	In aerial ("ducks eye") view, the maximum annual cover of herbaceous vegetation (all non-woody plants except moss) is:		[AM, WBF, WBN]
89		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA or <0.01 hectare (whichever is less). Mark "1" here and SKIP to F20 (Invasive Plant Cover).	0	
90		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
91		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
92		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
93		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
94	F17 Forb Cover	Within parts of the AA having herbaceous cover (excluding SAV), the areal cover of forbs reaches an annual maximum of:		Forbs are flowering plants. Do not include grasses, sedges, cattail, other graminoids, ferns, horsetails, or others that lack showy flowers. [POL]
95		<5% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		0
96		5-25% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		0
97		25-50% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		0
98		50-95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		1
99		>95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		0
100	F18 Sedge Cover	Sedges (<i>Carex</i> spp.) and cottongrass (<i>Eriophorum</i> spp.) occupy:		[CS]
101		<5% of the vegetated area, or none.		0
102		5-50% of the vegetated area.		0
103		50-95% of the vegetated area.		1
104		>95% of the vegetated area.		0
105	F19 Dominance of Most Abundant Herbaceous Species	Determine which two herbaceous species comprise the greatest portion of the herbaceous cover (excluding mosses and floating-leaved aquatic plants). Then choose one of the following:		For this question, include ferns as well as graminoids and forbs. [EC, INV, PH, POL, Sens]
106		those species together comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		1
107		those species together do not comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		0
108	F20 Invasive Plant Cover	How extensive is the cover of invasive plant species in the AA? For species, see Plants_invasive worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file.		[EC, PH, POL, Sens]
109		invasive species appear to be absent in the AA, or are present only in trace amount (a few individuals).		1
110		invasive species are present in more than trace amounts, but comprise <5% of herbaceous cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		0
111		invasive species comprise 5-20% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		0
112		invasive species comprise 20-50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		0
113		invasive species comprise >50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		0
114	F21 Invasive Cover Along Upland Edge	Along the wetland-upland boundary, the percent of the upland edge (within 3 m upslope from the wetland) that is occupied by invasive plant species is:		If a plant cannot be identified to species (e.g., winter conditions) but its genus contains an exotic species, assume the unidentified plant to also be exotic. If vegetation is so senesced that exotic species cannot be identified, answer "none". [PH, STR]
115		none of the upland edge (invasives apparently absent), or AA has no upland edge.		1
116		some (but <5%) of the upland edge.		0
117		5-50% of the upland edge.		0
118		most (>50%) of the upland edge.		0
119	F22 Fringe Wetland	During most of the year, open water within or adjacent to the vegetated part of the wetland is much wider than the maximum width of the vegetated zone within the wetland. Enter "1" if true, "0" if false.	0	[WBF, WBN, WCv]
120	F23 Lacustrine Wetland	The vegetated part of the AA is within or adjacent to a body of non-tidal standing open water whose size exceeds 8 hectares during most of a normal year.	0	[FR, PR, PU, WBF, WBN]
121	F24 % of AA Without Surface Water	The percentage of the AA that <u>never</u> contains surface water during an average year (that is, except perhaps for a few hours after snowmelt or rainstorms), but which is still a wetland, is:		1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SRv, WBF, WBN, WC]
122		<1% . In other words, all or nearly all of the AA is covered by water permanently or at least seasonally.		
123		1-25% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha never contains surface water.		
124		25-50% of the AA never contains surface water.		
125		50-75% of the AA never contains surface water.		
126		75-99% of the AA never contains surface water, OR >99% and there is at least one persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha in the AA.		
127		99-100%. AND there is no persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha within the AA. Enter "1" and SKIP to F42 (Channel Connection).		
128	F25 % of AA with Persistent Surface Water	Identify the parts of the AA that still contain surface water (flowing or ponded, open or hidden beneath vegetation) even during the driest times of a normal year, i.e., when the AA's surface water is at its lowest annual level. At that time, the percentage of the AA that still contains surface water is:		If you are unable to determine the condition at the driest time of year, ask the land owner or neighbors about it if possible. Indicators of persistence may include fish, some dragonflies, beaver, and muskrat. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, POL, PR, SBM, WBF, WBN]
129		None. The AA dries up completely (no water in channels either) or never has surface water during most years. SKIP to F27.		
130		1-20% of the AA.		
131		20-50% of the AA.		
132		50-95% of the AA.		
133		>95% of the AA. True for many fringe wetlands.		

A	B	C	D	E
134	F26 % of Summertime Water that Is Shaded	At mid-day during the warmest time of year, the area of surface water <u>within</u> the AA that is shaded by vegetation and other features <u>that are within</u> the AA at that time is:		[FA, WC]
135		<5% of the water is shaded, or no surface water is present then.	1	
136		5-25% of the water is shaded.	0	
137		25-50% of the water is shaded.	0	
138		50-75% of the water is shaded.	0	
139		>75% of the water is shaded.	0	
140	F27 % of AA that is Flooded Only Seasonally	The percentage of the AA's area that is between the annual high water and the annual low water (surface water) is:		Flood marks (algal mats, adventitious roots, debris lines, ice scour, etc.) are often evident when not fully inundated. Also, such areas often have a larger proportion of upland and annual (vs. perennial) plant species. In riverine systems, the extent of this zone can be estimated by multiplying by 2 the bankfull height and visualising where that would intercept the land along the river. [CS, FA, INV, NR, OE, PH, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
141		None, or <0.01 hectare and <1% of the AA. SKIP to F29.	1	
142		1-20% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha.	0	
143		20-50% of the AA.	0	
144		50-95% of the AA.	0	
145		>95% of the AA.	0	
146	F28 Annual Water Fluctuation Range	The annual fluctuation in surface water level within most of the parts of the AA that contain surface water at least temporarily is:		Look for flood marks (see above). Because the annual range of water levels is difficult to estimate without multiple visits, consider asking the land owner or neighbors about it. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SR, WBN, WS]
147		<10 cm change (stable or nearly so).	0	
148		10 cm - 50 cm change.	1	
149		0.5 - 1 m change.	0	
150		1-2 m change.	0	
151		>2 m change.	0	
152	Is the AA plus adjacent ponded water smaller than 0.01 hectare (about 10m x 10m, or 1m x 100 m)? If so, enter "1" in column D and SKIP TO F42 (Connection).			0
153	F29 Predominant Depth Class	During most of the time when surface water is present during the growing season, its depth, averaged over the entire inundated part of the AA, is:		If a boat is unavailable, estimate this by considering wetland size and local topography. Or if timing and safety allow, depths may be measured by drilling through winter ice. This question is asking about the spatial median depth that occurs during most of that time, even if inundation is only seasonal or temporary. If inundation in most but not all of the wetland is brief, the answer will be based on the depth of the most persistently inundated part of the wetland. Include surface water in channels and ditches as well as ponded areas. [CS, FA, FR, INV, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
154		<10 cm deep (but >0).	0	
155		10 - 50 cm deep.	1	
156		0.5 - 1 m deep.	0	
157		1 - 2 m deep.	0	
158		>2 m deep. True for many fringe wetlands.	0	
159	F30 Depth Classes - Evenness of Proportions	When present, surface water in most of the AA usually consists of (select one):		Estimate these proportions by considering the gradient and microtopography of the site. [FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
160		One depth class that comprises >90% of the AA's inundated area (use the classes in the question above).	0	
161		One depth class that comprises 50-90% of the AA's inundated area.	1	
162		Neither of above. There are 3 or more depth classes and none occupy >50%.	0	
163	F31 % of Water That is Ponded (not Flowing)	During most times when surface water is present, the percentage that is (1) ponded (stagnant, or flows so slowly that fine sediment is not held in suspension) AND (2) is likely to be deeper than 0.5 m in some places, is:		Nearly all wetlands with surface water have some ponded water. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WBN, WC, WS]
164		<5% of the water, or it occupies <100 sq.m cumulatively. Nearly all the surface water is flowing. SKIP to F34.	1	
165		5-30% of the water.	0	
166		30-70% of the water.	0	
167		70-95% of the water.	0	
168		>95% of the water.	0	
169	F32 Ponded Open Water - Minimum Size	During most of the growing season, the largest patch of open water that is ponded and is in or bordering the AA is >0.01 hectare (about 10 m by 10 m) and mostly deeper than 0.5 m. If true enter "1" and continue. If false, enter "0" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	Open water is not obscured by vegetation in aerial ("duck's eye") view. It includes vegetation floating on the water surface or entirely submerged beneath it.
170	F33 % of Ponded Water that is Open	In ducks-eye aerial view, the percentage of the ponded water that is open (lacking emergent vegetation during most of the growing season, and unhidden by a forest or shrub canopy) is:		[AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
171		None, or <1% of the AA and largest pool occupies <0.01 hectares. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
172		1-4% of the ponded water. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
173		5-30% of the ponded water.	0	
174		30-70% of the ponded water.	0	
175		70-99% of the ponded water.	0	
176		100% of the ponded water.	0	
177	F34 Width of Vegetated Zone within Wetland	At the time during the growing season when the AA's water level is lowest, the average width of vegetated area <u>in the AA</u> that separates adjoining uplands from open water within the AA is:		"Vegetated area" does not include underwater or floating-leaved plants, i.e., aquatic bed. Width may include wooded riparian areas if they have wetland soil or plant indicators. [AM, CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SR, WBN]
178		<1 m.	0	
179		1 - 9 m.	0	
180		10 - 29 m.	0	
181		30 - 49 m.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
182		50 - 100 m.	0	
183		> 100 m, or open water is absent at that time.	0	
184	F35 Flat Shoreline Extent	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the percentage of the AA's water edge length that is nearly flat (a slope less than about 5% measured within 5 m landward of the water) is:		If several isolated pools are present in early summer, estimate the percent of their collective shorelines that has such a gentle slope. [SR, WBN]
185		<1% of the water edge.	0	
186		1-25% of the water edge.	0	
187		25-50% of the water edge.	0	
188		50-75% of the water edge.	0	
189		>75% of the water edge.	1	
190		The percentage of the emergent vegetation cover in the AA that is cattail (<i>Typha</i> spp.), common reed (<i>Phragmites</i>), or tall (>1m) bulrush is:		
191	F36 Robust Emergents	<1% of the emergent vegetation, or emergent vegetation is absent. SKIP to F38.	0	Emergent vegetation is herbaceous plants whose stems are partly above and partly below the water surface during most of the time water is present. [WBN]
192		1-25% of the emergent vegetation.	1	
193		25-75% of the emergent vegetation.	0	
194		>75% of the emergent vegetation.	0	
195	F37 Interspersion of Emergents & Open Water	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the spatial pattern of emergent vegetation within the water is mostly:		[AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, SR, WBF, WBN]
196		Scattered. More than 30% of such vegetation forms small islands or corridors surrounded by water.	0	
197		Intermediate.	1	
198		Clumped. More than 70% of such vegetation is in bands along the wetland perimeter or is clumped at one or a few sides of the surface water area.	0	
199	F38 Persistent Deepwater Area	If the deepest patch of surface water (flowing or ponded) in or directly adjacent to the AA is mostly deeper than 0.5 m for >2 weeks during the growing season, enter "1" and continue. If not, enter "0" and SKIP to F42. (Connection).	0	
200	F39 Non-vegetated Aquatic Cover	During most of the growing season and in waters deeper than 0.5 m, the cover for fish, aquatic invertebrates, and/or amphibians that is provided NOT by living vegetation, but by accumulations of dead wood and undercut banks is:		For this question, consider only the wood that is at or above the water surface. Estimates of underwater wood based only on observations from terrestrial viewpoints are unreliable so should not be attempted. [AM, FA, FR, INV]
201		Little or none.	0	
202		Intermediate.	0	
203		Extensive.	0	
204	F40 Isolated Island	The AA contains (or is part of) an island or beaver lodge within a lake, pond, or river, and is isolated from the shore by water depths >1 m on all sides during an average June. The island may be solid, or it may be a floating vegetation mat that is sufficiently large and dense to support a waterbird nest.	0	[WBN]
205	F41 Floating Algae & Duckweed	At some time of the year, mats of algae and/or duckweed are likely to cover >50% of the AA's otherwise-unshaded water surface, or blanket >50% of the underwater substrate. If true, enter "1" in next column. If untrue or uncertain, enter "0".	0	[EC, PR, WBF]
206	F42 Channel Connection & Outflow Duration	The most persistent surface water connection (outlet channel or pipe, ditch, or overbank water exchange) between the AA and a downslope stream network is: [Note: If the AA represents only part of a wetland, answer this according to whichever is the least permanent surface connection: the one between the AA and the rest of the wetland, or the surface connection between the wetland and the downslope stream network.]		Consider the connection regardless of whether the surface water is frozen. The "downslope stream network" could consist of ditches, rivers, ponds, or lakes which eventually connect to the ocean. If this cannot be determined while visiting the AA, consult topographic maps perhaps by viewing these online with Toporama (http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html) [CS, FA, FR, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WCv, WS]
207		Persistent (surface water flows out for >9 months/year).	1	
208		Seasonal (surface water flows out for 14 days to 9 months/year, not necessarily consecutive).	0	

A	B	C	D	E
209		Temporary (surface water flows out for <14 days, not necessarily consecutive).	0	
210		None – but maps show a stream network downslope from the AA and within a distance that is less than the AA's length. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	
211		No surface water flows out of the wetland except possibly during extreme events (<once per 10 years). Or, water flows only into a wetland, ditch, or lake that lacks an outlet. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	
212	F43 Outflow Confinement	During major runoff events, in the places where surface water exits the AA or connected waters nearby, the water:		"Major runoff events" would include biennial high water caused by storms and/or rapid snowmelt. [CS, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, STR, WS]
213		Mostly passes through a pipe, culvert, narrowly breached dike, berm, beaver dam, or other partial obstruction (other than natural topography) that does not appear to drain the wetland artificially during most of the growing season.	0	
214		Leaves through natural exits (channels or diffuse outflow), not mainly through artificial or temporary features.	1	
215		Is exported more quickly than usual due to ditches or pipes within the AA or connected to its outlet, or within 10 m of the AA's edge, which drain the wetland artificially, or water is pumped out of the AA.	0	
216	F44 Tributary Channel	At least once annually, surface water from a tributary channel that is >100 m long moves into the AA. Or, surface water from a larger permanent water body adjacent to the AA spills into the AA. If it enters only via a pipe, that pipe must be fed by a mapped stream or lake further upstream. If no, SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	If inlet tributaries cannot be searched for due to inaccessibility of part of the AA, follow suggestions in F42 above. [NRv, PH, PRv, SRv]
217	F45 Input Water Temperature	Based on lack of shade, water source characteristics, or actual temperature measurements, the inflow is likely to be warmer than surface water in the AA during part of most years. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	[WCv]
218	F46 Throughflow Resistance	During its travel through the AA at the time of peak annual flow, water arriving in channels: [select only the ONE encountered by most of the incoming water].		[FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
219		Does not bump into many plant stems as it travels through the AA. Nearly all the water continues to travel in unvegetated (often incised) channels that have minimal contact with wetland vegetation, or through a zone of open water such as an instream pond or lake.	0	
220		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.	0	
221		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation and mostly spreads throughout, or is in widely meandering, multi-branched, or braided channels.	0	
222		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.	0	
223		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems and follows a fairly indirect path from entrance to exit (meandering, multi-branched, or braided).	0	
224	F47 pH Measurement	The pH in most of the AA's surface water:		Preferably, measure this in larger areas of ponded surface water within the AA, or in streams that have passed through (not along) most of the AA. Unless surface water is completely absent, do not dig holes or make depressions in peat in order to provide water for this measurement. Avoid measuring near roads or in puddles formed only by recent rain. [AM, FA, FR, NR, WBF, PH, PR, Sens, WBF, WBN]
225		Was measured, and is: [enter the reading in the column to the right.]		
226		Was not measured but surface water is present and is darkly tea-coloured. Or if no surface water, then mosses and plants that indicate peatland (e.g., Labrador tea) are prevalent. Enter "1".	0	
227		Neither of above. Enter "1".	1	
228	F48 TDS and/or Conductivity	The TDS (total dissolved solids) or conductivity off the AA's surface water is: (select the first true row with information):		See above for measurement guidance. [FR, INV, NRv, PH, PRv, Sens]
229		TDS is: [Enter the reading in ppm or mg/L in the column to the right, if measured, or answer next row.]		
230		Conductivity is [Enter the reading in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ in the column to the right.]		
231		Was not measured, but plants that indicate saline conditions cover much of the vegetated AA. Enter "1".	0	
232		Neither of above	1	
233	F49 Beaver Probability	Use of the AA by beaver during the past 5 years is (select most applicable ONE):		[FA, FR, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
234		Evident from direct observation or presence of gnawed limbs, dams, tracks, dens, lodges, or extensive stands of water-killed trees (snags).	0	
235		Likely based on known occurrence in the region and proximity to suitable habitat, which may include: (a) a persistent freshwater wetland, pond, or lake, or a perennial low or mid-gradient (<10%) channel, and (b) a corridor or multiple stands of hardwood trees and shrubs in vegetated areas near surface water.	1	
236		Unlikely because site characteristics above are deficient, and/or this is a settled area or other area where beaver are routinely removed.	0	
237	F50 Groundwater Strength of Evidence	Select first applicable choice:		Adhere to these criteria strictly – do not use personal judgment based on fen conditions, pH, or other evidence. Consult topographic maps to detect breaks in slope described here. Rust deposits associated with groundwater seeps may be most noticeable as orange discoloration in ice formations along streams during early winter. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PRv, SFS, WC, WS]
238		Springs are known to be present within the AA, or if groundwater levels have been monitored, that has demonstrated that groundwater primarily discharges to the wetland for longer periods during the year than periods when the wetland recharges the groundwater.	0	
239		Most of the AA has a slope of >5%, or is very close to the base of a natural slope longer than 100 m and much steeper than the slope of the AA, AND the pH of surface water, if known, is >5.5.	1	
240		Neither of above is true, although some groundwater may discharge to or flow through the AA. Or groundwater influx is unknown.	0	

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241	F51 Internal Gradient	The gradient along most of the flow path within the AA is: <2% or the AA has no surface water outlet (not even seasonally). 2-5%. 6-10%. >10%.	0 1 0 0	This is not the same as the shoreline slope. It is the elevational difference between the AA's inlet and outlet, divided by the flow-distance between them and converted to percent. If available, use a clinometer to measure this. Free clinometer apps can be downloaded to smartphones. If the wetland is large (longer than ~1 km), this may be estimated using Google Earth to determine the minimum and maximum elevation within the AA, then dividing by length and multiplying by 100. [CS, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
242		Note for the next three questions: If the AA lacks an upland edge, evaluate based on the AA's entire perimeter, and moving outward into whatever areas are adjacent. In many situations, these questions are best answered by measuring from aerial images.		
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247	F52 Vegetated Buffer as % of Perimeter	Within a zone extending 30 m laterally from the AA's edge with upland and/or other wetlands, the percentage that contains perennial vegetation cover (except lawns, row crops, heavily grazed land, conifer plantations) is: <5%. 5 to 30%. 30 to 60%. 60 to 90%. >90%, or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands. SKIP to F55.	0 0 0 1 0	[AM, FA, FR, INV, NRv, PH, POL, PRv, SBM, Sens, SRv, STR, WBN]
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253	F53 Type of Cover in Buffer	Within 30 m upslope of where the wetland transitions to upland, the upland land cover that is NOT perennial vegetation is mostly (mark ONE): Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock. Bare or nearly bare pervious surface or managed vegetation, e.g., lawn, row crops, unpaved road, dike, landslide.	1 0	[AM, FA, INV, NRv, PH, POL, SBM, STR, WBN]
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256	F54 Buffer Slope	The steepest and/or most disturbed part of the upland area that is within 30 m of the wetland and occupies >10% of that upland area has a percent slope of: <1% (flat -- almost no noticeable slope) or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands. 2-5%. 5-30%. >30%.	0 1 0 0	[NRv, PRv, Sens, SRv]
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261	F55 Cliffs or Steep Banks	In the AA or within 100 m, there are elevated terrestrial features such as cliffs, talus slopes, stream banks, or excavated pits (but not riprap) that extend at least 2 m nearly vertically, are unvegetated, and potentially contain crevices or other substrate suitable for nesting or den areas. Enter 1 (yes) or 0 (no).	0	Do not include upturned trees as potential den sites. [POL, SBM]
262	F56 New or Expanded Wetland	Human actions within or adjacent to the AA have persistently expanded a naturally occurring wetland or created a wetland where there previously was none (e.g., by excavation, impoundment): No. Yes, and created or expanded 20 - 100 years ago. Yes, and created or expanded 3-20 years ago. Yes, and created or expanded within last 3 years. Yes, but time of origin or expansion unknown. Unknown if new or expanded within 20 years or not.	1 0 0 0 0 0	Determine this using historical aerial photography, old maps, soil maps, or permit files as available [CS, NR, OE, PH, Sens]
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269	F57 Burn History	More than 1% of the AA's previously vegetated area: Burned within past 5 years. Burned 6-10 years ago. Burned 11-30 years ago. Burned >30 years ago, or no evidence of a burn and no data.	0 0 0 1	Look for charred soil or stumps (in multiple widely-spaced locations) or ask landowner. [CS, PH, STR]
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274	F58 Visibility	The maximum percentage of the wetland that is visible from the best vantage point on public roads, public parking lots, public buildings, or public maintained trails that intersect, adjoin, or are within 100 m of the AA (select one) is: <25%. 25-50%. >50%.	0 0 1	[PU, STR, WBFv]
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278	F59 Non-consumptive Uses - Actual or Potential	Assuming access permission was granted, select ALL statements that are true of the AA as it currently exists: For an average person, walking is physically possible <u>in</u> (not just near) >5% of the AA during most of the growing season, e.g., free of deep water and dense shrub thickets. Maintained roads, parking areas, or foot-trails are within 10 m of the AA, or the AA can be accessed part of the year by boats arriving via contiguous waters. Within or near the AA, there is an interpretive center, trails with interpretive signs or brochures, and/or regular guided interpretive tours.	1 0 0	[PU, STR]
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282	F60 Unvisited Core Area	The percentage of the AA almost never visited by humans during an average growing season probably comprises: [Note: Only include the part actually walked or driven (not simply viewed from) with a vehicle or boat. Do not include visitors on trails outside of the AA unless more than half the wetland is visible from the trails and they are within 30 m of the wetland edge. In that case include only the area occupied by the trail.] <5% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	[AM, FAv, FRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
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A	B	C	D	E
284		<5% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
285		5-50% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
286		5-50% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
287		50-95%, with or without inhabited building nearby.	0	
288		>95% of the AA with or without inhabited building nearby.	1	
289	F61 Frequently Visited Area	The part of the AA visited by humans almost daily for several weeks during an average growing season probably comprises: [See note above.]	0	[AM, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
290		<5%. If F60 was answered ">95%" (mostly never visited), SKIP to F64.	1	
291		5-50%.	0	
292		50-95%.	0	
293		>95% of the AA.	0	
294	F62 BMP - Soils	Boardwalks, paved trails, fences or other infrastructure and/or well-enforced regulations appear to effectively prevent visitors from walking on soil within nearly all of the AA when the soil is unfrozen. Enter "1" if true.	0	[PH, PU]
295	F63 BMP - Wildlife Protection	Fences, observation blinds, platforms, paved trails, exclusion periods, and/or well-enforced prohibitions on motorised boats, off-leash pets, and off road vehicles appear to effectively exclude or divert visitors and their pets from the AA at critical times in order to minimize disturbance of wildlife (except during hunting seasons). Enter "1" if true.	0	[AM, PU, WBF, WBN]
296	F64 Consumptive Uses (Provisioning Services)	Recent evidence was found within the AA of the following potentially-sustainable consumptive uses. Select ALL that apply.	0	[FAv, FRv, WBFv]
297		Low-impact commercial timber harvest (e.g., selective thinning).	0	
298		Commercial or traditional-use harvesting of native plants, their fruits, or mushrooms.	0	
299		Waterfowl hunting.	0	
300		Fishing.	0	
301		Trapping of furbearers.	0	
302	F65 Domestic Wells	None of the above.	1	[NRv]
303		The closest wells or water bodies that currently provide drinking water are:	0	
304		Within 0-100 m. of the AA.	0	
305		100-500 m. away.	0	
306		>500 m. away, or no information.	1	
307	F66 Calcareous Fen	The AA is, or is part of, a calcareous fen. See the Plants_Calcar worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file for list of plant indicators (calciphiles). Enter 1 if more than two Strong or more than five Moderate calciphile species are present; otherwise enter 0, but if not able to identify those and no information, change to blank.	0	[PH, PR]

Investigator: Rohan Kariyawansa	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL1	Date: October 13 2022		
Stressor (S) Data Form for Non-Tidal Wetlands. WESP-AC for Nova Scotia version 2.				
S1	Aberrant Timing of Water Inputs			
	<p><i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item that is likely to have caused the timing of water inputs (but not necessarily their volume) to shift by hours, days, or weeks, becoming either more muted (smaller or less frequent peaks spread over longer times, more temporal homogeneity of flow or water levels) or more flashy (larger or more frequent spikes but over shorter times). [FA, FR, INV, PH, STR]</i></p> <p>Stormwater from impervious surfaces that drains directly to the wetland.</p> <p>Water subsidies from wastewater effluent, septic system leakage, snow storage areas, or irrigation.</p> <p>Regular removal of surface or groundwater for irrigation or other consumptive use.</p> <p>Flow regulation in tributaries or water level regulation in adjoining water body, or other control structure at water entry points that regulates inflow to the wetland.</p> <p>A dam, dike, levee, weir, berm, or fill – within or downgradient from the wetland -- that interferes with surface or subsurface flow in/out of the AA (e.g., road fill, wellpads, pipelines).</p> <p>Excavation within the wetland, e.g., dugout, artificial pond, dead-end ditch.</p> <p>Artificial drains or ditches in or near the wetland.</p> <p>Accelerated downcutting or channelization of an adjacent or internal channel (incised below the historical water table level).</p> <p>Logging within the wetland.</p> <p>Subsidence or compaction of the wetland's substrate as a result of machinery, livestock, fire, drainage, or off road vehicles.</p> <p>Straightening, ditching, dredging, and/or lining of tributary channels.</p> <p><i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items had no measurable effect on the timing of water conditions in any part of the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i></p>			
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
Spatial extent of timing shift within the wetland:	>95% of wetland.	5-95% of wetland.	<5% of wetland.	0
When most of the timing shift began:	<3 yrs ago.	3-9 yrs ago.	10-100 yrs ago.	0
<i>Score the following 2 rows only if the altered inputs began within past 10 years, and only for the part of the wetland that experiences those.</i>				
Input timing now vs. previously:	Shift of weeks.	Shift of days.	Shift of hours or minutes.	0
Flashiness or muting:	Became very flashy or controlled.	Intermediate.	Became mildly flashy or controlled.	0
			Sum=	0
			Stressor subscore=	0.00
S2	Accelerated Inputs of Contaminants and/or Salts			
<p><i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item – occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of contaminants or salts to the AA. [AM, FA, PH, POL, STR]</i></p> <p>Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills, industrial facilities.</p> <p>Metals & chemical wastes from mining, shooting ranges, snow storage areas, oil/gas extraction, other sources (download many locations from National Pollutant Release Inventory and view KMZ overlay in Google Earth. https://www.ec.gc.ca/inrp-npri/default.asp?lang=En&n=B85A1846-1</p> <p>Road salt.</p> <p>Spraying of pesticides, as applied to lawns, croplands, roadsides, or other areas in the CA.</p> <p><i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly higher levels of contaminants and/or salts, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i></p>				
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
Usual toxicity of most toxic contaminants:	Industrial effluent, mining waste, unmanaged landfill.	Cropland, managed landfill, pipeline or transmission rights-of-way.	Low density residential.	0
Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
			Sum=	0
			Stressor subscore=	0.00

S3	Accelerated Inputs of Nutrients				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item – occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of nutrients to the wetland. [NRv, PRv, STR]</i>				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills.				
	Fertilizers applied to lawns, ag lands, or other areas in the CA.				
	Livestock, dogs.				
	Artificial drainage of upslope lands.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly more nutrients, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Type of loading:	High density of unmaintained septic, some types of industrial sources.	Moderate density septic, cropland, secondary wastewater treatment plant.	Livestock, pets, low density residential.	0
	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
	AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
				Sum=	0
				Stressor subscore=	0.00
S4	Excessive Sediment Loading from Contributing Area				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the CA that is likely to have elevated the load of waterborne or windborne sediment reaching the wetland from its CA. [FA, FR, INV, PH, SRv, STR]</i>				
	Erosion from plowed fields, fill, timber harvest, dirt roads, vegetation clearing, fires.				
	Erosion from construction, in-channel machinery in the CA.				
	Erosion from off-road vehicles in the CA.				
	Erosion from livestock or foot traffic in the CA.				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent.				
	Sediment from road sanding, gravel mining, other mining, oil/gas extraction.				
	Accelerated channel downcutting or headcutting of tributaries due to altered land use.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points (3, 2, or 1 as shown in header) in the last column. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively add significantly more sediment or suspended solids to the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Erosion in CA:	Extensive evidence, high intensity.*	Potentially (based on high-intensity* land use) or scattered evidence.	Potentially (based on low-intensity* land use) with little or no direct evidence.	2
	Recentness of significant soil disturbance in the CA:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	3
	Duration of sediment inputs to the wetland:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	3
	AA proximity to actual or potential sources:	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
	* high-intensity= extensive off-road vehicle use, plowing, grading, excavation, erosion with or without veg removal; low-intensity= veg removal only with little or no apparent erosion or disturbance of soil or sediment.				
				Sum=	8
				Stressor subscore=	0.67

S5	Soil or Sediment Alteration Within the Assessment Area				
<p><i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the wetland that is likely to have compacted, eroded, or otherwise altered the wetland's soil. Consider only items occurring within past 100 years or since wetland was created or restored (whichever is less). [CS, INV, NR, PH, SR, STR]</i></p> <p>Compaction from machinery, off-road vehicles, livestock, or mountain bikes, especially during wetter periods.</p> <p>Leveling or other grading not to the natural contour.</p> <p>Tillage, plowing (but excluding disking for enhancement of native plants).</p> <p>Fill or riprap, excluding small amounts of upland soils containing organic amendments (compost, etc.) or small amounts of topsoil imported from another wetland.</p> <p>Excavation.</p> <p>Ditch cleaning or dredging in or adjacent to the wetland.</p> <p>Boat traffic in or adjacent to the wetland and sufficient to cause shore erosion or stir bottom sediments.</p> <p>Artificial water level or flow manipulations sufficient to cause erosion or stir bottom sediments.</p>					
<p><i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not measurably alter the soil structure and/or topography, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i></p>					
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
Spatial extent of altered soil:	>95% of wetland or >95% of its upland edge (if any).	5-95% of wetland or 5-95% of its upland edge (if any).	<5% of wetland and <5% of its upland edge (if any).	0	
Recentness of significant soil alteration in wetland:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0	
Duration:	Long-lasting, minimal veg recovery.	Long-lasting but mostly revegetated.	Short-term, revegetated, not intense.	0	
Timing of soil alteration:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Mainly during one-time or scattered events.	0	
			Sum=	0	
			Stressor subscore=	0.00	

Assessment Area (AA) Results:

Wetland ID: WL1

Date: October 13 2022

Observer: RK

Latitude & Longitude (decimal degrees): 45.301190, 63.331318

Scores will appear below after data are entered in worksheets OF, F, and S. See Manual for definitions and descriptions of how scores were computed.						
Wetland Functions or Other Attributes:	Function Score (Normalised)	Function Rating	Benefits Score (Normalised)	Benefits Rating	Function Score (raw)	Benefits Score (raw)
Water Storage & Delay (WS)	0.00	Lower	3.67	Lower	1.67	1.63
Stream Flow Support (SFS)	8.07	Higher	8.27	Higher	6.50	5.50
Water Cooling (WC)	6.70	Higher	7.35	Higher	4.47	3.99
Sediment Retention & Stabilisation (SR)	1.38	Lower	1.98	Moderate	3.28	0.97
Phosphorus Retention (PR)	0.14	Lower	1.88	Moderate	3.83	1.46
Nitrate Removal & Retention (NR)	3.55	Moderate	10.00	Higher	5.34	36.67
Carbon Sequestration (CS)	0.08	Lower			5.23	
Organic Nutrient Export (OE)	9.61	Higher			6.28	
Anadromous Fish Habitat (FA)	5.50	Higher	10.00	Higher	3.61	25.26
Resident Fish Habitat (FR)	8.41	Higher	10.00	Higher	4.57	25.26
Aquatic Invertebrate Habitat (INV)	4.56	Moderate	10.00	Higher	5.35	8.72
Amphibian & Turtle Habitat (AM)	5.72	Moderate	10.00	Higher	6.12	10.01
Waterbird Feeding Habitat (WBF)	10.00	Higher	5.00	Moderate	16.31	5.00
Waterbird Nesting Habitat (WBN)	10.00	Higher	5.00	Higher	14.68	5.00
Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat (SBM)	8.10	Higher	6.67	Moderate	7.05	6.67
Pollinator Habitat (POL)	7.82	Moderate	6.67	Moderate	6.48	6.67
Native Plant Habitat (PH)	10.00	Higher	6.73	Moderate	8.46	6.73
Public Use & Recognition (PU)			10.00	Higher		7.22
Wetland Sensitivity (Sens)			3.89	Lower		3.28
Wetland Ecological Condition (EC)			4.78	Moderate		7.50
Wetland Stressors (STR) (higher score means more stress)			10.00	Higher		10.80
Summary Ratings for Grouped Functions:						
HYDROLOGIC Group (WS)	0.00	Lower	3.67	Lower	1.67	1.63
WATER QUALITY SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SR, PR, NR, CS)	2.42	Lower	7.31	Higher	4.88	24.85
AQUATIC SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SFS, INV, OE, WC)	8.42	Higher	9.27	Higher	6.08	7.40
AQUATIC HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of FA, FR, AM, WBF, WBN)	8.96	Higher	9.00	Higher	12.68	19.68
TRANSITION HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of SBM, PH, POL)	9.32	Higher	6.71	Moderate	7.89	6.71
WETLAND CONDITION (EC)			4.78	Moderate		7.50
WETLAND RISK (average of Sensitivity & Stressors)			6.94	Higher		7.04
		NOTE: A score of 0 does not mean the function or benefit is absent from the wetland. It means only that this wetland has a capacity that is equal or less than the lowest-scoring one, for that function or benefit, from among all the NS calibration wetlands that were assessed previously.				

NOVA SCOTIA - Functional WSS Interpretation Tool

Function-Benefit Product (FBP)	FBP SCORE	FBP SCORE CATEGORY
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - HYDROLOGIC	0	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - WATER QUALITY SUPPORT	17.67789556	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC SUPPORT	78.10064894	Moderate
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC HABITAT	80.67140126	High
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - TRANSITION HABITAT	62.52288798	Low

Habitat Rule Satisfied? NO

Support Rule Satisfied? NO

Habitat/Support Hybrid Rule Satisfied? NO

CONCLUSION: Site is not a WSS

Cover Page: Basic Description of Assessment	WESP-AC version 2
Site Name:	Higgins Mountain, WL2
Investigator Name:	Madeline Maher
Date of Field Assessment:	13 October 2022
Nearest Town:	Masstown
Latitude (decimal degrees):	45.51394444
Longitude (decimal degrees):	63.58027778
Is a map based on a formal on-site wetland delineation available?	Yes
Approximate size of the Assessment Area (AA, in hectares):	0.86
AA as percent of entire wetland (approx.). Attach sketch map if AA is smaller than the entire contiguous wetland.	100
What percent (approx.) of the wetland were you able to visit?	100
What percent (approx.) of the AA were you able to visit?	100
Were you able to ask the site owner/manager about any of the questions?	No
Indicate here if you intentionally surveyed for rare plants, calciphile plants, or rare animals:	Yes
Have you attended a WESP-AC training session? If so, indicate approximate month & year.	October 2022
How many wetlands have you assessed previously using WESP-AC? (approx.)	40
Comments about the site or this WESP-AC assessment (attach extra page if desired):	

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date: 12 October 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL2		Investigator: Madeline Maher	
2	Form OF (Office). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia wetlands only. DIRECTIONS: Conduct an assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answering many of the questions below will require using these online map viewers: Google Earth Pro: https://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html Provincial Landscape Viewer: https://nsgis.novascotia.ca/plv/ For most wetlands, completing this office data form will require 1-2 hours. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see bracketed abbreviations in the Definitions/Explanations column. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.				
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations
4	OF1	Province	Mark the province in which the AA is located by changing the 0 in the column next to it to a "1". Mark only one.		This determines to which province's calibration wetlands the raw score of any wetland is normalised. In the function and benefits models, it also triggers the automatic exclusion of indicators for which no spatial data exists in a particular province.
5			New Brunswick	0	
6			Nova Scotia	1	
7			Prince Edward Island	0	
8			Newfoundland-Labrador	0	
9	OF2	Ponded Area Within 1 km.	The area of surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		"Adjacent" means not separated from the AA by a wide expanse (>50 m) of upland (including roads >50 m wide). Include ponded areas likely to be hidden by wetland vegetation. If surface water extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. Do not include tidal areas. Measure the area from aerial imagery using Google Earth Pro (click on Ruler icon in toolbar, then Polygon in pop-up menu). [PH, SBM, WBN]
10			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	1	
11			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
12			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
13			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
14			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
15			>100 hectares.	0	
16	OF3	Ponded Water & Wetland Within 1 km.	The area of wetlands and surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. If the AA's wetland vegetation extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. "Ponded" means not flowing in rivers or streams. [Sens, WBF]
17			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
18			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	1	
19			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
20			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
21			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
22			>100 hectares.	0	
23	OF4	Size of Largest Nearby Vegetated Tract or Corridor	The largest vegetated patch or corridor that includes the AA's vegetation plus all adjacent upland vegetation that is not lawn, row crops, heavily grazed lands, conifer plantation is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. Use Google Earth Pro's polygon ruler (as described above). Exclude conifer plantations only if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens]
24			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
25			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
26			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
27			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
28			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
29			100 to 1000 hectares.	1	
30			>1000 hectares. [This is nearly always the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]	0	

	A	B	C	D	E
31	OF5 Distance to Large Vegetated Tract		The minimum distance from the edge of the AA to the edge of the closest vegetated land (but excluding row crops, lawn, conifer plantation) larger than 375 hectares (about 2 km on a side), is:	1 0 0 0 0 0	To measure distance, use Google Earth Pro (Ruler > Line tool). The 375-ha criterion is from the Fundy Model Forest Project. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
32			<50 m, and not separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by any width of paved roads , stretches of open water, row crops, bare ground, lawn, or impervious surface. Or the AA itself contains >375 ha of vegetation. [This is often the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]		
33			<50 m, but completely separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by those features, and AA does not contain >375 ha of vegetation.		
34			50-500 m, and not separated .		
35			50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
36			0.5 - 5 km, and not separated .		
37			0.5 - 5 km, but separated by those features.		
38			None of the above (the closest patches or corridors which are that large are >5 km away).		
39	OF6 Herbaceous Uniqueness		The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 5 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 1 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "1". [* NOTE: Exclude lawns, row crops, heavily grazed lands, forest, shrublands. Include moss as well as grasslike plants in this use of "herbaceous vegetation"]	0	For this question only, consider moss to be herbaceous vegetation. Determine the score by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth after successively drawing or estimating the boundaries of the buffers of 5 km, 1 km, and 100 m radius focused on the center of the AA. Circles of specified radius can be drawn in Google Earth Pro by clicking on the Ruler icon, then Circle in the pop-up menu. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
40	OF7 Woody Uniqueness		The AA's vegetation cover is >10% woody* but uplands within 5 km have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 1 km have <10% woody cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "1" [* NOTE: woody cover = trees & shrubs taller than 1 m.]	0	See above. Do not consider conifer plantations to be forest if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv]
41	OF8 Local Vegetated Cover Percentage		Draw a 5-km radius circle measured from the center of the AA. Ignoring all permanent water in the circle, the percent of the remaining area that is wooded or unmanaged herbaceous vegetation (NOT lawn, row crops, bare or heavily grazed land, clearcuts, or conifer plantations) is:	1 0 0 1 0	In Google Earth, draw the 5 km buffer and then estimate land cover percentages, or do GIS analysis of an appropriate land cover layer. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
42			<5% of the land.		
43			5 to 20% of the land.		
44			20 to 60% of the land.		
45			60 to 90% of the land.		
46			>90% of the land. SKIP to OF10.		
47	OF9 Type of Land Cover Alteration		Within the 5-km radius circle, and ignoring all permanent water, the land area that is bare or non-perennial cover is mostly:	1	[AM, SBM]
48			Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
49			Bare pervious surface, e.g., lawn, recent (<5 yrs ago) clearcut, dirt or gravel road, cropland, landslide, conifer plantation.		
50	OF10 Distance by Road to Nearest Population Center		Measured along the maintained road nearest the AA, the distance to the nearest population center is:	0 0 0 1	"Population center" means a settled area with more than about 5 regularly-inhabited structures per square kilometer. In Google Earth Pro, click on the Ruler icon, then Path, and draw and measure the route. [FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, WBFv]
51			<100 m.		
52			100 - 500 m.		
53			0.5 - 1 km.		
54			1 - 5 km.		
55			>5 km.		
56	OF11 Distance to Nearest Maintained Road		From the center of the AA, the distance to the nearest maintained public road (dirt or paved) is:	1 0 0 0 0	Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth Pro and measuring with the Ruler>Line tool. [AM, FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBN]
57			<10 m.		
58			10 - 25 m.		
59			25 - 50 m.		
60			50 - 100 m.		
61			100 - 500 m.		
62			>500 m.		

	A	B	C	D	E
63	OF12	Wildlife Access	Draw a circle of radius of 5 km from the center of the AA. If mammals and amphibians can move from the center of the AA to ALL other separate wetlands and ponds located within the circle without being forced to cross pavement (any width), lawns, bare ground, and/or marine waters, mark 1= yes can move to all, 0= no. Change to blank if there are no other wetlands within 5 km.	0	Draw the 5 km circle in Google Earth Pro using the Circle tool and search for roads and wetlands within it, being alert for roads hidden under forest canopy. [AM, SBM, STR]
64	OF13	Distance to Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) ponded water body visible in GoogleEarth imagery is:		In Google Earth Pro, zoom in closely to examine the surrounding landscape for ponds, lakes, and wetlands that appear to be permanently flooded. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
65			<50 m, and not separated by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, lawn, bare ground, or impervious surface.	0	
66			<50 m, but completely separated by those features.	0	
67			50-500 m, and not separated.	0	
68			50-500 m, but separated by those features.	0	
69			0.5 - 1 km, and not separated.	0	
70			0.5 - 1 km, but separated by those features.	1	
71			None of the above (the closest patches or corridors that large are >1 km away).	0	
72	OF14	Distance to Large Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) non-tidal body of water that is ponded during most of the year and is larger than 8 hectares during most of a normal year is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth. [Sens, WBF, WBN]
73			<100 m.	0	
74			100 m - 1 km.	0	
75			1-2 km.	0	
76			2-5 km.	1	
77			5-10 km.	0	
78			>10 km.	0	
79	OF15	Tidal Proximity	The distance from the AA edge to the closest tidal water body (regardless of its salinity) is:		In Google Earth, measure the distance to the ocean (including Bay of Fundy) or tidal river, whichever is closer. If you need to see how far upriver a river is tidal, see the KMZ file provided with this calculator for NS (NS Headtide). Points shown in those files are only an approximation, so local information if available may be preferable. [FA, WBF]
80			<100 m.	0	
81			100 m - 1 km.	0	
82			1 - 5 km.	0	
83			5-10 km.	0	
84			10-40 km.	1	
85			>40 km.	0	
86	OF16	Upland Edge Contact	Select one:		[NR, SBM, Sens]
87			The AA has no upland edge (or upland is <1% of perimeter). The AA is entirely surrounded by (& contiguous with) other wetlands or water.	0	
88			1-25% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland (including filled areas). The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0	
89			25-50% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0	
90			50-75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0	
91			More than 75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. Any remainder adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA. This will be true for most assessments done with WESP-AC.	1	
92	OF17	Flood Damage from Non-tidal Waters	Within 5 km downstream or downslope of the AA (select first true choice):		Contact local authorities to determine if such maps exist. Where available, LiDAR imagery can provide finer elevational resolution useful for flood modeling. [WSv]
93			Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding not caused by tidal storm surges.	0	
94			Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas, but infrastructure is absent or is not vulnerable to floods from a non-tidal river. In some cases levees, upriver dams, or other measures may partly limit damage or risk from smaller events.	0	
95			Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.	0	
96			Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there is no infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.	1	

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97	OF18 Relative Elevation in Watershed	In Google Earth, enable the Terrain layer (lower left menu) and open the NS_Watersheds Secondary KMZ file that accompanies this calculator. Then determine the AA's approximate elevation (bottom right, NOT the "eye alt"). Then move cursor around to determine the watershed's maximum and minimum elevation. Divide the AA's elevation by the (max-min).	0.85	[FA, NR, Sens, SFSv, WCv, WSV]
98	OF19 Water Quality Sensitive Watershed or Area	The AA is in a Protected Water Supply area (Designated Water Supply Area, Natural Watershed Municipal Surface Water Supply Area, or Municipal Water Supply Area) according to the provided KMZ overlay ("NS Protected Water Supply Areas"). Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	If an ACCDC report is available for this AA, it also may contain such information. [NRv]
99	OF20 Degraded Water Upstream	Sampling indicates a problem with concentrations of metals, hydrocarbons, nutrients , or other substances (excluding bacteria, acidic water, high temperatures) being present at levels harmful to aquatic life or humans, and: The condition is present within the AA.	0	May use existing data, or sample those waters as part of this wetland assessment. "Harmful" should be evaluated with regard to current federal or provincial water quality standards. [AM, FA, FR, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WBF, WBN]
100		The condition is present in waters within 1 km that flow into the AA, but has not been documented in the AA itself.	0	
101		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.	0	
102		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.	1	
103	OF21 Degraded Water Downstream	The problem described above is downslope from the AA, and: The condition is present within 1 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel.	0	May use existing data, or monitor waters as part of this wetland assessment. [NRv, PRv, SRv]
104		The condition is present within 5 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel, or within 1 km but not connected to the AA by a channel.	0	
105		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.	0	
106		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.	1	
107	OF22 Wetland as a % of Its Contributing Area (Catchment)	From a topographic map and field observations, estimate the approximate boundaries of the catchment (CA) of the entire wetland of which the AA may be only a part. Then adjust those boundaries if necessary based on your field observations of the surrounding terrain, and/or by using procedures described in the Manual. Divide the area of the wetland (not just the AA) by the approximate area of its catchment excluding the area of the wetland itself. When doing the calculation, if ponded water is adjacent to the wetland, include that in the wetland's area. The result is: <0.01, or catchment size unknown due to stormwater pipes that collect water from an indeterminate area.	0	Topographic maps may be viewed online at the National Atlas of Canada (Toporama): http://atlas.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html [NR, PR, Sens, SR, WS]
109		0.01 to 0.1.	0	
110		0.1 to 1.	0	
111		>1 (wetland is larger than its catchment (e.g., wetland with flat surrounding terrain and no inlet, or is entirely isolated by dikes, or is a raised bog).	1	
112	OF23 Unvegetated Surface in the Contributing Area	The proportion of the AA's contributing area (measured to no more than 1000 m upslope) that is comprised of buildings, roads, parking lots, other pavement, exposed bedrock, landslides, and other mostly-bare surface is about : <10%.	1	
113		10 to 25%.	0	[FA, INV, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WCv, WSV]
114		>25%.	0	
115	OF24 Transport From Upslope	A relatively large proportion of the precipitation that falls farther upslope in the CA reaches this wetland quickly as runoff (surface water), as indicated by the following: (a) input channel is present, (b) input channels have been straightened, (c) upslope wetlands have been ditched extensively, (d) land cover is mostly non-forest, (e) CA slopes are steep, and/or (f) most CA soils are shallow (bedrock near surface) and/or have high runoff coefficients. This statement is:	0	
116		Mostly true.	0	
117		Somewhat true.	1	
118		Mostly untrue.	0	
119				
120				
121				

	A	B	C	D	E
122	OF25	Aspect	The overland flow direction of most surface water (in streams, rivers, or runoff) that enters the AA is:		[AM, NR, SFS, WC, WS]
123			Northward (N, NE). north-facing contributing area.	0	
124			Southward (S, SW). south-facing contributing area.	0	
125			Other (E, SE, W, NW), or no detectable uphill slope or input channel (flat).	1	
126	OF26	Internal Flow Distance (Path Length)	The horizontal flow distance from the wetland's inlet to outlet is:		Identify inlets and outlets, if any, from topographic maps (use elevations to determine which are inlets and which are outlets) and augment by field inspection. With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, select Nova Scotia Topo as the Basemap. Also enable the layer Forestry>WAM Predicted Flow. Then measure the inlet-outlet distance. [NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
127			<10 m.	0	
128			10 - 50 m.	0	
129			50 - 100 m.	0	
130			100 - 1000 m.	0	
131			1-2 km.	0	
132			>2 km, or wetland lacks an inlet and outlet.	1	
133	OF27	Growing Degree Days	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called NS_GrowingDegreeDays. Place your cursor over the AA and left-click. From the pop-up window, enter the GRIDCODE number in the next column.	1821	This layer was provided by Dr. Dan McKenney of the Canadian Forest Service [AM, CS, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WCV, WS]
134	OF28	Fish Access or Use	According to agency biologists and/or your own observations, the AA. [Mark just the first choice that is true.]		Regarding the last choice, if uncertain if an AA is fishless, consider the possibility its waters have been stocked. [AM, FA, FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
135			Is known to support rearing and/or spawning by Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels. Go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife>Significant Habitat>Species at Risk. Contact local fishery biologists, review the ACCDC report, and visit these websites: http://www.salmoneatlas.com/atlanticsalmon/canada-east/index.1.html http://atlanticssalmofederation.org/rivers/introduction.html	0	
136			Has not been documented to support Atlantic salmon rearing and/or spawning, but is connected to nearby waters likely to contain Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels and is probably accessed by those during some conditions.	0	
137			Is probably not accessed by any anadromous fish species but is known or likely to have other fish at least seasonally.	0	
138			Is known or likely to be fishless (e.g., too small, dry, and/or not accessible even temporarily, and not stocked).	1	
139	OF29	Species of Conservation Concern	Within the past 10 years, in the AA (or in its adjoining waters or wetland), qualified observers have documented [mark all applicable]:		Request information from ACCDC and/or conduct your own survey at an appropriate season using an approved protocol. For birds, also check eBird.org. NOTE for NS: If your WESP-AC is being completed for a Wetland Alteration Application to NS-ECC, your ACCDC results and any taxon-specific survey results must be submitted along with your WESP-AC results, and application. [AMv, EC, PHv, POLv, SBMv, Sens, WBFv, WBNv]
140			Presence of one or more of the plant species listed in the Plants_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, or the AA is within a mapped Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora Buffer (go to Provincial Landscape Viewer> Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones).	0	
141			Presence of one or more of the amphibian or reptile species (AM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
142			Presence of one or more of the waterbird species (WBF, WBN) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
143			Presence of one or more of the nesting songbird or raptor species (SBM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, during their nesting season (May-July for most species).	0	
144			None of the above, or no data.	1	
145	OF30	Important Bird Area (IBA)	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called IBAs_Canada. The AA is all or part of an officially designated IBA. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	The source of this layer, which should be checked periodically for updates, is: http://www.ibacanada.com/mapviewer.jsp?lang=EN [SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
146	OF31	Black Duck Nesting Area	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called BlackDuck. Adjust its alignment and opacity. Determine the predicted density (pairs per 25 sq. km) of nesting American Black Duck in the AA's vicinity: <10 (enter 0), 10-20 (enter 1), 20-30 (enter 2), >30 (enter 3). If outside of region shown in map, change to blank.	0	This was provided by Dr. David Leske. [WBNv]
147	OF32	Wintering Deer or Moose Concentration Areas	If AA is on private land with no information, change to blank (not 0). Otherwise: With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, for Wintering Moose, go to Wildlife> Significant Habitat. For Mainland Moose Concentration Areas, go to Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0.	0	[SBM]
148	OF33	Other Conservation Designation	The AA is all or part of an area designated by government, First Nations, or the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) for its exceptional ecological features or highly intact natural conditions. With Provincial Landscape Viewer, see Protected Areas. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If uncertain, consult NCC and agencies for more recent information.	0	See: https://novascotia.ca/parksandprotectedareas/plan/interactive-map/ [PU]
149	OF34	Conservation Investment	The AA is part of or contiguous to a wetland on which public or private organizational funds were spent to preserve, create, restore, or enhance the wetland (excluding mitigation wetlands). Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank (not 0).		[PU]
150	OF35	Mitigation Investment	The AA is all or part of a mitigation site used explicitly to offset impacts elsewhere. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.		[PU]

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151	OF36	Sustained Scientific Use	Plants, animals, or water in the AA have been monitored for >2 years, unrelated to any regulatory requirements, and data are available to the public. Or the AA is part of an area that has been designated by an agency or institution as a benchmark, reference, or status-trends monitoring area. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank .		[PU]
152	OF37	Calcareous Region	The AA is NOT in a subregion that has been heavily exposed to acid precipitation. Enter "1" if true (green or yellow in map in Appendix A of the Manual). Enter "0" if false. If no information, change to blank .		[AM, FA, FR, INV, PH]
153	OF38	Ownership	Select the ONE ownership that covers the most of the AA. In Google Earth, open KMZ file called NS_Crownlands.Use more recent information if available.		"Private lands" may include those owned or leased by non-governmental organizations, e.g., charitable conservation land trusts, DUC, TNC. [PU, STR]
154			New timber harvest, roads, mineral extraction, and intensive summer recreation (e.g., off-road vehicles) are permanently prohibited. Includes many publicly-owned Protected Lands, and private lands under long-term (30+ year) legal agreements to maintain nearly-unaltered conditions.	0	
155			Ownership is public (e.g., municipal, Crown Reservations/Notations) but some or all of the above activities are allowed.	0	
156			Ownership is private but public access is allowed, and/or a shorter-term conservation easement (whether renewable or not) is in place.	0	
157			Ownership is private and owner does not allow access, or access permission unknown, and not a conservation easement.	0	

	A	B	C	D	E		
1	Date: 13 October 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL2		Investigator: Madeline Maher			
2	<p>Form F (Field). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia. DIRECTIONS: Walk for no less than 10 minutes from the wetland edge towards its core, in the part of the AA that is proposed for alteration. If no alteration is proposed, walk in a portion that appears to be most representative of the wetland overall. Walk only where it is safe and legal to do so. Conduct the assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answer these questions primarily based on your onsite observations and interpretations. Do not write in shaded parts of this data form. Answering some questions accurately may require conferring with the landowner or other knowledgeable persons, and/or reviewing aerial imagery. For most wetlands, completing this field data form will require 1-2 hours on a site. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see the accompanying Interpretations form. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage & Delay, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sens= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.</p>						
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations		
4	F1	Wetland Type	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the vegetated part of the AA:		<p>Ericaceous shrubs are ones in the heather family (Ericaceae). Most have leathery evergreen leaves. They include rhododendron, azalea, swamp laurel, leatherleaf, Labrador tea, and others. Most require acidic soil. Although not in the family Ericaceae, sweetgale (<i>Myrica gale</i>) should be counted also. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, Sens, SFS, WBF, WBN]</p>		
5	A. Moss and/or lichen cover more than 25% of the ground. Often dominated by ericaceous shrubs (e.g., Labrador tea) or other acid-tolerant plants (e.g., bog cranberry, pitcher plant, sundew, orchids). Substrate is mostly undecomposed peat. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.						
6	A1. Surface water is usually absent or, if present, pH is typically <4.5 and conductivity is usually <100 µS/cm (<64 ppm TDS). Trees are absent or nearly so. Sedge cover usually sparse or absent but cottongrass and/or lichen cover may be extensive, as well as cloudberry, lingonberry, sheep laurel, and a sedge (<i>Carex rariflora</i>). Wetland surface and surrounding landscape are seldom sloping and wetland often is domed (convex). Inlet and outlet channels are usually absent. If known, pH of peat is <4.0.		1				
7	A2. Not A1. Surface water, if present, has pH typically >4.5 and conductivity is usually >100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Sedge cover is usually extensive, and/or tree and tall shrub cover is extensive. Sometimes at toe of slope or edge of water body. An exit channel is usually present. Wetter than A1 and peat depth may be shallower (<2 m).		0				
8	B. Moss and/or lichen cover less than 25% of the ground. Soil is mineral or decomposed organic (muck). Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column:						
9	B1. Trees and shrubs taller than 1 m comprise more than 25% of the vegetated cover. Surface water is mostly absent or inundates the vegetation only seasonally (e.g., vernal pools or floodplain).		0				
10	B2. Not B1. Tree & tall shrubs comprise less than than 25% of the vegetated cover. Vegetation is mostly herbaceous, e.g., cattail, bulrush, burreed, pond lily, horsetail. Surface water may be extensive and fluctuates seasonally, being either persistent or drying up partly or entirely.		0				
11	<p>Reminder: For all questions, the AA should include all persistent waters in ponds smaller than 8 hectares (~283 m on a side) that are adjacent to the AA. The AA should also include part of the water area of adjacent ponded water larger than 8 ha and adjacent rivers wider than 20 m. Specifically, the AA should include the open water part adjacent to wetland vegetation and equal in width to the average width of that vegetated zone. Throughout this data form, "adjacent" is used synonymously with abutting, adjoining, bordering, contiguous -- and means no upland (manmade or natural) completely separates the described features along their directly shared edge. Features joined only by a channel are not necessarily considered to be adjacent -- a large portion of their edges must match. The features do not have to be hydrologically connected in order to be considered adjacent.</p>						
12	F2		Wetland Types - Adjoining or Subordinate	If the AA is smaller than 1 ha, mark all other types that occupy more than 1% of the vegetated AA. If the AA is larger than 1 ha, mark all other types which are within or adjacent to the AA and occupy more than 1 ha, as visible from the AA or as interpreted from aerial imagery. Do not mark again the type marked in F1.			<p>1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, INV, SBM, WBF]</p>
13	A1.			0			
14	A2.	0					
15	B1.	1					
16	B2.	0					
17	F3	Woody Height & Form Diversity	Following EACH row below, indicate with a number code the percentage of the living vegetation in the AA which is occupied by that feature (6 if >95%, 5 if 75-95%, 4 if 50-75%, 3 if 25-50%, 2 if 5-25%, 1 if <5%, 0 if none). If the vegetated part of the AA is largely herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation, these percentages should not sum to 100%.		<p>Deciduous shrubs in this region usually include buttonbush, Labrador tea, bayberry (<i>Morella</i>), huckleberry, cranberry, cloudberry, sweetgale, alder, willow, birch, ash, dogwood, and a few others. If you assigned a code of 3 or higher to any of the first four choices and the ground cover beneath</p>		

A	B	C	D	E
18		coniferous trees (may include tamarack) taller than 3 m.	3	the trees/shrubs is <25% moss, then question F1 might be BT. [CS, INV, NR, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
19		deciduous trees taller than 3 m.	1	
20		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	2	
21		deciduous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	2	
22		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs <1 m tall not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	2	
23		deciduous shrubs or trees <1 m tall (e.g., deciduous seedlings) not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	2	
24	Note: If none of top 4 rows in F3 was marked 2 or greater, SKIP to F9 (N fixers).			
25	F4 Dominance of Most Abundant Shrub Species	Determine which two woody plant species comprise the greatest portion of the low (<3 m) woody cover . Then choose one:		[PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
26		those species together comprise > 50% of such cover.	0	
27		those species together do not comprise > 50% of such cover.	1	
28	F5 Woody Diameter Classes	Mark ALL the types that comprise >5% of the woody canopy cover in the AA or >5% of the wooded areas (if any) along its upland edge (perimeter). The edge should include only the trees whose canopies extend into the AA.		Estimate the diameters at chest height. If small-diameter trees are overtapped (shaded) by larger ones, visualise a "subcanopy" at the average height of the smaller-dbh trees, to serve as a basis for the minimum 5% canopy requirement in this question. The trees and shrubs need not be wetland species. [AM, CS, POL, SBM, Sens, WBN]
29		coniferous, 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall.	1	
30		broad-leaved deciduous 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall.	1	
31		coniferous, 10-19 cm diameter.	1	
32		broad-leaved deciduous 10-19 cm diameter.	1	
33		coniferous, 20-40 cm diameter.	0	
34		broad-leaved deciduous 20-40 cm diameter.	0	
35		coniferous, >40 cm diameter.	0	
36		broad-leaved deciduous >40 cm diameter.	0	
37	F6 Height Class Interspersion	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the AA:		[AM, INV, NR, PH, SBM, Sens]
38		A. Neither the vegetation taller than 1 m nor the vegetation shorter than that comprise >70% of the vegetated part of the AA. They each comprise 30-70%. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.		
39		A1. The two height classes are mostly scattered and intermixed throughout the AA.	0	
40		A2. Not A1. The two height classes are mostly in separate zones or bands, or in proportionately large clumps.	0	
41		B. Either the vegetation shorter than 1 m comprises >70% of the vegetated part of the AA, or the vegetation taller than that does. One size class might even be totally absent. Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column:		
42		B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly scattered and intermixed within the prevalent one.	1	
43		B2. Not B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly located apart from the prevalent one, in separate zones or clumps, or is completely absent.	0	
44	F7 Large Snags (Dead Standing Trees)	The number of large snags (diameter >20 cm) in the AA plus adjacent upland area within 10 m of the wetland edge is:		Snags are dead standing trees that often (not always) lack bark and foliage. Include only ones that are at least 2 m tall. [POL, SBM, WBN]
45		None, or fewer than 8/ hectare which exceed this diameter.	1	
46		Several (>8/hectare) and a pond, lake, or slow-flowing water wider than 10 m is within 1 km.	0	
47		Several (>8/hectare) but above not true.	0	
48	F8 Downed Wood	The number of downed wood pieces longer than 2 m and with diameter >10 cm, and not persistently submerged, is:		Exclude temporary "burn piles." [AM, INV, POL, SBM]
49		Few or none that meet these criteria.	1	
50		Several (>5 if AA is >5 hectares, less for smaller AAs) meet these criteria.	0	
51	F9 N Fixers	The percentage of the AA's vegetated cover that contains nitrogen-fixing plants (e.g., alder, sweetgale, clover, lupine, alfalfa, other legumes) is:		Do not include N-fixing algae or lichens. [FA, FR, INV, NRv, OE, PH, SBM, Sens]
52		<1% or none.	1	
53		1-25% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	
54		25-50% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	
55		50-75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	
56		>75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	

A	B	C	D	E
F10 57 58 59 60 61 62	Sphagnum Moss Extent	The cover of Sphagnum moss (or any moss that forms a dense cushion many centimeters thick), including the moss obscured by taller sedges and other plants rooted in it, is:		Exclude moss growing on trees and rocks. [CS, PH]
		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
F11 63 64 65 66 67 68	% Bare Ground & Thatch	Consider the parts of the AA that lack surface water at the driest time of the growing season. Viewed from directly above the ground layer, the predominant condition in those areas at that time is:		Thatch is dead plant material (stems, leaves) resting on the ground surface. Bare ground that is present under a tree or shrub canopy should be counted. Boulders count as bare ground. Wetlands with mineral soils and that are heavily shaded or are dominated by annual plant species tend to have more extensive areas that are bare during the early growing season. [AM, EC, INV, NR, OE, POL, PR, SBM, Sens]
		Little or no (<5%) <i>bare ground</i> is visible between erect stems or under canopy anywhere in the vegetated AA. Ground is extensively blanketed by dense thatch, moss, lichens, graminoids with great stem densities, or plants with ground-hugging foliage.	1	
		Slightly bare ground (5-20% bare between plants) is visible in places, but those areas comprise less than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
		Much bare ground (20-50% bare between plants) is visible in places, and those areas comprise more than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
		Other conditions.	0	
		Not applicable. Surface water (either open or obscured by emergent plants) covers all of the AA all the time.	0	
F12 69 70 71 72	Ground Irregularity	Imagine the AA without any living vegetation. Excluding the portion of the AA that is always under water, the number of hummocks, small pits, raised mounds, animal burrows, ruts, gullies, natural levees, microdepressions, and other areas of peat or mineral soil that are raised or depressed >10 cm compared to most of the area within a few meters surrounding them is:		The depressions may be of human or natural origin. [AM, EC, INV, NR, PH, POL, PR, SBM, SR, WS]
		Few or none (minimal microtopography; <1% of the land has such features, or entire AA is always water-covered).	0	
		Intermediate.	0	
		Several (extensive micro-topography).	1	
F13 73 74 75 76	Upland Inclusions	Within the AA, inclusions of upland are:		[AM, NR, SBM]
		Few or none.	1	
		Intermediate (1 - 10% of vegetated part of the AA).	0	
		Many (e.g., wetland-upland "mosaic"; >10% of the vegetated AA).	0	
F14 77 78 79 80 81 82	Soil Texture	In parts of the AA that lack persistent water, the texture of soil in the uppermost layer is mostly: [To determine this, use a trowel to check in at least 3 widely spaced locations, and use the soil texture key (in Appendix A of the Manual).]		[CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, WS]
		Loamy: soils that may contain a little fine grit and do not make a "ribbon" longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
		Fines: includes silt, clay, silt, soils that make a ribbon longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
		Deep Peat: to 40 cm depth or greater.	1	
		Shallow Peat or organic <40 cm deep.	0	
		Coarse: includes sand, loamy sand, gravel, cobble, soils that do not make a ribbon when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
F15 83 84 85 86 87	Shorebird Feeding Habitats	During any 2 consecutive weeks of the growing season, the extent of mudflats, bare unshaded saturated areas not covered by thatch, and unshaded waters shallower than 6 cm is: [Include also any area that is adjacent to the AA.]		This addresses needs of many but not all migratory sandpipers, plovers, and related species. [WBF]
		None, or <100 sq. m.	1	
		100-1000 sq. m.	0	
		1000 – 10,000 sq. m.	0	
		>10,000 sq. m.	0	
F16 88 89 90 91 92 93	Herbaceous % of Vegetated Wetland	In aerial ("ducks eye") view, the maximum annual cover of herbaceous vegetation (all non-woody plants except moss) is:		[AM, WBF, WBN]
		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA or <0.01 hectare (whichever is less). Mark "*" here and SKIP to F20 (Invasive Plant Cover).	0	
		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
94	F17 Forb Cover	Within parts of the AA having herbaceous cover (excluding SAV), the areal cover of forbs reaches an annual maximum of:		Forbs are flowering plants. Do not include grasses, sedges, cattail, other graminoids, ferns, horsetails, or others that lack showy flowers. [POL]
95		<5% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
96		5-25% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
97		25-50% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
98		50-95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
99		>95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
100	F18 Sedge Cover	Sedges (<i>Carex</i> spp.) and cottongrass (<i>Eriophorum</i> spp.) occupy:		[CS]
101		<5% of the vegetated area, or none.		
102		5-50% of the vegetated area.		
103		50-95% of the vegetated area.		
104		>95% of the vegetated area.		
105	F19 Dominance of Most Abundant Herbaceous Species	Determine which two herbaceous species comprise the greatest portion of the herbaceous cover (excluding mosses and floating-leaved aquatic plants). Then choose one of the following:		For this question, include ferns as well as graminoids and forbs. [EC, INV, PH, POL, Sens]
106		those species together comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		
107		those species together do not comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		
108	F20 Invasive Plant Cover	How extensive is the cover of invasive plant species in the AA? For species, see Plants_invasive worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file.		[EC, PH, POL, Sens]
109		invasive species appear to be absent in the AA, or are present only in trace amount (a few individuals).		
110		invasive species are present in more than trace amounts, but comprise <5% of herbaceous cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
111		invasive species comprise 5-20% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
112		invasive species comprise 20-50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
113		invasive species comprise >50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
114	F21 Invasive Cover Along Upland Edge	Along the wetland-upland boundary, the percent of the upland edge (within 3 m upslope from the wetland) that is occupied by invasive plant species is:		If a plant cannot be identified to species (e.g., winter conditions) but its genus contains an exotic species, assume the unidentified plant to also be exotic. If vegetation is so senesced that exotic species cannot be identified, answer "none". [PH, STR]
115		none of the upland edge (invasives apparently absent), or AA has no upland edge.		
116		some (but <5%) of the upland edge.		
117		5-50% of the upland edge.		
118		most (>50%) of the upland edge.		
119	F22 Fringe Wetland	During most of the year, open water within or adjacent to the vegetated part of the wetland is much wider than the maximum width of the vegetated zone within the wetland. Enter "1" if true, "0" if false.	0	[WBF, WBN, WCv]
120	F23 Lacustrine Wetland	The vegetated part of the AA is within or adjacent to a body of non-tidal standing open water whose size exceeds 8 hectares during most of a normal year.	0	[FR, PR, PU, WBF, WBN]
121	F24 % of AA Without Surface Water	The percentage of the AA that never contains surface water during an average year (that is, except perhaps for a few hours after snowmelt or rainstorms), but which is still a wetland, is:		1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SRv, WBF, WBN, WC]
122		<1%. In other words, all or nearly all of the AA is covered by water permanently or at least seasonally .		
123		1-25% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha never contains surface water.		
124		25-50% of the AA never contains surface water.		
125		50-75% of the AA never contains surface water.		
126		75-99% of the AA never contains surface water, OR >99% and there is at least one persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha in the AA.		
127		99-100%. AND there is no persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha within the AA. Enter "1" and SKIP to F42 (Channel Connection).		
128	F25 % of AA with Persistent Surface Water	Identify the parts of the AA that still contain surface water (flowing or ponded, open or hidden beneath vegetation) even during the driest times of a normal year, i.e., when the AA's surface water is at its lowest annual level. At that time, the percentage of the AA that still contains surface water is:		If you are unable to determine the condition at the driest time of year, ask the land owner or neighbors about it if possible. Indicators of persistence may include fish, some dragonflies, beaver, and muskrat. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, POL, PR, SBM, WBF, WBN]
129		None. The AA dries up completely (no water in channels either) or never has surface water during most years. SKIP to F27 .		
130		1-20% of the AA.		
131		20-50% of the AA.		
132		50-95% of the AA.		
133		>95% of the AA. True for many fringe wetlands.		

A	B	C	D	E
134	F26 % of Summertime Water that Is Shaded	At mid-day during the warmest time of year, the area of surface water <u>within</u> the AA that is shaded by vegetation and other features that are within the AA at that time is: <5% of the water is shaded, or no surface water is present then. 5-25% of the water is shaded. 25-50% of the water is shaded. 50-75% of the water is shaded. >75% of the water is shaded.	1 0 0 0 0	[FA, WC]
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140	F27 % of AA that is Flooded Only Seasonally	The percentage of the AA's area that is between the annual high water and the annual low water (surface water) is: None, or <0.01 hectare and <1% of the AA. SKIP to F29. 1-20% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha. 20-50% of the AA. 50-95% of the AA. >95% of the AA.	0 0 0 0 1	Flood marks (algal mats, adventitious roots, debris lines, ice scour, etc.) are often evident when not fully inundated. Also, such areas often have a larger proportion of upland and annual (vs. perennial) plant species. In riverine systems, the extent of this zone can be estimated by multiplying by 2 the bankfull height and visualising where that would intercept the land along the river. [CS, FA, INV, NR, OE, PH, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
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146	F28 Annual Water Fluctuation Range	The annual fluctuation in surface water level within most of the parts of the AA that contain surface water at least temporarily is: <10 cm change (stable or nearly so). 10 cm - 50 cm change. 0.5 - 1 m change. 1-2 m change. >2 m change.	1 0 0 0 0	Look for flood marks (see above). Because the annual range of water levels is difficult to estimate without multiple visits, consider asking the land owner or neighbors about it. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SR, WBN, WS]
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152	Is the AA plus adjacent ponded water smaller than 0.01 hectare (about 10m x 10m, or 1m x 100 m)? If so, enter "1" in column D and SKIP TO F42 (Connection).			0
153	F29 Predominant Depth Class	During most of the time when surface water is present during the growing season, its depth, averaged over the entire inundated part of the AA, is: <10 cm deep (but >0). 10 - 50 cm deep. 0.5 - 1 m deep. 1 - 2 m deep. >2 m deep. True for many fringe wetlands.	0 1 0 0 0	If a boat is unavailable, estimate this by considering wetland size and local topography. Or if timing and safety allow, depths may be measured by drilling through winter ice. This question is asking about the spatial median depth that occurs during most of that time, even if inundation is only seasonal or temporary. If inundation in most but not all of the wetland is brief, the answer will be based on the depth of the most persistently inundated part of the wetland. Include surface water in channels and ditches as well as ponded areas. [CS, FA, FR, INV, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
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159	F30 Depth Classes - Evenness of Proportions	When present, surface water in most of the AA usually consists of (select one): One depth class that comprises >90% of the AA's inundated area (use the classes in the question above). One depth class that comprises 50-90% of the AA's inundated area. Neither of above. There are 3 or more depth classes and none occupy >50%.	1 0 0	Estimate these proportions by considering the gradient and microtopography of the site. [FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
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163	F31 % of Water That Is Ponded (not Flowing)	During most times when surface water is present, the percentage that is (1) ponded (stagnant, or flows so slowly that fine sediment is not held in suspension) AND (2) is likely to be deeper than 0.5 m in some places, is: <5% of the water, or it occupies <100 sq.m cumulatively. Nearly all the surface water is flowing. SKIP to F34. 5-30% of the water. 30-70% of the water. 70-95% of the water. >95% of the water.	0 0 0 0 1	Nearly all wetlands with surface water have some ponded water. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WBN, WC, WS]
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169	F32 Ponded Open Water - Minimum Size	During most of the growing season, the largest patch of open water that is ponded and is in or bordering the AA is >0.01 hectare (about 10 m by 10 m) and mostly deeper than 0.5 m. If true enter "1" and continue, If false, enter "0" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	Open water is not obscured by vegetation in aerial ("duck's eye") view. It includes vegetation floating on the water surface or entirely submersed beneath it.
170	F33 % of Ponded Water that is Open	In ducks-eye aerial view, the percentage of the ponded water that is open (lacking emergent vegetation during most of the growing season, and unhidden by a forest or shrub canopy) is: None, or <1% of the AA and largest pool occupies <0.01 hectares. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed). 1-4% of the ponded water. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed). 5-30% of the ponded water. 30-70% of the ponded water. 70-99% of the ponded water. 100% of the ponded water.	0 0 0 0 0 0	[AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
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A	B	C	D	E
177	F34	Width of Vegetated Zone within Wetland	At the time during the growing season when the AA's water level is lowest, the average width of vegetated area <u>in the AA</u> that separates adjoining uplands from open water within the AA is:	"Vegetated area" does not include underwater or floating-leaved plants, i.e., aquatic bed. Width may include wooded riparian areas if they have wetland soil or plant indicators. [AM, CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SR, WBN]
178			<1 m.	0
179			1 - 9 m.	0
180			10 - 29 m.	0
181			30 - 49 m.	0
182			50 - 100 m.	0
183			>100 m, or open water is absent at that time.	0
184	F35	Flat Shoreline Extent	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the percentage of the AA's water edge length that is nearly flat (a slope less than about 5% measured within 5 m landward of the water) is:	If several isolated pools are present in early summer, estimate the percent of their collective shorelines that has such a gentle slope. [SR, WBN]
185			<1% of the water edge.	0
186			1-25% of the water edge.	0
187			25-50% of the water edge.	0
188			50-75% of the water edge.	0
189			>75% of the water edge.	0
190	F36	Robust Emergents	The percentage of the emergent vegetation cover in the AA that is cattail (<i>Typha</i> spp.), common reed (<i>Phragmites</i>), or tall (>1m) bulrush is:	Emergent vegetation is herbaceous plants whose stems are partly above and partly below the water surface during most of the time water is present. [WBN]
191			<1% of the emergent vegetation, or emergent vegetation is absent. SKIP to F38.	0
192			1-25% of the emergent vegetation.	0
193			25-75% of the emergent vegetation.	0
194			>75% of the emergent vegetation.	0
195	F37	Interspersion of Emergents & Open Water	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the spatial pattern of emergent vegetation within the water is mostly:	[AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, SR, WBF, WBN]
196			Scattered. More than 30% of such vegetation forms small islands or corridors surrounded by water.	0
197			Intermediate.	0
198			Clumped. More than 70% of such vegetation is in bands along the wetland perimeter or is clumped at one or a few sides of the surface water area.	0
199	F38	Persistent Deepwater Area	If the deepest patch of surface water (flowing or ponded) in or directly adjacent to the AA is mostly deeper than 0.5 m for >2 weeks during the growing season, enter "1" and continue. If not, enter "0" and SKIP to F42. (Connection).	0
200	F39	Non-vegetated Aquatic Cover	During most of the growing season and in waters deeper than 0.5 m, the cover for fish, aquatic invertebrates, and/or amphibians that is provided NOT by living vegetation, but by accumulations of dead wood and undercut banks is:	For this question, consider only the wood that is at or above the water surface. Estimates of underwater wood based only on observations from terrestrial viewpoints are unreliable so should not be attempted. [AM, FA, FR, INV]
201			Little or none.	0
202			Intermediate.	0
203			Extensive.	0
204	F40	Isolated Island	The AA contains (or is part of) an island or beaver lodge within a lake, pond, or river, and is isolated from the shore by water depths >1 m on all sides during an average June. The island may be solid, or it may be a floating vegetation mat that is sufficiently large and dense to support a waterbird nest.	0 [WBN]
205	F41	Floating Algae & Duckweed	At some time of the year, mats of algae and/or duckweed are likely to cover >50% of the AA's otherwise-unshaded water surface, or blanket >50% of the underwater substrate. If true, enter "1" in next column. If untrue or uncertain, enter "0".	0 [EC, PR, WBF]
206	F42	Channel Connection & Outflow Duration	The most persistent surface water connection (outlet channel or pipe, ditch, or overbank water exchange) between the AA and a downslope stream network is: <u>[Note:</u> If the AA represents only part of a wetland, answer this according to whichever is the least permanent surface connection: the one between the AA and the rest of the wetland, or the surface connection between the wetland and the downslope stream network.]	Consider the connection regardless of whether the surface water is frozen. The "downslope stream network" could consist of ditches, rivers, ponds, or lakes which eventually connect to the ocean. If this cannot be determined while visiting the AA, consult topographic maps perhaps by viewing these online with Toporama (http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html) [CS, FA, FR, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WCv, WS]
207			Persistent (surface water flows out for >9 months/year).	0
208			Seasonal (surface water flows out for 14 days to 9 months/year, not necessarily consecutive).	0

A	B	C	D	E
209		Temporary (surface water flows out for <14 days, not necessarily consecutive).	0	
210		None -- but maps show a stream network downslope from the AA and within a distance that is less than the AA's length. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	
211		No surface water flows out of the wetland except possibly during extreme events (<once per 10 years). Or, water flows only into a wetland, ditch, or lake that lacks an outlet. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	1	
212	F43	Outflow Confinement During major runoff events, in the places where surface water exits the AA or connected waters nearby, the water:		"Major runoff events" would include biennial high water caused by storms and/or rapid snowmelt. [CS, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, STR, WS]
213		Mostly passes through a pipe, culvert, narrowly breached dike, berm, beaver dam, or other partial obstruction (other than natural topography) that does not appear to drain the wetland artificially during most of the growing season.	0	
214		Leaves through natural exits (channels or diffuse outflow), not mainly through artificial or temporary features.	0	
215		Is exported more quickly than usual due to ditches or pipes within the AA or connected to its outlet, or within 10 m of the AA's edge, which drain the wetland artificially, or water is pumped out of the AA.	0	
216	F44	Tributary Channel At least once annually, surface water from a tributary channel that is >100 m long moves into the AA. Or, surface water from a larger permanent water body adjacent to the AA spills into the AA. If it enters only via a pipe, that pipe must be fed by a mapped stream or lake further upslope. If no, SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	If inlet tributaries cannot be searched for due to inaccessibility of part of the AA, follow suggestions in F42 above. [NRv, PH, PRv, SRv]
217	F45	Input Water Temperature Based on lack of shade, water source characteristics, or actual temperature measurements, the inflow is likely to be warmer than surface water in the AA during part of most years. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	[WCv]
218	F46	Throughflow Resistance During its travel through the AA at the time of peak annual flow, water arriving in channels: [select only the ONE encountered by most of the incoming water].		[FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
219		Does not bump into many plant stems as it travels through the AA. Nearly all the water continues to travel in unvegetated (often incised) channels that have minimal contact with wetland vegetation, or through a zone of open water such as an instream pond or lake.	0	
220		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.	0	
221		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation and mostly spreads throughout, or is in widely meandering, multi-branched, or braided channels.	0	
222		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.	0	
223		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems and follows a fairly indirect path from entrance to exit (meandering, multi-branched, or braided).	0	
224	F47	pH Measurement The pH in most of the AA's surface water:		Preferably, measure this in larger areas of ponded surface water within the AA, or in streams that have passed through (not along) most of the AA. Unless surface water is completely absent, do not dig holes or make depressions in peat in order to provide water for this measurement. Avoid measuring near roads or in puddles formed only by recent rain. [AM, FA, FR, NR, WBF, PH, PR, Sens, WBF, WBN]
225		Was measured, and is: [enter the reading in the column to the right.]		
226		Was not measured but surface water is present and is darkly tea-coloured. Or if no surface water, then mosses and plants that indicate peatland (e.g., Labrador tea) are prevalent. Enter "1".	0	
227		Neither of above. Enter "1".	1	
228	F48	TDS and/or Conductivity The TDS (total dissolved solids) or conductivity off the AA's surface water is: (select the first true row with information):		See above for measurement guidance. [FR, INV, NRv, PH, PRv, Sens]
229		TDS is: [Enter the reading in ppm or mg/L in the column to the right, if measured, or answer next row.]		
230		Conductivity is: [Enter the reading in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ in the column to the right.]		
231		Was not measured, but plants that indicate saline conditions cover much of the vegetated AA. Enter "1".	0	
232		Neither of above	1	
233	F49	Beaver Probability Use of the AA by beaver during the past 5 years is (select most applicable ONE):		[FA, FR, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
234		Evident from direct observation or presence of gnawed limbs, dams, tracks, dens, lodges, or extensive stands of water-killed trees (snags).	0	
235		Likely based on known occurrence in the region and proximity to suitable habitat, which may include: (a) a persistent freshwater wetland, pond, or lake, or a perennial low or mid-gradient (<10%) channel, and (b) a corridor or multiple stands of hardwood trees and shrubs in vegetated areas near surface water.	0	
236		Unlikely because site characteristics above are deficient, and/or this is a settled area or other area where beaver are routinely removed.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
237	F50 Groundwater Strength of Evidence	Select first applicable choice:	0 0 1	Adhere to these criteria strictly -- do not use personal judgment based on fen conditions, pH, or other evidence. Consult topographic maps to detect breaks in slope described here. Rust deposits associated with groundwater seeps may be most noticeable as orange discoloration in ice formations along streams during early winter. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PRv, SFS, WC, WS]
238		Springs are known to be present within the AA, or if groundwater levels have been monitored, that has demonstrated that groundwater primarily discharges to the wetland for longer periods during the year than periods when the wetland recharges the groundwater.		
239		Most of the AA has a slope of >5%, or is very close to the base of a natural slope longer than 100 and much steeper than the slope of the AA, AND the pH of surface water, if known, is >5.5.		
240		Neither of above is true, although some groundwater may discharge to or flow through the AA. Or groundwater influx is unknown.		
241	F51 Internal Gradient	The gradient along most of the flow path within the AA is:	0 1 0 0 0	This is not the same as the shoreline slope. It is the elevational difference between the AA's inlet and outlet, divided by the flow-distance between them and converted to percent. If available, use a clinometer to measure this. Free clinometer apps can be downloaded to smartphones. If the wetland is large (longer than ~1 km), this may be estimated using Google Earth to determine the minimum and maximum elevation within the AA, then dividing by length and multiplying by 100. [CS, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
242		<2% or the AA has no surface water outlet (not even seasonally).		
243		2-5%.		
244		6-10%.		
245		>10%.		
246	Note for the next three questions: If the AA lacks an upland edge, evaluate based on the AA's entire perimeter, and moving outward into whatever areas are adjacent. In many situations, these questions are best answered by measuring from aerial images.			
247	F52 Vegetated Buffer as % of Perimeter	Within a zone extending 30 m laterally from the AA's edge with upland and/or other wetlands, the percentage that contains perennial vegetation cover (except lawns, row crops, heavily grazed land, conifer plantations) is:	0 0 0 0 0 1	[AM, FA, FR, INV, NRv, PH, POL, PRv, SBM, Sens, SRv, STR, WBN]
248		<5%.		
249		5 to 30%.		
250		30 to 60%.		
251		60 to 90%.		
252		>90%, or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands. SKIP to F55.		
253	F53 Type of Cover in Buffer	Within 30 m upslope of where the wetland transitions to upland, the upland land cover that is NOT perennial vegetation is mostly (mark ONE):	0 0 0	[AM, FA, INV, NRv, PH, POL, SBM, STR, WBN]
254		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
255		Bare or nearly bare pervious surface or managed vegetation, e.g., lawn, row crops, unpaved road, dike, landslide.		
256	F54 Buffer Slope	The steepest and/or most disturbed part of the upland area that is within 30 m of the wetland and occupies >10% of that upland area has a percent slope of:	0 0 0 0 0	[NRv, PRv, Sens, SRv]
257		<1% (flat – almost no noticeable slope) or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands.		
258		2-5%.		
259		5-30%.		
260		>30%.		
261	F55 Cliffs or Steep Banks	In the AA or within 100 m, there are elevated terrestrial features such as cliffs, talus slopes, stream banks, or excavated pits (but not riprap) that extend at least 2 m nearly vertically, are unvegetated, and potentially contain crevices or other substrate suitable for nesting or den areas. Enter 1 (yes) or 0 (no).	0	Do not include upturned trees as potential den sites. [POL, SBM]
262	F56 New or Expanded Wetland	Human actions within or adjacent to the AA have persistently expanded a naturally occurring wetland or created a wetland where there previously was none (e.g., by excavation, impoundment):	0 0 0 0 0 0 1	Determine this using historical aerial photography, old maps, soil maps, or permit files as available [CS, NR, OE, PH, Sens]
263		No.		
264		Yes, and created or expanded 20 - 100 years ago.		
265		Yes, and created or expanded 3-20 years ago.		
266		Yes, and created or expanded within last 3 years.		
267		Yes, but time of origin or expansion unknown.		
268		Unknown if new or expanded within 20 years or not.		
269	F57 Burn History	More than 1% of the AA's previously vegetated area:	0 0 0 0 1	Look for charred soil or stumps (in multiple widely-spaced locations) or ask landowner. [CS, PH, STR]
270		Burned within past 5 years.		
271		Burned 6-10 years ago.		
272		Burned 11-30 years ago.		
273		Burned >30 years ago, or no evidence of a burn and no data.		

A	B	C	D	E
274	F58	Visibility	The maximum percentage of the wetland that is visible from the best vantage point on public roads, public parking lots, public buildings, or public maintained trails that intersect, adjoin, or are within 100 m of the AA (select one) is:	[PU, STR, WBFv]
275			<25%.	0
276			25-50%.	0
277			>50%.	1
278	F59	Non-consumptive Uses - Actual or Potential	Assuming access permission was granted, select ALL statements that are true of the AA as it currently exists:	[PU, STR]
279			For an average person, walking is physically possible <u>in</u> (not just near) >5% of the AA during most of the growing season, e.g., free of deep water and dense shrub thickets.	0
280			Maintained roads, parking areas, or foot-trails are within 10 m of the AA, or the AA can be accessed part of the year by boats arriving via contiguous waters.	1
281			Within or near the AA, there is an interpretive center, trails with interpretive signs or brochures, and/or regular guided interpretive tours.	0
282	F60	Unvisited Core Area	The percentage of the AA almost never visited by humans during an average growing season probably comprises: [Note: Only include the part actually walked or driven (not simply viewed from) with a vehicle or boat. Do not include visitors on trails outside of the AA unless more than half the wetland is visible from the trails and they are within 30 m of the wetland edge. In that case include only the area occupied by the trail.]	[AM, FAv, FRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
283			<5% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
284			<5% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
285			5-50% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
286			5-50% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
287			50-95%, with or without inhabited building nearby.	0
288			>95% of the AA with or without inhabited building nearby.	1
289	F61	Frequently Visited Area	The part of the AA visited by humans almost daily for several weeks during an average growing season probably comprises: [See note above.]	[AM, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
290			<5%. If F60 was answered ">95%" (mostly never visited), SKIP to F64.	1
291			5-50%.	0
292			50-95%.	0
293			>95% of the AA.	0
294	F62	BMP - Soils	Boardwalks, paved trails, fences or other infrastructure and/or well-enforced regulations appear to effectively prevent visitors from walking on soil within nearly all of the AA when the soil is unfrozen. Enter "1" if true.	[PH, PU]
295	F63	BMP - Wildlife Protection	Fences, observation blinds, platforms, paved trails, exclusion periods, and/or well-enforced prohibitions on motorised boats, off-leash pets, and off road vehicles appear to effectively exclude or divert visitors and their pets from the AA at critical times in order to minimize disturbance of wildlife (except during hunting seasons). Enter "1" if true.	[AM, PU, WBF, WBN]
296	F64	Consumptive Uses (Provisioning Services)	Recent evidence was found within the AA of the following potentially-sustainable consumptive uses. Select ALL that apply.	[FAv, FRv, WBFv]
297			Low-impact commercial timber harvest (e.g., selective thinning).	0
298			Commercial or traditional-use harvesting of native plants, their fruits, or mushrooms.	0
299			Waterfowl hunting.	0
300			Fishing.	0
301			Trapping of furbearers.	0
302			None of the above.	1
303	F65	Domestic Wells	The closest wells or water bodies that currently provide drinking water are:	[NRv]
304			Within 0-100 m. of the AA.	0
305			100-500 m. away.	0
306			>500 m. away, or no information.	1
307	F66	Calcareous Fen	The AA is, or is part of, a calcareous fen. See the Plants_Calcar worksheet in the accompanying SuplInfo file for list of plant indicators (calciphiles). Enter 1 if more than two Strong or more than five Moderate calciphile species are present; otherwise enter 0, but if not able to identify those and no information, change to blank.	[PH, PR]
308				

Investigator: Madeline Maher	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL2	Date: 13 October 2022		
Stressor (S) Data Form for Non-Tidal Wetlands. WESP-AC for Nova Scotia version 2.				
S1	Aberrant Timing of Water Inputs			
	<p><i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item that is likely to have caused the timing of water inputs (but not necessarily their volume) to shift by hours, days, or weeks, becoming either more muted (smaller or less frequent peaks spread over longer times, more temporal homogeneity of flow or water levels) or more flashy (larger or more frequent spikes but over shorter times). [FA, FR, INV, PH, STR]</i></p> <p>Stormwater from impervious surfaces that drains directly to the wetland.</p> <p>Water subsidies from wastewater effluent, septic system leakage, snow storage areas, or irrigation.</p> <p>Regular removal of surface or groundwater for irrigation or other consumptive use.</p> <p>Flow regulation in tributaries or water level regulation in adjoining water body, or other control structure at water entry points that regulates inflow to the wetland.</p> <p>A dam, dike, levee, weir, berm, or fill – within or downgradient from the wetland -- that interferes with surface or subsurface flow in/out of the AA (e.g., road fill, wellpads, pipelines).</p> <p>Excavation within the wetland, e.g., dugout, artificial pond, dead-end ditch.</p> <p>Artificial drains or ditches in or near the wetland.</p> <p>Accelerated downcutting or channelization of an adjacent or internal channel (incised below the historical water table level).</p> <p>Logging within the wetland.</p> <p>Subsidence or compaction of the wetland's substrate as a result of machinery, livestock, fire, drainage, or off road vehicles.</p> <p>Straightening, ditching, dredging, and/or lining of tributary channels.</p> <p><i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items had no measurable effect on the timing of water conditions in any part of the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i></p>			
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
Spatial extent of timing shift within the wetland:	>95% of wetland.	5-95% of wetland.	<5% of wetland.	
When most of the timing shift began:	<3 yrs ago.	3-9 yrs ago.	10-100 yrs ago.	
<i>Score the following 2 rows only if the altered inputs began within past 10 years, and only for the part of the wetland that experiences those.</i>			Sum=	4
			Stressor subscore=	0.33
S2	Accelerated Inputs of Contaminants and/or Salts			
	<p><i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item – occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of contaminants or salts to the AA. [AM, FA, PH, POL, STR]</i></p> <p>Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills, industrial facilities.</p> <p>Metals & chemical wastes from mining, shooting ranges, snow storage areas, oil/ gas extraction, other sources (download many locations from National Pollutant Release Inventory and view KMZ overlay in Google Earth. https://www.ec.gc.ca/inrp-npri/default.asp?lang=En&n=B85A1846-1</p> <p>Road salt.</p> <p>Spraying of pesticides, as applied to lawns, croplands, roadsides, or other areas in the CA.</p> <p><i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly higher levels of contaminants and/or salts, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i></p>			
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
Usual toxicity of most toxic contaminants:	Industrial effluent, mining waste, unmanaged landfill.	Cropland, managed landfill, pipeline or transmission rights-of-way.	Low density residential.	
Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	
AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	
			Sum=	4
			Stressor subscore=	0.44

S3	Accelerated Inputs of Nutrients				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item – occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of nutrients to the wetland. [NRv, PRv, STR]</i>				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills.				
	Fertilizers applied to lawns, ag lands, or other areas in the CA.				
	Livestock, dogs.				
	Artificial drainage of upslope lands.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly more nutrients, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Type of loading:	High density of unmaintained septic, some types of industrial sources.	Moderate density septic, cropland, secondary wastewater treatment plant.	Livestock, pets, low density residential.	0
	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
	AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
				Sum=	0
				Stressor subscore=	0.00
S4	Excessive Sediment Loading from Contributing Area				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the CA that is likely to have elevated the load of waterborne or windborne sediment reaching the wetland from its CA. [FA, FR, INV, PH, SRv, STR]</i>				
	Erosion from plowed fields, fill, timber harvest, dirt roads, vegetation clearing, fires.				
	Erosion from construction, in-channel machinery in the CA.				
	Erosion from off-road vehicles in the CA.				
	Erosion from livestock or foot traffic in the CA.				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent.				
	Sediment from road sanding, gravel mining, other mining, oil/gas extraction.				
	Accelerated channel downcutting or headcutting of tributaries due to altered land use.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points (3, 2, or 1 as shown in header) in the last column. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively add significantly more sediment or suspended solids to the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Erosion in CA:	Extensive evidence, high intensity.*	Potentially (based on high-intensity* land use) or scattered evidence.	Potentially (based on low-intensity* land use) with little or no direct evidence.	1
	Recentness of significant soil disturbance in the CA:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	1
	Duration of sediment inputs to the wetland:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	1
	AA proximity to actual or potential sources:	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m.	In more distant part of contributing area.	2
	* high-intensity= extensive off-road vehicle use, plowing, grading, excavation, erosion with or without veg removal; low-intensity= veg removal only with little or no apparent erosion or disturbance of soil or sediment.				
				Sum=	5
				Stressor subscore=	0.42

S5	Soil or Sediment Alteration Within the Assessment Area				
<p><i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the wetland that is likely to have compacted, eroded, or otherwise altered the wetland's soil. Consider only items occurring within past 100 years or since wetland was created or restored (whichever is less). [CS, INV, NR, PH, SR, STR]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compaction from machinery, off-road vehicles, livestock, or mountain bikes, especially during wetter periods. Leveling or other grading not to the natural contour. Tillage, plowing (but excluding disking for enhancement of native plants). Fill or riprap, excluding small amounts of upland soils containing organic amendments (compost, etc.) or small amounts of topsoil imported from another wetland. Excavation. Ditch cleaning or dredging in or adjacent to the wetland. Boat traffic in or adjacent to the wetland and sufficient to cause shore erosion or stir bottom sediments. Artificial water level or flow manipulations sufficient to cause erosion or stir bottom sediments. <p><i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not measurably alter the soil structure and/or topography, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i></p>					
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
Spatial extent of altered soil:	>95% of wetland or >95% of its upland edge (if any).	5-95% of wetland or 5-95% of its upland edge (if any).	<5% of wetland and <5% of its upland edge (if any).	0	
Recentness of significant soil alteration in wetland:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0	
Duration:	Long-lasting, minimal veg recovery.	Long-lasting but mostly revegetated.	Short-term, revegetated, not intense.	0	
Timing of soil alteration:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Mainly during one-time or scattered events.	0	
			Sum=	0	
				Stressor subscore=	0.00

Assessment Area (AA) Results:

Wetland ID: WL2

Date: 13 October 2022

Observer: MM

Latitude & Longitude (decimal degrees): 45.51394444, 63.58027778

Scores will appear below after data are entered in worksheets OF, F, and S. See Manual for definitions and descriptions of how scores were computed.						
Wetland Functions or Other Attributes:	Function Score (Normalised)	Function Rating	Benefits Score (Normalised)	Benefits Rating	Function Score (raw)	Benefits Score (raw)
Water Storage & Delay (WS)	8.06	Higher	9.59	Higher	7.96	4.25
Stream Flow Support (SFS)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Water Cooling (WC)	1.92	Lower	0.00	Lower	1.28	0.00
Sediment Retention & Stabilisation (SR)	10.00	Higher	0.00	Lower	10.00	0.00
Phosphorus Retention (PR)	10.00	Higher	0.00	Lower	10.00	0.00
Nitrate Removal & Retention (NR)	10.00	Higher	5.00	Moderate	10.00	5.00
Carbon Sequestration (CS)	6.34	Moderate			8.20	
Organic Nutrient Export (OE)	6.50	Moderate			4.25	
Anadromous Fish Habitat (FA)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Resident Fish Habitat (FR)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Aquatic Invertebrate Habitat (INV)	1.85	Lower	3.47	Moderate	4.24	3.11
Amphibian & Turtle Habitat (AM)	3.83	Moderate	4.52	Moderate	5.13	5.48
Waterbird Feeding Habitat (WBF)	5.02	Moderate	5.00	Moderate	3.83	5.00
Waterbird Nesting Habitat (WBN)	2.88	Moderate	5.00	Higher	2.09	5.00
Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat (SBM)	8.76	Higher	5.00	Moderate	7.63	5.00
Pollinator Habitat (POL)	8.67	Higher	0.00	Lower	7.18	0.00
Native Plant Habitat (PH)	3.31	Lower	4.94	Lower	5.22	4.94
Public Use & Recognition (PU)			2.80	Moderate		2.22
Wetland Sensitivity (Sens)			10.00	Higher		5.55
Wetland Ecological Condition (EC)			10.00	Higher		10.00
Wetland Stressors (STR) (higher score means more stress)			6.00	Moderate		3.07
Summary Ratings for Grouped Functions:						
HYDROLOGIC Group (WS)	8.06	Higher	9.59	Higher	7.96	4.25
WATER QUALITY SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SR, PR, NR, CS)	9.54	Higher	3.33	Moderate	9.77	3.33
AQUATIC SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SFS, INV, OE, WC)	4.53	Moderate	2.31	Lower	3.34	2.07
AQUATIC HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of FA, FR, AM, WBF, WBN)	3.69	Moderate	3.95	Moderate	3.67	4.29
TRANSITION HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of SBM, PH, POL)	7.84	Higher	4.16	Lower	7.15	4.16
WETLAND CONDITION (EC)			10.00	Higher		10.00
WETLAND RISK (average of Sensitivity & Stressors)			8.00	Higher		4.31
		NOTE: A score of 0 does not mean the function or benefit is absent from the wetland. It means only that this wetland has a capacity that is equal or less than the lowest-scoring one, for that function or benefit, from among all the NS calibration wetlands that were assessed previously.				

NOVA SCOTIA - Functional WSS Interpretation Tool

Function-Benefit Product (FBP)	FBP SCORE	FBP SCORE CATEGORY
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - HYDROLOGIC	77.29289972	High
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - WATER QUALITY SUPPORT	31.80747599	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC SUPPORT	10.47351238	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC HABITAT	14.56257175	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - TRANSITION HABITAT	32.57678936	Low

Habitat Rule Satisfied? NO

Support Rule Satisfied? NO

Habitat/Support Hybrid Rule Satisfied? NO

CONCLUSION: Site is not a WSS

Cover Page: Basic Description of Assessment	WESP-AC version 2
Site Name:	Higgins Mountain, WL3
Investigator Name:	Madeline Maher, Jordan Davis, Alex Scott
Date of Field Assessment:	12 October 2022
Nearest Town:	Masstown
Latitude (decimal degrees):	45.51580556
Longitude (decimal degrees):	63.58184722
Is a map based on a formal on-site wetland delineation available?	Yes
Approximate size of the Assessment Area (AA, in hectares):	0.21
AA as percent of entire wetland (approx.). Attach sketch map if AA is smaller than the entire contiguous wetland.	30
What percent (approx.) of the wetland were you able to visit?	30
What percent (approx.) of the AA were you able to visit?	100
Were you able to ask the site owner/manager about any of the questions?	No
Indicate here if you intentionally surveyed for rare plants, calciphile plants, or rare animals:	Yes
Have you attended a WESP-AC training session? If so, indicate approximate month & year.	October 2022
How many wetlands have you assessed previously using WESP-AC? (approx.)	30
Comments about the site or this WESP-AC assessment (attach extra page if desired):	

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date: October 12 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL3		Investigator: Madeline Maher	
2	Form OF (Office). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia wetlands only. DIRECTIONS: Conduct an assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answering many of the questions below will require using these online map viewers: Google Earth Pro: https://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html Provincial Landscape Viewer: https://nsgis.novascotia.ca/plv/ For most wetlands, completing this office data form will require 1-2 hours. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see bracketed abbreviations in the Definitions/Explanations column. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.				
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations
4	OF1	Province	Mark the province in which the AA is located by changing the 0 in the column next to it to a "1". Mark only one.		This determines to which province's calibration wetlands the raw score of any wetland is normalised. In the function and benefits models, it also triggers the automatic exclusion of indicators for which no spatial data exists in a particular province.
5			New Brunswick	0	
6			Nova Scotia	1	
7			Prince Edward Island	0	
8			Newfoundland-Labrador	0	
9	OF2	Ponded Area Within 1 km.	The area of surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		"Adjacent" means not separated from the AA by a wide expanse (>50 m) of upland (including roads >50 m wide). Include ponded areas likely to be hidden by wetland vegetation. If surface water extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. Do not include tidal areas. Measure the area from aerial imagery using Google Earth Pro (click on Ruler icon in toolbar, then Polygon in pop-up menu). [PH, SBM, WBN]
10			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
11			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
12			0.1 - 1 hectare.	1	
13			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
14			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
15			>100 hectares.	0	
16	OF3	Ponded Water & Wetland Within 1 km.	The area of wetlands and surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. If the AA's wetland vegetation extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. "Ponded" means not flowing in rivers or streams. [Sens, WBF]
17			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
18			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
19			0.1 - 1 hectare.	1	
20			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
21			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
22			>100 hectares.	0	
23	OF4	Size of Largest Nearby Vegetated Tract or Corridor	The largest vegetated patch or corridor that includes the AA's vegetation plus all adjacent upland vegetation that is not lawn, row crops, heavily grazed lands, conifer plantation is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. Use Google Earth Pro's polygon ruler (as described above). Exclude conifer plantations only if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens]
24			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
25			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
26			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
27			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
28			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
29			100 to 1000 hectares.	1	
30			>1000 hectares. [This is nearly always the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]	0	

	A	B	C	D	E
31	OF5 Distance to Large Vegetated Tract		The minimum distance from the edge of the AA to the edge of the closest vegetated land (but excluding row crops, lawn, conifer plantation) larger than 375 hectares (about 2 km on a side), is:	1 0 0 0 0 0	To measure distance, use Google Earth Pro (Ruler > Line tool). The 375-ha criterion is from the Fundy Model Forest Project. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
32			<50 m, and not separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by any width of paved roads , stretches of open water, row crops, bare ground, lawn, or impervious surface. Or the AA itself contains >375 ha of vegetation. [This is often the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]		
33			<50 m, but completely separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by those features, and AA does not contain >375 ha of vegetation.		
34			50-500 m, and not separated .		
35			50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
36			0.5 - 5 km, and not separated .		
37			0.5 - 5 km, but separated by those features.		
38			None of the above (the closest patches or corridors which are that large are >5 km away).		
39	OF6 Herbaceous Uniqueness		The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 5 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 1 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "1". [* NOTE: Exclude lawns, row crops, heavily grazed lands, forest, shrublands. Include moss as well as grasslike plants in this use of "herbaceous vegetation"]	0	For this question only, consider moss to be herbaceous vegetation. Determine the score by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth after successively drawing or estimating the boundaries of the buffers of 5 km, 1 km, and 100 m radius focused on the center of the AA. Circles of specified radius can be drawn in Google Earth Pro by clicking on the Ruler icon, then Circle in the pop-up menu. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
40	OF7 Woody Uniqueness		The AA's vegetation cover is >10% woody* but uplands within 5 km have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 1 km have <10% woody cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "1" [* NOTE: woody cover = trees & shrubs taller than 1 m.]	0	See above. Do not consider conifer plantations to be forest if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv]
41	OF8 Local Vegetated Cover Percentage		Draw a 5-km radius circle measured from the center of the AA. Ignoring all permanent water in the circle, the percent of the remaining area that is wooded or unmanaged herbaceous vegetation (NOT lawn, row crops, bare or heavily grazed land, clearcuts, or conifer plantations) is:	0 0 0 1 0	In Google Earth, draw the 5 km buffer and then estimate land cover percentages, or do GIS analysis of an appropriate land cover layer. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
42			<5% of the land.		
43			5 to 20% of the land.		
44			20 to 60% of the land.		
45			60 to 90% of the land.		
46			>90% of the land. SKIP to OF10.		
47	OF9 Type of Land Cover Alteration		Within the 5-km radius circle, and ignoring all permanent water, the land area that is bare or non-perennial cover is mostly:	0	[AM, SBM]
48			Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
49			Bare pervious surface, e.g., lawn, recent (<5 yrs ago) clearcut, dirt or gravel road, cropland, landslide, conifer plantation.		
50	OF10 Distance by Road to Nearest Population Center		Measured along the maintained road nearest the AA, the distance to the nearest population center is:	0 0 0 1	"Population center" means a settled area with more than about 5 regularly-inhabited structures per square kilometer. In Google Earth Pro, click on the Ruler icon, then Path, and draw and measure the route. [FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, WBFv]
51			<100 m.		
52			100 - 500 m.		
53			0.5 - 1 km.		
54			1 - 5 km.		
55			>5 km.		
56	OF11 Distance to Nearest Maintained Road		From the center of the AA, the distance to the nearest maintained public road (dirt or paved) is:	1 0 0 0 0	Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth Pro and measuring with the Ruler>Line tool. [AM, FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBN]
57			<10 m.		
58			10 - 25 m.		
59			25 - 50 m.		
60			50 - 100 m.		
61			100 - 500 m.		
62			>500 m.		

	A	B	C	D	E
63	OF12	Wildlife Access	Draw a circle of radius of 5 km from the center of the AA. If mammals and amphibians can move from the center of the AA to ALL other separate wetlands and ponds located within the circle without being forced to cross pavement (any width), lawns, bare ground, and/or marine waters, mark 1= yes can move to all, 0= no. Change to blank if there are no other wetlands within 5 km.	0	Draw the 5 km circle in Google Earth Pro using the Circle tool and search for roads and wetlands within it, being alert for roads hidden under forest canopy. [AM, SBM, STR]
64	OF13	Distance to Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) ponded water body visible in GoogleEarth imagery is:		In Google Earth Pro, zoom in closely to examine the surrounding landscape for ponds, lakes, and wetlands that appear to be permanently flooded. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
65			<50 m, and not separated by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, lawn, bare ground, or impervious surface.	0	
66			<50 m, but completely separated by those features.	0	
67			50-500 m, and not separated.	0	
68			50-500 m, but separated by those features.	0	
69			0.5 - 1 km, and not separated.	0	
70			0.5 - 1 km, but separated by those features.	0	
71			None of the above (the closest patches or corridors that large are >1 km away).	1	
72	OF14	Distance to Large Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) non-tidal body of water that is ponded during most of the year and is larger than 8 hectares during most of a normal year is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth. [Sens, WBF, WBN]
73			<100 m.	0	
74			100 m - 1 km.	0	
75			1-2 km.	0	
76			2-5 km.	1	
77			5-10 km.	0	
78			>10 km.	0	
79	OF15	Tidal Proximity	The distance from the AA edge to the closest tidal water body (regardless of its salinity) is:		In Google Earth, measure the distance to the ocean (including Bay of Fundy) or tidal river, whichever is closer. If you need to see how far upriver a river is tidal, see the KMZ file provided with this calculator for NS (NS Headtide). Points shown in those files are only an approximation, so local information if available may be preferable. [FA, WBF]
80			<100 m.	0	
81			100 m - 1 km.	0	
82			1 - 5 km.	0	
83			5-10 km.	0	
84			10-40 km.	1	
85			>40 km.	0	
86	OF16	Upland Edge Contact	Select one:		[NR, SBM, Sens]
87			The AA has no upland edge (or upland is <1% of perimeter). The AA is entirely surrounded by (& contiguous with) other wetlands or water.	0	
88			1-25% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland (including filled areas). The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0	
89			25-50% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0	
90			50-75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0	
91			More than 75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. Any remainder adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA. This will be true for most assessments done with WESP-AC.	1	
92	OF17	Flood Damage from Non-tidal Waters	Within 5 km downstream or downslope of the AA (select first true choice):		Contact local authorities to determine if such maps exist. Where available, LiDAR imagery can provide finer elevational resolution useful for flood modeling. [WSv]
93			Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding not caused by tidal storm surges.	0	
94			Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas, but infrastructure is absent or is not vulnerable to floods from a non-tidal river. In some cases levees, upriver dams, or other measures may partly limit damage or risk from smaller events.	0	
95			Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.	0	
96			Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there is no infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.	1	
97	OF18	Relative Elevation in Watershed	In Google Earth, enable the Terrain layer (lower left menu) and open the NS_Watersheds Secondary KMZ file that accompanies this calculator. Then determine the AA's approximate elevation (bottom right, NOT the "eye alt"). Then move cursor around to determine the watershed's maximum and minimum elevation. Divide the AA's elevation by the (max-min).	0.84	[FA, NR, Sens, SFSv, WCv, WSv]

	A	B	C	D	E
98	OF19	Water Quality Sensitive Watershed or Area	The AA is in a Protected Water Supply area (Designated Water Supply Area, Natural Watershed Municipal Surface Water Supply Area, or Municipal Water Supply Area) according to the provided KMZ overlay ("NS Protected Water Supply Areas"). Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	If an ACCDC report is available for this AA, it also may contain such information. [NRv]
99	OF20	Degraded Water Upstream	Sampling indicates a problem with concentrations of metals, hydrocarbons, nutrients , or other substances (excluding bacteria, acidic water, high temperatures) being present at levels harmful to aquatic life or humans, and: The condition is present within the AA.	0	May use existing data, or sample those waters as part of this wetland assessment. "Harmful" should be evaluated with regard to current federal or provincial water quality standards. [AM, FA, FR, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WBF, WBN]
100			The condition is present in waters within 1 km that flow into the AA, but has not been documented in the AA itself.	0	
101			Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.	0	
102			Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.	1	
103	OF21	Degraded Water Downstream	The problem described above is downslope from the AA, and: The condition is present within 1 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel.	0	May use existing data, or monitor waters as part of this wetland assessment. [NRv, PRv, SRv]
104			The condition is present within 5 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel, or within 1 km but not connected to the AA by a channel.	0	
105			Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.	0	
106			Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.	1	
107					
108	OF22	Wetland as a % of Its Contributing Area (Catchment)	From a topographic map and field observations, estimate the approximate boundaries of the catchment (CA) of the entire wetland of which the AA may be only a part. Then adjust those boundaries if necessary based on your field observations of the surrounding terrain, and/or by using procedures described in the Manual. Divide the area of the wetland (not just the AA) by the approximate area of its catchment excluding the area of the wetland itself. When doing the calculation, if ponded water is adjacent to the wetland, include that in the wetland's area. The result is: <0.01, or catchment size unknown due to stormwater pipes that collect water from an indeterminate area.	0	Topographic maps may be viewed online at the National Atlas of Canada (Toporama): http://atlas.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html [NR, PR, Sens, SR, WS]
109			0.01 to 0.1.	0	
110			0.1 to 1.	1	
111			>1 (wetland is larger than its catchment (e.g., wetland with flat surrounding terrain and no inlet, or is entirely isolated by dikes, or is a raised bog).	0	
112					
113	OF23	Unvegetated Surface in the Contributing Area	The proportion of the AA's contributing area (measured to no more than 1000 m upslope) that is comprised of buildings, roads, parking lots, other pavement, exposed bedrock, landslides, and other mostly-bare surface is about : <10%.	0	[FA, INV, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WCv, WSV]
114			10 to 25%.	1	
115			>25%.	0	
116					
117					
118	OF24	Transport From Upslope	A relatively large proportion of the precipitation that falls farther upslope in the CA reaches this wetland quickly as runoff (surface water), as indicated by the following: (a) input channel is present, (b) input channels have been straightened, (c) upslope wetlands have been ditched extensively, (d) land cover is mostly non-forest, (e) CA slopes are steep, and/or (f) most CA soils are shallow (bedrock near surface) and/or have high runoff coefficients. This statement is:	0	[NRv, PRv, SRv, WSV]
119			Mostly true.	1	
120			Somewhat true.	0	
121			Mostly untrue.	0	
122	OF25	Aspect	The overland flow direction of most surface water (in streams, rivers, or runoff) that enters the AA is:	0	[AM, NR, SFS, WC, WS]
123			Northward (N, NE). north-facing contributing area.	0	
124			Southward (S, SW). south-facing contributing area.	0	
125			Other (E, SE, W, NW), or no detectable uphill slope or input channel (flat).	1	

A	B	C	D	E
126	OF26 Internal Flow Distance (Path Length)	The horizontal flow distance from the wetland's inlet to outlet is:		Identify inlets and outlets, if any, from topographic maps (use elevations to determine which are inlets and which are outlets) and augment by field inspection. With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, select Nova Scotia Topo as the Basemap. Also enable the layer Forestry>WAM Predicted Flow. Then measure the inlet-outlet distance. [NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
127		<10 m.		0
128		10 - 50 m.		1
129		50 - 100 m.		0
130		100 - 1000 m.		0
131		1- 2 km.		0
132		>2 km, or wetland lacks an inlet and outlet.		0
133	OF27 Growing Degree Days	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called NS_GrowingDegreeDays. Place your cursor over the AA and left-click. From the pop-up window, enter the GRIDCODE number in the next column.	1821	This layer was provided by Dr. Dan McKenney of the Canadian Forest Service [AM, CS, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WCv, WS]
134	OF28 Fish Access or Use	According to agency biologists and/or your own observations, the AA. [Mark just the first choice that is true.]:		Regarding the last choice, if uncertain if an AA is fishless, consider the possibility its waters have been stocked. [AM, FA, FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
135		Is known to support rearing and/or spawning by Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels. Go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife>Significant Habitat>Species at Risk. Contact local fishery biologists, review the ACCDC report, and visit these websites: http://www.salmoneatlas.com/atlanticsalmon/canada-east/index.1.html http://atlanticsalmofederation.org/rivers/introduction.html		
136		Has not been documented to support Atlantic salmon rearing and/or spawning, but is connected to nearby waters likely to contain Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels and is probably accessed by those during some conditions.		
137		Is probably not accessed by any anadromous fish species but is known or likely to have other fish at least seasonally.		
138		Is known or likely to be fishless (e.g., too small, dry, and/or not accessible even temporarily, and not stocked).		
139	OF29 Species of Conservation Concern	Within the past 10 years, in the AA (or in its adjoining waters or wetland), qualified observers have documented [mark all applicable]:		Request information from ACCDC and/or conduct your own survey at an appropriate season using an approved protocol. For birds, also check eBird.org. NOTE for NS: If your WESP-AC is being completed for a Wetland Alteration Application to NS-ECC, your ACCDC results and any taxon-specific survey results must be submitted along with your WESP-AC results, and application. [AMv, EC, PHv, POLv, SBMv, Sens, WBFv, WBNv]
140		Presence of one or more of the plant species listed in the Plants_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, or the AA is within a mapped Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora Buffer (go to Provincial Landscape Viewer> Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones).		
141		Presence of one or more of the amphibian or reptile species (AM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.		
142		Presence of one or more of the waterbird species (WBF, WBN) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.		
143		Presence of one or more of the nesting songbird or raptor species (SBM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, during their nesting season (May-July for most species).		
144		None of the above, or no data.		
145	OF30 Important Bird Area (IBA)	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called IBAs_Canada. The AA is all or part of an officially designated IBA. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	The source of this layer, which should be checked periodically for updates, is: http://www.ibacanada.com/mapviewer.jsp?lang=EN [SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
146	OF31 Black Duck Nesting Area	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called BlackDuck. Adjust its alignment and opacity. Determine the predicted density (pairs per 25 sq. km) of nesting American Black Duck in the AA's vicinity: <10 (enter 0), 10-20 (enter 1), 20-30 (enter 2), >30 (enter 3). If outside of region shown in map, change to blank.	0	This was provided by Dr. David Leske. [WBNv]
147	OF32 Wintering Deer or Moose Concentration Areas	If AA is on private land with no information, change to blank (not 0). Otherwise: With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, for Wintering Moose, go to Wildlife> Significant Habitat. For Mainland Moose Concentration Areas, go to Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0.	0	[SBM]
148	OF33 Other Conservation Designation	The AA is all or part of an area designated by government, First Nations, or the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) for its exceptional ecological features or highly intact natural conditions. With Provincial Landscape Viewer, see Protected Areas. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If uncertain, consult NCC and agencies for more recent information.	0	See: https://novascotia.ca/parksandprotectedareas/plan/interactive-map/ [PU]
149	OF34 Conservation Investment	The AA is part of or contiguous to a wetland on which public or private organizational funds were spent to preserve, create, restore, or enhance the wetland (excluding mitigation wetlands). Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank (not 0).		[PU]
150	OF35 Mitigation Investment	The AA is all or part of a mitigation site used explicitly to offset impacts elsewhere. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.		[PU]
151	OF36 Sustained Scientific Use	Plants, animals, or water in the AA have been monitored for >2 years, unrelated to any regulatory requirements, and data are available to the public. Or the AA is part of an area that has been designated by an agency or institution as a benchmark, reference, or status-trends monitoring area. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.		[PU]

	A	B	C	D	E
152	OF37	Calcareous Region	The AA is NOT in a subregion that has been heavily exposed to acid precipitation. Enter "1" if true (green or yellow in map in Appendix A of the Manual). Enter "0" if false. If no information, change to blank .		[AM, FA, FR, INV, PH]
153	OF38	Ownership	Select the ONE ownership that covers the most of the AA. In Google Earth, open KMZ file called NS_Crownlands.Use more recent information if available.		"Private lands" may include those owned or leased by non-governmental organizations, e.g., charitable conservation land trusts, DUC, TNC. [PU, STR]
154			New timber harvest, roads, mineral extraction, and intensive summer recreation (e.g., off-road vehicles) are permanently prohibited. Includes many publicly-owned Protected Lands, and private lands under long-term (30+ year) legal agreements to maintain nearly-unaltered conditions.	0	
155			Ownership is public (e.g., municipal, Crown Reservations/Notations) but some or all of the above activities are allowed.	0	
156			Ownership is private but public access is allowed, and/or a shorter-term conservation easement (whether renewable or not) is in place.	0	
157			Ownership is private and owner does not allow access, or access permission unknown, and not a conservation easement.	0	

	A	B	C	D	E		
1	Date: October 13 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL3		Investigator: Madeline Maher			
2	<p>Form F (Field). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia. DIRECTIONS: Walk for no less than 10 minutes from the wetland edge towards its core, in the part of the AA that is proposed for alteration. If no alteration is proposed, walk in a portion that appears to be most representative of the wetland overall. Walk only where it is safe and legal to do so. Conduct the assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answer these questions primarily based on your onsite observations and interpretations. Do not write in shaded parts of this data form. Answering some questions accurately may require conferring with the landowner or other knowledgeable persons, and/or reviewing aerial imagery. For most wetlands, completing this field data form will require 1-2 hours on a site. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see the accompanying Interpretations form. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage & Delay, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sens= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.</p>						
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations		
4	F1	Wetland Type	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the vegetated part of the AA:		<p>Ericaceous shrubs are ones in the heather family (Ericaceae). Most have leathery evergreen leaves. They include rhododendron, azalea, swamp laurel, leatherleaf, Labrador tea, and others. Most require acidic soil. Although not in the family Ericaceae, sweetgale (<i>Myrica gale</i>) should be counted also. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, Sens, SFS, WBF, WBN]</p>		
5	A. Moss and/or lichen cover more than 25% of the ground. Often dominated by ericaceous shrubs (e.g., Labrador tea) or other acid-tolerant plants (e.g., bog cranberry, pitcher plant, sundew, orchids). Substrate is mostly undecomposed peat. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.						
6	A1. Surface water is usually absent or, if present, pH is typically <4.5 and conductivity is usually <100 µS/cm (<64 ppm TDS). Trees are absent or nearly so. Sedge cover usually sparse or absent but cottongrass and/or lichen cover may be extensive, as well as cloudberry, lingonberry, sheep laurel, and a sedge (<i>Carex rariflora</i>). Wetland surface and surrounding landscape are seldom sloping and wetland often is domed (convex). Inlet and outlet channels are usually absent. If known, pH of peat is <4.0.		0				
7	A2. Not A1. Surface water, if present, has pH typically >4.5 and conductivity is usually >100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Sedge cover is usually extensive, and/or tree and tall shrub cover is extensive. Sometimes at toe of slope or edge of water body. An exit channel is usually present. Wetter than A1 and peat depth may be shallower (<2 m).		0				
8	B. Moss and/or lichen cover less than 25% of the ground. Soil is mineral or decomposed organic (muck). Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column:						
9	B1. Trees and shrubs taller than 1 m comprise more than 25% of the vegetated cover. Surface water is mostly absent or inundates the vegetation only seasonally (e.g., vernal pools or floodplain).		0				
10	B2. Not B1. Tree & tall shrubs comprise less than than 25% of the vegetated cover. Vegetation is mostly herbaceous, e.g., cattail, bulrush, burreed, pond lily, horsetail. Surface water may be extensive and fluctuates seasonally, being either persistent or drying up partly or entirely.		1				
11	<p>Reminder: For all questions, the AA should include all persistent waters in ponds smaller than 8 hectares (~283 m on a side) that are adjacent to the AA. The AA should also include part of the water area of adjacent ponded water larger than 8 ha and adjacent rivers wider than 20 m. Specifically, the AA should include the open water part adjacent to wetland vegetation and equal in width to the average width of that vegetated zone. Throughout this data form, "adjacent" is used synonymously with abutting, adjoining, bordering, contiguous -- and means no upland (manmade or natural) completely separates the described features along their directly shared edge. Features joined only by a channel are not necessarily considered to be adjacent -- a large portion of their edges must match. The features do not have to be hydrologically connected in order to be considered adjacent.</p>						
12	F2		Wetland Types - Adjoining or Subordinate	If the AA is smaller than 1 ha, mark all other types that occupy more than 1% of the vegetated AA. If the AA is larger than 1 ha, mark all other types which are within or adjacent to the AA and occupy more than 1 ha, as visible from the AA or as interpreted from aerial imagery. Do not mark again the type marked in F1.			<p>1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, INV, SBM, WBF]</p>
13	A1.			0			
14	A2.	0					
15	B1.	0					
16	B2.	0					

A	B	C	D	E
17	F3 Woody Height & Form Diversity	Following EACH row below, indicate with a number code the percentage of the living vegetation in the AA which is occupied by that feature (6 if >95%, 5 if 75-95%, 4 if 50-75%, 3 if 25-50%, 2 if 5-25%, 1 if <5%, 0 if none). If the vegetated part of the AA is largely herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation, these percentages should not sum to 100%.		
18		coniferous trees (may include tamarack) taller than 3 m.	1	
19		deciduous trees taller than 3 m.	1	
20		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	1	
21		deciduous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	2	
22		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs <1 m tall not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	0	
23		deciduous shrubs or trees <1 m tall (e.g., deciduous seedlings) not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	1	
24	Note: If none of top 4 rows in F3 was marked 2 or greater, SKIP to F9 (N fixers).			
25	F4 Dominance of Most Abundant Shrub Species	Determine which two woody plant species comprise the greatest portion of the low (<3 m) woody cover . Then choose one: those species together comprise > 50% of such cover. those species together do not comprise > 50% of such cover.		[PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
26			0	
27			0	
28	F5 Woody Diameter Classes	Mark ALL the types that comprise >5% of the woody canopy cover in the AA or >5% of the wooded areas (if any) along its upland edge (perimeter). The edge should include only the trees whose canopies extend into the AA. coniferous, 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall. broad-leaved deciduous 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall. coniferous, 10-19 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous 10-19 cm diameter. coniferous, 20-40 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous 20-40 cm diameter. coniferous, >40 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous >40 cm diameter.		Estimate the diameters at chest height. If small-diameter trees are overtopped (shaded) by larger ones, visualise a "subcanopy" at the average height of the smaller-dbh trees, to serve as a basis for the minimum 5% canopy requirement in this question. The trees and shrubs need not be wetland species. [AM, CS, POL, SBM, Sens, WBN]
29			1	
30			1	
31			0	
32			0	
33			0	
34			0	
35			0	
36			0	
37	F6 Height Class Interspersion	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the AA: A. Neither the vegetation taller than 1 m nor the vegetation shorter than that comprise >70% of the vegetated part of the AA. They each comprise 30-70%. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.		[AM, INV, NR, PH, SBM, Sens]
38			0	
39			1	
40		A1. The two height classes are mostly scattered and intermixed throughout the AA. A2. Not A1. The two height classes are mostly in separate zones or bands, or in proportionately large clumps.	0	
41			1	
42		B. Either the vegetation shorter than 1 m comprises >70% of the vegetated part of the AA, or the vegetation taller than that does. One size class might even be totally absent. Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column: B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly scattered and intermixed within the prevalent one. B2. Not B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly located apart from the prevalent one, in separate zones or clumps, or is completely absent.	0	
43			0	
44	F7 Large Snags (Dead Standing Trees)	The number of large snags (diameter >20 cm) in the AA plus adjacent upland area within 10 m of the wetland edge is: None, or fewer than 8/ hectare which exceed this diameter. Several (>8/hectare) and a pond, lake, or slow-flowing water wider than 10 m is within 1 km. Several (>8/hectare) but above not true.		Snags are dead standing trees that often (not always) lack bark and foliage. Include only ones that are at least 2 m tall. [POL, SBM, WBN]
45			0	
46			0	
47			1	
48	F8 Downed Wood	The number of downed wood pieces longer than 2 m and with diameter >10 cm, and not persistently submerged, is: Few or none that meet these criteria. Several (>5 if AA is >5 hectares, less for smaller AAs) meet these criteria.		Exclude temporary "burn piles." [AM, INV, POL, SBM]
49			0	
50			1	
51	F9 N Fixers	The percentage of the AA's vegetated cover that contains nitrogen-fixing plants (e.g., alder, sweetgale, clover, lupine, alfalfa, other legumes) is: <1% or none. 1-25% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). 25-50% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). 50-75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). >75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).		Do not include N-fixing algae or lichens. [FA, FR, INV, NRv, OE, PH, SBM, Sens]
52			0	
53			1	
54			0	
55			0	
56			0	

A	B	C	D	E
F10 57 58 59 60 61 62	Sphagnum Moss Extent	The cover of Sphagnum moss (or any moss that forms a dense cushion many centimeters thick), including the moss obscured by taller sedges and other plants rooted in it, is:		Exclude moss growing on trees and rocks. [CS, PH]
		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
F11 63 64 65 66 67 68	% Bare Ground & Thatch	Consider the parts of the AA that lack surface water at the driest time of the growing season. Viewed from directly above the ground layer, the predominant condition in those areas at that time is:		Thatch is dead plant material (stems, leaves) resting on the ground surface. Bare ground that is present under a tree or shrub canopy should be counted. Boulders count as bare ground. Wetlands with mineral soils and that are heavily shaded or are dominated by annual plant species tend to have more extensive areas that are bare during the early growing season. [AM, EC, INV, NR, OE, POL, PR, SBM, Sens]
		Little or no (<5%) <i>bare ground</i> is visible between erect stems or under canopy anywhere in the vegetated AA. Ground is extensively blanketed by dense thatch, moss, lichens, graminoids with great stem densities, or plants with ground-hugging foliage.	0	
		Slightly bare ground (5-20% bare between plants) is visible in places, but those areas comprise less than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	1	
		Much bare ground (20-50% bare between plants) is visible in places, and those areas comprise more than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
		Other conditions.	0	
		Not applicable. Surface water (either open or obscured by emergent plants) covers all of the AA all the time.	0	
F12 69 70 71 72	Ground Irregularity	Imagine the AA without any living vegetation. Excluding the portion of the AA that is always under water, the number of hummocks, small pits, raised mounds, animal burrows, ruts, gullies, natural levees, microdepressions, and other areas of peat or mineral soil that are raised or depressed >10 cm compared to most of the area within a few meters surrounding them is:		The depressions may be of human or natural origin. [AM, EC, INV, NR, PH, POL, PR, SBM, SR, WS]
		Few or none (minimal microtopography; <1% of the land has such features, or entire AA is always water-covered).	0	
		Intermediate.	1	
		Several (extensive micro-topography).	0	
F13 73 74 75 76	Upland Inclusions	Within the AA, inclusions of upland are:		[AM, NR, SBM]
		Few or none.	0	
		Intermediate (1 - 10% of vegetated part of the AA).	1	
		Many (e.g., wetland-upland "mosaic"; >10% of the vegetated AA).	0	
F14 77 78 79 80 81 82	Soil Texture	In parts of the AA that lack persistent water, the texture of soil in the uppermost layer is mostly: [To determine this, use a trowel to check in at least 3 widely spaced locations, and use the soil texture key (in Appendix A of the Manual).]		[CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, WS]
		Loamy: soils that may contain a little fine grit and do not make a "ribbon" longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
		Fines: includes silt, clay, silt, soils that make a ribbon longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
		Deep Peat: to 40 cm depth or greater.	0	
		Shallow Peat or organic <40 cm deep.	1	
		Coarse: includes sand, loamy sand, gravel, cobble, soils that do not make a ribbon when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
F15 83 84 85 86 87	Shorebird Feeding Habitats	During any 2 consecutive weeks of the growing season, the extent of mudflats, bare unshaded saturated areas not covered by thatch, and unshaded waters shallower than 6 cm is: [Include also any area that is adjacent to the AA.]		This addresses needs of many but not all migratory sandpipers, plovers, and related species. [WBF]
		None, or <100 sq. m.	1	
		100-1000 sq. m.	0	
		1000 – 10,000 sq. m.	0	
		>10,000 sq. m.	0	
F16 88 89 90 91 92 93	Herbaceous % of Vegetated Wetland	In aerial ("ducks eye") view, the maximum annual cover of herbaceous vegetation (all non-woody plants except moss) is:		[AM, WBF, WBN]
		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA or <0.01 hectare (whichever is less). Mark "*" here and SKIP to F20 (Invasive Plant Cover).	0	
		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
94	F17 Forb Cover	Within parts of the AA having herbaceous cover (excluding SAV), the areal cover of forbs reaches an annual maximum of:	1 0 0 0 0	Forbs are flowering plants. Do not include grasses, sedges, cattail, other graminoids, ferns, horsetails, or others that lack showy flowers. [POL]
95		<5% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
96		5-25% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
97		25-50% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
98		50-95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
99		>95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
100	F18 Sedge Cover	Sedges (<i>Carex</i> spp.) and cottongrass (<i>Eriophorum</i> spp.) occupy:	[CS] 0 0 1 0	[CS]
101		<5% of the vegetated area, or none.		
102		5-50% of the vegetated area.		
103		50-95% of the vegetated area.		
104		>95% of the vegetated area.		
105	F19 Dominance of Most Abundant Herbaceous Species	Determine which two herbaceous species comprise the greatest portion of the herbaceous cover (excluding mosses and floating-leaved aquatic plants). Then choose one of the following:	1 0	For this question, include ferns as well as graminoids and forbs. [EC, INV, PH, POL, Sens]
106		those species together comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		
107		those species together do not comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		
108	F20 Invasive Plant Cover	How extensive is the cover of invasive plant species in the AA? For species, see Plants_invasive worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file.	[EC, PH, POL, Sens] 1 0 0 0 0 0	[EC, PH, POL, Sens]
109		invasive species appear to be absent in the AA, or are present only in trace amount (a few individuals).		
110		invasive species are present in more than trace amounts, but comprise <5% of herbaceous cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
111		invasive species comprise 5-20% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
112		invasive species comprise 20-50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
113		invasive species comprise >50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
114	F21 Invasive Cover Along Upland Edge	Along the wetland-upland boundary, the percent of the upland edge (within 3 m upslope from the wetland) that is occupied by invasive plant species is:	1 0 0 0 0	If a plant cannot be identified to species (e.g., winter conditions) but its genus contains an exotic species, assume the unidentified plant to also be exotic. If vegetation is so senesced that exotic species cannot be identified, answer "none". [PH, STR]
115		none of the upland edge (invasives apparently absent), or AA has no upland edge.		
116		some (but <5%) of the upland edge.		
117		5-50% of the upland edge.		
118		most (>50%) of the upland edge.		
119	F22 Fringe Wetland	During most of the year, open water within or adjacent to the vegetated part of the wetland is much wider than the maximum width of the vegetated zone within the wetland. Enter "1" if true, "0" if false.	0	[WBF, WBN, WCv]
120	F23 Lacustrine Wetland	The vegetated part of the AA is within or adjacent to a body of non-tidal standing open water whose size exceeds 8 hectares during most of a normal year.	0	[FR, PR, PU, WBF, WBN]
121	F24 % of AA Without Surface Water	The percentage of the AA that never contains surface water during an average year (that is, except perhaps for a few hours after snowmelt or rainstorms), but which is still a wetland, is:	0 1 0 0 0 0 0	1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SRv, WBF, WBN, WC]
122		<1%. In other words, all or nearly all of the AA is covered by water permanently or at least seasonally .		
123		1-25% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha never contains surface water.		
124		25-50% of the AA never contains surface water.		
125		50-75% of the AA never contains surface water.		
126		75-99% of the AA never contains surface water, OR >99% and there is at least one persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha in the AA.		
127		99-100%. AND there is no persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha within the AA. Enter "1" and SKIP to F42 (Channel Connection).		
128	F25 % of AA with Persistent Surface Water	Identify the parts of the AA that still contain surface water (flowing or ponded, open or hidden beneath vegetation) even during the driest times of a normal year, i.e., when the AA's surface water is at its lowest annual level. At that time, the percentage of the AA that still contains surface water is:	0 0 1 0 0 0	If you are unable to determine the condition at the driest time of year, ask the land owner or neighbors about it if possible. Indicators of persistence may include fish, some dragonflies, beaver, and muskrat. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, POL, PR, SBM, WBF, WBN]
129		None. The AA dries up completely (no water in channels either) or never has surface water during most years. SKIP to F27 .		
130		1-20% of the AA.		
131		20-50% of the AA.		
132		50-95% of the AA.		
133		>95% of the AA. True for many fringe wetlands.		

A	B	C	D	E
F26 134 135 136 137 138 139	% of Summertime Water that Is Shaded	At mid-day during the warmest time of year, the area of surface water <u>within</u> the AA that is shaded by vegetation and other features that are within the AA at that time is: <5% of the water is shaded, or no surface water is present then. 5-25% of the water is shaded. 25-50% of the water is shaded. 50-75% of the water is shaded. >75% of the water is shaded.	0 0 1 0 0	[FA, WC]
F27 140 141 142 143 144 145	% of AA that is Flooded Only Seasonally	The percentage of the AA's area that is between the annual high water and the annual low water (surface water) is: None, or <0.01 hectare and <1% of the AA. SKIP to F29. 1-20% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha. 20-50% of the AA. 50-95% of the AA. >95% of the AA.	0 0 1 0 0	Flood marks (algal mats, adventitious roots, debris lines, ice scour, etc.) are often evident when not fully inundated. Also, such areas often have a larger proportion of upland and annual (vs. perennial) plant species. In riverine systems, the extent of this zone can be estimated by multiplying by 2 the bankfull height and visualising where that would intercept the land along the river. [CS, FA, INV, NR, OE, PH, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
F28 146 147 148 149 150 151	Annual Water Fluctuation Range	The annual fluctuation in surface water level within most of the parts of the AA that contain surface water at least temporarily is: <10 cm change (stable or nearly so). 10 cm - 50 cm change. 0.5 - 1 m change. 1-2 m change. >2 m change.	0 1 0 0 0	Look for flood marks (see above). Because the annual range of water levels is difficult to estimate without multiple visits, consider asking the land owner or neighbors about it. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SR, WBN, WS]
152	Is the AA plus adjacent ponded water smaller than 0.01 hectare (about 10m x 10m, or 1m x 100 m)? If so, enter "1" in column D and SKIP TO F42 (Connection).			0
F29 153 154 155 156 157 158	Predominant Depth Class	During most of the time when surface water is present during the growing season, its depth, averaged over the entire inundated part of the AA, is: <10 cm deep (but >0). 10 - 50 cm deep. 0.5 - 1 m deep. 1 - 2 m deep. >2 m deep. True for many fringe wetlands.	0 1 0 0 0	If a boat is unavailable, estimate this by considering wetland size and local topography. Or if timing and safety allow, depths may be measured by drilling through winter ice. This question is asking about the spatial median depth that occurs during most of that time, even if inundation is only seasonal or temporary. If inundation in most but not all of the wetland is brief, the answer will be based on the depth of the most persistently inundated part of the wetland. Include surface water in channels and ditches as well as ponded areas. [CS, FA, FR, INV, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
F30 159 160 161 162	Depth Classes - Evenness of Proportions	When present, surface water in most of the AA usually consists of (select one): One depth class that comprises >90% of the AA's inundated area (use the classes in the question above). One depth class that comprises 50-90% of the AA's inundated area. Neither of above. There are 3 or more depth classes and none occupy >50%.	0 0 1	Estimate these proportions by considering the gradient and microtopography of the site. [FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
F31 163 164 165 166 167 168	% of Water That Is Ponded (not Flowing)	During most times when surface water is present, the percentage that is (1) ponded (stagnant, or flows so slowly that fine sediment is not held in suspension) AND (2) is likely to be deeper than 0.5 m in some places, is: <5% of the water, or it occupies <100 sq.m cumulatively. Nearly all the surface water is flowing. SKIP to F34. 5-30% of the water. 30-70% of the water. 70-95% of the water. >95% of the water.	1 0 0 0 0	Nearly all wetlands with surface water have some ponded water. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WBN, WC, WS]
F32 169	Ponded Open Water - Minimum Size	During most of the growing season, the largest patch of open water that is ponded and is in or bordering the AA is >0.01 hectare (about 10 m by 10 m) and mostly deeper than 0.5 m. If true enter "1" and continue, If false, enter "0" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	Open water is not obscured by vegetation in aerial ("duck's eye") view. It includes vegetation floating on the water surface or entirely submersed beneath it.
F33 170 171 172 173 174 175 176	% of Ponded Water that is Open	In ducks-eye aerial view, the percentage of the ponded water that is open (lacking emergent vegetation during most of the growing season, and unhidden by a forest or shrub canopy) is: None, or <1% of the AA and largest pool occupies <0.01 hectares. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed). 1-4% of the ponded water. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed). 5-30% of the ponded water. 30-70% of the ponded water. 70-99% of the ponded water. 100% of the ponded water.	0 0 0 0 0 0	[AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]

A	B	C	D	E
F34 177 178 179 180 181 182 183	Width of Vegetated Zone within Wetland	At the time during the growing season when the AA's water level is lowest, the average width of vegetated area <u>in the AA</u> that separates adjoining uplands from open water within the AA is: <1 m. 1 - 9 m. 10 - 29 m. 30 - 49 m. 50 - 100 m. >100 m, or open water is absent at that time.	0 0 1 0 0 0	"Vegetated area" does not include underwater or floating-leaved plants, i.e., aquatic bed. Width may include wooded riparian areas if they have wetland soil or plant indicators. [AM, CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SR, WBN]
F35 184 185 186 187 188 189	Flat Shoreline Extent	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the percentage of the AA's water edge length that is nearly flat (a slope less than about 5% measured within 5 m landward of the water) is: <1% of the water edge. 1-25% of the water edge. 25-50% of the water edge. 50-75% of the water edge. >75% of the water edge.	1 0 0 0 0	If several isolated pools are present in early summer, estimate the percent of their collective shorelines that has such a gentle slope. [SR, WBN]
F36 190 191 192 193 194	Robust Emergents	The percentage of the emergent vegetation cover in the AA that is cattail (<i>Typha</i> spp.), common reed (<i>Phragmites</i>), or tall (>1m) bulrush is: <1% of the emergent vegetation, or emergent vegetation is absent. SKIP to F38. 1-25% of the emergent vegetation. 25-75% of the emergent vegetation. >75% of the emergent vegetation.	1 0 0 0	Emergent vegetation is herbaceous plants whose stems are partly above and partly below the water surface during most of the time water is present. [WBN]
F37 195 196 197 198	Interspersion of Emergents & Open Water	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the spatial pattern of emergent vegetation within the water is mostly: Scattered. More than 30% of such vegetation forms small islands or corridors surrounded by water. Intermediate. Clumped. More than 70% of such vegetation is in bands along the wetland perimeter or is clumped at one or a few sides of the surface water area.	0 0 0	[AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, SR, WBF, WBN]
F38 199	Persistent Deepwater Area	If the deepest patch of surface water (flowing or ponded) in or directly adjacent to the AA is mostly deeper than 0.5 m for >2 weeks during the growing season, enter "1" and continue. If not, enter "0" and SKIP to F42. (Connection).	0	
F39 200 201 202 203	Non-vegetated Aquatic Cover	During most of the growing season and in waters deeper than 0.5 m, the cover for fish, aquatic invertebrates, and/or amphibians that is provided NOT by living vegetation, but by accumulations of dead wood and undercut banks is: Little or none. Intermediate. Extensive.	0 0 0	For this question, consider only the wood that is at or above the water surface. Estimates of underwater wood based only on observations from terrestrial viewpoints are unreliable so should not be attempted. [AM, FA, FR, INV]
F40 204	Isolated Island	The AA contains (or is part of) an island or beaver lodge within a lake, pond, or river, and is isolated from the shore by water depths >1 m on all sides during an average June. The island may be solid, or it may be a floating vegetation mat that is sufficiently large and dense to support a waterbird nest.	0	[WBN]
F41 205	Floating Algae & Duckweed	At some time of the year, mats of algae and/or duckweed are likely to cover >50% of the AA's otherwise-unshaded water surface, or blanket >50% of the underwater substrate. If true, enter "1" in next column. If untrue or uncertain, enter "0".	0	[EC, PR, WBF]

A	B	C	D	E
206	F42 Channel Connection & Outflow Duration	The most persistent surface water connection (outlet channel or pipe, ditch, or overbank water exchange) between the AA and a downslope stream network is: [Note: If the AA represents only part of a wetland, answer this according to whichever is the least permanent surface connection: the one between the AA and the rest of the wetland, or the surface connection between the wetland and the downslope stream network.]		Consider the connection regardless of whether the surface water is frozen. The "downslope stream network" could consist of ditches, rivers, ponds, or lakes which eventually connect to the ocean. If this cannot be determined while visiting the AA, consult topographic maps perhaps by viewing these online with Toporama (http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html) [CS, FA, FR, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WCv, WS]
207		Persistent (surface water flows out for >9 months/year).		
208		Seasonal (surface water flows out for 14 days to 9 months/year, not necessarily consecutive).		
209		Temporary (surface water flows out for <14 days, not necessarily consecutive).		
210		None -- but maps show a stream network downslope from the AA and within a distance that is less than the AA's length. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
211		No surface water flows out of the wetland except possibly during extreme events (<once per 10 years). Or, water flows only into a wetland, ditch, or lake that lacks an outlet. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
212	F43 Outflow Confinement	During major runoff events, in the places where surface water exits the AA or connected waters nearby, the water:		"Major runoff events" would include biennial high water caused by storms and/or rapid snowmelt. [CS, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, STR, WS]
213		Mostly passes through a pipe, culvert, narrowly breached dike, berm, beaver dam, or other partial obstruction (other than natural topography) that does not appear to drain the wetland artificially during most of the growing season.		
214		Leaves through natural exits (channels or diffuse outflow), not mainly through artificial or temporary features.		
215		Is exported more quickly than usual due to ditches or pipes within the AA or connected to its outlet, or within 10 m of the AA's edge, which drain the wetland artificially, or water is pumped out of the AA.		
216	F44 Tributary Channel	At least once annually, surface water from a tributary channel that is >100 m long moves into the AA. Or, surface water from a larger permanent water body adjacent to the AA spills into the AA. If it enters only via a pipe, that pipe must be fed by a mapped stream or lake further upslope. If no, SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	If inlet tributaries cannot be searched for due to inaccessibility of part of the AA, follow suggestions in F42 above. [NRv, PH, PRv, SRv]
217	F45 Input Water Temperature	Based on lack of shade, water source characteristics, or actual temperature measurements, the inflow is likely to be warmer than surface water in the AA during part of most years. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	[WCv]
218	F46 Throughflow Resistance	During its travel through the AA at the time of peak annual flow, water arriving in channels: [select only the ONE encountered by most of the incoming water].		[FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
219		Does not bump into many plant stems as it travels through the AA. Nearly all the water continues to travel in unvegetated (often incised) channels that have minimal contact with wetland vegetation, or through a zone of open water such as an instream pond or lake.		
220		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
221		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation and mostly spreads throughout, or is in widely meandering, multi-branched, or braided channels.		
222		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
223		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems and follows a fairly indirect path from entrance to exit (meandering, multi-branched, or braided).		
224	F47 pH Measurement	The pH in most of the AA's surface water:		Preferably, measure this in larger areas of ponded surface water within the AA, or in streams that have passed through (not along) most of the AA. Unless surface water is completely absent, do not dig holes or make depressions in peat in order to provide water for this measurement. Avoid measuring near roads or in puddles formed only by recent rain. [AM, FA, FR, NR, WBF, PH, PR, Sens, WBF, WBN]
225		Was measured, and is: [enter the reading in the column to the right.]		
226		Was not measured but surface water is present and is darkly tea-coloured. Or if no surface water, then mosses and plants that indicate peatland (e.g., Labrador tea) are prevalent. Enter "1".		
227		Neither of above. Enter "1".		
228		The TDS (total dissolved solids) or conductivity off the AA's surface water is: (select the first true row with information):		
229	F48 TDS and/or Conductivity	TDS is: [Enter the reading in ppm or mg/L in the column to the right, if measured, or answer next row.]		See above for measurement guidance. [FR, INV, NRv, PH, PRv, Sens]
230		Conductivity is [Enter the reading in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ in the column to the right.]		
231		Was not measured, but plants that indicate saline conditions cover much of the vegetated AA. Enter "1".		
232		Neither of above		
233	F49 Beaver Probability	Use of the AA by beaver during the past 5 years is (select most applicable ONE):		[FA, FR, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
234		Evident from direct observation or presence of gnawed limbs, dams, tracks, dens, lodges, or extensive stands of water-killed trees (snags).		
235		Likely based on known occurrence in the region and proximity to suitable habitat, which may include: (a) a persistent freshwater wetland, pond, or lake, or a perennial low or mid-gradient (<10%) channel, and (b) a corridor or multiple stands of hardwood trees and shrubs in vegetated areas near surface water.		
236		Unlikely because site characteristics above are deficient, and/or this is a settled area or other area where beaver are routinely removed.		

A	B	C	D	E
237	F50 Groundwater Strength of Evidence	Select first applicable choice:	0 0 1 1	Adhere to these criteria strictly -- do not use personal judgment based on fen conditions, pH, or other evidence. Consult topographic maps to detect breaks in slope described here. Rust deposits associated with groundwater seeps may be most noticeable as orange discoloration in ice formations along streams during early winter. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PRv, SFS, WC, WS]
238		Springs are known to be present within the AA, or if groundwater levels have been monitored, that has demonstrated that groundwater primarily discharges to the wetland for longer periods during the year than periods when the wetland recharges the groundwater.		
239		Most of the AA has a slope of >5%, or is very close to the base of a natural slope longer than 100 and much steeper than the slope of the AA, AND the pH of surface water, if known, is >5.5.		
240		Neither of above is true, although some groundwater may discharge to or flow through the AA. Or groundwater influx is unknown.		
241	F51 Internal Gradient	The gradient along most of the flow path within the AA is:	0 0 1 0 0	This is not the same as the shoreline slope. It is the elevational difference between the AA's inlet and outlet, divided by the flow-distance between them and converted to percent. If available, use a clinometer to measure this. Free clinometer apps can be downloaded to smartphones. If the wetland is large (longer than ~1 km), this may be estimated using Google Earth to determine the minimum and maximum elevation within the AA, then dividing by length and multiplying by 100. [CS, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
242		<2% or the AA has no surface water outlet (not even seasonally).		
243		2-5%.		
244		6-10%.		
245		>10%.		
246	Note for the next three questions: If the AA lacks an upland edge, evaluate based on the AA's entire perimeter, and moving outward into whatever areas are adjacent. In many situations, these questions are best answered by measuring from aerial images.			
247	F52 Vegetated Buffer as % of Perimeter	Within a zone extending 30 m laterally from the AA's edge with upland and/or other wetlands, the percentage that contains perennial vegetation cover (except lawns, row crops, heavily grazed land, conifer plantations) is:	0 0 0 1 0	[AM, FA, FR, INV, NRv, PH, POL, PRv, SBM, Sens, SRv, STR, WBN]
248		<5%.		
249		5 to 30%.		
250		30 to 60%.		
251		60 to 90%.		
252		>90%, or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands. SKIP to F55.		
253	F53 Type of Cover in Buffer	Within 30 m upslope of where the wetland transitions to upland, the upland land cover that is NOT perennial vegetation is mostly (mark ONE):	0 0 1	[AM, FA, INV, NRv, PH, POL, SBM, STR, WBN]
254		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
255		Bare or nearly bare pervious surface or managed vegetation, e.g., lawn, row crops, unpaved road, dike, landslide.		
256	F54 Buffer Slope	The steepest and/or most disturbed part of the upland area that is within 30 m of the wetland and occupies >10% of that upland area has a percent slope of:	0 0 0 1 1	[NRv, PRv, Sens, SRv]
257		<1% (flat – almost no noticeable slope) or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands.		
258		2-5%.		
259		5-30%.		
260		>30%.		
261	F55 Cliffs or Steep Banks	In the AA or within 100 m, there are elevated terrestrial features such as cliffs, talus slopes, stream banks, or excavated pits (but not riprap) that extend at least 2 m nearly vertically, are unvegetated, and potentially contain crevices or other substrate suitable for nesting or den areas. Enter 1 (yes) or 0 (no).	0	Do not include upturned trees as potential den sites. [POL, SBM]
262	F56 New or Expanded Wetland	Human actions within or adjacent to the AA have persistently expanded a naturally occurring wetland or created a wetland where there previously was none (e.g., by excavation, impoundment):	0 0 0 0 0 0 1	Determine this using historical aerial photography, old maps, soil maps, or permit files as available [CS, NR, OE, PH, Sens]
263		No.		
264		Yes, and created or expanded 20 - 100 years ago.		
265		Yes, and created or expanded 3-20 years ago.		
266		Yes, and created or expanded within last 3 years.		
267		Yes, but time of origin or expansion unknown.		
268		Unknown if new or expanded within 20 years or not.		
269	F57 Burn History	More than 1% of the AA's previously vegetated area:	0 0 0 0 1	Look for charred soil or stumps (in multiple widely-spaced locations) or ask landowner. [CS, PH, STR]
270		Burned within past 5 years.		
271		Burned 6-10 years ago.		
272		Burned 11-30 years ago.		
273		Burned >30 years ago, or no evidence of a burn and no data.		

A	B	C	D	E
274	F58	Visibility	The maximum percentage of the wetland that is visible from the best vantage point on public roads, public parking lots, public buildings, or public maintained trails that intersect, adjoin, or are within 100 m of the AA (select one) is:	[PU, STR, WBFv]
275			<25%.	0
276			25-50%.	0
277			>50%.	1
278	F59	Non-consumptive Uses - Actual or Potential	Assuming access permission was granted, select ALL statements that are true of the AA as it currently exists:	[PU, STR]
279			For an average person, walking is physically possible <u>in</u> (not just near) >5% of the AA during most of the growing season, e.g., free of deep water and dense shrub thickets.	0
280			Maintained roads, parking areas, or foot-trails are within 10 m of the AA, or the AA can be accessed part of the year by boats arriving via contiguous waters.	0
281			Within or near the AA, there is an interpretive center, trails with interpretive signs or brochures, and/or regular guided interpretive tours.	0
282	F60	Unvisited Core Area	The percentage of the AA almost never visited by humans during an average growing season probably comprises: [Note: Only include the part actually walked or driven (not simply viewed from) with a vehicle or boat. Do not include visitors on trails outside of the AA unless more than half the wetland is visible from the trails and they are within 30 m of the wetland edge. In that case include only the area occupied by the trail.]	[AM, FAv, FRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
283			<5% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
284			<5% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
285			5-50% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
286			5-50% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
287			50-95%, with or without inhabited building nearby.	0
288			>95% of the AA with or without inhabited building nearby.	1
289	F61	Frequently Visited Area	The part of the AA visited by humans almost daily for several weeks during an average growing season probably comprises: [See note above.]	[AM, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
290			<5%. If F60 was answered ">95%" (mostly never visited), SKIP to F64.	1
291			5-50%.	0
292			50-95%.	0
293			>95% of the AA.	0
294	F62	BMP - Soils	Boardwalks, paved trails, fences or other infrastructure and/or well-enforced regulations appear to effectively prevent visitors from walking on soil within nearly all of the AA when the soil is unfrozen. Enter "1" if true.	[PH, PU]
295	F63	BMP - Wildlife Protection	Fences, observation blinds, platforms, paved trails, exclusion periods, and/or well-enforced prohibitions on motorised boats, off-leash pets, and off road vehicles appear to effectively exclude or divert visitors and their pets from the AA at critical times in order to minimize disturbance of wildlife (except during hunting seasons). Enter "1" if true.	[AM, PU, WBF, WBN]
296	F64	Consumptive Uses (Provisioning Services)	Recent evidence was found within the AA of the following potentially-sustainable consumptive uses. Select ALL that apply.	[FAv, FRv, WBFv]
297			Low-impact commercial timber harvest (e.g., selective thinning).	0
298			Commercial or traditional-use harvesting of native plants, their fruits, or mushrooms.	0
299			Waterfowl hunting.	0
300			Fishing.	0
301			Trapping of furbearers.	0
302			None of the above.	1
303	F65	Domestic Wells	The closest wells or water bodies that currently provide drinking water are:	[NRv]
304			Within 0-100 m. of the AA.	0
305			100-500 m. away.	0
306			>500 m. away, or no information.	1
307	F66	Calcareous Fen	The AA is, or is part of, a calcareous fen. See the Plants_Calcar worksheet in the accompanying SuplInfo file for list of plant indicators (calciphiles). Enter 1 if more than two Strong or more than five Moderate calciphile species are present; otherwise enter 0, but if not able to identify those and no information, change to blank.	[PH, PR]
308				

Investigator: Madeline Maher	Site Identifier: Higgins Mtn, WL3	Date: October 13th 2022	
Stressor (S) Data Form for Non-Tidal Wetlands. WESP-AC for Nova Scotia version 2.			
S1	Aberrant Timing of Water Inputs	Data	
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item that is likely to have caused the timing of water inputs (but not necessarily their volume) to shift by hours, days, or weeks, becoming either more muted (smaller or less frequent peaks spread over longer times, more temporal homogeneity of flow or water levels) or more flashy (larger or more frequent spikes but over shorter times). [FA, FR, INV, PH, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater from impervious surfaces that drains directly to the wetland.</p> <p>Water subsidies from wastewater effluent, septic system leakage, snow storage areas, or irrigation.</p> <p>Regular removal of surface or groundwater for irrigation or other consumptive use.</p> <p>Flow regulation in tributaries or water level regulation in adjoining water body, or other control structure at water entry points that regulates inflow to the wetland.</p> <p>A dam, dike, levee, weir, berm, or fill -- within or downgradient from the wetland -- that interferes with surface or subsurface flow in/out of the AA (e.g., road fill, wellpads, pipelines).</p> <p>Excavation within the wetland, e.g., dugout, artificial pond, dead-end ditch.</p> <p>Artificial drains or ditches in or near the wetland.</p> <p>Accelerated downcutting or channelization of an adjacent or internal channel (incised below the historical water table level).</p> <p>Logging within the wetland.</p> <p>Subsidence or compaction of the wetland's substrate as a result of machinery, livestock, fire, drainage, or off road vehicles.</p> <p>Straightening, ditching, dredging, and/or lining of tributary channels.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items had no measurable effect on the timing of water conditions in any part of the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>			
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)
Spatial extent of timing shift within the wetland:	>95% of wetland.	5-95% of wetland.	<5% of wetland.
When most of the timing shift began:	<3 yrs ago.	3-9 yrs ago.	10-100 yrs ago.
Score the following 2 rows only if the altered inputs began within past 10 years, and only for the part of the wetland that experiences those.			
Input timing now vs. previously:	Shift of weeks.	Shift of days.	Shift of hours or minutes.
Flashiness or muting:	Became very flashy or controlled.	Intermediate.	Became mildly flashy or controlled.
		Sum=	0.42
S2	Accelerated Inputs of Contaminants and/or Salts	Data	
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of contaminants or salts to the AA. [AM, FA, PH, POL, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills, industrial facilities.</p> <p>Metals & chemical wastes from mining, shooting ranges, snow storage areas, oil/ gas extraction, other sources (download many locations from National Pollutant Release Inventory and view KMZ overlay in Google Earth. https://www.ec.gc.ca/inrp-npri/default.asp?lang=En&n=B85A1846-1</p> <p>Road salt.</p> <p>Spraying of pesticides, as applied to lawns, croplands, roadsides, or other areas in the CA.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly higher levels of contaminants and/or salts, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>			
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)
Usual toxicity of most toxic contaminants:	Industrial effluent, mining waste, unmanaged landfill.	Cropland, managed landfill, pipeline or transmission rights-of-way.	Low density residential.
Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.
AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.
		Sum=	3
		Stressor subscore=	0.33

S3	Accelerated Inputs of Nutrients				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of nutrients to the wetland. [NRv, PRv, STR]</i>				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills.				
	Fertilizers applied to lawns, ag lands, or other areas in the CA.				1
	Livestock, dogs.				
	Artificial drainage of upslope lands.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly more nutrients, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Type of loading:	High density of unmaintained septic, some types of industrial sources.	Moderate density septic, cropland, secondary wastewater treatment plant.	Livestock, pets, low density residential.	1
	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	1
	AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	1
				Sum=	3
				Stressor subscore=	0.33
S4	Excessive Sediment Loading from Contributing Area				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the CA that is likely to have elevated the load of waterborne or windborne sediment reaching the wetland from its CA. [FA, FR, INV, PH, SRv, STR]</i>				
	Erosion from plowed fields, fill, timber harvest, dirt roads, vegetation clearing, fires.				1
	Erosion from construction, in-channel machinery in the CA.				1
	Erosion from off-road vehicles in the CA.				1
	Erosion from livestock or foot traffic in the CA.				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent.				
	Sediment from road sanding, gravel mining, other mining, oil/gas extraction.				
	Accelerated channel downcutting or headcutting of tributaries due to altered land use.				
	Other human-related disturbances within the CA.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points (3, 2, or 1 as shown in header) in the last column. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively add significantly more sediment or suspended solids to the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Erosion in CA:	Extensive evidence, high intensity.*	Potentially (based on high-intensity* land use) or scattered evidence.	Potentially (based on low-intensity* land use) with little or no direct evidence.	1
	Recentness of significant soil disturbance in the CA:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	1
	Duration of sediment inputs to the wetland:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	1
	AA proximity to actual or potential sources:	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m.	In more distant part of contributing area.	1
	* high-intensity= extensive off-road vehicle use, plowing, grading, excavation, erosion with or without veg removal; low-intensity= veg removal only with little or no apparent erosion or disturbance of soil or sediment.			Sum=	4
				Stressor subscore=	0.33

S5	Soil or Sediment Alteration Within the Assessment Area				
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the wetland that is likely to have compacted, eroded, or otherwise altered the wetland's soil. Consider only items occurring within past 100 years or since wetland was created or restored (whichever is less). [CS, INV, NR, PH, SR, STR]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compaction from machinery, off-road vehicles, livestock, or mountain bikes, especially during wetter periods. Leveling or other grading not to the natural contour. Tillage, plowing (but excluding disking for enhancement of native plants). Fill or riprap, excluding small amounts of upland soils containing organic amendments (compost, etc.) or small amounts of topsoil imported from another wetland. Excavation. Ditch cleaning or dredging in or adjacent to the wetland. Boat traffic in or adjacent to the wetland and sufficient to cause shore erosion or stir bottom sediments. Artificial water level or flow manipulations sufficient to cause erosion or stir bottom sediments. <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not measurably alter the soil structure and/or topography, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>					
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
Spatial extent of altered soil:	>95% of wetland or >95% of its upland edge (if any).	5-95% of wetland or 5-95% of its upland edge (if any).	<5% of wetland and <5% of its upland edge (if any).	0	
Recentness of significant soil alteration in wetland:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0	
Duration:	Long-lasting, minimal veg recovery.	Long-lasting but mostly revegetated.	Short-term, revegetated, not intense.	0	
Timing of soil alteration:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Mainly during one-time or scattered events.	0	
			Sum=	0	
			Stressor subscore=	0.00	

Assessment Area (AA) Results:

Wetland ID: WL3

Date: October 13, 2022

Observer: MM

Latitude & Longitude (decimal degrees): 45.51580556, 63.58184722

Scores will appear below after data are entered in worksheets OF, F, and S. See Manual for definitions and descriptions of how scores were computed.						
Wetland Functions or Other Attributes:	Function Score (Normalised)	Function Rating	Benefits Score (Normalised)	Benefits Rating	Function Score (raw)	Benefits Score (raw)
Water Storage & Delay (WS)	1.53	Lower	10.00	Higher	3.08	4.60
Stream Flow Support (SFS)	3.17	Moderate	9.36	Higher	2.56	6.23
Water Cooling (WC)	5.60	Higher	3.31	Moderate	3.73	1.80
Sediment Retention & Stabilisation (SR)	2.95	Lower	3.22	Higher	4.50	1.58
Phosphorus Retention (PR)	1.12	Lower	4.29	Higher	4.45	3.33
Nitrate Removal & Retention (NR)	3.93	Moderate	6.17	Moderate	5.61	6.17
Carbon Sequestration (CS)	2.00	Lower			6.14	
Organic Nutrient Export (OE)	9.70	Higher			6.34	
Anadromous Fish Habitat (FA)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Resident Fish Habitat (FR)	10.00	Higher	5.16	Higher	5.48	3.22
Aquatic Invertebrate Habitat (INV)	7.87	Higher	7.16	Higher	6.70	5.10
Amphibian & Turtle Habitat (AM)	7.40	Higher	6.94	Higher	7.00	7.48
Waterbird Feeding Habitat (WBF)	8.01	Higher	10.00	Higher	6.10	10.00
Waterbird Nesting Habitat (WBN)	7.84	Higher	10.00	Higher	5.69	10.00
Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat (SBM)	7.28	Moderate	10.00	Higher	6.33	10.00
Pollinator Habitat (POL)	8.03	Higher	0.00	Lower	6.66	0.00
Native Plant Habitat (PH)	3.15	Lower	4.33	Lower	5.16	4.33
Public Use & Recognition (PU)			1.18	Lower		1.11
Wetland Sensitivity (Sens)			7.13	Moderate		4.20
Wetland Ecological Condition (EC)			3.62	Lower		6.94
Wetland Stressors (STR) (higher score means more stress)			6.88	Higher		3.49
Summary Ratings for Grouped Functions:						
HYDROLOGIC Group (WS)	1.53	Lower	10.00	Higher	3.08	4.60
WATER QUALITY SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SR, PR, NR, CS)	3.22	Moderate	5.36	Moderate	5.66	4.93
AQUATIC SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SFS, INV, OE, WC)	8.14	Higher	7.99	Higher	5.77	5.30
AQUATIC HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of FA, FR, AM, WBF, WBN)	8.33	Higher	8.21	Higher	5.93	8.07
TRANSITION HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of SBM, PH, POL)	7.09	Higher	7.39	Moderate	6.35	7.39
WETLAND CONDITION (EC)			3.62	Lower		6.94
WETLAND RISK (average of Sensitivity & Stressors)			7.01	Higher		3.85
		NOTE: A score of 0 does not mean the function or benefit is absent from the wetland. It means only that this wetland has a capacity that is equal or less than the lowest-scoring one, for that function or benefit, from among all the NS calibration wetlands that were assessed previously.				

NOVA SCOTIA - Functional WSS Interpretation Tool

Function-Benefit Product (FBP)	FBP SCORE	FBP SCORE CATEGORY
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - HYDROLOGIC	15.2611658	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - WATER QUALITY SUPPORT	17.25105295	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC SUPPORT	65.0279052	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC HABITAT	68.34765511	High
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - TRANSITION HABITAT	52.39877037	Low

Habitat Rule Satisfied? NO

Support Rule Satisfied? NO

Habitat/Support Hybrid Rule Satisfied? NO

CONCLUSION: Site is not a WSS

Cover Page: Basic Description of Assessment	WESP-AC version 2
Site Name:	Higgins Mountain, WL4
Investigator Name:	Rohan Kariyawansa, Jordan Davis, Alex Scott, Blake Fairclough
Date of Field Assessment:	2022-10-12
Nearest Town:	Masstown
Latitude (decimal degrees):	45.524177880858595
Longitude (decimal degrees):	-63.58899138399175
Is a map based on a formal on-site wetland delineation available?	Possibly through Strum, not publicly
Approximate size of the Assessment Area (AA, in hectares):	0.06
AA as percent of entire wetland (approx.). Attach sketch map if AA is smaller than the entire contiguous wetland.	100%
What percent (approx.) of the wetland were you able to visit?	100%
What percent (approx.) of the AA were you able to visit?	100%
Were you able to ask the site owner/manager about any of the questions?	no
Indicate here if you intentionally surveyed for rare plants, calciphile plants, or rare animals:	yes
Have you attended a WESP-AC training session? If so, indicate approximate month & year.	yes. Oct 2022
How many wetlands have you assessed previously using WESP-AC? (approx.)	About 2 dozen F forms, 1 OF and 1 S form
Comments about the site or this WESP-AC assessment (attach extra page if desired):	Site has dramatic elevation changes, site is constantly sloped south.

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date: October 11 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL4		Investigator: Rohan Kariyawansa	
2	Form OF (Office). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia wetlands only. DIRECTIONS: Conduct an assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answering many of the questions below will require using these online map viewers: Google Earth Pro: https://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html Provincial Landscape Viewer: https://nsgis.novascotia.ca/plv/ For most wetlands, completing this office data form will require 1-2 hours. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see bracketed abbreviations in the Definitions/Explanations column. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.				
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations
4	OF1	Province	Mark the province in which the AA is located by changing the 0 in the column next to it to a "1". Mark only one.		This determines to which province's calibration wetlands the raw score of any wetland is normalised. In the function and benefits models, it also triggers the automatic exclusion of indicators for which no spatial data exists in a particular province.
5			New Brunswick	0	
6			Nova Scotia	1	
7			Prince Edward Island	0	
8			Newfoundland-Labrador	0	
9	OF2	Ponded Area Within 1 km.	The area of surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		"Adjacent" means not separated from the AA by a wide expanse (>50 m) of upland (including roads >50 m wide). Include ponded areas likely to be hidden by wetland vegetation. If surface water extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. Do not include tidal areas. Measure the area from aerial imagery using Google Earth Pro (click on Ruler icon in toolbar, then Polygon in pop-up menu). [PH, SBM, WBN]
10			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
11			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
12			0.1 - 1 hectare.	1	
13			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
14			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
15			>100 hectares.	0	
16	OF3	Ponded Water & Wetland Within 1 km.	The area of wetlands and surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. If the AA's wetland vegetation extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. "Ponded" means not flowing in rivers or streams. [Sens, WBF]
17			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
18			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
19			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
20			1 to 10 hectares.	1	
21			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
22			>100 hectares.	0	
23	OF4	Size of Largest Nearby Vegetated Tract or Corridor	The largest vegetated patch or corridor that includes the AA's vegetation plus all adjacent upland vegetation that is not lawn, row crops, heavily grazed lands, conifer plantation is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. Use Google Earth Pro's polygon ruler (as described above). Exclude conifer plantations only if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens]
24			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
25			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
26			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
27			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
28			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
29			100 to 1000 hectares.	1	
30			>1000 hectares. <i>[This is nearly always the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]</i>	0	

A	B	C	D	E
31	OF5 Distance to Large Vegetated Tract	The minimum distance from the edge of the AA to the edge of the closest vegetated land (but excluding row crops, lawn, conifer plantation) larger than 375 hectares (about 2 km on a side), is:	0	To measure distance, use Google Earth Pro (Ruler > Line tool). The 375-ha criterion is from the Fundy Model Forest Project. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
32		<50 m, and not separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, bare ground, lawn, or impervious surface. Or the AA itself contains >375 ha of vegetation. [This is often the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]		
33		<50 m, but completely separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by those features, and AA does not contain >375 ha of vegetation.		
34		50-500 m, and not separated.		
35		50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
36		0.5 - 5 km, and not separated.		
37		0.5 - 5 km, but separated by those features.		
38		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors which are that large are >5 km away).		
39	OF6 Herbaceous Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 5 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 1 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "1". [* NOTE: Exclude lawns, row crops, heavily grazed lands, forest, shrublands. Include moss as well as grasslike plants in this use of "herbaceous vegetation"]	2	For this question only, consider moss to be herbaceous vegetation. Determine the score by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth after successively drawing or estimating the boundaries of the buffers of 5 km, 1 km, and 100 m radius focused on the center of the AA. Circles of specified radius can be drawn in Google Earth Pro by clicking on the Ruler icon, then Circle in the pop-up menu. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
40	OF7 Woody Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% woody* but uplands within 5 km have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 1 km have <10% woody cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "1" [* NOTE: woody cover = trees & shrubs taller than 1 m.]	3	See above. Do not consider conifer plantations to be forest if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv]
41	OF8 Local Vegetated Cover Percentage	Draw a 5-km radius circle measured from the center of the AA. Ignoring all permanent water in the circle, the percent of the remaining area that is wooded or unmanaged herbaceous vegetation (NOT lawn, row crops, bare or heavily grazed land, clearcuts, or conifer plantations) is:	0	In Google Earth, draw the 5 km buffer and then estimate land cover percentages, or do GIS analysis of an appropriate land cover layer. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
42		<5% of the land.		
43		5 to 20% of the land.		
44		20 to 60% of the land.		
45		60 to 90% of the land.		
46		>90% of the land. SKIP to OF10.		
47	OF9 Type of Land Cover Alteration	Within the 5-km radius circle, and ignoring all permanent water, the land area that is bare or non-perennial cover is mostly:	0	[AM, SBM]
48		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
49		Bare pervious surface, e.g., lawn, recent (<5 yrs ago) clearcut, dirt or gravel road, cropland, landslide, conifer plantation.		
50	OF10 Distance by Road to Nearest Population Center	Measured along the maintained road nearest the AA, the distance to the nearest population center is:	0	"Population center" means a settled area with more than about 5 regularly- inhabited structures per square kilometer. In Google Earth Pro, click on the Ruler icon, then Path, and draw and measure the route. [FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, WBFv]
51		<100 m.		
52		100 - 500 m.		
53		0.5 - 1 km.		
54		1 - 5 km.		
55		>5 km.		

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56	OF11 Distance to Nearest Maintained Road	From the center of the AA, the distance to the nearest maintained public road (dirt or paved) is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth Pro and measuring with the Ruler>Line tool [AM, FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBN]
57		<10 m.		
58		10 - 25 m.		
59		25 - 50 m.		
60		50 - 100 m.		
61		100 - 500 m.		
62		>500 m.		
63	OF12 Wildlife Access	Draw a circle of radius of 5 km from the center of the AA. If mammals and amphibians can move from the center of the AA to ALL other separate wetlands and ponds located within the circle without being forced to cross pavement (any width), lawns, bare ground, and/or marine waters, mark 1= yes can move to all, 0= no. Change to blank if there are no other wetlands within 5 km.	0	Draw the 5 km circle in Google Earth Pro using the Circle tool and search for roads and wetlands within it, being alert for roads hidden under forest canopy. [AM, SBM, STR]
64	OF13 Distance to Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) ponded water body visible in GoogleEarth imagery is:		In Google Earth Pro, zoom in closely to examine the surrounding landscape for ponds, lakes, and wetlands that appear to be permanently flooded. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
65		<50 m, and not separated by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, lawn, bare ground, or impervious surface.		
66		<50 m, but completely separated by those features.		
67		50-500 m, and not separated.		
68		50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
69		0.5 - 1 km, and not separated.		
70		0.5 - 1 km, but separated by those features.		
71	OF14 Distance to Large Ponded Water	None of the above (the closest patches or corridors that large are >1 km away).		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth. [Sens, WBF, WBN]
72		<100 m.		
73		100 m - 1 km.		
74		1 - 2 km.		
75		2-5 km.		
76		5-10 km.		
77		>10 km.		
78	OF15 Tidal Proximity	The distance from the AA edge to the closest tidal water body (regardless of its salinity) is:		In Google Earth, measure the distance to the ocean (including Bay of Fundy) or tidal river, whichever is closer. If you need to see how far upriver a river is tidal, see the KMZ file provided with this calculator for NS (NS Headtide). Points shown in those files are only an approximation, so local information if available may be preferable. [FA, WBF]
79		<100 m.		
80		100 m - 1 km.		
81		1 - 5 km.		
82		5-10 km.		
83		10-40 km.		
84		>40 km.		
85	OF16 Upland Edge Contact	Select one:		[NR, SBM, Sens]
86		The AA has no upland edge (or upland is <1% of perimeter). The AA is entirely surrounded by (& contiguous with) other wetlands or water.		
87		1-25% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland (including filled areas). The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
88		25-50% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
89		50-75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
90		More than 75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. Any remainder adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA. This will be true for most assessments done with WESP-AC.		
91				

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92	OF17 Flood Damage from Non-tidal Waters	Within 5 km downstream or downslope of the AA (select first true choice):	0	Contact local authorities to determine if such maps exist. Where available, LiDAR imagery can provide finer elevational resolution useful for flood modeling. [WSv]
93		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding not caused by tidal storm surges.		
94		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas, but infrastructure is absent or is not vulnerable to floods from a non-tidal river. In some cases levees, upriver dams, or other measures may partly limit damage or risk from smaller events.		
95		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
96		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there is no infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
97	OF18 Relative Elevation in Watershed	In Google Earth, enable the Terrain layer (lower left menu) and open the NS_Watersheds Secondary KMZ file that accompanies this calculator. Then determine the AA's approximate elevation (bottom right, NOT the "eye alt"). Then move cursor around to determine the watershed's maximum and minimum elevation. Divide the AA's elevation by the (max-min).	1.00	[FA, NR, Sens, SFSv, WCv, WSv]
98	OF19 Water Quality Sensitive Watershed or Area	The AA is in a Protected Water Supply area (Designated Water Supply Area, Natural Watershed Municipal Surface Water Supply Area, or Municipal Water Supply Area) according to the provided KMZ overlay ("NS Protected Water Supply Areas"). Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	1	If an ACCDC report is available for this AA, it also may contain such information. [NRv]
99	OF20 Degraded Water Upstream	Sampling indicates a problem with concentrations of metals, hydrocarbons, nutrients, or other substances (excluding bacteria, acidic water, high temperatures) being present at levels harmful to aquatic life or humans, and:	0	May use existing data, or sample those waters as part of this wetland assessment. "Harmful" should be evaluated with regard to current federal or provincial water quality standards. [AM, FA, FR, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WBF, WBN]
100		The condition is present within the AA.		
101		The condition is present in waters within 1 km that flow into the AA, but has not been documented in the AA itself.		
102		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
103		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
104	OF21 Degraded Water Downstream	The problem described above is downslope from the AA, and:	0	May use existing data, or monitor waters as part of this wetland assessment. [NRv, PRv, SRv]
105		The condition is present within 1 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel.		
106		The condition is present within 5 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel, or within 1 km but not connected to the AA by a channel.		
107		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
108		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
109	OF22 Wetland as a % of Its Contributing Area (Catchment)	From a topographic map and field observations, estimate the approximate boundaries of the catchment (CA) of the entire wetland of which the AA may be only a part. Then adjust those boundaries if necessary based on your field observations of the surrounding terrain, and/or by using procedures described in the Manual. Divide the area of the wetland (not just the AA) by the approximate area of its catchment excluding the area of the wetland itself. When doing the calculation, if ponded water is adjacent to the wetland, include that in the wetland area. The result is:	0	Topographic maps may be viewed online at the National Atlas of Canada (Toporama): http://atlas.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html [NR, PR, Sens, SR, WS]
110		<0.01, or catchment size unknown due to stormwater pipes that collect water from an indeterminate area.		
111		0.01 to 0.1.		
112		0.1 to 1.		
113		>1 (wetland is larger than its catchment (e.g., wetland with flat surrounding terrain and no inlet, or is entirely isolated by dikes, or is a raised bog)).		
114	OF23 Unvegetated Surface in the Contributing Area	The proportion of the AA's contributing area (measured to no more than 1000 m upslope) that is comprised of buildings, roads, parking lots, other pavement, exposed bedrock, landslides, and other mostly-bare surface is about :	0	[FA, INV, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WCv, WSv]
115		<10%.		
116		10 to 25%.		
117		>25%.		

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118	OF24	Transport From Upslope A relatively large proportion of the precipitation that falls farther upslope in the CA reaches this wetland quickly as runoff (surface water), as indicated by the following: (a) input channel is present, (b) input channels have been straightened, (c) upslope wetlands have been ditched extensively, (d) land cover is mostly non-forest, (e) CA slopes are steep, and/or (f) most CA soils are shallow (bedrock near surface) and/or have high runoff coefficients. This statement is: Mostly true. Somewhat true. Mostly untrue.		[NRv, PRv, SRv, WSv]
119			0	
120			0	
121			1	
122	OF25	Aspect The overland flow direction of most surface water (in streams, rivers, or runoff) that enters the AA is:		[AM, NR, SFS, WC, WS]
123		Northward (N, NE). north-facing contributing area.	0	
124		Southward (S, SW). south-facing contributing area.	1	
125		Other (E, SE, W, NW), or no detectable uphill slope or input channel (flat).	0	
126	OF26	Internal Flow Distance (Path Length) The horizontal flow distance from the wetland's inlet to outlet is:		Identify inlets and outlets, if any, from topographic maps (use elevations to determine which are inlets and which are outlets) and augment by field inspection. With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, select Nova Scotia Topo as the Basemap. Also enable the layer Forestry>WAM Predicted Flow. Then measure the inlet-outlet distance. [NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
127		<10 m.	0	
128		10 - 50 m.	0	
129		50 - 100 m.	0	
130		100 - 1000 m.	0	
131		1-2 km.	0	
132		>2 km, or wetland lacks an inlet and outlet.	1	
133	OF27	Growing Degree Days In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called NS_GrowingDegreeDays. Place your cursor over the AA and left-click. From the pop-up window, enter the GRIDCODE number in the next column.	1908	This layer was provided by Dr. Dan McKenney of the Canadian Forest Service [AM, CS, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WCv, WS]
134	OF28	Fish Access or Use According to agency biologists and/or your own observations, the AA. [Mark just the first choice that is true.]:		Regarding the last choice, if uncertain if an AA is fishless, consider the possibility its waters have been stocked. [AM, FA, FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
135		Is known to support rearing and/or spawning by Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels. Go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife>Significant Habitat>Species at Risk. Contact local fishery biologists, review the ACCDC report, and visit these websites: http://www.salmonatlas.com/atlanticsalmon/canada-east/index.1.html http://atlanticsalmofederation.org/rivers/introduction.html	0	
136		Has not been documented to support Atlantic salmon rearing and/or spawning, but is connected to nearby waters likely to contain Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels and is probably accessed by those during some conditions.	0	
137		Is probably not accessed by any anadromous fish species but is known or likely to have other fish at least seasonally.	0	
138		Is known or likely to be fishless (e.g., too small, dry, and/or not accessible even temporarily, and not stocked).	1	
139	OF29	Species of Conservation Concern Within the past 10 years, in the AA (or in its adjoining waters or wetland), qualified observers have documented/mark all applicable]:		Request information from ACCDC and/or conduct your own survey at an appropriate season using an approved protocol. For birds, also check eBird.org. NOTE for NS: If your WESP-AC is being completed for a Wetland Alteration Application to NS-ECC, your ACCDC results and any taxon-specific survey results must be submitted along with your WESP-AC results, and application. [AMv, EC, PHv, POLv, SBMv, Sens, WBFv, WBNv]
140		Presence of one or more of the plant species listed in the Plants_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, or the AA is within a mapped Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora Buffer (go to Provincial Landscape Viewer> Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones).	1	
141		Presence of one or more of the amphibian or reptile species (AM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
142		Presence of one or more of the waterbird species (WBF, WBN) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
143		Presence of one or more of the nesting songbird or raptor species (SBM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, during their nesting season (May-July for most species).	0	
144		None of the above, or no data.	0	
145	OF30	Important Bird Area (IBA) In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called IBAs_Canada. The AA is all or part of an officially designated IBA. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	The source of this layer, which should be checked periodically for updates, is: http://www.ibacanada.com/mapviewer.jsp?lang=EN [SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]

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146	OF31	Black Duck Nesting Area	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called BlackDuck. Adjust its alignment and opacity. Determine the predicted density (pairs per 25 sq. km) of nesting American Black Duck in the AA's vicinity: <10 (enter 0), 10-20 (enter 1), 20-30 (enter 2), >30 (enter 3). If outside of region shown in map, change to blank.	0	This was provided by Dr. David Leske. [WBNv]
147	OF32	Wintering Deer or Moose Concentration Areas	If AA is on private land with no information, change to blank (not 0). Otherwise: With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, for Wintering Moose, go to Wildlife> Significant Habitat. For Mainland Moose Concentration Areas, go to Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones Enter: yes= 1, no= 0.	1	[SBM]
148	OF33	Other Conservation Designation	The AA is all or part of an area designated by government, First Nations, or the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) for its exceptional ecological features or highly intact natural conditions. With Provincial Landscape Viewer, see Protected Areas. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If uncertain, consult NCC and agencies for more recent information.	0	See: https://novascotia.ca/parksandprotectedareas/plan/interactive-map/ [PU]
149	OF34	Conservation Investment	The AA is part of or contiguous to a wetland on which public or private organizational funds were spent to preserve, create, restore, or enhance the wetland (excluding mitigation wetlands). Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank (not 0).	0	[PU]
150	OF35	Mitigation Investment	The AA is all or part of a mitigation site used explicitly to offset impacts elsewhere. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.	0	[PU]
151	OF36	Sustained Scientific Use	Plants, animals, or water in the AA have been monitored for >2 years, unrelated to any regulatory requirements, and data are available to the public. Or the AA is part of an area that has been designated by an agency or institution as a benchmark, reference, or status-trends monitoring area. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.	0	[PU]
152	OF37	Calcareous Region	The AA is NOT in a subregion that has been heavily exposed to acid precipitation. Enter "1" if true (green or yellow in map in Appendix A of the Manual). Enter "0" if false. If no information, change to blank.	0	[AM, FA, FR, INV, PH]
153	OF38	Ownership	Select the ONE ownership that covers the most of the AA. In Google Earth, open KMZ file called NS_CrownlandsUse more recent information if available.		"Private lands" may include those owned or leased by non-governmental organizations, e.g., charitable conservation land trusts, DUC, TNC. [PU, STR]
154			New timber harvest, roads, mineral extraction, and intensive summer recreation (e.g., off-road vehicles) are permanently prohibited. Includes many publicly-owned Protected Lands, and private lands under long-term (30+ year) legal agreements to maintain nearly-unaltered conditions.	0	
155			Ownership is public (e.g., municipal, Crown Reservations/Notations) but some or all of the above activities are allowed.	1	
156			Ownership is private but public access is allowed, and/or a shorter-term conservation easement (whether renewable or not) is in place.	0	
157			Ownership is private and owner does not allow access, or access permission unknown, and not a conservation easement.	0	

	A	B	C	D	E		
1	Date: October 12 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL4		Investigator: Alex Scott, Jordan H. Davis			
2	Form F (Field). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia. DIRECTIONS: Walk for no less than 10 minutes from the wetland edge towards its core, in the part of the AA that is proposed for alteration. If no alteration is proposed, walk in a portion that appears to be most representative of the wetland overall. Walk only where it is safe and legal to do so. Conduct the assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answer these questions primarily based on your onsite observations and interpretations. Do not write in shaded parts of this data form. Answering some questions accurately may require conferring with the landowner or other knowledgeable persons, and/or reviewing aerial imagery. For most wetlands, completing this field data form will require 1-2 hours on a site. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see the accompanying Interpretations form. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage & Delay, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.						
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations		
4	F1	Wetland Type	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the vegetated part of the AA:				
5			A. Moss and/or lichen cover more than 25% of the ground. Often dominated by ericaceous shrubs (e.g., Labrador tea) or other acid-tolerant plants (e.g., bog cranberry, pitcher plant, sundew, orchids). Substrate is mostly undecomposed peat. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.		Ericaceous shrubs are ones in the heather family (Ericaceae). Most have leathery evergreen leaves. They include rhododendron, azalea, swamp laurel, leatherleaf, Labrador tea, and others. Most require acidic soil. Although not in the family Ericaceae, sweetgale (<i>Myrica gale</i>) should be counted also. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, Sens, SFS, WBF, WBN]		
6			A1. Surface water is usually absent or, if present, pH is typically <4.5 and conductivity is usually <100 µS/cm (<64 ppm TDS). Trees are absent or nearly so. Sedge cover usually sparse or absent but cottongrass and/or lichen cover may be extensive, as well as cloudberry, lingonberry, sheep laurel, and a sedge (<i>Carex rariflora</i>). Wetland surface and surrounding landscape are seldom sloping and wetland often is domed (convex). Inlet and outlet channels are usually absent. If known, pH of peat is <4.0.	0			
7			A2. Not A1. Surface water, if present, has pH typically >4.5 and conductivity is usually >100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Sedge cover is usually extensive, and/or tree and tall shrub cover is extensive. Sometimes at toe of slope or edge of water body. An exit channel is usually present. Wetter than A1 and peat depth may be shallower (<2 m).	0			
8			B. Moss and/or lichen cover less than 25% of the ground. Soil is mineral or decomposed organic (muck). Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column:				
9			B1. Trees and shrubs taller than 1 m comprise more than 25% of the vegetated cover. Surface water is mostly absent or inundates the vegetation only seasonally (e.g., vernal pools or floodplain).	1			
10			B2. Not B1. Tree & tall shrubs comprise less than 25% of the vegetated cover. Vegetation is mostly herbaceous, e.g., cattail, bulrush, burreed, pond lily, horsetail. Surface water may be extensive and fluctuates seasonally, being either persistent or drying up partly or entirely.	0			
11			Reminder: For all questions, the AA should include all persistent waters in ponds smaller than 8 hectares (~283 m on a side) that are adjacent to the AA. The AA should also include part of the water area of adjacent ponded water larger than 8 ha and adjacent rivers wider than 20 m. Specifically, the AA should include the open water part adjacent to wetland vegetation and equal in width to the average width of that vegetated zone. Throughout this data form, "adjacent" is used synonymously with abutting, adjoining, bordering, contiguous – and means no upland (manmade or natural) completely separates the described features along their directly shared edge. Features joined only by a channel are not necessarily considered to be adjacent – a large portion of their edges must match. The features do not have to be hydrologically connected in order to be considered adjacent.				
12			F2	Wetland Types - Adjoining or Subordinate	If the AA is smaller than 1 ha, mark all other types that occupy more than 1% of the vegetated AA. If the AA is larger than 1 ha, mark all other types which are within or adjacent to the AA and occupy more than 1 ha, as visible from the AA or as interpreted from aerial imagery. Do not mark again the type marked in F1.		1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, INV, SBM, WBF]
13					A1.	0	
14	A2.	0					
15	B1.	0					
16	B2.	0					
17	F3	Woody Height & Form Diversity	Following EACH row below, indicate with a number code the percentage of the living vegetation in the AA which is occupied by that feature (6 if >95%, 5 if 75-95%, 4 if 50-75%, 3 if 25-50%, 2 if 5-25%, 1 if <5%, 0 if none). If the vegetated part of the AA is largely herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation, these percentages should not sum to 100%.		Deciduous shrubs in this region usually include buttonbush, Labrador tea, bayberry (<i>Morella</i>), huckleberry, cranberry, cloudberry, sweetgale, alder, willow, birch, ash, dogwood, and a few others. If you assigned a code of 3 or higher to any of the first four choices and the ground cover beneath the trees/shrubs is <25% moss, then question F1 might be "B1". [CS, INV, NR, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]		
18			coniferous trees (may include tamarack) taller than 3 m.	4			
19			deciduous trees taller than 3 m.	3			
20			coniferous or ericaceous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	2			
21			deciduous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	1			
22			coniferous or ericaceous shrubs <1 m tall not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	0			
23			deciduous shrubs or trees <1 m tall (e.g., deciduous seedlings) not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	0			

A	B	C	D	E
24		<i>Note: If none of top 4 rows in F3 was marked 2 or greater , SKIP to F9 (N fixers).</i>		
25	F4	Dominance of Most Abundant Shrub Species	Determine which two woody plant species comprise the greatest portion of the low (<3 m) woody cover . Then choose one: those species together comprise > 50% of such cover. those species together do not comprise > 50% of such cover.	[PH, POL, SBM, Sens] 1 0
26				
27				
28	F5	Woody Diameter Classes	Mark ALL the types that comprise >5% of the woody canopy cover in the AA or >5% of the wooded areas (if any) along its upland edge (perimeter) . The edge should include only the trees whose canopies extend into the AA. coniferous, 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall. broad-leaved deciduous 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall. coniferous, 10-19 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous 10-19 cm diameter. coniferous, 20-40 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous 20-40 cm diameter. coniferous, >40 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous >40 cm diameter.	Estimate the diameters at chest height. If small-diameter trees are overtopped (shaded) by larger ones, visualise a "subcanopy" at the average height of the smaller-dbh trees, to serve as a basis for the minimum 5% canopy requirement in this question. The trees and shrubs need not be wetland species. [AM, CS, POL, SBM, Sens, WBN] 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0
29				
30				
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37	F6	Height Class Interspersion	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the AA: A. Neither the vegetation taller than 1 m nor the vegetation shorter than that comprise >70% of the vegetated part of the AA. They each comprise 30-70% . Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below. A1. The two height classes are mostly scattered and intermixed throughout the AA. A2. Not A1. The two height classes are mostly in separate zones or bands, or in proportionately large clumps. B. Either the vegetation shorter than 1 m comprises >70% of the vegetated part of the AA, or the vegetation taller than that does. One size class might even be totally absent. Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column: B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly scattered and intermixed within the prevalent one. B2. Not B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly located apart from the prevalent one, in separate zones or clumps, or is completely absent.	[AM, INV, NR, PH, SBM, Sens] 1 0 1 0 0 0
38				
39				
40				
41				
42				
43				
44	F7	Large Snags (Dead Standing Trees)	The number of large snags (diameter >20 cm) in the AA plus adjacent upland area within 10 m of the wetland edge is: None, or fewer than 8/ hectare which exceed this diameter. Several (>8/hectare) and a pond, lake, or slow-flowing water wider than 10 m is within 1 km. Several (>8/hectare) but above not true.	Snags are dead standing trees that often (not always) lack bark and foliage. Include only ones that are at least 2 m tall. [POL, SBM, WBN] 1 0 0
45				
46				
47				
48	F8	Downed Wood	The number of downed wood pieces longer than 2 m and with diameter >10 cm , and not persistently submerged, is: Few or none that meet these criteria. Several (>5 if AA is >5 hectares, less for smaller AAs) meet these criteria.	Exclude temporary "burn piles." [AM, INV, POL, SBM] 1 0
49				
50				
51	F9	N Fixers	The percentage of the AA's vegetated cover that contains nitrogen-fixing plants (e.g., alder, sweetgale, clover, lupine, alfalfa, other legumes) is: <1% or none. 1-25% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). 25-50% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). 50-75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). >75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	Do not include N-fixing algae or lichens. [FA, FR, INV, NRv, OE, PH, SBM, Sens] 1 0 0 0
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53				
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A	B	C	D	E
57	F10 Sphagnum Moss Extent	The cover of Sphagnum moss (or any moss that forms a dense cushion many centimeters thick), including the moss obscured by taller sedges and other plants rooted in it, is:		
58		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
59		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
60		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
61		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
62		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
63	F11 % Bare Ground & Thatch	Consider the parts of the AA that lack surface water at the driest time of the growing season. Viewed from directly above the ground layer, the predominant condition in those areas at that time is:		
64		Little or no (<5%) bare ground is visible between erect stems or under canopy anywhere in the vegetated AA. Ground is extensively blanketed by dense thatch, moss, lichens, graminoids with great stem densities, or plants with ground-hugging foliage.	1	Thatch is dead plant material (stems, leaves) resting on the ground surface. Bare ground that is present under a tree or shrub canopy should be counted. Boulders count as bare ground. Wetlands with mineral soils and that are heavily shaded or are dominated by annual plant species tend to have more extensive areas that are bare during the early growing season. [AM, EC, INV, NR, OE, POL, PR, SBM, Sens]
65		Slightly bare ground (5-20% bare between plants) is visible in places, but those areas comprise less than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
66		Much bare ground (20-50% bare between plants) is visible in places, and those areas comprise more than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
67		Other conditions.	0	
68		Not applicable. Surface water (either open or obscured by emergent plants) covers all of the AA all the time.	0	
69	F12 Ground Irregularity	Imagine the AA without any living vegetation. Excluding the portion of the AA that is always under water, the number of hummocks, small pits, raised mounds, animal burrows, ruts, gullies, natural levees, microdepressions, and other areas of peat or mineral soil that are raised or depressed >10 cm compared to most of the area within a few meters surrounding them is:		
70		Few or none (minimal microtopography; <1% of the land has such features, or entire AA is always water-covered).	0	
71		Intermediate.	1	
72		Several (extensive micro-topography).	0	
73	F13 Upland Inclusions	Within the AA, inclusions of upland are:		[AM, NR, SBM]
74		Few or none.	0	
75		Intermediate (1 - 10% of vegetated part of the AA).	1	
76		Many (e.g., wetland-upland "mosaic"; >10% of the vegetated AA).	0	
77	F14 Soil Texture	In parts of the AA that lack persistent water, the texture of soil in the uppermost layer is mostly: [To determine this, use a trowel to check in at least 3 widely spaced locations, and use the soil texture key (in Appendix A of the Manual).]		[CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, WS]
78		Loamy: soils that may contain a little fine grit and do not make a "ribbon" longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
79		Fines: includes silt, clay, silt, soils that make a ribbon longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
80		Deep Peat, to 40 cm depth or greater.	1	
81		Shallow Peat or organic <40 cm deep.	0	
82		Coarse: includes sand, loamy sand, gravel, cobble, soils that do not make a ribbon when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
83	F15 Shorebird Feeding Habitats	During any 2 consecutive weeks of the growing season, the extent of mudflats, bare unshaded saturated areas not covered by thatch, and unshaded waters shallower than 6 cm is: [Include also any area that is adjacent to the AA.]		This addresses needs of many but not all migratory sandpipers, plovers, and related species. [WBF]
84		None, or <100 sq. m.	1	
85		100-1000 sq. m.	0	
86		1000 – 10,000 sq. m.	0	
87		>10,000 sq. m.	0	
88	F16 Herbaceous % of Vegetated Wetland	In aerial ("ducks eye") view, the maximum annual cover of herbaceous vegetation (all non-woody plants except moss) is:		[AM, WBF, WBN]
89		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA or <0.01 hectare (whichever is less). Mark "1" here and SKIP to F20 (Invasive Plant Cover).	0	
90		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
91		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
92		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
93		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	

	A	B	C	D	E
94	F17	Forb Cover	Within parts of the AA having herbaceous cover (excluding SAV), the areal cover of forbs reaches an annual maximum of:		Forbs are flowering plants. Do not include grasses, sedges, cattail, other graminoids, ferns, horsetails, or others that lack showy flowers. [POL]
95			<5% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
96			5-25% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	1	
97			25-50% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
98			50-95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
99			>95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
100	F18	Sedge Cover	Sedges (<i>Carex</i> spp.) and cottongrass (<i>Eriophorum</i> spp.) occupy:		[CS]
101			<5% of the vegetated area, or none.	1	
102			5-50% of the vegetated area.	0	
103			50-95% of the vegetated area.	0	
104			>95% of the vegetated area.	0	
105	F19	Dominance of Most Abundant Herbaceous Species	Determine which two herbaceous species comprise the greatest portion of the herbaceous cover (excluding mosses and floating-leaved aquatic plants). Then choose one of the following:		For this question, include ferns as well as graminoids and forbs. [EC, INV, PH, POL, Sens]
106			those species together comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.	1	
107			those species together do not comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.	0	
108	F20	Invasive Plant Cover	How extensive is the cover of invasive plant species in the AA? For species, see Plants_invasive worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file.		[EC, PH, POL, Sens]
109			invasive species appear to be absent in the AA, or are present only in trace amount (a few individuals).	1	
110			invasive species are present in more than trace amounts, but comprise <5% of herbaceous cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).	0	
111			invasive species comprise 5-20% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).	0	
112			invasive species comprise 20-50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).	0	
113			invasive species comprise >50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).	0	
114	F21	Invasive Cover Along Upland Edge	Along the wetland-upland boundary, the percent of the upland edge (within 3 m upslope from the wetland) that is occupied by invasive plant species is:		If a plant cannot be identified to species (e.g., winter conditions) but its genus contains an exotic species, assume the unidentified plant to also be exotic. If vegetation is so senesced that exotic species cannot be identified, answer "none". [PH, STR]
115			none of the upland edge (invasives apparently absent), or AA has no upland edge.	1	
116			some (but <5%) of the upland edge.	0	
117			5-50% of the upland edge.	0	
118			most (>50%) of the upland edge.	0	
119	F22	Fringe Wetland	During most of the year, open water within or adjacent to the vegetated part of the wetland is much wider than the maximum width of the vegetated zone within the wetland. Enter "1" if true, "0" if false.	0	[WBF, WBN, WCv]
120	F23	Lacustrine Wetland	The vegetated part of the AA is within or adjacent to a body of non-tidal standing open water whose size exceeds 8 hectares during most of a normal year.	0	[FR, PR, PU, WBF, WBN]
121	F24	% of AA Without Surface Water	The percentage of the AA that <u>never</u> contains surface water during an average year (that is, except perhaps for a few hours after snowmelt or rainstorms), but which is still a wetland, is:		1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SRv, WBF, WBN, WC]
122			<1%. In other words, all or nearly all of the AA is covered by water permanently or at least seasonally.	0	
123			1-25% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha never contains surface water.	0	
124			25-50% of the AA never contains surface water.	0	
125			50-75% of the AA never contains surface water.	0	
126			75-99% of the AA never contains surface water, OR >99% and there is at least one persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha in the AA.	0	
127			99-100%. AND there is no persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha within the AA. Enter "1" and SKIP to F42 (Channel Connection).	1	
128	F25	% of AA with Persistent Surface Water	Identify the parts of the AA that still contain surface water (flowing or ponded, open or hidden beneath vegetation) even during the driest times of a normal year, i.e., when the AA's surface water is at its lowest annual level. At that time, the percentage of the AA that still contains surface water is:		If you are unable to determine the condition at the driest time of year, ask the land owner or neighbors about it if possible. Indicators of persistence may include fish, some dragonflies, beaver, and muskrat. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, POL, PR, SBM, WBF, WBN]
129			None. The AA dries up completely (no water in channels either) or never has surface water during most years. SKIP to F27.	0	
130			1-20% of the AA.	0	
131			20-50% of the AA.	0	
132			50-95% of the AA.	0	
133			>95% of the AA. True for many fringe wetlands.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
134	F26 % of Summertime Water that Is Shaded	At mid-day during the warmest time of year, the area of surface water <u>within</u> the AA that is shaded by vegetation and other features that are within the AA at that time is:		[FA, WC]
135		<5% of the water is shaded, or no surface water is present then.		
136		5-25% of the water is shaded.		
137		25-50% of the water is shaded.		
138		50-75% of the water is shaded.		
139		>75% of the water is shaded.		
140	F27 % of AA that is Flooded Only Seasonally	The percentage of the AA's area that is between the annual high water and the annual low water (surface water) is:		Flood marks (algal mats, adventitious roots, debris lines, ice scour, etc.) are often evident when not fully inundated. Also, such areas often have a larger proportion of upland and annual (vs. perennial) plant species. In riverine systems, the extent of this zone can be estimated by multiplying by 2 the bankfull height and visualising where that would intercept the land along the river. [CS, FA, INV, NR, OE, PH, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
141		None, or <0.01 hectare and <1% of the AA. SKIP to F29.		
142		1-20% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha.		
143		20-50% of the AA.		
144		50-95% of the AA.		
145		>95% of the AA.		
146	F28 Annual Water Fluctuation Range	The annual fluctuation in surface water level within most of the parts of the AA that contain surface water at least temporarily is:		Look for flood marks (see above). Because the annual range of water levels is difficult to estimate without multiple visits, consider asking the land owner or neighbors about it. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SR, WBN, WS]
147		<10 cm change (stable or nearly so).		
148		10 cm - 50 cm change.		
149		0.5 - 1 m change.		
150		1-2 m change.		
151		>2 m change.		
152	Is the AA plus adjacent ponded water smaller than 0.01 hectare (about 10m x 10m, or 1m x 100 m)? If so, enter "1" in column D and SKIP TO F42 (Connection).			0
153	F29 Predominant Depth Class	During most of the time when surface water is present during the growing season, its depth, averaged over the entire inundated part of the AA, is:		If a boat is unavailable, estimate this by considering wetland size and local topography. Or if timing and safety allow, depths may be measured by drilling through winter ice. This question is asking about the spatial median depth that occurs during most of that time, even if inundation is only seasonal or temporary. If inundation in most but not all of the wetland is brief, the answer will be based on the depth of the most persistently inundated part of the wetland. Include surface water in channels and ditches as well as ponded areas. [CS, FA, FR, INV, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
154		<10 cm deep (but >0).		
155		10 - 50 cm deep.		
156		0.5 - 1 m deep.		
157		1 - 2 m deep.		
158		>2 m deep. True for many fringe wetlands.		
159	F30 Depth Classes - Evenness of Proportions	When present, surface water in most of the AA usually consists of (select one):		Estimate these proportions by considering the gradient and microtopography of the site. [FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
160		One depth class that comprises >90% of the AA's inundated area (use the classes in the question above).		
161		One depth class that comprises 50-90% of the AA's inundated area.		
162		Neither of above. There are 3 or more depth classes and none occupy >50%.		
163	F31 % of Water That Is Ponded (not Flowing)	During most times when surface water is present, the percentage that is (1) ponded (stagnant, or flows so slowly that fine sediment is not held in suspension) AND (2) is likely to be deeper than 0.5 m in some places, is:		Nearly all wetlands with surface water have some ponded water. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WBN, WC, WS]
164		<5% of the water, or it occupies <100 sq.m cumulatively. Nearly all the surface water is flowing. SKIP to F34.		
165		5-30% of the water.		
166		30-70% of the water.		
167		70-95% of the water.		
168		>95% of the water.		
169	F32 Ponded Open Water - Minimum Size	During most of the growing season, the largest patch of open water that is ponded and is in or bordering the AA is >0.01 hectare (about 10 m by 10 m) and mostly deeper than 0.5 m. If true enter "1" and continue, If false, enter "0" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	Open water is not obscured by vegetation in aerial ("duck's eye") view. It includes vegetation floating on the water surface or entirely submerged beneath it.
170	F33 % of Ponded Water that is Open	In ducks-eye aerial view, the percentage of the ponded water that is open (lacking emergent vegetation during most of the growing season, and unhidden by a forest or shrub canopy) is:		[AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
171		None, or <1% of the AA and largest pool occupies <0.01 hectares. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).		
172		1-4% of the ponded water. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).		
173		5-30% of the ponded water.		
174		30-70% of the ponded water.		
175		70-99% of the ponded water.		
176		100% of the ponded water.		

A	B	C	D	E
F34 177 178 179 180 181 182 183	Width of Vegetated Zone within Wetland	At the time during the growing season when the AA's water level is lowest, the average width of vegetated area <u>in the AA</u> that separates adjoining uplands from open water within the AA is: <1 m. 1 - 9 m. 10 - 29 m. 30 - 49 m. 50 - 100 m. > 100 m, or open water is absent at that time.	0 0 0 0 0 0	"Vegetated area" does not include underwater or floating-leaved plants, i.e., aquatic bed. Width may include wooded riparian areas if they have wetland soil or plant indicators. [AM, CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SR, WBN]
F35 184 185 186 187 188 189	Flat Shoreline Extent	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the percentage of the AA's water edge length that is nearly flat (a slope less than about 5% measured within 5 m landward of the water) is: <1% of the water edge. 1-25% of the water edge. 25-50% of the water edge. 50-75% of the water edge. >75% of the water edge.	0 0 0 0 0	If several isolated pools are present in early summer, estimate the percent of their collective shorelines that has such a gentle slope. [SR, WBN]
F36 190 191 192 193 194	Robust Emergents	The percentage of the emergent vegetation cover in the AA that is cattail (<i>Typha</i> spp.), common reed (<i>Phragmites</i>), or tall (>1m) bulrush is: <1% of the emergent vegetation, or emergent vegetation is absent. SKIP to F38. 1-25% of the emergent vegetation. 25-75% of the emergent vegetation. >75% of the emergent vegetation.	0 0 0 0	Emergent vegetation is herbaceous plants whose stems are partly above and partly below the water surface during most of the time water is present. [WBN]
F37 195 196 197 198	Interspersion of Emergents & Open Water	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the spatial pattern of emergent vegetation within the water is mostly: Scattered. More than 30% of such vegetation forms small islands or corridors surrounded by water. Intermediate. Clumped. More than 70% of such vegetation is in bands along the wetland perimeter or is clumped at one or a few sides of the surface water area.	0 0 0	[AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, SR, WBF, WBN]
F38 199	Persistent Deepwater Area	If the deepest patch of surface water (flowing or ponded) in or directly adjacent to the AA is mostly deeper than 0.5 m for >2 weeks during the growing season, enter "1" and continue. If not, enter "0" and SKIP to F42 (Connection).	0	
F39 200 201 202 203	Non-vegetated Aquatic Cover	During most of the growing season and in waters deeper than 0.5 m, the cover for fish, aquatic invertebrates, and/or amphibians that is provided NOT by living vegetation, but by accumulations of dead wood and undercut banks is: Little or none. Intermediate. Extensive.	0 0 0	For this question, consider only the wood that is at or above the water surface. Estimates of underwater wood based only on observations from terrestrial viewpoints are unreliable so should not be attempted. [AM, FA, FR, INV]
F40 204	Isolated Island	The AA contains (or is part of) an island or beaver lodge within a lake, pond, or river, and is isolated from the shore by water depths >1 m on all sides during an average June. The island may be solid, or it may be a floating vegetation mat that is sufficiently large and dense to support a waterbird nest.	0	[WBN]
F41 205	Floating Algae & Duckweed	At some time of the year, mats of algae and/or duckweed are likely to cover >50% of the AA's otherwise-unshaded water surface, or blanket >50% of the underwater substrate. If true, enter "1" in next column. If untrue or uncertain, enter "0".	0	[EC, PR, WBF]

A	B	C	D	E
206	F42 Channel Connection & Outflow Duration	The most persistent surface water connection (outlet channel or pipe, ditch, or overbank water exchange) between the AA and a downslope stream network is: [Note: If the AA represents only part of a wetland, answer this according to whichever is the least permanent surface connection: the one between the AA and the rest of the wetland, or the surface connection between the wetland and the downslope stream network.]		Consider the connection regardless of whether the surface water is frozen. The "downslope stream network" could consist of ditches, rivers, ponds, or lakes which eventually connect to the ocean. If this cannot be determined while visiting the AA, consult topographic maps perhaps by viewing these online with Toporama (http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html) [CS, FA, FR, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WCv, WS]
207		Persistent (surface water flows out for >9 months/year).	0	
208		Seasonal (surface water flows out for 14 days to 9 months/year, not necessarily consecutive).	0	
209		Temporary (surface water flows out for <14 days, not necessarily consecutive).	1	
210		None -- but maps show a stream network downslope from the AA and within a distance that is less than the AA's length. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	
211		No surface water flows out of the wetland except possibly during extreme events (<once per 10 years). Or, water flows only into a wetland, ditch, or lake that lacks an outlet. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	
212	F43 Outflow Confinement	During major runoff events, in the places where surface water exits the AA or connected waters nearby, the water:		"Major runoff events" would include biennial high water caused by storms and/or rapid snowmelt. [CS, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, STR, WS]
213		Mostly passes through a pipe, culvert, narrowly breached dike, berm, beaver dam, or other partial obstruction (other than natural topography) that does not appear to drain the wetland artificially during most of the growing season.	0	
214		Leaves through natural exits (channels or diffuse outflow), not mainly through artificial or temporary features.	1	
215		Is exported more quickly than usual due to ditches or pipes within the AA or connected to its outlet, or within 10 m of the AA's edge, which drain the wetland artificially, or water is pumped out of the AA.	0	
216	F44 Tributary Channel	At least once annually, surface water from a tributary channel that is >100 m long moves into the AA. Or, surface water from a larger permanent water body adjacent to the AA spills into the AA. If it enters only via a pipe, that pipe must be fed by a mapped stream or lake further upslope. If no, SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	If inlet tributaries cannot be searched for due to inaccessibility of part of the AA, follow suggestions in F42 above. [NRv, PH, PRv, SRv]
217	F45 Input Water Temperature	Based on lack of shade, water source characteristics, or actual temperature measurements, the inflow is likely to be warmer than surface water in the AA during part of most years. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	[WCv]
218	F46 Throughflow Resistance	During its travel through the AA at the time of peak annual flow, water arriving in channels: [select only the ONE encountered by most of the incoming water].		[FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
219		Does not bump into many plant stems as it travels through the AA. Nearly all the water continues to travel in unvegetated (often incised) channels that have minimal contact with wetland vegetation, or through a zone of open water such as an instream pond or lake.	0	
220		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.	0	
221		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation and mostly spreads throughout, or is in widely meandering, multi-branched, or braided channels.	0	
222		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.	0	
223		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems and follows a fairly indirect path from entrance to exit (meandering, multi-branched, or braided).	0	
224	F47 pH Measurement	The pH in most of the AA's surface water:		Preferably, measure this in larger areas of ponded surface water within the AA, or in streams that have passed through (not along) most of the AA. Unless surface water is completely absent, do not dig holes or make depressions in peat in order to provide water for this measurement. Avoid measuring near roads or in puddles formed only by recent rain. [AM, FA, FR, NR, WBF, PH, PR, Sens, WBF, WBN]
225		Was measured, and is: [enter the reading in the column to the right.]		
226		Was not measured but surface water is present and is darkly tea-coloured. Or if no surface water, then mosses and plants that indicate peatland (e.g., Labrador tea) are prevalent. Enter "1".	0	
227		Neither of above. Enter "*".	1	
228	F48 TDS and/or Conductivity	The TDS (total dissolved solids) or conductivity off the AA's surface water is: (select the first true row with information):		See above for measurement guidance. [FR, INV, NRv, PH, PRv, Sens]
229		TDS is: [Enter the reading in ppm or mg/L in the column to the right, if measured, or answer next row.]		
230		Conductivity is: [Enter the reading in $\mu\text{s}/\text{cm}$ in the column to the right.]		
231		Was not measured, but plants that indicate saline conditions cover much of the vegetated AA. Enter "1".	0	
232		Neither of above	1	
233	F49 Beaver Probability	Use of the AA by beaver during the past 5 years is (select most applicable ONE):		[FA, FR, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
234		Evident from direct observation or presence of gnawed limbs, dams, tracks, dens, lodges, or extensive stands of water-killed trees (snags).	0	
235		Likely based on known occurrence in the region and proximity to suitable habitat, which may include: (a) a persistent freshwater wetland, pond, or lake, or a perennial low or mid-gradient (<10%) channel, and (b) a corridor or multiple stands of hardwood trees and shrubs in vegetated areas near surface water.	0	
236		Unlikely because site characteristics above are deficient, and/or this is a settled area or other area where beaver are routinely removed.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
237	F50 Groundwater Strength of Evidence	Select first applicable choice: Springs are known to be present within the AA, or if groundwater levels have been monitored, that has demonstrated that groundwater primarily discharges to the wetland for longer periods during the year than periods when the wetland recharges the groundwater.	0	Adhere to these criteria strictly -- do not use personal judgment based on fen conditions, pH, or other evidence. Consult topographic maps to detect breaks in slope described here. Rust deposits associated with groundwater seeps may be most noticeable as orange discoloration in ice formations along streams during early winter. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PRv, SFS, WC, WS]
238		Most of the AA has a slope of >5%, or is very close to the base of a natural slope longer than 100 and much steeper than the slope of the AA, AND the pH of surface water, if known, is <5.5.	0	
239		Neither of above is true, although some groundwater may discharge to or flow through the AA. Or groundwater influx is unknown.	1	
240				
241	F51 Internal Gradient	The gradient along most of the flow path within the AA is: <2% or the AA has no surface water outlet (not even seasonally).	0	This is not the same as the shoreline slope. It is the elevational difference between the AA's inlet and outlet, divided by the flow-distance between them and converted to percent. If available, use a clinometer to measure this. Free clinometer apps can be downloaded to smartphones. If the wetland is large (longer than ~1 km), this may be estimated using Google Earth to determine the minimum and maximum elevation within the AA, then dividing by length and multiplying by 100. [CS, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
242		2-5%.	1	
243		6-10%.	0	
244		>10%.	0	
245				
246	Note for the next three questions: If the AA lacks an upland edge, evaluate based on the AA's entire perimeter, and moving outward into whatever areas are adjacent. In many situations, these questions are best answered by measuring from aerial images.			
247	F52 Vegetated Buffer as % of Perimeter	Within a zone extending 30 m laterally from the AA's edge with upland and/or other wetlands, the percentage that contains perennial vegetation cover (except lawns, row crops, heavily grazed land, conifer plantations) is: <5%.	0	[AM, FA, FR, INV, NRv, PH, POL, PRv, SBM, Sens, SRv, STR, WBN]
248		5 to 30%.	1	
249		30 to 60%.	0	
250		60 to 90%.	0	
251		>90%, or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands. SKIP to F55.	0	
252				
253	F53 Type of Cover in Buffer	Within 30 m upslope of where the wetland transitions to upland, the upland land cover that is NOT perennial vegetation is mostly (mark ONE): Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.	0	[AM, FA, INV, NRv, PH, POL, SBM, STR, WBN]
254		Bare or nearly bare pervious surface or managed vegetation, e.g., lawn, row crops, unpaved road, dike, landslide.	1	
255				
256	F54 Buffer Slope	The steepest and/or most disturbed part of the upland area that is within 30 m of the wetland and occupies >10% of that upland area has a percent slope of: <1% (flat -- almost no noticeable slope) or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands.	0	[NRv, PRv, Sens, SRv]
257		2-5%.	1	
258		5-30%.	0	
259		>30%.	0	
260				
261	F55 Cliffs or Steep Banks	In the AA or within 100 m, there are elevated terrestrial features such as cliffs, talus slopes, stream banks, or excavated pits (but not riprap) that extend at least 2 m nearly vertically, are unvegetated, and potentially contain crevices or other substrate suitable for nesting or den areas. Enter 1 (yes) or 0 (no).	0	Do not include upturned trees as potential den sites. [POL, SBM]
262	F56 New or Expanded Wetland	Human actions within or adjacent to the AA have persistently expanded a naturally occurring wetland or created a wetland where there previously was none (e.g., by excavation, impoundment): No.	1	Determine this using historical aerial photography, old maps, soil maps, or permit files as available [CS, NR, OE, PH, Sens]
263		Yes, and created or expanded 20 - 100 years ago.	0	
264		Yes, and created or expanded 3-20 years ago.	0	
265		Yes, and created or expanded within last 3 years.	0	
266		Yes, but time of origin or expansion unknown.	0	
267		Unknown if new or expanded within 20 years or not.	0	
268				
269	F57 Burn History	More than 1% of the AA's previously vegetated area: Burned within past 5 years.	0	Look for charred soil or stumps (in multiple widely-spaced locations) or ask landowner. [CS, PH, STR]
270		Burned 6-10 years ago.	0	
271		Burned 11-30 years ago.	0	
272		Burned >30 years ago, or no evidence of a burn and no data.	1	
273				
274	F58 Visibility	The maximum percentage of the wetland that is visible from the best vantage point on public roads, public parking lots, public buildings, or public maintained trails that intersect, adjoin, or are within 100 m of the AA (select one) is: <25%.	1	[PU, STR, WBFv]
275		25-50%.	0	
276		>50%.	0	
277				

A	B	C	D	E
278	F59 Non-consumptive Uses - Actual or Potential	Assuming access permission was granted, select ALL statements that are true of the AA as it currently exists:		[PU, STR]
279		For an average person, walking is physically possible <u>in</u> (not just near) >5% of the AA during most of the growing season, e.g., free of deep water and dense shrub thickets.	1	
280		Maintained roads, parking areas, or foot-trails are within 10 m of the AA, or the AA can be accessed part of the year by boats arriving via contiguous waters.	0	
281		Within or near the AA, there is an interpretive center, trails with interpretive signs or brochures, and/or regular guided interpretive tours.	0	
282	F60 Unvisited Core Area	The percentage of the AA almost never visited by humans during an average growing season probably comprises: [Note: Only include the part actually walked or driven (not simply viewed from) with a vehicle or boat. Do not include visitors on trails outside of the AA unless more than half the wetland is visible from the trails and they are within 30 m of the wetland edge. In that case include only the area occupied by the trail.]		[AM, FAv, FRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
283		<5% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
284		<5% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
285		5-50% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
286		5-50% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
287		50-95%, with or without inhabited building nearby.	0	
288		>95% of the AA with or without inhabited building nearby.	1	
289	F61 Frequently Visited Area	The part of the AA visited by humans almost daily for several weeks during an average growing season probably comprises: [See note above.]		[AM, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
290		<5%. If F60 was answered ">95%" (mostly never visited), SKIP to F64.	1	
291		5-50%.	0	
292		50-95%.	0	
293		>95% of the AA.	0	
294	F62 BMP - Soils	Boardwalks, paved trails, fences or other infrastructure and/or well-enforced regulations appear to effectively prevent visitors from walking on soil within nearly all of the AA when the soil is unfrozen. Enter "1" if true.	0	[PH, PU]
295	F63 BMP - Wildlife Protection	Fences, observation blinds, platforms, paved trails, exclusion periods, and/or well-enforced prohibitions on motorised boats, off-leash pets, and off road vehicles appear to effectively exclude or divert visitors and their pets from the AA at critical times in order to minimize disturbance of wildlife (except during hunting seasons). Enter "1" if true.	0	[AM, PU, WBF, WBN]
296	F64 Consumptive Uses (Provisioning Services)	Recent evidence was found within the AA of the following potentially-sustainable consumptive uses. Select ALL that apply.		[FAv, FRv, WBFv]
297		Low-impact commercial timber harvest (e.g., selective thinning).	0	
298		Commercial or traditional-use harvesting of native plants, their fruits, or mushrooms.	0	
299		Waterfowl hunting.	0	
300		Fishing.	0	
301		Trapping of furbearers.	0	
302		None of the above.	1	
303	F65 Domestic Wells	The closest wells or water bodies that currently provide drinking water are:		[NRv]
304		Within 0-100 m. of the AA.	0	
305		100-500 m. away.	0	
306		>500 m. away, or no information.	1	
307	F66 Calcareous Fen	The AA is, or is part of, a calcareous fen. See the Plants_Calcar worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file for list of plant indicators (calciphiles). Enter 1 if more than two Strong or more than five Moderate calciphile species are present; otherwise enter 0, but if not able to identify those and no information, change to blank.		[PH, PR]
308				

Investigator: Rohan Kariyawansa	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL4	Date: October 12 2022																															
Stressor (S) Data Form for Non-Tidal Wetlands. WESP-AC for Nova Scotia version 2.																																	
S1	Aberrant Timing of Water Inputs																																
	<p><i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item that is likely to have caused the timing of water inputs (but not necessarily their volume) to shift by hours, days, or weeks, becoming either more muted (smaller or less frequent peaks spread over longer times, more temporal homogeneity of flow or water levels) or more flashy (larger or more frequent spikes but over shorter times). [FA, FR, INV, PH, STR]</i></p> <p>Stormwater from impervious surfaces that drains directly to the wetland.</p> <p>Water subsidies from wastewater effluent, septic system leakage, snow storage areas, or irrigation.</p> <p>Regular removal of surface or groundwater for irrigation or other consumptive use.</p> <p>Flow regulation in tributaries or water level regulation in adjoining water body, or other control structure at water entry points that regulates inflow to the wetland.</p> <p>A dam, dike, levee, weir, berm, or fill -- within or downgradient from the wetland -- that interferes with surface or subsurface flow in/out of the AA (e.g., road fill, wellpads, pipelines).</p> <p>Excavation within the wetland, e.g., dugout, artificial pond, dead-end ditch.</p> <p>Artificial drains or ditches in or near the wetland.</p> <p>Accelerated downcutting or channelization of an adjacent or internal channel (incised below the historical water table level).</p> <p>Logging within the wetland.</p> <p>Subsidence or compaction of the wetland's substrate as a result of machinery, livestock, fire, drainage, or off road vehicles.</p> <p>Straightening, ditching, dredging, and/or lining of tributary channels.</p>																																
<p><i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items had no measurable effect on the timing of water conditions in any part of the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Severe (3 points)</th> <th>Medium (2 points)</th> <th>Mild (1 point)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Spatial extent of timing shift within the wetland:</td> <td>>95% of wetland.</td> <td>5-95% of wetland.</td> <td><5% of wetland.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>When most of the timing shift began:</td> <td><3 yrs ago.</td> <td>3-9 yrs ago.</td> <td>10-100 yrs ago.</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Score the following 2 rows only if the altered inputs began within past 10 years, and only for the part of the wetland that experiences those.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Input timing now vs. previously:</td> <td>Shift of weeks.</td> <td>Shift of days.</td> <td>Shift of hours or minutes.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Flashiness or muting:</td> <td>Became very flashy or controlled.</td> <td>Intermediate.</td> <td>Became mildly flashy or controlled.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">Sum=</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">Stressor subscore=</td> <td>0.67</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	Spatial extent of timing shift within the wetland:	>95% of wetland.	5-95% of wetland.	<5% of wetland.	When most of the timing shift began:	<3 yrs ago.	3-9 yrs ago.	10-100 yrs ago.	Score the following 2 rows only if the altered inputs began within past 10 years, and only for the part of the wetland that experiences those.			Input timing now vs. previously:	Shift of weeks.	Shift of days.	Shift of hours or minutes.	Flashiness or muting:	Became very flashy or controlled.	Intermediate.	Became mildly flashy or controlled.			Sum=	8			Stressor subscore=	0.67
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S2	Accelerated Inputs of Contaminants and/or Salts																																
	<p><i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item – occurring in either the wetland or its CA – that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of contaminants or salts to the AA. [AM, FA, PH, POL, STR]</i></p> <p>Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills, industrial facilities.</p> <p>Metals & chemical wastes from mining, shooting ranges, snow storage areas, oil/gas extraction, other sources (download many locations from National Pollutant Release Inventory and view KMZ overlay in Google Earth. https://www.ec.gc.ca/nrnpfr/default.asp?lang=En&n=B85A1846-1</p> <p>Road salt.</p> <p>Spraying of pesticides, as applied to lawns, croplands, roadsides, or other areas in the CA.</p>																																
<p><i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly higher levels of contaminants and/or salts, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Severe (3 points)</th> <th>Medium (2 points)</th> <th>Mild (1 point)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Usual toxicity of most toxic contaminants:</td> <td>Industrial effluent, mining waste, unmanaged landfill.</td> <td>Cropland, managed landfill, pipeline or transmission rights-of-way.</td> <td>Low density residential.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Frequency & duration of input:</td> <td>Frequent and year-round.</td> <td>Frequent but mostly seasonal.</td> <td>Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):</td> <td>0 - 15 m.</td> <td>15-100 m. or in groundwater.</td> <td>In more distant part of contributing area.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">Sum=</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">Stressor subscore=</td> <td>0.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	Usual toxicity of most toxic contaminants:	Industrial effluent, mining waste, unmanaged landfill.	Cropland, managed landfill, pipeline or transmission rights-of-way.	Low density residential.	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.			Sum=	0			Stressor subscore=	0.00							
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S3	Accelerated Inputs of Nutrients				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of nutrients to the wetland. [NRv, PRv, STR]</i>				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills.				
	Fertilizers applied to lawns, ag lands, or other areas in the CA.				
	Livestock, dogs.				
	Artificial drainage of upslope lands.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly more nutrients, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Type of loading:	High density of unmaintained septic, some types of industrial sources.	Moderate density septic, cropland, secondary wastewater treatment plant.	Livestock, pets, low density residential.	0
	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
	AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
				Sum=	0
				Stressor subscore=	0.00
S4	Excessive Sediment Loading from Contributing Area				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the CA that is likely to have elevated the load of waterborne or windborne sediment reaching the wetland from its CA. [FA, FR, INV, PH, SRv, STR]</i>				
	Erosion from plowed fields, fill, timber harvest, dirt roads, vegetation clearing, fires.				1
	Erosion from construction, in-channel machinery in the CA.				
	Erosion from off-road vehicles in the CA.				
	Erosion from livestock or foot traffic in the CA.				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent.				
	Sediment from road sanding, gravel mining, other mining, oil/gas extraction.				
	Accelerated channel downcutting or headcutting of tributaries due to altered land use.				
	Other human-related disturbances within the CA.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points (3, 2, or 1 as shown in header) in the last column. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively add significantly more sediment or suspended solids to the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Erosion in CA:	Extensive evidence, high intensity.*	Potentially (based on high-intensity* land use) or scattered evidence.	Potentially (based on low-intensity* land use) with little or no direct evidence.	1
	Recentness of significant soil disturbance in the CA:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	1
	Duration of sediment inputs to the wetland:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	2
	AA proximity to actual or potential sources:	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m.	In more distant part of contributing area.	2
	* high-intensity= extensive off-road vehicle use, plowing, grading, excavation, erosion with or without veg removal; low-intensity= veg removal only with little or no apparent erosion or disturbance of soil or sediment.				Sum=
					Stressor subscore=
					0.50

S5	Soil or Sediment Alteration Within the Assessment Area				
<p><i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the wetland that is likely to have compacted, eroded, or otherwise altered the wetland's soil. Consider only items occurring within past 100 years or since wetland was created or restored (whichever is less). [CS, INV, NR, PH, SR, STR]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compaction from machinery, off-road vehicles, livestock, or mountain bikes, especially during wetter periods. Leveling or other grading not to the natural contour. Tillage, plowing (but excluding disking for enhancement of native plants). Fill or riprap, excluding small amounts of upland soils containing organic amendments (compost, etc.) or small amounts of topsoil imported from another wetland. Excavation. Ditch cleaning or dredging in or adjacent to the wetland. Boat traffic in or adjacent to the wetland and sufficient to cause shore erosion or stir bottom sediments. Artificial water level or flow manipulations sufficient to cause erosion or stir bottom sediments. <p><i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not measurably alter the soil structure and/or topography, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i></p>					
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
Spatial extent of altered soil:	>95% of wetland or >95% of its upland edge (if any).	5-95% of wetland or 5-95% of its upland edge (if any).	<5% of wetland and <5% of its upland edge (if any).	0	
Recentness of significant soil alteration in wetland:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0	
Duration:	Long-lasting, minimal veg recovery.	Long-lasting but mostly revegetated.	Short-term, revegetated, not intense.	0	
Timing of soil alteration:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Mainly during one-time or scattered events.	0	
			Sum=	0	
			Stressor subscore=	0.00	

Assessment Area (AA) Results:

Wetland ID: WL4

Date: October 12, 2022

Observer: RK

Latitude & Longitude (decimal degrees): 45.524177880858595, -63.58899138399175

Scores will appear below after data are entered in worksheets OF, F, and S. See Manual for definitions and descriptions of how scores were computed.						
Wetland Functions or Other Attributes:	Function Score (Normalised)	Function Rating	Benefits Score (Normalised)	Benefits Rating	Function Score (raw)	Benefits Score (raw)
Water Storage & Delay (WS)	5.79	Moderate	10.00	Higher	6.27	5.00
Stream Flow Support (SFS)	1.38	Lower	8.94	Higher	1.11	5.95
Water Cooling (WC)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Sediment Retention & Stabilisation (SR)	7.15	Higher	0.00	Lower	7.78	0.00
Phosphorus Retention (PR)	4.61	Moderate	0.00	Lower	6.63	0.00
Nitrate Removal & Retention (NR)	4.23	Moderate	10.00	Higher	5.83	10.00
Carbon Sequestration (CS)	3.13	Lower			6.68	
Organic Nutrient Export (OE)	9.04	Higher			5.91	
Anadromous Fish Habitat (FA)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Resident Fish Habitat (FR)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Aquatic Invertebrate Habitat (INV)	5.35	Moderate	0.91	Lower	5.67	1.73
Amphibian & Turtle Habitat (AM)	2.76	Lower	4.27	Moderate	4.57	5.28
Waterbird Feeding Habitat (WBF)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Waterbird Nesting Habitat (WBN)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat (SBM)	6.69	Moderate	10.00	Higher	5.83	10.00
Pollinator Habitat (POL)	5.13	Moderate	10.00	Higher	4.25	10.00
Native Plant Habitat (PH)	2.04	Lower	10.00	Higher	4.72	10.00
Public Use & Recognition (PU)			2.46	Moderate		1.98
Wetland Sensitivity (Sens)			10.00	Higher		5.38
Wetland Ecological Condition (EC)			4.78	Moderate		7.50
Wetland Stressors (STR) (higher score means more stress)			9.25	Higher		4.62
Summary Ratings for Grouped Functions:						
HYDROLOGIC Group (WS)	5.79	Moderate	10.00	Higher	6.27	5.00
WATER QUALITY SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SR, PR, NR, CS)	5.97	Higher	6.67	Moderate	7.25	6.67
AQUATIC SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SFS, INV, OE, WC)	6.49	Higher	6.11	Moderate	4.54	4.25
AQUATIC HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of FA, FR, AM, WBF, WBN)	1.66	Lower	2.56	Moderate	2.74	3.17
TRANSITION HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of SBM, PH, POL)	5.66	Moderate	10.00	Higher	5.38	10.00
WETLAND CONDITION (EC)			4.78	Moderate		7.50
WETLAND RISK (average of Sensitivity & Stressors)			9.63	Higher		5.00
		NOTE: A score of 0 does not mean the function or benefit is absent from the wetland. It means only that this wetland has a capacity that is equal or less than the lowest-scoring one, for that function or benefit, from among all the NS calibration wetlands that were assessed previously.				

NOVA SCOTIA - Functional WSS Interpretation Tool

Function-Benefit Product (FBP)	FBP SCORE	FBP SCORE CATEGORY
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - HYDROLOGIC	57.94200867	High
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - WATER QUALITY SUPPORT	39.7778526	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC SUPPORT	39.63072636	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC HABITAT	4.242673848	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - TRANSITION HABITAT	56.59331826	Low

Habitat Rule Satisfied? NO

Support Rule Satisfied? NO

Habitat/Support Hybrid Rule Satisfied? NO

CONCLUSION: Site is not a WSS

Cover Page: Basic Description of Assessment	WESP-AC version 2
Site Name:	Higgins Mountain, WL5
Investigator Name:	Jordan Davis, Alex Scott, Madeline Maher
Date of Field Assessment:	4 October 2022
Nearest Town:	Masstown
Latitude (decimal degrees):	45.52565556
Longitude (decimal degrees):	63.58936944
Is a map based on a formal on-site wetland delineation available?	Yes
Approximate size of the Assessment Area (AA, in hectares):	0.28
AA as percent of entire wetland (approx.). Attach sketch map if AA is smaller than the entire contiguous wetland.	100%
What percent (approx.) of the wetland were you able to visit?	100%
What percent (approx.) of the AA were you able to visit?	100%
Were you able to ask the site owner/manager about any of the questions?	No
Indicate here if you intentionally surveyed for rare plants, calciphile plants, or rare animals:	Yes
Have you attended a WESP-AC training session? If so, indicate approximate month & year.	Yes. October, 2022
How many wetlands have you assessed previously using WESP-AC? (approx.)	10
Comments about the site or this WESP-AC assessment (attach extra page if desired):	

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date: 24 October, 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL5		Investigator: Madeline Maher	
2	Form OF (Office). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia wetlands only. DIRECTIONS: Conduct an assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answering many of the questions below will require using these online map viewers: Google Earth Pro: https://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html Provincial Landscape Viewer: https://nsgis.novascotia.ca/plv/ For most wetlands, completing this office data form will require 1-2 hours. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see bracketed abbreviations in the Definitions/Explanations column. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.				
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations
4	OF1	Province	Mark the province in which the AA is located by changing the 0 in the column next to it to a "1". Mark only one.		This determines to which province's calibration wetlands the raw score of any wetland is normalised. In the function and benefits models, it also triggers the automatic exclusion of indicators for which no spatial data exists in a particular province.
5			New Brunswick	0	
6			Nova Scotia	1	
7			Prince Edward Island	0	
8			Newfoundland-Labrador	0	
9	OF2	Ponded Area Within 1 km.	The area of surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		"Adjacent" means not separated from the AA by a wide expanse (>50 m) of upland (including roads >50 m wide). Include ponded areas likely to be hidden by wetland vegetation. If surface water extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. Do not include tidal areas. Measure the area from aerial imagery using Google Earth Pro (click on Ruler icon in toolbar, then Polygon in pop-up menu). [PH, SBM, WBN]
10			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
11			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	1	
12			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
13			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
14			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
15			>100 hectares.	0	
16	OF3	Ponded Water & Wetland Within 1 km.	The area of wetlands and surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. If the AA's wetland vegetation extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. "Ponded" means not flowing in rivers or streams. [Sens, WBF]
17			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
18			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
19			0.1 - 1 hectare.	1	
20			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
21			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
22			>100 hectares.	0	
23	OF4	Size of Largest Nearby Vegetated Tract or Corridor	The largest vegetated patch or corridor that includes the AA's vegetation plus all adjacent upland vegetation that is not lawn, row crops, heavily grazed lands, conifer plantation is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. Use Google Earth Pro's polygon ruler (as described above). Exclude conifer plantations only if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens]
24			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
25			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
26			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
27			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
28			10 to 100 hectares.	1	
29			100 to 1000 hectares.	0	
30			>1000 hectares. [This is nearly always the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]	0	

	A	B	C	D	E
31	OF5 Distance to Large Vegetated Tract	<p>The minimum distance from the edge of the AA to the edge of the closest vegetated land (but excluding row crops, lawn, conifer plantation) larger than 375 hectares (about 2 km on a side), is:</p> <p><50 m, and not separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, bare ground, lawn, or impervious surface. Or the AA itself contains >375 ha of vegetation. [This is often the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]</p> <p><50 m, but completely separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by those features, and AA does not contain >375 ha of vegetation.</p> <p>50-500 m, and not separated.</p> <p>50-500 m, but separated by those features.</p> <p>0.5 - 5 km, and not separated.</p> <p>0.5 - 5 km, but separated by those features.</p> <p>None of the above (the closest patches or corridors which are that large are >5 km away).</p>	0 0 0 0 0 1 0	<p>To measure distance, use Google Earth Pro (Ruler > Line tool). The 375-ha criterion is from the Fundy Model Forest Project. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]</p>	
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39	OF6 Herbaceous Uniqueness	<p>The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 5 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF7. If not, consider:</p> <p>The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 1 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF7. If not, consider:</p> <p>The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "1".</p> <p>[* NOTE: Exclude lawns, row crops, heavily grazed lands, forest, shrublands. Include moss as well as grasslike plants in this use of "herbaceous vegetation"]</p>	0	For this question only, consider moss to be herbaceous vegetation. Determine the score by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth after successively drawing or estimating the boundaries of the buffers of 5 km, 1 km, and 100 m radius focused on the center of the AA. Circles of specified radius can be drawn in Google Earth Pro by clicking on the Ruler icon, then Circle in the pop-up menu. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]	
40	OF7 Woody Uniqueness	<p>The AA's vegetation cover is >10% woody* but uplands within 5 km have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF8. If not, consider:</p> <p>The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 1 km have <10% woody cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF8. If not, consider:</p> <p>The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "1".</p> <p>[* NOTE: woody cover = trees & shrubs taller than 1 m.]</p>	0	See above. Do not consider conifer plantations to be forest if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv]	
41	OF8 Local Vegetated Cover Percentage	<p>Draw a 5-km radius circle measured from the center of the AA. Ignoring all permanent water in the circle, the percent of the remaining area that is wooded or unmanaged herbaceous vegetation (NOT lawn, row crops, bare or heavily grazed land, clearcuts, or conifer plantations) is:</p> <p><5% of the land.</p> <p>5 to 20% of the land.</p> <p>20 to 60% of the land.</p> <p>60 to 90% of the land.</p> <p>>90% of the land. SKIP to OF10.</p>	0 1 0 0 0	<p>In Google Earth, draw the 5 km buffer and then estimate land cover percentages, or do GIS analysis of an appropriate land cover layer. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]</p>	
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47	OF9 Type of Land Cover Alteration	Within the 5-km radius circle, and ignoring all permanent water, the land area that is bare or non-perennial cover is mostly:	[AM, SBM]		
48		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.			
49		Bare pervious surface, e.g., lawn, recent (<5 yrs ago) clearcut, dirt or gravel road, cropland, landslide, conifer plantation.			
50	OF10 Distance by Road to Nearest Population Center	<p>Measured along the maintained road nearest the AA, the distance to the nearest population center is:</p> <p><100 m.</p> <p>100 - 500 m.</p> <p>0.5- 1 km.</p> <p>1 - 5 km.</p> <p>>5 km.</p>	0 0 0 0 1	<p>"Population center" means a settled area with more than about 5 regularly-inhabited structures per square kilometer. In Google Earth Pro, click on the Ruler icon, then Path, and draw and measure the route. [FAv, FRv, NRV, PH, PU, SBM, WBFv]</p>	
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A	B	C	D	E
56	OF11	Distance to Nearest Maintained Road	From the center of the AA, the distance to the nearest maintained public road (dirt or paved) is:	Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth Pro and measuring with the Ruler>Line tool. [AM, FAv, FRv, NRV, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBN]
57			<10 m.	1
58			10 - 25 m.	0
59			25 - 50 m.	0
60			50 - 100 m.	0
61			100 - 500 m.	0
62			>500 m.	0
63	OF12	Wildlife Access	Draw a circle of radius of 5 km from the center of the AA. If mammals and amphibians can move from the center of the AA to ALL other separate wetlands and ponds located within the circle without being forced to cross pavement (any width), lawns, bare ground, and/or marine waters, mark 1= yes can move to all, 0= no. Change to blank if there are no other wetlands within 5 km.	Draw the 5 km circle in Google Earth Pro using the Circle tool and search for roads and wetlands within it, being alert for roads hidden under forest canopy. [AM, SBM, STR]
64	OF13	Distance to Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) ponded water body visible in GoogleEarth imagery is:	In Google Earth Pro, zoom in closely to examine the surrounding landscape for ponds, lakes, and wetlands that appear to be permanently flooded. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
65			<50 m, and not separated by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, lawn, bare ground, or impervious surface.	0
66			<50 m, but completely separated by those features.	0
67			50-500 m, and not separated.	0
68			50-500 m, but separated by those features.	0
69			0.5 - 1 km, and not separated.	0
70			0.5 - 1 km, but separated by those features.	1
71			None of the above (the closest patches or corridors that large are >1 km away).	0
72	OF14	Distance to Large Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) non-tidal body of water that is ponded during most of the year and is larger than 8 hectares during most of a normal year is:	Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth. [Sens, WBF, WBN]
73			<100 m.	0
74			100 m - 1 km.	0
75			1 - 2 km.	0
76			2-5 km.	1
77			5-10 km.	0
78			>10 km.	0
79	OF15	Tidal Proximity	The distance from the AA edge to the closest tidal water body (regardless of its salinity) is:	In Google Earth, measure the distance to the ocean (including Bay of Fundy) or tidal river, whichever is closer. If you need to see how far upriver a river is tidal, see the KMZ file provided with this calculator for NS (NS Headtide). Points shown in those files are only an approximation, so local information if available may be preferable. [FA, WBF]
80			<100 m.	0
81			100 m - 1 km.	0
82			1 - 5 km.	0
83			5-10 km.	0
84			10-40 km.	1
85			>40 km.	0
86	OF16	Upland Edge Contact	Select one:	[NR, SBM, Sens]
87			The AA has no upland edge (or upland is <1% of perimeter). The AA is entirely surrounded by (& contiguous with) other wetlands or water.	0
88			1-25% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland (including filled areas). The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0
89			25-50% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0
90			50-75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0
91			More than 75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. Any remainder adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA. This will be true for most assessments done with WESP-AC.	1
92	OF17	Flood Damage from Non-tidal Waters	Within 5 km downstream or downslope of the AA (select first true choice):	Contact local authorities to determine if such maps exist. Where available, LiDAR imagery can provide finer elevational resolution useful for flood modeling. [WSv]
93			Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding not caused by tidal storm surges.	0
94			Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas, but infrastructure is absent or is not vulnerable to floods from a non-tidal river. In some cases levees, upriver dams, or other measures may partly limit damage or risk from smaller events.	0
95			Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.	0
96			Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there is no infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.	1

A	B	C	D	E
97	OF18 Relative Elevation in Watershed	In Google Earth, enable the Terrain layer (lower left menu) and open the NS_Watersheds Secondary KMZ file that accompanies this calculator. Then determine the AA's approximate elevation (bottom right, NOT the "eye alt"). Then move cursor around to determine the watershed's maximum and minimum elevation. Divide the AA's elevation by the (max-min).	0.67	[FA, NR, Sens, SFSv, WCv, WSV]
98	OF19 Water Quality Sensitive Watershed or Area	The AA is in a Protected Water Supply area (Designated Water Supply Area, Natural Watershed Municipal Surface Water Supply Area, or Municipal Water Supply Area) according to the provided KMZ overlay ("NS Protected Water Supply Areas"). Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	If an ACCDC report is available for this AA, it also may contain such information. [NRv]
99	OF20 Degraded Water Upstream	Sampling indicates a problem with concentrations of metals, hydrocarbons, nutrients , or other substances (excluding bacteria, acidic water, high temperatures) being present at levels harmful to aquatic life or humans, and:		May use existing data, or sample those waters as part of this wetland assessment. "Harmful" should be evaluated with regard to current federal or provincial water quality standards. [AM, FA, FR, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WBF, WBN]
100		The condition is present within the AA.	0	
101		The condition is present in waters within 1 km that flow into the AA, but has not been documented in the AA itself.	0	
102		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.	0	
103		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.	1	
104	OF21 Degraded Water Downstream	The problem described above is downslope from the AA, and:		May use existing data, or monitor waters as part of this wetland assessment. [NRv, PRv, SRv]
105		The condition is present within 1 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel.	0	
106		The condition is present within 5 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel, or within 1 km but not connected to the AA by a channel.	0	
107		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.	0	
108		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.	1	
109	OF22 Wetland as a % of Its Contributing Area (Catchment)	From a topographic map and field observations, estimate the approximate boundaries of the catchment (CA) of the entire wetland of which the AA may be only a part. Then adjust those boundaries if necessary based on your field observations of the surrounding terrain, and/or by using procedures described in the Manual. Divide the area of the wetland (not just the AA) by the approximate area of its catchment excluding the area of the wetland itself. When doing the calculation, if ponded water is adjacent to the wetland, include that in the wetland's area. The result is:		Topographic maps may be viewed online at the National Atlas of Canada (Toporama): http://atlas.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html [NR, PR, Sens, SR, WS]
110		<0.01, or catchment size unknown due to stormwater pipes that collect water from an indeterminate area.	0	
111		0.01 to 0.1.	0	
112		0.1 to 1.	1	
113		>1 (wetland is larger than its catchment (e.g., wetland with flat surrounding terrain and no inlet, or is entirely isolated by dikes, or is a raised bog).	0	
114	OF23 Unvegetated Surface in the Contributing Area	The proportion of the AA's contributing area (measured to no more than 1000 m upslope) that is comprised of buildings, roads, parking lots, other pavement, exposed bedrock, landslides, and other mostly-bare surface is about :		[FA, INV, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WCv, WSV]
115		<10%.	0	
116		10 to 25%.	1	
117		>25%.	0	
118	OF24 Transport From Upslope	A relatively large proportion of the precipitation that falls farther upslope in the CA reaches this wetland quickly as runoff (surface water), as indicated by the following: (a) input channel is present, (b) input channels have been straightened, (c) upslope wetlands have been ditched extensively, (d) land cover is mostly non-forest, (e) CA slopes are steep, and/or (f) most CA soils are shallow (bedrock near surface) and/or have high runoff coefficients. This statement is:		[NRv, PRv, SRv, WSV]
119		Mostly true.	0	
120		Somewhat true.	1	
121		Mostly untrue.	0	
122		The overland flow direction of most surface water (in streams, rivers, or runoff) that enters the AA is:		[AM, NR, SFS, WC, WS]
123	OF25 Aspect	Northward (N, NE). north-facing contributing area.	0	
124		Southward (S, SW). south-facing contributing area.	1	
125		Other (E, SE, W, NW), or no detectable uphill slope or input channel (flat).	0	

A	B	C	D	E
126	OF26 Internal Flow Distance (Path Length)	The horizontal flow distance from the wetland's inlet to outlet is:		Identify inlets and outlets, if any, from topographic maps (use elevations to determine which are inlets and which are outlets) and augment by field inspection. With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, select Nova Scotia Topo as the Basemap. Also enable the layer Forestry>WAM Predicted Flow. Then measure the inlet-outlet distance. [NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
127		<10 m.		0
128		10 - 50 m.		0
129		50 - 100 m.		0
130		100 - 1000 m.		0
131		1- 2 km.		0
132		>2 km, or wetland lacks an inlet and outlet.		1
133	OF27 Growing Degree Days	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called NS_GrowingDegreeDays. Place your cursor over the AA and left-click. From the pop-up window, enter the GRIDCODE number in the next column.	1821	This layer was provided by Dr. Dan McKenney of the Canadian Forest Service [AM, CS, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WCv, WS]
134	OF28 Fish Access or Use	According to agency biologists and/or your own observations, the AA. [Mark just the first choice that is true.]:		Regarding the last choice, if uncertain if an AA is fishless, consider the possibility its waters have been stocked. [AM, FA, FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
135		Is known to support rearing and/or spawning by Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels. Go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife>Significant Habitat>Species at Risk. Contact local fishery biologists, review the ACCDC report, and visit these websites: http://www.salmontlas.com/atlanticsalmon/canada-east/index.1.html http://atlanticssalmofederation.org/rivers/introduction.html		
136		Has not been documented to support Atlantic salmon rearing and/or spawning, but is connected to nearby waters likely to contain Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels and is probably accessed by those during some conditions.		
137		Is probably not accessed by any anadromous fish species but is known or likely to have other fish at least seasonally.		
138		Is known or likely to be fishless (e.g., too small, dry, and/or not accessible even temporarily, and not stocked).		
139	OF29 Species of Conservation Concern	Within the past 10 years, in the AA (or in its adjoining waters or wetland), qualified observers have documented [mark all applicable]:		Request information from ACCDC and/or conduct your own survey at an appropriate season using an approved protocol. For birds, also check eBird.org. NOTE for NS: If your WESP-AC is being completed for a Wetland Alteration Application to NS-ECC, your ACCDC results and any taxon-specific survey results must be submitted along with your WESP-AC results, and application. [AMv, EC, PHv, POLv, SBMv, Sens, WBFv, WBNv]
140		Presence of one or more of the plant species listed in the Plants_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, or the AA is within a mapped Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora Buffer (go to Provincial Landscape Viewer> Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones).		
141		Presence of one or more of the amphibian or reptile species (AM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.		
142		Presence of one or more of the waterbird species (WBF, WBN) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.		
143		Presence of one or more of the nesting songbird or raptor species (SBM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, during their nesting season (May-July for most species).		
144		None of the above, or no data.		
145	OF30 Important Bird Area (IBA)	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called IBAs_Canada. The AA is all or part of an officially designated IBA. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	The source of this layer, which should be checked periodically for updates, is: http://www.ibacanada.com/mapviewer.jsp?lang=EN [SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
146	OF31 Black Duck Nesting Area	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called BlackDuck. Adjust its alignment and opacity. Determine the predicted density (pairs per 25 sq. km) of nesting American Black Duck in the AA's vicinity: <10 (enter 0), 10-20 (enter 1), 20-30 (enter 2), >30 (enter 3). If outside of region shown in map, change to blank.	0	This was provided by Dr. David Leske. [WBNv]
147	OF32 Wintering Deer or Moose Concentration Areas	If AA is on private land with no information, change to blank (not 0). Otherwise: With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, for Wintering Moose, go to Wildlife> Significant Habitat. For Mainland Moose Concentration Areas, go to Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0.	0	[SBM]
148	OF33 Other Conservation Designation	The AA is all or part of an area designated by government, First Nations, or the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) for its exceptional ecological features or highly intact natural conditions. With Provincial Landscape Viewer, see Protected Areas. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If uncertain, consult NCC and agencies for more recent information.	0	See: https://novascotia.ca/parksandprotectedareas/plan/interactive-map/ [PU]
149	OF34 Conservation Investment	The AA is part of or contiguous to a wetland on which public or private organizational funds were spent to preserve, create, restore, or enhance the wetland (excluding mitigation wetlands). Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank (not 0).	0	[PU]
150	OF35 Mitigation Investment	The AA is all or part of a mitigation site used explicitly to offset impacts elsewhere. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.	0	[PU]
151	OF36 Sustained Scientific Use	Plants, animals, or water in the AA have been monitored for >2 years, unrelated to any regulatory requirements, and data are available to the public. Or the AA is part of an area that has been designated by an agency or institution as a benchmark, reference, or status-trends monitoring area. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.	0	[PU]
152	OF37 Calcareous Region	The AA is NOT in a subregion that has been heavily exposed to acid precipitation. Enter "1" if true (green or yellow in map in Appendix A of the Manual). Enter "0" if false. If no information, change to blank.	0	[AM, FA, FR, INV, PH]

	A	B	C	D	E
153	OF38	Ownership	Select the ONE ownership that covers the most of the AA. In Google Earth, open KMZ file called NS_CrownlandsUse more recent information if available.		"Private lands" may include those owned or leased by non-governmental organizations, e.g., charitable conservation land trusts, DUC, TNC. [PU, STR]
154			New timber harvest, roads, mineral extraction, and intensive summer recreation (e.g., off-road vehicles) are permanently prohibited. Includes many publicly-owned Protected Lands, and private lands under long-term (30+ year) legal agreements to maintain nearly-unaltered conditions.	0	
155			Ownership is public (e.g., municipal, Crown Reservations/Notations) but some or all of the above activities are allowed.	0	
156			Ownership is private but public access is allowed, and/or a shorter-term conservation easement (whether renewable or not) is in place.	0	
157			Ownership is private and owner does not allow access, or access permission unknown, and not a conservation easement.	0	

	A	B	C	D	E		
1	Date: 04 October 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL5		Investigator: Jordan Davis, Alex Scott			
2	Form F (Field). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia. DIRECTIONS: Walk for no less than 10 minutes from the wetland edge towards its core, in the part of the AA that is proposed for alteration. If no alteration is proposed, walk in a portion that appears to be most representative of the wetland overall. Walk only where it is safe and legal to do so. Conduct the assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answer these questions primarily based on your onsite observations and interpretations. Do not write in shaded parts of this data form. Answering some questions accurately may require conferring with the landowner or other knowledgeable persons, and/or reviewing aerial imagery. For most wetlands, completing this field data form will require 1-2 hours on a site. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see the accompanying Interpretations form. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage & Delay, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.						
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations		
4	F1	Wetland Type	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the vegetated part of the AA:				
5			A. Moss and/or lichen cover more than 25% of the ground. Often dominated by ericaceous shrubs (e.g., Labrador tea) or other acid-tolerant plants (e.g., bog cranberry, pitcher plant, sundew, orchids). Substrate is mostly undecomposed peat. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.		Ericaceous shrubs are ones in the heather family (Ericaceae). Most have leathery evergreen leaves. They include rhododendron, azalea, swamp laurel, leatherleaf, Labrador tea, and others. Most require acidic soil. Although not in the family Ericaceae, sweetgale (<i>Myrica gale</i>) should be counted also. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, Sens, SFS, WBF, WBN]		
6			A1. Surface water is usually absent or, if present, pH is typically <4.5 and conductivity is usually <100 µS/cm (<64 ppm TDS). Trees are absent or nearly so. Sedge cover usually sparse or absent but cottongrass and/or lichen cover may be extensive, as well as cloudberry, lingonberry, sheep laurel, and a sedge (<i>Carex rariflora</i>). Wetland surface and surrounding landscape are seldom sloping and wetland often is domed (convex). Inlet and outlet channels are usually absent. If known, pH of peat is <4.0.	0			
7			A2. Not A1. Surface water, if present, has pH typically >4.5 and conductivity is usually >100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Sedge cover is usually extensive, and/or tree and tall shrub cover is extensive. Sometimes at toe of slope or edge of water body. An exit channel is usually present. Wetter than A1 and peat depth may be shallower (<2 m).	0			
8			B. Moss and/or lichen cover less than 25% of the ground. Soil is mineral or decomposed organic (muck). Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column:				
9			B1. Trees and shrubs taller than 1 m comprise more than 25% of the vegetated cover. Surface water is mostly absent or inundates the vegetation only seasonally (e.g., vernal pools or floodplain).	0			
10			B2. Not B1. Tree & tall shrubs comprise less than 25% of the vegetated cover. Vegetation is mostly herbaceous, e.g., cattail, bulrush, burreed, pond lily, horsetail. Surface water may be extensive and fluctuates seasonally, being either persistent or drying up partly or entirely.	1			
11			Reminder: For all questions, the AA should include all persistent waters in ponds smaller than 8 hectares (~283 m on a side) that are adjacent to the AA. The AA should also include part of the water area of adjacent ponded water larger than 8 ha and adjacent rivers wider than 20 m. Specifically, the AA should include the open water part adjacent to wetland vegetation and equal in width to the average width of that vegetated zone. Throughout this data form, "adjacent" is used synonymously with abutting, adjoining, bordering, contiguous – and means no upland (manmade or natural) completely separates the described features along their directly shared edge. Features joined only by a channel are not necessarily considered to be adjacent – a large portion of their edges must match. The features do not have to be hydrologically connected in order to be considered adjacent.				
12			F2	Wetland Types - Adjoining or Subordinate	If the AA is smaller than 1 ha, mark all other types that occupy more than 1% of the vegetated AA. If the AA is larger than 1 ha, mark all other types which are within or adjacent to the AA and occupy more than 1 ha, as visible from the AA or as interpreted from aerial imagery. Do not mark again the type marked in F1.		1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, INV, SBM, WBF]
13					A1.	0	
14	A2.	1					
15	B1.	1					
16	B2.	0					
17	F3	Woody Height & Form Diversity	Following EACH row below, indicate with a number code the percentage of the living vegetation in the AA which is occupied by that feature (6 if >95%, 5 if 75-95%, 4 if 50-75%, 3 if 25-50%, 2 if 5-25%, 1 if <5%, 0 if none). If the vegetated part of the AA is largely herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation, these percentages should not sum to 100%.				
18			coniferous trees (may include tamarack) taller than 3 m.	3	Deciduous shrubs in this region usually include buttonbush, Labrador tea, bayberry (<i>Morella</i>), huckleberry, cranberry, cloudberry, sweetgale, alder, willow, birch, ash, dogwood, and a few others.		
19			deciduous trees taller than 3 m.	2	If you assigned a code of 3 or higher to any of the first four choices and the ground cover beneath the trees/shrubs is <25% moss, then question F1 might be "B1". [CS, INV, NR, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]		
20			coniferous or ericaceous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	2			
21			deciduous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	2			
22			coniferous or ericaceous shrubs <1 m tall not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	1			
23			deciduous shrubs or trees <1 m tall (e.g., deciduous seedlings) not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	1			

A	B	C	D	E
24		<i>Note: If none of top 4 rows in F3 was marked 2 or greater , SKIP to F9 (N fixers).</i>		
25	F4	Dominance of Most Abundant Shrub Species	Determine which two woody plant species comprise the greatest portion of the low (<3 m) woody cover . Then choose one: those species together comprise > 50% of such cover. those species together do not comprise > 50% of such cover.	[PH, POL, SBM, Sens] 1 0
26				
27				
28	F5	Woody Diameter Classes	Mark ALL the types that comprise >5% of the woody canopy cover in the AA or >5% of the wooded areas (if any) along its upland edge (perimeter) . The edge should include only the trees whose canopies extend into the AA. coniferous, 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall. broad-leaved deciduous 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall. coniferous, 10-19 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous 10-19 cm diameter. coniferous, 20-40 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous 20-40 cm diameter. coniferous, >40 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous >40 cm diameter.	Estimate the diameters at chest height. If small-diameter trees are overtopped (shaded) by larger ones, visualise a "subcanopy" at the average height of the smaller-dbh trees, to serve as a basis for the minimum 5% canopy requirement in this question. The trees and shrubs need not be wetland species. [AM, CS, POL, SBM, Sens, WBN] 1 1 1 0 1 0 0 0
29				
30				
31				
32				
33				
34				
35				
36				
37	F6	Height Class Interspersion	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the AA: A. Neither the vegetation taller than 1 m nor the vegetation shorter than that comprise >70% of the vegetated part of the AA. They each comprise 30-70% . Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below. A1. The two height classes are mostly scattered and intermixed throughout the AA. A2. Not A1. The two height classes are mostly in separate zones or bands, or in proportionately large clumps. B. Either the vegetation shorter than 1 m comprises >70% of the vegetated part of the AA, or the vegetation taller than that does. One size class might even be totally absent. Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column: B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly scattered and intermixed within the prevalent one. B2. Not B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly located apart from the prevalent one, in separate zones or clumps, or is completely absent.	[AM, INV, NR, PH, SBM, Sens] 0 0 0 1
38				
39				
40				
41				
42				
43				
44	F7	Large Snags (Dead Standing Trees)	The number of large snags (diameter >20 cm) in the AA plus adjacent upland area within 10 m of the wetland edge is: None, or fewer than 8/ hectare which exceed this diameter. Several (>8/hectare) and a pond, lake, or slow-flowing water wider than 10 m is within 1 km. Several (>8/hectare) but above not true.	Snags are dead standing trees that often (not always) lack bark and foliage. Include only ones that are at least 2 m tall. [POL, SBM, WBN] 1 0 0
45				
46				
47				
48	F8	Downed Wood	The number of downed wood pieces longer than 2 m and with diameter >10 cm , and not persistently submerged, is: Few or none that meet these criteria. Several (>5 if AA is >5 hectares, less for smaller AAs) meet these criteria.	Exclude temporary "burn piles." [AM, INV, POL, SBM] 0 1
49				
50				
51	F9	N Fixers	The percentage of the AA's vegetated cover that contains nitrogen-fixing plants (e.g., alder, sweetgale, clover, lupine, alfalfa, other legumes) is: <1% or none. 1-25% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). 25-50% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). 50-75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). >75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	Do not include N-fixing algae or lichens. [FA, FR, INV, NRv, OE, PH, SBM, Sens] 0 1 0 0 0
52				
53				
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A	B	C	D	E
57	F10 Sphagnum Moss Extent	The cover of Sphagnum moss (or any moss that forms a dense cushion many centimeters thick), including the moss obscured by taller sedges and other plants rooted in it, is:		
58		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
59		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
60		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
61		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
62		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
63	F11 % Bare Ground & Thatch	Consider the parts of the AA that lack surface water at the driest time of the growing season. Viewed from directly above the ground layer, the predominant condition in those areas at that time is:		
64		Little or no (<5%) bare ground is visible between erect stems or under canopy anywhere in the vegetated AA. Ground is extensively blanketed by dense thatch, moss, lichens, graminoids with great stem densities, or plants with ground-hugging foliage.	1	
65		Slightly bare ground (5-20% bare between plants) is visible in places, but those areas comprise less than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
66		Much bare ground (20-50% bare between plants) is visible in places, and those areas comprise more than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
67		Other conditions.	0	
68		Not applicable. Surface water (either open or obscured by emergent plants) covers all of the AA all the time.	0	
69	F12 Ground Irregularity	Imagine the AA without any living vegetation. Excluding the portion of the AA that is always under water, the number of hummocks, small pits, raised mounds, animal burrows, ruts, gullies, natural levees, microdepressions, and other areas of peat or mineral soil that are raised or depressed >10 cm compared to most of the area within a few meters surrounding them is:		
70		Few or none (minimal microtopography; <1% of the land has such features, or entire AA is always water-covered).	0	
71		Intermediate.	1	
72		Several (extensive micro-topography).	0	
73	F13 Upland Inclusions	Within the AA, inclusions of upland are:		
74		Few or none.	1	
75		Intermediate (1 - 10% of vegetated part of the AA).	0	
76		Many (e.g., wetland-upland "mosaic"; >10% of the vegetated AA).	0	
77	F14 Soil Texture	In parts of the AA that lack persistent water, the texture of soil in the uppermost layer is mostly: [To determine this, use a trowel to check in at least 3 widely spaced locations, and use the soil texture key (in Appendix A of the Manual).]		
78		Loamy: soils that may contain a little fine grit and do not make a "ribbon" longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
79		Fines: includes silt, clay, silt, soils that make a ribbon longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
80		Deep Peat, to 40 cm depth or greater.	1	
81		Shallow Peat or organic <40 cm deep.	0	
82		Coarse: includes sand, loamy sand, gravel, cobble, soils that do not make a ribbon when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
83	F15 Shorebird Feeding Habitats	During any 2 consecutive weeks of the growing season, the extent of mudflats, bare unshaded saturated areas not covered by thatch, and unshaded waters shallower than 6 cm is: [Include also any area that is adjacent to the AA.]		
84		None, or <100 sq. m.	1	
85		100-1000 sq. m.	0	
86		1000 – 10,000 sq. m.	0	
87		>10,000 sq. m.	0	
88	F16 Herbaceous % of Vegetated Wetland	In aerial ("ducks eye") view, the maximum annual cover of herbaceous vegetation (all non-woody plants except moss) is:		
89		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA or <0.01 hectare (whichever is less). Mark "1" here and SKIP to F20 (Invasive Plant Cover).	0	
90		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
91		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
92		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
93		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
94	F17 Forb Cover	Within parts of the AA having herbaceous cover (excluding SAV), the areal cover of forbs reaches an annual maximum of:		
95		<5% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	1	
96		5-25% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
97		25-50% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
98		50-95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
99		>95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
100 101 102 103 104	F18 Sedge Cover	Sedges (<i>Carex</i> spp.) and cottongrass (<i>Eriophorum</i> spp.) occupy: <5% of the vegetated area, or none. 5-50% of the vegetated area. 50-95% of the vegetated area. >95% of the vegetated area.	0 1 0 0	[CS] For this question, include ferns as well as graminoids and forbs. [EC, INV, PH, POL, Sens]
105 106 107		Determine which two herbaceous species comprise the greatest portion of the herbaceous cover (excluding mosses and floating-leaved aquatic plants). Then choose one of the following: those species together comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year. those species together do not comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.	1 0	
108 109 110 111 112 113	F20 Invasive Plant Cover	How extensive is the cover of invasive plant species in the AA? For species, see Plants_invasive worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file. invasive species appear to be absent in the AA, or are present only in trace amount (a few individuals). invasive species are present in more than trace amounts, but comprise <5% of herbaceous cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody). invasive species comprise 5-20% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody). invasive species comprise 20-50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody). invasive species comprise >50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).	1 0 0 0 0	[EC, PH, POL, Sens] If a plant cannot be identified to species (e.g., winter conditions) but its genus contains an exotic species, assume the unidentified plant to also be exotic. If vegetation is so senesced that exotic species cannot be identified, answer "none". [PH, STR]
114 115 116 117 118		Along the wetland-upland boundary, the percent of the upland edge (within 3 m upslope from the wetland) that is occupied by invasive plant species is: none of the upland edge (invasives apparently absent), or AA has no upland edge. some (but <5%) of the upland edge. 5-50% of the upland edge. most (>50%) of the upland edge.	1 0 0 0	
119		F22 Fringe Wetland During most of the year, open water within or adjacent to the vegetated part of the wetland is much wider than the maximum width of the vegetated zone within the wetland. Enter "1" if true, "0" if false.	0	[WBF, WBN, WCv]
120		F23 Lacustrine Wetland The vegetated part of the AA is within or adjacent to a body of non-tidal standing open water whose size exceeds 8 hectares during most of a normal year.	0	[FR, PR, PU, WBF, WBN]
121 122 123 124 125 126 127	F24 % of AA Without Surface Water	The percentage of the AA that <u>never</u> contains surface water during an average year (that is, except perhaps for a few hours after snowmelt or rainstorms), but which is still a wetland, is: <1% . In other words, all or nearly all of the AA is covered by water permanently or at least seasonally . 1-25% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha never contains surface water. 25-50% of the AA never contains surface water. 50-75% of the AA never contains surface water. 75-99% of the AA never contains surface water, OR >99% and there is at least one persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha in the AA. 99-100%. AND there is no persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha within the AA. Enter "1" and SKIP to F42 (Channel Connection).	0 0 0 0 1 0	1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SRv, WBF, WBN, WC] If you are unable to determine the condition at the driest time of year, ask the land owner or neighbors about it if possible. Indicators of persistence may include fish, some dragonflies, beaver, and muskrat. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, POL, PR, SBM, WBF, WBN]
128 129 130 131 132 133		Identify the parts of the AA that still contain surface water (flowing or ponded, open or hidden beneath vegetation) even during the driest times of a normal year, i.e., when the AA's surface water is at its lowest annual level. At that time, the percentage of the AA that still contains surface water is: None. The AA dries up completely (no water in channels either) or never has surface water during most years. SKIP to F27. 1-20% of the AA. 20-50% of the AA. 50-95% of the AA. >95% of the AA. True for many fringe wetlands.	1 0 0 0 0	
134 135 136 137 138 139		F26 % of Summertime Water that Is Shaded At mid-day during the warmest time of year, the area of surface water <u>within</u> the AA that is shaded by vegetation and other features that are within the AA at that time is: <5% of the water is shaded, or no surface water is present then. 5-25% of the water is shaded. 25-50% of the water is shaded. 50-75% of the water is shaded. >75% of the water is shaded.	0 0 0 0 0	

A	B	C	D	E
140	F27 % of AA that is Flooded Only Seasonally	The percentage of the AA's area that is between the annual high water and the annual low water (surface water) is:		
141		None, or <0.01 hectare and <1% of the AA. SKIP to F29.	0	
142		1-20% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha.	1	Flood marks (algal mats, adventitious roots, debris lines, ice scour, etc.) are often evident when not fully inundated. Also, such areas often have a larger proportion of upland and annual (vs. perennial) plant species. In riverine systems, the extent of this zone can be estimated by multiplying by 2 the bankful height and visualising where that would intercept the land along the river. [CS, FA, INV, NR, OE, PH, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
143		20-50% of the AA.	0	
144		50-95% of the AA.	0	
145		>95% of the AA.	0	
146	F28 Annual Water Fluctuation Range	The annual fluctuation in surface water level within most of the parts of the AA that contain surface water at least temporarily is:		
147		<10 cm change (stable or nearly so).	1	Look for flood marks (see above). Because the annual range of water levels is difficult to estimate without multiple visits, consider asking the land owner or neighbors about it. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SR, WBN, WS]
148		10 cm - 50 cm change.	0	
149		0.5 - 1 m change.	0	
150		1-2 m change.	0	
151		>2 m change.	0	
152	Is the AA plus adjacent ponded water smaller than 0.01 hectare (about 10m x 10m, or 1m x 100 m)? If so, enter "1" in column D and SKIP TO F42 (Connection).			0
153	F29 Predominant Depth Class	During most of the time when surface water is present during the growing season, its depth, averaged over the entire inundated part of the AA, is:		
154		<10 cm deep (but >0).	1	If a boat is unavailable, estimate this by considering wetland size and local topography. Or if timing and safety allow, depths may be measured by drilling through winter ice. This question is asking about the spatial median depth that occurs during most of that time, even if inundation is only seasonal or temporary. If inundation in most but not all of the wetland is brief, the answer will be based on the depth of the most persistently inundated part of the wetland. Include surface water in channels and ditches as well as ponded areas. [CS, FA, FR, INV, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
155		10 - 50 cm deep.	0	
156		0.5 - 1 m deep.	0	
157		1 - 2 m deep.	0	
158		>2 m deep. True for many fringe wetlands.	0	
159	F30 Depth Classes - Evenness of Proportions	When present, surface water in most of the AA usually consists of (select one):		
160		One depth class that comprises >90% of the AA's inundated area (use the classes in the question above).	1	Estimate these proportions by considering the gradient and microtopography of the site. [FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
161		One depth class that comprises 50-90% of the AA's inundated area.	0	
162		Neither of above. There are 3 or more depth classes and none occupy >50%.	0	
163	F31 % of Water That Is Ponded (not Flowing)	During most times when surface water is present, the percentage that is (1) ponded (stagnant, or flows so slowly that fine sediment is not held in suspension) AND (2) is likely to be deeper than 0.5 m in some places, is:		
164		<5% of the water, or it occupies <100 sq.m cumulatively. Nearly all the surface water is flowing. SKIP to F34.	1	Nearly all wetlands with surface water have some ponded water. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WBN, WC, WS]
165		5-30% of the water.	0	
166		30-70% of the water.	0	
167		70-95% of the water.	0	
168		>95% of the water.	0	
169	F32 Ponded Open Water - Minimum Size	During most of the growing season, the largest patch of open water that is ponded and is in or bordering the AA is >0.01 hectare (about 10 m by 10 m) and mostly deeper than 0.5 m. If true enter "1" and continue, If false, enter "0" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	Open water is not obscured by vegetation in aerial ("duck's eye" view. It includes vegetation floating on the water surface or entirely submerged beneath it.
170		In ducks-eye aerial view, the percentage of the ponded water that is open (lacking emergent vegetation during most of the growing season, and unhidden by a forest or shrub canopy) is:		[AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
171	F33 % of Ponded Water that is Open	None, or <1% of the AA and largest pool occupies <0.01 hectares. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
172		1-4% of the ponded water. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
173		5-30% of the ponded water.	0	
174		30-70% of the ponded water.	0	
175		70-99% of the ponded water.	0	
176		100% of the ponded water.	0	
177	F34 Width of Vegetated Zone within Wetland	At the time during the growing season when the AA's water level is lowest, the average width of vegetated area <u>in the AA</u> that separates adjoining uplands from open water within the AA is:		"Vegetated area" does not include underwater or floating-leaved plants, i.e., aquatic bed. Width may include wooded riparian areas if they have wetland soil or plant indicators. [AM, CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SR, WBN]
178		<1 m.	0	
179		1 - 9 m.	0	
180		10 - 29 m.	1	
181		30 - 49 m.	0	
182		50 - 100 m.	0	
183		> 100 m, or open water is absent at that time.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
184	F35 Flat Shoreline Extent	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the percentage of the AA's water edge length that is nearly flat (a slope less than about 5% measured within 5 m landward of the water) is:		If several isolated pools are present in early summer, estimate the percent of their collective shorelines that has such a gentle slope. [SR, WBN]
185		<1% of the water edge.		0
186		1-25% of the water edge.		0
187		25-50% of the water edge.		0
188		50-75% of the water edge.		0
189		>75% of the water edge.		1
190	F36 Robust Emergents	The percentage of the emergent vegetation cover in the AA that is cattail (<i>Typha</i> spp.), common reed (<i>Phragmites</i>), or tall (>1m) bulrush is:		Emergent vegetation is herbaceous plants whose stems are partly above and partly below the water surface during most of the time water is present. [WBN]
191		<1% of the emergent vegetation, or emergent vegetation is absent. SKIP to F38.		
192		1-25% of the emergent vegetation.		
193		25-75% of the emergent vegetation.		
194		>75% of the emergent vegetation.		
195	F37 Interspersion of Emergents & Open Water	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the spatial pattern of emergent vegetation within the water is mostly:		[AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, SR, WBF, WBN]
196		Scattered. More than 30% of such vegetation forms small islands or corridors surrounded by water.		
197		Intermediate.		
198		Clumped. More than 70% of such vegetation is in bands along the wetland perimeter or is clumped at one or a few sides of the surface water area.		
199	F38 Persistent Deepwater Area	If the deepest patch of surface water (flowing or ponded) in or directly adjacent to the AA is mostly deeper than 0.5 m for >2 weeks during the growing season, enter "1" and continue. If not, enter "0" and SKIP to F42 .(Connection).	0	
200	F39 Non-vegetated Aquatic Cover	During most of the growing season and in waters deeper than 0.5 m, the cover for fish, aquatic invertebrates, and/or amphibians that is provided NOT by living vegetation, but by accumulations of dead wood and undercut banks is:		For this question, consider only the wood that is at or above the water surface. Estimates of underwater wood based only on observations from terrestrial viewpoints are unreliable so should not be attempted. [AM, FA, FR, INV]
201		Little or none.		
202		Intermediate.		
203		Extensive.		
204	F40 Isolated Island	The AA contains (or is part of) an island or beaver lodge within a lake, pond, or river, and is isolated from the shore by water depths >1 m on all sides during an average June. The island may be solid, or it may be a floating vegetation mat that is sufficiently large and dense to support a waterbird nest.	0	[WBN]
205	F41 Floating Algae & Duckweed	At some time of the year, mats of algae and/or duckweed are likely to cover >50% of the AA's otherwise-unshaded water surface, or blanket >50% of the underwater substrate. If true, enter "1" in next column. If untrue or uncertain, enter "0".	0	[EC, PR, WBF]

A	B	C	D	E
206	F42 Channel Connection & Outflow Duration	The most persistent surface water connection (outlet channel or pipe, ditch, or overbank water exchange) between the AA and a downslope stream network is: [Note: If the AA represents only part of a wetland, answer this according to whichever is the least permanent surface connection: the one between the AA and the rest of the wetland, or the surface connection between the wetland and the downslope stream network.]		Consider the connection regardless of whether the surface water is frozen. The "downslope stream network" could consist of ditches, rivers, ponds, or lakes which eventually connect to the ocean. If this cannot be determined while visiting the AA, consult topographic maps perhaps by viewing these online with Toporama (http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html) [CS, FA, FR, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WCv, WS]
207		Persistent (surface water flows out for >9 months/year).		
208		Seasonal (surface water flows out for 14 days to 9 months/year, not necessarily consecutive).		
209		Temporary (surface water flows out for <14 days, not necessarily consecutive).		
210		None -- but maps show a stream network downslope from the AA and within a distance that is less than the AA's length. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
211		No surface water flows out of the wetland except possibly during extreme events (<once per 10 years). Or, water flows only into a wetland, ditch, or lake that lacks an outlet. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
212	F43 Outflow Confinement	During major runoff events, in the places where surface water exits the AA or connected waters nearby, the water:		"Major runoff events" would include biennial high water caused by storms and/or rapid snowmelt. [CS, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, STR, WS]
213		Mostly passes through a pipe, culvert, narrowly breached dike, berm, beaver dam, or other partial obstruction (other than natural topography) that does not appear to drain the wetland artificially during most of the growing season.		
214		Leaves through natural exits (channels or diffuse outflow), not mainly through artificial or temporary features.		
215		Is exported more quickly than usual due to ditches or pipes within the AA or connected to its outlet, or within 10 m of the AA's edge, which drain the wetland artificially, or water is pumped out of the AA.		
216	F44 Tributary Channel	At least once annually, surface water from a tributary channel that is >100 m long moves into the AA. Or, surface water from a larger permanent water body adjacent to the AA spills into the AA. If it enters only via a pipe, that pipe must be fed by a mapped stream or lake further upslope. If no, SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	If inlet tributaries cannot be searched for due to inaccessibility of part of the AA, follow suggestions in F42 above. [NRv, PH, PRv, SRv]
217	F45 Input Water Temperature	Based on lack of shade, water source characteristics, or actual temperature measurements, the inflow is likely to be warmer than surface water in the AA during part of most years. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	[WCv]
218	F46 Throughflow Resistance	During its travel through the AA at the time of peak annual flow, water arriving in channels: [select only the ONE encountered by most of the incoming water].		[FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
219		Does not bump into many plant stems as it travels through the AA. Nearly all the water continues to travel in unvegetated (often incised) channels that have minimal contact with wetland vegetation, or through a zone of open water such as an instream pond or lake.		
220		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
221		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation and mostly spreads throughout, or is in widely meandering, multi-branched, or braided channels.		
222		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
223		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems and follows a fairly indirect path from entrance to exit (meandering, multi-branched, or braided).		
224	F47 pH Measurement	The pH in most of the AA's surface water:		Preferably, measure this in larger areas of ponded surface water within the AA, or in streams that have passed through (not along) most of the AA. Unless surface water is completely absent, do not dig holes or make depressions in peat in order to provide water for this measurement. Avoid measuring near roads or in puddles formed only by recent rain. [AM, FA, FR, NR, WBF, PH, PR, Sens, WBF, WBN]
225		Was measured, and is: [enter the reading in the column to the right.]		
226		Was not measured but surface water is present and is darkly tea-coloured. Or if no surface water, then mosses and plants that indicate peatland (e.g., Labrador tea) are prevalent. Enter "1".		
227		Neither of above. Enter "*".	1	
228	F48 TDS and/or Conductivity	The TDS (total dissolved solids) or conductivity off the AA's surface water is: (select the first true row with information):		See above for measurement guidance. [FR, INV, NRv, PH, PRv, Sens]
229		TDS is: [Enter the reading in ppm or mg/L in the column to the right, if measured, or answer next row.]		
230		Conductivity is: [Enter the reading in $\mu\text{s}/\text{cm}$ in the column to the right.]		
231		Was not measured, but plants that indicate saline conditions cover much of the vegetated AA. Enter "1".	0	
232		Neither of above	1	
233	F49 Beaver Probability	Use of the AA by beaver during the past 5 years is (select most applicable ONE):		[FA, FR, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
234		Evident from direct observation or presence of gnawed limbs, dams, tracks, dens, lodges, or extensive stands of water-killed trees (snags).	0	
235		Likely based on known occurrence in the region and proximity to suitable habitat, which may include: (a) a persistent freshwater wetland, pond, or lake, or a perennial low or mid-gradient (<10%) channel, and (b) a corridor or multiple stands of hardwood trees and shrubs in vegetated areas near surface water.	0	
236		Unlikely because site characteristics above are deficient, and/or this is a settled area or other area where beaver are routinely removed.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
237	F50 Groundwater Strength of Evidence	Select first applicable choice: Springs are known to be present within the AA, or if groundwater levels have been monitored, that has demonstrated that groundwater primarily discharges to the wetland for longer periods during the year than periods when the wetland recharges the groundwater.	0	Adhere to these criteria strictly -- do not use personal judgment based on fen conditions, pH, or other evidence. Consult topographic maps to detect breaks in slope described here. Rust deposits associated with groundwater seeps may be most noticeable as orange discoloration in ice formations along streams during early winter. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PRv, SFS, WC, WS]
238		Most of the AA has a slope of >5%, or is very close to the base of a natural slope longer than 100 and much steeper than the slope of the AA, AND the pH of surface water, if known, is <5.5.	0	
239		Neither of above is true, although some groundwater may discharge to or flow through the AA. Or groundwater influx is unknown.	1	
240				
241	F51 Internal Gradient	The gradient along most of the flow path within the AA is: <2% or the AA has no surface water outlet (not even seasonally).	0	This is not the same as the shoreline slope. It is the elevational difference between the AA's inlet and outlet, divided by the flow-distance between them and converted to percent. If available, use a clinometer to measure this. Free clinometer apps can be downloaded to smartphones. If the wetland is large (longer than ~1 km), this may be estimated using Google Earth to determine the minimum and maximum elevation within the AA, then dividing by length and multiplying by 100. [CS, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
242		2-5%.	1	
243		6-10%.	0	
244		>10%.	0	
245				
246	Note for the next three questions: If the AA lacks an upland edge, evaluate based on the AA's entire perimeter, and moving outward into whatever areas are adjacent. In many situations, these questions are best answered by measuring from aerial images.			
247	F52 Vegetated Buffer as % of Perimeter	Within a zone extending 30 m laterally from the AA's edge with upland and/or other wetlands, the percentage that contains perennial vegetation cover (except lawns, row crops, heavily grazed land, conifer plantations) is: <5%.	0	[AM, FA, FR, INV, NRv, PH, POL, PRv, SBM, Sens, SRv, STR, WBN]
248		5 to 30%.	0	
249		30 to 60%.	0	
250		60 to 90%.	0	
251		>90%, or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands. SKIP to F55.	1	
252				
253	F53 Type of Cover in Buffer	Within 30 m upslope of where the wetland transitions to upland, the upland land cover that is NOT perennial vegetation is mostly (mark ONE): Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.	0	[AM, FA, INV, NRv, PH, POL, SBM, STR, WBN]
254		Bare or nearly bare pervious surface or managed vegetation, e.g., lawn, row crops, unpaved road, dike, landslide.	0	
255				
256	F54 Buffer Slope	The steepest and/or most disturbed part of the upland area that is within 30 m of the wetland and occupies >10% of that upland area has a percent slope of: <1% (flat -- almost no noticeable slope) or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands.	0	[NRv, PRv, Sens, SRv]
257		2-5%.	0	
258		5-30%.	0	
259		>30%.	0	
260				
261	F55 Cliffs or Steep Banks	In the AA or within 100 m, there are elevated terrestrial features such as cliffs, talus slopes, stream banks, or excavated pits (but not riprap) that extend at least 2 m nearly vertically, are unvegetated, and potentially contain crevices or other substrate suitable for nesting or den areas. Enter 1 (yes) or 0 (no).	0	Do not include upturned trees as potential den sites. [POL, SBM]
262	F56 New or Expanded Wetland	Human actions within or adjacent to the AA have persistently expanded a naturally occurring wetland or created a wetland where there previously was none (e.g., by excavation, impoundment): No.	0	Determine this using historical aerial photography, old maps, soil maps, or permit files as available [CS, NR, OE, PH, Sens]
263		Yes, and created or expanded 20 - 100 years ago.	0	
264		Yes, and created or expanded 3-20 years ago.	0	
265		Yes, and created or expanded within last 3 years.	0	
266		Yes, but time of origin or expansion unknown.	0	
267		Unknown if new or expanded within 20 years or not.	1	
268				
269	F57 Burn History	More than 1% of the AA's previously vegetated area: Burned within past 5 years.	0	Look for charred soil or stumps (in multiple widely-spaced locations) or ask landowner. [CS, PH, STR]
270		Burned 6-10 years ago.	0	
271		Burned 11-30 years ago.	0	
272		Burned >30 years ago, or no evidence of a burn and no data.	1	
273				
274	F58 Visibility	The maximum percentage of the wetland that is visible from the best vantage point on public roads, public parking lots, public buildings, or public maintained trails that intersect, adjoin, or are within 100 m of the AA (select one) is: <25%.	0	[PU, STR, WBFv]
275		25-50%.	0	
276		>50%.	1	
277				

A	B	C	D	E
278	F59 Non-consumptive Uses - Actual or Potential	Assuming access permission was granted, select ALL statements that are true of the AA as it currently exists:		[PU, STR]
279		For an average person, walking is physically possible <u>in</u> (not just near) >5% of the AA during most of the growing season, e.g., free of deep water and dense shrub thickets.	1	
280		Maintained roads, parking areas, or foot-trails are within 10 m of the AA, or the AA can be accessed part of the year by boats arriving via contiguous waters.	1	
281		Within or near the AA, there is an interpretive center, trails with interpretive signs or brochures, and/or regular guided interpretive tours.	0	
282	F60 Unvisited Core Area	The percentage of the AA almost never visited by humans during an average growing season probably comprises: [Note: Only include the part actually walked or driven (not simply viewed from) with a vehicle or boat. Do not include visitors on trails outside of the AA unless more than half the wetland is visible from the trails and they are within 30 m of the wetland edge. In that case include only the area occupied by the trail.]		[AM, FAv, FRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
283		<5% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
284		<5% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
285		5-50% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
286		5-50% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
287		50-95%, with or without inhabited building nearby.	0	
288		>95% of the AA with or without inhabited building nearby.	1	
289	F61 Frequently Visited Area	The part of the AA visited by humans almost daily for several weeks during an average growing season probably comprises: [See note above.]		[AM, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
290		<5%. If F60 was answered ">95%" (mostly never visited), SKIP to F64.	1	
291		5-50%.	0	
292		50-95%.	0	
293		>95% of the AA.	0	
294	F62 BMP - Soils	Boardwalks, paved trails, fences or other infrastructure and/or well-enforced regulations appear to effectively prevent visitors from walking on soil within nearly all of the AA when the soil is unfrozen. Enter "1" if true.	0	[PH, PU]
295	F63 BMP - Wildlife Protection	Fences, observation blinds, platforms, paved trails, exclusion periods, and/or well-enforced prohibitions on motorised boats, off-leash pets, and off road vehicles appear to effectively exclude or divert visitors and their pets from the AA at critical times in order to minimize disturbance of wildlife (except during hunting seasons). Enter "1" if true.	0	[AM, PU, WBF, WBN]
296	F64 Consumptive Uses (Provisioning Services)	Recent evidence was found within the AA of the following potentially-sustainable consumptive uses. Select ALL that apply.		[FAv, FRv, WBFv]
297		Low-impact commercial timber harvest (e.g., selective thinning).	0	
298		Commercial or traditional-use harvesting of native plants, their fruits, or mushrooms.	0	
299		Waterfowl hunting.	0	
300		Fishing.	0	
301		Trapping of furbearers.	0	
302		None of the above.	1	
303	F65 Domestic Wells	The closest wells or water bodies that currently provide drinking water are:		[NRv]
304		Within 0-100 m. of the AA.	0	
305		100-500 m. away.	0	
306		>500 m. away, or no information.	1	
307	F66 Calcareous Fen	The AA is, or is part of, a calcareous fen. See the Plants_Calcar worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file for list of plant indicators (calciphiles). Enter 1 if more than two Strong or more than five Moderate calciphile species are present; otherwise enter 0, but if not able to identify those and no information, change to blank.		[PH, PR]
308				

Investigator: Jordan Davis, Alex Scott	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL5	Date: 4 October, 2022																												
Stressor (S) Data Form for Non-Tidal Wetlands. WESP-AC for Nova Scotia version 2.																														
S1	Aberrant Timing of Water Inputs	Data																												
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item that is likely to have caused the timing of water inputs (but not necessarily their volume) to shift by hours, days, or weeks, becoming either more muted (smaller or less frequent peaks spread over longer times, more temporal homogeneity of flow or water levels) or more flashy (larger or more frequent spikes but over shorter times). [FA, FR, INV, PH, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater from impervious surfaces that drains directly to the wetland. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1</p> <p>Water subsidies from wastewater effluent, septic system leakage, snow storage areas, or irrigation. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Regular removal of surface or groundwater for irrigation or other consumptive use. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Flow regulation in tributaries or water level regulation in adjoining water body, or other control structure at water entry points that regulates inflow to the wetland. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>A dam, dike, levee, weir, berm, or fill -- within or downgradient from the wetland -- that interferes with surface or subsurface flow in/out of the AA (e.g., road fill, wellpads, pipelines). <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Excavation within the wetland, e.g., dugout, artificial pond, dead-end ditch. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Artificial drains or ditches in or near the wetland. <input type="checkbox"/> 1</p> <p>Accelerated downcutting or channelization of an adjacent or internal channel (incised below the historical water table level). <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Logging within the wetland. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Subsidence or compaction of the wetland's substrate as a result of machinery, livestock, fire, drainage, or off road vehicles. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Straightening, ditching, dredging, and/or lining of tributary channels. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items had no measurable effect on the timing of water conditions in any part of the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Severe (3 points)</th> <th>Medium (2 points)</th> <th>Mild (1 point)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Spatial extent of timing shift within the wetland:</td> <td>>95% of wetland.</td> <td>5-95% of wetland.</td> <td><5% of wetland. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>When most of the timing shift began:</td> <td><3 yrs ago. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1</td> <td>3-9 yrs ago. <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>10-100 yrs ago. <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Score the following 2 rows only if the altered inputs began within past 10 years, and only for the part of the wetland that experiences those.</td> <td>Sum= 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Input timing now vs. previously:</td> <td>Shift of weeks. <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Shift of days. <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Shift of hours or minutes. <input type="checkbox"/> 1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Flashiness or muting:</td> <td>Became very flashy or controlled. <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Intermediate. <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Became mildly flashy or controlled. <input type="checkbox"/> 1</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Stressor subscore=</td> <td>0.33</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	Spatial extent of timing shift within the wetland:	>95% of wetland.	5-95% of wetland.	<5% of wetland. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	When most of the timing shift began:	<3 yrs ago. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	3-9 yrs ago. <input type="checkbox"/>	10-100 yrs ago. <input type="checkbox"/>	Score the following 2 rows only if the altered inputs began within past 10 years, and only for the part of the wetland that experiences those.			Sum= 4	Input timing now vs. previously:	Shift of weeks. <input type="checkbox"/>	Shift of days. <input type="checkbox"/>	Shift of hours or minutes. <input type="checkbox"/> 1	Flashiness or muting:	Became very flashy or controlled. <input type="checkbox"/>	Intermediate. <input type="checkbox"/>	Became mildly flashy or controlled. <input type="checkbox"/> 1			Stressor subscore=	0.33
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S2	Accelerated Inputs of Contaminants and/or Salts																													
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of contaminants or salts to the AA. [AM, FA, PH, POL, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills, industrial facilities. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Metals & chemical wastes from mining, shooting ranges, snow storage areas, oil/ gas extraction, other sources (download many locations from National Pollutant Release Inventory and view KMZ overlay in Google Earth. https://www.ec.gc.ca/inrp-npri/default.asp?lang=En&n=B85A1846-1) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Road salt. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Spraying of pesticides, as applied to lawns, croplands, roadsides, or other areas in the CA. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly higher levels of contaminants and/or salts, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Severe (3 points)</th> <th>Medium (2 points)</th> <th>Mild (1 point)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Usual toxicity of most toxic contaminants:</td> <td>Industrial effluent, mining waste, unmanaged landfill. <input type="checkbox"/> 0</td> <td>Cropland, managed landfill, pipeline or transmission rights-of-way. <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Low density residential. <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Frequency & duration of input:</td> <td>Frequent and year-round. <input type="checkbox"/> 0</td> <td>Frequent but mostly seasonal. <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly. <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):</td> <td>0 - 15 m. <input type="checkbox"/> 0</td> <td>15-100 m. or in groundwater. <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>In more distant part of contributing area. <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Sum= 0</td> <td>Stressor subscore= 0.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	Usual toxicity of most toxic contaminants:	Industrial effluent, mining waste, unmanaged landfill. <input type="checkbox"/> 0	Cropland, managed landfill, pipeline or transmission rights-of-way. <input type="checkbox"/>	Low density residential. <input type="checkbox"/>	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round. <input type="checkbox"/> 0	Frequent but mostly seasonal. <input type="checkbox"/>	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly. <input type="checkbox"/>	AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m. <input type="checkbox"/> 0	15-100 m. or in groundwater. <input type="checkbox"/>	In more distant part of contributing area. <input type="checkbox"/>			Sum= 0	Stressor subscore= 0.00								
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S3	Accelerated Inputs of Nutrients				
	In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of nutrients to the wetland. [NRv, PRv, STR]				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills.				
	Fertilizers applied to lawns, ag lands, or other areas in the CA.				
	Livestock, dogs.				
	Artificial drainage of upslope lands.				
	If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly more nutrients, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Type of loading:	High density of unmaintained septic, some types of industrial sources.	Moderate density septic, cropland, secondary wastewater treatment plant.	Livestock, pets, low density residential.	0
	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
	AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
				Sum=	0
				Stressor subscore=	0.00
S4	Excessive Sediment Loading from Contributing Area				
	In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the CA that is likely to have elevated the load of waterborne or windborne sediment reaching the wetland from its CA. [FA, FR, INV, PH, SRv, STR]				
	Erosion from plowed fields, fill, timber harvest, dirt roads, vegetation clearing, fires.				
	Erosion from construction, in-channel machinery in the CA.				
	Erosion from off-road vehicles in the CA.				
	Erosion from livestock or foot traffic in the CA.				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent.				
	Sediment from road sanding, gravel mining, other mining, oil/ gas extraction.				
	Accelerated channel downcutting or headcutting of tributaries due to altered land use.				
	Other human-related disturbances within the CA.				
	If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points (3, 2, or 1 as shown in header) in the last column. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively add significantly more sediment or suspended solids to the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Erosion in CA:	Extensive evidence, high intensity.*	Potentially (based on high-intensity* land use) or scattered evidence.	Potentially (based on low-intensity* land use) with little or no direct evidence.	1
	Recentness of significant soil disturbance in the CA:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	3
	Duration of sediment inputs to the wetland:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	1
	AA proximity to actual or potential sources:	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m.	In more distant part of contributing area.	3
	* high-intensity= extensive off-road vehicle use, plowing, grading, excavation, erosion with or without veg removal; low-intensity= veg removal only with little or no apparent erosion or disturbance of soil or sediment.				Sum= 8
				Stressor subscore=	0.67

S5	Soil or Sediment Alteration Within the Assessment Area				
<p><i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the wetland that is likely to have compacted, eroded, or otherwise altered the wetland's soil. Consider only items occurring within past 100 years or since wetland was created or restored (whichever is less). [CS, INV, NR, PH, SR, STR]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compaction from machinery, off-road vehicles, livestock, or mountain bikes, especially during wetter periods. Leveling or other grading not to the natural contour. Tillage, plowing (but excluding disking for enhancement of native plants). Fill or riprap, excluding small amounts of upland soils containing organic amendments (compost, etc.) or small amounts of topsoil imported from another wetland. Excavation. Ditch cleaning or dredging in or adjacent to the wetland. Boat traffic in or adjacent to the wetland and sufficient to cause shore erosion or stir bottom sediments. Artificial water level or flow manipulations sufficient to cause erosion or stir bottom sediments. <p><i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not measurably alter the soil structure and/or topography, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i></p>					
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
Spatial extent of altered soil:	>95% of wetland or >95% of its upland edge (if any).	5-95% of wetland or 5-95% of its upland edge (if any).	<5% of wetland and <5% of its upland edge (if any).	0	
Recentness of significant soil alteration in wetland:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0	
Duration:	Long-lasting, minimal veg recovery.	Long-lasting but mostly revegetated.	Short-term, revegetated, not intense.	0	
Timing of soil alteration:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Mainly during one-time or scattered events.	0	
			Sum=	0	
			Stressor subscore=	0.00	

Assessment Area (AA) Results:

Wetland ID: WL5

Date: OCTOBER 4 2022

Observer: JD AS

Latitude & Longitude (decimal degrees): 45.52565556, 63.58936944

Scores will appear below after data are entered in worksheets OF, F, and S. See Manual for definitions and descriptions of how scores were computed.						
Wetland Functions or Other Attributes:	Function Score (Normalised)	Function Rating	Benefits Score (Normalised)	Benefits Rating	Function Score (raw)	Benefits Score (raw)
Water Storage & Delay (WS)	1.64	Lower	10.00	Higher	3.17	4.79
Stream Flow Support (SFS)	1.21	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.97	0.00
Water Cooling (WC)	6.75	Higher	2.24	Moderate	4.50	1.21
Sediment Retention & Stabilisation (SR)	3.26	Lower	2.27	Moderate	4.74	1.11
Phosphorus Retention (PR)	5.06	Moderate	1.71	Moderate	6.91	1.33
Nitrate Removal & Retention (NR)	2.45	Lower	5.00	Moderate	4.55	5.00
Carbon Sequestration (CS)	2.73	Lower			6.49	
Organic Nutrient Export (OE)	9.81	Higher			6.41	
Anadromous Fish Habitat (FA)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Resident Fish Habitat (FR)	4.95	Moderate	4.43	Moderate	2.69	2.77
Aquatic Invertebrate Habitat (INV)	4.47	Moderate	5.05	Moderate	5.32	3.96
Amphibian & Turtle Habitat (AM)	5.40	Moderate	3.90	Moderate	5.95	4.97
Waterbird Feeding Habitat (WBF)	5.04	Moderate	5.00	Moderate	3.84	5.00
Waterbird Nesting Habitat (WBN)	7.21	Higher	5.00	Higher	5.22	5.00
Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat (SBM)	6.99	Moderate	5.00	Moderate	6.08	5.00
Pollinator Habitat (POL)	7.40	Moderate	0.00	Lower	6.13	0.00
Native Plant Habitat (PH)	1.97	Lower	4.07	Lower	4.69	4.07
Public Use & Recognition (PU)			4.42	Higher		3.33
Wetland Sensitivity (Sens)			9.61	Higher		4.91
Wetland Ecological Condition (EC)			4.78	Moderate		7.50
Wetland Stressors (STR) (higher score means more stress)			5.89	Moderate		3.02
Summary Ratings for Grouped Functions:						
HYDROLOGIC Group (WS)	1.64	Lower	10.00	Higher	3.17	4.79
WATER QUALITY SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SR, PR, NR, CS)	4.22	Moderate	4.00	Moderate	6.29	3.74
AQUATIC SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SFS, INV, OE, WC)	7.68	Higher	3.74	Lower	5.35	2.85
AQUATIC HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of FA, FR, AM, WBF, WBN)	5.86	Moderate	4.33	Moderate	4.75	4.27
TRANSITION HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of SBM, PH, POL)	6.42	Moderate	4.01	Lower	5.88	4.01
WETLAND CONDITION (EC)			4.78	Moderate		7.50
WETLAND RISK (average of Sensitivity & Stressors)			7.75	Higher		3.96
	NOTE: A score of 0 does not mean the function or benefit is absent from the wetland. It means only that this wetland has a capacity that is equal or less than the lowest-scoring one, for that function or benefit, from among all the NS calibration wetlands that were assessed previously.					

NOVA SCOTIA - Functional WSS Interpretation Tool

Function-Benefit Product (FBP)	FBP SCORE	FBP SCORE CATEGORY
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - HYDROLOGIC	16.37812776	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - WATER QUALITY SUPPORT	16.85728122	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC SUPPORT	28.74021164	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC HABITAT	25.4011864	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - TRANSITION HABITAT	25.77558223	Low

Habitat Rule Satisfied? NO

Support Rule Satisfied? NO

Habitat/Support Hybrid Rule Satisfied? NO

CONCLUSION: Site is not a WSS

Cover Page: Basic Description of Assessment	WESP-AC version 2
Site Name:	Higgins Mountain, WL6
Investigator Name:	Jordan Davis, Alex Scott, Madeline Maher
Date of Field Assessment:	04 October 2022
Nearest Town:	Masstown
Latitude (decimal degrees):	45.55433333
Longitude (decimal degrees):	-63.60085556
Is a map based on a formal on-site wetland delineation available?	Yes
Approximate size of the Assessment Area (AA, in hectares):	0.04
AA as percent of entire wetland (approx.). Attach sketch map if AA is smaller than the entire contiguous wetland.	100
What percent (approx.) of the wetland were you able to visit?	100
What percent (approx.) of the AA were you able to visit?	100
Were you able to ask the site owner/manager about any of the questions?	No
Indicate here if you intentionally surveyed for rare plants, calciphile plants, or rare animals:	Yes
Have you attended a WESP-AC training session? If so, indicate approximate month & year.	October 2022
How many wetlands have you assessed previously using WESP-AC? (approx.)	30
Comments about the site or this WESP-AC assessment (attach extra page if desired):	

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date: 08 November 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL6		Investigator: Madeline Maher	
2	Form OF (Office). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia wetlands only. DIRECTIONS: Conduct an assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answering many of the questions below will require using these online map viewers: Google Earth Pro: https://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html Provincial Landscape Viewer: https://nsgis.novascotia.ca/plv/ For most wetlands, completing this office data form will require 1-2 hours. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see bracketed abbreviations in the Definitions/Explanations column. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.				
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations
4	OF1	Province	Mark the province in which the AA is located by changing the 0 in the column next to it to a "1". Mark only one.		This determines to which province's calibration wetlands the raw score of any wetland is normalised. In the function and benefits models, it also triggers the automatic exclusion of indicators for which no spatial data exists in a particular province.
5			New Brunswick	0	
6			Nova Scotia	1	
7			Prince Edward Island	0	
8			Newfoundland-Labrador	0	
9	OF2	Ponded Area Within 1 km.	The area of surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		"Adjacent" means not separated from the AA by a wide expanse (>50 m) of upland (including roads >50 m wide). Include ponded areas likely to be hidden by wetland vegetation. If surface water extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. Do not include tidal areas. Measure the area from aerial imagery using Google Earth Pro (click on Ruler icon in toolbar, then Polygon in pop-up menu). [PH, SBM, WBN]
10			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	1	
11			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
12			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
13			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
14			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
15			>100 hectares.	0	
16	OF3	Ponded Water & Wetland Within 1 km.	The area of wetlands and surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. If the AA's wetland vegetation extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. "Ponded" means not flowing in rivers or streams. [Sens, WBF]
17			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
18			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	1	
19			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
20			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
21			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
22			>100 hectares.	0	
23	OF4	Size of Largest Nearby Vegetated Tract or Corridor	The largest vegetated patch or corridor that includes the AA's vegetation plus all adjacent upland vegetation that is not lawn, row crops, heavily grazed lands, conifer plantation is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. Use Google Earth Pro's polygon ruler (as described above). Exclude conifer plantations only if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens]
24			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
25			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
26			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
27			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
28			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
29			100 to 1000 hectares.	1	
30			>1000 hectares. <i>[This is nearly always the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]</i>	0	

A	B	C	D	E
31	OF5 Distance to Large Vegetated Tract	The minimum distance from the edge of the AA to the edge of the closest vegetated land (but excluding row crops, lawn, conifer plantation) larger than 375 hectares (about 2 km on a side), is:	1	To measure distance, use Google Earth Pro (Ruler > Line tool). The 375-ha criterion is from the Fundy Model Forest Project. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
32		<50 m, and not separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, bare ground, lawn, or impervious surface. Or the AA itself contains >375 ha of vegetation. [This is often the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]		
33		<50 m, but completely separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by those features, and AA does not contain >375 ha of vegetation.		
34		50-500 m, and not separated .		
35		50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
36		0.5 - 5 km, and not separated .		
37		0.5 - 5 km, but separated by those features.		
38		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors which are that large are >5 km away).		
39	OF6 Herbaceous Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 5 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 1 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "1". [* NOTE: Exclude lawns, row crops, heavily grazed lands, forest, shrublands. Include moss as well as grasslike plants in this use of "herbaceous vegetation"]	0	For this question only, consider moss to be herbaceous vegetation. Determine the score by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth after successively drawing or estimating the boundaries of the buffers of 5 km, 1 km, and 100 m radius focused on the center of the AA. Circles of specified radius can be drawn in Google Earth Pro by clicking on the Ruler icon, then Circle in the pop-up menu. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
40	OF7 Woody Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% woody* but uplands within 5 km have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 1 km have <10% woody cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "1" [* NOTE: woody cover = trees & shrubs taller than 1 m.]	0	See above. Do not consider conifer plantations to be forest if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv]
41	OF8 Local Vegetated Cover Percentage	Draw a 5-km radius circle measured from the center of the AA. Ignoring all permanent water in the circle, the percent of the remaining area that is wooded or unmanaged herbaceous vegetation (NOT lawn, row crops, bare or heavily grazed land, clearcuts, or conifer plantations) is:	0	In Google Earth, draw the 5 km buffer and then estimate land cover percentages, or do GIS analysis of an appropriate land cover layer. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
42		<5% of the land.		
43		5 to 20% of the land.		
44		20 to 60% of the land.		
45		60 to 90% of the land.		
46		>90% of the land. SKIP to OF10.		
47	OF9 Type of Land Cover Alteration	Within the 5-km radius circle, and ignoring all permanent water, the land area that is bare or non-perennial cover is mostly:	0	[AM, SBM]
48		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
49		Bare pervious surface, e.g., lawn, recent (<5 yrs ago) clearcut, dirt or gravel road, cropland, landslide, conifer plantation.		
50	OF10 Distance by Road to Nearest Population Center	Measured along the maintained road nearest the AA, the distance to the nearest population center is:	0	"Population center" means a settled area with more than about 5 regularly- inhabited structures per square kilometer. In Google Earth Pro, click on the Ruler icon, then Path, and draw and measure the route. [FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, WBFv]
51		<100 m.		
52		100 - 500 m.		
53		0.5- 1 km.		
54		1 - 5 km.		
55		>5 km.		

A	B	C	D	E
56	OF11 Distance to Nearest Maintained Road	From the center of the AA, the distance to the nearest maintained public road (dirt or paved) is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth Pro and measuring with the Ruler>Line tool [AM, FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBN]
57		<10 m.	0	
58		10 - 25 m.	0	
59		25 - 50 m.	0	
60		50 - 100 m.	0	
61		100 - 500 m.	0	
62		>500 m.	1	
63	OF12 Wildlife Access	Draw a circle of radius of 5 km from the center of the AA. If mammals and amphibians can move from the center of the AA to ALL other separate wetlands and ponds located within the circle without being forced to cross pavement (any width), lawns, bare ground, and/or marine waters, mark 1= yes can move to all, 0= no. Change to blank if there are no other wetlands within 5 km.	0	Draw the 5 km circle in Google Earth Pro using the Circle tool and search for roads and wetlands within it, being alert for roads hidden under forest canopy. [AM, SBM, STR]
64	OF13 Distance to Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) ponded water body visible in GoogleEarth imagery is:		In Google Earth Pro, zoom in closely to examine the surrounding landscape for ponds, lakes, and wetlands that appear to be permanently flooded. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
65		<50 m, and not separated by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, lawn, bare ground, or impervious surface.	0	
66		<50 m, but completely separated by those features.	0	
67		50-500 m, and not separated.	0	
68		50-500 m, but separated by those features.	0	
69		0.5 - 1 km, and not separated.	0	
70		0.5 - 1 km, but separated by those features.	0	
71		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors that large are >1 km away).	1	
72	OF14 Distance to Large Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate)non-tidal body of water that is ponded during most of the year and is larger than 8 hectares during most of a normal year is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth. [Sens, WBF, WBN]
73		<100 m.	0	
74		100 m - 1 km.	0	
75		1-2 km.	0	
76		2-5 km.	1	
77		5-10 km.	0	
78		>10 km.	0	
79	OF15 Tidal Proximity	The distance from the AA edge to the closest tidal water body (regardless of its salinity) is:		In Google Earth, measure the distance to the ocean (including Bay of Fundy) or tidal river, whichever is closer. If you need to see how far upriver a river is tidal, see the KMZ file provided with this calculator for NS (NS Headtide). Points shown in those files are only an approximation, so local information if available may be preferable. [FA, WBF]
80		<100 m.	0	
81		100 m - 1 km.	0	
82		1 - 5 km.	0	
83		5-10 km.	0	
84		10-40 km.	1	
85		>40 km.	0	
86	OF16 Upland Edge Contact	Select one:		[NR, SBM, Sens]
87		The AA has no upland edge (or upland is <1% of perimeter). The AA is entirely surrounded by (& contiguous with) other wetlands or water.	0	
88		1-25% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland (including filled areas). The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0	
89		25-50% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0	
90		50-75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0	
91		More than 75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. Any remainder adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA. This will be true for most assessments done with WESP-AC.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
92	OF17 Flood Damage from Non-tidal Waters	Within 5 km downstream or downslope of the AA (select first true choice):	0	Contact local authorities to determine if such maps exist. Where available, LiDAR imagery can provide finer elevational resolution useful for flood modeling. [WSv]
93		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding not caused by tidal storm surges.		
94		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas, but infrastructure is absent or is not vulnerable to floods from a non-tidal river. In some cases levees, upriver dams, or other measures may partly limit damage or risk from smaller events.		
95		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
96		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there is no infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
97	OF18 Relative Elevation in Watershed	In Google Earth, enable the Terrain layer (lower left menu) and open the NS_Watersheds Secondary KMZ file that accompanies this calculator. Then determine the AA's approximate elevation (bottom right, NOT the "eye alt"). Then move cursor around to determine the watershed's maximum and minimum elevation. Divide the AA's elevation by the (max-min).	0.92	[FA, NR, Sens, SFSv, WCv, WSv]
98	OF19 Water Quality Sensitive Watershed or Area	The AA is in a Protected Water Supply area (Designated Water Supply Area, Natural Watershed Municipal Surface Water Supply Area, or Municipal Water Supply Area) according to the provided KMZ overlay ("NS Protected Water Supply Areas"). Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	If an ACCDC report is available for this AA, it also may contain such information. [NRv]
99	OF20 Degraded Water Upstream	Sampling indicates a problem with concentrations of metals, hydrocarbons, nutrients, or other substances (excluding bacteria, acidic water, high temperatures) being present at levels harmful to aquatic life or humans, and:	0	May use existing data, or sample those waters as part of this wetland assessment. "Harmful" should be evaluated with regard to current federal or provincial water quality standards. [AM, FA, FR, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WBF, WBN]
100		The condition is present within the AA.		
101		The condition is present in waters within 1 km that flow into the AA, but has not been documented in the AA itself.		
102		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
103		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
104	OF21 Degraded Water Downstream	The problem described above is downslope from the AA, and:	0	May use existing data, or monitor waters as part of this wetland assessment. [NRv, PRv, SRv]
105		The condition is present within 1 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel.		
106		The condition is present within 5 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel, or within 1 km but not connected to the AA by a channel.		
107		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
108		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
109	OF22 Wetland as a % of Its Contributing Area (Catchment)	From a topographic map and field observations, estimate the approximate boundaries of the catchment (CA) of the entire wetland of which the AA may be only a part. Then adjust those boundaries if necessary based on your field observations of the surrounding terrain, and/or by using procedures described in the Manual. Divide the area of the wetland (not just the AA) by the approximate area of its catchment excluding the area of the wetland itself. When doing the calculation, if ponded water is adjacent to the wetland, include that in the wetland area. The result is:	0	Topographic maps may be viewed online at the National Atlas of Canada (Toporama): http://atlas.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html [NR, PR, Sens, SR, WS]
110		<0.01, or catchment size unknown due to stormwater pipes that collect water from an indeterminate area.		
111		0.01 to 0.1.		
112		0.1 to 1.		
113		>1 (wetland is larger than its catchment (e.g., wetland with flat surrounding terrain and no inlet, or is entirely isolated by dikes, or is a raised bog)).		
114	OF23 Unvegetated Surface in the Contributing Area	The proportion of the AA's contributing area (measured to no more than 1000 m upslope) that is comprised of buildings, roads, parking lots, other pavement, exposed bedrock, landslides, and other mostly-bare surface is about :	0	[FA, INV, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WCv, WSv]
115		<10%.		
116		10 to 25%.		
117		>25%.		

A	B	C	D	E
118	OF24	Transport From Upslope A relatively large proportion of the precipitation that falls farther upslope in the CA reaches this wetland quickly as runoff (surface water), as indicated by the following: (a) input channel is present, (b) input channels have been straightened, (c) upslope wetlands have been ditched extensively, (d) land cover is mostly non-forest, (e) CA slopes are steep, and/or (f) most CA soils are shallow (bedrock near surface) and/or have high runoff coefficients. This statement is:		[NRv, PRv, SRv, WSv]
119		Mostly true.	0	
120		Somewhat true.	1	
121		Mostly untrue.	0	
122	OF25	Aspect The overland flow direction of most surface water (in streams, rivers, or runoff) that enters the AA is:		[AM, NR, SFS, WC, WS]
123		Northward (N, NE). north-facing contributing area.	0	
124		Southward (S, SW). south-facing contributing area.	0	
125		Other (E, SE, W, NW), or no detectable uphill slope or input channel (flat).	1	
126	OF26	Internal Flow Distance (Path Length) The horizontal flow distance from the wetland's inlet to outlet is:		Identify inlets and outlets, if any, from topographic maps (use elevations to determine which are inlets and which are outlets) and augment by field inspection. With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, select Nova Scotia Topo as the Basemap. Also enable the layer Forestry>WAM Predicted Flow. Then measure the inlet-outlet distance. [NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
127		<10 m.	0	
128		10 - 50 m.	1	
129		50 - 100 m.	0	
130		100 - 1000 m.	0	
131		1-2 km.	0	
132		>2 km, or wetland lacks an inlet and outlet.	0	
133	OF27	Growing Degree Days In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called NS_GrowingDegreeDays. Place your cursor over the AA and left-click. From the pop-up window, enter the GRIDCODE number in the next column.	1908	This layer was provided by Dr. Dan McKenney of the Canadian Forest Service [AM, CS, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WCv, WS]
134	OF28	Fish Access or Use According to agency biologists and/or your own observations, the AA. [Mark just the first choice that is true.]:		Regarding the last choice, if uncertain if an AA is fishless, consider the possibility its waters have been stocked. [AM, FA, FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
135		Is known to support rearing and/or spawning by Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels. Go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife>Significant Habitat>Species at Risk. Contact local fishery biologists, review the ACCDC report, and visit these websites: http://www.salmontlas.com/atlanticsalmon/canada-east/index.1.html http://atlanticssalmofederation.org/rivers/introduction.html	0	
136		Has not been documented to support Atlantic salmon rearing and/or spawning, but is connected to nearby waters likely to contain Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels and is probably accessed by those during some conditions.	0	
137		Is probably not accessed by any anadromous fish species but is known or likely to have other fish at least seasonally.	0	
138		Is known or likely to be fishless (e.g., too small, dry, and/or not accessible even temporarily, and not stocked).	1	
139	OF29	Species of Conservation Concern Within the past 10 years, in the AA (or in its adjoining waters or wetland), qualified observers have documented [mark all applicable]:		Request information from ACCDC and/or conduct your own survey at an appropriate season using an approved protocol. For birds, also check eBird.org. NOTE for NS: If your WESP-AC is being completed for a Wetland Alteration Application to NS-ECC, your ACCDC results and any taxon-specific survey results must be submitted along with your WESP-AC results, and application. [AMv, EC, PHv, POLv, SBMv, Sens, WBFv, WBNv]
140		Presence of one or more of the plant species listed in the Plants_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, or the AA is within a mapped Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora Buffer (go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones).	0	
141		Presence of one or more of the amphibian or reptile species (AM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
142		Presence of one or more of the waterbird species (WBF, WBN) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
143		Presence of one or more of the nesting songbird or raptor species (SBM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, during their nesting season (May-July for most species).	0	
144		None of the above, or no data.	1	
145	OF30	Important Bird Area (IBA) In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called IBAs_Canada. The AA is all or part of an officially designated IBA. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	The source of this layer, which should be checked periodically for updates, is: http://www.ibacanada.com/mapviewer.jsp?lang=EN [SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]

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146	OF31	Black Duck Nesting Area	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called BlackDuck. Adjust its alignment and opacity. Determine the predicted density (pairs per 25 sq. km) of nesting American Black Duck in the AA's vicinity: <10 (enter 0), 10-20 (enter 1), 20-30 (enter 2), >30 (enter 3). If outside of region shown in map, change to blank.	0	This was provided by Dr. David Leske. [WBNv]
147	OF32	Wintering Deer or Moose Concentration Areas	If AA is on private land with no information, change to blank (not 0). Otherwise: With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, for Wintering Moose, go to Wildlife> Significant Habitat. For Mainland Moose Concentration Areas, go to Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0.	0	[SBM]
148	OF33	Other Conservation Designation	The AA is all or part of an area designated by government, First Nations, or the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) for its exceptional ecological features or highly intact natural conditions. With Provincial Landscape Viewer, see Protected Areas. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If uncertain, consult NCC and agencies for more recent information.	0	See: https://novascotia.ca/parksandprotectedareas/plan/interactive-map/ [PU]
149	OF34	Conservation Investment	The AA is part of or contiguous to a wetland on which public or private organizational funds were spent to preserve, create, restore, or enhance the wetland (excluding mitigation wetlands). Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank (not 0).	0	[PU]
150	OF35	Mitigation Investment	The AA is all or part of a mitigation site used explicitly to offset impacts elsewhere. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.		[PU]
151	OF36	Sustained Scientific Use	Plants, animals, or water in the AA have been monitored for >2 years, unrelated to any regulatory requirements, and data are available to the public. Or the AA is part of an area that has been designated by an agency or institution as a benchmark, reference, or status-trends monitoring area. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.		[PU]
152	OF37	Calcareous Region	The AA is NOT in a subregion that has been heavily exposed to acid precipitation. Enter "1" if true (green or yellow in map in Appendix A of the Manual). Enter "0" if false. If no information, change to blank.		[AM, FA, FR, INV, PH]
153	OF38	Ownership	Select the ONE ownership that covers the most of the AA. In Google Earth, open KMZ file called NS_CrownlandsUse more recent information if available.		"Private lands" may include those owned or leased by non-governmental organizations, e.g., charitable conservation land trusts, DUC, TNC. [PU, STR]
154			New timber harvest, roads, mineral extraction, and intensive summer recreation (e.g., off-road vehicles) are permanently prohibited. Includes many publicly-owned Protected Lands, and private lands under long-term (30+ year) legal agreements to maintain nearly-unaltered conditions.	0	
155			Ownership is public (e.g., municipal, Crown Reservations/Notations) but some or all of the above activities are allowed.	0	
156			Ownership is private but public access is allowed, and/or a shorter-term conservation easement (whether renewable or not) is in place.	0	
157			Ownership is private and owner does not allow access, or access permission unknown, and not a conservation easement.	0	

	A	B	C	D	E		
1	Date: 04 October 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL6		Investigator: Alex Scott, Jordan Davis			
2	<p>Form F (Field). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia. DIRECTIONS: Walk for no less than 10 minutes from the wetland edge towards its core, in the part of the AA that is proposed for alteration. If no alteration is proposed, walk in a portion that appears to be most representative of the wetland overall. Walk only where it is safe and legal to do so. Conduct the assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answer these questions primarily based on your onsite observations and interpretations. Do not write in shaded parts of this data form. Answering some questions accurately may require conferring with the landowner or other knowledgeable persons, and/or reviewing aerial imagery. For most wetlands, completing this field data form will require 1-2 hours on a site. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see the accompanying Interpretations form. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage & Delay, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sens= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.</p>						
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations		
4	F1	Wetland Type	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the vegetated part of the AA:		<p>Ericaceous shrubs are ones in the heather family (Ericaceae). Most have leathery evergreen leaves. They include rhododendron, azalea, swamp laurel, leatherleaf, Labrador tea, and others. Most require acidic soil. Although not in the family Ericaceae, sweetgale (<i>Myrica gale</i>) should be counted also. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, Sens, SFS, WBF, WBN]</p>		
5	A. Moss and/or lichen cover more than 25% of the ground. Often dominated by ericaceous shrubs (e.g., Labrador tea) or other acid-tolerant plants (e.g., bog cranberry, pitcher plant, sundew, orchids). Substrate is mostly undecomposed peat. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.						
6	A1. Surface water is usually absent or, if present, pH is typically <4.5 and conductivity is usually <100 µS/cm (<64 ppm TDS). Trees are absent or nearly so. Sedge cover usually sparse or absent but cottongrass and/or lichen cover may be extensive, as well as cloudberry, lingonberry, sheep laurel, and a sedge (<i>Carex rariflora</i>). Wetland surface and surrounding landscape are seldom sloping and wetland often is domed (convex). Inlet and outlet channels are usually absent. If known, pH of peat is <4.0.		0				
7	A2. Not A1. Surface water, if present, has pH typically >4.5 and conductivity is usually >100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Sedge cover is usually extensive, and/or tree and tall shrub cover is extensive. Sometimes at toe of slope or edge of water body. An exit channel is usually present. Wetter than A1 and peat depth may be shallower (<2 m).		1				
8	B. Moss and/or lichen cover less than 25% of the ground. Soil is mineral or decomposed organic (muck). Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column:						
9	B1. Trees and shrubs taller than 1 m comprise more than 25% of the vegetated cover. Surface water is mostly absent or inundates the vegetation only seasonally (e.g., vernal pools or floodplain).		0				
10	B2. Not B1. Tree & tall shrubs comprise less than than 25% of the vegetated cover. Vegetation is mostly herbaceous, e.g., cattail, bulrush, burreed, pond lily, horsetail. Surface water may be extensive and fluctuates seasonally, being either persistent or drying up partly or entirely.		0				
11	<p>Reminder: For all questions, the AA should include all persistent waters in ponds smaller than 8 hectares (~283 m on a side) that are adjacent to the AA. The AA should also include part of the water area of adjacent ponded water larger than 8 ha and adjacent rivers wider than 20 m. Specifically, the AA should include the open water part adjacent to wetland vegetation and equal in width to the average width of that vegetated zone. Throughout this data form, "adjacent" is used synonymously with abutting, adjoining, bordering, contiguous – and means no upland (manmade or natural) completely separates the described features along their directly shared edge. Features joined only by a channel are not necessarily considered to be adjacent – a large portion of their edges must match. The features do not have to be hydrologically connected in order to be considered adjacent.</p>						
12	F2		Wetland Types - Adjoining or Subordinate	If the AA is smaller than 1 ha, mark all other types that occupy more than 1% of the vegetated AA. If the AA is larger than 1 ha, mark all other types which are within or adjacent to the AA and occupy more than 1 ha, as visible from the AA or as interpreted from aerial imagery. Do not mark again the type marked in F1.			<p>1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, INV, SBM, WBF]</p>
13	A1.			0			
14	A2.	0					
15	B1.	0					
16	B2.	0					

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17	F3 Woody Height & Form Diversity	Following EACH row below, indicate with a number code the percentage of the living vegetation in the AA which is occupied by that feature (6 if >95%, 5 if 75-95%, 4 if 50-75%, 3 if 25-50%, 2 if 5-25%, 1 if <5%, 0 if none). If the vegetated part of the AA is largely herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation, these percentages should not sum to 100%.		
18		coniferous trees (may include tamarack) taller than 3 m.	5	
19		deciduous trees taller than 3 m.	2	
20		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	3	
21		deciduous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	0	
22		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs <1 m tall not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	1	
23		deciduous shrubs or trees <1 m tall (e.g., deciduous seedlings) not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	0	
24		Note: If none of top 4 rows in F3 was marked 2 or greater, SKIP to F9 (N fixers).		
25				
26	F4 Dominance of Most Abundant Shrub Species	Determine which two woody plant species comprise the greatest portion of the low (<3 m) woody cover . Then choose one:		[PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
27		those species together comprise > 50% of such cover.	1	
		those species together do not comprise > 50% of such cover.	0	
28	F5 Woody Diameter Classes	Mark ALL the types that comprise >5% of the woody canopy cover in the AA or >5% of the wooded areas (if any) along its upland edge (perimeter). The edge should include only the trees whose canopies extend into the AA.		
29		coniferous, 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall.	1	
30		broad-leaved deciduous 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall.	0	
31		coniferous, 10-19 cm diameter.	1	
32		broad-leaved deciduous 10-19 cm diameter.	0	
33		coniferous, 20-40 cm diameter.	1	
34		broad-leaved deciduous 20-40 cm diameter.	0	
35		coniferous, >40 cm diameter.	0	
36		broad-leaved deciduous >40 cm diameter.	0	
37	F6 Height Class Interspersion	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the AA:		[AM, INV, NR, PH, SBM, Sens]
38		A. Neither the vegetation taller than 1 m nor the vegetation shorter than that comprise >70% of the vegetated part of the AA. They each comprise 30-70%. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.		
39		A1. The two height classes are mostly scattered and intermixed throughout the AA.	0	
40		A2. Not A1. The two height classes are mostly in separate zones or bands, or in proportionately large clumps.	0	
41		B. Either the vegetation shorter than 1 m comprises >70% of the vegetated part of the AA, or the vegetation taller than that does. One size class might even be totally absent. Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column.		
42		B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly scattered and intermixed within the prevalent one.	0	
43		B2. Not B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly located apart from the prevalent one, in separate zones or clumps, or is completely absent.	1	
44	F7 Large Snags (Dead Standing Trees)	The number of large snags (diameter >20 cm) in the AA plus adjacent upland area within 10 m of the wetland edge is:		
45		None, or fewer than 8/ hectare which exceed this diameter.	1	Snags are dead standing trees that often (not always) lack bark and foliage. Include only ones that are at least 2 m tall. [POL, SBM, WBN]
46		Several (>8/hectare) and a pond, lake, or slow-flowing water wider than 10 m is within 1 km.	0	
47		Several (>8/hectare) but above not true.	0	
48	F8 Downed Wood	The number of downed wood pieces longer than 2 m and with diameter >10 cm, and not persistently submerged, is:		
49		Few or none that meet these criteria.	1	Exclude temporary "burn piles." [AM, INV, POL, SBM]
50		Several (>5 if AA is >5 hectares, less for smaller AAs) meet these criteria.	0	
51	F9 N Fixers	The percentage of the AA's vegetated cover that contains nitrogen-fixing plants (e.g., alder, sweetgale, clover, lupine, alfalfa, other legumes) is:		
52		<1% or none.	1	Do not include N-fixing algae or lichens. [FA, FR, INV, NRv, OE, PH, SBM, Sens]
53		1-25% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	
54		25-50% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	
55		50-75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	
56		>75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	

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F10 57 58 59 60 61 62	Sphagnum Moss Extent	The cover of Sphagnum moss (or any moss that forms a dense cushion many centimeters thick), including the moss obscured by taller sedges and other plants rooted in it, is:		Exclude moss growing on trees and rocks. [CS, PH]
		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
F11 63 64 65 66 67 68	% Bare Ground & Thatch	Consider the parts of the AA that lack surface water at the driest time of the growing season. Viewed from directly above the ground layer, the predominant condition in those areas at that time is:		Thatch is dead plant material (stems, leaves) resting on the ground surface. Bare ground that is present under a tree or shrub canopy should be counted. Boulders count as bare ground. Wetlands with mineral soils and that are heavily shaded or are dominated by annual plant species tend to have more extensive areas that are bare during the early growing season. [AM, EC, INV, NR, OE, POL, PR, SBM, Sens]
		Little or no (<5%) <i>bare ground</i> is visible between erect stems or under canopy anywhere in the vegetated AA. Ground is extensively blanketed by dense thatch, moss, lichens, graminoids with great stem densities, or plants with ground-hugging foliage.	1	
		Slightly bare ground (5-20% bare between plants) is visible in places, but those areas comprise less than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
		Much bare ground (20-50% bare between plants) is visible in places, and those areas comprise more than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
		Other conditions.	0	
		Not applicable. Surface water (either open or obscured by emergent plants) covers all of the AA all the time.	0	
F12 69 70 71 72	Ground Irregularity	Imagine the AA without any living vegetation. Excluding the portion of the AA that is always under water, the number of hummocks, small pits, raised mounds, animal burrows, ruts, gullies, natural levees, microdepressions, and other areas of peat or mineral soil that are raised or depressed >10 cm compared to most of the area within a few meters surrounding them is:		The depressions may be of human or natural origin. [AM, EC, INV, NR, PH, POL, PR, SBM, SR, WS]
		Few or none (minimal microtopography; <1% of the land has such features, or entire AA is always water-covered).	1	
		Intermediate.	0	
		Several (extensive micro-topography).	0	
F13 73 74 75 76	Upland Inclusions	Within the AA, inclusions of upland are:		[AM, NR, SBM]
		Few or none.	0	
		Intermediate (1 - 10% of vegetated part of the AA).	1	
		Many (e.g., wetland-upland "mosaic"; >10% of the vegetated AA).	0	
F14 77 78 79 80 81 82	Soil Texture	In parts of the AA that lack persistent water, the texture of soil in the uppermost layer is mostly: [To determine this, use a trowel to check in at least 3 widely spaced locations, and use the soil texture key (in Appendix A of the Manual).]		[CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, WS]
		Loamy: soils that may contain a little fine grit and do not make a "ribbon" longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
		Fines: includes silt, clay, silt, soils that make a ribbon longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
		Deep Peat: to 40 cm depth or greater.	0	
		Shallow Peat or organic <40 cm deep.	1	
		Coarse: includes sand, loamy sand, gravel, cobble, soils that do not make a ribbon when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
F15 83 84 85 86 87	Shorebird Feeding Habitats	During any 2 consecutive weeks of the growing season, the extent of mudflats, bare unshaded saturated areas not covered by thatch, and unshaded waters shallower than 6 cm is: [Include also any area that is adjacent to the AA.]		This addresses needs of many but not all migratory sandpipers, plovers, and related species. [WBF]
		None, or <100 sq. m.	1	
		100-1000 sq. m.	0	
		1000 – 10,000 sq. m.	0	
		>10,000 sq. m.	0	
F16 88 89 90 91 92 93	Herbaceous % of Vegetated Wetland	In aerial ("ducks eye") view, the maximum annual cover of herbaceous vegetation (all non-woody plants except moss) is:		[AM, WBF, WBN]
		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA or <0.01 hectare (whichever is less). Mark "*" here and SKIP to F20 (Invasive Plant Cover).	0	
		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	

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94	F17 Forb Cover	Within parts of the AA having herbaceous cover (excluding SAV), the areal cover of forbs reaches an annual maximum of:		Forbs are flowering plants. Do not include grasses, sedges, cattail, other graminoids, ferns, horsetails, or others that lack showy flowers. [POL]
95		<5% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
96		5-25% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
97		25-50% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
98		50-95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
99		>95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
100	F18 Sedge Cover	Sedges (<i>Carex</i> spp.) and cottongrass (<i>Eriophorum</i> spp.) occupy:		[CS]
101		<5% of the vegetated area, or none.		
102		5-50% of the vegetated area.		
103		50-95% of the vegetated area.		
104		>95% of the vegetated area.		
105	F19 Dominance of Most Abundant Herbaceous Species	Determine which two herbaceous species comprise the greatest portion of the herbaceous cover (excluding mosses and floating-leaved aquatic plants). Then choose one of the following:		For this question, include ferns as well as graminoids and forbs. [EC, INV, PH, POL, Sens]
106		those species together comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		
107		those species together do not comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		
108	F20 Invasive Plant Cover	How extensive is the cover of invasive plant species in the AA? For species, see Plants_invasive worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file.		[EC, PH, POL, Sens]
109		invasive species appear to be absent in the AA, or are present only in trace amount (a few individuals).		
110		invasive species are present in more than trace amounts, but comprise <5% of herbaceous cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
111		invasive species comprise 5-20% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
112		invasive species comprise 20-50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
113		invasive species comprise >50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
114	F21 Invasive Cover Along Upland Edge	Along the wetland-upland boundary, the percent of the upland edge (within 3 m upslope from the wetland) that is occupied by invasive plant species is:		If a plant cannot be identified to species (e.g., winter conditions) but its genus contains an exotic species, assume the unidentified plant to also be exotic. If vegetation is so senesced that exotic species cannot be identified, answer "none". [PH, STR]
115		none of the upland edge (invasives apparently absent), or AA has no upland edge.		
116		some (but <5%) of the upland edge.		
117		5-50% of the upland edge.		
118		most (>50%) of the upland edge.		
119	F22 Fringe Wetland	During most of the year, open water within or adjacent to the vegetated part of the wetland is much wider than the maximum width of the vegetated zone within the wetland. Enter "1" if true, "0" if false.	0	[WBF, WBN, WCv]
120	F23 Lacustrine Wetland	The vegetated part of the AA is within or adjacent to a body of non-tidal standing open water whose size exceeds 8 hectares during most of a normal year.	0	[FR, PR, PU, WBF, WBN]
121	F24 % of AA Without Surface Water	The percentage of the AA that never contains surface water during an average year (that is, except perhaps for a few hours after snowmelt or rainstorms), but which is still a wetland, is:		1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SRv, WBF, WBN, WC]
122		<1%. In other words, all or nearly all of the AA is covered by water permanently or at least seasonally .		
123		1-25% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha never contains surface water.		
124		25-50% of the AA never contains surface water.		
125		50-75% of the AA never contains surface water.		
126		75-99% of the AA never contains surface water, OR >99% and there is at least one persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha in the AA.		
127		99-100%. AND there is no persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha within the AA. Enter "1" and SKIP to F42 (Channel Connection).	1	
128	F25 % of AA with Persistent Surface Water	Identify the parts of the AA that still contain surface water (flowing or ponded, open or hidden beneath vegetation) even during the driest times of a normal year, i.e., when the AA's surface water is at its lowest annual level. At that time, the percentage of the AA that still contains surface water is:		If you are unable to determine the condition at the driest time of year, ask the land owner or neighbors about it if possible. Indicators of persistence may include fish, some dragonflies, beaver, and muskrat. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, POL, PR, SBM, WBF, WBN]
129		None. The AA dries up completely (no water in channels either) or never has surface water during most years. SKIP to F27 .		
130		1-20% of the AA.		
131		20-50% of the AA.		
132		50-95% of the AA.		
133		>95% of the AA. True for many fringe wetlands.		

	A	B	C	D	E
134	F26	% of Summertime Water that Is Shaded	At mid-day during the warmest time of year, the area of surface water <u>within</u> the AA that is shaded by vegetation and other features that are within the AA at that time is:		[FA, WC]
135			<5% of the water is shaded, or no surface water is present then.	0	
136			5-25% of the water is shaded.	0	
137			25-50% of the water is shaded.	0	
138			50-75% of the water is shaded.	0	
139			>75% of the water is shaded.	0	
140	F27	% of AA that is Flooded Only Seasonally	The percentage of the AA's area that is between the annual high water and the annual low water (surface water) is:		Flood marks (algal mats, adventitious roots, debris lines, ice scour, etc.) are often evident when not fully inundated. Also, such areas often have a larger proportion of upland and annual (vs. perennial) plant species. In riverine systems, the extent of this zone can be estimated by multiplying by 2 the bankfull height and visualising where that would intercept the land along the river. [CS, FA, INV, NR, OE, PH, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
141			None, or <0.01 hectare and <1% of the AA. SKIP to F29.	0	
142			1-20% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha.	0	
143			20-50% of the AA.	0	
144			50-95% of the AA.	0	
145			>95% of the AA.	0	
146	F28	Annual Water Fluctuation Range	The annual fluctuation in surface water level within most of the parts of the AA that contain surface water at least temporarily is:		Look for flood marks (see above). Because the annual range of water levels is difficult to estimate without multiple visits, consider asking the land owner or neighbors about it. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SR, WBN, WS]
147			<10 cm change (stable or nearly so).	0	
148			10 cm - 50 cm change.	0	
149			0.5 - 1 m change.	0	
150			1-2 m change.	0	
151			>2 m change.	0	
152			Is the AA plus adjacent ponded water smaller than 0.01 hectare (about 10m x 10m, or 1m x 100 m)? If so, enter "1" in column D and SKIP TO F42 (Connection).	0	
153	F29	Predominant Depth Class	During most of the time when surface water is present during the growing season, its depth, averaged over the entire inundated part of the AA, is:		If a boat is unavailable, estimate this by considering wetland size and local topography. Or if timing and safety allow, depths may be measured by drilling through winter ice. This question is asking about the spatial median depth that occurs during most of that time, even if inundation is only seasonal or temporary. If inundation in most but not all of the wetland is brief, the answer will be based on the depth of the most persistently inundated part of the wetland. Include surface water in channels and ditches as well as ponded areas. [CS, FA, FR, INV, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
154			<10 cm deep (but >0).	0	
155			10 - 50 cm deep.	0	
156			0.5 - 1 m deep.	0	
157			1 - 2 m deep.	0	
158			>2 m deep. True for many fringe wetlands.	0	
159	F30	Depth Classes - Evenness of Proportions	When present, surface water in most of the AA usually consists of (select one):		Estimate these proportions by considering the gradient and microtopography of the site. [FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
160			One depth class that comprises >90% of the AA's inundated area (use the classes in the question above).	0	
161			One depth class that comprises 50-90% of the AA's inundated area.	0	
162			Neither of above. There are 3 or more depth classes and none occupy >50%.	0	
163	F31	% of Water That Is Ponded (not Flowing)	During most times when surface water is present, the percentage that is (1) ponded (stagnant, or flows so slowly that fine sediment is not held in suspension) AND (2) is likely to be deeper than 0.5 m in some places, is:		Nearly all wetlands with surface water have some ponded water. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WBN, WC, WS]
164			<5% of the water, or it occupies <100 sq.m cumulatively. Nearly all the surface water is flowing. SKIP to F34.	0	
165			5-30% of the water.	0	
166			30-70% of the water.	0	
167			70-95% of the water.	0	
168			>95% of the water.	0	
169	F32	Ponded Open Water - Minimum Size	During most of the growing season, the largest patch of open water that is ponded and is in or bordering the AA is >0.01 hectare (about 10 m by 10 m) and mostly deeper than 0.5 m. If true enter "1" and continue, If false, enter "0" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	Open water is not obscured by vegetation in aerial ("duck's eye") view. It includes vegetation floating on the water surface or entirely submersed beneath it.
170	F33	% of Ponded Water that is Open	In ducks-eye aerial view, the percentage of the ponded water that is open (lacking emergent vegetation during most of the growing season, and unhidden by a forest or shrub canopy) is:		[AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
171			None, or <1% of the AA and largest pool occupies <0.01 hectares. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
172			1-4% of the ponded water. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
173			5-30% of the ponded water.	0	
174			30-70% of the ponded water.	0	
175			70-99% of the ponded water.	0	
176			100% of the ponded water.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
177	F34	Width of Vegetated Zone within Wetland	At the time during the growing season when the AA's water level is lowest, the average width of vegetated area <u>in the AA</u> that separates adjoining uplands from open water within the AA is:	"Vegetated area" does not include underwater or floating-leaved plants, i.e., aquatic bed. Width may include wooded riparian areas if they have wetland soil or plant indicators. [AM, CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SR, WBN]
178			<1 m.	0
179			1 - 9 m.	0
180			10 - 29 m.	0
181			30 - 49 m.	0
182			50 - 100 m.	0
183			>100 m, or open water is absent at that time.	0
184	F35	Flat Shoreline Extent	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the percentage of the AA's water edge length that is nearly flat (a slope less than about 5% measured within 5 m landward of the water) is:	If several isolated pools are present in early summer, estimate the percent of their collective shorelines that has such a gentle slope. [SR, WBN]
185			<1% of the water edge.	0
186			1-25% of the water edge.	0
187			25-50% of the water edge.	0
188			50-75% of the water edge.	0
189			>75% of the water edge.	0
190	F36	Robust Emergents	The percentage of the emergent vegetation cover in the AA that is cattail (<i>Typha</i> spp.), common reed (<i>Phragmites</i>), or tall (>1m) bulrush is:	Emergent vegetation is herbaceous plants whose stems are partly above and partly below the water surface during most of the time water is present. [WBN]
191			<1% of the emergent vegetation, or emergent vegetation is absent. SKIP to F38.	0
192			1-25% of the emergent vegetation.	0
193			25-75% of the emergent vegetation.	0
194			>75% of the emergent vegetation.	0
195	F37	Interspersion of Emergents & Open Water	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the spatial pattern of emergent vegetation within the water is mostly:	[AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, SR, WBF, WBN]
196			Scattered. More than 30% of such vegetation forms small islands or corridors surrounded by water.	0
197			Intermediate.	0
198			Clumped. More than 70% of such vegetation is in bands along the wetland perimeter or is clumped at one or a few sides of the surface water area.	0
199	F38	Persistent Deepwater Area	If the deepest patch of surface water (flowing or ponded) in or directly adjacent to the AA is mostly deeper than 0.5 m for >2 weeks during the growing season, enter "1" and continue. If not, enter "0" and SKIP to F42. (Connection).	0
200	F39	Non-vegetated Aquatic Cover	During most of the growing season and in waters deeper than 0.5 m, the cover for fish, aquatic invertebrates, and/or amphibians that is provided NOT by living vegetation, but by accumulations of dead wood and undercut banks is:	For this question, consider only the wood that is at or above the water surface. Estimates of underwater wood based only on observations from terrestrial viewpoints are unreliable so should not be attempted. [AM, FA, FR, INV]
201			Little or none.	0
202			Intermediate.	0
203			Extensive.	0
204	F40	Isolated Island	The AA contains (or is part of) an island or beaver lodge within a lake, pond, or river, and is isolated from the shore by water depths >1 m on all sides during an average June. The island may be solid, or it may be a floating vegetation mat that is sufficiently large and dense to support a waterbird nest.	0 [WBN]
205	F41	Floating Algae & Duckweed	At some time of the year, mats of algae and/or duckweed are likely to cover >50% of the AA's otherwise-unshaded water surface, or blanket >50% of the underwater substrate. If true, enter "1" in next column. If untrue or uncertain, enter "0".	0 [EC, PR, WBF]

A	B	C	D	E
206	F42 Channel Connection & Outflow Duration	The most persistent surface water connection (outlet channel or pipe, ditch, or overbank water exchange) between the AA and a downslope stream network is: [Note: If the AA represents only part of a wetland, answer this according to whichever is the least permanent surface connection: the one between the AA and the rest of the wetland, or the surface connection between the wetland and the downslope stream network.]		Consider the connection regardless of whether the surface water is frozen. The "downslope stream network" could consist of ditches, rivers, ponds, or lakes which eventually connect to the ocean. If this cannot be determined while visiting the AA, consult topographic maps perhaps by viewing these online with Toporama (http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html) [CS, FA, FR, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WCv, WS]
207		Persistent (surface water flows out for >9 months/year).		
208		Seasonal (surface water flows out for 14 days to 9 months/year, not necessarily consecutive).		
209		Temporary (surface water flows out for <14 days, not necessarily consecutive).		
210		None -- but maps show a stream network downslope from the AA and within a distance that is less than the AA's length. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
211		No surface water flows out of the wetland except possibly during extreme events (<once per 10 years). Or, water flows only into a wetland, ditch, or lake that lacks an outlet. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	1	
212	F43 Outflow Confinement	During major runoff events, in the places where surface water exits the AA or connected waters nearby, the water:		"Major runoff events" would include biennial high water caused by storms and/or rapid snowmelt. [CS, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, STR, WS]
213		Mostly passes through a pipe, culvert, narrowly breached dike, berm, beaver dam, or other partial obstruction (other than natural topography) that does not appear to drain the wetland artificially during most of the growing season.		
214		Leaves through natural exits (channels or diffuse outflow), not mainly through artificial or temporary features.		
215		Is exported more quickly than usual due to ditches or pipes within the AA or connected to its outlet, or within 10 m of the AA's edge, which drain the wetland artificially, or water is pumped out of the AA.	0	
216	F44 Tributary Channel	At least once annually, surface water from a tributary channel that is >100 m long moves into the AA. Or, surface water from a larger permanent water body adjacent to the AA spills into the AA. If it enters only via a pipe, that pipe must be fed by a mapped stream or lake further upslope. If no, SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	If inlet tributaries cannot be searched for due to inaccessibility of part of the AA, follow suggestions in F42 above. [NRv, PH, PRv, SRv]
217	F45 Input Water Temperature	Based on lack of shade, water source characteristics, or actual temperature measurements, the inflow is likely to be warmer than surface water in the AA during part of most years. Enter 1=yes, 0=no.	0	[WCv]
218	F46 Throughflow Resistance	During its travel through the AA at the time of peak annual flow, water arriving in channels: [select only the ONE encountered by most of the incoming water].		[FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
219		Does not bump into many plant stems as it travels through the AA. Nearly all the water continues to travel in unvegetated (often incised) channels that have minimal contact with wetland vegetation, or through a zone of open water such as an instream pond or lake.		
220		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
221		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation and mostly spreads throughout, or is in widely meandering, multi-branched, or braided channels.		
222		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
223		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems and follows a fairly indirect path from entrance to exit (meandering, multi-branched, or braided).	0	
224	F47 pH Measurement	The pH in most of the AA's surface water:		Preferably, measure this in larger areas of ponded surface water within the AA, or in streams that have passed through (not along) most of the AA. Unless surface water is completely absent, do not dig holes or make depressions in peat in order to provide water for this measurement. Avoid measuring near roads or in puddles formed only by recent rain. [AM, FA, FR, NR, WBF, PH, PR, Sens, WBF, WBN]
225		Was measured, and is: [enter the reading in the column to the right.]		
226		Was not measured but surface water is present and is darkly tea-coloured. Or if no surface water, then mosses and plants that indicate peatland (e.g., Labrador tea) are prevalent. Enter "1".	0	
227		Neither of above. Enter "1".	1	
228		The TDS (total dissolved solids) or conductivity off the AA's surface water is: (select the first true row with information):		
229	F48 TDS and/or Conductivity	TDS is: [Enter the reading in ppm or mg/L in the column to the right, if measured, or answer next row.]		See above for measurement guidance. [FR, INV, NRv, PH, PRv, Sens]
230		Conductivity is [Enter the reading in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ in the column to the right.]		
231		Was not measured, but plants that indicate saline conditions cover much of the vegetated AA. Enter "1".	0	
232		Neither of above	1	
233	F49 Beaver Probability	Use of the AA by beaver during the past 5 years is (select most applicable ONE):		[FA, FR, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
234		Evident from direct observation or presence of gnawed limbs, dams, tracks, dens, lodges, or extensive stands of water-killed trees (snags).		
235		Likely based on known occurrence in the region and proximity to suitable habitat, which may include: (a) a persistent freshwater wetland, pond, or lake, or a perennial low or mid-gradient (<10%) channel, and (b) a corridor or multiple stands of hardwood trees and shrubs in vegetated areas near surface water.	0	
236		Unlikely because site characteristics above are deficient, and/or this is a settled area or other area where beaver are routinely removed.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
237	F50 Groundwater Strength of Evidence	Select first applicable choice:	0 0 1	Adhere to these criteria strictly -- do not use personal judgment based on fen conditions, pH, or other evidence. Consult topographic maps to detect breaks in slope described here. Rust deposits associated with groundwater seeps may be most noticeable as orange discoloration in ice formations along streams during early winter. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PRv, SFS, WC, WS]
238		Springs are known to be present within the AA, or if groundwater levels have been monitored, that has demonstrated that groundwater primarily discharges to the wetland for longer periods during the year than periods when the wetland recharges the groundwater.		
239		Most of the AA has a slope of >5%, or is very close to the base of a natural slope longer than 100 and much steeper than the slope of the AA, AND the pH of surface water, if known, is >5.5.		
240		Neither of above is true, although some groundwater may discharge to or flow through the AA. Or groundwater influx is unknown.		
241	F51 Internal Gradient	The gradient along most of the flow path within the AA is:	0 1 0 0	This is not the same as the shoreline slope. It is the elevational difference between the AA's inlet and outlet, divided by the flow-distance between them and converted to percent. If available, use a clinometer to measure this. Free clinometer apps can be downloaded to smartphones. If the wetland is large (longer than ~1 km), this may be estimated using Google Earth to determine the minimum and maximum elevation within the AA, then dividing by length and multiplying by 100. [CS, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
242		<2% or the AA has no surface water outlet (not even seasonally).		
243		2-5%.		
244		6-10%.		
245		>10%.		
246	Note for the next three questions: If the AA lacks an upland edge, evaluate based on the AA's entire perimeter, and moving outward into whatever areas are adjacent. In many situations, these questions are best answered by measuring from aerial images.			
247	F52 Vegetated Buffer as % of Perimeter	Within a zone extending 30 m laterally from the AA's edge with upland and/or other wetlands, the percentage that contains perennial vegetation cover (except lawns, row crops, heavily grazed land, conifer plantations) is:	0 0 1 0 0	[AM, FA, FR, INV, NRv, PH, POL, PRv, SBM, Sens, SRv, STR, WBN]
248		<5%.		
249		5 to 30%.		
250		30 to 60%.		
251		60 to 90%.		
252		>90%, or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands. SKIP to F55.		
253	F53 Type of Cover in Buffer	Within 30 m upslope of where the wetland transitions to upland, the upland land cover that is NOT perennial vegetation is mostly (mark ONE):	0 0 1	[AM, FA, INV, NRv, PH, POL, SBM, STR, WBN]
254		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
255		Bare or nearly bare pervious surface or managed vegetation, e.g., lawn, row crops, unpaved road, dike, landslide.		
256	F54 Buffer Slope	The steepest and/or most disturbed part of the upland area that is within 30 m of the wetland and occupies >10% of that upland area has a percent slope of:	0 0 1 0 0	[NRv, PRv, Sens, SRv]
257		<1% (flat – almost no noticeable slope) or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands.		
258		2-5%.		
259		5-30%.		
260		>30%.		
261	F55 Cliffs or Steep Banks	In the AA or within 100 m, there are elevated terrestrial features such as cliffs, talus slopes, stream banks, or excavated pits (but not riprap) that extend at least 2 m nearly vertically, are unvegetated, and potentially contain crevices or other substrate suitable for nesting or den areas. Enter 1 (yes) or 0 (no).	0	Do not include upturned trees as potential den sites. [POL, SBM]
262	F56 New or Expanded Wetland	Human actions within or adjacent to the AA have persistently expanded a naturally occurring wetland or created a wetland where there previously was none (e.g., by excavation, impoundment):	0 0 0 0 0 0 1	Determine this using historical aerial photography, old maps, soil maps, or permit files as available [CS, NR, OE, PH, Sens]
263		No.		
264		Yes, and created or expanded 20 - 100 years ago.		
265		Yes, and created or expanded 3-20 years ago.		
266		Yes, and created or expanded within last 3 years.		
267		Yes, but time of origin or expansion unknown.		
268		Unknown if new or expanded within 20 years or not.		
269	F57 Burn History	More than 1% of the AA's previously vegetated area:	0 0 0 0 1	Look for charred soil or stumps (in multiple widely-spaced locations) or ask landowner. [CS, PH, STR]
270		Burned within past 5 years.		
271		Burned 6-10 years ago.		
272		Burned 11-30 years ago.		
273		Burned >30 years ago, or no evidence of a burn and no data.		

A	B	C	D	E
274	F58	Visibility	The maximum percentage of the wetland that is visible from the best vantage point on public roads, public parking lots, public buildings, or public maintained trails that intersect, adjoin, or are within 100 m of the AA (select one) is:	[PU, STR, WBFv]
275			<25%.	0
276			25-50%.	0
277			>50%.	0
278	F59	Non-consumptive Uses - Actual or Potential	Assuming access permission was granted, select ALL statements that are true of the AA as it currently exists:	[PU, STR]
279			For an average person, walking is physically possible <u>in</u> (not just near) >5% of the AA during most of the growing season, e.g., free of deep water and dense shrub thickets.	1
280			Maintained roads, parking areas, or foot-trails are within 10 m of the AA, or the AA can be accessed part of the year by boats arriving via contiguous waters.	0
281			Within or near the AA, there is an interpretive center, trails with interpretive signs or brochures, and/or regular guided interpretive tours.	0
282	F60	Unvisited Core Area	The percentage of the AA almost never visited by humans during an average growing season probably comprises: [Note: Only include the part actually walked or driven (not simply viewed from) with a vehicle or boat. Do not include visitors on trails outside of the AA unless more than half the wetland is visible from the trails and they are within 30 m of the wetland edge. In that case include only the area occupied by the trail.]	[AM, Fav, FRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
283			<5% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	1
284			<5% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
285			5-50% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
286			5-50% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
287			50-95%, with or without inhabited building nearby.	0
288			>95% of the AA with or without inhabited building nearby.	0
289	F61	Frequently Visited Area	The part of the AA visited by humans almost daily for several weeks during an average growing season probably comprises: [See note above.]	[AM, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
290			<5%. If F60 was answered ">95%" (mostly never visited), SKIP to F64.	1
291			5-50%.	0
292			50-95%.	0
293			>95% of the AA.	0
294	F62	BMP - Soils	Boardwalks, paved trails, fences or other infrastructure and/or well-enforced regulations appear to effectively prevent visitors from walking on soil within nearly all of the AA when the soil is unfrozen. Enter "1" if true.	[PH, PU]
295	F63	BMP - Wildlife Protection	Fences, observation blinds, platforms, paved trails, exclusion periods, and/or well-enforced prohibitions on motorised boats, off-leash pets, and off road vehicles appear to effectively exclude or divert visitors and their pets from the AA at critical times in order to minimize disturbance of wildlife (except during hunting seasons). Enter "1" if true.	[AM, PU, WBF, WBN]
296	F64	Consumptive Uses (Provisioning Services)	Recent evidence was found within the AA of the following potentially-sustainable consumptive uses. Select ALL that apply.	[FAv, FRv, WBFv]
297			Low-impact commercial timber harvest (e.g., selective thinning).	0
298			Commercial or traditional-use harvesting of native plants, their fruits, or mushrooms.	0
299			Waterfowl hunting.	0
300			Fishing.	0
301			Trapping of furbearers.	0
302			None of the above.	1
303	F65	Domestic Wells	The closest wells or water bodies that currently provide drinking water are:	[NRv]
304			Within 0-100 m. of the AA.	0
305			100-500 m. away.	0
306			>500 m. away, or no information.	1
307	F66	Calcareous Fen	The AA is, or is part of, a calcareous fen. See the Plants_Calcar worksheet in the accompanying SuplInfo file for list of plant indicators (calciphiles). Enter 1 if more than two Strong or more than five Moderate calciphile species are present; otherwise enter 0, but if not able to identify those and no information, change to blank.	[PH, PR]
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Investigator: Alex Scott, Jordan Davis	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL6	Date: 04 October 2022		
Stressor (S) Data Form for Non-Tidal Wetlands. WESP-AC for Nova Scotia version 2.				
S1	Aberrant Timing of Water Inputs	Data		
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item that is likely to have caused the timing of water inputs (but not necessarily their volume) to shift by hours, days, or weeks, becoming either more muted (smaller or less frequent peaks spread over longer times, more temporal homogeneity of flow or water levels) or more flashy (larger or more frequent spikes but over shorter times). [FA, FR, INV, PH, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater from impervious surfaces that drains directly to the wetland.</p> <p>Water subsidies from wastewater effluent, septic system leakage, snow storage areas, or irrigation.</p> <p>Regular removal of surface or groundwater for irrigation or other consumptive use.</p> <p>Flow regulation in tributaries or water level regulation in adjoining water body, or other control structure at water entry points that regulates inflow to the wetland.</p> <p>A dam, dike, levee, weir, berm, or fill -- within or downgradient from the wetland -- that interferes with surface or subsurface flow in/out of the AA (e.g., road fill, wellpads, pipelines).</p> <p>Excavation within the wetland, e.g., dugout, artificial pond, dead-end ditch.</p> <p>Artificial drains or ditches in or near the wetland.</p> <p>Accelerated downcutting or channelization of an adjacent or internal channel (incised below the historical water table level).</p> <p>Logging within the wetland.</p> <p>Subsidence or compaction of the wetland's substrate as a result of machinery, livestock, fire, drainage, or off road vehicles.</p> <p>Straightening, ditching, dredging, and/or lining of tributary channels.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items had no measurable effect on the timing of water conditions in any part of the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>				
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
Spatial extent of timing shift within the wetland:	>95% of wetland.	5-95% of wetland.	<5% of wetland.	0
When most of the timing shift began:	<3 yrs ago.	3-9 yrs ago.	10-100 yrs ago.	0
Score the following 2 rows only if the altered inputs began within past 10 years, and only for the part of the wetland that experiences those.				
Input timing now vs. previously:	Shift of weeks.	Shift of days.	Shift of hours or minutes.	0
Flashiness or muting:	Became very flashy or controlled.	Intermediate.	Became mildly flashy or controlled.	0
			Sum=	0
			Stressor subscore=	0.00
S2	Accelerated Inputs of Contaminants and/or Salts	Data		
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of contaminants or salts to the AA. [AM, FA, PH, POL, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills, industrial facilities.</p> <p>Metals & chemical wastes from mining, shooting ranges, snow storage areas, oil/ gas extraction, other sources (download many locations from National Pollutant Release Inventory and view KMZ overlay in Google Earth. https://www.ec.gc.ca/inrp-npri/default.asp?lang=En&n=B85A1846-1</p> <p>Road salt.</p> <p>Spraying of pesticides, as applied to lawns, croplands, roadsides, or other areas in the CA.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly higher levels of contaminants and/or salts, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>				
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
Usual toxicity of most toxic contaminants:	Industrial effluent, mining waste, unmanaged landfill.	Cropland, managed landfill, pipeline or transmission rights-of-way.	Low density residential.	0
Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
			Sum=	0
			Stressor subscore=	0.00

S3	Accelerated Inputs of Nutrients				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of nutrients to the wetland. [NRv, PRv, STR]</i>				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills.				
	Fertilizers applied to lawns, ag lands, or other areas in the CA.				
	Livestock, dogs.				
	Artificial drainage of upslope lands.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly more nutrients, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Type of loading:	High density of unmaintained septic, some types of industrial sources.	Moderate density septic, cropland, secondary wastewater treatment plant.	Livestock, pets, low density residential.	0
	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0	
			Sum=	0	
			Stressor subscore=	0.00	
S4	Excessive Sediment Loading from Contributing Area				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the CA that is likely to have elevated the load of waterborne or windborne sediment reaching the wetland from its CA. [FA, FR, INV, PH, SRv, STR]</i>				
	Erosion from plowed fields, fill, timber harvest, dirt roads, vegetation clearing, fires.				
	Erosion from construction, in-channel machinery in the CA.				
	Erosion from off-road vehicles in the CA.				
	Erosion from livestock or foot traffic in the CA.				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent.				
	Sediment from road sanding, gravel mining, other mining, oil/gas extraction.				
	Accelerated channel downcutting or headcutting of tributaries due to altered land use.				
	Other human-related disturbances within the CA.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points (3, 2, or 1 as shown in header) in the last column. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively add significantly more sediment or suspended solids to the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Erosion in CA:	Extensive evidence, high intensity.*	Potentially (based on high-intensity* land use) or scattered evidence.	Potentially (based on low-intensity* land use) with little or no direct evidence.	0
	Recentness of significant soil disturbance in the CA:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0
	Duration of sediment inputs to the wetland:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
	AA proximity to actual or potential sources:	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
	<i>* high-intensity= extensive off-road vehicle use, plowing, grading, excavation, erosion with or without veg removal; low-intensity= veg removal only with little or no apparent erosion or disturbance of soil or sediment.</i>				Sum=
				Stressor subscore=	0.00

S5	Soil or Sediment Alteration Within the Assessment Area				
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the wetland that is likely to have compacted, eroded, or otherwise altered the wetland's soil. Consider only items occurring within past 100 years or since wetland was created or restored (whichever is less). [CS, INV, NR, PH, SR, STR]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compaction from machinery, off-road vehicles, livestock, or mountain bikes, especially during wetter periods. Leveling or other grading not to the natural contour. Tillage, plowing (but excluding disking for enhancement of native plants). Fill or riprap, excluding small amounts of upland soils containing organic amendments (compost, etc.) or small amounts of topsoil imported from another wetland. Excavation. Ditch cleaning or dredging in or adjacent to the wetland. Boat traffic in or adjacent to the wetland and sufficient to cause shore erosion or stir bottom sediments. Artificial water level or flow manipulations sufficient to cause erosion or stir bottom sediments. <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not measurably alter the soil structure and/or topography, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>					
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
Spatial extent of altered soil:	>95% of wetland or >95% of its upland edge (if any).	5-95% of wetland or 5-95% of its upland edge (if any).	<5% of wetland and <5% of its upland edge (if any).	0	
Recentness of significant soil alteration in wetland:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0	
Duration:	Long-lasting, minimal veg recovery.	Long-lasting but mostly revegetated.	Short-term, revegetated, not intense.	0	
Timing of soil alteration:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Mainly during one-time or scattered events.	0	
			Sum=	0	
			Stressor subscore=	0.00	

Assessment Area (AA) Results:

Wetland ID: WL6

Date: OCTOBER 4 2022

Observer: JD AS

Latitude & Longitude (decimal degrees): 45.55433333, -63.60085566

Wetland Functions or Other Attributes:		Function Score (Normalised)	Function Rating	Benefits Score (Normalised)	Benefits Rating	Function Score (raw)	Benefits Score (raw)
Water Storage & Delay (WS)		7.64	Higher	8.01	Higher	7.64	3.55
Stream Flow Support (SFS)		0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Water Cooling (WC)		0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Sediment Retention & Stabilisation (SR)		3.59	Moderate	2.08	Moderate	5.00	1.02
Phosphorus Retention (PR)		1.37	Lower	2.14	Moderate	4.60	1.67
Nitrate Removal & Retention (NR)		10.00	Higher	5.00	Moderate	10.00	5.00
Carbon Sequestration (CS)		6.15	Moderate			8.11	
Organic Nutrient Export (OE)		7.32	Moderate			4.78	
Anadromous Fish Habitat (FA)		0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Resident Fish Habitat (FR)		0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Aquatic Invertebrate Habitat (INV)		3.58	Moderate	0.25	Lower	4.95	1.38
Amphibian & Turtle Habitat (AM)		1.90	Lower	3.59	Moderate	4.12	4.72
Waterbird Feeding Habitat (WBF)		0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Waterbird Nesting Habitat (WBN)		0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat (SBM)		4.77	Moderate	10.00	Higher	4.15	10.00
Pollinator Habitat (POL)		5.23	Moderate	0.00	Lower	4.34	0.00
Native Plant Habitat (PH)		0.86	Lower	2.83	Lower	4.25	2.83
Public Use & Recognition (PU)				0.98	Lower		0.97
Wetland Sensitivity (Sens)				10.00	Higher		5.87
Wetland Ecological Condition (EC)				3.04	Lower		6.67
Wetland Stressors (STR) (higher score means more stress)				6.75	Higher		3.42
Summary Ratings for Grouped Functions:							
HYDROLOGIC Group (WS)		7.64	Higher	8.01	Higher	7.64	3.55
WATER QUALITY SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SR, PR, NR, CS)		7.64	Higher	4.04	Moderate	8.46	3.78
AQUATIC SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SFS, INV, OE, WC)		5.02	Moderate	0.17	Lower	3.69	0.92
AQUATIC HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of FA, FR, AM, WBF, WBN)		1.14	Lower	2.15	Moderate	2.47	2.83
TRANSITION HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of SBM, PH, POL)		4.43	Moderate	7.14	Moderate	4.29	7.14
WETLAND CONDITION (EC)				3.04	Lower		6.67
WETLAND RISK (average of Sensitivity & Stressors)				8.37	Higher		4.65

NOTE: A score of 0 does not mean the function or benefit is absent from the wetland. It means only that this wetland has a capacity that is equal or less than the lowest-scoring one, for that function or benefit, from among all the NS calibration wetlands that were assessed previously.

NOVA SCOTIA - Functional WSS Interpretation Tool

Function-Benefit Product (FBP)	FBP SCORE	FBP SCORE CATEGORY
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - HYDROLOGIC	61.1607729	High
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - WATER QUALITY SUPPORT	30.84166668	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC SUPPORT	0.839067067	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC HABITAT	2.452662438	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - TRANSITION HABITAT	31.61084606	Low

Habitat Rule Satisfied? NO

Support Rule Satisfied? NO

Habitat/Support Hybrid Rule Satisfied? NO

CONCLUSION: Site is not a WSS

Cover Page: Basic Description of Assessment	WESP-AC version 2
Site Name:	Higgins Mountain, WL7
Investigator Name:	Madeline Maher, Jordan Davis, Alex Scott
Date of Field Assessment:	12 October 2022
Nearest Town:	Masstown
Latitude (decimal degrees):	45.55893889
Longitude (decimal degrees):	63.60156944
Is a map based on a formal on-site wetland delineation available?	Yes
Approximate size of the Assessment Area (AA, in hectares):	0.29
AA as percent of entire wetland (approx.). Attach sketch map if AA is smaller than the entire contiguous wetland.	50
What percent (approx.) of the wetland were you able to visit?	50
What percent (approx.) of the AA were you able to visit?	100
Were you able to ask the site owner/manager about any of the questions?	No
Indicate here if you intentionally surveyed for rare plants, calciphile plants, or rare animals:	Yes
Have you attended a WESP-AC training session? If so, indicate approximate month & year.	October 2022
How many wetlands have you assessed previously using WESP-AC? (approx.)	30
Comments about the site or this WESP-AC assessment (attach extra page if desired):	

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date: 09 November 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL7		Investigator: Madeline Maher	
2	Form OF (Office). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia wetlands only. DIRECTIONS: Conduct an assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answering many of the questions below will require using these online map viewers: Google Earth Pro: https://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html Provincial Landscape Viewer: https://nsgis.novascotia.ca/plv/ For most wetlands, completing this office data form will require 1-2 hours. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see bracketed abbreviations in the Definitions/Explanations column. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.				
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations
4	OF1	Province	Mark the province in which the AA is located by changing the 0 in the column next to it to a "1". Mark only one.	0	This determines to which province's calibration wetlands the raw score of any wetland is normalised. In the function and benefits models, it also triggers the automatic exclusion of indicators for which no spatial data exists in a particular province.
5			New Brunswick	0	
6			Nova Scotia	1	
7			Prince Edward Island	0	
8			Newfoundland-Labrador	0	
9	OF2	Ponded Area Within 1 km.	The area of surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:	0	"Adjacent" means not separated from the AA by a wide expanse (>50 m) of upland (including roads >50 m wide). Include ponded areas likely to be hidden by wetland vegetation. If surface water extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. Do not include tidal areas. Measure the area from aerial imagery using Google Earth Pro (click on Ruler icon in toolbar, then Polygon in pop-up menu). [PH, SBM, WBN]
10			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	1	
11			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
12			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
13			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
14			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
15			>100 hectares.	0	
16	OF3	Ponded Water & Wetland Within 1 km.	The area of wetlands and surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:	0	See definition of adjacent in OF2. If the AA's wetland vegetation extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. "Ponded" means not flowing in rivers or streams. [Sens, WBF]
17			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
18			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
19			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
20			1 to 10 hectares.	1	
21			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
22			>100 hectares.	0	
23	OF4	Size of Largest Nearby Vegetated Tract or Corridor	The largest vegetated patch or corridor that includes the AA's vegetation plus all adjacent upland vegetation that is not lawn, row crops, heavily grazed lands, conifer plantation is:	0	See definition of adjacent in OF2. Use Google Earth Pro's polygon ruler (as described above). Exclude conifer plantations only if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens]
24			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
25			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
26			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
27			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
28			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
29			100 to 1000 hectares.	1	
30			>1000 hectares. <i>[This is nearly always the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]</i>	0	

A	B	C	D	E
31	OF5 Distance to Large Vegetated Tract	The minimum distance from the edge of the AA to the edge of the closest vegetated land (but excluding row crops, lawn, conifer plantation) larger than 375 hectares (about 2 km on a side), is:	1	To measure distance, use Google Earth Pro (Ruler > Line tool). The 375-ha criterion is from the Fundy Model Forest Project. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
32		<50 m, and not separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, bare ground, lawn, or impervious surface. Or the AA itself contains >375 ha of vegetation. [This is often the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]		
33		<50 m, but completely separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by those features, and AA does not contain >375 ha of vegetation.		
34		50-500 m, and not separated .		
35		50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
36		0.5 - 5 km, and not separated .		
37		0.5 - 5 km, but separated by those features.		
38		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors which are that large are >5 km away).		
39	OF6 Herbaceous Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 5 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 1 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "1". [* NOTE: Exclude lawns, row crops, heavily grazed lands, forest, shrublands. Include moss as well as grasslike plants in this use of "herbaceous vegetation"]	0	For this question only, consider moss to be herbaceous vegetation. Determine the score by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth after successively drawing or estimating the boundaries of the buffers of 5 km, 1 km, and 100 m radius focused on the center of the AA. Circles of specified radius can be drawn in Google Earth Pro by clicking on the Ruler icon, then Circle in the pop-up menu. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
40	OF7 Woody Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% woody* but uplands within 5 km have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 1 km have <10% woody cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "1" [* NOTE: woody cover = trees & shrubs taller than 1 m.]	0	See above. Do not consider conifer plantations to be forest if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv]
41	OF8 Local Vegetated Cover Percentage	Draw a 5-km radius circle measured from the center of the AA. Ignoring all permanent water in the circle, the percent of the remaining area that is wooded or unmanaged herbaceous vegetation (NOT lawn, row crops, bare or heavily grazed land, clearcuts, or conifer plantations) is:	0	In Google Earth, draw the 5 km buffer and then estimate land cover percentages, or do GIS analysis of an appropriate land cover layer. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
42		<5% of the land.		
43		5 to 20% of the land.		
44		20 to 60% of the land.		
45		60 to 90% of the land.		
46		>90% of the land. SKIP to OF10.		
47	OF9 Type of Land Cover Alteration	Within the 5-km radius circle, and ignoring all permanent water, the land area that is bare or non-perennial cover is mostly:	0	[AM, SBM]
48		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
49		Bare pervious surface, e.g., lawn, recent (<5 yrs ago) clearcut, dirt or gravel road, cropland, landslide, conifer plantation.		
50	OF10 Distance by Road to Nearest Population Center	Measured along the maintained road nearest the AA, the distance to the nearest population center is:	0	"Population center" means a settled area with more than about 5 regularly- inhabited structures per square kilometer. In Google Earth Pro, click on the Ruler icon, then Path, and draw and measure the route. [FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, WBFv]
51		<100 m.		
52		100 - 500 m.		
53		0.5- 1 km.		
54		1 - 5 km.		
55		>5 km.		

A	B	C	D	E
56	OF11 Distance to Nearest Maintained Road	From the center of the AA, the distance to the nearest maintained public road (dirt or paved) is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth Pro and measuring with the Ruler>Line tool [AM, FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBN]
57		<10 m.	0	
58		10 - 25 m.	0	
59		25 - 50 m.	0	
60		50 - 100 m.	0	
61		100 - 500 m.	1	
62		>500 m.	0	
63	OF12 Wildlife Access	Draw a circle of radius of 5 km from the center of the AA. If mammals and amphibians can move from the center of the AA to ALL other separate wetlands and ponds located within the circle without being forced to cross pavement (any width), lawns, bare ground, and/or marine waters, mark 1= yes can move to all, 0= no. Change to blank if there are no other wetlands within 5 km.	0	Draw the 5 km circle in Google Earth Pro using the Circle tool and search for roads and wetlands within it, being alert for roads hidden under forest canopy. [AM, SBM, STR]
64	OF13 Distance to Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) ponded water body visible in GoogleEarth imagery is:		In Google Earth Pro, zoom in closely to examine the surrounding landscape for ponds, lakes, and wetlands that appear to be permanently flooded. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
65		<50 m, and not separated by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, lawn, bare ground, or impervious surface.	0	
66		<50 m, but completely separated by those features.	0	
67		50-500 m, and not separated.	0	
68		50-500 m, but separated by those features.	0	
69		0.5 - 1 km, and not separated.	0	
70		0.5 - 1 km, but separated by those features.	1	
71		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors that large are >1 km away).	0	
72	OF14 Distance to Large Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate)non-tidal body of water that is ponded during most of the year and is larger than 8 hectares during most of a normal year is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth. [Sens, WBF, WBN]
73		<100 m.	0	
74		100 m - 1 km.	0	
75		1-2 km.	0	
76		2-5 km.	1	
77		5-10 km.	0	
78		>10 km.	0	
79	OF15 Tidal Proximity	The distance from the AA edge to the closest tidal water body (regardless of its salinity) is:		In Google Earth, measure the distance to the ocean (including Bay of Fundy) or tidal river, whichever is closer. If you need to see how far upriver a river is tidal, see the KMZ file provided with this calculator for NS (NS Headtide). Points shown in those files are only an approximation, so local information if available may be preferable. [FA, WBF]
80		<100 m.	0	
81		100 m - 1 km.	0	
82		1 - 5 km.	0	
83		5-10 km.	0	
84		10-40 km.	1	
85		>40 km.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
86	OF16 Upland Edge Contact	Select one:		[NR, SBM, Sens]
87		The AA has no upland edge (or upland is <1% of perimeter). The AA is entirely surrounded by (& contiguous with) other wetlands or water.		
88		1-25% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland (including filled areas). The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
89		25-50% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
90		50-75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
91		More than 75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. Any remainder adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA. This will be true for most assessments done with WESP-AC.		
92	OF17 Flood Damage from Non-tidal Waters	Within 5 km downstream or downslope of the AA (select first true choice):		Contact local authorities to determine if such maps exist. Where available, LiDAR imagery can provide finer elevational resolution useful for flood modeling. [WSv]
93		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding not caused by tidal storm surges.		
94		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas, but infrastructure is absent or is not vulnerable to floods from a non-tidal river. In some cases levees, upriver dams, or other measures may partly limit damage or risk from smaller events.		
95		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
96		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there is no infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
97	OF18 Relative Elevation in Watershed	In Google Earth, enable the Terrain layer (lower left menu) and open the NS_Watersheds Secondary KMZ file that accompanies this calculator. Then determine the AA's approximate elevation (bottom right, NOT the "eye alt"). Then move cursor around to determine the watershed's maximum and minimum elevation. Divide the AA's elevation by the (max-min).	0.93	[FA, NR, Sens, SFSv, WCv, WSv]
98	OF19 Water Quality Sensitive Watershed or Area	The AA is in a Protected Water Supply area (Designated Water Supply Area, Natural Watershed Municipal Surface Water Supply Area, or Municipal Water Supply Area) according to the provided KMZ overlay ("NS Protected Water Supply Areas"). Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	If an ACCDC report is available for this AA, it also may contain such information. [NRv]
99	OF20 Degraded Water Upstream	Sampling indicates a problem with concentrations of metals, hydrocarbons, nutrients , or other substances (excluding bacteria, acidic water, high temperatures) being present at levels harmful to aquatic life or humans, and:		May use existing data, or sample those waters as part of this wetland assessment. "Harmful" should be evaluated with regard to current federal or provincial water quality standards. [AM, FA, FR, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WBF, WBN]
100		The condition is present within the AA.		
101		The condition is present in waters within 1 km that flow into the AA, but has not been documented in the AA itself.		
102		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
103		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
104	OF21 Degraded Water Downstream	The problem described above is downslope from the AA, and:		May use existing data, or monitor waters as part of this wetland assessment. [NRv, PRv, SRv]
105		The condition is present within 1 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel.		
106		The condition is present within 5 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel, or within 1 km but not connected to the AA by a channel.		
107		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
108		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
109	OF22 Wetland as a % of Its Contributing Area (Catchment)	From a topographic map and field observations, estimate the approximate boundaries of the catchment (CA) of the entire wetland of which the AA may be only a part. Then adjust those boundaries if necessary based on your field observations of the surrounding terrain, and/or by using procedures described in the Manual. Divide the area of the wetland (not just the AA) by the approximate area of its catchment excluding the area of the wetland itself. When doing the calculation, if ponded water is adjacent to the wetland, include that in the wetland area. The result is:		Topographic maps may be viewed online at the National Atlas of Canada (Toporama): http://atlas.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html [NR, PR, Sens, SR, WS]
110		<0.01, or catchment size unknown due to stormwater pipes that collect water from an indeterminate area.		
111		0.01 to 0.1.		
112		0.1 to 1.		
113		>1 (wetland is larger than its catchment (e.g., wetland with flat surrounding terrain and no inlet, or is entirely isolated by dikes, or is a raised bog).		

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114	OF23 Unvegetated Surface in the Contributing Area	The proportion of the AA's contributing area (measured to no more than 1000 m upslope) that is comprised of buildings, roads, parking lots other pavement, exposed bedrock, landslides, and other mostly-bare surface is about :		[FA, INV, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WCv, WSV]
115		<10%.		
116		10 to 25%.		
117		>25%.		
118	OF24 Transport From Upslope	A relatively large proportion of the precipitation that falls farther upslope in the CA reaches this wetland quickly as runoff (surface water), as indicated by the following: (a) input channel is present, (b) input channels have been straightened, (c) upslope wetlands have been ditched extensively, (d) land cover is mostly non-forest, (e) CA slopes are steep, and/or (f) most CA soils are shallow (bedrock near surface) and/or have high runoff coefficients. This statement is:		[NRv, PRv, SRv, WSV]
119		Mostly true.		
120		Somewhat true.		
121		Mostly untrue.		
122	OF25 Aspect	The overland flow direction of most surface water (in streams, rivers, or runoff) that enters the AA is:		[AM, NR, SFS, WC, WS]
123		Northward (N, NE). north-facing contributing area.		
124		Southward (S, SW). south-facing contributing area.		
125		Other (E, SE, W, NW), or no detectable uphill slope or input channel (flat).		
126	OF26 Internal Flow Distance (Path Length)	The horizontal flow distance from the wetland's inlet to outlet is:		Identify inlets and outlets, if any, from topographic maps (use elevations to determine which are inlets and which are outlets) and augment by field inspection. With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, select Nova Scotia Topo as the Basemap. Also enable the layer Forestry>WAM Predicted Flow. Then measure the inlet-outlet distance. [NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
127		<10 m.		
128		10 - 50 m.		
129		50 - 100 m.		
130		100 - 1000 m.		
131		1- 2 km.		
132		>2 km, or wetland lacks an inlet and outlet.		
133	OF27 Growing Degree Days	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called NS_GrowingDegreeDays. Place your cursor over the AA and left-click. From the pop-up window, enter the GRIDCODE number in the next column.	1908	This layer was provided by Dr. Dan McKenney of the Canadian Forest Service [AM, CS, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WCv, WS]
134	OF28 Fish Access or Use	According to agency biologists and/or your own observations, the AA. [Mark just the first choice that is true.]:		Regarding the last choice, if uncertain if an AA is fishless, consider the possibility its waters have been stocked. [AM, FA, FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
135		Is known to support rearing and/or spawning by Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels. Go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife>Significant Habitat>Species at Risk. Contact local fishery biologists, review the ACCDC report, and visit these websites: http://www.salmonevents.com/atlanticsalmon/canada-east/index.html http://atlanticsalmonfederation.org/rivers/introduction.html		
136		Has not been documented to support Atlantic salmon rearing and/or spawning, but is connected to nearby waters likely to contain Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels and is probably accessed by those during some conditions.		
137		Is probably not accessed by any anadromous fish species but is known or likely to have other fish at least seasonally.		
138		Is known or likely to be fishless (e.g., too small, dry, and/or not accessible even temporarily, and not stocked).		

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139	OF29 Species of Conservation Concern		Within the past 10 years, in the AA (or in its adjoining waters or wetland), qualified observers have documented/ <i>mark all applicable</i>]:	0	Request information from ACCDC and/or conduct your own survey at an appropriate season using an approved protocol. For birds, also check eBird.org. NOTE for NS: If your WESP-AC is being completed for a Wetland Alteration Application to NS-ECC, your ACCDC results and any taxon-specific survey results must be submitted along with your WESP-AC results, and application. [AMv, EC, PHv, POLv, SBMv, Sens, WBFv, WBNv]
140			Presence of one or more of the plant species listed in the Plants_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, or the AA is within a mapped Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora Buffer (go to Provincial Landscape Viewer> Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones).		
141			Presence of one or more of the amphibian or reptile species (AM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.		
142			Presence of one or more of the waterbird species (WBF, WBN) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.		
143			Presence of one or more of the nesting songbird or raptor species (SBM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, during their nesting season (May-July for most species).		
144			None of the above, or no data.		
145	OF30 Important Bird Area (IBA)		In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called IBAs_Canada . The AA is all or part of an officially designated IBA. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	The source of this layer, which should be checked periodically for updates, is: http://www.ibacanada.com/mapviewer.jsp?lang=EN [SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
146	OF31 Black Duck Nesting Area		In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called BlackDuck. Adjust its alignment and opacity. Determine the predicted density (pairs per 25 sq. km) of nesting American Black Duck in the AA's vicinity: <10 (enter 0), 10-20 (enter 1), 20-30 (enter 2), >30 (enter 3). If outside of region shown in map, change toblank.	0	This was provided by Dr. David Leske. [WBNv]
147	OF32 Wintering Deer or Moose Concentration Areas		If AA is on private land with no information, change toblank (not 0). Otherwise: With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, for Wintering Moose, go to Wildlife> Significant Habitat. For Mainland Moose Concentration Areas, go to Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0.	0	[SBM]
148	OF33 Other Conservation Designation		The AA is all or part of an area designated by government, First Nations, or the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) for its exceptional ecological features or highly intact natural conditions. With Provincial Landscape Viewer, see Protected Areas. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If uncertain, consult NCC and agencies for more recent information.	0	See: https://novascotia.ca/parksandprotectedareas/plan/interactive-map/ [PU]
149	OF34 Conservation Investment		The AA is part of or contiguous to a wetland on which public or private organizational funds were spent to preserve, create, restore, or enhance the wetland (excluding mitigation wetlands). Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change toblank (not 0).		[PU]
150	OF35 Mitigation Investment		The AA is all or part of a mitigation site used explicitly to offset impacts elsewhere. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.		[PU]
151	OF36 Sustained Scientific Use		Plants, animals, or water in the AA have been monitored for >2 years, unrelated to any regulatory requirements, and data are available to the public. Or the AA is part of an area that has been designated by an agency or institution as a benchmark, reference, or status-trends monitoring area. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change toblank.		[PU]
152	OF37 Calcareous Region		The AA is NOT in a subregion that has been heavily exposed to acid precipitation. Enter "1" if true (green or yellow in map in Appendix A of the Manual). Enter "0" if false. If no information, change toblank.		[AM, FA, FR, INV, PH]
153	OF38 Ownership		Select the ONE ownership that covers the most of the AA. In Google Earth, open KMZ file called NS_CrownlandsUse more recent information if available.	0	"Private lands" may include those owned or leased by non-governmental organizations, e.g., charitable conservation land trusts, DUC, TNC. [PU, STR]
154			New timber harvest, roads, mineral extraction, and intensive summer recreation (e.g., off-road vehicles) are permanently prohibited. Includes many publicly-owned Protected Lands, and private lands under long-term (30+ year) legal agreements to maintain nearly-unaltered conditions.		
155			Ownership is public (e.g., municipal, Crown Reservations/Notations) but some or all of the above activities are allowed.		
156			Ownership is private but public access is allowed, and/or a shorter-term conservation easement (whether renewable or not) is in place.		
157			Ownership is private and owner does not allow access, or access permission unknown, and not a conservation easement.		

	A	B	C	D	E		
1	Date: 12 October 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL7		Investigator: Jordan Davis, Alex Scott			
2	<p>Form F (Field). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia. DIRECTIONS: Walk for no less than 10 minutes from the wetland edge towards its core, in the part of the AA that is proposed for alteration. If no alteration is proposed, walk in a portion that appears to be most representative of the wetland overall. Walk only where it is safe and legal to do so. Conduct the assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answer these questions primarily based on your onsite observations and interpretations. Do not write in shaded parts of this data form. Answering some questions accurately may require conferring with the landowner or other knowledgeable persons, and/or reviewing aerial imagery. For most wetlands, completing this field data form will require 1-2 hours on a site. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see the accompanying Interpretations form. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage & Delay, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sens= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.</p>						
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations		
4	F1	Wetland Type	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the vegetated part of the AA:		<p>Ericaceous shrubs are ones in the heather family (Ericaceae). Most have leathery evergreen leaves. They include rhododendron, azalea, swamp laurel, leatherleaf, Labrador tea, and others. Most require acidic soil. Although not in the family Ericaceae, sweetgale (<i>Myrica gale</i>) should be counted also. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, Sens, SFS, WBF, WBN]</p>		
5	A. Moss and/or lichen cover more than 25% of the ground. Often dominated by ericaceous shrubs (e.g., Labrador tea) or other acid-tolerant plants (e.g., bog cranberry, pitcher plant, sundew, orchids). Substrate is mostly undecomposed peat. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.						
6	A1. Surface water is usually absent or, if present, pH is typically <4.5 and conductivity is usually <100 µS/cm (<64 ppm TDS). Trees are absent or nearly so. Sedge cover usually sparse or absent but cottongrass and/or lichen cover may be extensive, as well as cloudberry, lingonberry, sheep laurel, and a sedge (<i>Carex rariflora</i>). Wetland surface and surrounding landscape are seldom sloping and wetland often is domed (convex). Inlet and outlet channels are usually absent. If known, pH of peat is <4.0.		0				
7	A2. Not A1. Surface water, if present, has pH typically >4.5 and conductivity is usually >100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Sedge cover is usually extensive, and/or tree and tall shrub cover is extensive. Sometimes at toe of slope or edge of water body. An exit channel is usually present. Wetter than A1 and peat depth may be shallower (<2 m).		0				
8	B. Moss and/or lichen cover less than 25% of the ground. Soil is mineral or decomposed organic (muck). Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column:						
9	B1. Trees and shrubs taller than 1 m comprise more than 25% of the vegetated cover. Surface water is mostly absent or inundates the vegetation only seasonally (e.g., vernal pools or floodplain).		1				
10	B2. Not B1. Tree & tall shrubs comprise less than than 25% of the vegetated cover. Vegetation is mostly herbaceous, e.g., cattail, bulrush, burreed, pond lily, horsetail. Surface water may be extensive and fluctuates seasonally, being either persistent or drying up partly or entirely.		0				
11	<p>Reminder: For all questions, the AA should include all persistent waters in ponds smaller than 8 hectares (~283 m on a side) that are adjacent to the AA. The AA should also include part of the water area of adjacent ponded water larger than 8 ha and adjacent rivers wider than 20 m. Specifically, the AA should include the open water part adjacent to wetland vegetation and equal in width to the average width of that vegetated zone. Throughout this data form, "adjacent" is used synonymously with abutting, adjoining, bordering, contiguous -- and means no upland (manmade or natural) completely separates the described features along their directly shared edge. Features joined only by a channel are not necessarily considered to be adjacent -- a large portion of their edges must match. The features do not have to be hydrologically connected in order to be considered adjacent.</p>						
12	F2		Wetland Types - Adjoining or Subordinate	If the AA is smaller than 1 ha, mark all other types that occupy more than 1% of the vegetated AA. If the AA is larger than 1 ha, mark all other types which are within or adjacent to the AA and occupy more than 1 ha, as visible from the AA or as interpreted from aerial imagery. Do not mark again the type marked in F1.			<p>1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, INV, SBM, WBF]</p>
13	A1.			0			
14	A2.	0					
15	B1.	0					
16	B2.	0					

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17	F3 Woody Height & Form Diversity	Following EACH row below, indicate with a number code the percentage of the living vegetation in the AA which is occupied by that feature (6 if >95%, 5 if 75-95%, 4 if 50-75%, 3 if 25-50%, 2 if 5-25%, 1 if <5%, 0 if none). If the vegetated part of the AA is largely herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation, these percentages should not sum to 100%.		
18		coniferous trees (may include tamarack) taller than 3 m.	2	
19		deciduous trees taller than 3 m.	0	
20		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	1	
21		deciduous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	1	
22		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs <1 m tall not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	1	
23		deciduous shrubs or trees <1 m tall (e.g., deciduous seedlings) not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	0	
24	Note: If none of top 4 rows in F3 was marked 2 or greater, SKIP to F9 (N fixers).			
25	F4 Dominance of Most Abundant Shrub Species	Determine which two woody plant species comprise the greatest portion of the low (<3 m) woody cover . Then choose one: those species together comprise > 50% of such cover. those species together do not comprise > 50% of such cover.		[PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
26			0	
27			1	
28	F5 Woody Diameter Classes	Mark ALL the types that comprise >5% of the woody canopy cover in the AA or >5% of the wooded areas (if any) along its upland edge (perimeter). The edge should include only the trees whose canopies extend into the AA. coniferous, 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall. broad-leaved deciduous 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall. coniferous, 10-19 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous 10-19 cm diameter. coniferous, 20-40 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous 20-40 cm diameter. coniferous, >40 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous >40 cm diameter.		Estimate the diameters at chest height. If small-diameter trees are overtopped (shaded) by larger ones, visualise a "subcanopy" at the average height of the smaller-dbh trees, to serve as a basis for the minimum 5% canopy requirement in this question. The trees and shrubs need not be wetland species. [AM, CS, POL, SBM, Sens, WBN]
29			1	
30			1	
31			1	
32			0	
33			0	
34			0	
35			0	
36			0	
37	F6 Height Class Interspersion	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the AA: A. Neither the vegetation taller than 1 m nor the vegetation shorter than that comprise >70% of the vegetated part of the AA. They each comprise 30-70%. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.		[AM, INV, NR, PH, SBM, Sens]
38			0	
39			1	
40		A1. The two height classes are mostly scattered and intermixed throughout the AA. A2. Not A1. The two height classes are mostly in separate zones or bands, or in proportionately large clumps.	0	
41			1	
42		B. Either the vegetation shorter than 1 m comprises >70% of the vegetated part of the AA, or the vegetation taller than that does. One size class might even be totally absent. Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column: B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly scattered and intermixed within the prevalent one. B2. Not B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly located apart from the prevalent one, in separate zones or clumps, or is completely absent.	0	
43			0	
44	F7 Large Snags (Dead Standing Trees)	The number of large snags (diameter >20 cm) in the AA plus adjacent upland area within 10 m of the wetland edge is: None, or fewer than 8/ hectare which exceed this diameter. Several (>8/hectare) and a pond, lake, or slow-flowing water wider than 10 m is within 1 km. Several (>8/hectare) but above not true.	1	Snags are dead standing trees that often (not always) lack bark and foliage. Include only ones that are at least 2 m tall. [POL, SBM, WBN]
45			0	
46			0	
47			0	
48	F8 Downed Wood	The number of downed wood pieces longer than 2 m and with diameter >10 cm, and not persistently submerged, is: Few or none that meet these criteria. Several (>5 if AA is >5 hectares, less for smaller AAs) meet these criteria.	1	Exclude temporary "burn piles." [AM, INV, POL, SBM]
49			0	
50			0	
51	F9 N Fixers	The percentage of the AA's vegetated cover that contains nitrogen-fixing plants (e.g., alder, sweetgale, clover, lupine, alfalfa, other legumes) is: <1% or none. 1-25% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). 25-50% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). 50-75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). >75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	1	Do not include N-fixing algae or lichens. [FA, FR, INV, NRv, OE, PH, SBM, Sens]
52			0	
53			0	
54			0	
55			0	
56			0	

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F10 57 58 59 60 61 62	Sphagnum Moss Extent	The cover of Sphagnum moss (or any moss that forms a dense cushion many centimeters thick), including the moss obscured by taller sedges and other plants rooted in it, is:		Exclude moss growing on trees and rocks. [CS, PH]
		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
F11 63 64 65 66 67 68	% Bare Ground & Thatch	Consider the parts of the AA that lack surface water at the driest time of the growing season. Viewed from directly above the ground layer, the predominant condition in those areas at that time is:		Thatch is dead plant material (stems, leaves) resting on the ground surface. Bare ground that is present under a tree or shrub canopy should be counted. Boulders count as bare ground. Wetlands with mineral soils and that are heavily shaded or are dominated by annual plant species tend to have more extensive areas that are bare during the early growing season. [AM, EC, INV, NR, OE, POL, PR, SBM, Sens]
		Little or no (<5%) <i>bare ground</i> is visible between erect stems or under canopy anywhere in the vegetated AA. Ground is extensively blanketed by dense thatch, moss, lichens, graminoids with great stem densities, or plants with ground-hugging foliage.	1	
		Slightly bare ground (5-20% bare between plants) is visible in places, but those areas comprise less than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
		Much bare ground (20-50% bare between plants) is visible in places, and those areas comprise more than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
		Other conditions.	0	
		Not applicable. Surface water (either open or obscured by emergent plants) covers all of the AA all the time.	0	
F12 69 70 71 72	Ground Irregularity	Imagine the AA without any living vegetation. Excluding the portion of the AA that is always under water, the number of hummocks, small pits, raised mounds, animal burrows, ruts, gullies, natural levees, microdepressions, and other areas of peat or mineral soil that are raised or depressed >10 cm compared to most of the area within a few meters surrounding them is:		The depressions may be of human or natural origin. [AM, EC, INV, NR, PH, POL, PR, SBM, SR, WS]
		Few or none (minimal microtopography; <1% of the land has such features, or entire AA is always water-covered).	0	
		Intermediate.	1	
		Several (extensive micro-topography).	0	
F13 73 74 75 76	Upland Inclusions	Within the AA, inclusions of upland are:		[AM, NR, SBM]
		Few or none.	0	
		Intermediate (1 - 10% of vegetated part of the AA).	1	
		Many (e.g., wetland-upland "mosaic"; >10% of the vegetated AA).	0	
F14 77 78 79 80 81 82	Soil Texture	In parts of the AA that lack persistent water, the texture of soil in the uppermost layer is mostly: [To determine this, use a trowel to check in at least 3 widely spaced locations, and use the soil texture key (in Appendix A of the Manual).]		[CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, WS]
		Loamy: soils that may contain a little fine grit and do not make a "ribbon" longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
		Fines: includes silt, clay, silt, soils that make a ribbon longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
		Deep Peat: to 40 cm depth or greater.	1	
		Shallow Peat or organic <40 cm deep.	0	
		Coarse: includes sand, loamy sand, gravel, cobble, soils that do not make a ribbon when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
F15 83 84 85 86 87	Shorebird Feeding Habitats	During any 2 consecutive weeks of the growing season, the extent of mudflats, bare unshaded saturated areas not covered by thatch, and unshaded waters shallower than 6 cm is: [Include also any area that is adjacent to the AA.]		This addresses needs of many but not all migratory sandpipers, plovers, and related species. [WBF]
		None, or <100 sq. m.	1	
		100-1000 sq. m.	0	
		1000 – 10,000 sq. m.	0	
		>10,000 sq. m.	0	
F16 88 89 90 91 92 93	Herbaceous % of Vegetated Wetland	In aerial ("ducks eye") view, the maximum annual cover of herbaceous vegetation (all non-woody plants except moss) is:		[AM, WBF, WBN]
		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA or <0.01 hectare (whichever is less). Mark "*" here and SKIP to F20 (Invasive Plant Cover).	0	
		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
94	F17 Forb Cover	Within parts of the AA having herbaceous cover (excluding SAV), the areal cover of forbs reaches an annual maximum of:		Forbs are flowering plants. Do not include grasses, sedges, cattail, other graminoids, ferns, horsetails, or others that lack showy flowers. [POL]
95		<5% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
96		5-25% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
97		25-50% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
98		50-95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
99		>95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
100	F18 Sedge Cover	Sedges (<i>Carex</i> spp.) and cottongrass (<i>Eriophorum</i> spp.) occupy:		[CS]
101		<5% of the vegetated area, or none.		
102		5-50% of the vegetated area.		
103		50-95% of the vegetated area.		
104		>95% of the vegetated area.		
105	F19 Dominance of Most Abundant Herbaceous Species	Determine which two herbaceous species comprise the greatest portion of the herbaceous cover (excluding mosses and floating-leaved aquatic plants). Then choose one of the following:		For this question, include ferns as well as graminoids and forbs. [EC, INV, PH, POL, Sens]
106		those species together comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		
107		those species together do not comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		
108	F20 Invasive Plant Cover	How extensive is the cover of invasive plant species in the AA? For species, see Plants_invasive worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file.		[EC, PH, POL, Sens]
109		invasive species appear to be absent in the AA, or are present only in trace amount (a few individuals).		
110		invasive species are present in more than trace amounts, but comprise <5% of herbaceous cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
111		invasive species comprise 5-20% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
112		invasive species comprise 20-50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
113		invasive species comprise >50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
114	F21 Invasive Cover Along Upland Edge	Along the wetland-upland boundary, the percent of the upland edge (within 3 m upslope from the wetland) that is occupied by invasive plant species is:		If a plant cannot be identified to species (e.g., winter conditions) but its genus contains an exotic species, assume the unidentified plant to also be exotic. If vegetation is so senesced that exotic species cannot be identified, answer "none". [PH, STR]
115		none of the upland edge (invasives apparently absent), or AA has no upland edge.		
116		some (but <5%) of the upland edge.		
117		5-50% of the upland edge.		
118		most (>50%) of the upland edge.		
119	F22 Fringe Wetland	During most of the year, open water within or adjacent to the vegetated part of the wetland is much wider than the maximum width of the vegetated zone within the wetland. Enter "1" if true, "0" if false.	0	[WBF, WBN, WCv]
120	F23 Lacustrine Wetland	The vegetated part of the AA is within or adjacent to a body of non-tidal standing open water whose size exceeds 8 hectares during most of a normal year.	0	[FR, PR, PU, WBF, WBN]
121	F24 % of AA Without Surface Water	The percentage of the AA that never contains surface water during an average year (that is, except perhaps for a few hours after snowmelt or rainstorms), but which is still a wetland, is:		1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SRv, WBF, WBN, WC]
122		<1%. In other words, all or nearly all of the AA is covered by water permanently or at least seasonally .		
123		1-25% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha never contains surface water.		
124		25-50% of the AA never contains surface water.		
125		50-75% of the AA never contains surface water.		
126		75-99% of the AA never contains surface water, OR >99% and there is at least one persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha in the AA.		
127		99-100%. AND there is no persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha within the AA. Enter "1" and SKIP to F42 (Channel Connection).		
128	F25 % of AA with Persistent Surface Water	Identify the parts of the AA that still contain surface water (flowing or ponded, open or hidden beneath vegetation) even during the driest times of a normal year, i.e., when the AA's surface water is at its lowest annual level. At that time, the percentage of the AA that still contains surface water is:		If you are unable to determine the condition at the driest time of year, ask the land owner or neighbors about it if possible. Indicators of persistence may include fish, some dragonflies, beaver, and muskrat. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, POL, PR, SBM, WBF, WBN]
129		None. The AA dries up completely (no water in channels either) or never has surface water during most years. SKIP to F27 .		
130		1-20% of the AA.		
131		20-50% of the AA.		
132		50-95% of the AA.		
133		>95% of the AA. True for many fringe wetlands.		

	A	B	C	D	E
134	F26	% of Summertime Water that Is Shaded	At mid-day during the warmest time of year, the area of surface water <u>within</u> the AA that is shaded by vegetation and other features that are within the AA at that time is:		[FA, WC]
135			<5% of the water is shaded, or no surface water is present then.	1	
136			5-25% of the water is shaded.	0	
137			25-50% of the water is shaded.	0	
138			50-75% of the water is shaded.	0	
139			>75% of the water is shaded.	0	
140	F27	% of AA that is Flooded Only Seasonally	The percentage of the AA's area that is between the annual high water and the annual low water (surface water) is:		Flood marks (algal mats, adventitious roots, debris lines, ice scour, etc.) are often evident when not fully inundated. Also, such areas often have a larger proportion of upland and annual (vs. perennial) plant species. In riverine systems, the extent of this zone can be estimated by multiplying by 2 the bankfull height and visualising where that would intercept the land along the river. [CS, FA, INV, NR, OE, PH, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
141			None, or <0.01 hectare and <1% of the AA. SKIP to F29.	0	
142			1-20% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha.	0	
143			20-50% of the AA.	0	
144			50-95% of the AA.	0	
145			>95% of the AA.	1	
146	F28	Annual Water Fluctuation Range	The annual fluctuation in surface water level within most of the parts of the AA that contain surface water at least temporarily is:		Look for flood marks (see above). Because the annual range of water levels is difficult to estimate without multiple visits, consider asking the land owner or neighbors about it. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SR, WBN, WS]
147			<10 cm change (stable or nearly so).	1	
148			10 cm - 50 cm change.	0	
149			0.5 - 1 m change.	0	
150			1-2 m change.	0	
151			>2 m change.	0	
152			Is the AA plus adjacent ponded water smaller than 0.01 hectare (about 10m x 10m, or 1m x 100 m)? If so, enter "1" in column D and SKIP TO F42 (Connection).	0	
153	F29	Predominant Depth Class	During most of the time when surface water is present during the growing season, its depth, averaged over the entire inundated part of the AA, is:		If a boat is unavailable, estimate this by considering wetland size and local topography. Or if timing and safety allow, depths may be measured by drilling through winter ice. This question is asking about the spatial median depth that occurs during most of that time, even if inundation is only seasonal or temporary. If inundation in most but not all of the wetland is brief, the answer will be based on the depth of the most persistently inundated part of the wetland. Include surface water in channels and ditches as well as ponded areas. [CS, FA, FR, INV, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
154			<10 cm deep (but >0).	1	
155			10 - 50 cm deep.	0	
156			0.5 - 1 m deep.	0	
157			1 - 2 m deep.	0	
158			>2 m deep. True for many fringe wetlands.	0	
159	F30	Depth Classes - Evenness of Proportions	When present, surface water in most of the AA usually consists of (select one):		Estimate these proportions by considering the gradient and microtopography of the site. [FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
160			One depth class that comprises >90% of the AA's inundated area (use the classes in the question above).	1	
161			One depth class that comprises 50-90% of the AA's inundated area.	0	
162			Neither of above. There are 3 or more depth classes and none occupy >50%.	0	
163	F31	% of Water That Is Ponded (not Flowing)	During most times when surface water is present, the percentage that is (1) ponded (stagnant, or flows so slowly that fine sediment is not held in suspension) AND (2) is likely to be deeper than 0.5 m in some places, is:		Nearly all wetlands with surface water have some ponded water. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WBN, WC, WS]
164			<5% of the water, or it occupies <100 sq.m cumulatively. Nearly all the surface water is flowing. SKIP to F34.	1	
165			5-30% of the water.	0	
166			30-70% of the water.	0	
167			70-95% of the water.	0	
168			>95% of the water.	0	
169	F32	Ponded Open Water - Minimum Size	During most of the growing season, the largest patch of open water that is ponded and is in or bordering the AA is >0.01 hectare (about 10 m by 10 m) and mostly deeper than 0.5 m. If true enter "1" and continue, If false, enter "0" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	Open water is not obscured by vegetation in aerial ("duck's eye") view. It includes vegetation floating on the water surface or entirely submersed beneath it.
170	F33	% of Ponded Water that is Open	In ducks-eye aerial view, the percentage of the ponded water that is open (lacking emergent vegetation during most of the growing season, and unhidden by a forest or shrub canopy) is:		[AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
171			None, or <1% of the AA and largest pool occupies <0.01 hectares. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
172			1-4% of the ponded water. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
173			5-30% of the ponded water.	0	
174			30-70% of the ponded water.	0	
175			70-99% of the ponded water.	0	
176			100% of the ponded water.	0	

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177	F34	Width of Vegetated Zone within Wetland	At the time during the growing season when the AA's water level is lowest, the average width of vegetated area <u>in the AA</u> that separates adjoining uplands from open water within the AA is:	
178			<1 m.	0
179			1 - 9 m.	0
180			10 - 29 m.	0
181			30 - 49 m.	0
182			50 - 100 m.	0
183			>100 m, or open water is absent at that time.	1
184	F35	Flat Shoreline Extent	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the percentage of the AA's water edge length that is nearly flat (a slope less than about 5% measured within 5 m landward of the water) is:	
185			<1% of the water edge.	0
186			1-25% of the water edge.	0
187			25-50% of the water edge.	0
188			50-75% of the water edge.	0
189			>75% of the water edge.	1
190	F36	Robust Emergents	The percentage of the emergent vegetation cover in the AA that is cattail (<i>Typha</i> spp.), common reed (<i>Phragmites</i>), or tall (>1m) bulrush is:	
191			<1% of the emergent vegetation, or emergent vegetation is absent. SKIP to F38.	1
192			1-25% of the emergent vegetation.	0
193			25-75% of the emergent vegetation.	0
194			>75% of the emergent vegetation.	0
195	F37	Interspersion of Emergents & Open Water	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the spatial pattern of emergent vegetation within the water is mostly:	
196			Scattered. More than 30% of such vegetation forms small islands or corridors surrounded by water.	0
197			Intermediate.	0
198			Clumped. More than 70% of such vegetation is in bands along the wetland perimeter or is clumped at one or a few sides of the surface water area.	0
199	F38	Persistent Deepwater Area	If the deepest patch of surface water (flowing or ponded) in or directly adjacent to the AA is mostly deeper than 0.5 m for >2 weeks during the growing season, enter "1" and continue. If not, enter "0" and SKIP to F42. (Connection).	0
200	F39	Non-vegetated Aquatic Cover	During most of the growing season and in waters deeper than 0.5 m, the cover for fish, aquatic invertebrates, and/or amphibians that is provided NOT by living vegetation, but by accumulations of dead wood and undercut banks is:	
201			Little or none.	0
202			Intermediate.	0
203			Extensive.	0
204	F40	Isolated Island	The AA contains (or is part of) an island or beaver lodge within a lake, pond, or river, and is isolated from the shore by water depths >1 m on all sides during an average June. The island may be solid, or it may be a floating vegetation mat that is sufficiently large and dense to support a waterbird nest.	0
205	F41	Floating Algae & Duckweed	At some time of the year, mats of algae and/or duckweed are likely to cover >50% of the AA's otherwise-unshaded water surface, or blanket >50% of the underwater substrate. If true, enter "1" in next column. If untrue or uncertain, enter "0".	0
				[EC, PR, WBF]

A	B	C	D	E
206	F42 Channel Connection & Outflow Duration	The most persistent surface water connection (outlet channel or pipe, ditch, or overbank water exchange) between the AA and a downslope stream network is: [Note: If the AA represents only part of a wetland, answer this according to whichever is the least permanent surface connection: the one between the AA and the rest of the wetland, or the surface connection between the wetland and the downslope stream network.]		Consider the connection regardless of whether the surface water is frozen. The "downslope stream network" could consist of ditches, rivers, ponds, or lakes which eventually connect to the ocean. If this cannot be determined while visiting the AA, consult topographic maps perhaps by viewing these online with Toporama (http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html) [CS, FA, FR, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WCv, WS]
207		Persistent (surface water flows out for >9 months/year).		
208		Seasonal (surface water flows out for 14 days to 9 months/year, not necessarily consecutive).		
209		Temporary (surface water flows out for <14 days, not necessarily consecutive).		
210		None -- but maps show a stream network downslope from the AA and within a distance that is less than the AA's length. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
211		No surface water flows out of the wetland except possibly during extreme events (<once per 10 years). Or, water flows only into a wetland, ditch, or lake that lacks an outlet. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	1	
212	F43 Outflow Confinement	During major runoff events, in the places where surface water exits the AA or connected waters nearby, the water:		"Major runoff events" would include biennial high water caused by storms and/or rapid snowmelt. [CS, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, STR, WS]
213		Mostly passes through a pipe, culvert, narrowly breached dike, berm, beaver dam, or other partial obstruction (other than natural topography) that does not appear to drain the wetland artificially during most of the growing season.		
214		Leaves through natural exits (channels or diffuse outflow), not mainly through artificial or temporary features.		
215		Is exported more quickly than usual due to ditches or pipes within the AA or connected to its outlet, or within 10 m of the AA's edge, which drain the wetland artificially, or water is pumped out of the AA.	0	
216	F44 Tributary Channel	At least once annually, surface water from a tributary channel that is >100 m long moves into the AA. Or, surface water from a larger permanent water body adjacent to the AA spills into the AA. If it enters only via a pipe, that pipe must be fed by a mapped stream or lake further upslope. If no, SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	If inlet tributaries cannot be searched for due to inaccessibility of part of the AA, follow suggestions in F42 above. [NRv, PH, PRv, SRv]
217	F45 Input Water Temperature	Based on lack of shade, water source characteristics, or actual temperature measurements, the inflow is likely to be warmer than surface water in the AA during part of most years. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	[WCv]
218	F46 Throughflow Resistance	During its travel through the AA at the time of peak annual flow, water arriving in channels: [select only the ONE encountered by most of the incoming water].		[FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
219		Does not bump into many plant stems as it travels through the AA. Nearly all the water continues to travel in unvegetated (often incised) channels that have minimal contact with wetland vegetation, or through a zone of open water such as an instream pond or lake.		
220		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
221		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation and mostly spreads throughout, or is in widely meandering, multi-branched, or braided channels.		
222		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
223		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems and follows a fairly indirect path from entrance to exit (meandering, multi-branched, or braided).	0	
224	F47 pH Measurement	The pH in most of the AA's surface water:		Preferably, measure this in larger areas of ponded surface water within the AA, or in streams that have passed through (not along) most of the AA. Unless surface water is completely absent, do not dig holes or make depressions in peat in order to provide water for this measurement. Avoid measuring near roads or in puddles formed only by recent rain. [AM, FA, FR, NR, WBF, PH, PR, Sens, WBF, WBN]
225		Was measured, and is: [enter the reading in the column to the right.]		
226		Was not measured but surface water is present and is darkly tea-coloured. Or if no surface water, then mosses and plants that indicate peatland (e.g., Labrador tea) are prevalent. Enter "1".	1	
227		Neither of above. Enter "1".	0	
228	F48 TDS and/or Conductivity	The TDS (total dissolved solids) or conductivity off the AA's surface water is: (select the first true row with information):		See above for measurement guidance. [FR, INV, NRv, PH, PRv, Sens]
229		TDS is: [Enter the reading in ppm or mg/L in the column to the right, if measured, or answer next row.]		
230		Conductivity is [Enter the reading in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ in the column to the right.]		
231		Was not measured, but plants that indicate saline conditions cover much of the vegetated AA. Enter "1".		
232		Neither of above	1	
233	F49 Beaver Probability	Use of the AA by beaver during the past 5 years is (select most applicable ONE):		[FA, FR, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
234		Evident from direct observation or presence of gnawed limbs, dams, tracks, dens, lodges, or extensive stands of water-killed trees (snags).		
235		Likely based on known occurrence in the region and proximity to suitable habitat, which may include: (a) a persistent freshwater wetland, pond, or lake, or a perennial low or mid-gradient (<10%) channel, and (b) a corridor or multiple stands of hardwood trees and shrubs in vegetated areas near surface water.		
236		Unlikely because site characteristics above are deficient, and/or this is a settled area or other area where beaver are routinely removed.	1	

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237	F50 Groundwater Strength of Evidence	Select first applicable choice:	0 0 1	Adhere to these criteria strictly -- do not use personal judgment based on fen conditions, pH, or other evidence. Consult topographic maps to detect breaks in slope described here. Rust deposits associated with groundwater seeps may be most noticeable as orange discoloration in ice formations along streams during early winter. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PRv, SFS, WC, WS]
238		Springs are known to be present within the AA, or if groundwater levels have been monitored, that has demonstrated that groundwater primarily discharges to the wetland for longer periods during the year than periods when the wetland recharges the groundwater.		
239		Most of the AA has a slope of >5%, or is very close to the base of a natural slope longer than 100 and much steeper than the slope of the AA, AND the pH of surface water, if known, is >5.5.		
240		Neither of above is true, although some groundwater may discharge to or flow through the AA. Or groundwater influx is unknown.		
241	F51 Internal Gradient	The gradient along most of the flow path within the AA is:	1 0 0 0 0	This is not the same as the shoreline slope. It is the elevational difference between the AA's inlet and outlet, divided by the flow-distance between them and converted to percent. If available, use a clinometer to measure this. Free clinometer apps can be downloaded to smartphones. If the wetland is large (longer than ~1 km), this may be estimated using Google Earth to determine the minimum and maximum elevation within the AA, then dividing by length and multiplying by 100. [CS, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
242		<2% or the AA has no surface water outlet (not even seasonally).		
243		2-5%.		
244		6-10%.		
245		>10%.		
246	Note for the next three questions: If the AA lacks an upland edge, evaluate based on the AA's entire perimeter, and moving outward into whatever areas are adjacent. In many situations, these questions are best answered by measuring from aerial images.			
247	F52 Vegetated Buffer as % of Perimeter	Within a zone extending 30 m laterally from the AA's edge with upland and/or other wetlands, the percentage that contains perennial vegetation cover (except lawns, row crops, heavily grazed land, conifer plantations) is:	0 0 0 0 0 1	[AM, FA, FR, INV, NRv, PH, POL, PRv, SBM, Sens, SRv, STR, WBN]
248		<5%.		
249		5 to 30%.		
250		30 to 60%.		
251		60 to 90%.		
252		>90%, or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands. SKIP to F55.		
253	F53 Type of Cover in Buffer	Within 30 m upslope of where the wetland transitions to upland, the upland land cover that is NOT perennial vegetation is mostly (mark ONE):	0 0 1	[AM, FA, INV, NRv, PH, POL, SBM, STR, WBN]
254		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
255		Bare or nearly bare pervious surface or managed vegetation, e.g., lawn, row crops, unpaved road, dike, landslide.		
256	F54 Buffer Slope	The steepest and/or most disturbed part of the upland area that is within 30 m of the wetland and occupies >10% of that upland area has a percent slope of:	0 0 1 0 0	[NRv, PRv, Sens, SRv]
257		<1% (flat – almost no noticeable slope) or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands.		
258		2-5%.		
259		5-30%.		
260		>30%.		
261	F55 Cliffs or Steep Banks	In the AA or within 100 m, there are elevated terrestrial features such as cliffs, talus slopes, stream banks, or excavated pits (but not riprap) that extend at least 2 m nearly vertically, are unvegetated, and potentially contain crevices or other substrate suitable for nesting or den areas. Enter 1 (yes) or 0 (no).	0	Do not include upturned trees as potential den sites. [POL, SBM]
262	F56 New or Expanded Wetland	Human actions within or adjacent to the AA have persistently expanded a naturally occurring wetland or created a wetland where there previously was none (e.g., by excavation, impoundment):	0 0 1 0 0 0 0	Determine this using historical aerial photography, old maps, soil maps, or permit files as available [CS, NR, OE, PH, Sens]
263		No.		
264		Yes, and created or expanded 20 - 100 years ago.		
265		Yes, and created or expanded 3-20 years ago.		
266		Yes, and created or expanded within last 3 years.		
267		Yes, but time of origin or expansion unknown.		
268		Unknown if new or expanded within 20 years or not.		
269	F57 Burn History	More than 1% of the AA's previously vegetated area:	0 0 0 0 1	Look for charred soil or stumps (in multiple widely-spaced locations) or ask landowner. [CS, PH, STR]
270		Burned within past 5 years.		
271		Burned 6-10 years ago.		
272		Burned 11-30 years ago.		
273		Burned >30 years ago, or no evidence of a burn and no data.		

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274	F58	Visibility	The maximum percentage of the wetland that is visible from the best vantage point on public roads, public parking lots, public buildings, or public maintained trails that intersect, adjoin, or are within 100 m of the AA (select one) is:	[PU, STR, WBFv]
275			<25%.	0
276			25-50%.	0
277			>50%.	1
278	F59	Non-consumptive Uses - Actual or Potential	Assuming access permission was granted, select ALL statements that are true of the AA as it currently exists:	[PU, STR]
279			For an average person, walking is physically possible <u>in</u> (not just near) >5% of the AA during most of the growing season, e.g., free of deep water and dense shrub thickets.	1
280			Maintained roads, parking areas, or foot-trails are within 10 m of the AA, or the AA can be accessed part of the year by boats arriving via contiguous waters.	0
281			Within or near the AA, there is an interpretive center, trails with interpretive signs or brochures, and/or regular guided interpretive tours.	0
282	F60	Unvisited Core Area	The percentage of the AA almost never visited by humans during an average growing season probably comprises: [Note: Only include the part actually walked or driven (not simply viewed from) with a vehicle or boat. Do not include visitors on trails outside of the AA unless more than half the wetland is visible from the trails and they are within 30 m of the wetland edge. In that case include only the area occupied by the trail.]	[AM, FAv, FRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
283			<5% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	1
284			<5% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
285			5-50% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
286			5-50% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
287			50-95%, with or without inhabited building nearby.	0
288			>95% of the AA with or without inhabited building nearby.	0
289	F61	Frequently Visited Area	The part of the AA visited by humans almost daily for several weeks during an average growing season probably comprises: [See note above.]	[AM, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
290			<5%. If F60 was answered ">95%" (mostly never visited), SKIP to F64.	1
291			5-50%.	0
292			50-95%.	0
293			>95% of the AA.	0
294	F62	BMP - Soils	Boardwalks, paved trails, fences or other infrastructure and/or well-enforced regulations appear to effectively prevent visitors from walking on soil within nearly all of the AA when the soil is unfrozen. Enter "1" if true.	[PH, PU]
295	F63	BMP - Wildlife Protection	Fences, observation blinds, platforms, paved trails, exclusion periods, and/or well-enforced prohibitions on motorised boats, off-leash pets, and off road vehicles appear to effectively exclude or divert visitors and their pets from the AA at critical times in order to minimize disturbance of wildlife (except during hunting seasons). Enter "1" if true.	[AM, PU, WBF, WBN]
296	F64	Consumptive Uses (Provisioning Services)	Recent evidence was found within the AA of the following potentially-sustainable consumptive uses. Select ALL that apply.	[FAv, FRv, WBFv]
297			Low-impact commercial timber harvest (e.g., selective thinning).	0
298			Commercial or traditional-use harvesting of native plants, their fruits, or mushrooms.	0
299			Waterfowl hunting.	0
300			Fishing.	0
301			Trapping of furbearers.	0
302			None of the above.	1
303	F65	Domestic Wells	The closest wells or water bodies that currently provide drinking water are:	[NRv]
304			Within 0-100 m. of the AA.	0
305			100-500 m. away.	0
306			>500 m. away, or no information.	1
307	F66	Calcareous Fen	The AA is, or is part of, a calcareous fen. See the Plants_Calcar worksheet in the accompanying SuplInfo file for list of plant indicators (calciphiles). Enter 1 if more than two Strong or more than five Moderate calciphile species are present; otherwise enter 0, but if not able to identify those and no information, change to blank.	[PH, PR]
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Investigator: Jordan Davis, Alex Scott	Site Identifier: Higgins, WL7	Date: 12 October 2022		
Stressor (S) Data Form for Non-Tidal Wetlands. WESP-AC for Nova Scotia version 2.				
S1	Aberrant Timing of Water Inputs	Data		
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item that is likely to have caused the timing of water inputs (but not necessarily their volume) to shift by hours, days, or weeks, becoming either more muted (smaller or less frequent peaks spread over longer times, more temporal homogeneity of flow or water levels) or more flashy (larger or more frequent spikes but over shorter times). [FA, FR, INV, PH, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater from impervious surfaces that drains directly to the wetland.</p> <p>Water subsidies from wastewater effluent, septic system leakage, snow storage areas, or irrigation.</p> <p>Regular removal of surface or groundwater for irrigation or other consumptive use.</p> <p>Flow regulation in tributaries or water level regulation in adjoining water body, or other control structure at water entry points that regulates inflow to the wetland.</p> <p>A dam, dike, levee, weir, berm, or fill -- within or downgradient from the wetland -- that interferes with surface or subsurface flow in/out of the AA (e.g., road fill, wellpads, pipelines).</p> <p>Excavation within the wetland, e.g., dugout, artificial pond, dead-end ditch.</p> <p>Artificial drains or ditches in or near the wetland.</p> <p>Accelerated downcutting or channelization of an adjacent or internal channel (incised below the historical water table level).</p> <p>Logging within the wetland.</p> <p>Subsidence or compaction of the wetland's substrate as a result of machinery, livestock, fire, drainage, or off road vehicles.</p> <p>Straightening, ditching, dredging, and/or lining of tributary channels.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items had no measurable effect on the timing of water conditions in any part of the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>				
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
Spatial extent of timing shift within the wetland:	>95% of wetland.	5-95% of wetland.	<5% of wetland.	0
When most of the timing shift began:	<3 yrs ago.	3-9 yrs ago.	10-100 yrs ago.	0
Score the following 2 rows only if the altered inputs began within past 10 years, and only for the part of the wetland that experiences those.				
Input timing now vs. previously:	Shift of weeks.	Shift of days.	Shift of hours or minutes.	0
Flashiness or muting:	Became very flashy or controlled.	Intermediate.	Became mildly flashy or controlled.	0
			Sum=	0
			Stressor subscore=	0.00
S2	Accelerated Inputs of Contaminants and/or Salts	Data		
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of contaminants or salts to the AA. [AM, FA, PH, POL, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills, industrial facilities.</p> <p>Metals & chemical wastes from mining, shooting ranges, snow storage areas, oil/ gas extraction, other sources (download many locations from National Pollutant Release Inventory and view KMZ overlay in Google Earth. https://www.ec.gc.ca/inrp-npri/default.asp?lang=En&n=B85A1846-1</p> <p>Road salt.</p> <p>Spraying of pesticides, as applied to lawns, croplands, roadsides, or other areas in the CA.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly higher levels of contaminants and/or salts, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>				
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
Usual toxicity of most toxic contaminants:	Industrial effluent, mining waste, unmanaged landfill.	Cropland, managed landfill, pipeline or transmission rights-of-way.	Low density residential.	0
Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
			Sum=	0
			Stressor subscore=	0.00

S3	Accelerated Inputs of Nutrients				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of nutrients to the wetland. [NRv, PRv, STR]</i>				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills.				
	Fertilizers applied to lawns, ag lands, or other areas in the CA.				
	Livestock, dogs.				
	Artificial drainage of upslope lands.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly more nutrients, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Type of loading:	High density of unmaintained septic, some types of industrial sources.	Moderate density septic, cropland, secondary wastewater treatment plant.	Livestock, pets, low density residential.	0
	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0	
			Sum=	0	
			Stressor subscore=	0.00	
S4	Excessive Sediment Loading from Contributing Area				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the CA that is likely to have elevated the load of waterborne or windborne sediment reaching the wetland from its CA. [FA, FR, INV, PH, SRv, STR]</i>				
	Erosion from plowed fields, fill, timber harvest, dirt roads, vegetation clearing, fires.				
	Erosion from construction, in-channel machinery in the CA.				
	Erosion from off-road vehicles in the CA.				
	Erosion from livestock or foot traffic in the CA.				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent.				
	Sediment from road sanding, gravel mining, other mining, oil/gas extraction.				
	Accelerated channel downcutting or headcutting of tributaries due to altered land use.				
	Other human-related disturbances within the CA.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points (3, 2, or 1 as shown in header) in the last column. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively add significantly more sediment or suspended solids to the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Erosion in CA:	Extensive evidence, high intensity.*	Potentially (based on high-intensity* land use) or scattered evidence.	Potentially (based on low-intensity* land use) with little or no direct evidence.	0
	Recentness of significant soil disturbance in the CA:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0
	Duration of sediment inputs to the wetland:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
	AA proximity to actual or potential sources:	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
	<i>* high-intensity= extensive off-road vehicle use, plowing, grading, excavation, erosion with or without veg removal; low-intensity= veg removal only with little or no apparent erosion or disturbance of soil or sediment.</i>				Sum=
			Stressor subscore=	0.00	

S5	Soil or Sediment Alteration Within the Assessment Area				
<p><i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the wetland that is likely to have compacted, eroded, or otherwise altered the wetland's soil. Consider only items occurring within past 100 years or since wetland was created or restored (whichever is less). [CS, INV, NR, PH, SR, STR]</i></p> <p>Compaction from machinery, off-road vehicles, livestock, or mountain bikes, especially during wetter periods.</p> <p>Leveling or other grading not to the natural contour.</p> <p>Tillage, plowing (but excluding disking for enhancement of native plants).</p> <p>Fill or riprap, excluding small amounts of upland soils containing organic amendments (compost, etc.) or small amounts of topsoil imported from another wetland.</p> <p>Excavation.</p> <p>Ditch cleaning or dredging in or adjacent to the wetland.</p> <p>Boat traffic in or adjacent to the wetland and sufficient to cause shore erosion or stir bottom sediments.</p> <p>Artificial water level or flow manipulations sufficient to cause erosion or stir bottom sediments.</p> <p><i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not measurably alter the soil structure and/or topography, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i></p>					
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
Spatial extent of altered soil:	>95% of wetland or >95% of its upland edge (if any).	5-95% of wetland or 5-95% of its upland edge (if any).	<5% of wetland and <5% of its upland edge (if any).	0	
Recentness of significant soil alteration in wetland:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0	
Duration:	Long-lasting, minimal veg recovery.	Long-lasting but mostly revegetated.	Short-term, revegetated, not intense.	0	
Timing of soil alteration:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Mainly during one-time or scattered events.	0	
			Sum=	0	
			Stressor subscore=	0.00	

Assessment Area (AA) Results:

Wetland ID: WL7

Date: 12 October 2022

Observer: JD AS

Latitude & Longitude (decimal degrees): 45.55893889, -63.60156944

Scores will appear below after data are entered in worksheets OF, F, and S. See Manual for definitions and descriptions of how scores were computed.						
Wetland Functions or Other Attributes:	Function Score (Normalised)	Function Rating	Benefits Score (Normalised)	Benefits Rating	Function Score (raw)	Benefits Score (raw)
Water Storage & Delay (WS)	7.18	Moderate	8.06	Higher	7.30	3.58
Stream Flow Support (SFS)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Water Cooling (WC)	4.20	Moderate	0.00	Lower	2.80	0.00
Sediment Retention & Stabilisation (SR)	10.00	Higher	1.32	Moderate	10.00	0.65
Phosphorus Retention (PR)	10.00	Higher	1.50	Moderate	10.00	1.17
Nitrate Removal & Retention (NR)	10.00	Higher	3.89	Moderate	10.00	3.89
Carbon Sequestration (CS)	4.10	Moderate			7.14	
Organic Nutrient Export (OE)	5.61	Moderate			3.66	
Anadromous Fish Habitat (FA)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Resident Fish Habitat (FR)	1.27	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.69	0.00
Aquatic Invertebrate Habitat (INV)	5.66	Higher	3.50	Moderate	5.80	3.13
Amphibian & Turtle Habitat (AM)	4.69	Moderate	4.12	Moderate	5.58	5.16
Waterbird Feeding Habitat (WBF)	3.81	Moderate	5.00	Moderate	2.90	5.00
Waterbird Nesting Habitat (WBN)	2.79	Moderate	5.00	Higher	2.02	5.00
Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat (SBM)	8.70	Higher	5.00	Moderate	7.57	5.00
Pollinator Habitat (POL)	8.07	Higher	0.00	Lower	6.69	0.00
Native Plant Habitat (PH)	3.76	Moderate	4.75	Lower	5.40	4.75
Public Use & Recognition (PU)			2.11	Moderate		1.74
Wetland Sensitivity (Sens)			6.78	Moderate		4.10
Wetland Ecological Condition (EC)			4.78	Moderate		7.50
Wetland Stressors (STR) (higher score means more stress)			6.10	Higher		3.11
Summary Ratings for Grouped Functions:						
HYDROLOGIC Group (WS)	7.18	Moderate	8.06	Higher	7.30	3.58
WATER QUALITY SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SR, PR, NR, CS)	9.26	Higher	3.06	Lower	9.64	2.90
AQUATIC SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SFS, INV, OE, WC)	4.76	Moderate	2.33	Lower	4.43	2.08
AQUATIC HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of FA, FR, AM, WBF, WBN)	3.60	Moderate	3.91	Moderate	3.91	4.09
TRANSITION HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of SBM, PH, POL)	7.77	Higher	4.13	Lower	7.06	4.13
WETLAND CONDITION (EC)			4.78	Moderate		7.50
WETLAND RISK (average of Sensitivity & Stressors)			6.44	Moderate		3.61
		NOTE: A score of 0 does not mean the function or benefit is absent from the wetland. It means only that this wetland has a capacity that is equal or less than the lowest-scoring one, for that function or benefit, from among all the NS calibration wetlands that were assessed previously.				

NOVA SCOTIA - Functional WSS Interpretation Tool

Function-Benefit Product (FBP)	FBP SCORE	FBP SCORE CATEGORY
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - HYDROLOGIC	57.9052599	High
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - WATER QUALITY SUPPORT	28.37352989	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC SUPPORT	11.10203958	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC HABITAT	14.08580554	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - TRANSITION HABITAT	32.06053852	Low

Habitat Rule Satisfied? NO

Support Rule Satisfied? NO

Habitat/Support Hybrid Rule Satisfied? NO

CONCLUSION: Site is not a WSS

Cover Page: Basic Description of Assessment	WESP-AC version 2
Site Name:	Higgins Mountain, WL8
Investigator Name:	Madeline Maher, Jordan Davis, Alex Scott
Date of Field Assessment:	12 October 2022
Nearest Town:	Masstown
Latitude (decimal degrees):	45.55893889
Longitude (decimal degrees):	-63.60156944
Is a map based on a formal on-site wetland delineation available?	Yes
Approximate size of the Assessment Area (AA, in hectares):	0.29
AA as percent of entire wetland (approx.). Attach sketch map if AA is smaller than the entire contiguous wetland.	50
What percent (approx.) of the wetland were you able to visit?	50
What percent (approx.) of the AA were you able to visit?	100
Were you able to ask the site owner/manager about any of the questions?	No
Indicate here if you intentionally surveyed for rare plants, calciphile plants, or rare animals:	Yes
Have you attended a WESP-AC training session? If so, indicate approximate month & year.	October 2022
How many wetlands have you assessed previously using WESP-AC? (approx.)	30
Comments about the site or this WESP-AC assessment (attach extra page if desired):	

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date: 09 November 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL8		Investigator: Madeline Maher	
2	Form OF (Office). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia wetlands only. DIRECTIONS: Conduct an assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answering many of the questions below will require using these online map viewers: Google Earth Pro: https://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html Provincial Landscape Viewer: https://nsgis.novascotia.ca/plv/ For most wetlands, completing this office data form will require 1-2 hours. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see bracketed abbreviations in the Definitions/Explanations column. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.				
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations
4	OF1	Province	Mark the province in which the AA is located by changing the 0 in the column next to it to a "1". Mark only one.	0	This determines to which province's calibration wetlands the raw score of any wetland is normalised. In the function and benefits models, it also triggers the automatic exclusion of indicators for which no spatial data exists in a particular province.
5			New Brunswick	0	
6			Nova Scotia	1	
7			Prince Edward Island	0	
8			Newfoundland-Labrador	0	
9	OF2	Ponded Area Within 1 km.	The area of surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:	0	"Adjacent" means not separated from the AA by a wide expanse (>50 m) of upland (including roads >50 m wide). Include ponded areas likely to be hidden by wetland vegetation. If surface water extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. Do not include tidal areas. Measure the area from aerial imagery using Google Earth Pro (click on Ruler icon in toolbar, then Polygon in pop-up menu). [PH, SBM, WBN]
10			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	1	
11			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
12			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
13			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
14			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
15			>100 hectares.	0	
16	OF3	Ponded Water & Wetland Within 1 km.	The area of wetlands and surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:	0	See definition of adjacent in OF2. If the AA's wetland vegetation extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. "Ponded" means not flowing in rivers or streams. [Sens, WBF]
17			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
18			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
19			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
20			1 to 10 hectares.	1	
21			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
22			>100 hectares.	0	
23	OF4	Size of Largest Nearby Vegetated Tract or Corridor	The largest vegetated patch or corridor that includes the AA's vegetation plus all adjacent upland vegetation that is not lawn, row crops, heavily grazed lands, conifer plantation is:	0	See definition of adjacent in OF2. Use Google Earth Pro's polygon ruler (as described above). Exclude conifer plantations only if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens]
24			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
25			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
26			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
27			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
28			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
29			100 to 1000 hectares.	1	
30			>1000 hectares. <i>[This is nearly always the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]</i>	0	

A	B	C	D	E
31	OF5 Distance to Large Vegetated Tract	The minimum distance from the edge of the AA to the edge of the closest vegetated land (but excluding row crops, lawn, conifer plantation) larger than 375 hectares (about 2 km on a side), is:	1	To measure distance, use Google Earth Pro (Ruler > Line tool). The 375-ha criterion is from the Fundy Model Forest Project. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
32		<50 m, and not separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, bare ground, lawn, or impervious surface. Or the AA itself contains >375 ha of vegetation. [This is often the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]		
33		<50 m, but completely separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by those features, and AA does not contain >375 ha of vegetation.		
34		50-500 m, and not separated .		
35		50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
36		0.5 - 5 km, and not separated .		
37		0.5 - 5 km, but separated by those features.		
38		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors which are that large are >5 km away).		
39	OF6 Herbaceous Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 5 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 1 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "1". [* NOTE: Exclude lawns, row crops, heavily grazed lands, forest, shrublands. Include moss as well as grasslike plants in this use of "herbaceous vegetation"]	0	For this question only, consider moss to be herbaceous vegetation. Determine the score by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth after successively drawing or estimating the boundaries of the buffers of 5 km, 1 km, and 100 m radius focused on the center of the AA. Circles of specified radius can be drawn in Google Earth Pro by clicking on the Ruler icon, then Circle in the pop-up menu. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
40	OF7 Woody Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% woody* but uplands within 5 km have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 1 km have <10% woody cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "1" [* NOTE: woody cover = trees & shrubs taller than 1 m.]	0	See above. Do not consider conifer plantations to be forest if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv]
41	OF8 Local Vegetated Cover Percentage	Draw a 5-km radius circle measured from the center of the AA. Ignoring all permanent water in the circle, the percent of the remaining area that is wooded or unmanaged herbaceous vegetation (NOT lawn, row crops, bare or heavily grazed land, clearcuts, or conifer plantations) is:	0	In Google Earth, draw the 5 km buffer and then estimate land cover percentages, or do GIS analysis of an appropriate land cover layer. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
42		<5% of the land.		
43		5 to 20% of the land.		
44		20 to 60% of the land.		
45		60 to 90% of the land.		
46		>90% of the land. SKIP to OF10.		
47	OF9 Type of Land Cover Alteration	Within the 5-km radius circle, and ignoring all permanent water, the land area that is bare or non-perennial cover is mostly:	0	[AM, SBM]
48		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
49		Bare pervious surface, e.g., lawn, recent (<5 yrs ago) clearcut, dirt or gravel road, cropland, landslide, conifer plantation.		
50	OF10 Distance by Road to Nearest Population Center	Measured along the maintained road nearest the AA, the distance to the nearest population center is:	0	"Population center" means a settled area with more than about 5 regularly- inhabited structures per square kilometer. In Google Earth Pro, click on the Ruler icon, then Path, and draw and measure the route. [FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, WBFv]
51		<100 m.		
52		100 - 500 m.		
53		0.5- 1 km.		
54		1 - 5 km.		
55		>5 km.		

A	B	C	D	E
56	OF11 Distance to Nearest Maintained Road	From the center of the AA, the distance to the nearest maintained public road (dirt or paved) is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth Pro and measuring with the Ruler>Line tool [AM, FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBN]
57		<10 m.		
58		10 - 25 m.		
59		25 - 50 m.		
60		50 - 100 m.		
61		100 - 500 m.		
62		>500 m.		
63	OF12 Wildlife Access	Draw a circle of radius of 5 km from the center of the AA. If mammals and amphibians can move from the center of the AA to ALL other separate wetlands and ponds located within the circle without being forced to cross pavement (any width), lawns, bare ground, and/or marine waters, mark 1= yes can move to all, 0= no. Change to blank if there are no other wetlands within 5 km.	0	Draw the 5 km circle in Google Earth Pro using the Circle tool and search for roads and wetlands within it, being alert for roads hidden under forest canopy. [AM, SBM, STR]
64	OF13 Distance to Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) ponded water body visible in GoogleEarth imagery is:		In Google Earth Pro, zoom in closely to examine the surrounding landscape for ponds, lakes, and wetlands that appear to be permanently flooded. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
65		<50 m, and not separated by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, lawn, bare ground, or impervious surface.		
66		<50 m, but completely separated by those features.		
67		50-500 m, and not separated.		
68		50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
69		0.5 - 1 km, and not separated.		
70		0.5 - 1 km, but separated by those features.		
71		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors that large are >1 km away).		
72	OF14 Distance to Large Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate)non-tidal body of water that is ponded during most of the year and is larger than 8 hectares during most of a normal year is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth. [Sens, WBF, WBN]
73		<100 m.		
74		100 m - 1 km.		
75		1-2 km.		
76		2-5 km.		
77		5-10 km.		
78		>10 km.		
79	OF15 Tidal Proximity	The distance from the AA edge to the closest tidal water body (regardless of its salinity) is:		In Google Earth, measure the distance to the ocean (including Bay of Fundy) or tidal river, whichever is closer. If you need to see how far upriver a river is tidal, see the KMZ file provided with this calculator for NS (NS Headtide). Points shown in those files are only an approximation, so local information if available may be preferable. [FA, WBF]
80		<100 m.		
81		100 m - 1 km.		
82		1 - 5 km.		
83		5-10 km.		
84		10-40 km.		
85		>40 km.		
86	OF16 Upland Edge Contact	Select one:		[NR, SBM, Sens]
87		The AA has no upland edge (or upland is <1% of perimeter). The AA is entirely surrounded by (& contiguous with) other wetlands or water.		
88		1-25% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland (including filled areas). The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
89		25-50% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
90		50-75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
91		More than 75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. Any remainder adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA. This will be true for most assessments done with WESP-AC.		

A	B	C	D	E
92	OF17 Flood Damage from Non-tidal Waters	Within 5 km downstream or downslope of the AA (select first true choice):	0	Contact local authorities to determine if such maps exist. Where available, LiDAR imagery can provide finer elevational resolution useful for flood modeling. [WSv]
93		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding not caused by tidal storm surges.		
94		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas, but infrastructure is absent or is not vulnerable to floods from a non-tidal river. In some cases levees, upriver dams, or other measures may partly limit damage or risk from smaller events.		
95		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
96		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there is no infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
97	OF18 Relative Elevation in Watershed	In Google Earth, enable the Terrain layer (lower left menu) and open the NS_Watersheds Secondary KMZ file that accompanies this calculator. Then determine the AA's approximate elevation (bottom right, NOT the "eye alt"). Then move cursor around to determine the watershed's maximum and minimum elevation. Divide the AA's elevation by the (max-min).	0.93	[FA, NR, Sens, SFSv, WCv, WSv]
98	OF19 Water Quality Sensitive Watershed or Area	The AA is in a Protected Water Supply area (Designated Water Supply Area, Natural Watershed Municipal Surface Water Supply Area, or Municipal Water Supply Area) according to the provided KMZ overlay ("NS Protected Water Supply Areas"). Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	If an ACCDC report is available for this AA, it also may contain such information. [NRv]
99	OF20 Degraded Water Upstream	Sampling indicates a problem with concentrations of metals, hydrocarbons, nutrients, or other substances (excluding bacteria, acidic water, high temperatures) being present at levels harmful to aquatic life or humans, and:	0	May use existing data, or sample those waters as part of this wetland assessment. "Harmful" should be evaluated with regard to current federal or provincial water quality standards. [AM, FA, FR, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WBF, WBN]
100		The condition is present within the AA.		
101		The condition is present in waters within 1 km that flow into the AA, but has not been documented in the AA itself.		
102		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
103		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
104	OF21 Degraded Water Downstream	The problem described above is downslope from the AA, and:	0	May use existing data, or monitor waters as part of this wetland assessment. [NRv, PRv, SRv]
105		The condition is present within 1 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel.		
106		The condition is present within 5 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel, or within 1 km but not connected to the AA by a channel.		
107		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
108		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
109	OF22 Wetland as a % of Its Contributing Area (Catchment)	From a topographic map and field observations, estimate the approximate boundaries of the catchment (CA) of the entire wetland of which the AA may be only a part. Then adjust those boundaries if necessary based on your field observations of the surrounding terrain, and/or by using procedures described in the Manual. Divide the area of the wetland (not just the AA) by the approximate area of its catchment excluding the area of the wetland itself. When doing the calculation, if ponded water is adjacent to the wetland, include that in the wetland area. The result is:	0	Topographic maps may be viewed online at the National Atlas of Canada (Toporama): http://atlas.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html [NR, PR, Sens, SR, WS]
110		<0.01, or catchment size unknown due to stormwater pipes that collect water from an indeterminate area.		
111		0.01 to 0.1.		
112		0.1 to 1.		
113		>1 (wetland is larger than its catchment (e.g., wetland with flat surrounding terrain and no inlet, or is entirely isolated by dikes, or is a raised bog)).		
114	OF23 Unvegetated Surface in the Contributing Area	The proportion of the AA's contributing area (measured to no more than 1000 m upslope) that is comprised of buildings, roads, parking lots, other pavement, exposed bedrock, landslides, and other mostly-bare surface is about :	0	[FA, INV, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WCv, WSv]
115		<10%.		
116		10 to 25%.		
117		>25%.		

A	B	C	D	E
118	OF24	Transport From Upslope A relatively large proportion of the precipitation that falls farther upslope in the CA reaches this wetland quickly as runoff (surface water), as indicated by the following: (a) input channel is present, (b) input channels have been straightened, (c) upslope wetlands have been ditched extensively, (d) land cover is mostly non-forest, (e) CA slopes are steep, and/or (f) most CA soils are shallow (bedrock near surface) and/or have high runoff coefficients. This statement is:		[NRv, PRv, SRv, WSv]
119		Mostly true.	0	
120		Somewhat true.	1	
121		Mostly untrue.	0	
122	OF25	Aspect The overland flow direction of most surface water (in streams, rivers, or runoff) that enters the AA is:		[AM, NR, SFS, WC, WS]
123		Northward (N, NE). north-facing contributing area.	1	
124		Southward (S, SW). south-facing contributing area.	0	
125		Other (E, SE, W, NW), or no detectable uphill slope or input channel (flat).	0	
126	OF26	Internal Flow Distance (Path Length) The horizontal flow distance from the wetland's inlet to outlet is:		Identify inlets and outlets, if any, from topographic maps (use elevations to determine which are inlets and which are outlets) and augment by field inspection. With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, select Nova Scotia Topo as the Basemap. Also enable the layer Forestry>WAM Predicted Flow. Then measure the inlet-outlet distance. [NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
127		<10 m.	0	
128		10 - 50 m.	0	
129		50 - 100 m.	1	
130		100 - 1000 m.	0	
131		1-2 km.	0	
132		>2 km, or wetland lacks an inlet and outlet.	0	
133	OF27	Growing Degree Days In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called NS_GrowingDegreeDays. Place your cursor over the AA and left-click. From the pop-up window, enter the GRIDCODE number in the next column.	1908	This layer was provided by Dr. Dan McKenney of the Canadian Forest Service [AM, CS, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WCv, WS]
134	OF28	Fish Access or Use According to agency biologists and/or your own observations, the AA. [Mark just the first choice that is true.]:		Regarding the last choice, if uncertain if an AA is fishless, consider the possibility its waters have been stocked. [AM, FA, FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
135		Is known to support rearing and/or spawning by Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels. Go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife>Significant Habitat>Species at Risk. Contact local fishery biologists, review the ACCDC report, and visit these websites: http://www.salmontlas.com/atlanticsalmon/canada-east/index.1.html http://atlanticssalmofederation.org/rivers/introduction.html	0	
136		Has not been documented to support Atlantic salmon rearing and/or spawning, but is connected to nearby waters likely to contain Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels and is probably accessed by those during some conditions.	0	
137		Is probably not accessed by any anadromous fish species but is known or likely to have other fish at least seasonally.	1	
138		Is known or likely to be fishless (e.g., too small, dry, and/or not accessible even temporarily, and not stocked).	0	
139	OF29	Species of Conservation Concern Within the past 10 years, in the AA (or in its adjoining waters or wetland), qualified observers have documented [mark all applicable]:		Request information from ACCDC and/or conduct your own survey at an appropriate season using an approved protocol. For birds, also check eBird.org. NOTE for NS: If your WESP-AC is being completed for a Wetland Alteration Application to NS-ECC, your ACCDC results and any taxon-specific survey results must be submitted along with your WESP-AC results, and application. [AMv, EC, PHv, POLv, SBMv, Sens, WBFv, WBNv]
140		Presence of one or more of the plant species listed in the Plants_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, or the AA is within a mapped Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora Buffer (go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones).	0	
141		Presence of one or more of the amphibian or reptile species (AM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
142		Presence of one or more of the waterbird species (WBF, WBN) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
143		Presence of one or more of the nesting songbird or raptor species (SBM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, during their nesting season (May-July for most species).	0	
144		None of the above, or no data.	1	

	A	B	C	D	E
145	OF30 Important Bird Area (IBA)	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called IBAs_Canada . The AA is all or part of an officially designated IBA. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.		0	The source of this layer, which should be checked periodically for updates, is: http://www.ibacanada.com/mapviewer.jsp?lang=EN [SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
146	OF31 Black Duck Nesting Area	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called BlackDuck. Adjust its alignment and opacity. Determine the predicted density (pairs per 25 sq. km) of nesting American Black Duck in the AA's vicinity: <10 (enter 0), 10-20 (enter 1), 20-30 (enter 2), >30 (enter 3). If outside of region shown in map, change to blank.		0	This was provided by Dr. David Leske. [WBNv]
147	OF32 Wintering Deer or Moose Concentration Areas	If AA is on private land with no information, change to blank (not 0). Otherwise: With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, for Wintering Moose, go to Wildlife> Significant Habitat . For Mainland Moose Concentration Areas, go to Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones . Enter: yes= 1, no= 0.		0	[SBM]
148	OF33 Other Conservation Designation	The AA is all or part of an area designated by government, First Nations, or the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) for its exceptional ecological features or highly intact natural conditions. With Provincial Landscape Viewer, see Protected Areas . Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If uncertain, consult NCC and agencies for more recent information.		0	See: https://novascotia.ca/parksandprotectedareas/plan/interactive-map/ [PU]
149	OF34 Conservation Investment	The AA is part of or contiguous to a wetland on which public or private organizational funds were spent to preserve, create, restore, or enhance the wetland (excluding mitigation wetlands). Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank (not 0).			[PU]
150	OF35 Mitigation Investment	The AA is all or part of a mitigation site used explicitly to offset impacts elsewhere. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.			[PU]
151	OF36 Sustained Scientific Use	Plants, animals, or water in the AA have been monitored for >2 years, unrelated to any regulatory requirements, and data are available to the public. Or the AA is part of an area that has been designated by an agency or institution as a benchmark, reference, or status-trends monitoring area. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.			[PU]
152	OF37 Calcareous Region	The AA is NOT in a subregion that has been heavily exposed to acid precipitation. Enter "1" if true (green or yellow in map in Appendix A of the Manual). Enter "0" if false. If no information, change to blank.			[AM, FA, FR, INV, PH]
153	OF38 Ownership	Select the ONE ownership that covers the most of the AA. In Google Earth, open KMZ file called NS_Crownlands Use more recent information if available.			"Private lands" may include those owned or leased by non-governmental organizations, e.g., charitable conservation land trusts, DUC, TNC. [PU, STR]
154		New timber harvest, roads, mineral extraction, and intensive summer recreation (e.g., off-road vehicles) are permanently prohibited. Includes many publicly-owned Protected Lands, and private lands under long-term (30+ year) legal agreements to maintain nearly-unaltered conditions.	0		
155		Ownership is public (e.g., municipal, Crown Reservations/Notations) but some or all of the above activities are allowed.	1		
156		Ownership is private but public access is allowed, and/or a shorter-term conservation easement (whether renewable or not) is in place.	0		
157		Ownership is private and owner does not allow access, or access permission unknown, and not a conservation easement.	0		

A	B	C	D	E				
1	Date: 12 October 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountains, WL8		Investigator: Jordan Davis, Alex Scott				
2	<p>Form F (Field). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia. DIRECTIONS: Walk for no less than 10 minutes from the wetland edge towards its core, in the part of the AA that is proposed for alteration. If no alteration is proposed, walk in a portion that appears to be most representative of the wetland overall. Walk only where it is safe and legal to do so. Conduct the assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answer these questions primarily based on your onsite observations and interpretations. Do not write in shaded parts of this data form. Answering some questions accurately may require conferring with the landowner or other knowledgeable persons, and/or reviewing aerial imagery. For most wetlands, completing this field data form will require 1-2 hours on a site. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see the accompanying Interpretations form. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage & Delay, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.</p>							
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations			
4	F1	Wetland Type	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the vegetated part of the AA:		<p>Ericaceous shrubs are ones in the heather family (Ericaceae). Most have leathery evergreen leaves. They include rhododendron, azalea, swamp laurel, leatherleaf, Labrador tea, and others. Most require acidic soil. Although not in the family Ericaceae, sweetgale (<i>Myrica gale</i>) should be counted also. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, Sens, SFS, WBF, WBN]</p>			
5			A. Moss and/or lichen cover more than 25% of the ground. Often dominated by ericaceous shrubs (e.g., Labrador tea) or other acid-tolerant plants (e.g., bog cranberry, pitcher plant, sundew, orchids). Substrate is mostly undecomposed peat. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.	0				
6			A1. Surface water is usually absent or, if present, pH is typically <4.5 and conductivity is usually <100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Trees are absent or nearly so. Sedge cover usually sparse or absent but cottongrass and/or lichen cover may be extensive, as well as cloudberry, lingonberry, sheep laurel, and a sedge (<i>Carex rariflora</i>). Wetland surface and surrounding landscape are seldom sloping and wetland often is domed (convex). Inlet and outlet channels are usually absent. If known, pH of peat is <4.0.	0				
7			A2. Not A1. Surface water, if present, has pH typically >4.5 and conductivity is usually >100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Sedge cover is usually extensive, and/or tree and tall shrub cover is extensive. Sometimes at toe of slope or edge of water body. An exit channel is usually present. Wetter than A1 and peat depth may be shallower (<2 m).	0				
8			B. Moss and/or lichen cover less than 25% of the ground. Soil is mineral or decomposed organic (muck). Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column:					
9			B1. Trees and shrubs taller than 1 m comprise more than 25% of the vegetated cover. Surface water is mostly absent or inundates the vegetation only seasonally (e.g., vernal pools or floodplain).	1				
10			B2. Not B1. Tree & tall shrubs comprise less than 25% of the vegetated cover. Vegetation is mostly herbaceous, e.g., cattail, bulrush, burreed, pond lily, horsetail. Surface water may be extensive and fluctuates seasonally, being either persistent or drying up partly or entirely.	0				
11			<p>Reminder: For all questions, the AA should include all persistent waters in ponds smaller than 8 hectares (~283 m on a side) that are adjacent to the AA. The AA should also include part of the water area of adjacent ponded water larger than 8 ha and adjacent rivers wider than 20 m. Specifically, the AA should include the open water part adjacent to wetland vegetation and equal in width to the average width of that vegetated zone. Throughout this data form, "adjacent" is used synonymously with abutting, adjoining, bordering, contiguous – and means no upland (manmade or natural) completely separates the described features along their directly shared edge. Features joined only by a channel are not necessarily considered to be adjacent – a large portion of their edges must match. The features do not have to be hydrologically connected in order to be considered adjacent.</p>					
12			F2	Wetland Types - Adjoining or Subordinate		If the AA is smaller than 1 ha, mark all other types that occupy more than 1% of the vegetated AA. If the AA is larger than 1 ha, mark all other types which are within or adjacent to the AA and occupy more than 1 ha, as visible from the AA or as interpreted from aerial imagery. Do not mark again the type marked in F1.		<p>1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, INV, SBM, WBF]</p>
13						A1.	0	
14	A2.	0						
15	B1.	0						
16	B2.	0						
17	F3	Woody Height & Form Diversity	Following EACH row below, indicate with a number code the percentage of the living vegetation in the AA which is occupied by that feature (6 if >95%, 5 if 75-95%, 4 if 50-75%, 3 if 25-50%, 2 if 5-25%, 1 if <5%, 0 if none). If the vegetated part of the AA is largely herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation, these percentages should not sum to 100%.		<p>Deciduous shrubs in this region usually include buttonbush, Labrador tea, bayberry (<i>Morella</i>), huckleberry, cranberry, cloudberry, sweetgale, alder, willow, birch, ash, dogwood, and a few others. If you assigned a code of 3 or higher to any of the first four choices and the ground cover beneath the trees/shrubs is <25% moss, then question F1 might be "B1". [CS, INV, NR, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]</p>			
18			coniferous trees (may include tamarack) taller than 3 m.	2				
19			deciduous trees taller than 3 m.	0				
20			coniferous or ericaceous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	1				
21			deciduous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	1				
22			coniferous or ericaceous shrubs <1 m tall not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	1				
23			deciduous shrubs or trees <1 m tall (e.g., deciduous seedlings) not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	0				

A	B	C	D	E
24		<i>Note: If none of top 4 rows in F3 was marked 2 or greater , SKIP to F9 (N fixers).</i>		
25	F4	Dominance of Most Abundant Shrub Species	Determine which two woody plant species comprise the greatest portion of the low (<3 m) woody cover . Then choose one: those species together comprise > 50% of such cover. those species together do not comprise > 50% of such cover.	[PH, POL, SBM, Sens] 0 1
26				
27				
28	F5	Woody Diameter Classes	Mark ALL the types that comprise >5% of the woody canopy cover in the AA or >5% of the wooded areas (if any) along its upland edge (perimeter). The edge should include only the trees whose canopies extend into the AA. coniferous, 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall. broad-leaved deciduous 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall. coniferous, 10-19 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous 10-19 cm diameter. coniferous, 20-40 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous 20-40 cm diameter. coniferous, >40 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous >40 cm diameter.	Estimate the diameters at chest height. If small-diameter trees are overtopped (shaded) by larger ones, visualise a "subcanopy" at the average height of the smaller-dbh trees, to serve as a basis for the minimum 5% canopy requirement in this question. The trees and shrubs need not be wetland species. [AM, CS, POL, SBM, Sens, WBN] 1 1 0 0 0 0 0
29				
30				
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32				
33				
34				
35				
36				
37	F6	Height Class Interspersion	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the AA: A. Neither the vegetation taller than 1 m nor the vegetation shorter than that comprise >70% of the vegetated part of the AA. They each comprise 30-70%. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below. A1. The two height classes are mostly scattered and intermixed throughout the AA. A2. Not A1. The two height classes are mostly in separate zones or bands, or in proportionately large clumps. B. Either the vegetation shorter than 1 m comprises >70% of the vegetated part of the AA, or the vegetation taller than that does. One size class might even be totally absent. Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly scattered and intermixed within the prevalent one. B2. Not B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly located apart from the prevalent one, in separate zones or clumps, or is completely absent.	[AM, INV, NR, PH, SBM, Sens] 0 1 0 0
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39				
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43				
44	F7	Large Snags (Dead Standing Trees)	The number of large snags (diameter >20 cm) in the AA plus adjacent upland area within 10 m of the wetland edge is: None, or fewer than 8/ hectare which exceed this diameter. Several (>8/hectare) and a pond, lake, or slow-flowing water wider than 10 m is within 1 km. Several (>8/hectare) but above not true.	Snags are dead standing trees that often (not always) lack bark and foliage. Include only ones that are at least 2 m tall. [POL, SBM, WBN] 1 0 0
45				
46				
47				
48	F8	Downed Wood	The number of downed wood pieces longer than 2 m and with diameter >10 cm, and not persistently submerged, is: Few or none that meet these criteria. Several (>5 if AA is >5 hectares, less for smaller AAs) meet these criteria.	Exclude temporary "burn piles." [AM, INV, POL, SBM] 1 0
49				
50				
51	F9	N Fixers	The percentage of the AA's vegetated cover that contains nitrogen-fixing plants (e.g., alder, sweetgale, clover, lupine, alfalfa, other legumes) is: <1% or none. 1-25% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). 25-50% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). 50-75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). >75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	Do not include N-fixing algae or lichens. [FA, FR, INV, NRv, OE, PH, SBM, Sens] 1 0 0 0
52				
53				
54				
55				
56				
57	F10	Sphagnum Moss Extent	The cover of Sphagnum moss (or any moss that forms a dense cushion many centimeters thick), including the moss obscured by taller sedges and other plants rooted in it, is: <5% of the vegetated part of the AA. 5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA. 25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA. 50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA. >95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	Exclude moss growing on trees and rocks. [CS, PH] 0 1 0 0
58				
59				
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62				

A	B	C	D	E
63	F11 % Bare Ground & Thatch	Consider the parts of the AA that lack surface water at the driest time of the growing season. Viewed from directly above the ground layer, the predominant condition in those areas at that time is:	1	Thatch is dead plant material (stems, leaves) resting on the ground surface. Bare ground that is present under a tree or shrub canopy should be counted. Boulders count as bare ground. Wetlands with mineral soils and that are heavily shaded or are dominated by annual plant species tend to have more extensive areas that are bare during the early growing season. [AM, EC, INV, NR, OE, POL, PR, SBM, Sens]
64		Little or no (<5%) bare ground is visible between erect stems or under canopy anywhere in the vegetated AA. Ground is extensively blanketed by dense thatch, moss, lichens, graminoids with great stem densities, or plants with ground-hugging foliage.		
65		Slightly bare ground (5-20% bare between plants) is visible in places, but those areas comprise less than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.		
66		Much bare ground (20-50% bare between plants) is visible in places, and those areas comprise more than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.		
67		Other conditions.		
68		Not applicable. Surface water (either open or obscured by emergent plants) covers all of the AA all the time.		
69	F12 Ground Irregularity	Imagine the AA without any living vegetation. Excluding the portion of the AA that is always under water, the number of hummocks, small pits, raised mounds, animal burrows, ruts, gullies, natural levees, microdepressions, and other areas of peat or mineral soil that are raised or depressed > 10 cm compared to most of the area within a few meters surrounding them is:	0	The depressions may be of human or natural origin. [AM, EC, INV, NR, PH, POL, PR, SBM, SR, WS]
70		Few or none (minimal microtopography; <1% of the land has such features, or entire AA is always water-covered).		
71		Intermediate.		
72		Several (extensive micro-topography).		
73	F13 Upland Inclusions	Within the AA, inclusions of upland are:	0	[AM, NR, SBM]
74		Few or none.		
75		Intermediate (1 - 10% of vegetated part of the AA).		
76		Many (e.g., wetland-upland "mosaic", >10% of the vegetated AA).		
77	F14 Soil Texture	In parts of the AA that lack persistent water, the texture of soil in the uppermost layer is mostly: [To determine this, use a trowel to check in at least 3 widely spaced locations, and use the soil texture key (in Appendix A of the Manual).]	0	[CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, WS]
78		Loamy: soils that may contain a little fine grit and do not make a "ribbon" longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.		
79		Fines: includes silt, clay, silt, soils that make a ribbon longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.		
80		Deep Peat , to 40 cm depth or greater.		
81		Shallow Peat or organic <40 cm deep.		
82		Coarse: includes sand, loamy sand, gravel, cobble, soils that do not make a ribbon when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.		
83	F15 Shorebird Feeding Habitats	During any 2 consecutive weeks of the growing season, the extent of mudflats, bare unshaded saturated areas not covered by thatch, and unshaded waters shallower than 6 cm is: [Include also any area that is adjacent to the AA.]	0	This addresses needs of many but not all migratory sandpipers, plovers, and related species. [WBF]
84		None, or <100 sq. m.		
85		100-1000 sq. m.		
86		1000 – 10,000 sq. m.		
87		>10,000 sq. m.		
88	F16 Herbaceous % of Vegetated Wetland	In aerial ("ducks eye" view, the maximum annual cover of herbaceous vegetation (all non-woody plants except moss) is:	0	[AM, WBF, WBN]
89		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA or <0.01 hectare (whichever is less). Mark "1" here and SKIP to F20 (Invasive Plant Cover).		
90		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.		
91		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.		
92		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.		
93		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.		
94	F17 Forb Cover	Within parts of the AA having herbaceous cover (excluding SAV), the areal cover of forbs reaches an annual maximum of:	0	Forbs are flowering plants. Do not include grasses, sedges, cattail, other graminoids, ferns, horsetails, or others that lack showy flowers. [POL]
95		<5% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
96		5-25% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
97		25-50% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
98		50-95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
99		>95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
100	F18 Sedge Cover	Sedges (<i>Carex</i> spp.) and cottongrass (<i>Eriophorum</i> spp.) occupy:	0	[CS]
101		<5% of the vegetated area, or none.		
102		5-50% of the vegetated area.		
103		50-95% of the vegetated area.		
104		>95% of the vegetated area.		

A	B	C	D	E
F19 105 106 107	Dominance of Most Abundant Herbaceous Species	Determine which two herbaceous species comprise the greatest portion of the herbaceous cover (excluding mosses and floating-leaved aquatic plants). Then choose one of the following: those species together comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year. those species together do not comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.	1 0	For this question, include ferns as well as graminoids and forbs. [EC, INV, PH, POL, Sens]
108 109 110 111 112 113		How extensive is the cover of invasive plant species in the AA? For species, see Plants_invasive worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file. invasive species appear to be absent in the AA, or are present only in trace amount (a few individuals). invasive species are present in more than trace amounts, but comprise <5% of herbaceous cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody). invasive species comprise 5-20% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody). invasive species comprise 20-50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody). invasive species comprise >50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).	1 0 0 0 0 0	
F20 114 115 116 117 118		Along the wetland-upland boundary, the percent of the upland edge (within 3 m upslope from the wetland) that is occupied by invasive plant species is: none of the upland edge (invasives apparently absent), or AA has no upland edge. some (but <5%) of the upland edge. 5-50% of the upland edge. most (>50%) of the upland edge.	1 0 0 0	
F21 119	Invasive Cover Along Upland Edge	During most of the year, open water within or adjacent to the vegetated part of the wetland is much wider than the maximum width of the vegetated zone within the wetland. Enter "1" if true, "0" if false.	0	[WBF, WBN, WCv]
F22 120		The vegetated part of the AA is within or adjacent to a body of non-tidal standing open water whose size exceeds 8 hectares during most of a normal year.	0	[FR, PR, PU, WBF, WBN]
F23 121 122 123 124 125 126 127		The percentage of the AA that <u>never</u> contains surface water during an average year (that is, except perhaps for a few hours after snowmelt or rainstorms), but which is still a wetland, is: <1% . In other words, all or nearly all of the AA is covered by water permanently or at least seasonally. 1-25% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha never contains surface water. 25-50% of the AA never contains surface water. 50-75% of the AA never contains surface water. 75-99% of the AA never contains surface water, OR >99% and there is at least one persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha in the AA. 99-100%. AND there is no persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha within the AA. Enter "1" and SKIP to F42 (Channel Connection).	0 0 1 0 0 0 0	1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SRv, WBF, WBN, WC]
F24 128 129 130 131 132 133		Identify the parts of the AA that still contain surface water (flowing or ponded, open or hidden beneath vegetation) even during the driest times of a normal year, i.e., when the AA's surface water is at its lowest annual level. At that time, the percentage of the AA that still contains surface water is: None. The AA dries up completely (no water in channels either) or never has surface water during most years. SKIP to F27. 1-20% of the AA. 20-50% of the AA. 50-95% of the AA. >95% of the AA. True for many fringe wetlands.	0 1 0 0 0	If you are unable to determine the condition at the driest time of year, ask the land owner or neighbors about it if possible. Indicators of persistence may include fish, some dragonflies, beaver, and muskrat. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, POL, PR, SBM, WBF, WBN]
F25 134 135 136 137 138 139		At mid-day during the warmest time of year, the area of surface water <u>within</u> the AA that is shaded by vegetation and other features that are within the AA at that time is: <5% of the water is shaded, or no surface water is present then. 5-25% of the water is shaded. 25-50% of the water is shaded. 50-75% of the water is shaded. >75% of the water is shaded.	1 0 0 0 0	[FA, WC]

A	B	C	D	E
140	F27 % of AA that is Flooded Only Seasonally	The percentage of the AA's area that is between the annual high water and the annual low water (surface water) is:		
141		None, or <0.01 hectare and <1% of the AA. SKIP to F29.	0	
142		1-20% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha.	0	
143		20-50% of the AA.	0	
144		50-95% of the AA.	0	
145		>95% of the AA.	1	
146	F28 Annual Water Fluctuation Range	The annual fluctuation in surface water level within most of the parts of the AA that contain surface water at least temporarily is:		
147		<10 cm change (stable or nearly so).	1	
148		10 cm - 50 cm change.	0	
149		0.5 - 1 m change.	0	
150		1-2 m change.	0	
151		>2 m change.	0	
152	Is the AA plus adjacent ponded water smaller than 0.01 hectare (about 10m x 10m, or 1m x 100 m)? If so, enter "1" in column D and SKIP TO F42 (Connection).			0
153	F29 Predominant Depth Class	During most of the time when surface water is present during the growing season, its depth, averaged over the entire inundated part of the AA, is:		
154		<10 cm deep (but >0).	1	
155		10 - 50 cm deep.	0	
156		0.5 - 1 m deep.	0	
157		1 - 2 m deep.	0	
158		>2 m deep. True for many fringe wetlands.	0	
159	F30 Depth Classes - Evenness of Proportions	When present, surface water in most of the AA usually consists of (select one):		
160		One depth class that comprises >90% of the AA's inundated area (use the classes in the question above).	1	
161		One depth class that comprises 50-90% of the AA's inundated area.	0	
162		Neither of above. There are 3 or more depth classes and none occupy >50%.	0	
163	F31 % of Water That Is Ponded (not Flowing)	During most times when surface water is present, the percentage that is (1) ponded (stagnant, or flows so slowly that fine sediment is not held in suspension) AND (2) is likely to be deeper than 0.5 m in some places, is:		
164		<5% of the water, or it occupies <100 sq.m cumulatively. Nearly all the surface water is flowing. SKIP to F34.	1	
165		5-30% of the water.	0	
166		30-70% of the water.	0	
167		70-95% of the water.	0	
168		>95% of the water.	0	
169	F32 Ponded Open Water - Minimum Size	During most of the growing season, the largest patch of open water that is ponded and is in or bordering the AA is >0.01 hectare (about 10 m by 10 m) and mostly deeper than 0.5 m. If true enter "1" and continue, If false, enter "0" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	Open water is not obscured by vegetation in aerial ("duck's eye") view. It includes vegetation floating on the water surface or entirely submersed beneath it.
170	F33 % of Ponded Water that is Open	In ducks-eye aerial view, the percentage of the ponded water that is open (lacking emergent vegetation during most of the growing season, and unhidden by a forest or shrub canopy) is:		
171		None, or <1% of the AA and largest pool occupies <0.01 hectares. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
172		1-4% of the ponded water. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
173		5-30% of the ponded water.	0	
174		30-70% of the ponded water.	0	
175		70-99% of the ponded water.	0	
176		100% of the ponded water.	0	
177	F34 Width of Vegetated Zone within Wetland	At the time during the growing season when the AA's water level is lowest, the average width of vegetated area <u>in the AA</u> that separates adjoining uplands from open water within the AA is:		
178		<1 m.	0	
179		1 - 9 m.	0	
180		10 - 29 m.	0	
181		30 - 49 m.	0	
182		50 - 100 m.	0	
183		> 100 m, or open water is absent at that time.	1	"Vegetated area" does not include underwater or floating-leaved plants, i.e., aquatic bed. Width may include wooded riparian areas if they have wetland soil or plant indicators. [AM, CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SR, WBN]

A	B	C	D	E
184	F35 Flat Shoreline Extent	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the percentage of the AA's water edge length that is nearly flat (a slope less than about 5% measured within 5 m landward of the water) is:		If several isolated pools are present in early summer, estimate the percent of their collective shorelines that has such a gentle slope. [SR, WBN]
185		<1% of the water edge.		
186		1-25% of the water edge.		
187		25-50% of the water edge.		
188		50-75% of the water edge.		
189		>75% of the water edge.		
190	F36 Robust Emergents	The percentage of the emergent vegetation cover in the AA that is cattail (<i>Typha spp.</i>), common reed (<i>Phragmites</i>), or tall (>1m) bulrush is:		Emergent vegetation is herbaceous plants whose stems are partly above and partly below the water surface during most of the time water is present. [WBN]
191		<1% of the emergent vegetation, or emergent vegetation is absent. SKIP to F38.		
192		1-25% of the emergent vegetation.		
193		25-75% of the emergent vegetation.		
194		>75% of the emergent vegetation.		
195	F37 Interspersion of Emergents & Open Water	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the spatial pattern of emergent vegetation within the water is mostly:		[AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, SR, WBF, WBN]
196		Scattered: More than 30% of such vegetation forms small islands or corridors surrounded by water.		
197		Intermediate.		
198		Clumped. More than 70% of such vegetation is in bands along the wetland perimeter or is clumped at one or a few sides of the surface water area.		
199	F38 Persistent Deepwater Area	If the deepest patch of surface water (flowing or ponded) in or directly adjacent to the AA is mostly deeper than 0.5 m for >2 weeks during the growing season, enter "1" and continue. If not, enter "0" and SKIP to F42 (Connection).	0	
200	F39 Non-vegetated Aquatic Cover	During most of the growing season and in waters deeper than 0.5 m, the cover for fish, aquatic invertebrates, and/or amphibians that is provided NOT by living vegetation, but by accumulations of dead wood and undercut banks is:		For this question, consider only the wood that is at or above the water surface. Estimates of underwater wood based only on observations from terrestrial viewpoints are unreliable so should not be attempted. [AM, FA, FR, INV]
201		Little or none.		
202		Intermediate.		
203		Extensive.		
204	F40 Isolated Island	The AA contains (or is part of) an island or beaver lodge within a lake, pond, or river, and is isolated from the shore by water depths >1 m on all sides during an average June. The island may be solid, or it may be a floating vegetation mat that is sufficiently large and dense to support a waterbird nest.	0	[WBN]
205	F41 Floating Algae & Duckweed	At some time of the year, mats of algae and/or duckweed are likely to cover >50% of the AA's otherwise-unshaded water surface, or blanket >50% of the underwater substrate. If true, enter "1" in next column. If untrue or uncertain, enter "0".	0	[EC, PR, WBF]
206	F42 Channel Connection & Outflow Duration	The most persistent surface water connection (outlet channel or pipe, ditch, or overbank water exchange) between the AA and a downslope stream network is: [Note: If the AA represents only part of a wetland, answer this according to whichever is the least permanent surface connection: the one between the AA and the rest of the wetland, or the surface connection between the wetland and the downslope stream network.]		Consider the connection regardless of whether the surface water is frozen. The "downslope stream network" could consist of ditches, rivers, ponds, or lakes which eventually connect to the ocean. If this cannot be determined while visiting the AA, consult topographic maps perhaps by viewing these online with Toporama (http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html) [CS, FA, FR, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WCv, WS]
207		Persistent (surface water flows out for >9 months/year).		
208		Seasonal (surface water flows out for 14 days to 9 months/year, not necessarily consecutive).		
209		Temporary (surface water flows out for <14 days, not necessarily consecutive).		
210		None -- but maps show a stream network downslope from the AA and within a distance that is less than the AA's length. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
211		No surface water flows out of the wetland except possibly during extreme events (<once per 10 years). Or, water flows only into a wetland, ditch, or lake that lacks an outlet. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	1	

A	B	C	D	E
212	F43 Outflow Confinement	During major runoff events, in the places where surface water exits the AA or connected waters nearby, the water:	0	"Major runoff events" would include biennial high water caused by storms and/or rapid snowmelt. [CS, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, STR, WS]
213		Mostly passes through a pipe, culvert, narrowly breached dike, berm, beaver dam, or other partial obstruction (other than natural topography) that does not appear to drain the wetland artificially during most of the growing season.		
214		Leaves through natural exits (channels or diffuse outflow), not mainly through artificial or temporary features.		
215		Is exported more quickly than usual due to ditches or pipes within the AA or connected to its outlet, or within 10 m of the AA's edge, which drain the wetland artificially, or water is pumped out of the AA.		
216	F44 Tributary Channel	At least once annually, surface water from a tributary channel that is >100 m long moves into the AA. Or, surface water from a larger permanent water body adjacent to the AA spills into the AA. If it enters only via a pipe, that pipe must be fed by a mapped stream or lake further upslope. If no, SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	If inlet tributaries cannot be searched for due to inaccessibility of part of the AA, follow suggestions in F42 above. [NRv, PH, PRv, SRv]
217	F45 Input Water Temperature	Based on lack of shade, water source characteristics, or actual temperature measurements, the inflow is likely to be warmer than surface water in the AA during part of most years. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	[WCv]
218	F46 Throughflow Resistance	During its travel through the AA at the time of peak annual flow, water arriving in channels: [select only the ONE encountered by most of the incoming water].	0	[FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
219		Does not bump into many plant stems as it travels through the AA. Nearly all the water continues to travel in unvegetated (often incised) channels that have minimal contact with wetland vegetation, or through a zone of open water such as an instream pond or lake.		
220		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
221		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation and mostly spreads throughout, or is in widely meandering, multi-branched, or braided channels.		
222		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
223		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems and follows a fairly indirect path from entrance to exit (meandering, multi-branched, or braided).		
224	F47 pH Measurement	The pH in most of the AA's surface water:	1	Preferably, measure this in larger areas of ponded surface water within the AA, or in streams that have passed through (not along) most of the AA. Unless surface water is completely absent, do not dig holes or make depressions in peat in order to provide water for this measurement. Avoid measuring near roads or in puddles formed only by recent rain. [AM, FA, FR, NR, WBF, PH, PR, Sens, WBF, WBN]
225		Was measured, and is: [enter the reading in the column to the right.]		
226		Was not measured but surface water is present and is darkly tea-coloured. Or if no surface water, then mosses and plants that indicate peatland (e.g., Labrador tea) are prevalent. Enter "1".		
227		Neither of above. Enter "1".		
228	F48 TDS and/or Conductivity	The TDS (total dissolved solids) or conductivity off the AA's surface water is: (select the first true row with information):	0	See above for measurement guidance. [FR, INV, NRv, PH, PRv, Sens]
229		TDS is: [Enter the reading in ppm or mg/L in the column to the right, if measured, or answer next row.]		
230		Conductivity is: [Enter the reading in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ in the column to the right.]		
231		Was not measured, but plants that indicate saline conditions cover much of the vegetated AA. Enter "1".		
232		Neither of above		
233	F49 Beaver Probability	Use of the AA by beaver during the past 5 years is (select most applicable ONE):	0	[FA, FR, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
234		Evident from direct observation or presence of gnawed limbs, dams, tracks, dens, lodges, or extensive stands of water-killed trees (snags).		
235		Likely based on known occurrence in the region and proximity to suitable habitat, which may include: (a) a persistent freshwater wetland, pond, or lake, or a perennial low or mid-gradient (<10%) channel, and (b) a corridor or multiple stands of hardwood trees and shrubs in vegetated areas near surface water.		
236		Unlikely because site characteristics above are deficient, and/or this is a settled area or other area where beaver are routinely removed.		
237		Select first applicable choice:	0	Adhere to these criteria strictly -- do not use personal judgment based on fen conditions, pH, or other evidence. Consult topographic maps to detect breaks in slope described here. Rust deposits associated with groundwater seeps may be most noticeable as orange discoloration in ice formations along streams during early winter. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PRv, SFS, WC, WS]
238		Springs are known to be present within the AA, or if groundwater levels have been monitored, that has demonstrated that groundwater primarily discharges to the wetland for longer periods during the year than periods when the wetland recharges the groundwater.		
239		Most of the AA has a slope of >5%, or is very close to the base of a natural slope longer than 100 m and much steeper than the slope of the AA. AND the pH of surface water, if known, is >5.5.		
240		Neither of above is true, although some groundwater may discharge to or flow through the AA. Or groundwater influx is unknown.		
241	F51 Internal Gradient	The gradient along most of the flow path within the AA is:	0	This is not the same as the shoreline slope. It is the elevational difference between the AA's inlet and outlet, divided by the flow-distance between them and converted to percent. If available, use a clinometer to measure this. Free clinometer apps can be downloaded to smartphones. If the wetland is large (longer than ~1 km), this may be estimated using Google Earth to determine the minimum and maximum elevation within the AA, then dividing by length and multiplying by 100. [CS, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
242		<2% or the AA has no surface water outlet (not even seasonally).		
243		2-5%.		
244		6-10%.		
245		>10%.		
246	Note for the next three questions: If the AA lacks an upland edge, evaluate based on the AA's entire perimeter, and moving outward into whatever areas are adjacent. In many situations, these questions are best answered by measuring from aerial images.			

A	B	C	D	E
247	F52 Vegetated Buffer as % of Perimeter	Within a zone extending 30 m laterally from the AA's edge with upland and/or other wetlands, the percentage that contains perennial vegetation cover (except lawns, row crops, heavily grazed land, conifer plantations) is:		[AM, FA, FR, INV, NRv, PH, POL, PRv, SBM, Sens, SRv, STR, WBN]
248		<5%.		0
249		5 to 30%.		0
250		30 to 60%.		0
251		60 to 90%.		0
252		>90%, or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands. SKIP to F55.		1
253	F53 Type of Cover in Buffer	Within 30 m upslope of where the wetland transitions to upland, the upland land cover that is NOT perennial vegetation is mostly (mark ONE):		[AM, FA, INV, NRv, PH, POL, SBM, STR, WBN]
254		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		0
255		Bare or nearly bare pervious surface or managed vegetation, e.g., lawn, row crops, unpaved road, dike, landslide.		1
256	F54 Buffer Slope	The steepest and/or most disturbed part of the upland area that is within 30 m of the wetland and occupies >10% of that upland area has a percent slope of:		[NRv, PRv, Sens, SRv]
257		<1% (flat – almost no noticeable slope) or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands.		0
258		2-5%.		1
259		5-30%.		0
260		>30%.		0
261	F55 Cliffs or Steep Banks	In the AA or within 100 m, there are elevated terrestrial features such as cliffs, talus slopes, stream banks, or excavated pits (but not riprap) that extend at least 2 m nearly vertically, are unvegetated, and potentially contain crevices or other substrate suitable for nesting or den areas. Enter 1 (yes) or 0 (no).	0	Do not include upturned trees as potential den sites. [POL, SBM]
262	F56 New or Expanded Wetland	Human actions within or adjacent to the AA have persistently expanded a naturally occurring wetland or created a wetland where there previously was none (e.g., by excavation, impoundment):		Determine this using historical aerial photography, old maps, soil maps, or permit files as available [CS, NR, OE, PH, Sens]
263		No.		0
264		Yes, and created or expanded 20 - 100 years ago.		1
265		Yes, and created or expanded 3-20 years ago.		0
266		Yes, and created or expanded within last 3 years.		0
267		Yes, but time of origin or expansion unknown.		0
268		Unknown if new or expanded within 20 years or not.		0
269	F57 Burn History	More than 1% of the AA's previously vegetated area:		Look for charred soil or stumps (in multiple widely-spaced locations) or ask landowner. [CS, PH, STR]
270		Burned within past 5 years.		0
271		Burned 6-10 years ago.		0
272		Burned 11-30 years ago.		0
273		Burned >30 years ago, or no evidence of a burn and no data.		1
274	F58 Visibility	The maximum percentage of the wetland that is visible from the best vantage point on public roads, public parking lots, public buildings, or public maintained trails that intersect, adjoin, or are within 100 m of the AA (select one) is:		[PU, STR, WBFv]
275		<25%.		0
276		25-50%.		0
277		>50%.		1
278	F59 Non-consumptive Uses - Actual or Potential	Assuming access permission was granted, select ALL statements that are true of the AA as it currently exists:		[PU, STR]
279		For an average person, walking is physically possible <u>in</u> (not just near) >5% of the AA during most of the growing season, e.g., free of deep water and dense shrub thickets.		1
280		Maintained roads, parking areas, or foot-trails are within 10 m of the AA, or the AA can be accessed part of the year by boats arriving via contiguous waters.		0
281		Within or near the AA, there is an interpretive center, trails with interpretive signs or brochures, and/or regular guided interpretive tours.		0
282		The percentage of the AA almost never visited by humans during an average growing season probably comprises: <i>[Note: Only include the part actually walked or driven (not simply viewed from) with a vehicle or boat. Do not include visitors on trails outside of the AA unless more than half the wetland is visible from the trails and they are within 30 m of the wetland edge. In that case include only the area occupied by the trail.]</i>		[AM, FAv, FRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
283		<5% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.		1
284		<5% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.		0
285		5-50% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.		0
286		5-50% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.		0
287		50-95%, with or without inhabited building nearby.		0
288		>95% of the AA with or without inhabited building nearby.		0

A	B	C	D	E
289	F61 Frequently Visited Area	The part of the AA visited by humans almost daily for several weeks during an average growing season probably comprises: <i>[See note above.]</i>		[AM, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
290		<5%. If F60 was answered ">95%" (mostly never visited), SKIP to F64.	1	
291		5-50%.	0	
292		50-95%.	0	
293		>95% of the AA.	0	
294	F62 BMP - Soils	Boardwalks, paved trails, fences or other infrastructure and/or well-enforced regulations appear to effectively prevent visitors from walking on soil within nearly all of the AA when the soil is unfrozen. Enter "1" if true.	0	[PH, PU]
295	F63 BMP - Wildlife Protection	Fences, observation blinds, platforms, paved trails, exclusion periods, and/or well-enforced prohibitions on motorised boats, off-leash pets, and off road vehicles appear to effectively exclude or divert visitors and their pets from the AA at critical times in order to minimize disturbance of wildlife (except during hunting seasons). Enter "1" if true.	0	[AM, PU, WBF, WBN]
296	F64 Consumptive Uses (Provisioning Services)	Recent evidence was found within the AA of the following potentially-sustainable consumptive uses. Select ALL that apply.		[FAv, FRv, WBFv]
297		Low-impact commercial timber harvest (e.g., selective thinning).	0	
298		Commercial or traditional-use harvesting of native plants, their fruits, or mushrooms.	0	
299		Waterfowl hunting.	0	
300		Fishing.	0	
301		Trapping of furbearers.	0	
302		None of the above.	1	
303	F65 Domestic Wells	The closest wells or water bodies that currently provide drinking water are:		[NRv]
304		Within 0-100 m. of the AA.	0	
305		100-500 m. away.	0	
306		>500 m. away, or no information.	1	
307	F66 Calcareous Fen	The AA is, or is part of, a calcareous fen. See the Plants_Calcar worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file for list of plant indicators (calciphiles). Enter 1 if more than two Strong or more than five Moderate calciphile species are present; otherwise enter 0, but if not able to identify those and no information, change to blank.		[PH, PR]
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Investigator: Jordan Davis, Alex Scott	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL8	Date: 12 October 2022		
Stressor (S) Data Form for Non-Tidal Wetlands. WESP-AC for Nova Scotia version 2.				
S1	Aberrant Timing of Water Inputs	Data		
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item that is likely to have caused the timing of water inputs (but not necessarily their volume) to shift by hours, days, or weeks, becoming either more muted (smaller or less frequent peaks spread over longer times, more temporal homogeneity of flow or water levels) or more flashy (larger or more frequent spikes but over shorter times). [FA, FR, INV, PH, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater from impervious surfaces that drains directly to the wetland.</p> <p>Water subsidies from wastewater effluent, septic system leakage, snow storage areas, or irrigation.</p> <p>Regular removal of surface or groundwater for irrigation or other consumptive use.</p> <p>Flow regulation in tributaries or water level regulation in adjoining water body, or other control structure at water entry points that regulates inflow to the wetland.</p> <p>A dam, dike, levee, weir, berm, or fill -- within or downgradient from the wetland -- that interferes with surface or subsurface flow in/out of the AA (e.g., road fill, wellpads, pipelines).</p> <p>Excavation within the wetland, e.g., dugout, artificial pond, dead-end ditch.</p> <p>Artificial drains or ditches in or near the wetland.</p> <p>Accelerated downcutting or channelization of an adjacent or internal channel (incised below the historical water table level).</p> <p>Logging within the wetland.</p> <p>Subsidence or compaction of the wetland's substrate as a result of machinery, livestock, fire, drainage, or off road vehicles.</p> <p>Straightening, ditching, dredging, and/or lining of tributary channels.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items had no measurable effect on the timing of water conditions in any part of the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>				
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
Spatial extent of timing shift within the wetland:	>95% of wetland.	5-95% of wetland.	<5% of wetland.	0
When most of the timing shift began:	<3 yrs ago.	3-9 yrs ago.	10-100 yrs ago.	0
Score the following 2 rows only if the altered inputs began within past 10 years, and only for the part of the wetland that experiences those.				
Input timing now vs. previously:	Shift of weeks.	Shift of days.	Shift of hours or minutes.	0
Flashiness or muting:	Became very flashy or controlled.	Intermediate.	Became mildly flashy or controlled.	0
			Sum=	0
			Stressor subscore=	0.00
S2	Accelerated Inputs of Contaminants and/or Salts	Data		
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of contaminants or salts to the AA. [AM, FA, PH, POL, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills, industrial facilities.</p> <p>Metals & chemical wastes from mining, shooting ranges, snow storage areas, oil/ gas extraction, other sources (download many locations from National Pollutant Release Inventory and view KMZ overlay in Google Earth. https://www.ec.gc.ca/inrp-npri/default.asp?lang=En&n=B85A1846-1</p> <p>Road salt.</p> <p>Spraying of pesticides, as applied to lawns, croplands, roadsides, or other areas in the CA.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly higher levels of contaminants and/or salts, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>				
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
Usual toxicity of most toxic contaminants:	Industrial effluent, mining waste, unmanaged landfill.	Cropland, managed landfill, pipeline or transmission rights-of-way.	Low density residential.	0
Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
			Sum=	0
			Stressor subscore=	0.00

S3	Accelerated Inputs of Nutrients				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of nutrients to the wetland. [NRv, PRv, STR]</i>				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills.				
	Fertilizers applied to lawns, ag lands, or other areas in the CA.				
	Livestock, dogs.				
	Artificial drainage of upslope lands.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly more nutrients, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Type of loading:	High density of unmaintained septic, some types of industrial sources.	Moderate density septic, cropland, secondary wastewater treatment plant.	Livestock, pets, low density residential.	0
	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0	
			Sum=	0	
			Stressor subscore=	0.00	
S4	Excessive Sediment Loading from Contributing Area				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the CA that is likely to have elevated the load of waterborne or windborne sediment reaching the wetland from its CA. [FA, FR, INV, PH, SRv, STR]</i>				
	Erosion from plowed fields, fill, timber harvest, dirt roads, vegetation clearing, fires.				
	Erosion from construction, in-channel machinery in the CA.				
	Erosion from off-road vehicles in the CA.				
	Erosion from livestock or foot traffic in the CA.				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent.				
	Sediment from road sanding, gravel mining, other mining, oil/gas extraction.				
	Accelerated channel downcutting or headcutting of tributaries due to altered land use.				
	Other human-related disturbances within the CA.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points (3, 2, or 1 as shown in header) in the last column. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively add significantly more sediment or suspended solids to the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Erosion in CA:	Extensive evidence, high intensity.*	Potentially (based on high-intensity* land use) or scattered evidence.	Potentially (based on low-intensity* land use) with little or no direct evidence.	0
	Recentness of significant soil disturbance in the CA:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0
	Duration of sediment inputs to the wetland:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
	AA proximity to actual or potential sources:	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
	<i>* high-intensity= extensive off-road vehicle use, plowing, grading, excavation, erosion with or without veg removal; low-intensity= veg removal only with little or no apparent erosion or disturbance of soil or sediment.</i>				Sum=
			Stressor subscore=	0.00	

S5	Soil or Sediment Alteration Within the Assessment Area				
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the wetland that is likely to have compacted, eroded, or otherwise altered the wetland's soil. Consider only items occurring within past 100 years or since wetland was created or restored (whichever is less). [CS, INV, NR, PH, SR, STR]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compaction from machinery, off-road vehicles, livestock, or mountain bikes, especially during wetter periods. Leveling or other grading not to the natural contour. Tillage, plowing (but excluding disking for enhancement of native plants). Fill or riprap, excluding small amounts of upland soils containing organic amendments (compost, etc.) or small amounts of topsoil imported from another wetland. Excavation. Ditch cleaning or dredging in or adjacent to the wetland. Boat traffic in or adjacent to the wetland and sufficient to cause shore erosion or stir bottom sediments. Artificial water level or flow manipulations sufficient to cause erosion or stir bottom sediments. <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not measurably alter the soil structure and/or topography, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>					
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
Spatial extent of altered soil:	>95% of wetland or >95% of its upland edge (if any).	5-95% of wetland or 5-95% of its upland edge (if any).	<5% of wetland and <5% of its upland edge (if any).		0
Recentness of significant soil alteration in wetland:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.		0
Duration:	Long-lasting, minimal veg recovery.	Long-lasting but mostly revegetated.	Short-term, revegetated, not intense.		0
Timing of soil alteration:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Mainly during one-time or scattered events.		0
			Sum=		0
				Stressor subscore=	0.00

Assessment Area (AA) Results:

Wetland ID: WL8

Date: 12 October 2022

Observer: JD AS

Latitude & Longitude (decimal degrees): 45.55893889, -63.60156944

Wetland Functions or Other Attributes:		Function Score (Normalised)	Function Rating	Benefits Score (Normalised)	Benefits Rating	Function Score (raw)	Benefits Score (raw)
Water Storage & Delay (WS)		7.18	Moderate	8.06	Higher	7.30	3.58
Stream Flow Support (SFS)		0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Water Cooling (WC)		4.20	Moderate	0.00	Lower	2.80	0.00
Sediment Retention & Stabilisation (SR)		10.00	Higher	1.32	Moderate	10.00	0.65
Phosphorus Retention (PR)		10.00	Higher	1.50	Moderate	10.00	1.17
Nitrate Removal & Retention (NR)		10.00	Higher	3.89	Moderate	10.00	3.89
Carbon Sequestration (CS)		4.10	Moderate			7.14	
Organic Nutrient Export (OE)		5.61	Moderate			3.66	
Anadromous Fish Habitat (FA)		0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Resident Fish Habitat (FR)		1.27	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.69	0.00
Aquatic Invertebrate Habitat (INV)		5.66	Higher	3.50	Moderate	5.80	3.13
Amphibian & Turtle Habitat (AM)		4.69	Moderate	4.12	Moderate	5.58	5.16
Waterbird Feeding Habitat (WBF)		3.81	Moderate	5.00	Moderate	2.90	5.00
Waterbird Nesting Habitat (WBN)		2.79	Moderate	5.00	Higher	2.02	5.00
Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat (SBM)		8.70	Higher	5.00	Moderate	7.57	5.00
Pollinator Habitat (POL)		8.07	Higher	0.00	Lower	6.69	0.00
Native Plant Habitat (PH)		3.76	Moderate	4.75	Lower	5.40	4.75
Public Use & Recognition (PU)				2.11	Moderate		1.74
Wetland Sensitivity (Sens)				6.78	Moderate		4.10
Wetland Ecological Condition (EC)				4.78	Moderate		7.50
Wetland Stressors (STR) (higher score means more stress)				6.10	Higher		3.11
Summary Ratings for Grouped Functions:							
HYDROLOGIC Group (WS)		7.18	Moderate	8.06	Higher	7.30	3.58
WATER QUALITY SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SR, PR, NR, CS)		9.26	Higher	3.06	Lower	9.64	2.90
AQUATIC SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SFS, INV, OE, WC)		4.76	Moderate	2.33	Lower	4.43	2.08
AQUATIC HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of FA, FR, AM, WBF, WBN)		3.60	Moderate	3.91	Moderate	3.91	4.09
TRANSITION HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of SBM, PH, POL)		7.77	Higher	4.13	Lower	7.06	4.13
WETLAND CONDITION (EC)				4.78	Moderate		7.50
WETLAND RISK (average of Sensitivity & Stressors)				6.44	Moderate		3.61
		NOTE: A score of 0 does not mean the function or benefit is absent from the wetland. It means only that this wetland has a capacity that is equal or less than the lowest-scoring one, for that function or benefit, from among all the NS calibration wetlands that were assessed previously.					

NOVA SCOTIA - Functional WSS Interpretation Tool

Function-Benefit Product (FBP)	FBP SCORE	FBP SCORE CATEGORY
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - HYDROLOGIC	57.9052599	High
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - WATER QUALITY SUPPORT	28.37352989	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC SUPPORT	11.10203958	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC HABITAT	14.08580554	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - TRANSITION HABITAT	32.06053852	Low

Habitat Rule Satisfied? NO

Support Rule Satisfied? NO

Habitat/Support Hybrid Rule Satisfied? NO

CONCLUSION: Site is not a WSS

Cover Page: Basic Description of Assessment	WESP-AC version 2
Site Name:	Higgins Mountain, WL9
Investigator Name:	Jordan Davis, Alex Scott, Madeline Maher
Date of Field Assessment:	11 October 2022
Nearest Town:	Masstown
Latitude (decimal degrees):	45.57126389
Longitude (decimal degrees):	63.60269444
Is a map based on a formal on-site wetland delineation available?	Yes
Approximate size of the Assessment Area (AA, in hectares):	0.06
AA as percent of entire wetland (approx.). Attach sketch map if AA is smaller than the entire contiguous wetland.	100
What percent (approx.) of the wetland were you able to visit?	100
What percent (approx.) of the AA were you able to visit?	100
Were you able to ask the site owner/manager about any of the questions?	No
Indicate here if you intentionally surveyed for rare plants, calciphile plants, or rare animals:	Yes
Have you attended a WESP-AC training session? If so, indicate approximate month & year.	October 2022
How many wetlands have you assessed previously using WESP-AC? (approx.)	30
Comments about the site or this WESP-AC assessment (attach extra page if desired):	

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date: 08 November 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL9		Investigator: Madeline Maher	
2	Form OF (Office). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia wetlands only. DIRECTIONS: Conduct an assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answering many of the questions below will require using these online map viewers: Google Earth Pro: https://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html Provincial Landscape Viewer: https://nsgis.novascotia.ca/plv/ For most wetlands, completing this office data form will require 1-2 hours. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see bracketed abbreviations in the Definitions/Explanations column. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.				
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations
4	OF1	Province	Mark the province in which the AA is located by changing the 0 in the column next to it to a "1". Mark only one.		This determines to which province's calibration wetlands the raw score of any wetland is normalised. In the function and benefits models, it also triggers the automatic exclusion of indicators for which no spatial data exists in a particular province.
5			New Brunswick	0	
6			Nova Scotia	1	
7			Prince Edward Island	0	
8			Newfoundland-Labrador	0	
9	OF2	Ponded Area Within 1 km.	The area of surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		"Adjacent" means not separated from the AA by a wide expanse (>50 m) of upland (including roads >50 m wide). Include ponded areas likely to be hidden by wetland vegetation. If surface water extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. Do not include tidal areas. Measure the area from aerial imagery using Google Earth Pro (click on Ruler icon in toolbar, then Polygon in pop-up menu). [PH, SBM, WBN]
10			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
11			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	1	
12			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
13			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
14			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
15			>100 hectares.	0	
16	OF3	Ponded Water & Wetland Within 1 km.	The area of wetlands and surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. If the AA's wetland vegetation extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. "Ponded" means not flowing in rivers or streams. [Sens, WBF]
17			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
18			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	1	
19			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
20			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
21			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
22			>100 hectares.	0	
23	OF4	Size of Largest Nearby Vegetated Tract or Corridor	The largest vegetated patch or corridor that includes the AA's vegetation plus all adjacent upland vegetation that is not lawn, row crops, heavily grazed lands, conifer plantation is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. Use Google Earth Pro's polygon ruler (as described above). Exclude conifer plantations only if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens]
24			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
25			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
26			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
27			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
28			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
29			100 to 1000 hectares.	1	
30			>1000 hectares. <i>[This is nearly always the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]</i>	0	

A	B	C	D	E
31	OF5 Distance to Large Vegetated Tract	The minimum distance from the edge of the AA to the edge of the closest vegetated land (but excluding row crops, lawn, conifer plantation) larger than 375 hectares (about 2 km on a side), is:	0	To measure distance, use Google Earth Pro (Ruler > Line tool). The 375-ha criterion is from the Fundy Model Forest Project. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
32		<50 m, and not separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, bare ground, lawn, or impervious surface. Or the AA itself contains >375 ha of vegetation. [This is often the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]		
33		<50 m, but completely separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by those features, and AA does not contain >375 ha of vegetation.		
34		50-500 m, and not separated.		
35		50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
36		0.5 - 5 km, and not separated.		
37		0.5 - 5 km, but separated by those features.		
38		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors which are that large are >5 km away).		
39	OF6 Herbaceous Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 5 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 1 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "1". [* NOTE: Exclude lawns, row crops, heavily grazed lands, forest, shrublands. Include moss as well as grasslike plants in this use of "herbaceous vegetation"]	0	For this question only, consider moss to be herbaceous vegetation. Determine the score by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth after successively drawing or estimating the boundaries of the buffers of 5 km, 1 km, and 100 m radius focused on the center of the AA. Circles of specified radius can be drawn in Google Earth Pro by clicking on the Ruler icon, then Circle in the pop-up menu. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
40	OF7 Woody Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% woody* but uplands within 5 km have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 1 km have <10% woody cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "1" [* NOTE: woody cover = trees & shrubs taller than 1 m.]	0	See above. Do not consider conifer plantations to be forest if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv]
41	OF8 Local Vegetated Cover Percentage	Draw a 5-km radius circle measured from the center of the AA. Ignoring all permanent water in the circle, the percent of the remaining area that is wooded or unmanaged herbaceous vegetation (NOT lawn, row crops, bare or heavily grazed land, clearcuts, or conifer plantations) is:	0	In Google Earth, draw the 5 km buffer and then estimate land cover percentages, or do GIS analysis of an appropriate land cover layer. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
42		<5% of the land.		
43		5 to 20% of the land.		
44		20 to 60% of the land.		
45		60 to 90% of the land.		
46		>90% of the land. SKIP to OF10.		
47	OF9 Type of Land Cover Alteration	Within the 5-km radius circle, and ignoring all permanent water, the land area that is bare or non-perennial cover is mostly:	0	[AM, SBM]
48		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
49		Bare pervious surface, e.g., lawn, recent (<5 yrs ago) clearcut, dirt or gravel road, cropland, landslide, conifer plantation.		
50	OF10 Distance by Road to Nearest Population Center	Measured along the maintained road nearest the AA, the distance to the nearest population center is:	0	"Population center" means a settled area with more than about 5 regularly- inhabited structures per square kilometer. In Google Earth Pro, click on the Ruler icon, then Path, and draw and measure the route. [FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, WBFv]
51		<100 m.		
52		100 - 500 m.		
53		0.5- 1 km.		
54		1 - 5 km.		
55		>5 km.		

A	B	C	D	E
56	OF11 Distance to Nearest Maintained Road	From the center of the AA, the distance to the nearest maintained public road (dirt or paved) is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth Pro and measuring with the Ruler>Line tool [AM, FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBN]
57		<10 m.	1	
58		10 - 25 m.	0	
59		25 - 50 m.	0	
60		50 - 100 m.	0	
61		100 - 500 m.	0	
62		>500 m.	0	
63	OF12 Wildlife Access	Draw a circle of radius of 5 km from the center of the AA. If mammals and amphibians can move from the center of the AA to ALL other separate wetlands and ponds located within the circle without being forced to cross pavement (any width), lawns, bare ground, and/or marine waters, mark 1= yes can move to all, 0= no. Change to blank if there are no other wetlands within 5 km.	0	Draw the 5 km circle in Google Earth Pro using the Circle tool and search for roads and wetlands within it, being alert for roads hidden under forest canopy. [AM, SBM, STR]
64	OF13 Distance to Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) ponded water body visible in GoogleEarth imagery is:		In Google Earth Pro, zoom in closely to examine the surrounding landscape for ponds, lakes, and wetlands that appear to be permanently flooded. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
65		<50 m, and not separated by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, lawn, bare ground, or impervious surface.	0	
66		<50 m, but completely separated by those features.	0	
67		50-500 m, and not separated.	0	
68		50-500 m, but separated by those features.	0	
69		0.5 - 1 km, and not separated.	0	
70		0.5 - 1 km, but separated by those features.	0	
71		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors that large are >1 km away).	1	
72	OF14 Distance to Large Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate)non-tidal body of water that is ponded during most of the year and is larger than 8 hectares during most of a normal year is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth. [Sens, WBF, WBN]
73		<100 m.	0	
74		100 m - 1 km.	0	
75		1-2 km.	0	
76		2-5 km.	1	
77		5-10 km.	0	
78		>10 km.	0	
79	OF15 Tidal Proximity	The distance from the AA edge to the closest tidal water body (regardless of its salinity) is:		In Google Earth, measure the distance to the ocean (including Bay of Fundy) or tidal river, whichever is closer. If you need to see how far upriver a river is tidal, see the KMZ file provided with this calculator for NS (NS Headtide). Points shown in those files are only an approximation, so local information if available may be preferable. [FA, WBF]
80		<100 m.	0	
81		100 m - 1 km.	0	
82		1 - 5 km.	0	
83		5-10 km.	0	
84		10-40 km.	1	
85		>40 km.	0	
86	OF16 Upland Edge Contact	Select one:		[NR, SBM, Sens]
87		The AA has no upland edge (or upland is <1% of perimeter). The AA is entirely surrounded by (& contiguous with) other wetlands or water.	0	
88		1-25% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland (including filled areas). The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0	
89		25-50% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0	
90		50-75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	1	
91		More than 75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. Any remainder adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA. This will be true for most assessments done with WESP-AC.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
92	OF17 Flood Damage from Non-tidal Waters	Within 5 km downstream or downslope of the AA (select first true choice):	0	Contact local authorities to determine if such maps exist. Where available, LiDAR imagery can provide finer elevational resolution useful for flood modeling. [WSv]
93		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding not caused by tidal storm surges.		
94		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas, but infrastructure is absent or is not vulnerable to floods from a non-tidal river. In some cases levees, upriver dams, or other measures may partly limit damage or risk from smaller events.		
95		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
96		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there is no infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
97	OF18 Relative Elevation in Watershed	In Google Earth, enable the Terrain layer (lower left menu) and open the NS_Watersheds Secondary KMZ file that accompanies this calculator. Then determine the AA's approximate elevation (bottom right, NOT the "eye alt"). Then move cursor around to determine the watershed's maximum and minimum elevation. Divide the AA's elevation by the (max-min).	1.04	[FA, NR, Sens, SFSv, WCv, WSv]
98	OF19 Water Quality Sensitive Watershed or Area	The AA is in a Protected Water Supply area (Designated Water Supply Area, Natural Watershed Municipal Surface Water Supply Area, or Municipal Water Supply Area) according to the provided KMZ overlay ("NS Protected Water Supply Areas"). Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	If an ACCDC report is available for this AA, it also may contain such information. [NRv]
99	OF20 Degraded Water Upstream	Sampling indicates a problem with concentrations of metals, hydrocarbons, nutrients, or other substances (excluding bacteria, acidic water, high temperatures) being present at levels harmful to aquatic life or humans, and:	0	May use existing data, or sample those waters as part of this wetland assessment. "Harmful" should be evaluated with regard to current federal or provincial water quality standards. [AM, FA, FR, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WBF, WBN]
100		The condition is present within the AA.		
101		The condition is present in waters within 1 km that flow into the AA, but has not been documented in the AA itself.		
102		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
103		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
104	OF21 Degraded Water Downstream	The problem described above is downslope from the AA, and:	0	May use existing data, or monitor waters as part of this wetland assessment. [NRv, PRv, SRv]
105		The condition is present within 1 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel.		
106		The condition is present within 5 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel, or within 1 km but not connected to the AA by a channel.		
107		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
108		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
109	OF22 Wetland as a % of Its Contributing Area (Catchment)	From a topographic map and field observations, estimate the approximate boundaries of the catchment (CA) of the entire wetland of which the AA may be only a part. Then adjust those boundaries if necessary based on your field observations of the surrounding terrain, and/or by using procedures described in the Manual. Divide the area of the wetland (not just the AA) by the approximate area of its catchment excluding the area of the wetland itself. When doing the calculation, if ponded water is adjacent to the wetland, include that in the wetland area. The result is:	0	Topographic maps may be viewed online at the National Atlas of Canada (Toporama): http://atlas.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html [NR, PR, Sens, SR, WS]
110		<0.01, or catchment size unknown due to stormwater pipes that collect water from an indeterminate area.		
111		0.01 to 0.1.		
112		0.1 to 1.		
113		>1 (wetland is larger than its catchment (e.g., wetland with flat surrounding terrain and no inlet, or is entirely isolated by dikes, or is a raised bog)).		
114	OF23 Unvegetated Surface in the Contributing Area	The proportion of the AA's contributing area (measured to no more than 1000 m upslope) that is comprised of buildings, roads, parking lots, other pavement, exposed bedrock, landslides, and other mostly-bare surface is about :	0	[FA, INV, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WCv, WSv]
115		<10%.		
116		10 to 25%.		
117		>25%.		

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118	OF24	Transport From Upslope A relatively large proportion of the precipitation that falls farther upslope in the CA reaches this wetland quickly as runoff (surface water), as indicated by the following: (a) input channel is present, (b) input channels have been straightened, (c) upslope wetlands have been ditched extensively, (d) land cover is mostly non-forest, (e) CA slopes are steep, and/or (f) most CA soils are shallow (bedrock near surface) and/or have high runoff coefficients. This statement is:		[NRv, PRv, SRv, WSv]
119		Mostly true.	1	
120		Somewhat true.	0	
121		Mostly untrue.	0	
122	OF25	Aspect The overland flow direction of most surface water (in streams, rivers, or runoff) that enters the AA is:		[AM, NR, SFS, WC, WS]
123		Northward (N, NE). north-facing contributing area.	0	
124		Southward (S, SW). south-facing contributing area.	0	
125		Other (E, SE, W, NW), or no detectable uphill slope or input channel (flat).	1	
126	OF26	Internal Flow Distance (Path Length) The horizontal flow distance from the wetland's inlet to outlet is:		Identify inlets and outlets, if any, from topographic maps (use elevations to determine which are inlets and which are outlets) and augment by field inspection. With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, select Nova Scotia Topo as the Basemap. Also enable the layer Forestry>WAM Predicted Flow. Then measure the inlet-outlet distance. [NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
127		<10 m.	0	
128		10 - 50 m.	0	
129		50 - 100 m.	0	
130		100 - 1000 m.	0	
131		1-2 km.	0	
132		>2 km, or wetland lacks an inlet and outlet.	1	
133	OF27	Growing Degree Days In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called NS_GrowingDegreeDays. Place your cursor over the AA and left-click. From the pop-up window, enter the GRIDCODE number in the next column.	1908	This layer was provided by Dr. Dan McKenney of the Canadian Forest Service [AM, CS, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WCv, WS]
134	OF28	Fish Access or Use According to agency biologists and/or your own observations, the AA. [Mark just the first choice that is true.]:		Regarding the last choice, if uncertain if an AA is fishless, consider the possibility its waters have been stocked. [AM, FA, FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
135		Is known to support rearing and/or spawning by Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels. Go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife>Significant Habitat>Species at Risk. Contact local fishery biologists, review the ACCDC report, and visit these websites: http://www.salmontlas.com/atlanticsalmon/canada-east/index.1.html http://atlanticssalmofederation.org/rivers/introduction.html	0	
136		Has not been documented to support Atlantic salmon rearing and/or spawning, but is connected to nearby waters likely to contain Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels and is probably accessed by those during some conditions.	0	
137		Is probably not accessed by any anadromous fish species but is known or likely to have other fish at least seasonally.	0	
138		Is known or likely to be fishless (e.g., too small, dry, and/or not accessible even temporarily, and not stocked).	1	
139	OF29	Species of Conservation Concern Within the past 10 years, in the AA (or in its adjoining waters or wetland), qualified observers have documented [mark all applicable]:		Request information from ACCDC and/or conduct your own survey at an appropriate season using an approved protocol. For birds, also check eBird.org. NOTE for NS: If your WESP-AC is being completed for a Wetland Alteration Application to NS-ECC, your ACCDC results and any taxon-specific survey results must be submitted along with your WESP-AC results, and application. [AMv, EC, PHv, POLv, SBMv, Sens, WBFv, WBNv]
140		Presence of one or more of the plant species listed in the Plants_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, or the AA is within a mapped Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora Buffer (go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones).	0	
141		Presence of one or more of the amphibian or reptile species (AM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
142		Presence of one or more of the waterbird species (WBF, WBN) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
143		Presence of one or more of the nesting songbird or raptor species (SBM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, during their nesting season (May-July for most species).	0	
144		None of the above, or no data.	1	
145	OF30	Important Bird Area (IBA) In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called IBAs_Canada. The AA is all or part of an officially designated IBA. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	The source of this layer, which should be checked periodically for updates, is: http://www.ibacanada.com/mapviewer.jsp?lang=EN [SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]

	A	B	C	D	E
146	OF31	Black Duck Nesting Area	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called BlackDuck. Adjust its alignment and opacity. Determine the predicted density (pairs per 25 sq. km) of nesting American Black Duck in the AA's vicinity: <10 (enter 0), 10-20 (enter 1), 20-30 (enter 2), >30 (enter 3). If outside of region shown in map, change to blank.	0	This was provided by Dr. David Leske. [WBNv]
147	OF32	Wintering Deer or Moose Concentration Areas	If AA is on private land with no information, change to blank (not 0). Otherwise: With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, for Wintering Moose, go to Wildlife> Significant Habitat. For Mainland Moose Concentration Areas, go to Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0.	0	[SBM]
148	OF33	Other Conservation Designation	The AA is all or part of an area designated by government, First Nations, or the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) for its exceptional ecological features or highly intact natural conditions. With Provincial Landscape Viewer, see Protected Areas. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If uncertain, consult NCC and agencies for more recent information.	0	See: https://novascotia.ca/parksandprotectedareas/plan/interactive-map/ [PU]
149	OF34	Conservation Investment	The AA is part of or contiguous to a wetland on which public or private organizational funds were spent to preserve, create, restore, or enhance the wetland (excluding mitigation wetlands). Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank (not 0).		[PU]
150	OF35	Mitigation Investment	The AA is all or part of a mitigation site used explicitly to offset impacts elsewhere. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.		[PU]
151	OF36	Sustained Scientific Use	Plants, animals, or water in the AA have been monitored for >2 years, unrelated to any regulatory requirements, and data are available to the public. Or the AA is part of an area that has been designated by an agency or institution as a benchmark, reference, or status-trends monitoring area. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.		[PU]
152	OF37	Calcareous Region	The AA is NOT in a subregion that has been heavily exposed to acid precipitation. Enter "1" if true (green or yellow in map in Appendix A of the Manual). Enter "0" if false. If no information, change to blank.		[AM, FA, FR, INV, PH]
153	OF38	Ownership	Select the ONE ownership that covers the most of the AA. In Google Earth, open KMZ file called NS_CrownlandsUse more recent information if available.		"Private lands" may include those owned or leased by non-governmental organizations, e.g., charitable conservation land trusts, DUC, TNC. [PU, STR]
154			New timber harvest, roads, mineral extraction, and intensive summer recreation (e.g., off-road vehicles) are permanently prohibited. Includes many publicly-owned Protected Lands, and private lands under long-term (30+ year) legal agreements to maintain nearly-unaltered conditions.	0	
155			Ownership is public (e.g., municipal, Crown Reservations/Notations) but some or all of the above activities are allowed.	0	
156			Ownership is private but public access is allowed, and/or a shorter-term conservation easement (whether renewable or not) is in place.	0	
157			Ownership is private and owner does not allow access, or access permission unknown, and not a conservation easement.	0	

	A	B	C	D	E		
1	Date: 11 October 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL9		Investigator: Blake Fairclough, Jordan Davis, Alex Scott			
2	Form F (Field). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia. DIRECTIONS: Walk for no less than 10 minutes from the wetland edge towards its core, in the part of the AA that is proposed for alteration. If no alteration is proposed, walk in a portion that appears to be most representative of the wetland overall. Walk only where it is safe and legal to do so. Conduct the assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answer these questions primarily based on your onsite observations and interpretations. Do not write in shaded parts of this data form. Answering some questions accurately may require conferring with the landowner or other knowledgeable persons, and/or reviewing aerial imagery. For most wetlands, completing this field data form will require 1-2 hours on a site. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see the accompanying Interpretations form. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage & Delay, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.						
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations		
4	F1	Wetland Type	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the vegetated part of the AA:		<p>Ericaceous shrubs are ones in the heather family (Ericaceae). Most have leathery evergreen leaves. They include rhododendron, azalea, swamp laurel, leatherleaf, Labrador tea, and others. Most require acidic soil. Although not in the family Ericaceae, sweetgale (<i>Myrica gale</i>) should be counted also. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, Sens, SFS, WBF, WBN]</p>		
5	A. Moss and/or lichen cover more than 25% of the ground. Often dominated by ericaceous shrubs (e.g., Labrador tea) or other acid-tolerant plants (e.g., bog cranberry, pitcher plant, sundew, orchids). Substrate is mostly undecomposed peat. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.						
6	A1. Surface water is usually absent or, if present, pH is typically <4.5 and conductivity is usually <100 µS/cm (<64 ppm TDS). Trees are absent or nearly so. Sedge cover usually sparse or absent but cottongrass and/or lichen cover may be extensive, as well as cloudberry, lingonberry, sheep laurel, and a sedge (<i>Carex rariflora</i>). Wetland surface and surrounding landscape are seldom sloping and wetland often is domed (convex). Inlet and outlet channels are usually absent. If known, pH of peat is <4.0.		0				
7	A2. Not A1. Surface water, if present, has pH typically >4.5 and conductivity is usually >100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Sedge cover is usually extensive, and/or tree and tall shrub cover is extensive. Sometimes at toe of slope or edge of water body. An exit channel is usually present. Wetter than A1 and peat depth may be shallower (<2 m).		1				
8	B. Moss and/or lichen cover less than 25% of the ground. Soil is mineral or decomposed organic (muck). Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column:						
9	B1. Trees and shrubs taller than 1 m comprise more than 25% of the vegetated cover. Surface water is mostly absent or inundates the vegetation only seasonally (e.g., vernal pools or floodplain).		0				
10	B2. Not B1. Tree & tall shrubs comprise less than than 25% of the vegetated cover. Vegetation is mostly herbaceous, e.g., cattail, bulrush, burreed, pond lily, horsetail. Surface water may be extensive and fluctuates seasonally, being either persistent or drying up partly or entirely.		0				
11	Reminder: For all questions, the AA should include all persistent waters in ponds smaller than 8 hectares (~283 m on a side) that are adjacent to the AA. The AA should also include part of the water area of adjacent ponded water larger than 8 ha and adjacent rivers wider than 20 m. Specifically, the AA should include the open water part adjacent to wetland vegetation and equal in width to the average width of that vegetated zone. Throughout this data form, " adjacent " is used synonymously with abutting , adjoining , bordering , contiguous -- and means no upland (manmade or natural) completely separates the described features along their directly shared edge. Features joined only by a channel are not necessarily considered to be adjacent -- a large portion of their edges must match. The features do not have to be hydrologically connected in order to be considered adjacent.						
12	F2		Wetland Types - Adjoining or Subordinate	If the AA is smaller than 1 ha, mark all other types that occupy more than 1% of the vegetated AA. If the AA is larger than 1 ha, mark all other types which are within or adjacent to the AA and occupy more than 1 ha, as visible from the AA or as interpreted from aerial imagery. Do not mark again the type marked in F1.			1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, INV, SBM, WBF]
13	A1.			0			
14	A2.	0					
15	B1.	0					
16	B2.	0					

A	B	C	D	E	
17	F3 Woody Height & Form Diversity	Following EACH row below, indicate with a number code the percentage of the living vegetation in the AA which is occupied by that feature (6 if >95%, 5 if 75-95%, 4 if 50-75%, 2 if 25-50%, 1 if <5%, 0 if none). If the vegetated part of the AA is largely herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation, these percentages should not sum to 100%.		Deciduous shrubs in this region usually include buttonbush, Labrador tea, bayberry (<i>Morella</i>), huckleberry, cranberry, cloudberry, sweetgale, alder, willow, birch, ash, dogwood, and a few others. If you assigned a code of 3 or higher to any of the first four choices and the ground cover beneath the trees/shrubs is <25% moss, then question F1 might be "B1". [CS, INV, NR, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]	
18		coniferous trees (may include tamarack) taller than 3 m.	2		
19		deciduous trees taller than 3 m.	0		
20		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	2		
21		deciduous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	1		
22		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs <1 m tall not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	1		
23		deciduous shrubs or trees <1 m tall (e.g., deciduous seedlings) not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	1		
24		Note : If none of top 4 rows in F3 was marked 2 or greater, SKIP to F9 (N fixers).			
25	F4 Dominance of Most Abundant Shrub Species	Determine which two woody plant species comprise the greatest portion of the low (<3 m) woody cover . Then choose one:	[PH, POL, SBM, Sens]		
26		those species together comprise > 50% of such cover.	1		
27		those species together do not comprise > 50% of such cover.	0		
28	F5 Woody Diameter Classes	Mark ALL the types that comprise >5% of the woody canopy cover in the AA or >5% of the wooded areas (if any) along its upland edge (perimeter) . The edge should include only the trees whose canopies extend into the AA.		Estimate the diameters at chest height. If small-diameter trees are overtopped (shaded) by larger ones, visualise a "subcanopy" at the average height of the smaller-dbh trees, to serve as a basis for the minimum 5% canopy requirement in this question. The trees and shrubs need not be wetland species. [AM, CS, POL, SBM, Sens, WBN]	
29		coniferous, 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall.	1		
30		broad-leaved deciduous 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall.	1		
31		coniferous, 10-19 cm diameter.	1		
32		broad-leaved deciduous 10-19 cm diameter.	0		
33		coniferous, 20-40 cm diameter.	0		
34		broad-leaved deciduous 20-40 cm diameter.	0		
35		coniferous, >40 cm diameter.	0		
36		broad-leaved deciduous >40 cm diameter.	0		
37	F6 Height Class Interspersion	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the AA:		[AM, INV, NR, PH, SBM, Sens]	
38		A. Neither the vegetation taller than 1 m nor the vegetation shorter than that comprise >70% of the vegetated part of the AA. They each comprise 30-70% . Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.			
39		A1. The two height classes are mostly scattered and intermixed throughout the AA.	0		
40		A2. Not A1. The two height classes are mostly in separate zones or bands, or in proportionately large clumps.	1		
41		B. Either the vegetation shorter than 1 m comprises >70% of the vegetated part of the AA, or the vegetation taller than that does. One size class might even be totally absent. Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column:			
42		B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly scattered and intermixed within the prevalent one.	0		
43		B2. Not B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly located apart from the prevalent one, in separate zones or clumps, or is completely absent.	0		
44	F7 Large Snags (Dead Standing Trees)	The number of large snags (diameter >20 cm) in the AA plus adjacent upland area within 10 m of the wetland edge is:		Snags are dead standing trees that often (not always) lack bark and foliage. Include only ones that are at least 2 m tall. [POL, SBM, WBN]	
45		None, or fewer than 8/ hectare which exceed this diameter.	1		
46		Several (>8/hectare) and a pond, lake, or slow-flowing water wider than 10 m is within 1 km.	0		
47		Several (>8/hectare) but above not true.	0		
48	F8 Downed Wood	The number of downed wood pieces longer than 2 m and with diameter >10 cm, and not persistently submerged, is:		Exclude temporary "burn piles." [AM, INV, POL, SBM]	
49		Few or none that meet these criteria.	1		
50		Several (>5 if AA is >5 hectares, less for smaller AAs) meet these criteria.	0		
51	F9 N Fixers	The percentage of the AA's vegetated cover that contains nitrogen-fixing plants (e.g., alder, sweetgale, clover, lupine, alfalfa, other legumes) is:		Do not include N-fixing algae or lichens. [FA, FR, INV, NRv, OE, PH, SBM, Sens]	
52		<1% or none.	1		
53		1-25% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0		
54		25-50% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0		
55		50-75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0		
56		>75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0		

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57	F10	Sphagnum Moss Extent	The cover of Sphagnum moss (or any moss that forms a dense cushion many centimeters thick), including the moss obscured by taller sedges and other plants rooted in it, is:		
58			<5% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
59			5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
60			25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
61			50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
62			>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
63	F11	% Bare Ground & Thatch	Consider the parts of the AA that lack surface water at the driest time of the growing season. Viewed from directly above the ground layer, the predominant condition in those areas at that time is:		
64			Little or no (<5%) bare ground is visible between erect stems or under canopy anywhere in the vegetated AA. Ground is extensively blanketed by dense thatch, moss, lichens, graminoids with great stem densities, or plants with ground-hugging foliage.	1	Thatch is dead plant material (stems, leaves) resting on the ground surface. Bare ground that is present under a tree or shrub canopy should be counted. Boulders count as bare ground. Wetlands with mineral soils and that are heavily shaded or are dominated by annual plant species tend to have more extensive areas that are bare during the early growing season. [AM, EC, INV, NR, OE, POL, PR, SBM, Sens]
65			Slightly bare ground (5-20% bare between plants) is visible in places, but those areas comprise less than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
66			Much bare ground (20-50% bare between plants) is visible in places, and those areas comprise more than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
67			Other conditions.	0	
68			Not applicable. Surface water (either open or obscured by emergent plants) covers all of the AA all the time.	0	
69	F12	Ground Irregularity	Imagine the AA without any living vegetation. Excluding the portion of the AA that is always under water, the number of hummocks, small pits, raised mounds, animal burrows, ruts, gullies, natural levees, microdepressions, and other areas of peat or mineral soil that are raised or depressed >10 cm compared to most of the area within a few meters surrounding them is:		
70			Few or none (minimal microtopography; <1% of the land has such features, or entire AA is always water-covered).	0	
71			Intermediate.	1	
72			Several (extensive micro-topography).	0	
73	F13	Upland Inclusions	Within the AA, inclusions of upland are:		
74			Few or none.	1	[AM, NR, SBM]
75			Intermediate (1 - 10% of vegetated part of the AA).	0	
76			Many (e.g., wetland-upland "mosaic", >10% of the vegetated AA).	0	
77	F14	Soil Texture	In parts of the AA that lack persistent water, the texture of soil in the uppermost layer is mostly: [To determine this, use a trowel to check in at least 3 widely spaced locations, and use the soil texture key (in Appendix A of the Manual).]		
78			Loamy: soils that may contain a little fine grit and do not make a "ribbon" longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	[CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, WS]
79			Fines: includes silt, clay, silt, soils that make a ribbon longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
80			Deep Peat, to 40 cm depth or greater.	0	
81			Shallow Peat or organic <40 cm deep.	1	
82			Coarse: includes sand, loamy sand, gravel, cobble, soils that do not make a ribbon when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
83	F15		During any 2 consecutive weeks of the growing season, the extent of mudflats, bare unshaded saturated areas not covered by thatch, and unshaded waters shallower than 6 cm is: [Include also any area that is adjacent to the AA.]		This addresses needs of many but not all migratory sandpipers, plovers, and related species. [WBF]
84		Shorebird Feeding Habitats	None, or <100 sq. m.	1	
85			100-1000 sq. m.	0	
86			1000 – 10,000 sq. m.	0	
87			>10,000 sq. m.	0	
88	F16	Herbaceous % of Vegetated Wetland	In aerial ("ducks eye") view, the maximum annual cover of herbaceous vegetation (all non-woody plants except moss) is:		[AM, WBF, WBN]
89			<5% of the vegetated part of the AA or <0.01 hectare (whichever is less). Mark "1" here and SKIP to F20 (Invasive Plant Cover).	0	
90			5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
91			25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
92			50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
93			>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
94	F17 Forb Cover	Within parts of the AA having herbaceous cover (excluding SAV), the areal cover of forbs reaches an annual maximum of:		Forbs are flowering plants. Do not include grasses, sedges, cattail, other graminoids, ferns, horsetails, or others that lack showy flowers. [POL]
95		<5% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	1	
96		5-25% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
97		25-50% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
98		50-95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
99		>95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
100	F18 Sedge Cover	Sedges (<i>Carex</i> spp.) and cottongrass (<i>Eriophorum</i> spp.) occupy:		[CS]
101		<5% of the vegetated area, or none.	0	
102		5-50% of the vegetated area.	1	
103		50-95% of the vegetated area.	0	
104		>95% of the vegetated area.	0	
105	F19 Dominance of Most Abundant Herbaceous Species	Determine which two herbaceous species comprise the greatest portion of the herbaceous cover (excluding mosses and floating-leaved aquatic plants). Then choose one of the following:		For this question, include ferns as well as graminoids and forbs. [EC, INV, PH, POL, Sens]
106		those species together comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.	1	
107		those species together do not comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.	0	
108	F20 Invasive Plant Cover	How extensive is the cover of invasive plant species in the AA? For species, see Plants_invasive worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file.		[EC, PH, POL, Sens]
109		invasive species appear to be absent in the AA, or are present only in trace amount (a few individuals).	1	
110		invasive species are present in more than trace amounts, but comprise <5% of herbaceous cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).	0	
111		invasive species comprise 5-20% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).	0	
112		invasive species comprise 20-50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).	0	
113		invasive species comprise >50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).	0	
114	F21 Invasive Cover Along Upland Edge	Along the wetland-upland boundary, the percent of the upland edge (within 3 m upslope from the wetland) that is occupied by invasive plant species is:		If a plant cannot be identified to species (e.g., winter conditions) but its genus contains an exotic species, assume the unidentified plant to also be exotic. If vegetation is so senesced that exotic species cannot be identified, answer "none". [PH, STR]
115		none of the upland edge (invasives apparently absent), or AA has no upland edge.	1	
116		some (but <5%) of the upland edge.	0	
117		5-50% of the upland edge.	0	
118		most (>50%) of the upland edge.	0	
119	F22 Fringe Wetland	During most of the year, open water within or adjacent to the vegetated part of the wetland is much wider than the maximum width of the vegetated zone within the wetland. Enter "1" if true, "0" if false.	0	[WBF, WBN, WCv]
120	F23 Lacustrine Wetland	The vegetated part of the AA is within or adjacent to a body of non-tidal standing open water whose size exceeds 8 hectares during most of a normal year.	0	[FR, PR, PU, WBF, WBN]
121	F24 % of AA Without Surface Water	The percentage of the AA that never contains <u>surface</u> water during an average year (that is, except perhaps for a few hours after snowmelt or rainstorms), but which is still a wetland, is:		1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SRv, WBF, WBN, WC]
122		<1%. In other words, all or nearly all of the AA is covered by water permanently or at least seasonally.	0	
123		1-25% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha never contains surface water.	0	
124		25-50% of the AA never contains surface water.	0	
125		50-75% of the AA never contains surface water.	0	
126		75-99% of the AA never contains surface water, OR >99% and there is at least one persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha in the AA.	0	
127		99-100%. AND there is no persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha within the AA. Enter "1" and SKIP to F42 (Channel Connection).	1	

A	B	C	D	E
128	F25	% of AA with Persistent Surface Water	Identify the parts of the AA that still contain surface water (flowing or ponded, open or hidden beneath vegetation) even during the driest times of a normal year, i.e., when the AA's surface water is at its lowest annual level. At that time, the percentage of the AA that still contains surface water is:	If you are unable to determine the condition at the driest time of year, ask the land owner or neighbors about it if possible. Indicators of persistence may include fish, some dragonflies, beaver, and muskrat. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, POL, PR, SBM, WBF, WBN]
129			None. The AA dries up completely (no water in channels either) or never has surface water during most years. SKIP to F27.	0
130			1-20% of the AA.	0
131			20-50% of the AA.	0
132			50-95% of the AA.	0
133			>95% of the AA. True for many fringe wetlands.	0
134	F26	% of Summertime Water that Is Shaded	At mid-day during the warmest time of year, the area of surface water <u>within</u> the AA that is shaded by vegetation and other features <u>that are within</u> the AA at that time is:	[FA, WC]
135			<5% of the water is shaded, or no surface water is present then.	0
136			5-25% of the water is shaded.	0
137			25-50% of the water is shaded.	0
138			50-75% of the water is shaded.	0
139			>75% of the water is shaded.	0
140	F27	% of AA that is Flooded Only Seasonally	The percentage of the AA's area that is between the annual high water and the annual low water (surface water) is:	Flood marks (algal mats, adventitious roots, debris lines, ice scour, etc.) are often evident when not fully inundated. Also, such areas often have a larger proportion of upland and annual (vs. perennial) plant species. In riverine systems, the extent of this zone can be estimated by multiplying by 2 the bankfull height and visualising where that would intercept the land along the river. [CS, FA, INV, NR, OE, PH, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
141			None, or <0.01 hectare and <1% of the AA. SKIP to F29.	0
142			1-20% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha.	0
143			20-50% of the AA.	0
144			50-95% of the AA.	0
145			>95% of the AA.	0
146	F28	Annual Water Fluctuation Range	The annual fluctuation in surface water level within most of the parts of the AA that contain surface water at least temporarily is:	Look for flood marks (see above). Because the annual range of water levels is difficult to estimate without multiple visits, consider asking the land owner or neighbors about it. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SR, WBN, WS]
147			<10 cm change (stable or nearly so).	0
148			10 cm - 50 cm change.	0
149			0.5 - 1 m change.	0
150			1-2 m change.	0
151			>2 m change.	0
152		Is the AA plus adjacent ponded water smaller than 0.01 hectare (about 10m x 10m, or 1m x 100 m)? If so, enter "1" in column D and SKIP TO F42 (Connection).		0
153	F29	Predominant Depth Class	During most of the time when surface water is present during the growing season, its depth, averaged over the entire inundated part of the AA, is:	If a boat is unavailable, estimate this by considering wetland size and local topography. Or if timing and safety allow, depths may be measured by drilling through winter ice. This question is asking about the spatial median depth that occurs during most of that time, even if inundation is only seasonal or temporary. If inundation in most but not all of the wetland is brief, the answer will be based on the depth of the most persistently inundated part of the wetland. Include surface water in channels and ditches as well as ponded areas. [CS, FA, FR, INV, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
154			<10 cm deep (but >0).	0
155			10 - 50 cm deep.	0
156			0.5 - 1 m deep.	0
157			1 - 2 m deep.	0
158			>2 m deep. True for many fringe wetlands.	0
159	F30	Depth Classes - Evenness of Proportions	When present, surface water in most of the AA usually consists of (select one):	Estimate these proportions by considering the gradient and microtopography of the site. [FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
160			One depth class that comprises >90% of the AA's inundated area (use the classes in the question above).	0
161			One depth class that comprises 50-90% of the AA's inundated area.	0
162			Neither of above. There are 3 or more depth classes and none occupy >50%.	0
163	F31	% of Water That Is Ponded (not Flowing)	During most times when surface water is present, the percentage that is (1) ponded (stagnant, or flows so slowly that fine sediment is not held in suspension) AND (2) is likely to be deeper than 0.5 m in some places, is:	Nearly all wetlands with surface water have some ponded water. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WBN, WC, WS]
164			<5% of the water, or it occupies <100 sq.m cumulatively. Nearly all the surface water is flowing. SKIP to F34.	0
165			5-30% of the water.	0
166			30-70% of the water.	0
167			70-95% of the water.	0
168			>95% of the water.	0

	A	B	C	D	E
169	F32	Ponded Open Water - Minimum Size	During most of the growing season, the largest patch of open water that is ponded and is in or bordering the AA is >0.01 hectare (about 10 m by 10 m) and mostly deeper than 0.5 m. If true enter "1" and continue. If false, enter "0" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	Open water is not obscured by vegetation in aerial ("duck's eye") view. It includes vegetation floating on the water surface or entirely submerged beneath it.
170	F33	% of Ponded Water that is Open	In ducks-eye aerial view, the percentage of the ponded water that is open (lacking emergent vegetation during most of the growing season, and unhidden by a forest or shrub canopy) is:		[AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
171			None, or <1% of the AA and largest pool occupies <0.01 hectares. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
172			14% of the ponded water. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
173			5-30% of the ponded water.	0	
174			30-70% of the ponded water.	0	
175			70-99% of the ponded water.	0	
176			100% of the ponded water.	0	
177	F34	Width of Vegetated Zone within Wetland	At the time during the growing season when the AA's water level is lowest, the average width of vegetated area <u>in the AA</u> that separates adjoining uplands from open water within the AA is:		"Vegetated area" does not include underwater or floating-leaved plants, i.e., aquatic bed. Width may include wooded riparian areas if they have wetland soil or plant indicators. [AM, CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SR, WBN]
178			<1 m.	0	
179			1 - 9 m.	0	
180			10 - 29 m.	0	
181			30 - 49 m.	0	
182			50 - 100 m.	0	
183			> 100 m, or open water is absent at that time.	0	
184	F35	Flat Shoreline Extent	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the percentage of the AA's water edge length that is nearly flat (a slope less than about 5% measured within 5 m landward of the water) is:		If several isolated pools are present in early summer, estimate the percent of their collective shorelines that has such a gentle slope. [SR, WBN]
185			<1% of the water edge.	0	
186			1-25% of the water edge.	0	
187			25-50% of the water edge.	0	
188			50-75% of the water edge.	0	
189			>75% of the water edge.	0	
190	F36	Robust Emergents	The percentage of the emergent vegetation cover in the AA that is cattail (<i>Typha</i> spp.), common reed (<i>Phragmites</i>), or tall (>1m) bulrush is:		Emergent vegetation is herbaceous plants whose stems are partly above and partly below the water surface during most of the time water is present. [WBN]
191			<1% of the emergent vegetation, or emergent vegetation is absent. SKIP to F38 .	0	
192			1-25% of the emergent vegetation.	0	
193			25-75% of the emergent vegetation.	0	
194			>75% of the emergent vegetation.	0	
195	F37	Interspersion of Emergents & Open Water	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the spatial pattern of emergent vegetation within the water is mostly:		[AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, SR, WBF, WBN]
196			Scattered. More than 30% of such vegetation forms small islands or corridors surrounded by water.	0	
197			Intermediate.	0	
198			Clumped. More than 70% of such vegetation is in bands along the wetland perimeter or is clumped at one or a few sides of the surface water area.	0	
199	F38	Persistent Deepwater Area	If the deepest patch of surface water (flowing or ponded) in or directly adjacent to the AA is mostly deeper than 0.5 m for >2 weeks during the growing season, enter "1" and continue. If not, enter "0" and SKIP to F42 (Connection).	0	
200	F39	Non-vegetated Aquatic Cover	During most of the growing season and in waters deeper than 0.5 m, the cover for fish, aquatic invertebrates, and/or amphibians that is provided NOT by living vegetation, but by accumulations of dead wood and undercut banks is:		For this question, consider only the wood that is at or above the water surface. Estimates of underwater wood based only on observations from terrestrial viewpoints are unreliable so should not be attempted. [AM, FA, FR, INV]
201			Little or none.	0	
202			Intermediate.	0	
203			Extensive.	0	
204	F40	Isolated Island	The AA contains (or is part of) an island or beaver lodge within a lake, pond, or river, and is isolated from the shore by water depths >1 m on all sides during an average June. The island may be solid, or it may be a floating vegetation mat that is sufficiently large and dense to support a waterbird nest.	0	[WBN]
205	F41	Floating Algae & Duckweed	At some time of the year, mats of algae and/or duckweed are likely to cover >50% of the AA's otherwise-unshaded water surface, or blanket >50% of the underwater substrate. If true, enter "1" in next column. If untrue or uncertain, enter "0".	0	[EC, PR, WBF]

A	B	C	D	E
206	F42 Channel Connection & Outflow Duration	The most persistent surface water connection (outlet channel or pipe, ditch, or overbank water exchange) between the AA and a downslope stream network is: [Note: If the AA represents only part of a wetland, answer this according to whichever is the least permanent surface connection: the one between the AA and the rest of the wetland, or the surface connection between the wetland and the downslope stream network.]		Consider the connection regardless of whether the surface water is frozen. The "downslope stream network" could consist of ditches, rivers, ponds, or lakes which eventually connect to the ocean. If this cannot be determined while visiting the AA, consult topographic maps perhaps by viewing these online with Toporama (http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html) [CS, FA, FR, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WCv, WS]
207		Persistent (surface water flows out for >9 months/year).		
208		Seasonal (surface water flows out for 14 days to 9 months/year, not necessarily consecutive).		
209		Temporary (surface water flows out for <14 days, not necessarily consecutive).		
210		None – but maps show a stream network downslope from the AA and within a distance that is less than the AA's length. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
211		No surface water flows out of the wetland except possibly during extreme events (<once per 10 years). Or, water flows only into a wetland, ditch, or lake that lacks an outlet. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
212	F43 Outflow Confinement	During major runoff events, in the places where surface water exits the AA or connected waters nearby, the water:		'Major runoff events' would include biennial high water caused by storms and/or rapid snowmelt. [CS, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, STR, WS]
213		Mostly passes through a pipe, culvert, narrowly breached dike, berm, beaver dam, or other partial obstruction (other than natural topography) that does not appear to drain the wetland artificially during most of the growing season.		
214		Leaves through natural exits (channels or diffuse outflow), not mainly through artificial or temporary features.		
215		Is exported more quickly than usual due to ditches or pipes within the AA or connected to its outlet, or within 10 m of the AA's edge, which drain the wetland artificially, or water is pumped out of the AA.		
216	F44 Tributary Channel	At least once annually, surface water from a tributary channel that is >100 m long moves into the AA. Or, surface water from a larger permanent water body adjacent to the AA spills into the AA. If it enters only via a pipe, that pipe must be fed by a mapped stream or lake further upslope. If no, SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	If inlet tributaries cannot be searched for due to inaccessibility of part of the AA, follow suggestions in F42 above. [NRv, PH, PRv, SRv]
217	F45 Input Water Temperature	Based on lack of shade, water source characteristics, or actual temperature measurements, the inflow is likely to be warmer than surface water in the AA during part of most years. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	[WCv]
218	F46 Throughflow Resistance	During its travel through the AA at the time of peak annual flow, water arriving in channels: [select only the ONE encountered by most of the incoming water].		[FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
219		Does not bump into many plant stems as it travels through the AA. Nearly all the water continues to travel in unvegetated (often incised) channels that have minimal contact with wetland vegetation, or through a zone of open water such as an instream pond or lake.		
220		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
221		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation and mostly spreads throughout, or is in widely meandering, multi-branched, or braided channels.		
222		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
223		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems and follows a fairly indirect path from entrance to exit (meandering, multi-branched, or braided).		
224	F47 pH Measurement	The pH in most of the AA's surface water:		Preferably, measure this in larger areas of ponded surface water within the AA, or in streams that have passed through (not along) most of the AA. Unless surface water is completely absent, do not dig holes or make depressions in peat in order to provide water for this measurement. Avoid measuring near roads or in puddles formed only by recent rain. [AM, FA, FR, NR, WBF, PH, PR, Sens, WBF, WBN]
225		Was measured, and is: [Enter the reading in the column to the right.]		
226		Was not measured but surface water is present and is darkly tea-coloured. Or if no surface water, then mosses and plants that indicate peatland (e.g., Labrador tea) are prevalent. Enter "1".	1	
227		Neither of above. Enter "1".	0	
228	F48 TDS and/or Conductivity	The TDS (total dissolved solids) or conductivity off the AA's surface water is: (select the first true row with information):		See above for measurement guidance. [FR, INV, NRv, PH, PRv, Sens]
229		TDS is: [Enter the reading in ppm or mg/L in the column to the right, if measured, or answer next row.]		
230		Conductivity is [Enter the reading in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ in the column to the right.]		
231		Was not measured, but plants that indicate saline conditions cover much of the vegetated AA. Enter "1".	0	
232		Neither of above	1	
233		Use of the AA by beaver during the past 5 years is (select most applicable ONE):		
234	F49 Beaver Probability	Evident from direct observation or presence of gnawed limbs, dams, tracks, dens, lodges, or extensive stands of water-killed trees (snags).	0	[FA, FR, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
235		Likely based on known occurrence in the region and proximity to suitable habitat, which may include: (a) a persistent freshwater wetland, pond, or lake, or a perennial low or mid-gradient (<10%) channel, and (b) a corridor or multiple stands of hardwood trees and shrubs in vegetated areas near surface water.	0	
236		Unlikely because site characteristics above are deficient, and/or this is a settled area or other area where beaver are routinely removed.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
237	F50 Groundwater Strength of Evidence	Select first applicable choice: Springs are known to be present within the AA, or if groundwater levels have been monitored, that has demonstrated that groundwater primarily discharges to the wetland for longer periods during the year than periods when the wetland recharges the groundwater.	0	Adhere to these criteria strictly -- do not use personal judgment based on fen conditions, pH, or other evidence. Consult topographic maps to detect breaks in slope described here. Rust deposits associated with groundwater seeps may be most noticeable as orange discoloration in ice formations along streams during early winter. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PRv, SFS, WC, WS]
238		Most of the AA has a slope of >5%, or is very close to the base of a natural slope longer than 100 and much steeper than the slope of the AA, AND the pH of surface water, if known, is >5.5.	0	
239		Neither of above is true, although some groundwater may discharge to or flow through the AA. Or groundwater influx is unknown.	1	
240				
241	F51 Internal Gradient	The gradient along most of the flow path within the AA is:		This is not the same as the shoreline slope. It is the elevational difference between the AA's inlet and outlet, divided by the flow-distance between them and converted to percent. If available, use a clinometer to measure this. Free clinometer apps can be downloaded to smartphones. If the wetland is large (longer than ~1 km), this may be estimated using Google Earth to determine the minimum and maximum elevation within the AA, then dividing by length and multiplying by 100. [CS, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
242		<2% or the AA has no surface water outlet (not even seasonally).	1	
243		2-5%.	0	
244		6-10%.	0	
245		>10%.	0	
246	Note for the next three questions: If the AA lacks an upland edge, evaluate based on the AA's entire perimeter, and moving outward into whatever areas are adjacent. In many situations, these questions are best answered by measuring from aerial images.			
247	F52 Vegetated Buffer as % of Perimeter	Within a zone extending 30 m laterally from the AA's edge with upland and/or other wetlands, the percentage that contains perennial vegetation cover (except lawns, row crops, heavily grazed land, conifer plantations) is:		[AM, FA, FR, INV, NRv, PH, POL, PRv, SBM, Sens, SRv, STR, WBN]
248		<5%.	1	
249		5 to 30%.	0	
250		30 to 60%.	0	
251		60 to 90%.	0	
252		>90%, or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands. SKIP to F55.	0	
253	F53 Type of Cover in Buffer	Within 30 m upslope of where the wetland transitions to upland, the upland land cover that is NOT perennial vegetation is mostly (mark ONE):		[AM, FA, INV, NRv, PH, POL, SBM, STR, WBN]
254		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.	0	
255		Bare or nearly bare pervious surface or managed vegetation, e.g., lawn, row crops, unpaved road, dike, landslide.	1	
256	F54 Buffer Slope	The steepest and/or most disturbed part of the upland area that is within 30 m of the wetland and occupies >10% of that upland area has a percent slope of:		[NRv, PRv, Sens, SRv]
257		<1% (flat -- almost no noticeable slope) or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands.	1	
258		2-5%.	0	
259		5-30%.	0	
260		>30%.	0	
261	F55 Cliffs or Steep Banks	In the AA or within 100 m, there are elevated terrestrial features such as cliffs, talus slopes, stream banks, or excavated pits (but not riprap) that extend at least 2 m nearly vertically, are unvegetated, and potentially contain crevices or other substrate suitable for nesting or den areas. Enter 1 (yes) or 0 (no).	0	Do not include upturned trees as potential den sites. [POL, SBM]
262	F56 New or Expanded Wetland	Human actions within or adjacent to the AA have persistently expanded a naturally occurring wetland or created a wetland where there previously was none (e.g., by excavation, impoundment):		Determine this using historical aerial photography, old maps, soil maps, or permit files as available [CS, NR, OE, PH, Sens]
263		No.	0	
264		Yes, and created or expanded 20 - 100 years ago.	1	
265		Yes, and created or expanded 3-20 years ago.	0	
266		Yes, and created or expanded within last 3 years.	0	
267		Yes, but time of origin or expansion unknown.	0	
268		Unknown if new or expanded within 20 years or not.	0	
269	F57 Burn History	More than 1% of the AA's previously vegetated area:		Look for charred soil or stumps (in multiple widely-spaced locations) or ask landowner. [CS, PH, STR]
270		Burned within past 5 years.	0	
271		Burned 6-10 years ago.	0	
272		Burned 11-30 years ago.	0	
273		Burned >30 years ago, or no evidence of a burn and no data.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
274	F58 Visibility	The maximum percentage of the wetland that is visible from the best vantage point on public roads, public parking lots, public buildings, or public maintained trails that intersect, adjoin, or are within 100 m of the AA (select one) is:		[PU, STR, WBFv]
275		<25%.	1	
276		25-50%.	0	
277		>50%.	0	
278	F59 Non-consumptive Uses - Actual or Potential	Assuming access permission was granted, select ALL statements that are true of the AA as it currently exists:		[PU, STR]
279		For an average person, walking is physically possible <u>in</u> (not just near) >5% of the AA during most of the growing season, e.g., free of deep water and dense shrub thickets.	1	
280		Maintained roads, parking areas, or foot-trails are within 10 m of the AA, or the AA can be accessed part of the year by boats arriving via contiguous waters.	0	
281		Within or near the AA, there is an interpretive center, trails with interpretive signs or brochures, and/or regular guided interpretive tours.	0	
282	F60 Unvisited Core Area	The percentage of the AA almost never visited by humans during an average growing season probably comprises: [Note: Only include the part actually walked or driven (not simply viewed from) with a vehicle or boat. Do not include visitors on trails outside of the AA unless more than half the wetland is visible from the trails and they are within 30 m of the wetland edge. In that case include only the area occupied by the trail.]		[AM, FAv, FRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
283		<5% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
284		<5% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
285		5-50% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
286		5-50% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
287		50-95%, with or without inhabited building nearby.	0	
288		>95% of the AA with or without inhabited building nearby.	1	
289	F61 Frequently Visited Area	The part of the AA visited by humans almost daily for several weeks during an average growing season probably comprises: [See note above.]		[AM, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
290		<5%. If F60 was answered ">95%" (mostly never visited), SKIP to F64.	0	
291		5-50%.	0	
292		50-95%.	0	
293		>95% of the AA.	0	
294	F62 BMP - Soils	Boardwalks, paved trails, fences or other infrastructure and/or well-enforced regulations appear to effectively prevent visitors from walking on soil within nearly all of the AA when the soil is unfrozen. Enter "1" if true.	0	[PH, PU]
295	F63 BMP - Wildlife Protection	Fences, observation blinds, platforms, paved trails, exclusion periods, and/or well-enforced prohibitions on motorised boats, off-leash pets, and off road vehicles appear to effectively exclude or divert visitors and their pets from the AA at critical times in order to minimize disturbance of wildlife (except during hunting seasons). Enter "1" if true.	0	[AM, PU, WBF, WBN]
296	F64 Consumptive Uses (Provisioning Services)	Recent evidence was found within the AA of the following potentially-sustainable consumptive uses. Select ALL that apply.		[FAv, FRv, WBFv]
297		Low-impact commercial timber harvest (e.g., selective thinning).	0	
298		Commercial or traditional-use harvesting of native plants, their fruits, or mushrooms.	0	
299		Waterfowl hunting.	0	
300		Fishing.	0	
301		Trapping of furbearers.	0	
302		None of the above.	1	
303	F65 Domestic Wells	The closest wells or water bodies that currently provide drinking water are:		[NRv]
304		Within 0-100 m. of the AA.	0	
305		100-500 m. away.	0	
306		>500 m. away, or no information.	1	
307	F66 Calcareous Fen	The AA is, or is part of, a calcareous fen. See the Plants_Calcar worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file for list of plant indicators (calciphiles). Enter 1 if more than two Strong or more than five Moderate calciphile species are present; otherwise enter 0, but if not able to identify those and no information, change to blank.		[PH, PR]
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Investigator: Blake Fairclough, Jordan Davis, Alex Scott	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL9	Date: 11 October 2022	
Stressor (S) Data Form for Non-Tidal Wetlands. WESP-AC for Nova Scotia version 2.			
S1	Aberrant Timing of Water Inputs	Data	
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item that is likely to have caused the timing of water inputs (but not necessarily their volume) to shift by hours, days, or weeks, becoming either more muted (smaller or less frequent peaks spread over longer times, more temporal homogeneity of flow or water levels) or more flashy (larger or more frequent spikes but over shorter times). [FA, FR, INV, PH, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater from impervious surfaces that drains directly to the wetland.</p> <p>Water subsidies from wastewater effluent, septic system leakage, snow storage areas, or irrigation.</p> <p>Regular removal of surface or groundwater for irrigation or other consumptive use.</p> <p>Flow regulation in tributaries or water level regulation in adjoining water body, or other control structure at water entry points that regulates inflow to the wetland.</p> <p>A dam, dike, levee, weir, berm, or fill -- within or downgradient from the wetland -- that interferes with surface or subsurface flow in/out of the AA (e.g., road fill, wellpads, pipelines).</p> <p>Excavation within the wetland, e.g., dugout, artificial pond, dead-end ditch.</p> <p>Artificial drains or ditches in or near the wetland.</p> <p>Accelerated downcutting or channelization of an adjacent or internal channel (incised below the historical water table level).</p> <p>Logging within the wetland.</p> <p>Subsidence or compaction of the wetland's substrate as a result of machinery, livestock, fire, drainage, or off road vehicles.</p> <p>Straightening, ditching, dredging, and/or lining of tributary channels.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items had no measurable effect on the timing of water conditions in any part of the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>			
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)
Spatial extent of timing shift within the wetland:	>95% of wetland.	5-95% of wetland.	<5% of wetland.
When most of the timing shift began:	<3 yrs ago.	3-9 yrs ago.	10-100 yrs ago.
Score the following 2 rows only if the altered inputs began within past 10 years, and only for the part of the wetland that experiences those.			
Input timing now vs. previously:	Shift of weeks.	Shift of days.	Shift of hours or minutes.
Flashiness or muting:	Became very flashy or controlled.	Intermediate.	Became mildly flashy or controlled.
		Sum=	8
		Stressor subscore=	0.67
S2	Accelerated Inputs of Contaminants and/or Salts	Data	
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of contaminants or salts to the AA. [AM, FA, PH, POL, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills, industrial facilities.</p> <p>Metals & chemical wastes from mining, shooting ranges, snow storage areas, oil/ gas extraction, other sources (download many locations from National Pollutant Release Inventory and view KMZ overlay in Google Earth. https://www.ec.gc.ca/inrp-npri/default.asp?lang=En&n=B85A1846-1</p> <p>Road salt.</p> <p>Spraying of pesticides, as applied to lawns, croplands, roadsides, or other areas in the CA.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly higher levels of contaminants and/or salts, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>			
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)
Usual toxicity of most toxic contaminants:	Industrial effluent, mining waste, unmanaged landfill.	Cropland, managed landfill, pipeline or transmission rights-of-way.	Low density residential.
Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.
AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.
		Sum=	4
		Stressor subscore=	0.44

S3	Accelerated Inputs of Nutrients					
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of nutrients to the wetland. [NRv, PRv, STR]</i>					
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills.					
	Fertilizers applied to lawns, ag lands, or other areas in the CA.					
	Livestock, dogs.					
	Artificial drainage of upslope lands.					
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly more nutrients, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>					
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
	Type of loading:	High density of unmaintained septic, some types of industrial sources.	Moderate density septic, cropland, secondary wastewater treatment plant.	Livestock, pets, low density residential.	0	
	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0	
	AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0	
				Sum=	0	
				Stressor subscore=	0.00	
S4	Excessive Sediment Loading from Contributing Area					
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the CA that is likely to have elevated the load of waterborne or windborne sediment reaching the wetland from its CA. [FA, FR, INV, PH, SRv, STR]</i>					
	Erosion from plowed fields, fill, timber harvest, dirt roads, vegetation clearing, fires.					
	Erosion from construction, in-channel machinery in the CA.					
	Erosion from off-road vehicles in the CA.					
	Erosion from livestock or foot traffic in the CA.					
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent.					
	Sediment from road sanding, gravel mining, other mining, oil/gas extraction.					
	Accelerated channel downcutting or headcutting of tributaries due to altered land use.					
	Other human-related disturbances within the CA.					
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points (3, 2, or 1 as shown in header) in the last column. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively add significantly more sediment or suspended solids to the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>					
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
	Erosion in CA:	Extensive evidence, high intensity.*	Potentially (based on high-intensity* land use) or scattered evidence.	Potentially (based on low-intensity* land use) with little or no direct evidence.	1	
	Recentness of significant soil disturbance in the CA:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	1	
	Duration of sediment inputs to the wetland:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	1	
	AA proximity to actual or potential sources:	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m.	In more distant part of contributing area.	1	
	* high-intensity= extensive off-road vehicle use, plowing, grading, excavation, erosion with or without veg removal; low-intensity= veg removal only with little or no apparent erosion or disturbance of soil or sediment.					
				Sum=	4	
				Stressor subscore=	0.33	

S5	Soil or Sediment Alteration Within the Assessment Area				
<p><i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the wetland that is likely to have compacted, eroded, or otherwise altered the wetland's soil. Consider only items occurring within past 100 years or since wetland was created or restored (whichever is less). [CS, INV, NR, PH, SR, STR]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compaction from machinery, off-road vehicles, livestock, or mountain bikes, especially during wetter periods. Leveling or other grading not to the natural contour. Tillage, plowing (but excluding disking for enhancement of native plants). Fill or riprap, excluding small amounts of upland soils containing organic amendments (compost, etc.) or small amounts of topsoil imported from another wetland. Excavation. Ditch cleaning or dredging in or adjacent to the wetland. Boat traffic in or adjacent to the wetland and sufficient to cause shore erosion or stir bottom sediments. Artificial water level or flow manipulations sufficient to cause erosion or stir bottom sediments. <p><i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not measurably alter the soil structure and/or topography, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i></p>					
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
Spatial extent of altered soil:	>95% of wetland or >95% of its upland edge (if any).	5-95% of wetland or 5-95% of its upland edge (if any).	<5% of wetland and <5% of its upland edge (if any).	0	
Recentness of significant soil alteration in wetland:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0	
Duration:	Long-lasting, minimal veg recovery.	Long-lasting but mostly revegetated.	Short-term, revegetated, not intense.	0	
Timing of soil alteration:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Mainly during one-time or scattered events.	0	
			Sum=	0	
				Stressor subscore=	0.00

Assessment Area (AA) Results:

Wetland ID: WL9

Date: 11 October 2022

Observer: BF JD AS

Latitude & Longitude (decimal degrees): 45.57126389, 63.60269444

Scores will appear below after data are entered in worksheets OF, F, and S. See Manual for definitions and descriptions of how scores were computed.

Wetland Functions or Other Attributes:	Function Score (Normalised)	Function Rating	Benefits Score (Normalised)	Benefits Rating	Function Score (raw)	Benefits Score (raw)
Water Storage & Delay (WS)	9.34	Higher	10.00	Higher	8.91	7.60
Stream Flow Support (SFS)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Water Cooling (WC)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Sediment Retention & Stabilisation (SR)	7.86	Higher	4.16	Higher	8.33	2.04
Phosphorus Retention (PR)	2.99	Lower	3.57	Higher	5.62	2.78
Nitrate Removal & Retention (NR)	10.00	Higher	6.67	Moderate	10.00	6.67
Carbon Sequestration (CS)	7.07	Higher			8.54	
Organic Nutrient Export (OE)	7.10	Moderate			4.64	
Anadromous Fish Habitat (FA)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Resident Fish Habitat (FR)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Aquatic Invertebrate Habitat (INV)	3.90	Moderate	0.19	Lower	5.08	1.34
Amphibian & Turtle Habitat (AM)	1.73	Lower	3.54	Moderate	4.03	4.68
Waterbird Feeding Habitat (WBF)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Waterbird Nesting Habitat (WBN)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat (SBM)	4.63	Moderate	10.00	Higher	4.03	10.00
Pollinator Habitat (POL)	4.25	Moderate	0.00	Lower	3.52	0.00
Native Plant Habitat (PH)	0.65	Lower	2.52	Lower	4.16	2.52
Public Use & Recognition (PU)			1.03	Lower		1.01
Wetland Sensitivity (Sens)			9.52	Higher		4.88
Wetland Ecological Condition (EC)			4.78	Moderate		7.50
Wetland Stressors (STR) (higher score means more stress)			10.00	Higher		5.67
Summary Ratings for Grouped Functions:						
HYDROLOGIC Group (WS)	9.34	Higher	10.00	Higher	8.91	7.60
WATER QUALITY SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SR, PR, NR, CS)	8.49	Higher	5.73	Moderate	9.06	5.25
AQUATIC SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SFS, INV, OE, WC)	4.93	Moderate	0.12	Lower	3.76	0.90
AQUATIC HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of FA, FR, AM, WBF, WBN)	1.04	Lower	2.12	Moderate	2.42	2.81
TRANSITION HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of SBM, PH, POL)	3.91	Moderate	7.09	Moderate	4.03	7.09
WETLAND CONDITION (EC)			4.78	Moderate		7.50
WETLAND RISK (average of Sensitivity & Stressors)			9.76	Higher		5.28
	NOTE: A score of 0 does not mean the function or benefit is absent from the wetland. It means only that this wetland has a capacity that is equal or less than the lowest-scoring one, for that function or benefit, from among all the NS calibration wetlands that were assessed previously.					

NOVA SCOTIA - Functional WSS Interpretation Tool

Function-Benefit Product (FBP)	FBP SCORE	FBP SCORE CATEGORY
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - HYDROLOGIC	93.40555091	High
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - WATER QUALITY SUPPORT	48.67249176	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC SUPPORT	0.608768077	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC HABITAT	2.203619103	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - TRANSITION HABITAT	27.67548547	Low

Habitat Rule Satisfied? NO

Support Rule Satisfied? NO

Habitat/Support Hybrid Rule Satisfied? NO

CONCLUSION: Site is not a WSS

Cover Page: Basic Description of Assessment	WESP-AC version 2
Site Name:	Higgins Mountain, WL10
Investigator Name:	Rohan Kariyawansa
Date of Field Assessment:	2022-10-04
Nearest Town:	Masstown
Latitude (decimal degrees):	45.57113790619877
Longitude (decimal degrees):	-63.6020082718349
Is a map based on a formal on-site wetland delineation available?	Yes, only previous delineations done by Strum
Approximate size of the Assessment Area (AA, in hectares):	0.53
AA as percent of entire wetland (approx.). Attach sketch map if AA is smaller than the entire contiguous wetland.	100%
What percent (approx.) of the wetland were you able to visit?	100%
What percent (approx.) of the AA were you able to visit?	100%
Were you able to ask the site owner/manager about any of the questions?	No
Indicate here if you intentionally surveyed for rare plants, calciphile plants, or rare animals:	Yes
Have you attended a WESP-AC training session? If so, indicate approximate month & year.	Yes. October 2022
How many wetlands have you assessed previously using WESP-AC? (approx.)	About 2 dozen F forms, this is my first OF form
Comments about the site or this WESP-AC assessment (attach extra page if desired):	Majority of the site is cut. Site has lots of dramatic elevation change, river valleys, cliffs, gulleys, etc.

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date: 4 October 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL10		Investigator: Rohan Kariyawansa	
2	Form OF (Office). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia wetlands only. DIRECTIONS: Conduct an assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answering many of the questions below will require using these online map viewers: Google Earth Pro: https://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html Provincial Landscape Viewer: https://nsgis.novascotia.ca/plv/ For most wetlands, completing this office data form will require 1-2 hours. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see bracketed abbreviations in the Definitions/Explanations column. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.				
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations
4	OF1	Province	Mark the province in which the AA is located by changing the 0 in the column next to it to a "1". Mark only one.		This determines to which province's calibration wetlands the raw score of any wetland is normalised. In the function and benefits models, it also triggers the automatic exclusion of indicators for which no spatial data exists in a particular province.
5			New Brunswick	0	
6			Nova Scotia	1	
7			Prince Edward Island	0	
8			Newfoundland-Labrador	0	
9	OF2	Ponded Area Within 1 km.	The area of surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		"Adjacent" means not separated from the AA by a wide expanse (>50 m) of upland (including roads >50 m wide). Include ponded areas likely to be hidden by wetland vegetation. If surface water extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. Do not include tidal areas. Measure the area from aerial imagery using Google Earth Pro (click on Ruler icon in toolbar, then Polygon in pop-up menu). [PH, SBM, WBN]
10			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
11			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
12			0.1 - 1 hectare.	1	
13			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
14			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
15			>100 hectares.	0	
16	OF3	Ponded Water & Wetland Within 1 km.	The area of wetlands and surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. If the AA's wetland vegetation extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. "Ponded" means not flowing in rivers or streams. [Sens, WBF]
17			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
18			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
19			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
20			1 to 10 hectares.	1	
21			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
22			>100 hectares.	0	
23	OF4	Size of Largest Nearby Vegetated Tract or Corridor	The largest vegetated patch or corridor that includes the AA's vegetation plus all adjacent upland vegetation that is not lawn, row crops, heavily grazed lands, conifer plantation is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. Use Google Earth Pro's polygon ruler (as described above). Exclude conifer plantations only if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens]
24			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
25			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
26			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
27			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
28			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
29			100 to 1000 hectares.	1	
30			>1000 hectares. [This is nearly always the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]	0	

A	B	C	D	E
31	OF5 Distance to Large Vegetated Tract	The minimum distance from the edge of the AA to the edge of the closest vegetated land (but excluding row crops, lawn, conifer plantation) larger than 375 hectares (about 2 km on a side), is:	0	To measure distance, use Google Earth Pro (Ruler > Line tool). The 375-ha criterion is from the Fundy Model Forest Project. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
32		<50 m, and not separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, bare ground, lawn, or impervious surface. Or the AA itself contains >375 ha of vegetation. [This is often the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]		
33		<50 m, but completely separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by those features, and AA does not contain >375 ha of vegetation.		
34		50-500 m, and not separated.		
35		50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
36		0.5 - 5 km, and not separated.		
37		0.5 - 5 km, but separated by those features.		
38		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors which are that large are >5 km away).		
39	OF6 Herbaceous Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 5 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 1 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "1". [* NOTE: Exclude lawns, row crops, heavily grazed lands, forest, shrublands. Include moss as well as grasslike plants in this use of "herbaceous vegetation"]	2	For this question only, consider moss to be herbaceous vegetation. Determine the score by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth after successively drawing or estimating the boundaries of the buffers of 5 km, 1 km, and 100 m radius focused on the center of the AA. Circles of specified radius can be drawn in Google Earth Pro by clicking on the Ruler icon, then Circle in the pop-up menu. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
40	OF7 Woody Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% woody* but uplands within 5 km have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 1 km have <10% woody cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "1" [* NOTE: woody cover = trees & shrubs taller than 1 m.]	3	See above. Do not consider conifer plantations to be forest if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv]
41	OF8 Local Vegetated Cover Percentage	Draw a 5-km radius circle measured from the center of the AA. Ignoring all permanent water in the circle, the percent of the remaining area that is wooded or unmanaged herbaceous vegetation (NOT lawn, row crops, bare or heavily grazed land, clearcuts, or conifer plantations) is:	0	In Google Earth, draw the 5 km buffer and then estimate land cover percentages, or do GIS analysis of an appropriate land cover layer. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
42		<5% of the land.		
43		5 to 20% of the land.		
44		20 to 60% of the land.		
45		60 to 90% of the land.		
46		>90% of the land. SKIP to OF10.		
47	OF9 Type of Land Cover Alteration	Within the 5-km radius circle, and ignoring all permanent water, the land area that is bare or non-perennial cover is mostly:	0	[AM, SBM]
48		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
49		Bare pervious surface, e.g., lawn, recent (<5 yrs ago) clearcut, dirt or gravel road, cropland, landslide, conifer plantation.		
50	OF10 Distance by Road to Nearest Population Center	Measured along the maintained road nearest the AA, the distance to the nearest population center is:	0	"Population center" means a settled area with more than about 5 regularly- inhabited structures per square kilometer. In Google Earth Pro, click on the Ruler icon, then Path, and draw and measure the route. [FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, WBFv]
51		<100 m.		
52		100 - 500 m.		
53		0.5 - 1 km.		
54		1 - 5 km.		
55		>5 km.		

A	B	C	D	E
56	OF11 Distance to Nearest Maintained Road	From the center of the AA, the distance to the nearest maintained public road (dirt or paved) is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth Pro and measuring with the Ruler>Line tool [AM, FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBN]
57		<10 m.		
58		10 - 25 m.		
59		25 - 50 m.		
60		50 - 100 m.		
61		100 - 500 m.		
62		>500 m.		
63	OF12 Wildlife Access	Draw a circle of radius of 5 km from the center of the AA. If mammals and amphibians can move from the center of the AA to ALL other separate wetlands and ponds located within the circle without being forced to cross pavement (any width), lawns, bare ground, and/or marine waters, mark 1= yes can move to all, 0= no. Change to blank if there are no other wetlands within 5 km.	0	Draw the 5 km circle in Google Earth Pro using the Circle tool and search for roads and wetlands within it, being alert for roads hidden under forest canopy. [AM, SBM, STR]
64	OF13 Distance to Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) ponded water body visible in GoogleEarth imagery is:		In Google Earth Pro, zoom in closely to examine the surrounding landscape for ponds, lakes, and wetlands that appear to be permanently flooded. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
65		<50 m, and not separated by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, lawn, bare ground, or impervious surface.		
66		<50 m, but completely separated by those features.		
67		50-500 m, and not separated.		
68		50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
69		0.5 - 1 km, and not separated.		
70		0.5 - 1 km, but separated by those features.		
71	OF14 Distance to Large Ponded Water	None of the above (the closest patches or corridors that large are >1 km away).		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth. [Sens, WBF, WBN]
72		<100 m.		
73		100 m - 1 km.		
74		1 - 2 km.		
75		2-5 km.		
76		5-10 km.		
77		>10 km.		
78	OF15 Tidal Proximity	The distance from the AA edge to the closest tidal water body (regardless of its salinity) is:		In Google Earth, measure the distance to the ocean (including Bay of Fundy) or tidal river, whichever is closer. If you need to see how far upriver a river is tidal, see the KMZ file provided with this calculator for NS (NS Headtide). Points shown in those files are only an approximation, so local information if available may be preferable. [FA, WBF]
79		<100 m.		
80		100 m - 1 km.		
81		1 - 5 km.		
82		5-10 km.		
83		10-40 km.		
84		>40 km.		
85	OF16 Upland Edge Contact	Select one:		[NR, SBM, Sens]
86		The AA has no upland edge (or upland is <1% of perimeter). The AA is entirely surrounded by (& contiguous with) other wetlands or water.		
87		1-25% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland (including filled areas). The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
88		25-50% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
89		50-75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
90		More than 75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. Any remainder adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA. This will be true for most assessments done with WESP-AC.		
91				

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92	OF17 Flood Damage from Non-tidal Waters	Within 5 km downstream or downslope of the AA (select first true choice):	0	Contact local authorities to determine if such maps exist. Where available, LiDAR imagery can provide finer elevational resolution useful for flood modeling. [WSv]
93		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding not caused by tidal storm surges.		
94		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas, but infrastructure is absent or is not vulnerable to floods from a non-tidal river. In some cases levees, upriver dams, or other measures may partly limit damage or risk from smaller events.		
95		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
96		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there is no infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
97	OF18 Relative Elevation in Watershed	In Google Earth, enable the Terrain layer (lower left menu) and open the NS_Watersheds Secondary KMZ file that accompanies this calculator. Then determine the AA's approximate elevation (bottom right, NOT the "eye alt"). Then move cursor around to determine the watershed's maximum and minimum elevation. Divide the AA's elevation by the (max-min).	1.01	[FA, NR, Sens, SFSv, WCv, WSv]
98	OF19 Water Quality Sensitive Watershed or Area	The AA is in a Protected Water Supply area (Designated Water Supply Area, Natural Watershed Municipal Surface Water Supply Area, or Municipal Water Supply Area) according to the provided KMZ overlay ("NS Protected Water Supply Areas"). Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	If an ACCDC report is available for this AA, it also may contain such information. [NRv]
99	OF20 Degraded Water Upstream	Sampling indicates a problem with concentrations of metals, hydrocarbons, nutrients, or other substances (excluding bacteria, acidic water, high temperatures) being present at levels harmful to aquatic life or humans, and:	0	May use existing data, or sample those waters as part of this wetland assessment. "Harmful" should be evaluated with regard to current federal or provincial water quality standards. [AM, FA, FR, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WBF, WBN]
100		The condition is present within the AA.		
101		The condition is present in waters within 1 km that flow into the AA, but has not been documented in the AA itself.		
102		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
103		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
104	OF21 Degraded Water Downstream	The problem described above is downslope from the AA, and:	0	May use existing data, or monitor waters as part of this wetland assessment. [NRv, PRv, SRv]
105		The condition is present within 1 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel.		
106		The condition is present within 5 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel, or within 1 km but not connected to the AA by a channel.		
107		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
108		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
109	OF22 Wetland as a % of Its Contributing Area (Catchment)	From a topographic map and field observations, estimate the approximate boundaries of the catchment (CA) of the entire wetland of which the AA may be only a part. Then adjust those boundaries if necessary based on your field observations of the surrounding terrain, and/or by using procedures described in the Manual. Divide the area of the wetland (not just the AA) by the approximate area of its catchment excluding the area of the wetland itself. When doing the calculation, if ponded water is adjacent to the wetland, include that in the wetland area. The result is:	0	Topographic maps may be viewed online at the National Atlas of Canada (Toporama): http://atlas.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html [NR, PR, Sens, SR, WS]
110		<0.01, or catchment size unknown due to stormwater pipes that collect water from an indeterminate area.		
111		0.01 to 0.1.		
112		0.1 to 1.		
113		>1 (wetland is larger than its catchment (e.g., wetland with flat surrounding terrain and no inlet, or is entirely isolated by dikes, or is a raised bog)).		
114	OF23 Unvegetated Surface in the Contributing Area	The proportion of the AA's contributing area (measured to no more than 1000 m upslope) that is comprised of buildings, roads, parking lots, other pavement, exposed bedrock, landslides, and other mostly-bare surface is about :	0	[FA, INV, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WCv, WSv]
115		<10%.		
116		10 to 25%.		
117		>25%.		

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118	OF24	Transport From Upslope A relatively large proportion of the precipitation that falls farther upslope in the CA reaches this wetland quickly as runoff (surface water), as indicated by the following: (a) input channel is present, (b) input channels have been straightened, (c) upslope wetlands have been ditched extensively, (d) land cover is mostly non-forest, (e) CA slopes are steep, and/or (f) most CA soils are shallow (bedrock near surface) and/or have high runoff coefficients. This statement is: Mostly true. Somewhat true. Mostly untrue.		[NRv, PRv, SRv, WSv]
119			0	
120			1	
121			0	
122	OF25	Aspect The overland flow direction of most surface water (in streams, rivers, or runoff) that enters the AA is:		[AM, NR, SFS, WC, WS]
123		Northward (N, NE). north-facing contributing area.	1	
124		Southward (S, SW). south-facing contributing area.	0	
125		Other (E, SE, W, NW), or no detectable uphill slope or input channel (flat).	0	
126	OF26	Internal Flow Distance (Path Length) The horizontal flow distance from the wetland's inlet to outlet is:		Identify inlets and outlets, if any, from topographic maps (use elevations to determine which are inlets and which are outlets) and augment by field inspection. With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, select Nova Scotia Topo as the Basemap. Also enable the layer Forestry>WAM Predicted Flow. Then measure the inlet-outlet distance. [NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
127		<10 m.	0	
128		10 - 50 m.	0	
129		50 - 100 m.	0	
130		100 - 1000 m.	0	
131		1-2 km.	0	
132		>2 km, or wetland lacks an inlet and outlet.	1	
133	OF27	Growing Degree Days In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called NS_GrowingDegreeDays. Place your cursor over the AA and left-click. From the pop-up window, enter the GRIDCODE number in the next column.	1908	This layer was provided by Dr. Dan McKenney of the Canadian Forest Service [AM, CS, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WCv, WS]
134	OF28	Fish Access or Use According to agency biologists and/or your own observations, the AA. [Mark just the first choice that is true.]:		Regarding the last choice, if uncertain if an AA is fishless, consider the possibility its waters have been stocked. [AM, FA, FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
135		Is known to support rearing and/or spawning by Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels. Go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife>Significant Habitat>Species at Risk. Contact local fishery biologists, review the ACCDC report, and visit these websites: http://www.salmonatlas.com/atlanticsalmon/canada-east/index.1.html http://atlanticsalmofederation.org/rivers/introduction.html	0	
136		Has not been documented to support Atlantic salmon rearing and/or spawning, but is connected to nearby waters likely to contain Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels and is probably accessed by those during some conditions.	0	
137		Is probably not accessed by any anadromous fish species but is known or likely to have other fish at least seasonally.	0	
138		Is known or likely to be fishless (e.g., too small, dry, and/or not accessible even temporarily, and not stocked).	1	
139	OF29	Species of Conservation Concern Within the past 10 years, in the AA (or in its adjoining waters or wetland), qualified observers have documented/mark all applicable]:		Request information from ACCDC and/or conduct your own survey at an appropriate season using an approved protocol. For birds, also check eBird.org. NOTE for NS: If your WESP-AC is being completed for a Wetland Alteration Application to NS-ECC, your ACCDC results and any taxon-specific survey results must be submitted along with your WESP-AC results, and application. [AMv, EC, PHv, POLv, SBMv, Sens, WBFv, WBNv]
140		Presence of one or more of the plant species listed in the Plants_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, or the AA is within a mapped Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora Buffer (go to Provincial Landscape Viewer> Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones).	0	
141		Presence of one or more of the amphibian or reptile species (AM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
142		Presence of one or more of the waterbird species (WBF, WBN) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
143		Presence of one or more of the nesting songbird or raptor species (SBM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, during their nesting season (May-July for most species).	0	
144		None of the above, or no data.	1	
145	OF30	Important Bird Area (IBA) In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called IBAs_Canada. The AA is all or part of an officially designated IBA. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	The source of this layer, which should be checked periodically for updates, is: http://www.ibacanada.com/mapviewer.jsp?lang=EN [SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]

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146	OF31	Black Duck Nesting Area	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called BlackDuck. Adjust its alignment and opacity. Determine the predicted density (pairs per 25 sq. km) of nesting American Black Duck in the AA's vicinity: <10 (enter 0), 10-20 (enter 1), 20-30 (enter 2), >30 (enter 3). If outside of region shown in map, change to blank.	0	This was provided by Dr. David Leske. [WBNv]
147	OF32	Wintering Deer or Moose Concentration Areas	If AA is on private land with no information, change to blank (not 0). Otherwise: With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, for Wintering Moose, go to Wildlife> Significant Habitat. For Mainland Moose Concentration Areas, go to Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones Enter: yes= 1, no= 0.	1	[SBM]
148	OF33	Other Conservation Designation	The AA is all or part of an area designated by government, First Nations, or the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) for its exceptional ecological features or highly intact natural conditions. With Provincial Landscape Viewer, see Protected Areas. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If uncertain, consult NCC and agencies for more recent information.	0	See: https://novascotia.ca/parksandprotectedareas/plan/interactive-map/ [PU]
149	OF34	Conservation Investment	The AA is part of or contiguous to a wetland on which public or private organizational funds were spent to preserve, create, restore, or enhance the wetland (excluding mitigation wetlands). Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank (not 0).	0	[PU]
150	OF35	Mitigation Investment	The AA is all or part of a mitigation site used explicitly to offset impacts elsewhere. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.	0	[PU]
151	OF36	Sustained Scientific Use	Plants, animals, or water in the AA have been monitored for >2 years, unrelated to any regulatory requirements, and data are available to the public. Or the AA is part of an area that has been designated by an agency or institution as a benchmark, reference, or status-trends monitoring area. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.	0	[PU]
152	OF37	Calcareous Region	The AA is NOT in a subregion that has been heavily exposed to acid precipitation. Enter "1" if true (green or yellow in map in Appendix A of the Manual). Enter "0" if false. If no information, change to blank.	0	[AM, FA, FR, INV, PH]
153	OF38	Ownership	Select the ONE ownership that covers the most of the AA. In Google Earth, open KMZ file called NS_CrownlandsUse more recent information if available.		"Private lands" may include those owned or leased by non-governmental organizations, e.g., charitable conservation land trusts, DUC, TNC. [PU, STR]
154			New timber harvest, roads, mineral extraction, and intensive summer recreation (e.g., off-road vehicles) are permanently prohibited. Includes many publicly-owned Protected Lands, and private lands under long-term (30+ year) legal agreements to maintain nearly-unaltered conditions.	0	
155			Ownership is public (e.g., municipal, Crown Reservations/Notations) but some or all of the above activities are allowed.	1	
156			Ownership is private but public access is allowed, and/or a shorter-term conservation easement (whether renewable or not) is in place.	0	
157			Ownership is private and owner does not allow access, or access permission unknown, and not a conservation easement.	0	

	A	B	C	D	E		
1	Date: 4 October 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain WL10		Investigator: Alex Scott, Jordan H. Davis			
2	<p>Form F (Field). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia. DIRECTIONS: Walk for no less than 10 minutes from the wetland edge towards its core, in the part of the AA that is proposed for alteration. If no alteration is proposed, walk in a portion that appears to be most representative of the wetland overall. Walk only where it is safe and legal to do so. Conduct the assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answer these questions primarily based on your onsite observations and interpretations. Do not write in shaded parts of this data form. Answering some questions accurately may require conferring with the landowner or other knowledgeable persons, and/or reviewing aerial imagery. For most wetlands, completing this field data form will require 1-2 hours on a site. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see the accompanying Interpretations form. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage & Delay, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sens= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.</p>						
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations		
4	F1	Wetland Type	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the vegetated part of the AA:		<p>Ericaceous shrubs are ones in the heather family (Ericaceae). Most have leathery evergreen leaves. They include rhododendron, azalea, swamp laurel, leatherleaf, Labrador tea, and others. Most require acidic soil. Although not in the family Ericaceae, sweetgale (<i>Myrica gale</i>) should be counted also. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, Sens, SFS, WBF, WBN]</p>		
5	A. Moss and/or lichen cover more than 25% of the ground. Often dominated by ericaceous shrubs (e.g., Labrador tea) or other acid-tolerant plants (e.g., bog cranberry, pitcher plant, sundew, orchids). Substrate is mostly undecomposed peat. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.						
6	A1. Surface water is usually absent or, if present, pH is typically <4.5 and conductivity is usually <100 µS/cm (<64 ppm TDS). Trees are absent or nearly so. Sedge cover usually sparse or absent but cottongrass and/or lichen cover may be extensive, as well as cloudberry, lingonberry, sheep laurel, and a sedge (<i>Carex rariflora</i>). Wetland surface and surrounding landscape are seldom sloping and wetland often is domed (convex). Inlet and outlet channels are usually absent. If known, pH of peat is <4.0.		0				
7	A2. Not A1. Surface water, if present, has pH typically >4.5 and conductivity is usually >100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Sedge cover is usually extensive, and/or tree and tall shrub cover is extensive. Sometimes at toe of slope or edge of water body. An exit channel is usually present. Wetter than A1 and peat depth may be shallower (<2 m).		0				
8	B. Moss and/or lichen cover less than 25% of the ground. Soil is mineral or decomposed organic (muck). Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column:						
9	B1. Trees and shrubs taller than 1 m comprise more than 25% of the vegetated cover. Surface water is mostly absent or inundates the vegetation only seasonally (e.g., vernal pools or floodplain).		0				
10	B2. Not B1. Tree & tall shrubs comprise less than 25% of the vegetated cover. Vegetation is mostly herbaceous, e.g., cattail, bulrush, burreed, pond lily, horsetail. Surface water may be extensive and fluctuates seasonally, being either persistent or drying up partly or entirely.		1				
11	<p>Reminder: For all questions, the AA should include all persistent waters in ponds smaller than 8 hectares (~283 m on a side) that are adjacent to the AA. The AA should also include part of the water area of adjacent ponded water larger than 8 ha and adjacent rivers wider than 20 m. Specifically, the AA should include the open water part adjacent to wetland vegetation and equal in width to the average width of that vegetated zone. Throughout this data form, "adjacent" is used synonymously with abutting, adjoining, bordering, contiguous -- and means no upland (manmade or natural) completely separates the described features along their directly shared edge. Features joined only by a channel are not necessarily considered to be adjacent -- a large portion of their edges must match. The features do not have to be hydrologically connected in order to be considered adjacent.</p>						
12	F2		Wetland Types - Adjoining or Subordinate	If the AA is smaller than 1 ha, mark all other types that occupy more than 1% of the vegetated AA. If the AA is larger than 1 ha, mark all other types which are within or adjacent to the AA and occupy more than 1 ha, as visible from the AA or as interpreted from aerial imagery. Do not mark again the type marked in F1.			<p>1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, INV, SBM, WBF]</p>
13	A1.			0			
14	A2.	0					
15	B1.	0					
16	B2.	0					

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17	F3 Woody Height & Form Diversity	Following EACH row below, indicate with a number code the percentage of the living vegetation in the AA which is occupied by that feature (6 if >95%, 5 if 75-95%, 4 if 50-75%, 3 if 25-50%, 2 if 5-25%, 1 if <5%, 0 if none). If the vegetated part of the AA is largely herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation, these percentages should not sum to 100%.		
18		coniferous trees (may include tamarack) taller than 3 m.	2	
19		deciduous trees taller than 3 m.	1	
20		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	1	
21		deciduous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	1	
22		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs <1 m tall not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	0	
23		deciduous shrubs or trees <1 m tall (e.g., deciduous seedlings) not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	0	
24	Note: If none of top 4 rows in F3 was marked 2 or greater, SKIP to F9 (N fixers).			
25	F4 Dominance of Most Abundant Shrub Species	Determine which two woody plant species comprise the greatest portion of the low (<3 m) woody cover. Then choose one: those species together comprise > 50% of such cover. those species together do not comprise > 50% of such cover.		[PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
26			0	
27			0	
28	F5 Woody Diameter Classes	Mark ALL the types that comprise >5% of the woody canopy cover in the AA or >5% of the wooded areas (if any) along its upland edge (perimeter) . The edge should include only the trees whose canopies extend into the AA.		
29		coniferous, 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall.	0	
30		broad-leaved deciduous 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall.	0	
31		coniferous, 10-19 cm diameter.	0	
32		broad-leaved deciduous 10-19 cm diameter.	0	
33		coniferous, 20-40 cm diameter.	0	
34		broad-leaved deciduous 20-40 cm diameter.	0	
35		coniferous, >40 cm diameter.	0	
36		broad-leaved deciduous >40 cm diameter.	0	
37	F6 Height Class Interspersion	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the AA: A. Neither the vegetation taller than 1 m nor the vegetation shorter than that comprise >70% of the vegetated part of the AA. They each comprise 30-70% . Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.		[AM, INV, NR, PH, SBM, Sens]
38		A1. The two height classes are mostly scattered and intermixed throughout the AA.	0	
39		A2. Not A1. The two height classes are mostly in separate zones or bands, or in proportionately large clumps.	0	
40		B. Either the vegetation shorter than 1 m comprises >70% of the vegetated part of the AA, or the vegetation taller than that does. One size class might even be totally absent. Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column:		
41		B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly scattered and intermixed within the prevalent one.	0	
42		B2. Not B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly located apart from the prevalent one, in separate zones or clumps, or is completely absent.	0	
43				
44	F7 Large Snags (Dead Standing Trees)	The number of large snags (diameter >20 cm) in the AA plus adjacent upland area within 10 m of the wetland edge is:		
45		None, or fewer than 8/ hectare which exceed this diameter.	0	
46		Several (>8/hectare) and a pond, lake, or slow-flowing water wider than 10 m is within 1 km.	0	
47		Several (>8/hectare) but above not true.	0	
48	F8 Downed Wood	The number of downed wood pieces longer than 2 m and with diameter >10 cm, and not persistently submerged, is:		
49		Few or none that meet these criteria.	0	
50		Several (>5 if AA is >5 hectares, less for smaller AAs) meet these criteria.	0	
51	F9 N Fixers	The percentage of the AA's vegetated cover that contains nitrogen-fixing plants (e.g., alder, sweetgale, clover, lupine, alfalfa, other legumes) is:		
52		<1% or none.	0	
53		1-25% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	1	
54		25-50% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	
55		50-75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	
56		>75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	

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57	F10 Sphagnum Moss Extent	The cover of Sphagnum moss (or any moss that forms a dense cushion many centimeters thick), including the moss obscured by taller sedges and other plants rooted in it, is:		
58		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
59		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
60		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
61		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
62		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
63	F11 % Bare Ground & Thatch	Consider the parts of the AA that lack surface water at the driest time of the growing season. Viewed from directly above the ground layer, the predominant condition in those areas at that time is:		
64		Little or no (<5%) <i>bare ground</i> is visible between erect stems or under canopy anywhere in the vegetated AA. Ground is extensively blanketed by dense thatch, moss, lichens, graminoids with great stem densities, or plants with ground-hugging foliage.	1	Thatch is dead plant material (stems, leaves) resting on the ground surface. Bare ground that is present under a tree or shrub canopy should be counted. Boulders count as bare ground. Wetlands with mineral soils and that are heavily shaded or are dominated by annual plant species tend to have more extensive areas that are bare during the early growing season. [AM, EC, INV, NR, OE, POL, PR, SBM, Sens]
65		Slightly bare ground (5-20% bare between plants) is visible in places, but those areas comprise less than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
66		Much bare ground (20-50% bare between plants) is visible in places, and those areas comprise more than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
67		Other conditions.	0	
68		Not applicable. Surface water (either open or obscured by emergent plants) covers all of the AA all the time.	0	
69	F12 Ground Irregularity	Imagine the AA without any living vegetation. Excluding the portion of the AA that is always under water, the number of hummocks, small pits, raised mounds, animal burrows, ruts, gullies, natural levees, microdepressions, and other areas of peat or mineral soil that are raised or depressed >10 cm compared to most of the area within a few meters surrounding them is:		
70		Few or none (minimal microtopography; <1% of the land has such features, or entire AA is always water-covered).	0	
71		Intermediate.	1	
72		Several (extensive micro-topography).	0	
73	F13 Upland Inclusions	Within the AA, inclusions of upland are:		
74		Few or none.	0	
75		Intermediate (1 - 10% of vegetated part of the AA).	1	
76		Many (e.g., wetland-upland "mosaic", >10% of the vegetated AA).	0	
77	F14 Soil Texture	In parts of the AA that lack persistent water, the texture of soil in the uppermost layer is mostly: [To determine this, use a trowel to check in at least 3 widely spaced locations, and use the soil texture key (in Appendix A of the Manual).]		
78		Loamy : soils that may contain a little fine grit and do not make a "ribbon" longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
79		Fines : includes silt, clay, silt, soils that make a ribbon longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
80		Deep Peat , to 40 cm depth or greater.	0	
81		Shallow Peat or organic <40 cm deep.	1	
82		Coarse : includes sand, loamy sand, gravel, cobble, soils that do not make a ribbon when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
83	F15 Shorebird Feeding Habitats	During any 2 consecutive weeks of the growing season, the extent of mudflats, bare unshaded saturated areas not covered by thatch, and unshaded waters shallower than 6 cm is: [Include also any area that is adjacent to the AA.]		This addresses needs of many but not all migratory sandpipers, plovers, and related species. [WBF]
84		None, or <100 sq. m.	1	
85		100-1000 sq. m.	0	
86		1000 – 10,000 sq. m.	0	
87		>10,000 sq. m.	0	
88	F16 Herbaceous % of Vegetated Wetland	In aerial ("ducks eye") view, the maximum annual cover of herbaceous vegetation (all non-woody plants except moss) is:		
89		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA or <0.01 hectare (whichever is less). Mark "1" here and SKIP to F20 (Invasive Plant Cover).	0	
90		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
91		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
92		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
93		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	

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94	F17 Forb Cover	Within parts of the AA having herbaceous cover (excluding SAV), the areal cover of forbs reaches an annual maximum of:		Forbs are flowering plants. Do not include grasses, sedges, cattail, other graminoids, ferns, horsetails, or others that lack showy flowers. [POL]
95		<5% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
96		5-25% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
97		25-50% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	1	
98		50-95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
99		>95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
100	F18 Sedge Cover	Sedges (<i>Carex</i> spp.) and cottongrass (<i>Eriophorum</i> spp.) occupy:		[CS]
101		<5% of the vegetated area, or none.	0	
102		5-50% of the vegetated area.	1	
103		50-95% of the vegetated area.	0	
104		>95% of the vegetated area.	0	
105	F19 Dominance of Most Abundant Herbaceous Species	Determine which two herbaceous species comprise the greatest portion of the herbaceous cover (excluding mosses and floating-leaved aquatic plants). Then choose one of the following:		For this question, include ferns as well as graminoids and forbs. [EC, INV, PH, POL, Sens]
106		those species together comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.	1	
107		those species together do not comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.	0	
108	F20 Invasive Plant Cover	How extensive is the cover of invasive plant species in the AA? For species, see Plants_invasive worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file.		[EC, PH, POL, Sens]
109		invasive species appear to be absent in the AA, or are present only in trace amount (a few individuals).	1	
110		invasive species are present in more than trace amounts, but comprise <5% of herbaceous cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).	0	
111		invasive species comprise 5-20% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).	0	
112		invasive species comprise 20-50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).	0	
113		invasive species comprise >50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).	0	
114	F21 Invasive Cover Along Upland Edge	Along the wetland-upland boundary, the percent of the upland edge (within 3 m upslope from the wetland) that is occupied by invasive plant species is:		If a plant cannot be identified to species (e.g., winter conditions) but its genus contains an exotic species, assume the unidentified plant to also be exotic. If vegetation is so senesced that exotic species cannot be identified, answer "none". [PH, STR]
115		none of the upland edge (invasives apparently absent), or AA has no upland edge.	1	
116		some (but <5%) of the upland edge.	0	
117		5-50% of the upland edge.	0	
118		most (>50%) of the upland edge.	0	
119	F22 Fringe Wetland	During most of the year, open water within or adjacent to the vegetated part of the wetland is much wider than the maximum width of the vegetated zone within the wetland. Enter "1" if true, "0" if false.	0	[WBF, WBN, WCv]
120	F23 Lacustrine Wetland	The vegetated part of the AA is within or adjacent to a body of non-tidal standing open water whose size exceeds 8 hectares during most of a normal year.	0	[FR, PR, PU, WBF, WBN]
121	F24 % of AA Without Surface Water	The percentage of the AA that never contains surface water during an average year (that is, except perhaps for a few hours after snowmelt or rainstorms), but which is still a wetland, is:		1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SRv, WBF, WBN, WC]
122		<1%. In other words, all or nearly all of the AA is covered by water permanently or at least seasonally.	0	
123		1-25% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha never contains surface water.	0	
124		25-50% of the AA never contains surface water.	1	
125		50-75% of the AA never contains surface water.	0	
126		75-99% of the AA never contains surface water, OR >99% and there is at least one persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha in the AA.	0	
127		99-100%. AND there is no persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha within the AA. Enter "1" and SKIP to F42 (Channel Connection).	0	
128	F25 % of AA with Persistent Surface Water	Identify the parts of the AA that still contain surface water (flowing or ponded, open or hidden beneath vegetation) even during the driest times of a normal year, i.e., when the AA's surface water is at its lowest annual level. At that time, the percentage of the AA that still contains surface water is:		If you are unable to determine the condition at the driest time of year, ask the land owner or neighbors about it if possible. Indicators of persistence may include fish, some dragonflies, beaver, and muskrat. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, POL, PR, SBM, WBF, WBN]
129		None. The AA dries up completely (no water in channels either) or never has surface water during most years. SKIP to F27.	0	
130		1-20% of the AA.	1	
131		20-50% of the AA.	0	
132		50-95% of the AA.	0	
133		>95% of the AA. True for many fringe wetlands.	0	

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134	F26 % of Summertime Water that Is Shaded	At mid-day during the warmest time of year, the area of surface water <u>within</u> the AA that is shaded by vegetation and other features that are within the AA at that time is:		[FA, WC]
135		<5% of the water is shaded, or no surface water is present then.	1	
136		5-25% of the water is shaded.	0	
137		25-50% of the water is shaded.	0	
138		50-75% of the water is shaded.	0	
139		>75% of the water is shaded.	0	
140	F27 % of AA that is Flooded Only Seasonally	The percentage of the AA's area that is between the annual high water and the annual low water (surface water) is:		Flood marks (algal mats, adventitious roots, debris lines, ice scour, etc.) are often evident when not fully inundated. Also, such areas often have a larger proportion of upland and annual (vs. perennial) plant species. In riverine systems, the extent of this zone can be estimated by multiplying by 2 the bankfull height and visualising where that would intercept the land along the river. [CS, FA, INV, NR, OE, PH, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
141		None, or <0.01 hectare and <1% of the AA. SKIP to F29.	1	
142		1-20% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha.	0	
143		20-50% of the AA.	0	
144		50-95% of the AA.	0	
145		>95% of the AA.	0	
146	F28 Annual Water Fluctuation Range	The annual fluctuation in surface water level within most of the parts of the AA that contain surface water at least temporarily is:		Look for flood marks (see above). Because the annual range of water levels is difficult to estimate without multiple visits, consider asking the land owner or neighbors about it. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SR, WBN, WS]
147		<10 cm change (stable or nearly so).	0	
148		10 cm - 50 cm change.	0	
149		0.5 - 1 m change.	0	
150		1-2 m change.	0	
151		>2 m change.	0	
152	Is the AA plus adjacent ponded water smaller than 0.01 hectare (about 10m x 10m, or 1m x 100 m)? If so, enter "1" in column D and SKIP TO F42 (Connection).		0	
153	F29 Predominant Depth Class	During most of the time when surface water is present during the growing season, its depth, averaged over the entire inundated part of the AA, is:		If a boat is unavailable, estimate this by considering wetland size and local topography. Or if timing and safety allow, depths may be measured by drilling through winter ice. This question is asking about the spatial median depth that occurs during most of that time, even if inundation is only seasonal or temporary. If inundation in most but not all of the wetland is brief, the answer will be based on the depth of the most persistently inundated part of the wetland. Include surface water in channels and ditches as well as ponded areas. [CS, FA, FR, INV, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
154		<10 cm deep (but >0).	0	
155		10 - 50 cm deep.	1	
156		0.5 - 1 m deep.	0	
157		1 - 2 m deep.	0	
158		>2 m deep. True for many fringe wetlands.	0	
159	F30 Depth Classes - Evenness of Proportions	When present, surface water in most of the AA usually consists of (select one):		Estimate these proportions by considering the gradient and microtopography of the site. [FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
160		One depth class that comprises >90% of the AA's inundated area (use the classes in the question above).	1	
161		One depth class that comprises 50-90% of the AA's inundated area.	0	
162		Neither of above. There are 3 or more depth classes and none occupy >50%.	0	
163	F31 % of Water That Is Ponded (not Flowing)	During most times when surface water is present, the percentage that is (1) ponded (stagnant, or flows so slowly that fine sediment is not held in suspension) AND (2) is likely to be deeper than 0.5 m in some places, is:		Nearly all wetlands with surface water have some ponded water. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WBN, WC, WS]
164		<5% of the water, or it occupies <100 sq.m cumulatively. Nearly all the surface water is flowing. SKIP to F34.	0	
165		5-30% of the water.	0	
166		30-70% of the water.	0	
167		70-95% of the water.	0	
168		>95% of the water.	1	
169	F32 Ponded Open Water - Minimum Size	During most of the growing season, the largest patch of open water that is ponded and is in or bordering the AA is >0.01 hectare (about 10 m by 10 m) and mostly deeper than 0.5 m. If true enter "1" and continue, If false, enter "0" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	Open water is not obscured by vegetation in aerial ("duck's eye") view. It includes vegetation floating on the water surface or entirely submersed beneath it.
170	F33 % of Ponded Water that is Open	In ducks-eye aerial view, the percentage of the ponded water that is open (lacking emergent vegetation during most of the growing season, and unhidden by a forest or shrub canopy) is:		[AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
171		None, or <1% of the AA and largest pool occupies <0.01 hectares. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
172		1-4% of the ponded water. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
173		5-30% of the ponded water.	0	
174		30-70% of the ponded water.	0	
175		70-99% of the ponded water.	0	
176		100% of the ponded water.	1	

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177	F34	Width of Vegetated Zone within Wetland	At the time during the growing season when the AA's water level is lowest, the average width of vegetated area <u>in the AA</u> that separates adjoining uplands from open water within the AA is:	
178			<1 m.	0
179			1 - 9 m.	0
180			10 - 29 m.	0
181			30 - 49 m.	1
182			50 - 100 m.	0
183			>100 m, or open water is absent at that time.	0
184	F35	Flat Shoreline Extent	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the percentage of the AA's water edge length that is nearly flat (a slope less than about 5% measured within 5 m landward of the water) is:	
185			<1% of the water edge.	0
186			1-25% of the water edge.	1
187			25-50% of the water edge.	0
188			50-75% of the water edge.	0
189			>75% of the water edge.	0
190	F36	Robust Emergents	The percentage of the emergent vegetation cover in the AA that is cattail (<i>Typha spp.</i>), common reed (<i>Phragmites</i>), or tall (>1m) bulrush is:	
191			<1% of the emergent vegetation, or emergent vegetation is absent. SKIP to F38.	1
192			1-25% of the emergent vegetation.	0
193			25-75% of the emergent vegetation.	0
194			>75% of the emergent vegetation.	0
195	F37	Interspersion of Emergents & Open Water	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the spatial pattern of emergent vegetation within the water is mostly:	
196			Scattered. More than 30% of such vegetation forms small islands or corridors surrounded by water.	0
197			Intermediate.	1
198			Clumped. More than 70% of such vegetation is in bands along the wetland perimeter or is clumped at one or a few sides of the surface water area.	0
199	F38	Persistent Deepwater Area	If the deepest patch of surface water (flowing or ponded) in or directly adjacent to the AA is mostly deeper than 0.5 m for >2 weeks during the growing season, enter "1" and continue. If not, enter "0" and SKIP to F42. (Connection).	0
200	F39	Non-vegetated Aquatic Cover	During most of the growing season and in waters deeper than 0.5 m, the cover for fish, aquatic invertebrates, and/or amphibians that is provided NOT by living vegetation, but by accumulations of dead wood and undercut banks is:	
201			Little or none.	0
202			Intermediate.	0
203			Extensive.	0
204	F40	Isolated Island	The AA contains (or is part of) an island or beaver lodge within a lake, pond, or river, and is isolated from the shore by water depths >1 m on all sides during an average June. The island may be solid, or it may be a floating vegetation mat that is sufficiently large and dense to support a waterbird nest.	0
205	F41	Floating Algae & Duckweed	At some time of the year, mats of algae and/or duckweed are likely to cover >50% of the AA's otherwise-unshaded water surface, or blanket >50% of the underwater substrate. If true, enter "1" in next column. If untrue or uncertain, enter "0".	0
				[WBN]
				[EC, PR, WBF]

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206	F42 Channel Connection & Outflow Duration	The most persistent surface water connection (outlet channel or pipe, ditch, or overbank water exchange) between the AA and a downslope stream network is: [Note: If the AA represents only part of a wetland, answer this according to whichever is the least permanent surface connection: the one between the AA and the rest of the wetland, or the surface connection between the wetland and the downslope stream network.]		Consider the connection regardless of whether the surface water is frozen. The "downslope stream network" could consist of ditches, rivers, ponds, or lakes which eventually connect to the ocean. If this cannot be determined while visiting the AA, consult topographic maps perhaps by viewing these online with Toporama (http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html) [CS, FA, FR, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WCv, WS]
207		Persistent (surface water flows out for >9 months/year).		
208		Seasonal (surface water flows out for 14 days to 9 months/year, not necessarily consecutive).		
209		Temporary (surface water flows out for <14 days, not necessarily consecutive).		
210		None -- but maps show a stream network downslope from the AA and within a distance that is less than the AA's length. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
211		No surface water flows out of the wetland except possibly during extreme events (<once per 10 years). Or, water flows only into a wetland, ditch, or lake that lacks an outlet. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	1	
212	F43 Outflow Confinement	During major runoff events, in the places where surface water exits the AA or connected waters nearby, the water:		"Major runoff events" would include biennial high water caused by storms and/or rapid snowmelt. [CS, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, STR, WS]
213		Mostly passes through a pipe, culvert, narrowly breached dike, berm, beaver dam, or other partial obstruction (other than natural topography) that does not appear to drain the wetland artificially during most of the growing season.		
214		Leaves through natural exits (channels or diffuse outflow), not mainly through artificial or temporary features.		
215		Is exported more quickly than usual due to ditches or pipes within the AA or connected to its outlet, or within 10 m of the AA's edge, which drain the wetland artificially, or water is pumped out of the AA.		
216	F44 Tributary Channel	At least once annually, surface water from a tributary channel that is >100 m long moves into the AA. Or, surface water from a larger permanent water body adjacent to the AA spills into the AA. If it enters only via a pipe, that pipe must be fed by a mapped stream or lake further upslope. If no, SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	If inlet tributaries cannot be searched for due to inaccessibility of part of the AA, follow suggestions in F42 above. [NRv, PH, PRv, SRv]
217	F45 Input Water Temperature	Based on lack of shade, water source characteristics, or actual temperature measurements, the inflow is likely to be warmer than surface water in the AA during part of most years. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	[WCv]
218	F46 Throughflow Resistance	During its travel through the AA at the time of peak annual flow, water arriving in channels: [select only the ONE encountered by most of the incoming water].		[FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
219		Does not bump into many plant stems as it travels through the AA. Nearly all the water continues to travel in unvegetated (often incised) channels that have minimal contact with wetland vegetation, or through a zone of open water such as an instream pond or lake.		
220		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
221		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation and mostly spreads throughout, or is in widely meandering, multi-branched, or braided channels.		
222		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
223		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems and follows a fairly indirect path from entrance to exit (meandering, multi-branched, or braided).		
224	F47 pH Measurement	The pH in most of the AA's surface water:		Preferably, measure this in larger areas of ponded surface water within the AA, or in streams that have passed through (not along) most of the AA. Unless surface water is completely absent, do not dig holes or make depressions in peat in order to provide water for this measurement. Avoid measuring near roads or in puddles formed only by recent rain. [AM, FA, FR, NR, WBF, PH, PR, Sens, WBF, WBN]
225		Was measured, and is: [enter the reading in the column to the right.]		
226		Was not measured but surface water is present and is darkly tea-coloured. Or if no surface water, then mosses and plants that indicate peatland (e.g., Labrador tea) are prevalent. Enter "1".	0	
227		Neither of above. Enter "1".	1	
228		The TDS (total dissolved solids) or conductivity off the AA's surface water is: (select the first true row with information):		
229	F48 TDS and/or Conductivity	TDS is: [Enter the reading in ppm or mg/L in the column to the right, if measured, or answer next row.]		See above for measurement guidance. [FR, INV, NRv, PH, PRv, Sens]
230		Conductivity is: [Enter the reading in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ in the column to the right.]		
231		Was not measured, but plants that indicate saline conditions cover much of the vegetated AA. Enter "1".	0	
232		Neither of above	1	
233		Use of the AA by beaver during the past 5 years is (select most applicable ONE):		
234	F49 Beaver Probability	Evident from direct observation or presence of gnawed limbs, dams, tracks, dens, lodges, or extensive stands of water-killed trees (snags).	0	[FA, FR, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
235		Likely based on known occurrence in the region and proximity to suitable habitat, which may include: (a) a persistent freshwater wetland, pond, or lake, or a perennial low or mid-gradient (<10%) channel, and (b) a corridor or multiple stands of hardwood trees and shrubs in vegetated areas near surface water.	0	
236		Unlikely because site characteristics above are deficient, and/or this is a settled area or other area where beaver are routinely removed.	1	

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237	F50 Groundwater Strength of Evidence	Select first applicable choice:		
238		Springs are known to be present within the AA, or if groundwater levels have been monitored, that has demonstrated that groundwater primarily discharges to the wetland for longer periods during the year than periods when the wetland recharges the groundwater.	0	Adhere to these criteria strictly -- do not use personal judgment based on fen conditions, pH, or other evidence. Consult topographic maps to detect breaks in slope described here. Rust deposits associated with groundwater seeps may be most noticeable as orange discoloration in ice formations along streams during early winter. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PRv, SFS, WC, WS]
239		Most of the AA has a slope of >5%, or is very close to the base of a natural slope longer than 100 and much steeper than the slope of the AA, AND the pH of surface water, if known, is >5.5.	0	
240		Neither of above is true, although some groundwater may discharge to or flow through the AA. Or groundwater influx is unknown.	1	
241	F51 Internal Gradient	The gradient along most of the flow path within the AA is:		
242		<2% or the AA has no surface water outlet (not even seasonally).	1	
243		2-5%.	0	
244		6-10%.	0	
245		>10%.	0	
246	Note for the next three questions: If the AA lacks an upland edge, evaluate based on the AA's entire perimeter, and moving outward into whatever areas are adjacent. In many situations, these questions are best answered by measuring from aerial images.			
247	F52 Vegetated Buffer as % of Perimeter	Within a zone extending 30 m laterally from the AA's edge with upland and/or other wetlands, the percentage that contains perennial vegetation cover (except lawns, row crops, heavily grazed land, conifer plantations) is:		[AM, FA, FR, INV, NRv, PH, POL, PRv, SBM, Sens, SRv, STR, WBN]
248		<5%.	0	
249		5 to 30%.	1	
250		30 to 60%.	0	
251		60 to 90%.	0	
252		>90%, or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands. SKIP to F55.	0	
253	F53 Type of Cover in Buffer	Within 30 m upslope of where the wetland transitions to upland, the upland land cover that is NOT perennial vegetation is mostly (mark ONE):		[AM, FA, INV, NRv, PH, POL, SBM, STR, WBN]
254		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.	0	
255		Bare or nearly bare pervious surface or managed vegetation, e.g., lawn, row crops, unpaved road, dike, landslide.	1	
256	F54 Buffer Slope	The steepest and/or most disturbed part of the upland area that is within 30 m of the wetland and occupies >10% of that upland area has a percent slope of:		[NRv, PRv, Sens, SRv]
257		<1% (flat -- almost no noticeable slope) or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands.	0	
258		2-5%.	1	
259		5-30%.	0	
260		>30%.	0	
261	F55 Cliffs or Steep Banks	In the AA or within 100 m, there are elevated terrestrial features such as cliffs, talus slopes, stream banks, or excavated pits (but not riprap) that extend at least 2 m nearly vertically, are unvegetated, and potentially contain crevices or other substrate suitable for nesting or den areas. Enter 1 (yes) or 0 (no).	0	Do not include upturned trees as potential den sites. [POL, SBM]
262	F56 New or Expanded Wetland	Human actions within or adjacent to the AA have persistently expanded a naturally occurring wetland or created a wetland where there previously was none (e.g., by excavation, impoundment):		Determine this using historical aerial photography, old maps, soil maps, or permit files as available [CS, NR, OE, PH, Sens]
263		No.	0	
264		Yes, and created or expanded 20 - 100 years ago.	0	
265		Yes, and created or expanded 3-20 years ago.	0	
266		Yes, and created or expanded within last 3 years.	0	
267		Yes, but time of origin or expansion unknown.	1	
268		Unknown if new or expanded within 20 years or not.	0	
269	F57 Burn History	More than 1% of the AA's previously vegetated area:		Look for charred soil or stumps (in multiple widely-spaced locations) or ask landowner. [CS, PH, STR]
270		Burned within past 5 years.	0	
271		Burned 6-10 years ago.	0	
272		Burned 11-30 years ago.	0	
273		Burned >30 years ago, or no evidence of a burn and no data.	1	

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274	F58 Visibility	The maximum percentage of the wetland that is visible from the best vantage point on public roads, public parking lots, public buildings, or public maintained trails that intersect, adjoin, or are within 100 m of the AA (select one) is:		[PU, STR, WBFv]
275		<25%.	0	
276		25-50%.	1	
277		>50%.	0	
278	F59 Non-consumptive Uses - Actual or Potential	Assuming access permission was granted, select ALL statements that are true of the AA as it currently exists:		[PU, STR]
279		For an average person, walking is physically possible <u>in</u> (not just near) >5% of the AA during most of the growing season, e.g., free of deep water and dense shrub thickets.	1	
280		Maintained roads, parking areas, or foot-trails are within 10 m of the AA, or the AA can be accessed part of the year by boats arriving via contiguous waters.	0	
281		Within or near the AA, there is an interpretive center, trails with interpretive signs or brochures, and/or regular guided interpretive tours.	0	
282	F60 Unvisited Core Area	The percentage of the AA almost never visited by humans during an average growing season probably comprises: <i>[Note: Only include the part actually walked or driven (not simply viewed from) with a vehicle or boat. Do not include visitors on trails outside of the AA unless more than half the wetland is visible from the trails and they are within 30 m of the wetland edge. In that case include only the area occupied by the trail.]</i>		[AM, FAV, FRV, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
283		<5% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	1	
284		<5% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
285		5-50% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
286		5-50% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
287		50-95%, with or without inhabited building nearby.	0	
288		>95% of the AA with or without inhabited building nearby.	0	
289	F61 Frequently Visited Area	The part of the AA visited by humans almost daily for several weeks during an average growing season probably comprises: <i>[See note above.]</i>		[AM, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
290		<5%. If F60 was answered ">95%" (mostly never visited), SKIP to F64.	1	
291		5-50%.	0	
292		50-95%.	0	
293		>95% of the AA.	0	
294	F62 BMP - Soils	Boardwalks, paved trails, fences or other infrastructure and/or well-enforced regulations appear to effectively prevent visitors from walking on soil within nearly all of the AA when the soil is unfrozen. Enter "1" if true.	0	[PH, PU]
295	F63 BMP - Wildlife Protection	Fences, observation blinds, platforms, paved trails, exclusion periods, and/or well-enforced prohibitions on motorised boats, off-leash pets, and off road vehicles appear to effectively exclude or divert visitors and their pets from the AA at critical times in order to minimize disturbance of wildlife (except during hunting seasons). Enter "1" if true.	0	[AM, PU, WBF, WBN]
296	F64 Consumptive Uses (Provisioning Services)	Recent evidence was found within the AA of the following potentially-sustainable consumptive uses. Select ALL that apply.		[FAv, FRv, WBFv]
297		Low-impact commercial timber harvest (e.g., selective thinning).	0	
298		Commercial or traditional-use harvesting of native plants, their fruits, or mushrooms.	0	
299		Waterfowl hunting.	0	
300		Fishing.	0	
301		Trapping of furbearers.	0	
302		None of the above.	1	
303	F65 Domestic Wells	The closest wells or water bodies that currently provide drinking water are:		[NRv]
304		Within 0-100 m. of the AA.	0	
305		100-500 m. away.	0	
306		>500 m. away, or no information.	1	
307	F66 Calcareous Fen	The AA is, or is part of, a calcareous fen. See the Plants_Calcar worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file for list of plant indicators (calciphiles). Enter 1 if more than two Strong or more than five Moderate calciphile species are present; otherwise enter 0, but if not able to identify those and no information, change to blank.		[PH, PR]
308				

Investigator: Alex Scott, Jordan H. Davis	Site Identifier: Higgins WL10	Date: 04 October 2022	
Stressor (S) Data Form for Non-Tidal Wetlands. WESP-AC for Nova Scotia version 2.			
S1	Aberrant Timing of Water Inputs	Data	
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item that is likely to have caused the timing of water inputs (but not necessarily their volume) to shift by hours, days, or weeks, becoming either more muted (smaller or less frequent peaks spread over longer times, more temporal homogeneity of flow or water levels) or more flashy (larger or more frequent spikes but over shorter times). [FA, FR, INV, PH, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater from impervious surfaces that drains directly to the wetland.</p> <p>Water subsidies from wastewater effluent, septic system leakage, snow storage areas, or irrigation.</p> <p>Regular removal of surface or groundwater for irrigation or other consumptive use.</p> <p>Flow regulation in tributaries or water level regulation in adjoining water body, or other control structure at water entry points that regulates inflow to the wetland.</p> <p>A dam, dike, levee, weir, berm, or fill -- within or downgradient from the wetland -- that interferes with surface or subsurface flow in/out of the AA (e.g., road fill, wellpads, pipelines).</p> <p>Excavation within the wetland, e.g., dugout, artificial pond, dead-end ditch.</p> <p>Artificial drains or ditches in or near the wetland.</p> <p>Accelerated downcutting or channelization of an adjacent or internal channel (incised below the historical water table level).</p> <p>Logging within the wetland.</p> <p>Subsidence or compaction of the wetland's substrate as a result of machinery, livestock, fire, drainage, or off road vehicles.</p> <p>Straightening, ditching, dredging, and/or lining of tributary channels.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items had no measurable effect on the timing of water conditions in any part of the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>			
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)
Spatial extent of timing shift within the wetland:	>95% of wetland.	5-95% of wetland.	<5% of wetland.
When most of the timing shift began:	<3 yrs ago.	3-9 yrs ago.	10-100 yrs ago.
Score the following 2 rows only if the altered inputs began within past 10 years, and only for the part of the wetland that experiences those.			
Input timing now vs. previously:	Shift of weeks.	Shift of days.	Shift of hours or minutes.
Flashiness or muting:	Became very flashy or controlled.	Intermediate.	Became mildly flashy or controlled.
		Sum=	0.58
S2	Accelerated Inputs of Contaminants and/or Salts	Data	
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of contaminants or salts to the AA. [AM, FA, PH, POL, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills, industrial facilities.</p> <p>Metals & chemical wastes from mining, shooting ranges, snow storage areas, oil/gas extraction, other sources (download many locations from National Pollutant Release Inventory and view KMZ overlay in Google Earth. https://www.ec.gc.ca/inrp-npri/default.asp?lang=En&n=B85A1846-1</p> <p>Road salt.</p> <p>Spraying of pesticides, as applied to lawns, croplands, roadsides, or other areas in the CA.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly higher levels of contaminants and/or salts, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>			
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)
Usual toxicity of most toxic contaminants:	Industrial effluent, mining waste, unmanaged landfill.	Cropland, managed landfill, pipeline or transmission rights-of-way.	Low density residential.
Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.
AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.
		Sum=	0
		Stressor subscore=	0.00

S3	Accelerated Inputs of Nutrients				
	In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of nutrients to the wetland. [NRv, PRv, STR]				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills.				0
	Fertilizers applied to lawns, ag lands, or other areas in the CA.				0
	Livestock, dogs.				0
	Artificial drainage of upslope lands.				0
	If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly more nutrients, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Type of loading:	High density of unmaintained septic, some types of industrial sources.	Moderate density septic, cropland, secondary wastewater treatment plant.	Livestock, pets, low density residential.	0
	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
	AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
				Sum=	0
				Stressor subscore=	0.00
S4	Excessive Sediment Loading from Contributing Area				
	In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the CA that is likely to have elevated the load of waterborne or windborne sediment reaching the wetland from its CA. [FA, FR, INV, PH, SRv, STR]				
	Erosion from plowed fields, fill, timber harvest, dirt roads, vegetation clearing, fires.				1
	Erosion from construction, in-channel machinery in the CA.				1
	Erosion from off-road vehicles in the CA.				
	Erosion from livestock or foot traffic in the CA.				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent.				
	Sediment from road sanding, gravel mining, other mining, oil/ gas extraction.				1
	Accelerated channel downcutting or headcutting of tributaries due to altered land use.				
	Other human-related disturbances within the CA.				1
	If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points (3, 2, or 1 as shown in header) in the last column. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively add significantly more sediment or suspended solids to the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Erosion in CA:	Extensive evidence, high intensity.*	Potentially (based on high-intensity* land use) or scattered evidence.	Potentially (based on low-intensity* land use) with little or no direct evidence.	3
	Recentness of significant soil disturbance in the CA:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	1
	Duration of sediment inputs to the wetland:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	3
	AA proximity to actual or potential sources:	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m.	In more distant part of contributing area.	3
	* high-intensity= extensive off-road vehicle use, plowing, grading, excavation, erosion with or without veg removal; low-intensity= veg removal only with little or no apparent erosion or disturbance of soil or sediment.				Sum= 10
				Stressor subscore=	0.83

S5	Soil or Sediment Alteration Within the Assessment Area			
<p><i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the wetland that is likely to have compacted, eroded, or otherwise altered the wetland's soil. Consider only items occurring within past 100 years or since wetland was created or restored (whichever is less). [CS, INV, NR, PH, SR, STR]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compaction from machinery, off-road vehicles, livestock, or mountain bikes, especially during wetter periods. Leveling or other grading not to the natural contour. Tillage, plowing (but excluding disking for enhancement of native plants). Fill or riprap, excluding small amounts of upland soils containing organic amendments (compost, etc.) or small amounts of topsoil imported from another wetland. Excavation. Ditch cleaning or dredging in or adjacent to the wetland. Boat traffic in or adjacent to the wetland and sufficient to cause shore erosion or stir bottom sediments. Artificial water level or flow manipulations sufficient to cause erosion or stir bottom sediments. <p><i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not measurably alter the soil structure and/or topography, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i></p>				
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
Spatial extent of altered soil:	>95% of wetland or >95% of its upland edge (if any).	5-95% of wetland or 5-95% of its upland edge (if any).	<5% of wetland and <5% of its upland edge (if any).	2
Recentness of significant soil alteration in wetland:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	1
Duration:	Long-lasting, minimal veg recovery.	Long-lasting but mostly revegetated.	Short-term, revegetated, not intense.	2
Timing of soil alteration:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Mainly during one-time or scattered events.	2
			Sum=	7
			Stressor subscore=	0.58

Assessment Area (AA) Results:

Wetland ID: WL10

Date: 4 October 2022

Observer: AS JD

Latitude & Longitude (decimal degrees): 45.57113790619877, -63.6020082718349

Scores will appear below after data are entered in worksheets OF, F, and S. See Manual for definitions and descriptions of how scores were computed.						
Wetland Functions or Other Attributes:	Function Score (Normalised)	Function Rating	Benefits Score (Normalised)	Benefits Rating	Function Score (raw)	Benefits Score (raw)
Water Storage & Delay (WS)	6.23	Moderate	10.00	Higher	6.59	5.03
Stream Flow Support (SFS)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Water Cooling (WC)	1.42	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.94	0.00
Sediment Retention & Stabilisation (SR)	10.00	Higher	0.00	Lower	10.00	0.00
Phosphorus Retention (PR)	10.00	Higher	0.00	Lower	10.00	0.00
Nitrate Removal & Retention (NR)	10.00	Higher	5.00	Moderate	10.00	5.00
Carbon Sequestration (CS)	0.16	Lower			5.27	
Organic Nutrient Export (OE)	5.72	Moderate			3.74	
Anadromous Fish Habitat (FA)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Resident Fish Habitat (FR)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Aquatic Invertebrate Habitat (INV)	1.51	Lower	5.26	Moderate	4.11	4.08
Amphibian & Turtle Habitat (AM)	7.91	Higher	6.88	Higher	7.27	7.43
Waterbird Feeding Habitat (WBF)	6.40	Moderate	6.67	Moderate	4.87	6.67
Waterbird Nesting Habitat (WBN)	6.79	Higher	6.67	Higher	4.92	6.67
Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat (SBM)	8.51	Higher	10.00	Higher	7.41	10.00
Pollinator Habitat (POL)	6.59	Moderate	10.00	Higher	5.46	10.00
Native Plant Habitat (PH)	2.28	Lower	7.62	Moderate	4.81	7.62
Public Use & Recognition (PU)			2.28	Moderate		1.86
Wetland Sensitivity (Sens)			7.19	Moderate		4.22
Wetland Ecological Condition (EC)			4.78	Moderate		7.50
Wetland Stressors (STR) (higher score means more stress)			10.00	Higher		5.36
Summary Ratings for Grouped Functions:						
HYDROLOGIC Group (WS)	6.23	Moderate	10.00	Higher	6.59	5.03
WATER QUALITY SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SR, PR, NR, CS)	8.77	Higher	3.33	Moderate	9.41	3.33
AQUATIC SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SFS, INV, OE, WC)	3.94	Moderate	3.51	Lower	3.15	2.72
AQUATIC HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of FA, FR, AM, WBF, WBN)	6.07	Moderate	5.46	Higher	5.34	5.79
TRANSITION HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of SBM, PH, POL)	7.15	Higher	9.60	Higher	6.65	9.60
WETLAND CONDITION (EC)			4.78	Moderate		7.50
WETLAND RISK (average of Sensitivity & Stressors)			8.59	Higher		4.79
		NOTE: A score of 0 does not mean the function or benefit is absent from the wetland. It means only that this wetland has a capacity that is equal or less than the lowest-scoring one, for that function or benefit, from among all the NS calibration wetlands that were assessed previously.				

NOVA SCOTIA - Functional WSS Interpretation Tool

Function-Benefit Product (FBP)	FBP SCORE	FBP SCORE CATEGORY
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - HYDROLOGIC	62.30688145	High
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - WATER QUALITY SUPPORT	29.23249588	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC SUPPORT	13.83330629	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC HABITAT	33.11020693	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - TRANSITION HABITAT	68.7031277	Low

Habitat Rule Satisfied? NO

Support Rule Satisfied? NO

Habitat/Support Hybrid Rule Satisfied? NO

CONCLUSION: Site is not a WSS

Cover Page: Basic Description of Assessment	WESP-AC version 2
Site Name:	Higgins Mountain, WL11
Investigator Name:	Madeline Maher, Rohan Kariyawansa, Blake Fairclough
Date of Field Assessment:	13 October 2022
Nearest Town:	Masstown
Latitude (decimal degrees):	45.56915000
Longitude (decimal degrees):	63.61613889
Is a map based on a formal on-site wetland delineation available?	Yes
Approximate size of the Assessment Area (AA, in hectares):	0.18
AA as percent of entire wetland (approx.). Attach sketch map if AA is smaller than the entire contiguous wetland.	100
What percent (approx.) of the wetland were you able to visit?	100
What percent (approx.) of the AA were you able to visit?	100
Were you able to ask the site owner/manager about any of the questions?	No
Indicate here if you intentionally surveyed for rare plants, calciphile plants, or rare animals:	Yes
Have you attended a WESP-AC training session? If so, indicate approximate month & year.	October 2022
How many wetlands have you assessed previously using WESP-AC? (approx.)	30
Comments about the site or this WESP-AC assessment (attach extra page if desired):	

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date:09 November, 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain WL11		Investigator: Madeline Maher	
2	Form OF (Office). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia wetlands only. DIRECTIONS: Conduct an assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answering many of the questions below will require using these online map viewers: Google Earth Pro: https://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html Provincial Landscape Viewer: https://nsgis.novascotia.ca/plv/ For most wetlands, completing this office data form will require 1-2 hours. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see bracketed abbreviations in the Definitions/Explanations column. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.				
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations
4	OF1	Province	Mark the province in which the AA is located by changing the 0 in the column next to it to a "1". Mark only one.		This determines to which province's calibration wetlands the raw score of any wetland is normalised. In the function and benefits models, it also triggers the automatic exclusion of indicators for which no spatial data exists in a particular province.
5			New Brunswick	0	
6			Nova Scotia	1	
7			Prince Edward Island	0	
8			Newfoundland-Labrador	0	
9	OF2	Ponded Area Within 1 km.	The area of surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		"Adjacent" means not separated from the AA by a wide expanse (>50 m) of upland (including roads >50 m wide). Include ponded areas likely to be hidden by wetland vegetation. If surface water extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. Do not include tidal areas. Measure the area from aerial imagery using Google Earth Pro (click on Ruler icon in toolbar, then Polygon in pop-up menu). [PH, SBM, WBN]
10			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	1	
11			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
12			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
13			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
14			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
15			>100 hectares.	0	
16	OF3	Ponded Water & Wetland Within 1 km.	The area of wetlands and surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. If the AA's wetland vegetation extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. "Ponded" means not flowing in rivers or streams. [Sens, WBF]
17			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	1	
18			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
19			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
20			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
21			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
22			>100 hectares.	0	
23	OF4	Size of Largest Nearby Vegetated Tract or Corridor	The largest vegetated patch or corridor that includes the AA's vegetation plus all adjacent upland vegetation that is not lawn, row crops, heavily grazed lands, conifer plantation is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. Use Google Earth Pro's polygon ruler (as described above). Exclude conifer plantations only if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens]
24			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
25			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
26			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
27			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
28			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
29			100 to 1000 hectares.	1	
30			>1000 hectares. <i>[This is nearly always the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]</i>	0	

A	B	C	D	E
31	OF5 Distance to Large Vegetated Tract	The minimum distance from the edge of the AA to the edge of the closest vegetated land (but excluding row crops, lawn, conifer plantation) larger than 375 hectares (about 2 km on a side), is:	0	To measure distance, use Google Earth Pro (Ruler > Line tool). The 375-ha criterion is from the Fundy Model Forest Project. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
32		<50 m, and not separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, bare ground, lawn, or impervious surface. Or the AA itself contains >375 ha of vegetation. [This is often the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]		
33		<50 m, but completely separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by those features, and AA does not contain >375 ha of vegetation.		
34		50-500 m, and not separated.		
35		50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
36		0.5 - 5 km, and not separated.		
37		0.5 - 5 km, but separated by those features.		
38		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors which are that large are >5 km away).		
39	OF6 Herbaceous Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 5 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 1 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "1". [* NOTE: Exclude lawns, row crops, heavily grazed lands, forest, shrublands. Include moss as well as grasslike plants in this use of "herbaceous vegetation"]	0	For this question only, consider moss to be herbaceous vegetation. Determine the score by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth after successively drawing or estimating the boundaries of the buffers of 5 km, 1 km, and 100 m radius focused on the center of the AA. Circles of specified radius can be drawn in Google Earth Pro by clicking on the Ruler icon, then Circle in the pop-up menu. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
40	OF7 Woody Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% woody* but uplands within 5 km have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 1 km have <10% woody cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "1" [* NOTE: woody cover = trees & shrubs taller than 1 m.]	0	See above. Do not consider conifer plantations to be forest if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv]
41	OF8 Local Vegetated Cover Percentage	Draw a 5-km radius circle measured from the center of the AA. Ignoring all permanent water in the circle, the percent of the remaining area that is wooded or unmanaged herbaceous vegetation (NOT lawn, row crops, bare or heavily grazed land, clearcuts, or conifer plantations) is:	0	In Google Earth, draw the 5 km buffer and then estimate land cover percentages, or do GIS analysis of an appropriate land cover layer. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
42		<5% of the land.		
43		5 to 20% of the land.		
44		20 to 60% of the land.		
45		60 to 90% of the land.		
46		>90% of the land. SKIP to OF10.		
47	OF9 Type of Land Cover Alteration	Within the 5-km radius circle, and ignoring all permanent water, the land area that is bare or non-perennial cover is mostly:	0	[AM, SBM]
48		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
49		Bare pervious surface, e.g., lawn, recent (<5 yrs ago) clearcut, dirt or gravel road, cropland, landslide, conifer plantation.		
50	OF10 Distance by Road to Nearest Population Center	Measured along the maintained road nearest the AA, the distance to the nearest population center is:	0	"Population center" means a settled area with more than about 5 regularly- inhabited structures per square kilometer. In Google Earth Pro, click on the Ruler icon, then Path, and draw and measure the route. [FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, WBFv]
51		<100 m.		
52		100 - 500 m.		
53		0.5 - 1 km.		
54		1 - 5 km.		
55		>5 km.		

A	B	C	D	E
56	OF11 Distance to Nearest Maintained Road	From the center of the AA, the distance to the nearest maintained public road (dirt or paved) is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth Pro and measuring with the Ruler>Line tool [AM, FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBN]
57		<10 m.		
58		10 - 25 m.		
59		25 - 50 m.		
60		50 - 100 m.		
61		100 - 500 m.		
62		>500 m.		
63	OF12 Wildlife Access	Draw a circle of radius of 5 km from the center of the AA. If mammals and amphibians can move from the center of the AA to ALL other separate wetlands and ponds located within the circle without being forced to cross pavement (any width), lawns, bare ground, and/or marine waters, mark 1= yes can move to all, 0= no. Change to blank if there are no other wetlands within 5 km.	0	Draw the 5 km circle in Google Earth Pro using the Circle tool and search for roads and wetlands within it, being alert for roads hidden under forest canopy. [AM, SBM, STR]
64	OF13 Distance to Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) ponded water body visible in GoogleEarth imagery is:		In Google Earth Pro, zoom in closely to examine the surrounding landscape for ponds, lakes, and wetlands that appear to be permanently flooded. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
65		<50 m, and not separated by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, lawn, bare ground, or impervious surface.		
66		<50 m, but completely separated by those features.		
67		50-500 m, and not separated.		
68		50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
69		0.5 - 1 km, and not separated.		
70		0.5 - 1 km, but separated by those features.		
71		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors that large are >1 km away).		
72	OF14 Distance to Large Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate)non-tidal body of water that is ponded during most of the year and is larger than 8 hectares during most of a normal year is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth. [Sens, WBF, WBN]
73		<100 m.		
74		100 m - 1 km.		
75		1 - 2 km.		
76		2-5 km.		
77		5-10 km.		
78		>10 km.		
79	OF15 Tidal Proximity	The distance from the AA edge to the closest tidal water body (regardless of its salinity) is:		In Google Earth, measure the distance to the ocean (including Bay of Fundy) or tidal river, whichever is closer. If you need to see how far upriver a river is tidal, see the KMZ file provided with this calculator for NS (NS Headtide). Points shown in those files are only an approximation, so local information if available may be preferable. [FA, WBF]
80		<100 m.		
81		100 m - 1 km.		
82		1 - 5 km.		
83		5-10 km.		
84		10-40 km.		
85		>40 km.		
86	OF16 Upland Edge Contact	Select one:		[NR, SBM, Sens]
87		The AA has no upland edge (or upland is <1% of perimeter). The AA is entirely surrounded by (& contiguous with) other wetlands or water.		
88		1-25% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland (including filled areas). The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
89		25-50% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
90		50-75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
91		More than 75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. Any remainder adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA. This will be true for most assessments done with WESP-AC.		

A	B	C	D	E
92	OF17 Flood Damage from Non-tidal Waters	Within 5 km downstream or downslope of the AA (select first true choice):	0	Contact local authorities to determine if such maps exist. Where available, LiDAR imagery can provide finer elevational resolution useful for flood modeling. [WSv]
93		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding not caused by tidal storm surges.		
94		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas, but infrastructure is absent or is not vulnerable to floods from a non-tidal river. In some cases levees, upriver dams, or other measures may partly limit damage or risk from smaller events.		
95		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
96		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there is no infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
97	OF18 Relative Elevation in Watershed	In Google Earth, enable the Terrain layer (lower left menu) and open the NS_Watersheds Secondary KMZ file that accompanies this calculator. Then determine the AA's approximate elevation (bottom right, NOT the "eye alt"). Then move cursor around to determine the watershed's maximum and minimum elevation. Divide the AA's elevation by the (max-min).	0.92	[FA, NR, Sens, SFSv, WCv, WSv]
98	OF19 Water Quality Sensitive Watershed or Area	The AA is in a Protected Water Supply area (Designated Water Supply Area, Natural Watershed Municipal Surface Water Supply Area, or Municipal Water Supply Area) according to the provided KMZ overlay ("NS Protected Water Supply Areas"). Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	If an ACCDC report is available for this AA, it also may contain such information. [NRv]
99	OF20 Degraded Water Upstream	Sampling indicates a problem with concentrations of metals, hydrocarbons, nutrients, or other substances (excluding bacteria, acidic water, high temperatures) being present at levels harmful to aquatic life or humans, and:	0	May use existing data, or sample those waters as part of this wetland assessment. "Harmful" should be evaluated with regard to current federal or provincial water quality standards. [AM, FA, FR, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WBF, WBN]
100		The condition is present within the AA.		
101		The condition is present in waters within 1 km that flow into the AA, but has not been documented in the AA itself.		
102		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
103		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
104	OF21 Degraded Water Downstream	The problem described above is downslope from the AA, and:	0	May use existing data, or monitor waters as part of this wetland assessment. [NRv, PRv, SRv]
105		The condition is present within 1 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel.		
106		The condition is present within 5 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel, or within 1 km but not connected to the AA by a channel.		
107		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
108		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
109	OF22 Wetland as a % of Its Contributing Area (Catchment)	From a topographic map and field observations, estimate the approximate boundaries of the catchment (CA) of the entire wetland of which the AA may be only a part. Then adjust those boundaries if necessary based on your field observations of the surrounding terrain, and/or by using procedures described in the Manual. Divide the area of the wetland (not just the AA) by the approximate area of its catchment excluding the area of the wetland itself. When doing the calculation, if ponded water is adjacent to the wetland, include that in the wetland area. The result is:	0	Topographic maps may be viewed online at the National Atlas of Canada (Toporama): http://atlas.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html [NR, PR, Sens, SR, WS]
110		<0.01, or catchment size unknown due to stormwater pipes that collect water from an indeterminate area.		
111		0.01 to 0.1.		
112		0.1 to 1.		
113		>1 (wetland is larger than its catchment (e.g., wetland with flat surrounding terrain and no inlet, or is entirely isolated by dikes, or is a raised bog)).		
114	OF23 Unvegetated Surface in the Contributing Area	The proportion of the AA's contributing area (measured to no more than 1000 m upslope) that is comprised of buildings, roads, parking lots, other pavement, exposed bedrock, landslides, and other mostly-bare surface is about :	0	[FA, INV, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WCv, WSv]
115		<10%.		
116		10 to 25%.		
117		>25%.		

A	B	C	D	E
118	OF24	Transport From Upslope A relatively large proportion of the precipitation that falls farther upslope in the CA reaches this wetland quickly as runoff (surface water), as indicated by the following: (a) input channel is present, (b) input channels have been straightened, (c) upslope wetlands have been ditched extensively, (d) land cover is mostly non-forest, (e) CA slopes are steep, and/or (f) most CA soils are shallow (bedrock near surface) and/or have high runoff coefficients. This statement is: Mostly true. Somewhat true. Mostly untrue.	1 0 0	[NRv, PRv, SRv, WSv]
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122	OF25	Aspect The overland flow direction of most surface water (in streams, rivers, or runoff) that enters the AA is: Northward (N, NE). north-facing contributing area. Southward (S, SW). south-facing contributing area. Other (E, SE, W, NW), or no detectable uphill slope or input channel (flat).	0 0 1	[AM, NR, SFS, WC, WS]
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126	OF26	Internal Flow Distance (Path Length) The horizontal flow distance from the wetland's inlet to outlet is: <10 m. 10 - 50 m. 50 - 100 m. 100 - 1000 m. 1-2 km. >2 km, or wetland lacks an inlet and outlet.	0 0 0 0 0 1	Identify inlets and outlets, if any, from topographic maps (use elevations to determine which are inlets and which are outlets) and augment by field inspection. With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, select Nova Scotia Topo as the Basemap. Also enable the layer Forestry>WAM Predicted Flow. Then measure the inlet-outlet distance. [NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
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133	OF27	Growing Degree Days In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called NS_GrowingDegreeDays. Place your cursor over the AA and left-click. From the pop-up window, enter the GRIDCODE number in the next column.	1908	This layer was provided by Dr. Dan McKenney of the Canadian Forest Service [AM, CS, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WCv, WS]
134	OF28	Fish Access or Use According to agency biologists and/or your own observations, the AA. [Mark just the first choice that is true.]: Is known to support rearing and/or spawning by Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels. Go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife>Significant Habitat>Species at Risk. Contact local fishery biologists, review the ACCDC report, and visit these websites: http://www.salmonatlas.com/atlanticsalmon/canada-east/index.1.html http://atlanticsalmofederation.org/rivers/introduction.html Has not been documented to support Atlantic salmon rearing and/or spawning, but is connected to nearby waters likely to contain Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels and is probably accessed by those during some conditions. Is probably not accessed by any anadromous fish species but is known or likely to have other fish at least seasonally. Is known or likely to be fishless (e.g., too small, dry, and/or not accessible even temporarily, and not stocked).	0 0 0 1	Regarding the last choice, if uncertain if an AA is fishless, consider the possibility its waters have been stocked. [AM, FA, FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
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139	OF29	Species of Conservation Concern Within the past 10 years, in the AA (or in its adjoining waters or wetland), qualified observers have documented/mark all applicable]: Presence of one or more of the plant species listed in the Plants_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, or the AA is within a mapped Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora Buffer (go to Provincial Landscape Viewer> Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones). Presence of one or more of the amphibian or reptile species (AM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file. Presence of one or more of the waterbird species (WBF, WBN) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file. Presence of one or more of the nesting songbird or raptor species (SBM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, during their nesting season (May-July for most species). None of the above, or no data.	0 0 0 0 1	Request information from ACCDC and/or conduct your own survey at an appropriate season using an approved protocol. For birds, also check eBird.org. NOTE for NS: If your WESP-AC is being completed for a Wetland Alteration Application to NS-ECC, your ACCDC results and any taxon-specific survey results must be submitted along with your WESP-AC results, and application. [AMv, EC, PHv, POLv, SBMv, Sens, WBFv, WBNv]
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145	OF30	Important Bird Area (IBA) In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called IBAs_Canada. The AA is all or part of an officially designated IBA. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	The source of this layer, which should be checked periodically for updates, is: http://www.ibacanada.com/mapviewer.jsp?lang=EN [SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]

	A	B	C	D	E
146	OF31	Black Duck Nesting Area	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called BlackDuck. Adjust its alignment and opacity. Determine the predicted density (pairs per 25 sq. km) of nesting American Black Duck in the AA's vicinity: <10 (enter 0), 10-20 (enter 1), 20-30 (enter 2), >30 (enter 3). If outside of region shown in map, change to blank.	0	This was provided by Dr. David Leske. [WBNv]
147	OF32	Wintering Deer or Moose Concentration Areas	If AA is on private land with no information, change to blank (not 0). Otherwise: With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, for Wintering Moose, go to Wildlife> Significant Habitat. For Mainland Moose Concentration Areas, go to Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones Enter: yes= 1, no= 0.	0	[SBM]
148	OF33	Other Conservation Designation	The AA is all or part of an area designated by government, First Nations, or the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) for its exceptional ecological features or highly intact natural conditions. With Provincial Landscape Viewer, see Protected Areas. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If uncertain, consult NCC and agencies for more recent information.	0	See: https://novascotia.ca/parksandprotectedareas/plan/interactive-map/ [PU]
149	OF34	Conservation Investment	The AA is part of or contiguous to a wetland on which public or private organizational funds were spent to preserve, create, restore, or enhance the wetland (excluding mitigation wetlands). Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank (not 0).		[PU]
150	OF35	Mitigation Investment	The AA is all or part of a mitigation site used explicitly to offset impacts elsewhere. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.		[PU]
151	OF36	Sustained Scientific Use	Plants, animals, or water in the AA have been monitored for >2 years, unrelated to any regulatory requirements, and data are available to the public. Or the AA is part of an area that has been designated by an agency or institution as a benchmark, reference, or status-trends monitoring area. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.		[PU]
152	OF37	Calcareous Region	The AA is NOT in a subregion that has been heavily exposed to acid precipitation. Enter "1" if true (green or yellow in map in Appendix A of the Manual). Enter "0" if false. If no information, change to blank.		[AM, FA, FR, INV, PH]
153	OF38	Ownership	Select the ONE ownership that covers the most of the AA. In Google Earth, open KMZ file called NS_CrownlandsUse more recent information if available.		"Private lands" may include those owned or leased by non-governmental organizations, e.g., charitable conservation land trusts, DUC, TNC. [PU, STR]
154			New timber harvest, roads, mineral extraction, and intensive summer recreation (e.g., off-road vehicles) are permanently prohibited. Includes many publicly-owned Protected Lands, and private lands under long-term (30+ year) legal agreements to maintain nearly-unaltered conditions.	0	
155			Ownership is public (e.g., municipal, Crown Reservations/Notations) but some or all of the above activities are allowed.	0	
156			Ownership is private but public access is allowed, and/or a shorter-term conservation easement (whether renewable or not) is in place.	0	
157			Ownership is private and owner does not allow access, or access permission unknown, and not a conservation easement.	0	

	A	B	C	D	E		
1	Date: 13 October 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain WL11		Investigator: Rohan Kariyawansa, Blake Fairclough			
2	<p>Form F (Field). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia. DIRECTIONS: Walk for no less than 10 minutes from the wetland edge towards its core, in the part of the AA that is proposed for alteration. If no alteration is proposed, walk in a portion that appears to be most representative of the wetland overall. Walk only where it is safe and legal to do so. Conduct the assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answer these questions primarily based on your onsite observations and interpretations. Do not write in shaded parts of this data form. Answering some questions accurately may require conferring with the landowner or other knowledgeable persons, and/or reviewing aerial imagery. For most wetlands, completing this field data form will require 1-2 hours on a site. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see the accompanying Interpretations form. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage & Delay, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sens= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.</p>						
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations		
4	F1	Wetland Type	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the vegetated part of the AA:		<p>Ericaceous shrubs are ones in the heather family (Ericaceae). Most have leathery evergreen leaves. They include rhododendron, azalea, swamp laurel, leatherleaf, Labrador tea, and others. Most require acidic soil. Although not in the family Ericaceae, sweetgale (<i>Myrica gale</i>) should be counted also. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, Sens, SFS, WBF, WBN]</p>		
5	A. Moss and/or lichen cover more than 25% of the ground. Often dominated by ericaceous shrubs (e.g., Labrador tea) or other acid-tolerant plants (e.g., bog cranberry, pitcher plant, sundew, orchids). Substrate is mostly undecomposed peat. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.						
6	A1. Surface water is usually absent or, if present, pH is typically <4.5 and conductivity is usually <100 µS/cm (<64 ppm TDS). Trees are absent or nearly so. Sedge cover usually sparse or absent but cottongrass and/or lichen cover may be extensive, as well as cloudberry, lingonberry, sheep laurel, and a sedge (<i>Carex rariflora</i>). Wetland surface and surrounding landscape are seldom sloping and wetland often is domed (convex). Inlet and outlet channels are usually absent. If known, pH of peat is <4.0.		1				
7	A2. Not A1. Surface water, if present, has pH typically >4.5 and conductivity is usually >100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Sedge cover is usually extensive, and/or tree and tall shrub cover is extensive. Sometimes at toe of slope or edge of water body. An exit channel is usually present. Wetter than A1 and peat depth may be shallower (<2 m).		0				
8	B. Moss and/or lichen cover less than 25% of the ground. Soil is mineral or decomposed organic (muck). Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column:						
9	B1. Trees and shrubs taller than 1 m comprise more than 25% of the vegetated cover. Surface water is mostly absent or inundates the vegetation only seasonally (e.g., vernal pools or floodplain).		0				
10	B2. Not B1. Tree & tall shrubs comprise less than 25% of the vegetated cover. Vegetation is mostly herbaceous, e.g., cattail, bulrush, burreed, pond lily, horsetail. Surface water may be extensive and fluctuates seasonally, being either persistent or drying up partly or entirely.		0				
11	<p>Reminder: For all questions, the AA should include all persistent waters in ponds smaller than 8 hectares (~283 m on a side) that are adjacent to the AA. The AA should also include part of the water area of adjacent ponded water larger than 8 ha and adjacent rivers wider than 20 m. Specifically, the AA should include the open water part adjacent to wetland vegetation and equal in width to the average width of that vegetated zone. Throughout this data form, "adjacent" is used synonymously with abutting, adjoining, bordering, contiguous -- and means no upland (manmade or natural) completely separates the described features along their directly shared edge. Features joined only by a channel are not necessarily considered to be adjacent -- a large portion of their edges must match. The features do not have to be hydrologically connected in order to be considered adjacent.</p>						
12	F2		Wetland Types - Adjoining or Subordinate	If the AA is smaller than 1 ha, mark all other types that occupy more than 1% of the vegetated AA. If the AA is larger than 1 ha, mark all other types which are within or adjacent to the AA and occupy more than 1 ha, as visible from the AA or as interpreted from aerial imagery. Do not mark again the type marked in F1.			<p>1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, INV, SBM, WBF]</p>
13	A1.			0			
14	A2.	0					
15	B1.	1					
16	B2.	0					

A	B	C	D	E
17	F3 Woody Height & Form Diversity	Following EACH row below, indicate with a number code the percentage of the living vegetation in the AA which is occupied by that feature (6 if >95%, 5 if 75-95%, 4 if 50-75%, 3 if 25-50%, 2 if 5-25%, 1 if <5%, 0 if none). If the vegetated part of the AA is largely herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation, these percentages should not sum to 100%.		
18		coniferous trees (may include tamarack) taller than 3 m.	2	
19		deciduous trees taller than 3 m.	2	
20		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	0	
21		deciduous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	1	
22		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs <1 m tall not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	2	
23		deciduous shrubs or trees <1 m tall (e.g., deciduous seedlings) not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	2	
24	Note: If none of top 4 rows in F3 was marked 2 or greater, SKIP to F9 (N fixers).			
25	F4 Dominance of Most Abundant Shrub Species	Determine which two woody plant species comprise the greatest portion of the low (<3 m) woody cover. Then choose one: those species together comprise > 50% of such cover. those species together do not comprise > 50% of such cover.	1 0	[PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
26				
27				
28	F5 Woody Diameter Classes	Mark ALL the types that comprise >5% of the woody canopy cover in the AA or >5% of the wooded areas (if any) along its upland edge (perimeter) . The edge should include only the trees whose canopies extend into the AA. coniferous, 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall. broad-leaved deciduous 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall. coniferous, 10-19 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous 10-19 cm diameter. coniferous, 20-40 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous 20-40 cm diameter. coniferous, >40 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous >40 cm diameter.	1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0	Estimate the diameters at chest height. If small-diameter trees are overtopped (shaded) by larger ones, visualise a "subcanopy" at the average height of the smaller-dbh trees, to serve as a basis for the minimum 5% canopy requirement in this question. The trees and shrubs need not be wetland species. [AM, CS, POL, SBM, Sens, WBN]
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37	F6 Height Class Interspersion	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the AA: A. Neither the vegetation taller than 1 m nor the vegetation shorter than that comprise >70% of the vegetated part of the AA. They each comprise 30-70% . Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below. A1. The two height classes are mostly scattered and intermixed throughout the AA. A2. Not A1. The two height classes are mostly in separate zones or bands, or in proportionately large clumps.	1 0	[AM, INV, NR, PH, SBM, Sens]
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43				
44	F7 Large Snags (Dead Standing Trees)	The number of large snags (diameter >20 cm) in the AA plus adjacent upland area within 10 m of the wetland edge is: None, or fewer than 8/ hectare which exceed this diameter. Several (>8/hectare) and a pond, lake, or slow-flowing water wider than 10 m is within 1 km. Several (>8/hectare) but above not true.	1 0 0	Snags are dead standing trees that often (not always) lack bark and foliage. Include only ones that are at least 2 m tall. [POL, SBM, WBN]
45				
46				
47				
48	F8 Downed Wood	The number of downed wood pieces longer than 2 m and with diameter >10 cm , and not persistently submerged, is: Few or none that meet these criteria. Several (>5 if AA is >5 hectares, less for smaller AAs) meet these criteria.	1 0	Exclude temporary "burn piles." [AM, INV, POL, SBM]
49				
50				
51	F9 N Fixers	The percentage of the AA's vegetated cover that contains nitrogen-fixing plants (e.g., alder, sweetgale, clover, lupine, alfalfa, other legumes) is: <1% or none. 1-25% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). 25-50% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). 50-75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). >75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0 1 0 0 0	Do not include N-fixing algae or lichens. [FA, FR, INV, NRv, OE, PH, SBM, Sens]
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A	B	C	D	E
57	F10 Sphagnum Moss Extent	The cover of Sphagnum moss (or any moss that forms a dense cushion many centimeters thick), including the moss obscured by taller sedges and other plants rooted in it, is:		
58		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
59		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
60		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
61		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
62		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
63	F11 % Bare Ground & Thatch	Consider the parts of the AA that lack surface water at the driest time of the growing season. Viewed from directly above the ground layer, the predominant condition in those areas at that time is:		
64		Little or no (<5%) <i>bare ground</i> is visible between erect stems or under canopy anywhere in the vegetated AA. Ground is extensively blanketed by dense thatch, moss, lichens, graminoids with great stem densities, or plants with ground-hugging foliage.	1	Thatch is dead plant material (stems, leaves) resting on the ground surface. Bare ground that is present under a tree or shrub canopy should be counted. Boulders count as bare ground. Wetlands with mineral soils and that are heavily shaded or are dominated by annual plant species tend to have more extensive areas that are bare during the early growing season. [AM, EC, INV, NR, OE, POL, PR, SBM, Sens]
65		Slightly bare ground (5-20% bare between plants) is visible in places, but those areas comprise less than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
66		Much bare ground (20-50% bare between plants) is visible in places, and those areas comprise more than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
67		Other conditions.	0	
68		Not applicable. Surface water (either open or obscured by emergent plants) covers all of the AA all the time.	0	
69	F12 Ground Irregularity	Imagine the AA without any living vegetation. Excluding the portion of the AA that is always under water, the number of hummocks, small pits, raised mounds, animal burrows, ruts, gullies, natural levees, microdepressions, and other areas of peat or mineral soil that are raised or depressed >10 cm compared to most of the area within a few meters surrounding them is:		
70		Few or none (minimal microtopography; <1% of the land has such features, or entire AA is always water-covered).	0	
71		Intermediate.	1	
72		Several (extensive micro-topography).	0	
73	F13 Upland Inclusions	Within the AA, inclusions of upland are:		
74		Few or none.	1	[AM, NR, SBM]
75		Intermediate (1 - 10% of vegetated part of the AA).	0	
76		Many (e.g., wetland-upland "mosaic", >10% of the vegetated AA).	0	
77	F14 Soil Texture	In parts of the AA that lack persistent water, the texture of soil in the uppermost layer is mostly: [To determine this, use a trowel to check in at least 3 widely spaced locations, and use the soil texture key (in Appendix A of the Manual).]		
78		Loamy : soils that may contain a little fine grit and do not make a "ribbon" longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
79		Fines : includes silt, clay, silt, soils that make a ribbon longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
80		Deep Peat , to 40 cm depth or greater.	0	
81		Shallow Peat or organic <40 cm deep.	1	
82		Coarse : includes sand, loamy sand, gravel, cobble, soils that do not make a ribbon when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
83	F15 Shorebird Feeding Habitats	During any 2 consecutive weeks of the growing season, the extent of mudflats, bare unshaded saturated areas not covered by thatch, and unshaded waters shallower than 6 cm is: [Include also any area that is adjacent to the AA.]		This addresses needs of many but not all migratory sandpipers, plovers, and related species. [WBF]
84		None, or <100 sq. m.	1	
85		100-1000 sq. m.	0	
86		1000 – 10,000 sq. m.	0	
87		>10,000 sq. m.	0	
88	F16 Herbaceous % of Vegetated Wetland	In aerial ("ducks eye") view, the maximum annual cover of herbaceous vegetation (all non-woody plants except moss) is:		[AM, WBF, WBN]
89		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA or <0.01 hectare (whichever is less). Mark "1" here and SKIP to F20 (Invasive Plant Cover).	0	
90		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
91		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
92		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
93		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
94	F17 Forb Cover	Within parts of the AA having herbaceous cover (excluding SAV), the areal cover of forbs reaches an annual maximum of:		Forbs are flowering plants. Do not include grasses, sedges, cattail, other graminoids, ferns, horsetails, or others that lack showy flowers. [POL]
95		<5% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
96		5-25% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
97		25-50% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	1	
98		50-95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
99		>95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
100	F18 Sedge Cover	Sedges (<i>Carex</i> spp.) and cottongrass (<i>Eriophorum</i> spp.) occupy:		[CS]
101		<5% of the vegetated area, or none.	0	
102		5-50% of the vegetated area.	1	
103		50-95% of the vegetated area.	0	
104		>95% of the vegetated area.	0	
105	F19 Dominance of Most Abundant Herbaceous Species	Determine which two herbaceous species comprise the greatest portion of the herbaceous cover (excluding mosses and floating-leaved aquatic plants). Then choose one of the following:		For this question, include ferns as well as graminoids and forbs. [EC, INV, PH, POL, Sens]
106		those species together comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.	0	
107		those species together do not comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.	1	
108	F20 Invasive Plant Cover	How extensive is the cover of invasive plant species in the AA? For species, see Plants_invasive worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file.		[EC, PH, POL, Sens]
109		invasive species appear to be absent in the AA, or are present only in trace amount (a few individuals).	1	
110		invasive species are present in more than trace amounts, but comprise <5% of herbaceous cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).	0	
111		invasive species comprise 5-20% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).	0	
112		invasive species comprise 20-50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).	0	
113		invasive species comprise >50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).	0	
114	F21 Invasive Cover Along Upland Edge	Along the wetland-upland boundary, the percent of the upland edge (within 3 m upslope from the wetland) that is occupied by invasive plant species is:		If a plant cannot be identified to species (e.g., winter conditions) but its genus contains an exotic species, assume the unidentified plant to also be exotic. If vegetation is so senesced that exotic species cannot be identified, answer "none". [PH, STR]
115		none of the upland edge (invasives apparently absent), or AA has no upland edge.	1	
116		some (but <5%) of the upland edge.	0	
117		5-50% of the upland edge.	0	
118		most (>50%) of the upland edge.	0	
119	F22 Fringe Wetland	During most of the year, open water within or adjacent to the vegetated part of the wetland is much wider than the maximum width of the vegetated zone within the wetland. Enter "1" if true, "0" if false.	0	[WBF, WBN, WCv]
120	F23 Lacustrine Wetland	The vegetated part of the AA is within or adjacent to a body of non-tidal standing open water whose size exceeds 8 hectares during most of a normal year.	0	[FR, PR, PU, WBF, WBN]
121	F24 % of AA Without Surface Water	The percentage of the AA that never contains surface water during an average year (that is, except perhaps for a few hours after snowmelt or rainstorms), but which is still a wetland, is:		1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SRv, WBF, WBN, WC]
122		<1%. In other words, all or nearly all of the AA is covered by water permanently or at least seasonally.	0	
123		1-25% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha never contains surface water.	0	
124		25-50% of the AA never contains surface water.	0	
125		50-75% of the AA never contains surface water.	0	
126		75-99% of the AA never contains surface water, OR >99% and there is at least one persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha in the AA.	0	
127		99-100%. AND there is no persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha within the AA. Enter "1" and SKIP to F42 (Channel Connection).	1	
128	F25 % of AA with Persistent Surface Water	Identify the parts of the AA that still contain surface water (flowing or ponded, open or hidden beneath vegetation) even during the driest times of a normal year, i.e., when the AA's surface water is at its lowest annual level. At that time, the percentage of the AA that still contains surface water is:		If you are unable to determine the condition at the driest time of year, ask the land owner or neighbors about it if possible. Indicators of persistence may include fish, some dragonflies, beaver, and muskrat. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, POL, PR, SBM, WBF, WBN]
129		None. The AA dries up completely (no water in channels either) or never has surface water during most years. SKIP to F27.	0	
130		1-20% of the AA.	0	
131		20-50% of the AA.	0	
132		50-95% of the AA.	0	
133		>95% of the AA. True for many fringe wetlands.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
134	F26 % of Summertime Water that Is Shaded	At mid-day during the warmest time of year, the area of surface water <u>within</u> the AA that is shaded by vegetation and other features that are within the AA at that time is:		[FA, WC]
135		<5% of the water is shaded, or no surface water is present then.	0	
136		5-25% of the water is shaded.	0	
137		25-50% of the water is shaded.	0	
138		50-75% of the water is shaded.	0	
139		>75% of the water is shaded.	0	
140	F27 % of AA that is Flooded Only Seasonally	The percentage of the AA's area that is between the annual high water and the annual low water (surface water) is:		Flood marks (algal mats, adventitious roots, debris lines, ice scour, etc.) are often evident when not fully inundated. Also, such areas often have a larger proportion of upland and annual (vs. perennial) plant species. In riverine systems, the extent of this zone can be estimated by multiplying by 2 the bankfull height and visualising where that would intercept the land along the river. [CS, FA, INV, NR, OE, PH, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
141		None, or <0.01 hectare and <1% of the AA. SKIP to F29.	0	
142		1-20% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha.	0	
143		20-50% of the AA.	0	
144		50-95% of the AA.	0	
145		>95% of the AA.	0	
146	F28 Annual Water Fluctuation Range	The annual fluctuation in surface water level within most of the parts of the AA that contain surface water at least temporarily is:		Look for flood marks (see above). Because the annual range of water levels is difficult to estimate without multiple visits, consider asking the land owner or neighbors about it. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SR, WBN, WS]
147		<10 cm change (stable or nearly so).	0	
148		10 cm - 50 cm change.	0	
149		0.5 - 1 m change.	0	
150		1-2 m change.	0	
151		>2 m change.	0	
152	Is the AA plus adjacent ponded water smaller than 0.01 hectare (about 10m x 10m, or 1m x 100 m)? If so, enter "1" in column D and SKIP TO F42 (Connection).		0	
153	F29 Predominant Depth Class	During most of the time when surface water is present during the growing season, its depth, averaged over the entire inundated part of the AA, is:		If a boat is unavailable, estimate this by considering wetland size and local topography. Or if timing and safety allow, depths may be measured by drilling through winter ice. This question is asking about the spatial median depth that occurs during most of that time, even if inundation is only seasonal or temporary. If inundation in most but not all of the wetland is brief, the answer will be based on the depth of the most persistently inundated part of the wetland. Include surface water in channels and ditches as well as ponded areas. [CS, FA, FR, INV, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
154		<10 cm deep (but >0).	0	
155		10 - 50 cm deep.	0	
156		0.5 - 1 m deep.	0	
157		1 - 2 m deep.	0	
158		>2 m deep. True for many fringe wetlands.	0	
159	F30 Depth Classes - Evenness of Proportions	When present, surface water in most of the AA usually consists of (select one):		Estimate these proportions by considering the gradient and microtopography of the site. [FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
160		One depth class that comprises >90% of the AA's inundated area (use the classes in the question above).	0	
161		One depth class that comprises 50-90% of the AA's inundated area.	0	
162		Neither of above. There are 3 or more depth classes and none occupy >50%.	0	
163	F31 % of Water That Is Ponded (not Flowing)	During most times when surface water is present, the percentage that is (1) ponded (stagnant, or flows so slowly that fine sediment is not held in suspension) AND (2) is likely to be deeper than 0.5 m in some places, is:		Nearly all wetlands with surface water have some ponded water. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WBN, WC, WS]
164		<5% of the water, or it occupies <100 sq.m cumulatively. Nearly all the surface water is flowing. SKIP to F34.	0	
165		5-30% of the water.	0	
166		30-70% of the water.	0	
167		70-95% of the water.	0	
168		>95% of the water.	0	
169	F32 Ponded Open Water - Minimum Size	During most of the growing season, the largest patch of open water that is ponded and is in or bordering the AA is >0.01 hectare (about 10 m by 10 m) and mostly deeper than 0.5 m. If true enter "1" and continue, If false, enter "0" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	Open water is not obscured by vegetation in aerial ("duck's eye") view. It includes vegetation floating on the water surface or entirely submersed beneath it.
170	F33 % of Ponded Water that is Open	In ducks-eye aerial view, the percentage of the ponded water that is open (lacking emergent vegetation during most of the growing season, and unhidden by a forest or shrub canopy) is:		[AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
171		None, or <1% of the AA and largest pool occupies <0.01 hectares. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
172		1-4% of the ponded water. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
173		5-30% of the ponded water.	0	
174		30-70% of the ponded water.	0	
175		70-99% of the ponded water.	0	
176		100% of the ponded water.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
177	F34	Width of Vegetated Zone within Wetland	At the time during the growing season when the AA's water level is lowest, the average width of vegetated area <u>in the AA</u> that separates adjoining uplands from open water within the AA is:	"Vegetated area" does not include underwater or floating-leaved plants, i.e., aquatic bed. Width may include wooded riparian areas if they have wetland soil or plant indicators. [AM, CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SR, WBN]
178			<1 m.	0
179			1 - 9 m.	0
180			10 - 29 m.	0
181			30 - 49 m.	0
182			50 - 100 m.	0
183			>100 m, or open water is absent at that time.	0
184	F35	Flat Shoreline Extent	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the percentage of the AA's water edge length that is nearly flat (a slope less than about 5% measured within 5 m landward of the water) is:	If several isolated pools are present in early summer, estimate the percent of their collective shorelines that has such a gentle slope. [SR, WBN]
185			<1% of the water edge.	0
186			1-25% of the water edge.	0
187			25-50% of the water edge.	0
188			50-75% of the water edge.	0
189			>75% of the water edge.	0
190	F36	Robust Emergents	The percentage of the emergent vegetation cover in the AA that is cattail (<i>Typha spp.</i>), common reed (<i>Phragmites</i>), or tall (>1m) bulrush is:	Emergent vegetation is herbaceous plants whose stems are partly above and partly below the water surface during most of the time water is present. [WBN]
191			<1% of the emergent vegetation, or emergent vegetation is absent. SKIP to F38.	0
192			1-25% of the emergent vegetation.	0
193			25-75% of the emergent vegetation.	0
194			>75% of the emergent vegetation.	0
195	F37	Interspersion of Emergents & Open Water	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the spatial pattern of emergent vegetation within the water is mostly:	[AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, SR, WBF, WBN]
196			Scattered. More than 30% of such vegetation forms small islands or corridors surrounded by water.	0
197			Intermediate.	0
198			Clumped. More than 70% of such vegetation is in bands along the wetland perimeter or is clumped at one or a few sides of the surface water area.	0
199	F38	Persistent Deepwater Area	If the deepest patch of surface water (flowing or ponded) in or directly adjacent to the AA is mostly deeper than 0.5 m for >2 weeks during the growing season, enter "1" and continue. If not, enter "0" and SKIP to F42. (Connection).	0
200	F39	Non-vegetated Aquatic Cover	During most of the growing season and in waters deeper than 0.5 m, the cover for fish, aquatic invertebrates, and/or amphibians that is provided NOT by living vegetation, but by accumulations of dead wood and undercut banks is:	For this question, consider only the wood that is at or above the water surface. Estimates of underwater wood based only on observations from terrestrial viewpoints are unreliable so should not be attempted. [AM, FA, FR, INV]
201			Little or none.	0
202			Intermediate.	0
203			Extensive.	0
204	F40	Isolated Island	The AA contains (or is part of) an island or beaver lodge within a lake, pond, or river, and is isolated from the shore by water depths >1 m on all sides during an average June. The island may be solid, or it may be a floating vegetation mat that is sufficiently large and dense to support a waterbird nest.	0
205	F41	Floating Algae & Duckweed	At some time of the year, mats of algae and/or duckweed are likely to cover >50% of the AA's otherwise-unshaded water surface, or blanket >50% of the underwater substrate. If true, enter "1" in next column. If untrue or uncertain, enter "0".	0
				[EC, PR, WBF]

A	B	C	D	E
206	F42 Channel Connection & Outflow Duration	The most persistent surface water connection (outlet channel or pipe, ditch, or overbank water exchange) between the AA and a downslope stream network is: [Note: If the AA represents only part of a wetland, answer this according to whichever is the least permanent surface connection: the one between the AA and the rest of the wetland, or the surface connection between the wetland and the downslope stream network.]		Consider the connection regardless of whether the surface water is frozen. The "downslope stream network" could consist of ditches, rivers, ponds, or lakes which eventually connect to the ocean. If this cannot be determined while visiting the AA, consult topographic maps perhaps by viewing these online with Toporama (http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html) [CS, FA, FR, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WCv, WS]
207		Persistent (surface water flows out for >9 months/year).		
208		Seasonal (surface water flows out for 14 days to 9 months/year, not necessarily consecutive).		
209		Temporary (surface water flows out for <14 days, not necessarily consecutive).		
210		None -- but maps show a stream network downslope from the AA and within a distance that is less than the AA's length. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
211		No surface water flows out of the wetland except possibly during extreme events (<once per 10 years). Or, water flows only into a wetland, ditch, or lake that lacks an outlet. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
212	F43 Outflow Confinement	During major runoff events, in the places where surface water exits the AA or connected waters nearby, the water:		"Major runoff events" would include biennial high water caused by storms and/or rapid snowmelt. [CS, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, STR, WS]
213		Mostly passes through a pipe, culvert, narrowly breached dike, berm, beaver dam, or other partial obstruction (other than natural topography) that does not appear to drain the wetland artificially during most of the growing season.		
214		Leaves through natural exits (channels or diffuse outflow), not mainly through artificial or temporary features.		
215		Is exported more quickly than usual due to ditches or pipes within the AA or connected to its outlet, or within 10 m of the AA's edge, which drain the wetland artificially, or water is pumped out of the AA.		
216	F44 Tributary Channel	At least once annually, surface water from a tributary channel that is >100 m long moves into the AA. Or, surface water from a larger permanent water body adjacent to the AA spills into the AA. If it enters only via a pipe, that pipe must be fed by a mapped stream or lake further upslope. If no, SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	If inlet tributaries cannot be searched for due to inaccessibility of part of the AA, follow suggestions in F42 above. [NRv, PH, PRv, SRv]
217	F45 Input Water Temperature	Based on lack of shade, water source characteristics, or actual temperature measurements, the inflow is likely to be warmer than surface water in the AA during part of most years. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	1	[WCv]
218	F46 Throughflow Resistance	During its travel through the AA at the time of peak annual flow, water arriving in channels: [select only the ONE encountered by most of the incoming water].		[FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
219		Does not bump into many plant stems as it travels through the AA. Nearly all the water continues to travel in unvegetated (often incised) channels that have minimal contact with wetland vegetation, or through a zone of open water such as an instream pond or lake.		
220		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
221		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation and mostly spreads throughout, or is in widely meandering, multi-branched, or braided channels.	1	
222		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.	0	
223		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems and follows a fairly indirect path from entrance to exit (meandering, multi-branched, or braided).	0	
224	F47 pH Measurement	The pH in most of the AA's surface water:		Preferably, measure this in larger areas of ponded surface water within the AA, or in streams that have passed through (not along) most of the AA. Unless surface water is completely absent, do not dig holes or make depressions in peat in order to provide water for this measurement. Avoid measuring near roads or in puddles formed only by recent rain. [AM, FA, FR, NR, WBF, PH, PR, Sens, WBF, WBN]
225		Was measured, and is: [enter the reading in the column to the right.]		
226		Was not measured but surface water is present and is darkly tea-coloured. Or if no surface water, then mosses and plants that indicate peatland (e.g., Labrador tea) are prevalent. Enter "1".	0	
227		Neither of above. Enter "1".	1	
228		The TDS (total dissolved solids) or conductivity off the AA's surface water is: (select the first true row with information):		
229	F48 TDS and/or Conductivity	TDS is: [Enter the reading in ppm or mg/L in the column to the right, if measured, or answer next row.]		See above for measurement guidance. [FR, INV, NRv, PH, PRv, Sens]
230		Conductivity is: [Enter the reading in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ in the column to the right.]		
231		Was not measured, but plants that indicate saline conditions cover much of the vegetated AA. Enter "1".	0	
232		Neither of above	1	
233	F49 Beaver Probability	Use of the AA by beaver during the past 5 years is (select most applicable ONE):		[FA, FR, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
234		Evident from direct observation or presence of gnawed limbs, dams, tracks, dens, lodges, or extensive stands of water-killed trees (snags).		
235		Likely based on known occurrence in the region and proximity to suitable habitat, which may include: (a) a persistent freshwater wetland, pond, or lake, or a perennial low or mid-gradient (<10%) channel, and (b) a corridor or multiple stands of hardwood trees and shrubs in vegetated areas near surface water.	0	
236		Unlikely because site characteristics above are deficient, and/or this is a settled area or other area where beaver are routinely removed.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
237	F50 Groundwater Strength of Evidence	Select first applicable choice:		
238		Springs are known to be present within the AA, or if groundwater levels have been monitored, that has demonstrated that groundwater primarily discharges to the wetland for longer periods during the year than periods when the wetland recharges the groundwater.	0	Adhere to these criteria strictly -- do not use personal judgment based on fen conditions, pH, or other evidence. Consult topographic maps to detect breaks in slope described here. Rust deposits associated with groundwater seeps may be most noticeable as orange discoloration in ice formations along streams during early winter. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PRv, SFS, WC, WS]
239		Most of the AA has a slope of >5%, or is very close to the base of a natural slope longer than 100 and much steeper than the slope of the AA, AND the pH of surface water, if known, is >5.5.	1	
240		Neither of above is true, although some groundwater may discharge to or flow through the AA. Or groundwater influx is unknown.	0	
241	F51 Internal Gradient	The gradient along most of the flow path within the AA is:		
242		<2% or the AA has no surface water outlet (not even seasonally).	0	
243		2-5%.	0	
244		6-10%.	1	
245		>10%.	0	
246	Note for the next three questions: If the AA lacks an upland edge, evaluate based on the AA's entire perimeter, and moving outward into whatever areas are adjacent. In many situations, these questions are best answered by measuring from aerial images.			
247	F52 Vegetated Buffer as % of Perimeter	Within a zone extending 30 m laterally from the AA's edge with upland and/or other wetlands, the percentage that contains perennial vegetation cover (except lawns, row crops, heavily grazed land, conifer plantations) is:		[AM, FA, FR, INV, NRv, PH, POL, PRv, SBM, Sens, SRv, STR, WBN]
248		<5%.	0	
249		5 to 30%.	1	
250		30 to 60%.	0	
251		60 to 90%.	0	
252		>90%, or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands. SKIP to F55.	0	
253	F53 Type of Cover in Buffer	Within 30 m upslope of where the wetland transitions to upland, the upland land cover that is NOT perennial vegetation is mostly (mark ONE):		[AM, FA, INV, NRv, PH, POL, SBM, STR, WBN]
254		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.	0	
255		Bare or nearly bare pervious surface or managed vegetation, e.g., lawn, row crops, unpaved road, dike, landslide.	1	
256	F54 Buffer Slope	The steepest and/or most disturbed part of the upland area that is within 30 m of the wetland and occupies >10% of that upland area has a percent slope of:		[NRv, PRv, Sens, SRv]
257		<1% (flat -- almost no noticeable slope) or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands.	0	
258		2-5%.	0	
259		5-30%.	0	
260		>30%.	1	
261	F55 Cliffs or Steep Banks	In the AA or within 100 m, there are elevated terrestrial features such as cliffs, talus slopes, stream banks, or excavated pits (but not riprap) that extend at least 2 m nearly vertically, are unvegetated, and potentially contain crevices or other substrate suitable for nesting or den areas. Enter 1 (yes) or 0 (no).	0	Do not include upturned trees as potential den sites. [POL, SBM]
262	F56 New or Expanded Wetland	Human actions within or adjacent to the AA have persistently expanded a naturally occurring wetland or created a wetland where there previously was none (e.g., by excavation, impoundment):		Determine this using historical aerial photography, old maps, soil maps, or permit files as available [CS, NR, OE, PH, Sens]
263		No.	1	
264		Yes, and created or expanded 20 - 100 years ago.	0	
265		Yes, and created or expanded 3-20 years ago.	0	
266		Yes, and created or expanded within last 3 years.	0	
267		Yes, but time of origin or expansion unknown.	0	
268		Unknown if new or expanded within 20 years or not.	0	
269	F57 Burn History	More than 1% of the AA's previously vegetated area:		Look for charred soil or stumps (in multiple widely-spaced locations) or ask landowner. [CS, PH, STR]
270		Burned within past 5 years.	0	
271		Burned 6-10 years ago.	0	
272		Burned 11-30 years ago.	0	
273		Burned >30 years ago, or no evidence of a burn and no data.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
274	F58	Visibility	The maximum percentage of the wetland that is visible from the best vantage point on public roads, public parking lots, public buildings, or public maintained trails that intersect, adjoin, or are within 100 m of the AA (select one) is:	[PU, STR, WBFv]
275			<25%.	0
276			25-50%.	1
277			>50%.	0
278	F59	Non-consumptive Uses - Actual or Potential	Assuming access permission was granted, select ALL statements that are true of the AA as it currently exists:	[PU, STR]
279			For an average person, walking is physically possible <u>in</u> (not just near) >5% of the AA during most of the growing season, e.g., free of deep water and dense shrub thickets.	1
280			Maintained roads, parking areas, or foot-trails are within 10 m of the AA, or the AA can be accessed part of the year by boats arriving via contiguous waters.	0
281			Within or near the AA, there is an interpretive center, trails with interpretive signs or brochures, and/or regular guided interpretive tours.	0
282	F60	Unvisited Core Area	The percentage of the AA almost never visited by humans during an average growing season probably comprises: <i>[Note: Only include the part actually walked or driven (not simply viewed from) with a vehicle or boat. Do not include visitors on trails outside of the AA unless more than half the wetland is visible from the trails and they are within 30 m of the wetland edge. In that case include only the area occupied by the trail.]</i>	[AM, FAV, FRV, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
283			<5% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
284			<5% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
285			5-50% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
286			5-50% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
287			50-95%, with or without inhabited building nearby.	0
288			>95% of the AA with or without inhabited building nearby.	1
289	F61	Frequently Visited Area	The part of the AA visited by humans almost daily for several weeks during an average growing season probably comprises: <i>[See note above.]</i>	[AM, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
290			<5%. If F60 was answered ">95%" (mostly never visited), SKIP to F64.	1
291			5-50%.	0
292			50-95%.	0
293			>95% of the AA.	0
294	F62	BMP - Soils	Boardwalks, paved trails, fences or other infrastructure and/or well-enforced regulations appear to effectively prevent visitors from walking on soil within nearly all of the AA when the soil is unfrozen. Enter "1" if true.	[PH, PU]
295	F63	BMP - Wildlife Protection	Fences, observation blinds, platforms, paved trails, exclusion periods, and/or well-enforced prohibitions on motorised boats, off-leash pets, and off road vehicles appear to effectively exclude or divert visitors and their pets from the AA at critical times in order to minimize disturbance of wildlife (except during hunting seasons). Enter "1" if true.	[AM, PU, WBF, WBN]
296	F64	Consumptive Uses (Provisioning Services)	Recent evidence was found within the AA of the following potentially-sustainable consumptive uses. Select ALL that apply.	[FAv, FRv, WBFv]
297			Low-impact commercial timber harvest (e.g., selective thinning).	0
298			Commercial or traditional-use harvesting of native plants, their fruits, or mushrooms.	0
299			Waterfowl hunting.	0
300			Fishing.	0
301			Trapping of furbearers.	0
302			None of the above.	1
303	F65	Domestic Wells	The closest wells or water bodies that currently provide drinking water are:	[NRv]
304			Within 0-100 m. of the AA.	0
305			100-500 m. away.	0
306			>500 m. away, or no information.	1
307	F66	Calcareous Fen	The AA is, or is part of, a calcareous fen. See the Plants_Calcar worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file for list of plant indicators (calciphiles). Enter 1 if more than two Strong or more than five Moderate calciphile species are present; otherwise enter 0, but if not able to identify those and no information, change to blank.	[PH, PR]
308				

Investigator: Rohan Kariyawansa, Blake Fairclough	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain WL11	Date: 13 October 2022		
Stressor (S) Data Form for Non-Tidal Wetlands. WESP-AC for Nova Scotia version 2.				
S1	Aberrant Timing of Water Inputs	Data		
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item that is likely to have caused the timing of water inputs (but not necessarily their volume) to shift by hours, days, or weeks, becoming either more muted (smaller or less frequent peaks spread over longer times, more temporal homogeneity of flow or water levels) or more flashy (larger or more frequent spikes but over shorter times). [FA, FR, INV, PH, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater from impervious surfaces that drains directly to the wetland.</p> <p>Water subsidies from wastewater effluent, septic system leakage, snow storage areas, or irrigation.</p> <p>Regular removal of surface or groundwater for irrigation or other consumptive use.</p> <p>Flow regulation in tributaries or water level regulation in adjoining water body, or other control structure at water entry points that regulates inflow to the wetland.</p> <p>A dam, dike, levee, weir, berm, or fill -- within or downgradient from the wetland -- that interferes with surface or subsurface flow in/out of the AA (e.g., road fill, wellpads, pipelines).</p> <p>Excavation within the wetland, e.g., dugout, artificial pond, dead-end ditch.</p> <p>Artificial drains or ditches in or near the wetland.</p> <p>Accelerated downcutting or channelization of an adjacent or internal channel (incised below the historical water table level).</p> <p>Logging within the wetland.</p> <p>Subsidence or compaction of the wetland's substrate as a result of machinery, livestock, fire, drainage, or off road vehicles.</p> <p>Straightening, ditching, dredging, and/or lining of tributary channels.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items had no measurable effect on the timing of water conditions in any part of the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>				
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
Spatial extent of timing shift within the wetland:	>95% of wetland.	5-95% of wetland.	<5% of wetland.	0
When most of the timing shift began:	<3 yrs ago.	3-9 yrs ago.	10-100 yrs ago.	0
Score the following 2 rows only if the altered inputs began within past 10 years, and only for the part of the wetland that experiences those.				
Input timing now vs. previously:	Shift of weeks.	Shift of days.	Shift of hours or minutes.	0
Flashiness or muting:	Became very flashy or controlled.	Intermediate.	Became mildly flashy or controlled.	0
			Sum=	0
			Stressor subscore=	0.00
S2	Accelerated Inputs of Contaminants and/or Salts			
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of contaminants or salts to the AA. [AM, FA, PH, POL, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills, industrial facilities.</p> <p>Metals & chemical wastes from mining, shooting ranges, snow storage areas, oil/ gas extraction, other sources (download many locations from National Pollutant Release Inventory and view KMZ overlay in Google Earth. https://www.ec.gc.ca/inrp-npri/default.asp?lang=En&n=B85A1846-1</p> <p>Road salt.</p> <p>Spraying of pesticides, as applied to lawns, croplands, roadsides, or other areas in the CA.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly higher levels of contaminants and/or salts, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>				
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
Usual toxicity of most toxic contaminants:	Industrial effluent, mining waste, unmanaged landfill.	Cropland, managed landfill, pipeline or transmission rights-of-way.	Low density residential.	0
Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
			Sum=	0
			Stressor subscore=	0.00

S3	Accelerated Inputs of Nutrients				
	In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of nutrients to the wetland. [NRv, PRv, STR]				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills.				
	Fertilizers applied to lawns, ag lands, or other areas in the CA.				
	Livestock, dogs.				
	Artificial drainage of upslope lands.				
	If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly more nutrients, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Type of loading:	High density of unmaintained septic, some types of industrial sources.	Moderate density septic, cropland, secondary wastewater treatment plant.	Livestock, pets, low density residential.	0
	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
	AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
				Sum=	0
				Stressor subscore=	0.00
S4	Excessive Sediment Loading from Contributing Area				
	In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the CA that is likely to have elevated the load of waterborne or windborne sediment reaching the wetland from its CA. [FA, FR, INV, PH, SRv, STR]				
	Erosion from plowed fields, fill, timber harvest, dirt roads, vegetation clearing, fires.				
	Erosion from construction, in-channel machinery in the CA.				
	Erosion from off-road vehicles in the CA.				
	Erosion from livestock or foot traffic in the CA.				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent.				
	Sediment from road sanding, gravel mining, other mining, oil/ gas extraction.				
	Accelerated channel downcutting or headcutting of tributaries due to altered land use.				
	Other human-related disturbances within the CA.				
	If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points (3, 2, or 1 as shown in header) in the last column. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively add significantly more sediment or suspended solids to the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Erosion in CA:	Extensive evidence, high intensity.*	Potentially (based on high-intensity* land use) or scattered evidence.	Potentially (based on low-intensity* land use) with little or no direct evidence.	0
	Recentness of significant soil disturbance in the CA:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0
	Duration of sediment inputs to the wetland:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
	AA proximity to actual or potential sources:	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
	* high-intensity= extensive off-road vehicle use, plowing, grading, excavation, erosion with or without veg removal; low-intensity= veg removal only with little or no apparent erosion or disturbance of soil or sediment.				Sum=
					0
				Stressor subscore=	0.00

S5	Soil or Sediment Alteration Within the Assessment Area				
<p><i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the wetland that is likely to have compacted, eroded, or otherwise altered the wetland's soil. Consider only items occurring within past 100 years or since wetland was created or restored (whichever is less). [CS, INV, NR, PH, SR, STR]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compaction from machinery, off-road vehicles, livestock, or mountain bikes, especially during wetter periods. Leveling or other grading not to the natural contour. Tillage, plowing (but excluding disking for enhancement of native plants). Fill or riprap, excluding small amounts of upland soils containing organic amendments (compost, etc.) or small amounts of topsoil imported from another wetland. Excavation. Ditch cleaning or dredging in or adjacent to the wetland. Boat traffic in or adjacent to the wetland and sufficient to cause shore erosion or stir bottom sediments. Artificial water level or flow manipulations sufficient to cause erosion or stir bottom sediments. <p><i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not measurably alter the soil structure and/or topography, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i></p>					
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
Spatial extent of altered soil:	>95% of wetland or >95% of its upland edge (if any).	5-95% of wetland or 5-95% of its upland edge (if any).	<5% of wetland and <5% of its upland edge (if any).	0	
Recentness of significant soil alteration in wetland:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0	
Duration:	Long-lasting, minimal veg recovery.	Long-lasting but mostly revegetated.	Short-term, revegetated, not intense.	0	
Timing of soil alteration:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Mainly during one-time or scattered events.	0	
			Sum=	0	
			Stressor subscore=	0.00	

Assessment Area (AA) Results:

Wetland ID: WL11

Date: 13 October 2022

Observer: RK BF

Latitude & Longitude (decimal degrees): 45.56915000, 63.61613889

Scores will appear below after data are entered in worksheets OF, F, and S. See Manual for definitions and descriptions of how scores were computed.						
Wetland Functions or Other Attributes:	Function Score (Normalised)	Function Rating	Benefits Score (Normalised)	Benefits Rating	Function Score (raw)	Benefits Score (raw)
Water Storage & Delay (WS)	3.59	Lower	10.00	Higher	4.62	4.60
Stream Flow Support (SFS)	4.28	Moderate	8.53	Higher	3.44	5.68
Water Cooling (WC)	10.00	Higher	1.29	Lower	6.67	0.70
Sediment Retention & Stabilisation (SR)	6.08	Moderate	0.00	Lower	6.94	0.00
Phosphorus Retention (PR)	0.97	Lower	1.61	Moderate	4.35	1.25
Nitrate Removal & Retention (NR)	3.55	Moderate	4.17	Moderate	5.34	4.17
Carbon Sequestration (CS)	4.69	Moderate			7.42	
Organic Nutrient Export (OE)	10.00	Higher			7.57	
Anadromous Fish Habitat (FA)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Resident Fish Habitat (FR)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Aquatic Invertebrate Habitat (INV)	7.26	Higher	0.30	Lower	6.46	1.41
Amphibian & Turtle Habitat (AM)	0.62	Lower	1.91	Lower	3.45	3.33
Waterbird Feeding Habitat (WBF)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Waterbird Nesting Habitat (WBN)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat (SBM)	5.74	Moderate	5.00	Moderate	5.00	5.00
Pollinator Habitat (POL)	7.20	Moderate	0.00	Lower	5.96	0.00
Native Plant Habitat (PH)	4.57	Moderate	3.65	Lower	5.73	3.65
Public Use & Recognition (PU)			2.20	Moderate		1.81
Wetland Sensitivity (Sens)			10.00	Higher		5.07
Wetland Ecological Condition (EC)			8.26	Higher		9.17
Wetland Stressors (STR) (higher score means more stress)			7.94	Higher		3.99
Summary Ratings for Grouped Functions:						
HYDROLOGIC Group (WS)	3.59	Lower	10.00	Higher	4.62	4.60
WATER QUALITY SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SR, PR, NR, CS)	4.95	Moderate	3.05	Lower	6.71	2.99
AQUATIC SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SFS, INV, OE, WC)	8.94	Higher	5.95	Moderate	6.80	4.14
AQUATIC HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of FA, FR, AM, WBF, WBN)	0.37	Lower	1.14	Lower	2.07	2.00
TRANSITION HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of SBM, PH, POL)	6.52	Moderate	3.94	Lower	5.76	3.94
WETLAND CONDITION (EC)			8.26	Higher		9.17
WETLAND RISK (average of Sensitivity & Stressors)			8.97	Higher		4.53
	NOTE: A score of 0 does not mean the function or benefit is absent from the wetland. It means only that this wetland has a capacity that is equal or less than the lowest-scoring one, for that function or benefit, from among all the NS calibration wetlands that were assessed previously.					

NOVA SCOTIA - Functional WSS Interpretation Tool

Function-Benefit Product (FBP)	FBP SCORE	FBP SCORE CATEGORY
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - HYDROLOGIC	35.88200996	Moderate
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - WATER QUALITY SUPPORT	15.08459275	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC SUPPORT	53.22693071	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC HABITAT	0.42248008	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - TRANSITION HABITAT	25.69215538	Low

Habitat Rule Satisfied? NO

Support Rule Satisfied? NO

Habitat/Support Hybrid Rule Satisfied? NO

CONCLUSION: Site is not a WSS

Cover Page: Basic Description of Assessment	WESP-AC version 2
Site Name:	Higgins Mountain, WL12
Investigator Name:	Madeline Maher, Alex Scott, Jordan Davis
Date of Field Assessment:	05 October 2022
Nearest Town:	Masstown
Latitude (decimal degrees):	45.56430278°
Longitude (decimal degrees):	63.62338889°
Is a map based on a formal on-site wetland delineation available?	Yes
Approximate size of the Assessment Area (AA, in hectares):	0.23
AA as percent of entire wetland (approx.). Attach sketch map if AA is smaller than the entire contiguous wetland.	80
What percent (approx.) of the wetland were you able to visit?	80
What percent (approx.) of the AA were you able to visit?	100
Were you able to ask the site owner/manager about any of the questions?	No
Indicate here if you intentionally surveyed for rare plants, calciphile plants, or rare animals:	Yes
Have you attended a WESP-AC training session? If so, indicate approximate month & year.	October 2022
How many wetlands have you assessed previously using WESP-AC? (approx.)	30
Comments about the site or this WESP-AC assessment (attach extra page if desired):	

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date: 08 November 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain WL12		Investigator: Madeline Maher	
2	Form OF (Office). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia wetlands only. DIRECTIONS: Conduct an assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answering many of the questions below will require using these online map viewers: Google Earth Pro: https://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html Provincial Landscape Viewer: https://nsgis.novascotia.ca/plv/ For most wetlands, completing this office data form will require 1-2 hours. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see bracketed abbreviations in the Definitions/Explanations column. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.				
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations
4	OF1	Province	Mark the province in which the AA is located by changing the 0 in the column next to it to a "1". Mark only one.		This determines to which province's calibration wetlands the raw score of any wetland is normalised. In the function and benefits models, it also triggers the automatic exclusion of indicators for which no spatial data exists in a particular province.
5			New Brunswick	0	
6			Nova Scotia	1	
7			Prince Edward Island	0	
8			Newfoundland-Labrador	0	
9	OF2	Ponded Area Within 1 km.	The area of surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		"Adjacent" means not separated from the AA by a wide expanse (>50 m) of upland (including roads >50 m wide). Include ponded areas likely to be hidden by wetland vegetation. If surface water extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. Do not include tidal areas. Measure the area from aerial imagery using Google Earth Pro (click on Ruler icon in toolbar, then Polygon in pop-up menu). [PH, SBM, WBN]
10			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
11			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
12			0.1 - 1 hectare.	1	
13			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
14			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
15			>100 hectares.	0	
16	OF3	Ponded Water & Wetland Within 1 km.	The area of wetlands and surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. If the AA's wetland vegetation extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. "Ponded" means not flowing in rivers or streams. [Sens, WBF]
17			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
18			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
19			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
20			1 to 10 hectares.	1	
21			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
22			>100 hectares.	0	
23	OF4	Size of Largest Nearby Vegetated Tract or Corridor	The largest vegetated patch or corridor that includes the AA's vegetation plus all adjacent upland vegetation that is not lawn, row crops, heavily grazed lands, conifer plantation is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. Use Google Earth Pro's polygon ruler (as described above). Exclude conifer plantations only if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens]
24			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
25			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
26			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
27			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
28			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
29			100 to 1000 hectares.	0	
30			>1000 hectares. <i>[This is nearly always the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]</i>	1	

A	B	C	D	E
31	OF5 Distance to Large Vegetated Tract	The minimum distance from the edge of the AA to the edge of the closest vegetated land (but excluding row crops, lawn, conifer plantation) larger than 375 hectares (about 2 km on a side), is:	1	To measure distance, use Google Earth Pro (Ruler > Line tool). The 375-ha criterion is from the Fundy Model Forest Project. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
32		<50 m, and not separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, bare ground, lawn, or impervious surface. Or the AA itself contains >375 ha of vegetation. [This is often the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]		
33		<50 m, but completely separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by those features, and AA does not contain >375 ha of vegetation.		
34		50-500 m, and not separated .		
35		50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
36		0.5 - 5 km, and not separated .		
37		0.5 - 5 km, but separated by those features.		
38		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors which are that large are >5 km away).		
39	OF6 Herbaceous Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 5 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 1 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "1". [* NOTE: Exclude lawns, row crops, heavily grazed lands, forest, shrublands. Include moss as well as grasslike plants in this use of "herbaceous vegetation"]	0	For this question only, consider moss to be herbaceous vegetation. Determine the score by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth after successively drawing or estimating the boundaries of the buffers of 5 km, 1 km, and 100 m radius focused on the center of the AA. Circles of specified radius can be drawn in Google Earth Pro by clicking on the Ruler icon, then Circle in the pop-up menu. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
40	OF7 Woody Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% woody* but uplands within 5 km have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 1 km have <10% woody cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "1" [* NOTE: woody cover = trees & shrubs taller than 1 m.]	0	See above. Do not consider conifer plantations to be forest if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv]
41	OF8 Local Vegetated Cover Percentage	Draw a 5-km radius circle measured from the center of the AA. Ignoring all permanent water in the circle, the percent of the remaining area that is wooded or unmanaged herbaceous vegetation (NOT lawn, row crops, bare or heavily grazed land, clearcuts, or conifer plantations) is:	1	In Google Earth, draw the 5 km buffer and then estimate land cover percentages, or do GIS analysis of an appropriate land cover layer. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
42		<5% of the land.		
43		5 to 20% of the land.		
44		20 to 60% of the land.		
45		60 to 90% of the land.		
46		>90% of the land. SKIP to OF10.		
47	OF9 Type of Land Cover Alteration	Within the 5-km radius circle, and ignoring all permanent water, the land area that is bare or non-perennial cover is mostly:	1	[AM, SBM]
48		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
49		Bare pervious surface, e.g., lawn, recent (<5 yrs ago) clearcut, dirt or gravel road, cropland, landslide, conifer plantation.		
50	OF10 Distance by Road to Nearest Population Center	Measured along the maintained road nearest the AA, the distance to the nearest population center is:	0	"Population center" means a settled area with more than about 5 regularly- inhabited structures per square kilometer. In Google Earth Pro, click on the Ruler icon, then Path, and draw and measure the route. [FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, WBFv]
51		<100 m.		
52		100 - 500 m.		
53		0.5- 1 km.		
54		1 - 5 km.		
55		>5 km.		

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56	OF11 Distance to Nearest Maintained Road	From the center of the AA, the distance to the nearest maintained public road (dirt or paved) is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth Pro and measuring with the Ruler>Line tool [AM, FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBN]
57		<10 m.		
58		10 - 25 m.		
59		25 - 50 m.		
60		50 - 100 m.		
61		100 - 500 m.		
62		>500 m.		
63	OF12 Wildlife Access	Draw a circle of radius of 5 km from the center of the AA. If mammals and amphibians can move from the center of the AA to ALL other separate wetlands and ponds located within the circle without being forced to cross pavement (any width), lawns, bare ground, and/or marine waters, mark 1= yes can move to all, 0= no. Change to blank if there are no other wetlands within 5 km.	0	Draw the 5 km circle in Google Earth Pro using the Circle tool and search for roads and wetlands within it, being alert for roads hidden under forest canopy. [AM, SBM, STR]
64	OF13 Distance to Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) ponded water body visible in GoogleEarth imagery is:		In Google Earth Pro, zoom in closely to examine the surrounding landscape for ponds, lakes, and wetlands that appear to be permanently flooded. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
65		<50 m, and not separated by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, lawn, bare ground, or impervious surface.		
66		<50 m, but completely separated by those features.		
67		50-500 m, and not separated.		
68		50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
69		0.5 - 1 km, and not separated.		
70		0.5 - 1 km, but separated by those features.		
71		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors that large are >1 km away).	0	
72	OF14 Distance to Large Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate)non-tidal body of water that is ponded during most of the year and is larger than 8 hectares during most of a normal year is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth. [Sens, WBF, WBN]
73		<100 m.		
74		100 m - 1 km.		
75		1-2 km.		
76		2-5 km.		
77		5-10 km.		
78		>10 km.		
79	OF15 Tidal Proximity	The distance from the AA edge to the closest tidal water body (regardless of its salinity) is:		In Google Earth, measure the distance to the ocean (including Bay of Fundy) or tidal river, whichever is closer. If you need to see how far upriver a river is tidal, see the KMZ file provided with this calculator for NS (NS Headtide). Points shown in those files are only an approximation, so local information if available may be preferable. [FA, WBF]
80		<100 m.		
81		100 m - 1 km.		
82		1 - 5 km.		
83		5-10 km.		
84		10-40 km.		
85		>40 km.		
86	OF16 Upland Edge Contact	Select one:		[NR, SBM, Sens]
87		The AA has no upland edge (or upland is <1% of perimeter). The AA is entirely surrounded by (& contiguous with) other wetlands or water.		
88		1-25% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland (including filled areas). The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
89		25-50% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
90		50-75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
91		More than 75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. Any remainder adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA. This will be true for most assessments done with WESP-AC.	1	

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92	OF17 Flood Damage from Non-tidal Waters	Within 5 km downstream or downslope of the AA (select first true choice):	0	Contact local authorities to determine if such maps exist. Where available, LiDAR imagery can provide finer elevational resolution useful for flood modeling. [WSv]
93		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding not caused by tidal storm surges.		
94		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas, but infrastructure is absent or is not vulnerable to floods from a non-tidal river. In some cases levees, upriver dams, or other measures may partly limit damage or risk from smaller events.		
95		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
96		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there is no infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
97	OF18 Relative Elevation in Watershed	In Google Earth, enable the Terrain layer (lower left menu) and open the NS_Watersheds Secondary KMZ file that accompanies this calculator. Then determine the AA's approximate elevation (bottom right, NOT the "eye alt"). Then move cursor around to determine the watershed's maximum and minimum elevation. Divide the AA's elevation by the (max-min).	0.93	[FA, NR, Sens, SFSv, WCv, WSv]
98	OF19 Water Quality Sensitive Watershed or Area	The AA is in a Protected Water Supply area (Designated Water Supply Area, Natural Watershed Municipal Surface Water Supply Area, or Municipal Water Supply Area) according to the provided KMZ overlay ("NS Protected Water Supply Areas"). Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	If an ACCDC report is available for this AA, it also may contain such information. [NRv]
99	OF20 Degraded Water Upstream	Sampling indicates a problem with concentrations of metals, hydrocarbons, nutrients, or other substances (excluding bacteria, acidic water, high temperatures) being present at levels harmful to aquatic life or humans, and:	0	May use existing data, or sample those waters as part of this wetland assessment. "Harmful" should be evaluated with regard to current federal or provincial water quality standards. [AM, FA, FR, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WBF, WBN]
100		The condition is present within the AA.		
101		The condition is present in waters within 1 km that flow into the AA, but has not been documented in the AA itself.		
102		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
103		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
104	OF21 Degraded Water Downstream	The problem described above is downslope from the AA, and:	0	May use existing data, or monitor waters as part of this wetland assessment. [NRv, PRv, SRv]
105		The condition is present within 1 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel.		
106		The condition is present within 5 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel, or within 1 km but not connected to the AA by a channel.		
107		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
108		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
109	OF22 Wetland as a % of Its Contributing Area (Catchment)	From a topographic map and field observations, estimate the approximate boundaries of the catchment (CA) of the entire wetland of which the AA may be only a part. Then adjust those boundaries if necessary based on your field observations of the surrounding terrain, and/or by using procedures described in the Manual. Divide the area of the wetland (not just the AA) by the approximate area of its catchment excluding the area of the wetland itself. When doing the calculation, if ponded water is adjacent to the wetland, include that in the wetland area. The result is:	0	Topographic maps may be viewed online at the National Atlas of Canada (Toporama): http://atlas.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html [NR, PR, Sens, SR, WS]
110		<0.01, or catchment size unknown due to stormwater pipes that collect water from an indeterminate area.		
111		0.01 to 0.1.		
112		0.1 to 1.		
113		>1 (wetland is larger than its catchment (e.g., wetland with flat surrounding terrain and no inlet, or is entirely isolated by dikes, or is a raised bog)).		
114	OF23 Unvegetated Surface in the Contributing Area	The proportion of the AA's contributing area (measured to no more than 1000 m upslope) that is comprised of buildings, roads, parking lots, other pavement, exposed bedrock, landslides, and other mostly-bare surface is about :	0	[FA, INV, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WCv, WSv]
115		<10%.		
116		10 to 25%.		
117		>25%.		

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118	OF24	Transport From Upslope A relatively large proportion of the precipitation that falls farther upslope in the CA reaches this wetland quickly as runoff (surface water), as indicated by the following: (a) input channel is present, (b) input channels have been straightened, (c) upslope wetlands have been ditched extensively, (d) land cover is mostly non-forest, (e) CA slopes are steep, and/or (f) most CA soils are shallow (bedrock near surface) and/or have high runoff coefficients. This statement is:		[NRv, PRv, SRv, WSv]
119		Mostly true.	0	
120		Somewhat true.	1	
121		Mostly untrue.	0	
122	OF25	Aspect The overland flow direction of most surface water (in streams, rivers, or runoff) that enters the AA is:		[AM, NR, SFS, WC, WS]
123		Northward (N, NE). north-facing contributing area.	0	
124		Southward (S, SW). south-facing contributing area.	0	
125		Other (E, SE, W, NW), or no detectable uphill slope or input channel (flat).	1	
126	OF26	Internal Flow Distance (Path Length) The horizontal flow distance from the wetland's inlet to outlet is:		Identify inlets and outlets, if any, from topographic maps (use elevations to determine which are inlets and which are outlets) and augment by field inspection. With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, select Nova Scotia Topo as the Basemap. Also enable the layer Forestry>WAM Predicted Flow. Then measure the inlet-outlet distance. [NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
127		<10 m.	0	
128		10 - 50 m.	1	
129		50 - 100 m.	0	
130		100 - 1000 m.	0	
131		1-2 km.	0	
132		>2 km, or wetland lacks an inlet and outlet.	0	
133	OF27	Growing Degree Days In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called NS_GrowingDegreeDays. Place your cursor over the AA and left-click. From the pop-up window, enter the GRIDCODE number in the next column.	1882	This layer was provided by Dr. Dan McKenney of the Canadian Forest Service [AM, CS, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WCv, WS]
134	OF28	Fish Access or Use According to agency biologists and/or your own observations, the AA. [Mark just the first choice that is true.]:		Regarding the last choice, if uncertain if an AA is fishless, consider the possibility its waters have been stocked. [AM, FA, FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
135		Is known to support rearing and/or spawning by Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels. Go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife>Significant Habitat>Species at Risk. Contact local fishery biologists, review the ACCDC report, and visit these websites: http://www.salmontlas.com/atlanticsalmon/canada-east/index.1.html http://atlanticssalmofederation.org/rivers/introduction.html	0	
136		Has not been documented to support Atlantic salmon rearing and/or spawning, but is connected to nearby waters likely to contain Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels and is probably accessed by those during some conditions.	0	
137		Is probably not accessed by any anadromous fish species but is known or likely to have other fish at least seasonally.	1	
138		Is known or likely to be fishless (e.g., too small, dry, and/or not accessible even temporarily, and not stocked).	0	
139	OF29	Species of Conservation Concern Within the past 10 years, in the AA (or in its adjoining waters or wetland), qualified observers have documented [mark all applicable]:		Request information from ACCDC and/or conduct your own survey at an appropriate season using an approved protocol. For birds, also check eBird.org. NOTE for NS: If your WESP-AC is being completed for a Wetland Alteration Application to NS-ECC, your ACCDC results and any taxon-specific survey results must be submitted along with your WESP-AC results, and application. [AMv, EC, PHv, POLv, SBMv, Sens, WBFv, WBNv]
140		Presence of one or more of the plant species listed in the Plants_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, or the AA is within a mapped Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora Buffer (go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones).	0	
141		Presence of one or more of the amphibian or reptile species (AM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
142		Presence of one or more of the waterbird species (WBF, WBN) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
143		Presence of one or more of the nesting songbird or raptor species (SBM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, during their nesting season (May-July for most species).	0	
144		None of the above, or no data.	1	
145	OF30	Important Bird Area (IBA) In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called IBAs_Canada. The AA is all or part of an officially designated IBA. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	The source of this layer, which should be checked periodically for updates, is: http://www.ibacanada.com/mapviewer.jsp?lang=EN [SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]

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146	OF31	Black Duck Nesting Area	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called BlackDuck. Adjust its alignment and opacity. Determine the predicted density (pairs per 25 sq. km) of nesting American Black Duck in the AA's vicinity: <10 (enter 0), 10-20 (enter 1), 20-30 (enter 2), >30 (enter 3). If outside of region shown in map, change to blank.	0	This was provided by Dr. David Leske. [WBNv]
147	OF32	Wintering Deer or Moose Concentration Areas	If AA is on private land with no information, change to blank (not 0). Otherwise: With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, for Wintering Moose, go to Wildlife> Significant Habitat. For Mainland Moose Concentration Areas, go to Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0.	0	[SBM]
148	OF33	Other Conservation Designation	The AA is all or part of an area designated by government, First Nations, or the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) for its exceptional ecological features or highly intact natural conditions. With Provincial Landscape Viewer, see Protected Areas. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If uncertain, consult NCC and agencies for more recent information.	0	See: https://novascotia.ca/parksandprotectedareas/plan/interactive-map/ [PU]
149	OF34	Conservation Investment	The AA is part of or contiguous to a wetland on which public or private organizational funds were spent to preserve, create, restore, or enhance the wetland (excluding mitigation wetlands). Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank (not 0).		[PU]
150	OF35	Mitigation Investment	The AA is all or part of a mitigation site used explicitly to offset impacts elsewhere. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.		[PU]
151	OF36	Sustained Scientific Use	Plants, animals, or water in the AA have been monitored for >2 years, unrelated to any regulatory requirements, and data are available to the public. Or the AA is part of an area that has been designated by an agency or institution as a benchmark, reference, or status-trends monitoring area. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.		[PU]
152	OF37	Calcareous Region	The AA is NOT in a subregion that has been heavily exposed to acid precipitation. Enter "1" if true (green or yellow in map in Appendix A of the Manual). Enter "0" if false. If no information, change to blank.	0	[AM, FA, FR, INV, PH]
153	OF38	Ownership	Select the ONE ownership that covers the most of the AA. In Google Earth, open KMZ file called NS_CrownlandsUse more recent information if available.		"Private lands" may include those owned or leased by non-governmental organizations, e.g., charitable conservation land trusts, DUC, TNC. [PU, STR]
154			New timber harvest, roads, mineral extraction, and intensive summer recreation (e.g., off-road vehicles) are permanently prohibited. Includes many publicly-owned Protected Lands, and private lands under long-term (30+ year) legal agreements to maintain nearly-unaltered conditions.	0	
155			Ownership is public (e.g., municipal, Crown Reservations/Notations) but some or all of the above activities are allowed.	1	
156			Ownership is private but public access is allowed, and/or a shorter-term conservation easement (whether renewable or not) is in place.	0	
157			Ownership is private and owner does not allow access, or access permission unknown, and not a conservation easement.	0	

	A	B	C	D	E		
1	Date: 05 October 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain WL12		Investigator: Jordan Davis, Alex Scott			
2	<p>Form F (Field). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia. DIRECTIONS: Walk for no less than 10 minutes from the wetland edge towards its core, in the part of the AA that is proposed for alteration. If no alteration is proposed, walk in a portion that appears to be most representative of the wetland overall. Walk only where it is safe and legal to do so. Conduct the assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answer these questions primarily based on your onsite observations and interpretations. Do not write in shaded parts of this data form. Answering some questions accurately may require conferring with the landowner or other knowledgeable persons, and/or reviewing aerial imagery. For most wetlands, completing this field data form will require 1-2 hours on a site. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see the accompanying Interpretations form. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage & Delay, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sens= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.</p>						
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations		
4	F1	Wetland Type	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the vegetated part of the AA:		<p>Ericaceous shrubs are ones in the heather family (Ericaceae). Most have leathery evergreen leaves. They include rhododendron, azalea, swamp laurel, leatherleaf, Labrador tea, and others. Most require acidic soil. Although not in the family Ericaceae, sweetgale (<i>Myrica gale</i>) should be counted also. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, Sens, SFS, WBF, WBN]</p>		
5	A. Moss and/or lichen cover more than 25% of the ground. Often dominated by ericaceous shrubs (e.g., Labrador tea) or other acid-tolerant plants (e.g., bog cranberry, pitcher plant, sundew, orchids). Substrate is mostly undecomposed peat. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.						
6	A1. Surface water is usually absent or, if present, pH is typically <4.5 and conductivity is usually <100 µS/cm (<64 ppm TDS). Trees are absent or nearly so. Sedge cover usually sparse or absent but cottongrass and/or lichen cover may be extensive, as well as cloudberry, lingonberry, sheep laurel, and a sedge (<i>Carex rariflora</i>). Wetland surface and surrounding landscape are seldom sloping and wetland often is domed (convex). Inlet and outlet channels are usually absent. If known, pH of peat is <4.0.		0				
7	A2. Not A1. Surface water, if present, has pH typically >4.5 and conductivity is usually >100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Sedge cover is usually extensive, and/or tree and tall shrub cover is extensive. Sometimes at toe of slope or edge of water body. An exit channel is usually present. Wetter than A1 and peat depth may be shallower (<2 m).		0				
8	B. Moss and/or lichen cover less than 25% of the ground. Soil is mineral or decomposed organic (muck). Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column:						
9	B1. Trees and shrubs taller than 1 m comprise more than 25% of the vegetated cover. Surface water is mostly absent or inundates the vegetation only seasonally (e.g., vernal pools or floodplain).		0				
10	B2. Not B1. Tree & tall shrubs comprise less than than 25% of the vegetated cover. Vegetation is mostly herbaceous, e.g., cattail, bulrush, burreed, pond lily, horsetail. Surface water may be extensive and fluctuates seasonally, being either persistent or drying up partly or entirely.		1				
11	<p>Reminder: For all questions, the AA should include all persistent waters in ponds smaller than 8 hectares (~283 m on a side) that are adjacent to the AA. The AA should also include part of the water area of adjacent ponded water larger than 8 ha and adjacent rivers wider than 20 m. Specifically, the AA should include the open water part adjacent to wetland vegetation and equal in width to the average width of that vegetated zone. Throughout this data form, "adjacent" is used synonymously with abutting, adjoining, bordering, contiguous -- and means no upland (manmade or natural) completely separates the described features along their directly shared edge. Features joined only by a channel are not necessarily considered to be adjacent -- a large portion of their edges must match. The features do not have to be hydrologically connected in order to be considered adjacent.</p>						
12	F2		Wetland Types - Adjoining or Subordinate	If the AA is smaller than 1 ha, mark all other types that occupy more than 1% of the vegetated AA. If the AA is larger than 1 ha, mark all other types which are within or adjacent to the AA and occupy more than 1 ha, as visible from the AA or as interpreted from aerial imagery. Do not mark again the type marked in F1.			<p>1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, INV, SBM, WBF]</p>
13	A1.			0			
14	A2.	0					
15	B1.	0					
16	B2.	0					

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17	F3 Woody Height & Form Diversity	Following EACH row below, indicate with a number code the percentage of the living vegetation in the AA which is occupied by that feature (6 if >95%, 5 if 75-95%, 4 if 50-75%, 3 if 25-50%, 2 if 5-25%, 1 if <5%, 0 if none). If the vegetated part of the AA is largely herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation, these percentages should not sum to 100%.		
18		coniferous trees (may include tamarack) taller than 3 m.	0	
19		deciduous trees taller than 3 m.	0	
20		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	0	
21		deciduous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	0	
22		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs <1 m tall not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	0	
23		deciduous shrubs or trees <1 m tall (e.g., deciduous seedlings) not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	0	
24	Note: If none of top 4 rows in F3 was marked 2 or greater, SKIP to F9 (N fixers).			
25	F4 Dominance of Most Abundant Shrub Species	Determine which two woody plant species comprise the greatest portion of the low (<3 m) woody cover . Then choose one: those species together comprise > 50% of such cover. those species together do not comprise > 50% of such cover.		[PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
26		0		
27		0		
28	F5 Woody Diameter Classes	Mark ALL the types that comprise >5% of the woody canopy cover in the AA or >5% of the wooded areas (if any) along its upland edge (perimeter). The edge should include only the trees whose canopies extend into the AA. coniferous, 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall. broad-leaved deciduous 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall. coniferous, 10-19 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous 10-19 cm diameter. coniferous, 20-40 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous 20-40 cm diameter. coniferous, >40 cm diameter. broad-leaved deciduous >40 cm diameter.		Estimate the diameters at chest height. If small-diameter trees are overtopped (shaded) by larger ones, visualise a "subcanopy" at the average height of the smaller-dbh trees, to serve as a basis for the minimum 5% canopy requirement in this question. The trees and shrubs need not be wetland species. [AM, CS, POL, SBM, Sens, WBN]
29		0		
30		0		
31		0		
32		0		
33		0		
34		0		
35		0		
36		0		
37	F6 Height Class Interspersion	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the AA: A. Neither the vegetation taller than 1 m nor the vegetation shorter than that comprise >70% of the vegetated part of the AA. They each comprise 30-70%. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.		[AM, INV, NR, PH, SBM, Sens]
38		A1. The two height classes are mostly scattered and intermixed throughout the AA.	0	
39		A2. Not A1. The two height classes are mostly in separate zones or bands, or in proportionately large clumps.	0	
40		B. Either the vegetation shorter than 1 m comprises >70% of the vegetated part of the AA, or the vegetation taller than that does. One size class might even be totally absent. Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column:		
41		B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly scattered and intermixed within the prevalent one.	0	
42		B2. Not B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly located apart from the prevalent one, in separate zones or clumps, or is completely absent.	0	
43				
44	F7 Large Snags (Dead Standing Trees)	The number of large snags (diameter >20 cm) in the AA plus adjacent upland area within 10 m of the wetland edge is: None, or fewer than 8/ hectare which exceed this diameter. Several (>8/hectare) and a pond, lake, or slow-flowing water wider than 10 m is within 1 km. Several (>8/hectare) but above not true.		Snags are dead standing trees that often (not always) lack bark and foliage. Include only ones that are at least 2 m tall. [POL, SBM, WBN]
45		0		
46		0		
47		0		
48	F8 Downed Wood	The number of downed wood pieces longer than 2 m and with diameter >10 cm, and not persistently submerged, is: Few or none that meet these criteria. Several (>5 if AA is >5 hectares, less for smaller AAs) meet these criteria.		Exclude temporary "burn piles." [AM, INV, POL, SBM]
49		0		
50		0		
51	F9 N Fixers	The percentage of the AA's vegetated cover that contains nitrogen-fixing plants (e.g., alder, sweetgale, clover, lupine, alfalfa, other legumes) is: <1% or none. 1-25% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). 25-50% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). 50-75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more). >75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	1	Do not include N-fixing algae or lichens. [FA, FR, INV, NRv, OE, PH, SBM, Sens]
52		0		
53		0		
54		0		
55		0		
56		0		

A	B	C	D	E
F10 57 58 59 60 61 62	Sphagnum Moss Extent	The cover of Sphagnum moss (or any moss that forms a dense cushion many centimeters thick), including the moss obscured by taller sedges and other plants rooted in it, is:		
		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
F11 63 64 65 66 67 68	% Bare Ground & Thatch	Consider the parts of the AA that lack surface water at the driest time of the growing season. Viewed from directly above the ground layer, the predominant condition in those areas at that time is:		
		Little or no (<5%) bare ground is visible between erect stems or under canopy anywhere in the vegetated AA. Ground is extensively blanketed by dense thatch, moss, lichens, graminoids with great stem densities, or plants with ground-hugging foliage.	1	
		Slightly bare ground (5-20% bare between plants) is visible in places, but those areas comprise less than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
		Much bare ground (20-50% bare between plants) is visible in places, and those areas comprise more than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
		Other conditions.	0	
		Not applicable. Surface water (either open or obscured by emergent plants) covers all of the AA all the time.	0	
F12 69 70 71 72	Ground Irregularity	Imagine the AA without any living vegetation. Excluding the portion of the AA that is always under water, the number of hummocks, small pits, raised mounds, animal burrows, ruts, gullies, natural levees, microdepressions, and other areas of peat or mineral soil that are raised or depressed >10 cm compared to most of the area within a few meters surrounding them is:		
		Few or none (minimal microtopography; <1% of the land has such features, or entire AA is always water-covered).	1	
		Intermediate.	0	
		Several (extensive micro-topography).	0	
F13 73 74 75 76	Upland Inclusions	Within the AA, inclusions of upland are:		[AM, NR, SBM]
		Few or none.	1	
		Intermediate (1 - 10% of vegetated part of the AA).	0	
		Many (e.g., wetland-upland "mosaic"; >10% of the vegetated AA).	0	
F14 77 78 79 80 81 82	Soil Texture	In parts of the AA that lack persistent water, the texture of soil in the uppermost layer is mostly: [To determine this, use a trowel to check in at least 3 widely spaced locations, and use the soil texture key (in Appendix A of the Manual).]		[CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, WS]
		Loamy: soils that may contain a little fine grit and do not make a "ribbon" longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
		Fines: includes silt, clay, silt, soils that make a ribbon longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
		Deep Peat: to 40 cm depth or greater.	1	
		Shallow Peat or organic <40 cm deep.	0	
		Coarse: includes sand, loamy sand, gravel, cobble, soils that do not make a ribbon when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
F15 83 84 85 86 87	Shorebird Feeding Habitats	During any 2 consecutive weeks of the growing season, the extent of mudflats, bare unshaded saturated areas not covered by thatch, and unshaded waters shallower than 6 cm is: [Include also any area that is adjacent to the AA.]		This addresses needs of many but not all migratory sandpipers, plovers, and related species. [WBF]
		None, or <100 sq. m.	1	
		100-1000 sq. m.	0	
		1000 – 10,000 sq. m.	0	
		>10,000 sq. m.	0	
F16 88 89 90 91 92 93	Herbaceous % of Vegetated Wetland	In aerial ("ducks eye") view, the maximum annual cover of herbaceous vegetation (all non-woody plants except moss) is:		[AM, WBF, WBN]
		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA or <0.01 hectare (whichever is less). Mark "*" here and SKIP to F20 (Invasive Plant Cover).	1	
		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
94	F17 Forb Cover	Within parts of the AA having herbaceous cover (excluding SAV), the areal cover of forbs reaches an annual maximum of:		Forbs are flowering plants. Do not include grasses, sedges, cattail, other graminoids, ferns, horsetails, or others that lack showy flowers. [POL]
95		<5% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
96		5-25% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
97		25-50% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
98		50-95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
99		>95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
100	F18 Sedge Cover	Sedges (<i>Carex</i> spp.) and cottongrass (<i>Eriophorum</i> spp.) occupy:		[CS]
101		<5% of the vegetated area, or none.		
102		5-50% of the vegetated area.		
103		50-95% of the vegetated area.		
104		>95% of the vegetated area.		
105	F19 Dominance of Most Abundant Herbaceous Species	Determine which two herbaceous species comprise the greatest portion of the herbaceous cover (excluding mosses and floating-leaved aquatic plants). Then choose one of the following:		For this question, include ferns as well as graminoids and forbs. [EC, INV, PH, POL, Sens]
106		those species together comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		
107		those species together do not comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		
108	F20 Invasive Plant Cover	How extensive is the cover of invasive plant species in the AA? For species, see Plants_invasive worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file.		[EC, PH, POL, Sens]
109		invasive species appear to be absent in the AA, or are present only in trace amount (a few individuals).		
110		invasive species are present in more than trace amounts, but comprise <5% of herbaceous cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
111		invasive species comprise 5-20% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
112		invasive species comprise 20-50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
113		invasive species comprise >50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
114	F21 Invasive Cover Along Upland Edge	Along the wetland-upland boundary, the percent of the upland edge (within 3 m upslope from the wetland) that is occupied by invasive plant species is:		If a plant cannot be identified to species (e.g., winter conditions) but its genus contains an exotic species, assume the unidentified plant to also be exotic. If vegetation is so senesced that exotic species cannot be identified, answer "none". [PH, STR]
115		none of the upland edge (invasives apparently absent), or AA has no upland edge.		
116		some (but <5%) of the upland edge.		
117		5-50% of the upland edge.		
118		most (>50%) of the upland edge.		
119	F22 Fringe Wetland	During most of the year, open water within or adjacent to the vegetated part of the wetland is much wider than the maximum width of the vegetated zone within the wetland. Enter "1" if true, "0" if false.	0	[WBF, WBN, WCv]
120	F23 Lacustrine Wetland	The vegetated part of the AA is within or adjacent to a body of non-tidal standing open water whose size exceeds 8 hectares during most of a normal year.	0	[FR, PR, PU, WBF, WBN]
121	F24 % of AA Without Surface Water	The percentage of the AA that never contains surface water during an average year (that is, except perhaps for a few hours after snowmelt or rainstorms), but which is still a wetland, is:		1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SRv, WBF, WBN, WC]
122		<1%. In other words, all or nearly all of the AA is covered by water permanently or at least seasonally .		
123		1-25% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha never contains surface water.		
124		25-50% of the AA never contains surface water.		
125		50-75% of the AA never contains surface water.		
126		75-99% of the AA never contains surface water, OR >99% and there is at least one persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha in the AA.		
127		99-100%. AND there is no persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha within the AA. Enter "1" and SKIP to F42 (Channel Connection).		
128	F25 % of AA with Persistent Surface Water	Identify the parts of the AA that still contain surface water (flowing or ponded, open or hidden beneath vegetation) even during the driest times of a normal year, i.e., when the AA's surface water is at its lowest annual level. At that time, the percentage of the AA that still contains surface water is:		If you are unable to determine the condition at the driest time of year, ask the land owner or neighbors about it if possible. Indicators of persistence may include fish, some dragonflies, beaver, and muskrat. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, POL, PR, SBM, WBF, WBN]
129		None. The AA dries up completely (no water in channels either) or never has surface water during most years. SKIP to F27 .		
130		1-20% of the AA.		
131		20-50% of the AA.		
132		50-95% of the AA.		
133		>95% of the AA. True for many fringe wetlands.		

A	B	C	D	E
134	F26 % of Summertime Water that Is Shaded	At mid-day during the warmest time of year, the area of surface water <u>within</u> the AA that is shaded by vegetation and other features that are within the AA at that time is: <5% of the water is shaded, or no surface water is present then. 5-25% of the water is shaded. 25-50% of the water is shaded. 50-75% of the water is shaded. >75% of the water is shaded.	1 0 0 0 0	[FA, WC]
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140	F27 % of AA that is Flooded Only Seasonally	The percentage of the AA's area that is between the annual high water and the annual low water (surface water) is: None, or <0.01 hectare and <1% of the AA. SKIP to F29. 1-20% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha. 20-50% of the AA. 50-95% of the AA. >95% of the AA.	1 0 0 0 0	Flood marks (algal mats, adventitious roots, debris lines, ice scour, etc.) are often evident when not fully inundated. Also, such areas often have a larger proportion of upland and annual (vs. perennial) plant species. In riverine systems, the extent of this zone can be estimated by multiplying by 2 the bankfull height and visualising where that would intercept the land along the river. [CS, FA, INV, NR, OE, PH, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
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146	F28 Annual Water Fluctuation Range	The annual fluctuation in surface water level within most of the parts of the AA that contain surface water at least temporarily is: <10 cm change (stable or nearly so). 10 cm - 50 cm change. 0.5 - 1 m change. 1-2 m change. >2 m change.	0 0 0 0 0	Look for flood marks (see above). Because the annual range of water levels is difficult to estimate without multiple visits, consider asking the land owner or neighbors about it. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SR, WBN, WS]
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152	Is the AA plus adjacent ponded water smaller than 0.01 hectare (about 10m x 10m, or 1m x 100 m)? If so, enter "1" in column D and SKIP TO F42 (Connection).			0
153	F29 Predominant Depth Class	During most of the time when surface water is present during the growing season, its depth, averaged over the entire inundated part of the AA, is: <10 cm deep (but >0). 10 - 50 cm deep. 0.5 - 1 m deep. 1 - 2 m deep. >2 m deep. True for many fringe wetlands.	0 0 0 1 0	If a boat is unavailable, estimate this by considering wetland size and local topography. Or if timing and safety allow, depths may be measured by drilling through winter ice. This question is asking about the spatial median depth that occurs during most of that time, even if inundation is only seasonal or temporary. If inundation in most but not all of the wetland is brief, the answer will be based on the depth of the most persistently inundated part of the wetland. Include surface water in channels and ditches as well as ponded areas. [CS, FA, FR, INV, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
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159	F30 Depth Classes - Evenness of Proportions	When present, surface water in most of the AA usually consists of (select one): One depth class that comprises >90% of the AA's inundated area (use the classes in the question above). One depth class that comprises 50-90% of the AA's inundated area. Neither of above. There are 3 or more depth classes and none occupy >50%.	1 0 0	Estimate these proportions by considering the gradient and microtopography of the site. [FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
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163	F31 % of Water That Is Ponded (not Flowing)	During most times when surface water is present, the percentage that is (1) ponded (stagnant, or flows so slowly that fine sediment is not held in suspension) AND (2) is likely to be deeper than 0.5 m in some places, is: <5% of the water, or it occupies <100 sq.m cumulatively. Nearly all the surface water is flowing. SKIP to F34. 5-30% of the water. 30-70% of the water. 70-95% of the water. >95% of the water.	0 0 0 0 1	Nearly all wetlands with surface water have some ponded water. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WBN, WC, WS]
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169	F32 Ponded Open Water - Minimum Size	During most of the growing season, the largest patch of open water that is ponded and is in or bordering the AA is >0.01 hectare (about 10 m by 10 m) and mostly deeper than 0.5 m. If true enter "1" and continue, If false, enter "0" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	1	Open water is not obscured by vegetation in aerial ("duck's eye") view. It includes vegetation floating on the water surface or entirely submersed beneath it.
170	F33 % of Ponded Water that is Open	In ducks-eye aerial view, the percentage of the ponded water that is open (lacking emergent vegetation during most of the growing season, and unhidden by a forest or shrub canopy) is: None, or <1% of the AA and largest pool occupies <0.01 hectares. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed). 1-4% of the ponded water. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed). 5-30% of the ponded water. 30-70% of the ponded water. 70-99% of the ponded water. 100% of the ponded water.	0 0 0 0 0 1	[AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
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A	B	C	D	E
F34 177 178 179 180 181 182 183	Width of Vegetated Zone within Wetland	At the time during the growing season when the AA's water level is lowest, the average width of vegetated area <u>in the AA</u> that separates adjoining uplands from open water within the AA is: <1 m. 1 - 9 m. 10 - 29 m. 30 - 49 m. 50 - 100 m. >100 m, or open water is absent at that time.	1 0 0 0 0 0	"Vegetated area" does not include underwater or floating-leaved plants, i.e., aquatic bed. Width may include wooded riparian areas if they have wetland soil or plant indicators. [AM, CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SR, WBN]
F35 184 185 186 187 188 189	Flat Shoreline Extent	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the percentage of the AA's water edge length that is nearly flat (a slope less than about 5% measured within 5 m landward of the water) is: <1% of the water edge. 1-25% of the water edge. 25-50% of the water edge. 50-75% of the water edge. >75% of the water edge.	0 0 1 0 0	If several isolated pools are present in early summer, estimate the percent of their collective shorelines that has such a gentle slope. [SR, WBN]
F36 190 191 192 193 194	Robust Emergents	The percentage of the emergent vegetation cover in the AA that is cattail (<i>Typha</i> spp.), common reed (<i>Phragmites</i>), or tall (>1m) bulrush is: <1% of the emergent vegetation, or emergent vegetation is absent. SKIP to F38. 1-25% of the emergent vegetation. 25-75% of the emergent vegetation. >75% of the emergent vegetation.	1 0 0 0	Emergent vegetation is herbaceous plants whose stems are partly above and partly below the water surface during most of the time water is present. [WBN]
F37 195 196 197 198	Interspersion of Emergents & Open Water	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the spatial pattern of emergent vegetation within the water is mostly: Scattered. More than 30% of such vegetation forms small islands or corridors surrounded by water. Intermediate. Clumped. More than 70% of such vegetation is in bands along the wetland perimeter or is clumped at one or a few sides of the surface water area.	0 0 0	[AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, SR, WBF, WBN]
F38 199	Persistent Deepwater Area	If the deepest patch of surface water (flowing or ponded) in or directly adjacent to the AA is mostly deeper than 0.5 m for >2 weeks during the growing season, enter "1" and continue. If not, enter "0" and SKIP to F42. (Connection).	1	
F39 200 201 202 203	Non-vegetated Aquatic Cover	During most of the growing season and in waters deeper than 0.5 m, the cover for fish, aquatic invertebrates, and/or amphibians that is provided NOT by living vegetation, but by accumulations of dead wood and undercut banks is: Little or none. Intermediate. Extensive.	0 1 0	For this question, consider only the wood that is at or above the water surface. Estimates of underwater wood based only on observations from terrestrial viewpoints are unreliable so should not be attempted. [AM, FA, FR, INV]
F40 204	Isolated Island	The AA contains (or is part of) an island or beaver lodge within a lake, pond, or river, and is isolated from the shore by water depths >1 m on all sides during an average June. The island may be solid, or it may be a floating vegetation mat that is sufficiently large and dense to support a waterbird nest.	1	[WBN]
F41 205	Floating Algae & Duckweed	At some time of the year, mats of algae and/or duckweed are likely to cover >50% of the AA's otherwise-unshaded water surface, or blanket >50% of the underwater substrate. If true, enter "1" in next column. If untrue or uncertain, enter "0".	0	[EC, PR, WBF]

A	B	C	D	E
206	F42 Channel Connection & Outflow Duration	The most persistent surface water connection (outlet channel or pipe, ditch, or overbank water exchange) between the AA and a downslope stream network is: [Note: If the AA represents only part of a wetland, answer this according to whichever is the least permanent surface connection: the one between the AA and the rest of the wetland, or the surface connection between the wetland and the downslope stream network.]		Consider the connection regardless of whether the surface water is frozen. The "downslope stream network" could consist of ditches, rivers, ponds, or lakes which eventually connect to the ocean. If this cannot be determined while visiting the AA, consult topographic maps perhaps by viewing these online with Toporama (http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html) [CS, FA, FR, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WCv, WS]
207		Persistent (surface water flows out for >9 months/year).		
208		Seasonal (surface water flows out for 14 days to 9 months/year, not necessarily consecutive).		
209		Temporary (surface water flows out for <14 days, not necessarily consecutive).		
210		None -- but maps show a stream network downslope from the AA and within a distance that is less than the AA's length. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
211		No surface water flows out of the wetland except possibly during extreme events (<once per 10 years). Or, water flows only into a wetland, ditch, or lake that lacks an outlet. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
212	F43 Outflow Confinement	During major runoff events, in the places where surface water exits the AA or connected waters nearby, the water:		"Major runoff events" would include biennial high water caused by storms and/or rapid snowmelt. [CS, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, STR, WS]
213		Mostly passes through a pipe, culvert, narrowly breached dike, berm, beaver dam, or other partial obstruction (other than natural topography) that does not appear to drain the wetland artificially during most of the growing season.		
214		Leaves through natural exits (channels or diffuse outflow), not mainly through artificial or temporary features.		
215		Is exported more quickly than usual due to ditches or pipes within the AA or connected to its outlet, or within 10 m of the AA's edge, which drain the wetland artificially, or water is pumped out of the AA.		
216	F44 Tributary Channel	At least once annually, surface water from a tributary channel that is >100 m long moves into the AA. Or, surface water from a larger permanent water body adjacent to the AA spills into the AA. If it enters only via a pipe, that pipe must be fed by a mapped stream or lake further upslope. If no, SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	If inlet tributaries cannot be searched for due to inaccessibility of part of the AA, follow suggestions in F42 above. [NRv, PH, PRv, SRv]
217	F45 Input Water Temperature	Based on lack of shade, water source characteristics, or actual temperature measurements, the inflow is likely to be warmer than surface water in the AA during part of most years. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	[WCv]
218	F46 Throughflow Resistance	During its travel through the AA at the time of peak annual flow, water arriving in channels: [select only the ONE encountered by most of the incoming water].		[FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
219		Does not bump into many plant stems as it travels through the AA. Nearly all the water continues to travel in unvegetated (often incised) channels that have minimal contact with wetland vegetation, or through a zone of open water such as an instream pond or lake.		
220		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
221		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation and mostly spreads throughout, or is in widely meandering, multi-branched, or braided channels.		
222		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
223		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems and follows a fairly indirect path from entrance to exit (meandering, multi-branched, or braided).		
224	F47 pH Measurement	The pH in most of the AA's surface water:		Preferably, measure this in larger areas of ponded surface water within the AA, or in streams that have passed through (not along) most of the AA. Unless surface water is completely absent, do not dig holes or make depressions in peat in order to provide water for this measurement. Avoid measuring near roads or in puddles formed only by recent rain. [AM, FA, FR, NR, WBF, PH, PR, Sens, WBF, WBN]
225		Was measured, and is: [enter the reading in the column to the right.]		
226		Was not measured but surface water is present and is darkly tea-coloured. Or if no surface water, then mosses and plants that indicate peatland (e.g., Labrador tea) are prevalent. Enter "1".		
227		Neither of above. Enter "1".		
228		The TDS (total dissolved solids) or conductivity off the AA's surface water is: (select the first true row with information):		
229	F48 TDS and/or Conductivity	TDS is: [Enter the reading in ppm or mg/L in the column to the right, if measured, or answer next row.]		See above for measurement guidance. [FR, INV, NRv, PH, PRv, Sens]
230		Conductivity is [Enter the reading in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ in the column to the right.]		
231		Was not measured, but plants that indicate saline conditions cover much of the vegetated AA. Enter "1".		
232		Neither of above		
233	F49 Beaver Probability	Use of the AA by beaver during the past 5 years is (select most applicable ONE):		[FA, FR, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
234		Evident from direct observation or presence of gnawed limbs, dams, tracks, dens, lodges, or extensive stands of water-killed trees (snags).		
235		Likely based on known occurrence in the region and proximity to suitable habitat, which may include: (a) a persistent freshwater wetland, pond, or lake, or a perennial low or mid-gradient (<10%) channel, and (b) a corridor or multiple stands of hardwood trees and shrubs in vegetated areas near surface water.		
236		Unlikely because site characteristics above are deficient, and/or this is a settled area or other area where beaver are routinely removed.		

A	B	C	D	E
237	F50 Groundwater Strength of Evidence	Select first applicable choice:	0	Adhere to these criteria strictly -- do not use personal judgment based on fen conditions, pH, or other evidence. Consult topographic maps to detect breaks in slope described here. Rust deposits associated with groundwater seeps may be most noticeable as orange discoloration in ice formations along streams during early winter. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PRv, SFS, WC, WS]
238		Springs are known to be present within the AA, or if groundwater levels have been monitored, that has demonstrated that groundwater primarily discharges to the wetland for longer periods during the year than periods when the wetland recharges the groundwater.		
239		Most of the AA has a slope of >5%, or is very close to the base of a natural slope longer than 100 and much steeper than the slope of the AA, AND the pH of surface water, if known, is >5.5.		
240		Neither of above is true, although some groundwater may discharge to or flow through the AA. Or groundwater influx is unknown.		
241	F51 Internal Gradient	The gradient along most of the flow path within the AA is:	0 1 0 0	This is not the same as the shoreline slope. It is the elevational difference between the AA's inlet and outlet, divided by the flow-distance between them and converted to percent. If available, use a clinometer to measure this. Free clinometer apps can be downloaded to smartphones. If the wetland is large (longer than ~1 km), this may be estimated using Google Earth to determine the minimum and maximum elevation within the AA, then dividing by length and multiplying by 100. [CS, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
242		<2% or the AA has no surface water outlet (not even seasonally).		
243		2-5%.		
244		6-10%.		
245		>10%.		
246	Note for the next three questions: If the AA lacks an upland edge, evaluate based on the AA's entire perimeter, and moving outward into whatever areas are adjacent. In many situations, these questions are best answered by measuring from aerial images.			
247	F52 Vegetated Buffer as % of Perimeter	Within a zone extending 30 m laterally from the AA's edge with upland and/or other wetlands, the percentage that contains perennial vegetation cover (except lawns, row crops, heavily grazed land, conifer plantations) is:	0 1 0 0 0	[AM, FA, FR, INV, NRv, PH, POL, PRv, SBM, Sens, SRv, STR, WBN]
248		<5%.		
249		5 to 30%.		
250		30 to 60%.		
251		60 to 90%.		
252		>90%, or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands. SKIP to F55.		
253	F53 Type of Cover in Buffer	Within 30 m upslope of where the wetland transitions to upland, the upland land cover that is NOT perennial vegetation is mostly (mark ONE):	0 0 1	[AM, FA, INV, NRv, PH, POL, SBM, STR, WBN]
254		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
255		Bare or nearly bare pervious surface or managed vegetation, e.g., lawn, row crops, unpaved road, dike, landslide.		
256	F54 Buffer Slope	The steepest and/or most disturbed part of the upland area that is within 30 m of the wetland and occupies >10% of that upland area has a percent slope of:	0 0 1 0	[NRv, PRv, Sens, SRv]
257		<1% (flat – almost no noticeable slope) or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands.		
258		2-5%.		
259		5-30%.		
260		>30%.		
261	F55 Cliffs or Steep Banks	In the AA or within 100 m, there are elevated terrestrial features such as cliffs, talus slopes, stream banks, or excavated pits (but not riprap) that extend at least 2 m nearly vertically, are unvegetated, and potentially contain crevices or other substrate suitable for nesting or den areas. Enter 1 (yes) or 0 (no).	0	Do not include upturned trees as potential den sites. [POL, SBM]
262	F56 New or Expanded Wetland	Human actions within or adjacent to the AA have persistently expanded a naturally occurring wetland or created a wetland where there previously was none (e.g., by excavation, impoundment):	0 0 0 0 0 0 1	Determine this using historical aerial photography, old maps, soil maps, or permit files as available [CS, NR, OE, PH, Sens]
263		No.		
264		Yes, and created or expanded 20 - 100 years ago.		
265		Yes, and created or expanded 3-20 years ago.		
266		Yes, and created or expanded within last 3 years.		
267		Yes, but time of origin or expansion unknown.		
268		Unknown if new or expanded within 20 years or not.		
269	F57 Burn History	More than 1% of the AA's previously vegetated area:	0 0 0 0 1	Look for charred soil or stumps (in multiple widely-spaced locations) or ask landowner. [CS, PH, STR]
270		Burned within past 5 years.		
271		Burned 6-10 years ago.		
272		Burned 11-30 years ago.		
273		Burned >30 years ago, or no evidence of a burn and no data.		

A	B	C	D	E
274	F58	Visibility	The maximum percentage of the wetland that is visible from the best vantage point on public roads, public parking lots, public buildings, or public maintained trails that intersect, adjoin, or are within 100 m of the AA (select one) is:	[PU, STR, WBFv]
275			<25%.	0
276			25-50%.	0
277			>50%.	1
278	F59	Non-consumptive Uses - Actual or Potential	Assuming access permission was granted, select ALL statements that are true of the AA as it currently exists:	[PU, STR]
279			For an average person, walking is physically possible <u>in</u> (not just near) >5% of the AA during most of the growing season, e.g., free of deep water and dense shrub thickets.	1
280			Maintained roads, parking areas, or foot-trails are within 10 m of the AA, or the AA can be accessed part of the year by boats arriving via contiguous waters.	0
281			Within or near the AA, there is an interpretive center, trails with interpretive signs or brochures, and/or regular guided interpretive tours.	0
282	F60	Unvisited Core Area	The percentage of the AA almost never visited by humans during an average growing season probably comprises: [Note: Only include the part actually walked or driven (not simply viewed from) with a vehicle or boat. Do not include visitors on trails outside of the AA unless more than half the wetland is visible from the trails and they are within 30 m of the wetland edge. In that case include only the area occupied by the trail.]	[AM, FAv, FRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
283			<5% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	1
284			<5% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
285			5-50% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
286			5-50% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
287			50-95%, with or without inhabited building nearby.	0
288			>95% of the AA with or without inhabited building nearby.	0
289	F61	Frequently Visited Area	The part of the AA visited by humans almost daily for several weeks during an average growing season probably comprises: [See note above.]	[AM, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
290			<5%. If F60 was answered ">95%" (mostly never visited), SKIP to F64.	1
291			5-50%.	0
292			50-95%.	0
293			>95% of the AA.	0
294	F62	BMP - Soils	Boardwalks, paved trails, fences or other infrastructure and/or well-enforced regulations appear to effectively prevent visitors from walking on soil within nearly all of the AA when the soil is unfrozen. Enter "1" if true.	[PH, PU]
295	F63	BMP - Wildlife Protection	Fences, observation blinds, platforms, paved trails, exclusion periods, and/or well-enforced prohibitions on motorised boats, off-leash pets, and off road vehicles appear to effectively exclude or divert visitors and their pets from the AA at critical times in order to minimize disturbance of wildlife (except during hunting seasons). Enter "1" if true.	[AM, PU, WBF, WBN]
296	F64	Consumptive Uses (Provisioning Services)	Recent evidence was found within the AA of the following potentially-sustainable consumptive uses. Select ALL that apply.	[FAv, FRv, WBFv]
297			Low-impact commercial timber harvest (e.g., selective thinning).	0
298			Commercial or traditional-use harvesting of native plants, their fruits, or mushrooms.	0
299			Waterfowl hunting.	0
300			Fishing.	0
301			Trapping of furbearers.	0
302			None of the above.	1
303	F65	Domestic Wells	The closest wells or water bodies that currently provide drinking water are:	[NRv]
304			Within 0-100 m. of the AA.	0
305			100-500 m. away.	0
306			>500 m. away, or no information.	1
307	F66	Calcareous Fen	The AA is, or is part of, a calcareous fen. See the Plants_Calcar worksheet in the accompanying SuplInfo file for list of plant indicators (calciphiles). Enter 1 if more than two Strong or more than five Moderate calciphile species are present; otherwise enter 0, but if not able to identify those and no information, change to blank.	[PH, PR]
308				

Investigator:Jordan Davis, Alex Scott	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain WL12	Date: 05 October 2022		
Stressor (S) Data Form for Non-Tidal Wetlands. WESP-AC for Nova Scotia version 2.		Data		
S1	Aberrant Timing of Water Inputs			
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item that is likely to have caused the timing of water inputs (but not necessarily their volume) to shift by hours, days, or weeks, becoming either more muted (smaller or less frequent peaks spread over longer times, more temporal homogeneity of flow or water levels) or more flashy (larger or more frequent spikes but over shorter times). [FA, FR, INV, PH, STR]</i>			
	Stormwater from impervious surfaces that drains directly to the wetland.			
	Water subsidies from wastewater effluent, septic system leakage, snow storage areas, or irrigation.			
	Regular removal of surface or groundwater for irrigation or other consumptive use.			
	Flow regulation in tributaries or water level regulation in adjoining water body, or other control structure at water entry points that regulates inflow to the wetland.			
	A dam, dike, levee, weir, berm, or fill -- within or downgradient from the wetland -- that interferes with surface or subsurface flow in/out of the AA (e.g., road fill, wellpads, pipelines).			
	Excavation within the wetland, e.g., dugout, artificial pond, dead-end ditch.			
	Artificial drains or ditches in or near the wetland.			
	Accelerated downcutting or channelization of an adjacent or internal channel (incised below the historical water table level).			
	Logging within the wetland.			
	Subsidence or compaction of the wetland's substrate as a result of machinery, livestock, fire, drainage, or off road vehicles.			
	Straightening, ditching, dredging, and/or lining of tributary channels.			
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items had no measurable effect on the timing of water conditions in any part of the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>			
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)
Spatial extent of timing shift within the wetland:	>95% of wetland.	5-95% of wetland.	<5% of wetland.	
When most of the timing shift began:	<3 yrs ago.	3-9 yrs ago.	10-100 yrs ago.	
<i>Score the following 2 rows only if the altered inputs began within past 10 years, and only for the part of the wetland that experiences those.</i>				
Input timing now vs. previously:	Shift of weeks.	Shift of days.	Shift of hours or minutes.	
Flashiness or muting:	Became very flashy or controlled.	Intermediate.	Became mildly flashy or controlled.	
		Sum=	0.25	
		Stressor subscore=		
S2	Accelerated Inputs of Contaminants and/or Salts			
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of contaminants or salts to the AA. [AM, FA, PH, POL, STR]</i>			
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills, industrial facilities.			
	Metals & chemical wastes from mining, shooting ranges, snow storage areas, oil/ gas extraction, other sources (download many locations from National Pollutant Release Inventory and view KMZ overlay in Google Earth. https://www.ec.gc.ca/inrp-npri/default.asp?lang=En&n=B85A1846-1			
	Road salt.			
	Spraying of pesticides, as applied to lawns, croplands, roadsides, or other areas in the CA.			
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly higher levels of contaminants and/or salts, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>			
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)
	Usual toxicity of most toxic contaminants:	Industrial effluent, mining waste, unmanaged landfill.	Cropland, managed landfill, pipeline or transmission rights-of-way.	Low density residential.
	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.
	AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.
			Sum=	0.56
			Stressor subscore=	0.56

S3	Accelerated Inputs of Nutrients					
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of nutrients to the wetland. [NRv, PRv, STR]</i>					
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills.					
	Fertilizers applied to lawns, ag lands, or other areas in the CA.					
	Livestock, dogs.					
	Artificial drainage of upslope lands.					
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly more nutrients, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>					
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
	Type of loading:	High density of unmaintained septic, some types of industrial sources.	Moderate density septic, cropland, secondary wastewater treatment plant.	Livestock, pets, low density residential.	0	
	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0	
	AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0	
				Sum=	0	
				Stressor subscore=	0.00	
S4	Excessive Sediment Loading from Contributing Area					
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the CA that is likely to have elevated the load of waterborne or windborne sediment reaching the wetland from its CA. [FA, FR, INV, PH, SRv, STR]</i>					
	Erosion from plowed fields, fill, timber harvest, dirt roads, vegetation clearing, fires.					
	Erosion from construction, in-channel machinery in the CA.					
	Erosion from off-road vehicles in the CA.					
	Erosion from livestock or foot traffic in the CA.					
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent.					
	Sediment from road sanding, gravel mining, other mining, oil/gas extraction.					
	Accelerated channel downcutting or headcutting of tributaries due to altered land use.					
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points (3, 2, or 1 as shown in header) in the last column. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively add significantly more sediment or suspended solids to the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>					
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
	Erosion in CA:	Extensive evidence, high intensity.*	Potentially (based on high-intensity* land use) or scattered evidence.	Potentially (based on low-intensity* land use) with little or no direct evidence.	1	
	Recentness of significant soil disturbance in the CA:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	1	
	Duration of sediment inputs to the wetland:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	1	
	AA proximity to actual or potential sources:	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m.	In more distant part of contributing area.	1	
	* high-intensity= extensive off-road vehicle use, plowing, grading, excavation, erosion with or without veg removal; low-intensity= veg removal only with little or no apparent erosion or disturbance of soil or sediment.				Sum=	
					4	
				Stressor subscore=	0.33	

S5	Soil or Sediment Alteration Within the Assessment Area				
<p><i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the wetland that is likely to have compacted, eroded, or otherwise altered the wetland's soil. Consider only items occurring within past 100 years or since wetland was created or restored (whichever is less). [CS, INV, NR, PH, SR, STR]</i></p> <p>Compaction from machinery, off-road vehicles, livestock, or mountain bikes, especially during wetter periods.</p> <p>Leveling or other grading not to the natural contour.</p> <p>Tillage, plowing (but excluding disking for enhancement of native plants).</p> <p>Fill or riprap, excluding small amounts of upland soils containing organic amendments (compost, etc.) or small amounts of topsoil imported from another wetland.</p> <p>Excavation.</p> <p>Ditch cleaning or dredging in or adjacent to the wetland.</p> <p>Boat traffic in or adjacent to the wetland and sufficient to cause shore erosion or stir bottom sediments.</p> <p>Artificial water level or flow manipulations sufficient to cause erosion or stir bottom sediments.</p>					
<p><i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not measurably alter the soil structure and/or topography, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i></p>					
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
Spatial extent of altered soil:	>95% of wetland or >95% of its upland edge (if any).	5-95% of wetland or 5-95% of its upland edge (if any).	<5% of wetland and <5% of its upland edge (if any).	1	
Recentness of significant soil alteration in wetland:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	3	
Duration:	Long-lasting, minimal veg recovery.	Long-lasting but mostly revegetated.	Short-term, revegetated, not intense.	2	
Timing of soil alteration:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Mainly during one-time or scattered events.	1	
				Sum=	7
				Stressor subscore=	0.58

Assessment Area (AA) Results:

Wetland ID: WL12

Date: 05 October 2022

Observer: JD AS

Latitude & Longitude (decimal degrees): 45.56430278°, 63.62338889°

Scores will appear below after data are entered in worksheets OF, F, and S. See Manual for definitions and descriptions of how scores were computed.

Wetland Functions or Other Attributes:	Function Score (Normalised)	Function Rating	Benefits Score (Normalised)	Benefits Rating	Function Score (raw)	Benefits Score (raw)
Water Storage & Delay (WS)	2.29	Lower	8.06	Higher	3.66	3.58
Stream Flow Support (SFS)	1.38	Lower	9.42	Higher	1.11	6.27
Water Cooling (WC)	1.67	Lower	0.71	Lower	1.11	0.39
Sediment Retention & Stabilisation (SR)	1.22	Lower	2.93	Moderate	3.15	1.44
Phosphorus Retention (PR)	1.96	Lower	2.41	Moderate	4.97	1.88
Nitrate Removal & Retention (NR)	3.66	Moderate	5.50	Moderate	5.42	5.50
Carbon Sequestration (CS)	0.00	Lower			3.81	
Organic Nutrient Export (OE)	6.25	Moderate			4.08	
Anadromous Fish Habitat (FA)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Resident Fish Habitat (FR)	10.00	Higher	8.07	Higher	5.48	5.04
Aquatic Invertebrate Habitat (INV)	1.81	Lower	6.45	Higher	4.23	4.72
Amphibian & Turtle Habitat (AM)	8.91	Higher	1.88	Lower	7.79	3.31
Waterbird Feeding Habitat (WBF)	6.83	Higher	3.33	Moderate	5.20	3.33
Waterbird Nesting Habitat (WBN)	7.04	Higher	0.00	Lower	5.11	0.00
Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat (SBM)	5.45	Moderate	0.00	Lower	4.74	0.00
Pollinator Habitat (POL)	4.78	Moderate	0.00	Lower	3.96	0.00
Native Plant Habitat (PH)	0.16	Lower	2.90	Lower	3.96	2.90
Public Use & Recognition (PU)			2.63	Moderate		2.10
Wetland Sensitivity (Sens)			6.89	Moderate		4.13
Wetland Ecological Condition (EC)			4.78	Moderate		7.50
Wetland Stressors (STR) (higher score means more stress)			10.00	Higher		5.19
Summary Ratings for Grouped Functions:						
HYDROLOGIC Group (WS)	2.29	Lower	8.06	Higher	3.66	3.58
WATER QUALITY SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SR, PR, NR, CS)	2.68	Moderate	4.56	Moderate	4.88	4.22
AQUATIC SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SFS, INV, OE, WC)	4.51	Moderate	7.48	Moderate	3.43	5.03
AQUATIC HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of FA, FR, AM, WBF, WBN)	8.28	Higher	5.37	Higher	6.25	3.69
TRANSITION HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of SBM, PH, POL)	4.46	Moderate	1.93	Lower	4.48	1.93
WETLAND CONDITION (EC)			4.78	Moderate		7.50
WETLAND RISK (average of Sensitivity & Stressors)			8.44	Higher		4.66
	NOTE: A score of 0 does not mean the function or benefit is absent from the wetland. It means only that this wetland has a capacity that is equal or less than the lowest-scoring one, for that function or benefit, from among all the NS calibration wetlands that were assessed previously.					

NOVA SCOTIA - Functional WSS Interpretation Tool

Function-Benefit Product (FBP)	FBP SCORE	FBP SCORE CATEGORY
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - HYDROLOGIC	18.50576311	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - WATER QUALITY SUPPORT	12.23006412	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC SUPPORT	33.71475013	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC HABITAT	44.42027287	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - TRANSITION HABITAT	8.618703613	Low

Habitat Rule Satisfied? NO

Support Rule Satisfied? NO

Habitat/Support Hybrid Rule Satisfied? NO

CONCLUSION: Site is not a WSS

Cover Page: Basic Description of Assessment	WESP-AC version 2
Site Name:	Higgins Mountain, WL13
Investigator Name:	Madeline Maher, Rohan Kariyawansa, Blake Fairclough, Alex Scott, Jordan Davis
Date of Field Assessment:	05 October 2022
Nearest Town:	Masstown
Latitude (decimal degrees):	45.56404722
Longitude (decimal degrees):	63.62279444
Is a map based on a formal on-site wetland delineation available?	Yes
Approximate size of the Assessment Area (AA, in hectares):	0.07
AA as percent of entire wetland (approx.). Attach sketch map if AA is smaller than the entire contiguous wetland.	5
What percent (approx.) of the wetland were you able to visit?	85
What percent (approx.) of the AA were you able to visit?	100
Were you able to ask the site owner/manager about any of the questions?	No
Indicate here if you intentionally surveyed for rare plants, calciphile plants, or rare animals:	Yes
Have you attended a WESP-AC training session? If so, indicate approximate month & year.	October 2022
How many wetlands have you assessed previously using WESP-AC? (approx.)	30
Comments about the site or this WESP-AC assessment (attach extra page if desired):	

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date: 08 November 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL13		Investigator: Madeline Maher	
2	<p>Form OF (Office). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia wetlands only. DIRECTIONS: Conduct an assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answering many of the questions below will require using these online map viewers:</p> <p>Google Earth Pro: https://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html</p> <p>Provincial Landscape Viewer: https://nsgis.novascotia.ca/plv/</p> <p>For most wetlands, completing this office data form will require 1-2 hours. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see bracketed abbreviations in the Definitions/Explanations column. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.</p>				
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations
4	OF1	Province	Mark the province in which the AA is located by changing the 0 in the column next to it to a "1". Mark only one.		This determines to which province's calibration wetlands the raw score of any wetland is normalised. In the function and benefits models, it also triggers the automatic exclusion of indicators for which no spatial data exists in a particular province.
5	New Brunswick		0		
6	Nova Scotia		1		
7	Prince Edward Island		0		
8	Newfoundland-Labrador		0		
9	OF2	Ponded Area Within 1 km.	The area of surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		"Adjacent" means not separated from the AA by a wide expanse (>50 m) of upland (including roads >50 m wide). Include ponded areas likely to be hidden by wetland vegetation. If surface water extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. Do not include tidal areas. Measure the area from aerial imagery using Google Earth Pro (click on Ruler icon in toolbar, then Polygon in pop-up menu). [PH, SBM, WBN]
10	<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).		0		
11	0.01 - 0.1 hectare.		0		
12	0.1 - 1 hectare.		0		
13	1 to 10 hectares.		1		
14	10 to 100 hectares.		0		
15	>100 hectares.		0		
16	OF3	Ponded Water & Wetland Within 1 km.	The area of wetlands and surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. If the AA's wetland vegetation extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. "Ponded" means not flowing in rivers or streams. [Sens, WBF]
17	<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).		0		
18	0.01 - 0.1 hectare.		0		
19	0.1 - 1 hectare.		0		
20	1 to 10 hectares.		1		
21	10 to 100 hectares.		0		
22	>100 hectares.		0		
23	OF4	Size of Largest Nearby Vegetated Tract or Corridor	The largest vegetated patch or corridor that includes the AA's vegetation plus all adjacent upland vegetation that is not lawn, row crops, heavily grazed lands, conifer plantation is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. Use Google Earth Pro's polygon ruler (as described above). Exclude conifer plantations only if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens]
24	<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).		0		
25	0.01 - 0.1 hectare.		0		
26	0.1 - 1 hectare.		0		
27	1 to 10 hectares.		0		
28	10 to 100 hectares.		0		
29	100 to 1000 hectares.		1		
30	>1000 hectares. [This is nearly always the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]		0		

	A	B	C	D	E
31	OF5 Distance to Large Vegetated Tract		The minimum distance from the edge of the AA to the edge of the closest vegetated land (but excluding row crops, lawn, conifer plantation) larger than 375 hectares (about 2 km on a side), is:		To measure distance, use Google Earth Pro (Ruler > Line tool). The 375-ha criterion is from the Fundy Model Forest Project. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
32			<50 m, and not separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, bare ground, lawn, or impervious surface. Or the AA itself contains >375 ha of vegetation. [This is often the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]		
33			<50 m, but completely separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by those features, and AA does not contain >375 ha of vegetation.		
34			50-500 m, and not separated .		
35			50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
36			0.5 - 5 km, and not separated .		
37			0.5 - 5 km, but separated by those features.		
38			None of the above (the closest patches or corridors which are that large are >5 km away).		
39	OF6 Herbaceous Uniqueness		The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 5 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 1 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "1". [* NOTE: Exclude lawns, row crops, heavily grazed lands, forest, shrublands. Include moss as well as grasslike plants in this use of "herbaceous vegetation"]	0	For this question only, consider moss to be herbaceous vegetation. Determine the score by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth after successively drawing or estimating the boundaries of the buffers of 5 km, 1 km, and 100 m radius focused on the center of the AA. Circles of specified radius can be drawn in Google Earth Pro by clicking on the Ruler icon, then Circle in the pop-up menu. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
40			The AA's vegetation cover is >10% woody* but uplands within 5 km have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 1 km have <10% woody cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "1" [* NOTE: woody cover = trees & shrubs taller than 1 m.]		
41	OF8 Local Vegetated Cover Percentage		Draw a 5-km radius circle measured from the center of the AA. Ignoring all permanent water in the circle, the percent of the remaining area that is wooded or unmanaged herbaceous vegetation (NOT lawn, row crops, bare or heavily grazed land, clearcuts, or conifer plantations) is:		In Google Earth, draw the 5 km buffer and then estimate land cover percentages, or do GIS analysis of an appropriate land cover layer. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
42			<5% of the land.		
43			5 to 20% of the land.		
44			20 to 60% of the land.		
45			60 to 90% of the land.		
46			>90% of the land. SKIP TO OF10.		
47	OF9 Type of Land Cover Alteration		Within the 5-km radius circle, and ignoring all permanent water, the land area that is bare or non-perennial cover is mostly:		[AM, SBM]
48			Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
49			Bare pervious surface, e.g., lawn, recent (<5 yrs ago) clearcut, dirt or gravel road, cropland, landslide, conifer plantation.		
50	OF10 Distance by Road to Nearest Population Center		Measured along the maintained road nearest the AA, the distance to the nearest population center is:		"Population center" means a settled area with more than about 5 regularly- inhabited structures per square kilometer. In Google Earth Pro, click on the Ruler icon, then Path, and draw and measure the route. [FAv, FRv, NRV, PH, PU, SBM, WBFv]
51			<100 m.		
52			100 - 500 m.		
53			0.5 - 1 km.		
54			1 - 5 km.		
55			>5 km.		

A	B	C	D	E
56	OF11 Distance to Nearest Maintained Road	From the center of the AA, the distance to the nearest maintained public road (dirt or paved) is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth Pro and measuring with the Ruler>Line tool. [AM, FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBN]
57		<10 m.		
58		10 - 25 m.		
59		25 - 50 m.		
60		50 - 100 m.		
61		100 - 500 m.		
62		>500 m.		
63	OF12 Wildlife Access	Draw a circle of radius of 5 km from the center of the AA. If mammals and amphibians can move from the center of the AA to ALL other separate wetlands and ponds located within the circle without being forced to cross pavement (any width), lawns, bare ground, and/or marine waters, mark 1= yes can move to all, 0= no. Change to blank if there are no other wetlands within 5 km.	0	Draw the 5 km circle in Google Earth Pro using the Circle tool and search for roads and wetlands within it, being alert for roads hidden under forest canopy. [AM, SBM, STR]
64	OF13 Distance to Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) ponded water body visible in GoogleEarth imagery is:		In Google Earth Pro, zoom in closely to examine the surrounding landscape for ponds, lakes, and wetlands that appear to be permanently flooded. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
65		<50 m, and not separated by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, lawn, bare ground, or impervious surface.		
66		<50 m, but completely separated by those features.		
67		50-500 m, and not separated.		
68		50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
69		0.5 - 1 km, and not separated.		
70		0.5 - 1 km, but separated by those features.		
71	OF14 Distance to Large Ponded Water	None of the above (the closest patches or corridors that large are >1 km away).		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth. [Sens, WBF, WBN]
72		The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) non-tidal body of water that is ponded during most of the year and is larger than 8 hectares during most of a normal year is:		
73		<100 m.		
74		100 m - 1 km.		
75		1 - 2 km.		
76		2-5 km.		
77		5-10 km.		
78	OF15 Tidal Proximity	>10 km.		In Google Earth, measure the distance to the ocean (including Bay of Fundy) or tidal river, whichever is closer. If you need to see how far upriver a river is tidal, see the KMZ file provided with this calculator for NS (NS Headtide). Points shown in those files are only an approximation, so local information if available may be preferable. [FA, WBF]
79		The distance from the AA edge to the closest tidal water body (regardless of its salinity) is:		
80		<100 m.		
81		100 m - 1 km.		
82		1 - 5 km.		
83		5-10 km.		
84		10-40 km.		
85	OF16 Upland Edge Contact	>40 km.		[NR, SBM, Sens]
86		Select one:		
87		The AA has no upland edge (or upland is <1% of perimeter). The AA is entirely surrounded by (& contiguous with) other wetlands or water.		
88		1-25% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland (including filled areas). The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
89		25-50% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
90		50-75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
91		More than 75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. Any remainder adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA. This will be true for most assessments done with WESP-AC.		
92	OF17 Flood Damage from Non-tidal Waters	Within 5 km downstream or downslope of the AA (select first true choice):		Contact local authorities to determine if such maps exist. Where available, LiDAR imagery can provide finer elevational resolution useful for flood modeling. [WSv]
93		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding not caused by tidal storm surges.		
94		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas, but infrastructure is absent or is not vulnerable to floods from a non-tidal river. In some cases levees, upriver dams, or other measures may partly limit damage or risk from smaller events.		
95		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
96		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there is no infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		

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97	OF18	Relative Elevation in Watershed	In Google Earth, enable the Terrain layer (lower left menu) and open the NS_Watersheds Secondary KMZ file that accompanies this calculator. Then determine the AA's approximate elevation (bottom right, NOT the "eye alt"). Then move cursor around to determine the watershed's maximum and minimum elevation. Divide the AA's elevation by the (max-min).	0.93	[FA, NR, Sens, SFSv, WCv, WSv]
98	OF19	Water Quality Sensitive Watershed or Area	The AA is in a Protected Water Supply area (Designated Water Supply Area, Natural Watershed Municipal Surface Water Supply Area, or Municipal Water Supply Area) according to the provided KMZ overlay ("NS Protected Water Supply Areas"). Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	If an ACCDC report is available for this AA, it also may contain such information. [NRv]
99	OF20	Degraded Water Upstream	Sampling indicates a problem with concentrations of metals, hydrocarbons, nutrients , or other substances (excluding bacteria, acidic water, high temperatures) being present at levels harmful to aquatic life or humans, and: The condition is present within the AA. The condition is present in waters within 1 km that flow into the AA, but has not been documented in the AA itself. Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters. Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.	0	May use existing data, or sample those waters as part of this wetland assessment. "Harmful" should be evaluated with regard to current federal or provincial water quality standards. [AM, FA, FR, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WBF, WBN]
100				0	
101				0	
102				0	
103				1	
104	OF21	Degraded Water Downstream	The problem described above is downslope from the AA, and: The condition is present within 1 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel. The condition is present within 5 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel, or within 1 km but not connected to the AA by a channel. Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters. Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.	0	May use existing data, or monitor waters as part of this wetland assessment. [NRv, PRv, SRv]
105				0	
106				0	
107				0	
108				1	
109	OF22	Wetland as a % of Its Contributing Area (Catchment)	From a topographic map and field observations, estimate the approximate boundaries of the catchment (CA) of the entire wetland of which the AA may be only a part. Then adjust those boundaries if necessary based on your field observations of the surrounding terrain, and/or by using procedures described in the Manual. Divide the area of the wetland (not just the AA) by the approximate area of its catchment excluding the area of the wetland itself. When doing the calculation, if ponded water is adjacent to the wetland, include that in the wetland's area. The result is: <0.01, or catchment size unknown due to stormwater pipes that collect water from an indeterminate area. 0.01 to 0.1. 0.1 to 1. >1 (wetland is larger than its catchment (e.g., wetland with flat surrounding terrain and no inlet, or is entirely isolated by dikes, or is a raised bog).	0	Topographic maps may be viewed online at the National Atlas of Canada (Toporama): http://atlas.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html [NR, PR, Sens, SR, WS]
110				1	
111				0	
112				0	
113				0	
114	OF23	Unvegetated Surface in the Contributing Area	The proportion of the AA's contributing area (measured to no more than 1000 m upslope) that is comprised of buildings, roads, parking lots, other pavement, exposed bedrock, landslides, and other mostly-bare surface is about : <10%. 10 to 25%. >25%.	0	[FA, INV, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WCv, WSv]
115				1	
116				0	
117				0	
118	OF24	Transport From Upslope	A relatively large proportion of the precipitation that falls farther upslope in the CA reaches this wetland quickly as runoff (surface water), as indicated by the following: (a) input channel is present, (b) input channels have been straightened, (c) upslope wetlands have been ditched extensively, (d) land cover is mostly non-forest, (e) CA slopes are steep, and/or (f) most CA soils are shallow (bedrock near surface) and/or have high runoff coefficients. This statement is: Mostly true. Somewhat true. Mostly untrue.	0	[NRv, PRv, SRv, WSv]
119				1	
120				0	
121					

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122	OF25 Aspect	The overland flow direction of most surface water (in streams, rivers, or runoff) that enters the AA is:	[AM, NR, SFS, WC, WS]	
123		Northward (N, NE). north-facing contributing area.	0	
124		Southward (S, SW). south-facing contributing area.	0	
125		Other (E, SE, W, NW), or no detectable uphill slope or input channel (flat).	1	
126	OF26 Internal Flow Distance (Path Length)	The horizontal flow distance from the wetland's inlet to outlet is:		Identify inlets and outlets, if any, from topographic maps (use elevations to determine which are inlets and which are outlets) and augment by field inspection. With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, select Nova Scotia Topo as the Basemap. Also enable the layer Forestry>WAM Predicted Flow. Then measure the inlet-outlet distance. [NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
127		<10 m.	0	
128		10 - 50 m.	0	
129		50 - 100 m.	0	
130		100 - 1000 m.	0	
131		1-2 km.	0	
132		>2 km, or wetland lacks an inlet and outlet.	1	
133	OF27 Growing Degree Days	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called NS_GrowingDegreeDays. Place your cursor over the AA and left-click. From the pop-up window, enter the GRIDCODE number in the next column.	1882	This layer was provided by Dr. Dan McKenney of the Canadian Forest Service [AM, CS, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WCv, WS]
134	OF28 Fish Access or Use	According to agency biologists and/or your own observations, the AA. [Mark just the first choice that is true.]:		Regarding the last choice, if uncertain if an AA is fishless, consider the possibility its waters have been stocked. [AM, FA, FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
135		Is known to support rearing and/or spawning by Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels. Go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife>Significant Habitat>Species at Risk. Contact local fishery biologists, review the ACCDC report, and visit these websites: http://www.salmontlas.com/atlanticsalmon/canada-east/index.1.html http://atlanticssalmofederation.org/streams/introduction.html	0	
136		Has not been documented to support Atlantic salmon rearing and/or spawning, but is connected to nearby waters likely to contain Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels and is probably accessed by those during some conditions.	0	
137		Is probably not accessed by any anadromous fish species but is known or likely to have other fish at least seasonally.	0	
138		Is known or likely to be fishless (e.g., too small, dry, and/or not accessible even temporarily, and not stocked).	1	
139	OF29 Species of Conservation Concern	Within the past 10 years, in the AA (or in its adjoining waters or wetland), qualified observers have documented/[mark all applicable]:		Request information from ACCDC and/or conduct your own survey at an appropriate season using an approved protocol. For birds, also check eBird.org. NOTE for NS: If your WESP-AC is being completed for a Wetland Alteration Application to NS-ECC, your ACCDC results and any taxon-specific survey results must be submitted along with your WESP-AC results, and application. [AMv, EC, PHv, POLv, SBMv, Sens, WBFv, WBNv]
140		Presence of one or more of the plant species listed in the Plants_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, or the AA is within a mapped Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora Buffer (go to Provincial Landscape Viewer> Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones).	0	
141		Presence of one or more of the amphibian or reptile species (AM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
142		Presence of one or more of the waterbird species (WBF, WBN) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
143		Presence of one or more of the nesting songbird or raptor species (SBM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, during their nesting season (May-July for most species).	0	
144		None of the above, or no data.	1	
145	OF30 Important Bird Area (IBA)	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called IBAs_Canada . The AA is all or part of an officially designated IBA. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	The source of this layer, which should be checked periodically for updates, is: http://www.ibacanada.com/mapviewer.jsp?lang=EN [SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
146	OF31 Black Duck Nesting Area	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called BlackDuck. Adjust its alignment and opacity. Determine the predicted density (pairs per 25 sq. km) of nesting American Black Duck in the AA's vicinity: <10 (enter 0), 10-20 (enter 1), 20-30 (enter 2), >30 (enter 3). If outside of region shown in map, change to blank .	0	This was provided by Dr. David Leske. [WBNv]
147	OF32 Wintering Deer or Moose Concentration Areas	If AA is on private land with no information, change to blank (not 0). Otherwise: With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, for Wintering Moose, go to Wildlife> Significant Habitat. For Mainland Moose Concentration Areas, go to Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0.	0	[SBM]
148	OF33 Other Conservation Designation	The AA is all or part of an area designated by government, First Nations, or the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) for its exceptional ecological features or highly intact natural conditions. With Provincial Landscape Viewer, see Protected Areas. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If uncertain, consult NCC and agencies for more recent information.	0	See: https://novascotia.ca/parksandprotectedareas/plan/interactive-map/ [PU]
149	OF34 Conservation Investment	The AA is part of or contiguous to a wetland on which public or private organizational funds were spent to preserve, create, restore, or enhance the wetland (excluding mitigation wetlands). Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank (not 0).		[PU]
150	OF35 Mitigation Investment	The AA is all or part of a mitigation site used explicitly to offset impacts elsewhere. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank .		[PU]

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151	OF36	Sustained Scientific Use	Plants, animals, or water in the AA have been monitored for >2 years, unrelated to any regulatory requirements, and data are available to the public. Or the AA is part of an area that has been designated by an agency or institution as a benchmark, reference, or status-trends monitoring area. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.		[PU]
152	OF37	Calcareous Region	The AA is NOT in a subregion that has been heavily exposed to acid precipitation. Enter "1" if true (green or yellow in map in Appendix A of the Manual). Enter "0" if false. If no information, change to blank.		[AM, FA, FR, INV, PH]
153	OF38	Ownership	Select the ONE ownership that covers the most of the AA. In Google Earth, open KMZ file called NS_CrownlandsUse more recent information if available.		"Private lands" may include those owned or leased by non-governmental organizations, e.g., charitable conservation land trusts, DUC, TNC. [PU, STR]
154			New timber harvest, roads, mineral extraction, and intensive summer recreation (e.g., off-road vehicles) are permanently prohibited. Includes many publicly-owned Protected Lands, and private lands under long-term (30+ year) legal agreements to maintain nearly-unaltered conditions.	0	
155			Ownership is public (e.g., municipal, Crown Reservations/Notations) but some or all of the above activities are allowed.	1	
156			Ownership is private but public access is allowed, and/or a shorter-term conservation easement (whether renewable or not) is in place.	0	
157			Ownership is private and owner does not allow access, or access permission unknown, and not a conservation easement.	0	

	A	B	C	D	E		
1	Date: 05 October 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL13		Investigator: Jordan Davis, Alex Scott			
2	Form F (Field). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia. DIRECTIONS: Walk for no less than 10 minutes from the wetland edge towards its core, in the part of the AA that is proposed for alteration. If no alteration is proposed, walk in a portion that appears to be most representative of the wetland overall. Walk only where it is safe and legal to do so. Conduct the assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answer these questions primarily based on your onsite observations and interpretations. Do not write in shaded parts of this data form. Answering some questions accurately may require conferring with the landowner or other knowledgeable persons, and/or reviewing aerial imagery. For most wetlands, completing this field data form will require 1-2 hours on a site. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see the accompanying Interpretations form. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage & Delay, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.						
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations		
4	F1	Wetland Type	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the vegetated part of the AA:		<p>Ericaceous shrubs are ones in the heather family (Ericaceae). Most have leathery evergreen leaves. They include rhododendron, azalea, swamp laurel, leatherleaf, Labrador tea, and others. Most require acidic soil. Although not in the family Ericaceae, sweetgale (<i>Myrica gale</i>) should be counted also. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, Sens, SFS, WBF, WBN]</p>		
5	A. Moss and/or lichen cover more than 25% of the ground. Often dominated by ericaceous shrubs (e.g., Labrador tea) or other acid-tolerant plants (e.g., bog cranberry, pitcher plant, sundew, orchids). Substrate is mostly undecomposed peat. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.						
6	A1. Surface water is usually absent or, if present, pH is typically <4.5 and conductivity is usually <100 µS/cm (<64 ppm TDS). Trees are absent or nearly so. Sedge cover usually sparse or absent but cottongrass and/or lichen cover may be extensive, as well as cloudberry, lingonberry, sheep laurel, and a sedge (<i>Carex rariflora</i>). Wetland surface and surrounding landscape are seldom sloping and wetland often is domed (convex). Inlet and outlet channels are usually absent. If known, pH of peat is <4.0.		0				
7	A2. Not A1. Surface water, if present, has pH typically >4.5 and conductivity is usually >100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Sedge cover is usually extensive, and/or tree and tall shrub cover is extensive. Sometimes at toe of slope or edge of water body. An exit channel is usually present. Wetter than A1 and peat depth may be shallower (<2 m).		1				
8	B. Moss and/or lichen cover less than 25% of the ground. Soil is mineral or decomposed organic (muck). Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column:						
9	B1. Trees and shrubs taller than 1 m comprise more than 25% of the vegetated cover. Surface water is mostly absent or inundates the vegetation only seasonally (e.g., vernal pools or floodplain).		0				
10	B2. Not B1. Tree & tall shrubs comprise less than 25% of the vegetated cover. Vegetation is mostly herbaceous, e.g., cattail, bulrush, burreed, pond lily, horsetail. Surface water may be extensive and fluctuates seasonally, being either persistent or drying up partly or entirely.		0				
11	Reminder: For all questions, the AA should include all persistent waters in ponds smaller than 8 hectares (~283 m on a side) that are adjacent to the AA. The AA should also include part of the water area of adjacent ponded water larger than 8 ha and adjacent rivers wider than 20 m. Specifically, the AA should include the open water part adjacent to wetland vegetation and equal in width to the average width of that vegetated zone. Throughout this data form, " adjacent " is used synonymously with abutting , adjoining , bordering , contiguous -- and means no upland (manmade or natural) completely separates the described features along their directly shared edge. Features joined only by a channel are not necessarily considered to be adjacent -- a large portion of their edges must match. The features do not have to be hydrologically connected in order to be considered adjacent.						
12	F2		Wetland Types - Adjoining or Subordinate	If the AA is smaller than 1 ha, mark all other types that occupy more than 1% of the vegetated AA. If the AA is larger than 1 ha, mark all other types which are within or adjacent to the AA and occupy more than 1 ha, as visible from the AA or as interpreted from aerial imagery. Do not mark again the type marked in F1.			1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, INV, SBM, WBF]
13	A1.			0			
14	A2.	0					
15	B1.	0					
16	B2.	0					

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17	F3 Woody Height & Form Diversity	Following EACH row below, indicate with a number code the percentage of the living vegetation in the AA which is occupied by that feature (6 if >95%, 5 if 75-95%, 4 if 50-75%, 2 if 25-50%, 1 if 5-25%, 0 if none). If the vegetated part of the AA is largely herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation, these percentages should not sum to 100%.		Deciduous shrubs in this region usually include buttonbush, Labrador tea, bayberry (<i>Morella</i>), huckleberry, cranberry, cloudberry, sweetgale, alder, willow, birch, ash, dogwood, and a few others. If you assigned a code of 3 or higher to any of the first four choices and the ground cover beneath the trees/shrubs is <25% moss, then question F1 might be "B1". [CS, INV, NR, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]	
18		coniferous trees (may include tamarack) taller than 3 m.	3		
19		deciduous trees taller than 3 m.	3		
20		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	2		
21		deciduous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	2		
22		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs <1 m tall not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	1		
23		deciduous shrubs or trees <1 m tall (e.g., deciduous seedlings) not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	1		
24		Note : If none of top 4 rows in F3 was marked 2 or greater, SKIP to F9 (N fixers).			
25	F4 Dominance of Most Abundant Shrub Species	Determine which two woody plant species comprise the greatest portion of the low (<3 m) woody cover . Then choose one:		[PH, POL, SBM, Sens]	
26		those species together comprise > 50% of such cover.			
27		those species together do not comprise > 50% of such cover.			
28	F5 Woody Diameter Classes	Mark ALL the types that comprise >5% of the woody canopy cover in the AA or >5% of the wooded areas (if any) along its upland edge (perimeter) . The edge should include only the trees whose canopies extend into the AA.		Estimate the diameters at chest height. If small-diameter trees are overtopped (shaded) by larger ones, visualise a "subcanopy" at the average height of the smaller-dbh trees, to serve as a basis for the minimum 5% canopy requirement in this question. The trees and shrubs need not be wetland species. [AM, CS, POL, SBM, Sens, WBN]	
29		coniferous, 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall.			
30		broad-leaved deciduous 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall.			
31		coniferous, 10-19 cm diameter.			
32		broad-leaved deciduous 10-19 cm diameter.			
33		coniferous, 20-40 cm diameter.			
34		broad-leaved deciduous 20-40 cm diameter.			
35		coniferous, >40 cm diameter.			
36		broad-leaved deciduous >40 cm diameter.			
37	F6 Height Class Interspersion	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the AA:		[AM, INV, NR, PH, SBM, Sens]	
38		A. Neither the vegetation taller than 1 m nor the vegetation shorter than that comprise >70% of the vegetated part of the AA. They each comprise 30-70% . Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.			
39		A1. The two height classes are mostly scattered and intermixed throughout the AA.	1		
40		A2. Not A1. The two height classes are mostly in separate zones or bands, or in proportionately large clumps.	0		
41		B. Either the vegetation shorter than 1 m comprises >70% of the vegetated part of the AA, or the vegetation taller than that does. One size class might even be totally absent. Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column:			
42		B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly scattered and intermixed within the prevalent one.	0		
43		B2. Not B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly located apart from the prevalent one, in separate zones or clumps, or is completely absent.	0		
44	F7 Large Snags (Dead Standing Trees)	The number of large snags (diameter >20 cm) in the AA plus adjacent upland area within 10 m of the wetland edge is:		Snags are dead standing trees that often (not always) lack bark and foliage. Include only ones that are at least 2 m tall. [POL, SBM, WBN]	
45		None, or fewer than 8/ hectare which exceed this diameter.	0		
46		Several (>8/hectare) and a pond, lake, or slow-flowing water wider than 10 m is within 1 km.	1		
47		Several (>8/hectare) but above not true.	0		
48	F8 Downed Wood	The number of downed wood pieces longer than 2 m and with diameter >10 cm, and not persistently submerged, is:		Exclude temporary "burn piles." [AM, INV, POL, SBM]	
49		Few or none that meet these criteria.	0		
50		Several (>5 if AA is >5 hectares, less for smaller AAs) meet these criteria.	1		
51	F9 N Fixers	The percentage of the AA's vegetated cover that contains nitrogen-fixing plants (e.g., alder, sweetgale, clover, lupine, alfalfa, other legumes) is:		Do not include N-fixing algae or lichens. [FA, FR, INV, NRv, OE, PH, SBM, Sens]	
52		<1% or none.	0		
53		1-25% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	1		
54		25-50% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0		
55		50-75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0		
56		>75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0		

A	B	C	D	E
F10 57 58 59 60 61 62	Sphagnum Moss Extent	The cover of Sphagnum moss (or any moss that forms a dense cushion many centimeters thick), including the moss obscured by taller sedges and other plants rooted in it, is:		Exclude moss growing on trees and rocks. [CS, PH]
		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
F11 63 64 65 66 67 68	% Bare Ground & Thatch	Consider the parts of the AA that lack surface water at the driest time of the growing season. Viewed from directly above the ground layer, the predominant condition in those areas at that time is:		
		Little or no (<5%) bare ground is visible between erect stems or under canopy anywhere in the vegetated AA. Ground is extensively blanketed by dense thatch, moss, lichens, graminoids with great stem densities, or plants with ground-hugging foliage.	1	Thatch is dead plant material (stems, leaves) resting on the ground surface. Bare ground that is present under a tree or shrub canopy should be counted. Boulders count as bare ground. Wetlands with mineral soils and that are heavily shaded or are dominated by annual plant species tend to have more extensive areas that are bare during the early growing season. [AM, EC, INV, NR, OE, POL, PR, SBM, Sens]
		Slightly bare ground (5-20% bare between plants) is visible in places, but those areas comprise less than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
		Much bare ground (20-50% bare between plants) is visible in places, and those areas comprise more than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
		Other conditions.	0	
		Not applicable. Surface water (either open or obscured by emergent plants) covers all of the AA all the time.	0	
F12 69 70 71 72	Ground Irregularity	Imagine the AA without any living vegetation. Excluding the portion of the AA that is always under water, the number of hummocks, small pits, raised mounds, animal burrows, ruts, gullies, natural levees, microdepressions, and other areas of peat or mineral soil that are raised or depressed >10 cm compared to most of the area within a few meters surrounding them is:		
		Few or none (minimal microtopography; <1% of the land has such features, or entire AA is always water-covered).	0	
		Intermediate.	0	
		Several (extensive micro-topography).	1	The depressions may be of human or natural origin. [AM, EC, INV, NR, PH, POL, PR, SBM, SR, WS]
F13 73 74 75 76	Upland Inclusions	Within the AA, inclusions of upland are:		[AM, NR, SBM]
		Few or none.	0	
		Intermediate (1 - 10% of vegetated part of the AA).	1	
		Many (e.g., wetland-upland "mosaic", >10% of the vegetated AA).	0	
F14 77 78 79 80 81 82	Soil Texture	In parts of the AA that lack persistent water, the texture of soil in the uppermost layer is mostly: [To determine this, use a trowel to check in at least 3 widely spaced locations, and use the soil texture key (in Appendix A of the Manual).]		[CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, WS]
		Loamy: soils that may contain a little fine grit and do not make a "ribbon" longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
		Fines: includes silt, clay, silt, soils that make a ribbon longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
		Deep Peat, to 40 cm depth or greater.	1	
		Shallow Peat or organic <40 cm deep.	0	
		Coarse: includes sand, loamy sand, gravel, cobble, soils that do not make a ribbon when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
F15 83 84 85 86 87	Shorebird Feeding Habitats	During any 2 consecutive weeks of the growing season, the extent of mudflats, bare unshaded saturated areas not covered by thatch, and unshaded waters shallower than 6 cm is: [Include also any area that is adjacent to the AA.]		This addresses needs of many but not all migratory sandpipers, plovers, and related species. [WBF]
		None, or <100 sq. m.	1	
		100-1000 sq. m.	0	
		1000 – 10,000 sq. m.	0	
		>10,000 sq. m.	0	
F16 88 89 90 91 92 93	Herbaceous % of Vegetated Wetland	In aerial ("ducks eye") view, the maximum annual cover of herbaceous vegetation (all non-woody plants except moss) is:		[AM, WBF, WBN]
		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA or <0.01 hectare (whichever is less). Mark "1" here and SKIP to F20 (Invasive Plant Cover).	0	
		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
94	F17 Forb Cover	Within parts of the AA having herbaceous cover (excluding SAV), the areal cover of forbs reaches an annual maximum of:		Forbs are flowering plants. Do not include grasses, sedges, cattail, other graminoids, ferns, horsetails, or others that lack showy flowers. [POL]
95		<5% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
96		5-25% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	1	
97		25-50% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
98		50-95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
99		>95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.	0	
100	F18 Sedge Cover	Sedges (<i>Carex</i> spp.) and cottongrass (<i>Eriophorum</i> spp.) occupy:		[CS]
101		<5% of the vegetated area, or none.	1	
102		5-50% of the vegetated area.	0	
103		50-95% of the vegetated area.	0	
104		>95% of the vegetated area.	0	
105	F19 Dominance of Most Abundant Herbaceous Species	Determine which two herbaceous species comprise the greatest portion of the herbaceous cover (excluding mosses and floating-leaved aquatic plants). Then choose one of the following:		For this question, include ferns as well as graminoids and forbs. [EC, INV, PH, POL, Sens]
106		those species together comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.	1	
107		those species together do not comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.	0	
108	F20 Invasive Plant Cover	How extensive is the cover of invasive plant species in the AA? For species, see Plants_invasive worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file.		[EC, PH, POL, Sens]
109		invasive species appear to be absent in the AA, or are present only in trace amount (a few individuals).	1	
110		invasive species are present in more than trace amounts, but comprise <5% of herbaceous cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).	0	
111		invasive species comprise 5-20% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).	0	
112		invasive species comprise 20-50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).	0	
113		invasive species comprise >50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).	0	
114	F21 Invasive Cover Along Upland Edge	Along the wetland-upland boundary, the percent of the upland edge (within 3 m upslope from the wetland) that is occupied by invasive plant species is:		If a plant cannot be identified to species (e.g., winter conditions) but its genus contains an exotic species, assume the unidentified plant to also be exotic. If vegetation is so senesced that exotic species cannot be identified, answer "none". [PH, STR]
115		none of the upland edge (invasives apparently absent), or AA has no upland edge.	1	
116		some (but <5%) of the upland edge.	0	
117		5-50% of the upland edge.	0	
118		most (>50%) of the upland edge.	0	
119	F22 Fringe Wetland	During most of the year, open water within or adjacent to the vegetated part of the wetland is much wider than the maximum width of the vegetated zone within the wetland. Enter "1" if true, "0" if false.	0	[WBF, WBN, WCv]
120	F23 Lacustrine Wetland	The vegetated part of the AA is within or adjacent to a body of non-tidal standing open water whose size exceeds 8 hectares during most of a normal year.	0	[FR, PR, PU, WBF, WBN]
121	F24 % of AA Without Surface Water	The percentage of the AA that never contains <u>surface</u> water during an average year (that is, except perhaps for a few hours after snowmelt or rainstorms), but which is still a wetland, is:		1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SRv, WBF, WBN, WC]
122		<1%. In other words, all or nearly all of the AA is covered by water permanently or at least seasonally.	0	
123		1-25% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha never contains surface water.	0	
124		25-50% of the AA never contains surface water.	0	
125		50-75% of the AA never contains surface water.	0	
126		75-99% of the AA never contains surface water, OR >99% and there is at least one persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha in the AA.	1	
127		99-100%. AND there is no persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha within the AA. Enter "1" and SKIP to F42 (Channel Connection) .	0	

A	B	C	D	E
128	F25	% of AA with Persistent Surface Water	Identify the parts of the AA that still contain surface water (flowing or ponded, open or hidden beneath vegetation) even during the driest times of a normal year, i.e., when the AA's surface water is at its lowest annual level. At that time, the percentage of the AA that still contains surface water is:	If you are unable to determine the condition at the driest time of year, ask the land owner or neighbors about it if possible. Indicators of persistence may include fish, some dragonflies, beaver, and muskrat. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, POL, PR, SBM, WBF, WBN]
129			None. The AA dries up completely (no water in channels either) or never has surface water during most years. SKIP to F27.	1
130			1-20% of the AA.	0
131			20-50% of the AA.	0
132			50-95% of the AA.	0
133			>95% of the AA. True for many fringe wetlands.	0
134	F26	% of Summertime Water that Is Shaded	At mid-day during the warmest time of year, the area of surface water <u>within</u> the AA that is shaded by vegetation and other features <u>that are within</u> the AA at that time is:	[FA, WC]
135			<5% of the water is shaded, or no surface water is present then.	0
136			5-25% of the water is shaded.	0
137			25-50% of the water is shaded.	0
138			50-75% of the water is shaded.	0
139			>75% of the water is shaded.	0
140	F27	% of AA that is Flooded Only Seasonally	The percentage of the AA's area that is between the annual high water and the annual low water (surface water) is:	Flood marks (algal mats, adventitious roots, debris lines, ice scour, etc.) are often evident when not fully inundated. Also, such areas often have a larger proportion of upland and annual (vs. perennial) plant species. In riverine systems, the extent of this zone can be estimated by multiplying by 2 the bankfull height and visualising where that would intercept the land along the river. [CS, FA, INV, NR, OE, PH, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
141			None, or <0.01 hectare and <1% of the AA. SKIP to F29.	0
142			1-20% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha.	1
143			20-50% of the AA.	0
144			50-95% of the AA.	0
145			>95% of the AA.	0
146	F28	Annual Water Fluctuation Range	The annual fluctuation in surface water level within most of the parts of the AA that contain surface water at least temporarily is:	Look for flood marks (see above). Because the annual range of water levels is difficult to estimate without multiple visits, consider asking the land owner or neighbors about it. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SR, WBN, WS]
147			<10 cm change (stable or nearly so).	1
148			10 cm - 50 cm change.	0
149			0.5 - 1 m change.	0
150			1-2 m change.	0
151			>2 m change.	0
152		Is the AA plus adjacent ponded water smaller than 0.01 hectare (about 10m x 10m, or 1m x 100 m)? If so, enter "1" in column D and SKIP TO F42 (Connection).		
				0
153	F29	Predominant Depth Class	During most of the time when surface water is present during the growing season, its depth, averaged over the entire inundated part of the AA, is:	If a boat is unavailable, estimate this by considering wetland size and local topography. Or if timing and safety allow, depths may be measured by drilling through winter ice. This question is asking about the spatial median depth that occurs during most of that time, even if inundation is only seasonal or temporary. If inundation in most but not all of the wetland is brief, the answer will be based on the depth of the most persistently inundated part of the wetland. Include surface water in channels and ditches as well as ponded areas. [CS, FA, FR, INV, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
154			<10 cm deep (but >0).	1
155			10 - 50 cm deep.	0
156			0.5 - 1 m deep.	0
157			1 - 2 m deep.	0
158			>2 m deep. True for many fringe wetlands.	0
159	F30	Depth Classes - Evenness of Proportions	When present, surface water in most of the AA usually consists of (select one):	Estimate these proportions by considering the gradient and microtopography of the site. [FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
160			One depth class that comprises >90% of the AA's inundated area (use the classes in the question above).	1
161			One depth class that comprises 50-90% of the AA's inundated area.	0
162			Neither of above. There are 3 or more depth classes and none occupy >50%.	0
163	F31	% of Water That Is Ponded (not Flowing)	During most times when surface water is present, the percentage that is (1) ponded (stagnant, or flows so slowly that fine sediment is not held in suspension) AND (2) is likely to be deeper than 0.5 m in some places, is:	Nearly all wetlands with surface water have some ponded water. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WBN, WC, WS]
164			<5% of the water, or it occupies <100 sq.m cumulatively. Nearly all the surface water is flowing. SKIP to F34.	1
165			5-30% of the water.	0
166			30-70% of the water.	0
167			70-95% of the water.	0
168			>95% of the water.	0

	A	B	C	D	E
169	F32	Ponded Open Water - Minimum Size	During most of the growing season, the largest patch of open water that is ponded and is in or bordering the AA is >0.01 hectare (about 10 m by 10 m) and mostly deeper than 0.5 m. If true enter "1" and continue. If false, enter "0" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	1	Open water is not obscured by vegetation in aerial ("duck's eye") view. It includes vegetation floating on the water surface or entirely submerged beneath it.
170	F33	% of Ponded Water that is Open	In ducks-eye aerial view, the percentage of the ponded water that is open (lacking emergent vegetation during most of the growing season, and unhidden by a forest or shrub canopy) is:		[AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
171			None, or <1% of the AA and largest pool occupies <0.01 hectares. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
172			14% of the ponded water. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
173			5-30% of the ponded water.	0	
174			30-70% of the ponded water.	0	
175			70-99% of the ponded water.	0	
176			100% of the ponded water.	0	
177	F34	Width of Vegetated Zone within Wetland	At the time during the growing season when the AA's water level is lowest, the average width of vegetated area <u>in the AA</u> that separates adjoining uplands from open water within the AA is:		"Vegetated area" does not include underwater or floating-leaved plants, i.e., aquatic bed. Width may include wooded riparian areas if they have wetland soil or plant indicators. [AM, CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SR, WBN]
178			<1 m.	0	
179			1 - 9 m.	0	
180			10 - 29 m.	0	
181			30 - 49 m.	0	
182			50 - 100 m.	0	
183			> 100 m, or open water is absent at that time.	0	
184	F35	Flat Shoreline Extent	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the percentage of the AA's water edge length that is nearly flat (a slope less than about 5% measured within 5 m landward of the water) is:		If several isolated pools are present in early summer, estimate the percent of their collective shorelines that has such a gentle slope. [SR, WBN]
185			<1% of the water edge.	0	
186			1-25% of the water edge.	0	
187			25-50% of the water edge.	0	
188			50-75% of the water edge.	0	
189			>75% of the water edge.	0	
190	F36	Robust Emergents	The percentage of the emergent vegetation cover in the AA that is cattail (<i>Typha</i> spp.), common reed (<i>Phragmites</i>), or tall (>1m) bulrush is:		Emergent vegetation is herbaceous plants whose stems are partly above and partly below the water surface during most of the time water is present. [WBN]
191			<1% of the emergent vegetation, or emergent vegetation is absent. SKIP to F38 .	0	
192			1-25% of the emergent vegetation.	0	
193			25-75% of the emergent vegetation.	0	
194			>75% of the emergent vegetation.	0	
195	F37	Interspersion of Emergents & Open Water	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the spatial pattern of emergent vegetation within the water is mostly:		[AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, SR, WBF, WBN]
196			Scattered. More than 30% of such vegetation forms small islands or corridors surrounded by water.	0	
197			Intermediate.	0	
198			Clumped. More than 70% of such vegetation is in bands along the wetland perimeter or is clumped at one or a few sides of the surface water area.	0	
199	F38	Persistent Deepwater Area	If the deepest patch of surface water (flowing or ponded) in or directly adjacent to the AA is mostly deeper than 0.5 m for >2 weeks during the growing season, enter "1" and continue. If not, enter "0" and SKIP to F42 (Connection).	0	
200	F39	Non-vegetated Aquatic Cover	During most of the growing season and in waters deeper than 0.5 m, the cover for fish, aquatic invertebrates, and/or amphibians that is provided NOT by living vegetation, but by accumulations of dead wood and undercut banks is:		For this question, consider only the wood that is at or above the water surface. Estimates of underwater wood based only on observations from terrestrial viewpoints are unreliable so should not be attempted. [AM, FA, FR, INV]
201			Little or none.	0	
202			Intermediate.	0	
203			Extensive.	0	
204	F40	Isolated Island	The AA contains (or is part of) an island or beaver lodge within a lake, pond, or river, and is isolated from the shore by water depths >1 m on all sides during an average June. The island may be solid, or it may be a floating vegetation mat that is sufficiently large and dense to support a waterbird nest.	0	[WBN]
205	F41	Floating Algae & Duckweed	At some time of the year, mats of algae and/or duckweed are likely to cover >50% of the AA's otherwise-unshaded water surface, or blanket >50% of the underwater substrate. If true, enter "1" in next column. If untrue or uncertain, enter "0".	0	[EC, PR, WBF]

A	B	C	D	E
206	F42 Channel Connection & Outflow Duration	The most persistent surface water connection (outlet channel or pipe, ditch, or overbank water exchange) between the AA and a downslope stream network is: [Note: If the AA represents only part of a wetland, answer this according to whichever is the least permanent surface connection: the one between the AA and the rest of the wetland, or the surface connection between the wetland and the downslope stream network.]		Consider the connection regardless of whether the surface water is frozen. The "downslope stream network" could consist of ditches, rivers, ponds, or lakes which eventually connect to the ocean. If this cannot be determined while visiting the AA, consult topographic maps perhaps by viewing these online with Toporama (http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html) [CS, FA, FR, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WCv, WS]
207		Persistent (surface water flows out for >9 months/year).		
208		Seasonal (surface water flows out for 14 days to 9 months/year, not necessarily consecutive).		
209		Temporary (surface water flows out for <14 days, not necessarily consecutive).		
210		None – but maps show a stream network downslope from the AA and within a distance that is less than the AA's length. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
211		No surface water flows out of the wetland except possibly during extreme events (<once per 10 years). Or, water flows only into a wetland, ditch, or lake that lacks an outlet. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
212	F43 Outflow Confinement	During major runoff events, in the places where surface water exits the AA or connected waters nearby, the water:		'Major runoff events' would include biennial high water caused by storms and/or rapid snowmelt. [CS, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, STR, WS]
213		Mostly passes through a pipe, culvert, narrowly breached dike, berm, beaver dam, or other partial obstruction (other than natural topography) that does not appear to drain the wetland artificially during most of the growing season.		
214		Leaves through natural exits (channels or diffuse outflow), not mainly through artificial or temporary features.		
215		Is exported more quickly than usual due to ditches or pipes within the AA or connected to its outlet, or within 10 m of the AA's edge, which drain the wetland artificially, or water is pumped out of the AA.		
216	F44 Tributary Channel	At least once annually, surface water from a tributary channel that is >100 m long moves into the AA. Or, surface water from a larger permanent water body adjacent to the AA spills into the AA. If it enters only via a pipe, that pipe must be fed by a mapped stream or lake further upslope. If no, SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	If inlet tributaries cannot be searched for due to inaccessibility of part of the AA, follow suggestions in F42 above. [NRv, PH, PRv, SRv]
217	F45 Input Water Temperature	Based on lack of shade, water source characteristics, or actual temperature measurements, the inflow is likely to be warmer than surface water in the AA during part of most years. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	1	[WCv]
218	F46 Throughflow Resistance	During its travel through the AA at the time of peak annual flow, water arriving in channels: [select only the ONE encountered by most of the incoming water].		[FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
219		Does not bump into many plant stems as it travels through the AA. Nearly all the water continues to travel in unvegetated (often incised) channels that have minimal contact with wetland vegetation, or through a zone of open water such as an instream pond or lake.		
220		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
221		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation and mostly spreads throughout, or is in widely meandering, multi-branched, or braided channels.	1	
222		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.	0	
223		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems and follows a fairly indirect path from entrance to exit (meandering, multi-branched, or braided).	0	
224	F47 pH Measurement	The pH in most of the AA's surface water:		Preferably, measure this in larger areas of ponded surface water within the AA, or in streams that have passed through (not along) most of the AA. Unless surface water is completely absent, do not dig holes or make depressions in peat in order to provide water for this measurement. Avoid measuring near roads or in puddles formed only by recent rain. [AM, FA, FR, NR, WBF, PH, PR, Sens, WBF, WBN]
225		Was measured, and is: [Enter the reading in the column to the right.]		
226		Was not measured but surface water is present and is darkly tea-coloured. Or if no surface water, then mosses and plants that indicate peatland (e.g., Labrador tea) are prevalent. Enter "1".	0	
227		Neither of above. Enter "1".	1	
228	F48 TDS and/or Conductivity	The TDS (total dissolved solids) or conductivity off the AA's surface water is: (select the first true row with information):		See above for measurement guidance. [FR, INV, NRv, PH, PRv, Sens]
229		TDS is: [Enter the reading in ppm or mg/L in the column to the right, if measured, or answer next row.]		
230		Conductivity is [Enter the reading in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ in the column to the right.]		
231		Was not measured, but plants that indicate saline conditions cover much of the vegetated AA. Enter "1".	0	
232		Neither of above	1	
233		Use of the AA by beaver during the past 5 years is (select most applicable ONE):		
234	F49 Beaver Probability	Evident from direct observation or presence of gnawed limbs, dams, tracks, dens, lodges, or extensive stands of water-killed trees (snags).	0	[FA, FR, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
235		Likely based on known occurrence in the region and proximity to suitable habitat, which may include: (a) a persistent freshwater wetland, pond, or lake, or a perennial low or mid-gradient (<10%) channel, and (b) a corridor or multiple stands of hardwood trees and shrubs in vegetated areas near surface water.	1	
236		Unlikely because site characteristics above are deficient, and/or this is a settled area or other area where beaver are routinely removed.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
237	F50 Groundwater Strength of Evidence	Select first applicable choice: Springs are known to be present within the AA, or if groundwater levels have been monitored, that has demonstrated that groundwater primarily discharges to the wetland for longer periods during the year than periods when the wetland recharges the groundwater.	0	Adhere to these criteria strictly -- do not use personal judgment based on fen conditions, pH, or other evidence. Consult topographic maps to detect breaks in slope described here. Rust deposits associated with groundwater seeps may be most noticeable as orange discoloration in ice formations along streams during early winter. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PRv, SFS, WC, WS]
238		Most of the AA has a slope of >5%, or is very close to the base of a natural slope longer than 100 and much steeper than the slope of the AA, AND the pH of surface water, if known, is >5.5.	0	
239		Neither of above is true, although some groundwater may discharge to or flow through the AA. Or groundwater influx is unknown.	1	
240				
241	F51 Internal Gradient	The gradient along most of the flow path within the AA is:		This is not the same as the shoreline slope. It is the elevational difference between the AA's inlet and outlet, divided by the flow-distance between them and converted to percent. If available, use a clinometer to measure this. Free clinometer apps can be downloaded to smartphones. If the wetland is large (longer than ~1 km), this may be estimated using Google Earth to determine the minimum and maximum elevation within the AA, then dividing by length and multiplying by 100. [CS, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
242		<2% or the AA has no surface water outlet (not even seasonally).	1	
243		2-5%.	0	
244		6-10%.	0	
245		>10%.	0	
246	Note for the next three questions: If the AA lacks an upland edge, evaluate based on the AA's entire perimeter, and moving outward into whatever areas are adjacent. In many situations, these questions are best answered by measuring from aerial images.			
247	F52 Vegetated Buffer as % of Perimeter	Within a zone extending 30 m laterally from the AA's edge with upland and/or other wetlands, the percentage that contains perennial vegetation cover (except lawns, row crops, heavily grazed land, conifer plantations) is:		[AM, FA, FR, INV, NRv, PH, POL, PRv, SBM, Sens, SRv, STR, WBN]
248		<5%.	1	
249		5 to 30%.	0	
250		30 to 60%.	0	
251		60 to 90%.	0	
252		>90%, or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands. SKIP to F55.	0	
253	F53 Type of Cover in Buffer	Within 30 m upslope of where the wetland transitions to upland, the upland land cover that is NOT perennial vegetation is mostly (mark ONE):		[AM, FA, INV, NRv, PH, POL, SBM, STR, WBN]
254		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.	0	
255		Bare or nearly bare pervious surface or managed vegetation, e.g., lawn, row crops, unpaved road, dike, landslide.	1	
256	F54 Buffer Slope	The steepest and/or most disturbed part of the upland area that is within 30 m of the wetland and occupies >10% of that upland area has a percent slope of:		[NRv, PRv, Sens, SRv]
257		<1% (flat -- almost no noticeable slope) or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands.	1	
258		2-5%.	0	
259		5-30%.	0	
260		>30%.	0	
261	F55 Cliffs or Steep Banks	In the AA or within 100 m, there are elevated terrestrial features such as cliffs, talus slopes, stream banks, or excavated pits (but not riprap) that extend at least 2 m nearly vertically, are unvegetated, and potentially contain crevices or other substrate suitable for nesting or den areas. Enter 1 (yes) or 0 (no).	0	Do not include upturned trees as potential den sites. [POL, SBM]
262	F56 New or Expanded Wetland	Human actions within or adjacent to the AA have persistently expanded a naturally occurring wetland or created a wetland where there previously was none (e.g., by excavation, impoundment):		Determine this using historical aerial photography, old maps, soil maps, or permit files as available [CS, NR, OE, PH, Sens]
263		No.	1	
264		Yes, and created or expanded 20 - 100 years ago.	0	
265		Yes, and created or expanded 3-20 years ago.	0	
266		Yes, and created or expanded within last 3 years.	0	
267		Yes, but time of origin or expansion unknown.	0	
268		Unknown if new or expanded within 20 years or not.	0	
269	F57 Burn History	More than 1% of the AA's previously vegetated area:		Look for charred soil or stumps (in multiple widely-spaced locations) or ask landowner. [CS, PH, STR]
270		Burned within past 5 years.	0	
271		Burned 6-10 years ago.	0	
272		Burned 11-30 years ago.	0	
273		Burned >30 years ago, or no evidence of a burn and no data.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
274	F58 Visibility	The maximum percentage of the wetland that is visible from the best vantage point on public roads, public parking lots, public buildings, or public maintained trails that intersect, adjoin, or are within 100 m of the AA (select one) is:		[PU, STR, WBFv]
275		<25%.	1	
276		25-50%.	0	
277		>50%.	0	
278	F59 Non-consumptive Uses - Actual or Potential	Assuming access permission was granted, select ALL statements that are true of the AA as it currently exists:		[PU, STR]
279		For an average person, walking is physically possible <u>in</u> (not just near) >5% of the AA during most of the growing season, e.g., free of deep water and dense shrub thickets.	1	
280		Maintained roads, parking areas, or foot-trails are within 10 m of the AA, or the AA can be accessed part of the year by boats arriving via contiguous waters.	0	
281		Within or near the AA, there is an interpretive center, trails with interpretive signs or brochures, and/or regular guided interpretive tours.	0	
282	F60 Unvisited Core Area	The percentage of the AA almost never visited by humans during an average growing season probably comprises: [Note: Only include the part actually walked or driven (not simply viewed from) with a vehicle or boat. Do not include visitors on trails outside of the AA unless more than half the wetland is visible from the trails and they are within 30 m of the wetland edge. In that case include only the area occupied by the trail.]		[AM, FAv, FRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
283		<5% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
284		<5% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
285		5-50% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
286		5-50% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
287		50-95%, with or without inhabited building nearby.	0	
288		>95% of the AA with or without inhabited building nearby.	1	
289	F61 Frequently Visited Area	The part of the AA visited by humans almost daily for several weeks during an average growing season probably comprises: [See note above.]		[AM, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
290		<5%. If F60 was answered ">95%" (mostly never visited), SKIP to F64.	1	
291		5-50%.	0	
292		50-95%.	0	
293		>95% of the AA.	0	
294	F62 BMP - Soils	Boardwalks, paved trails, fences or other infrastructure and/or well-enforced regulations appear to effectively prevent visitors from walking on soil within nearly all of the AA when the soil is unfrozen. Enter "1" if true.	0	[PH, PU]
295	F63 BMP - Wildlife Protection	Fences, observation blinds, platforms, paved trails, exclusion periods, and/or well-enforced prohibitions on motorised boats, off-leash pets, and off road vehicles appear to effectively exclude or divert visitors and their pets from the AA at critical times in order to minimize disturbance of wildlife (except during hunting seasons). Enter "1" if true.	0	[AM, PU, WBF, WBN]
296	F64 Consumptive Uses (Provisioning Services)	Recent evidence was found within the AA of the following potentially-sustainable consumptive uses. Select ALL that apply.		[FAv, FRv, WBFv]
297		Low-impact commercial timber harvest (e.g., selective thinning).	0	
298		Commercial or traditional-use harvesting of native plants, their fruits, or mushrooms.	0	
299		Waterfowl hunting.	0	
300		Fishing.	0	
301		Trapping of furbearers.	0	
302		None of the above.	1	
303	F65 Domestic Wells	The closest wells or water bodies that currently provide drinking water are:		[NRv]
304		Within 0-100 m. of the AA.	0	
305		100-500 m. away.	0	
306		>500 m. away, or no information.	1	
307	F66 Calcareous Fen	The AA is, or is part of, a calcareous fen. See the Plants_Calcar worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file for list of plant indicators (calciphiles). Enter 1 if more than two Strong or more than five Moderate calciphile species are present; otherwise enter 0, but if not able to identify those and no information, change to blank.	0	[PH, PR]

Investigator: Jordan Davis, Alex Scott	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL13	Date: 05 October 2022	
Stressor (S) Data Form for Non-Tidal Wetlands. WESP-AC for Nova Scotia version 2.			
S1	Aberrant Timing of Water Inputs	Data	
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item that is likely to have caused the timing of water inputs (but not necessarily their volume) to shift by hours, days, or weeks, becoming either more muted (smaller or less frequent peaks spread over longer times, more temporal homogeneity of flow or water levels) or more flashy (larger or more frequent spikes but over shorter times). [FA, FR, INV, PH, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater from impervious surfaces that drains directly to the wetland.</p> <p>Water subsidies from wastewater effluent, septic system leakage, snow storage areas, or irrigation.</p> <p>Regular removal of surface or groundwater for irrigation or other consumptive use.</p> <p>Flow regulation in tributaries or water level regulation in adjoining water body, or other control structure at water entry points that regulates inflow to the wetland.</p> <p>A dam, dike, levee, weir, berm, or fill -- within or downgradient from the wetland -- that interferes with surface or subsurface flow in/out of the AA (e.g., road fill, wellpads, pipelines).</p> <p>Excavation within the wetland, e.g., dugout, artificial pond, dead-end ditch.</p> <p>Artificial drains or ditches in or near the wetland.</p> <p>Accelerated downcutting or channelization of an adjacent or internal channel (incised below the historical water table level).</p> <p>Logging within the wetland.</p> <p>Subsidence or compaction of the wetland's substrate as a result of machinery, livestock, fire, drainage, or off road vehicles.</p> <p>Straightening, ditching, dredging, and/or lining of tributary channels.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items had no measurable effect on the timing of water conditions in any part of the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>			
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)
Spatial extent of timing shift within the wetland:	>95% of wetland.	5-95% of wetland.	<5% of wetland.
When most of the timing shift began:	<3 yrs ago.	3-9 yrs ago.	10-100 yrs ago.
Score the following 2 rows only if the altered inputs began within past 10 years, and only for the part of the wetland that experiences those.			
Input timing now vs. previously:	Shift of weeks.	Shift of days.	Shift of hours or minutes.
Flashiness or muting:	Became very flashy or controlled.	Intermediate.	Became mildly flashy or controlled.
		Sum=	0.42
S2	Accelerated Inputs of Contaminants and/or Salts	Data	
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of contaminants or salts to the AA. [AM, FA, PH, POL, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills, industrial facilities.</p> <p>Metals & chemical wastes from mining, shooting ranges, snow storage areas, oil/ gas extraction, other sources (download many locations from National Pollutant Release Inventory and view KMZ overlay in Google Earth. https://www.ec.gc.ca/inrp-npri/default.asp?lang=En&n=B85A1846-1</p> <p>Road salt.</p> <p>Spraying of pesticides, as applied to lawns, croplands, roadsides, or other areas in the CA.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly higher levels of contaminants and/or salts, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>			
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)
Usual toxicity of most toxic contaminants:	Industrial effluent, mining waste, unmanaged landfill.	Cropland, managed landfill, pipeline or transmission rights-of-way.	Low density residential.
Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.
AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.
		Sum=	0.56
		Stressor subscore=	0.56

S3	Accelerated Inputs of Nutrients				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of nutrients to the wetland. [NRv, PRv, STR]</i>				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills.				
	Fertilizers applied to lawns, ag lands, or other areas in the CA.				
	Livestock, dogs.				
	Artificial drainage of upslope lands.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly more nutrients, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Type of loading:	High density of unmaintained septic, some types of industrial sources.	Moderate density septic, cropland, secondary wastewater treatment plant.	Livestock, pets, low density residential.	1
	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	1
	AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	2
					Sum= 4
					Stressor subscore= 0.44
S4	Excessive Sediment Loading from Contributing Area				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the CA that is likely to have elevated the load of waterborne or windborne sediment reaching the wetland from its CA. [FA, FR, INV, PH, SRv, STR]</i>				
	Erosion from plowed fields, fill, timber harvest, dirt roads, vegetation clearing, fires.				
	Erosion from construction, in-channel machinery in the CA.				
	Erosion from off-road vehicles in the CA.				
	Erosion from livestock or foot traffic in the CA.				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent.				
	Sediment from road sanding, gravel mining, other mining, oil/ gas extraction.				
	Accelerated channel downcutting or headcutting of tributaries due to altered land use.				
	Other human-related disturbances within the CA.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points (3, 2, or 1 as shown in header) in the last column. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively add significantly more sediment or suspended solids to the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Erosion in CA:	Extensive evidence, high intensity.*	Potentially (based on high-intensity* land use) or scattered evidence.	Potentially (based on low-intensity* land use) with little or no direct evidence.	1
	Recentness of significant soil disturbance in the CA:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	1
	Duration of sediment inputs to the wetland:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	1
	AA proximity to actual or potential sources:	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m.	In more distant part of contributing area.	2
	* high-intensity= extensive off-road vehicle use, plowing, grading, excavation, erosion with or without veg removal; low-intensity= veg removal only with little or no apparent erosion or disturbance of soil or sediment.				Sum= 5
					Stressor subscore= 0.42

S5	Soil or Sediment Alteration Within the Assessment Area				
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the wetland that is likely to have compacted, eroded, or otherwise altered the wetland's soil. Consider only items occurring within past 100 years or since wetland was created or restored (whichever is less). [CS, INV, NR, PH, SR, STR]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compaction from machinery, off-road vehicles, livestock, or mountain bikes, especially during wetter periods. Leveling or other grading not to the natural contour. Tillage, plowing (but excluding disking for enhancement of native plants). Fill or riprap, excluding small amounts of upland soils containing organic amendments (compost, etc.) or small amounts of topsoil imported from another wetland. Excavation. Ditch cleaning or dredging in or adjacent to the wetland. Boat traffic in or adjacent to the wetland and sufficient to cause shore erosion or stir bottom sediments. Artificial water level or flow manipulations sufficient to cause erosion or stir bottom sediments. <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not measurably alter the soil structure and/or topography, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>					
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
Spatial extent of altered soil:	>95% of wetland or >95% of its upland edge (if any).	5-95% of wetland or 5-95% of its upland edge (if any).	<5% of wetland and <5% of its upland edge (if any).		0
Recentness of significant soil alteration in wetland:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.		0
Duration:	Long-lasting, minimal veg recovery.	Long-lasting but mostly revegetated.	Short-term, revegetated, not intense.		0
Timing of soil alteration:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Mainly during one-time or scattered events.		0
			Sum=		0
				Stressor subscore=	0.00

Assessment Area (AA) Results:

Wetland ID: WL13

Date: 05 October 2022

Observer: JD AS

Latitude & Longitude (decimal degrees): 45.56404722, 63.62279444

Scores will appear below after data are entered in worksheets OF, F, and S. See Manual for definitions and descriptions of how scores were computed.

Wetland Functions or Other Attributes:	Function Score (Normalised)	Function Rating	Benefits Score (Normalised)	Benefits Rating	Function Score (raw)	Benefits Score (raw)
Water Storage & Delay (WS)	1.83	Lower	8.06	Higher	3.31	3.58
Stream Flow Support (SFS)	3.10	Moderate	8.40	Higher	2.50	5.59
Water Cooling (WC)	6.75	Higher	1.43	Lower	4.50	0.77
Sediment Retention & Stabilisation (SR)	3.02	Lower	2.51	Moderate	4.56	1.23
Phosphorus Retention (PR)	3.91	Moderate	5.71	Higher	6.19	4.44
Nitrate Removal & Retention (NR)	3.15	Moderate	5.33	Moderate	5.05	5.33
Carbon Sequestration (CS)	5.42	Moderate			7.76	
Organic Nutrient Export (OE)	9.17	Higher			5.99	
Anadromous Fish Habitat (FA)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Resident Fish Habitat (FR)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Aquatic Invertebrate Habitat (INV)	5.27	Moderate	4.32	Moderate	5.64	3.57
Amphibian & Turtle Habitat (AM)	3.79	Moderate	4.45	Moderate	5.11	5.43
Waterbird Feeding Habitat (WBF)	5.90	Moderate	5.00	Moderate	4.49	5.00
Waterbird Nesting Habitat (WBN)	6.94	Higher	5.00	Higher	5.03	5.00
Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat (SBM)	7.80	Higher	5.00	Moderate	6.79	5.00
Pollinator Habitat (POL)	7.90	Moderate	0.00	Lower	6.54	0.00
Native Plant Habitat (PH)	3.68	Moderate	4.44	Lower	5.37	4.44
Public Use & Recognition (PU)			2.46	Moderate		1.98
Wetland Sensitivity (Sens)			9.12	Higher		4.77
Wetland Ecological Condition (EC)			6.52	Higher		8.33
Wetland Stressors (STR) (higher score means more stress)			10.00	Higher		5.18
Summary Ratings for Grouped Functions:						
HYDROLOGIC Group (WS)	1.83	Lower	8.06	Higher	3.31	3.58
WATER QUALITY SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SR, PR, NR, CS)	4.65	Moderate	5.12	Moderate	6.83	4.50
AQUATIC SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SFS, INV, OE, WC)	7.62	Higher	6.56	Moderate	5.33	4.45
AQUATIC HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of FA, FR, AM, WBF, WBN)	5.13	Moderate	3.94	Moderate	4.02	4.26
TRANSITION HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of SBM, PH, POL)	7.18	Higher	4.07	Lower	6.51	4.07
WETLAND CONDITION (EC)			6.52	Higher		8.33
WETLAND RISK (average of Sensitivity & Stressors)			9.56	Higher		4.97

NOTE: A score of 0 does not mean the function or benefit is absent from the wetland. It means only that this wetland has a capacity that is equal or less than the lowest-scoring one, for that function or benefit, from among all the NS calibration wetlands that were assessed previously.

NOVA SCOTIA - Functional WSS Interpretation Tool

Function-Benefit Product (FBP)	FBP SCORE	FBP SCORE CATEGORY
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - HYDROLOGIC	14.72242771	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - WATER QUALITY SUPPORT	23.78538001	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC SUPPORT	49.98782103	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC HABITAT	20.24296614	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - TRANSITION HABITAT	29.24584999	Low

3a. Functional WSS Determination: Automatic Method

Habitat Rule Satisfied? NO

Support Rule Satisfied? NO

Habitat/Support Hybrid Rule Satisfied? NO

CONCLUSION: Site is not a WSS

Cover Page: Basic Description of Assessment	WESP-AC version 2
Site Name:	Higgins Mountain, WL14
Investigator Name:	Madeline Maher, Jordan Davis, Alex Scott
Date of Field Assessment:	06 October 2022
Nearest Town:	Masstown
Latitude (decimal degrees):	45.56578056
Longitude (decimal degrees):	63.63432500
Is a map based on a formal on-site wetland delineation available?	Yes
Approximate size of the Assessment Area (AA, in hectares):	0.35
AA as percent of entire wetland (approx.). Attach sketch map if AA is smaller than the entire contiguous wetland.	30
What percent (approx.) of the wetland were you able to visit?	30
What percent (approx.) of the AA were you able to visit?	100
Were you able to ask the site owner/manager about any of the questions?	No
Indicate here if you intentionally surveyed for rare plants, calciphile plants, or rare animals:	Yes
Have you attended a WESP-AC training session? If so, indicate approximate month & year.	October 2022
How many wetlands have you assessed previously using WESP-AC? (approx.)	30
Comments about the site or this WESP-AC assessment (attach extra page if desired):	

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date: 08 November 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL14		Investigator: Madeline Maher	
2	<p>Form OF (Office). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia wetlands only. DIRECTIONS: Conduct an assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answering many of the questions below will require using these online map viewers:</p> <p>Google Earth Pro: https://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html</p> <p>Provincial Landscape Viewer: https://nsgis.novascotia.ca/plv/</p> <p>For most wetlands, completing this office data form will require 1-2 hours. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see bracketed abbreviations in the Definitions/Explanations column. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.</p>				
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations
4	OF1	Province	Mark the province in which the AA is located by changing the 0 in the column next to it to a "1". Mark only one.		This determines to which province's calibration wetlands the raw score of any wetland is normalised. In the function and benefits models, it also triggers the automatic exclusion of indicators for which no spatial data exists in a particular province.
5			New Brunswick	0	
6			Nova Scotia	1	
7			Prince Edward Island	0	
8			Newfoundland-Labrador	0	
9	OF2	Ponded Area Within 1 km.	The area of surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		"Adjacent" means not separated from the AA by a wide expanse (>50 m) of upland (including roads >50 m wide). Include ponded areas likely to be hidden by wetland vegetation. If surface water extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. Do not include tidal areas. Measure the area from aerial imagery using Google Earth Pro (click on Ruler icon in toolbar, then Polygon in pop-up menu). [PH, SBM, WBN]
10			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
11			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	1	
12			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
13			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
14			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
15			>100 hectares.	0	
16	OF3	Ponded Water & Wetland Within 1 km.	The area of wetlands and surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. If the AA's wetland vegetation extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. "Ponded" means not flowing in rivers or streams. [Sens, WBF]
17			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
18			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
19			0.1 - 1 hectare.	1	
20			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
21			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
22			>100 hectares.	0	
23	OF4	Size of Largest Nearby Vegetated Tract or Corridor	The largest vegetated patch or corridor that includes the AA's vegetation plus all adjacent upland vegetation that is not lawn, row crops, heavily grazed lands, conifer plantation is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. Use Google Earth Pro's polygon ruler (as described above). Exclude conifer plantations only if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens]
24			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
25			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
26			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
27			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
28			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
29			100 to 1000 hectares.	1	
30			>1000 hectares. [This is nearly always the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]	0	

	A	B	C	D	E
31	OF5 Distance to Large Vegetated Tract	<p>The minimum distance from the edge of the AA to the edge of the closest vegetated land (but excluding row crops, lawn, conifer plantation) larger than 375 hectares (about 2 km on a side), is:</p> <p><50 m, and not separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, bare ground, lawn, or impervious surface. Or the AA itself contains >375 ha of vegetation. [This is often the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]</p> <p><50 m, but completely separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by those features, and AA does not contain >375 ha of vegetation.</p> <p>50-500 m, and not separated.</p> <p>50-500 m, but separated by those features.</p> <p>0.5 - 5 km, and not separated.</p> <p>0.5 - 5 km, but separated by those features.</p> <p>None of the above (the closest patches or corridors which are that large are >5 km away).</p>	1 0 0 0 0 0 0	<p>To measure distance, use Google Earth Pro (Ruler > Line tool). The 375-ha criterion is from the Fundy Model Forest Project. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]</p>	
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39	OF6 Herbaceous Uniqueness	<p>The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 5 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF7. If not, consider:</p> <p>The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 1 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF7. If not, consider:</p> <p>The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "1".</p> <p>[* NOTE: Exclude lawns, row crops, heavily grazed lands, forest, shrublands. Include moss as well as grasslike plants in this use of "herbaceous vegetation"]</p>	0	For this question only, consider moss to be herbaceous vegetation. Determine the score by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth after successively drawing or estimating the boundaries of the buffers of 5 km, 1 km, and 100 m radius focused on the center of the AA. Circles of specified radius can be drawn in Google Earth Pro by clicking on the Ruler icon, then Circle in the pop-up menu. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]	
40	OF7 Woody Uniqueness	<p>The AA's vegetation cover is >10% woody* but uplands within 5 km have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF8. If not, consider:</p> <p>The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 1 km have <10% woody cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF8. If not, consider:</p> <p>The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "1".</p> <p>[* NOTE: woody cover = trees & shrubs taller than 1 m.]</p>	0	See above. Do not consider conifer plantations to be forest if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv]	
41	OF8 Local Vegetated Cover Percentage	<p>Draw a 5-km radius circle measured from the center of the AA. Ignoring all permanent water in the circle, the percent of the remaining area that is wooded or unmanaged herbaceous vegetation (NOT lawn, row crops, bare or heavily grazed land, clearcuts, or conifer plantations) is:</p> <p><5% of the land.</p> <p>5 to 20% of the land.</p> <p>20 to 60% of the land.</p> <p>60 to 90% of the land.</p> <p>>90% of the land. SKIP to OF10.</p>	0 0 0 1 0	<p>In Google Earth, draw the 5 km buffer and then estimate land cover percentages, or do GIS analysis of an appropriate land cover layer. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]</p>	
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47	OF9 Type of Land Cover Alteration	Within the 5-km radius circle, and ignoring all permanent water, the land area that is bare or non-perennial cover is mostly:	[AM, SBM]		
48		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.			
49		Bare pervious surface, e.g., lawn, recent (<5 yrs ago) clearcut, dirt or gravel road, cropland, landslide, conifer plantation.			
50	OF10 Distance by Road to Nearest Population Center	<p>Measured along the maintained road nearest the AA, the distance to the nearest population center is:</p> <p><100 m.</p> <p>100 - 500 m.</p> <p>0.5- 1 km.</p> <p>1 - 5 km.</p> <p>>5 km.</p>	0 0 0 0 1	<p>"Population center" means a settled area with more than about 5 regularly-inhabited structures per square kilometer. In Google Earth Pro, click on the Ruler icon, then Path, and draw and measure the route. [FAv, FRV, NRV, PH, PU, SBM, WBFv]</p>	
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56	OF11	Distance to Nearest Maintained Road	From the center of the AA, the distance to the nearest maintained public road (dirt or paved) is:	Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth Pro and measuring with the Ruler>Line tool. [AM, FAv, FRv, NRV, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBN]
57			<10 m.	1
58			10 - 25 m.	0
59			25 - 50 m.	0
60			50 - 100 m.	0
61			100 - 500 m.	0
62			>500 m.	0
63	OF12	Wildlife Access	Draw a circle of radius of 5 km from the center of the AA. If mammals and amphibians can move from the center of the AA to ALL other separate wetlands and ponds located within the circle without being forced to cross pavement (any width), lawns, bare ground, and/or marine waters, mark 1= yes can move to all, 0= no. Change to blank if there are no other wetlands within 5 km.	Draw the 5 km circle in Google Earth Pro using the Circle tool and search for roads and wetlands within it, being alert for roads hidden under forest canopy. [AM, SBM, STR]
64	OF13	Distance to Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) ponded water body visible in GoogleEarth imagery is:	In Google Earth Pro, zoom in closely to examine the surrounding landscape for ponds, lakes, and wetlands that appear to be permanently flooded. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
65			<50 m, and not separated by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, lawn, bare ground, or impervious surface.	0
66			<50 m, but completely separated by those features.	0
67			50-500 m, and not separated.	0
68			50-500 m, but separated by those features.	0
69			0.5 - 1 km, and not separated.	0
70			0.5 - 1 km, but separated by those features.	0
71			None of the above (the closest patches or corridors that large are >1 km away).	1
72	OF14	Distance to Large Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) non-tidal body of water that is ponded during most of the year and is larger than 8 hectares during most of a normal year is:	Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth. [Sens, WBF, WBN]
73			<100 m.	0
74			100 m - 1 km.	0
75			1 - 2 km.	0
76			2-5 km.	0
77			5-10 km.	1
78			>10 km.	0
79	OF15	Tidal Proximity	The distance from the AA edge to the closest tidal water body (regardless of its salinity) is:	In Google Earth, measure the distance to the ocean (including Bay of Fundy) or tidal river, whichever is closer. If you need to see how far upriver a river is tidal, see the KMZ file provided with this calculator for NS (NS Headtide). Points shown in those files are only an approximation, so local information if available may be preferable. [FA, WBF]
80			<100 m.	0
81			100 m - 1 km.	0
82			1 - 5 km.	0
83			5-10 km.	0
84			10-40 km.	1
85			>40 km.	0
86	OF16	Upland Edge Contact	Select one:	[NR, SBM, Sens]
87			The AA has no upland edge (or upland is <1% of perimeter). The AA is entirely surrounded by (& contiguous with) other wetlands or water.	0
88			1-25% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland (including filled areas). The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0
89			25-50% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0
90			50-75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	1
91			More than 75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. Any remainder adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA. This will be true for most assessments done with WESP-AC.	0
92	OF17	Flood Damage from Non-tidal Waters	Within 5 km downstream or downslope of the AA (select first true choice):	Contact local authorities to determine if such maps exist. Where available, LiDAR imagery can provide finer elevational resolution useful for flood modeling. [WSv]
93			Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding not caused by tidal storm surges.	0
94			Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas, but infrastructure is absent or is not vulnerable to floods from a non-tidal river. In some cases levees, upriver dams, or other measures may partly limit damage or risk from smaller events.	0
95			Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.	0
96			Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there is no infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.	1

A	B	C	D	E
97	OF18 Relative Elevation in Watershed	In Google Earth, enable the Terrain layer (lower left menu) and open the NS_Watersheds Secondary KMZ file that accompanies this calculator. Then determine the AA's approximate elevation (bottom right, NOT the "eye alt"). Then move cursor around to determine the watershed's maximum and minimum elevation. Divide the AA's elevation by the (max-min).	0.89	[FA, NR, Sens, SFSv, WCv, WSV]
98	OF19 Water Quality Sensitive Watershed or Area	The AA is in a Protected Water Supply area (Designated Water Supply Area, Natural Watershed Municipal Surface Water Supply Area, or Municipal Water Supply Area) according to the provided KMZ overlay ("NS Protected Water Supply Areas"). Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	If an ACCDC report is available for this AA, it also may contain such information. [NRv]
99	OF20 Degraded Water Upstream	Sampling indicates a problem with concentrations of metals, hydrocarbons, nutrients , or other substances (excluding bacteria, acidic water, high temperatures) being present at levels harmful to aquatic life or humans, and:		May use existing data, or sample those waters as part of this wetland assessment. "Harmful" should be evaluated with regard to current federal or provincial water quality standards. [AM, FA, FR, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WBF, WBN]
100		The condition is present within the AA.	0	
101		The condition is present in waters within 1 km that flow into the AA, but has not been documented in the AA itself.	0	
102		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.	0	
103		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.	1	
104	OF21 Degraded Water Downstream	The problem described above is downslope from the AA, and:		May use existing data, or monitor waters as part of this wetland assessment. [NRv, PRv, SRv]
105		The condition is present within 1 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel.	0	
106		The condition is present within 5 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel, or within 1 km but not connected to the AA by a channel.	0	
107		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.	0	
108		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.	1	
109	OF22 Wetland as a % of Its Contributing Area (Catchment)	From a topographic map and field observations, estimate the approximate boundaries of the catchment (CA) of the entire wetland of which the AA may be only a part. Then adjust those boundaries if necessary based on your field observations of the surrounding terrain, and/or by using procedures described in the Manual. Divide the area of the wetland (not just the AA) by the approximate area of its catchment excluding the area of the wetland itself. When doing the calculation, if ponded water is adjacent to the wetland, include that in the wetland's area. The result is:		Topographic maps may be viewed online at the National Atlas of Canada (Toporama): http://atlas.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html [NR, PR, Sens, SR, WS]
110		<0.01, or catchment size unknown due to stormwater pipes that collect water from an indeterminate area.	0	
111		0.01 to 0.1.	0	
112		0.1 to 1.	1	
113		>1 (wetland is larger than its catchment (e.g., wetland with flat surrounding terrain and no inlet, or is entirely isolated by dikes, or is a raised bog).	0	
114	OF23 Unvegetated Surface in the Contributing Area	The proportion of the AA's contributing area (measured to no more than 1000 m upslope) that is comprised of buildings, roads, parking lots, other pavement, exposed bedrock, landslides, and other mostly-bare surface is about :		[FA, INV, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WCv, WSV]
115		<10%.	1	
116		10 to 25%.	0	
117		>25%.	0	
118	OF24 Transport From Upslope	A relatively large proportion of the precipitation that falls farther upslope in the CA reaches this wetland quickly as runoff (surface water), as indicated by the following: (a) input channel is present, (b) input channels have been straightened, (c) upslope wetlands have been ditched extensively, (d) land cover is mostly non-forest, (e) CA slopes are steep, and/or (f) most CA soils are shallow (bedrock near surface) and/or have high runoff coefficients. This statement is:		[NRv, PRv, SRv, WSV]
119		Mostly true.	0	
120		Somewhat true.	1	
121		Mostly untrue.	0	
122		The overland flow direction of most surface water (in streams, rivers, or runoff) that enters the AA is:		[AM, NR, SFS, WC, WS]
123	OF25 Aspect	Northward (N, NE). north-facing contributing area.	0	
124		Southward (S, SW). south-facing contributing area.	1	
125		Other (E, SE, W, NW), or no detectable uphill slope or input channel (flat).	0	

A	B	C	D	E
126	OF26 Internal Flow Distance (Path Length)	The horizontal flow distance from the wetland's inlet to outlet is:		Identify inlets and outlets, if any, from topographic maps (use elevations to determine which are inlets and which are outlets) and augment by field inspection. With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, select Nova Scotia Topo as the Basemap. Also enable the layer Forestry>WAM Predicted Flow. Then measure the inlet-outlet distance. [NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
127		<10 m.		0
128		10 - 50 m.		0
129		50 - 100 m.		0
130		100 - 1000 m.		1
131		1- 2 km.		0
132		>2 km, or wetland lacks an inlet and outlet.		0
133	OF27 Growing Degree Days	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called NS_GrowingDegreeDays. Place your cursor over the AA and left-click. From the pop-up window, enter the GRIDCODE number in the next column.	1882	This layer was provided by Dr. Dan McKenney of the Canadian Forest Service [AM, CS, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WCv, WS]
134	OF28 Fish Access or Use	According to agency biologists and/or your own observations, the AA. [Mark just the first choice that is true.]:		Regarding the last choice, if uncertain if an AA is fishless, consider the possibility its waters have been stocked. [AM, FA, FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
135		Is known to support rearing and/or spawning by Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels. Go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife>Significant Habitat>Species at Risk. Contact local fishery biologists, review the ACCDC report, and visit these websites: http://www.salmontlas.com/atlanticsalmon/canada-east/index.1.html http://atlanticssalmofederation.org/rivers/introduction.html		
136		Has not been documented to support Atlantic salmon rearing and/or spawning, but is connected to nearby waters likely to contain Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels and is probably accessed by those during some conditions.		
137		Is probably not accessed by any anadromous fish species but is known or likely to have other fish at least seasonally.		
138		Is known or likely to be fishless (e.g., too small, dry, and/or not accessible even temporarily, and not stocked).		
139	OF29 Species of Conservation Concern	Within the past 10 years, in the AA (or in its adjoining waters or wetland), qualified observers have documented[mark all applicable]:		Request information from ACCDC and/or conduct your own survey at an appropriate season using an approved protocol. For birds, also check eBird.org. NOTE for NS: If your WESP-AC is being completed for a Wetland Alteration Application to NS-ECC, your ACCDC results and any taxon-specific survey results must be submitted along with your WESP-AC results, and application. [AMv, EC, PHv, POLv, SBMv, Sens, WBFv, WBNv]
140		Presence of one or more of the plant species listed in the Plants_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, or the AA is within a mapped Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora Buffer (go to Provincial Landscape Viewer> Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones).		
141		Presence of one or more of the amphibian or reptile species (AM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.		
142		Presence of one or more of the waterbird species (WBF, WBN) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.		
143		Presence of one or more of the nesting songbird or raptor species (SBM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, during their nesting season (May-July for most species).		
144		None of the above, or no data.		
145	OF30 Important Bird Area (IBA)	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called IBAs_Canada . The AA is all or part of an officially designated IBA. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	The source of this layer, which should be checked periodically for updates, is: http://www.ibacanada.com/mapviewer.jsp?lang=EN [SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
146	OF31 Black Duck Nesting Area	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called BlackDuck. Adjust its alignment and opacity. Determine the predicted density (pairs per 25 sq. km) of nesting American Black Duck in the AA's vicinity: <10 (enter 0), 10-20 (enter 1), 20-30 (enter 2), >30 (enter 3). If outside of region shown in map, change to blank .	0	This was provided by Dr. David Leske. [WBNv]
147	OF32 Wintering Deer or Moose Concentration Areas	If AA is on private land with no information, change to blank (not 0). Otherwise: With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, for Wintering Moose, go to Wildlife> Significant Habitat. For Mainland Moose Concentration Areas, go to Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0.	0	[SBM]
148	OF33 Other Conservation Designation	The AA is all or part of an area designated by government, First Nations, or the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) for its exceptional ecological features or highly intact natural conditions. With Provincial Landscape Viewer, see Protected Areas. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If uncertain, consult NCC and agencies for more recent information.	0	See: https://novascotia.ca/parksandprotectedareas/plan/interactive-map/ [PU]
149	OF34 Conservation Investment	The AA is part of or contiguous to a wetland on which public or private organizational funds were spent to preserve, create, restore, or enhance the wetland (excluding mitigation wetlands). Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank (not 0).		[PU]
150	OF35 Mitigation Investment	The AA is all or part of a mitigation site used explicitly to offset impacts elsewhere. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank .		[PU]
151	OF36 Sustained Scientific Use	Plants, animals, or water in the AA have been monitored for >2 years, unrelated to any regulatory requirements, and data are available to the public. Or the AA is part of an area that has been designated by an agency or institution as a benchmark, reference, or status-trends monitoring area. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank .		[PU]
152	OF37 Calcareous Region	The AA is NOT in a subregion that has been heavily exposed to acid precipitation. Enter "1" if true (green or yellow in map in Appendix A of the Manual). Enter "0" if false. If no information, change to blank .		[AM, FA, FR, INV, PH]

	A	B	C	D	E
153	OF38	Ownership	Select the ONE ownership that covers the most of the AA. In Google Earth, open KMZ file called NS_CrownlandsUse more recent information if available.		"Private lands" may include those owned or leased by non-governmental organizations, e.g., charitable conservation land trusts, DUC, TNC. [PU, STR]
154			New timber harvest, roads, mineral extraction, and intensive summer recreation (e.g., off-road vehicles) are permanently prohibited. Includes many publicly-owned Protected Lands, and private lands under long-term (30+ year) legal agreements to maintain nearly-unaltered conditions.	0	
155			Ownership is public (e.g., municipal, Crown Reservations/Notations) but some or all of the above activities are allowed.	0	
156			Ownership is private but public access is allowed, and/or a shorter-term conservation easement (whether renewable or not) is in place.	0	
157			Ownership is private and owner does not allow access, or access permission unknown, and not a conservation easement.	0	

	A	B	C	D	E		
1	Date: 06 October 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL14		Investigator: Jordan Davis, Alex Scott			
2	<p>Form F (Field). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia. DIRECTIONS: Walk for no less than 10 minutes from the wetland edge towards its core, in the part of the AA that is proposed for alteration. If no alteration is proposed, walk in a portion that appears to be most representative of the wetland overall. Walk only where it is safe and legal to do so. Conduct the assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answer these questions primarily based on your onsite observations and interpretations. Do not write in shaded parts of this data form. Answering some questions accurately may require conferring with the landowner or other knowledgeable persons, and/or reviewing aerial imagery. For most wetlands, completing this field data form will require 1-2 hours on a site. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see the accompanying Interpretations form. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage & Delay, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sens= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.</p>						
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations		
4	F1	Wetland Type	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the vegetated part of the AA:		<p>Ericaceous shrubs are ones in the heather family (Ericaceae). Most have leathery evergreen leaves. They include rhododendron, azalea, swamp laurel, leatherleaf, Labrador tea, and others. Most require acidic soil. Although not in the family Ericaceae, sweetgale (<i>Myrica gale</i>) should be counted also. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, Sens, SFS, WBF, WBN]</p>		
5	A. Moss and/or lichen cover more than 25% of the ground. Often dominated by ericaceous shrubs (e.g., Labrador tea) or other acid-tolerant plants (e.g., bog cranberry, pitcher plant, sundew, orchids). Substrate is mostly undecomposed peat. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.						
6	A1. Surface water is usually absent or, if present, pH is typically <4.5 and conductivity is usually <100 µS/cm (<64 ppm TDS). Trees are absent or nearly so. Sedge cover usually sparse or absent but cottongrass and/or lichen cover may be extensive, as well as cloudberry, lingonberry, sheep laurel, and a sedge (<i>Carex rariflora</i>). Wetland surface and surrounding landscape are seldom sloping and wetland often is domed (convex). Inlet and outlet channels are usually absent. If known, pH of peat is <4.0.		0				
7	A2. Not A1. Surface water, if present, has pH typically >4.5 and conductivity is usually >100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Sedge cover is usually extensive, and/or tree and tall shrub cover is extensive. Sometimes at toe of slope or edge of water body. An exit channel is usually present. Wetter than A1 and peat depth may be shallower (<2 m).		0				
8	B. Moss and/or lichen cover less than 25% of the ground. Soil is mineral or decomposed organic (muck). Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column:						
9	B1. Trees and shrubs taller than 1 m comprise more than 25% of the vegetated cover. Surface water is mostly absent or inundates the vegetation only seasonally (e.g., vernal pools or floodplain).		0				
10	B2. Not B1. Tree & tall shrubs comprise less than 25% of the vegetated cover. Vegetation is mostly herbaceous, e.g., cattail, bulrush, burreed, pond lily, horsetail. Surface water may be extensive and fluctuates seasonally, being either persistent or drying up partly or entirely.		1				
11	<p>Reminder: For all questions, the AA should include all persistent waters in ponds smaller than 8 hectares (~283 m on a side) that are adjacent to the AA. The AA should also include part of the water area of adjacent ponded water larger than 8 ha and adjacent rivers wider than 20 m. Specifically, the AA should include the open water part adjacent to wetland vegetation and equal in width to the average width of that vegetated zone. Throughout this data form, "adjacent" is used synonymously with abutting, adjoining, bordering, contiguous -- and means no upland (manmade or natural) completely separates the described features along their directly shared edge. Features joined only by a channel are not necessarily considered to be adjacent -- a large portion of their edges must match. The features do not have to be hydrologically connected in order to be considered adjacent.</p>						
12	F2		Wetland Types - Adjoining or Subordinate	If the AA is smaller than 1 ha, mark all other types that occupy more than 1% of the vegetated AA. If the AA is larger than 1 ha, mark all other types which are within or adjacent to the AA and occupy more than 1 ha, as visible from the AA or as interpreted from aerial imagery. Do not mark again the type marked in F1.			<p>1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, INV, SBM, WBF]</p>
13	A1.			0			
14	A2.	0					
15	B1.	0					
16	B2.	0					

A	B	C	D	E
17	F3 Woody Height & Form Diversity	Following EACH row below, indicate with a number code the percentage of the living vegetation in the AA which is occupied by that feature (6 if >95%, 5 if 75-95%, 4 if 50-75%, 3 if 25-50%, 2 if 5-25%, 1 if <5%, 0 if none). If the vegetated part of the AA is largely herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation, these percentages should not sum to 100%.		Deciduous shrubs in this region usually include buttonbush, Labrador tea, bayberry (<i>Morella</i>), huckleberry, cranberry, cloudberry, sweetgale, alder, willow, birch, ash, dogwood, and a few others. If you assigned a code of 3 or higher to any of the first four choices and the ground cover beneath the trees/shrubs is <25% moss, then question F1 might be "B1". [CS, INV, NR, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
18		coniferous trees (may include tamarack) taller than 3 m.	0	
19		deciduous trees taller than 3 m.	0	
20		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	0	
21		deciduous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	2	
22		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs <1 m tall not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	0	
23		deciduous shrubs or trees <1 m tall (e.g., deciduous seedlings) not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	1	
24	Note: If none of top 4 rows in F3 was marked 2 or greater, SKIP to F9 (N fixers).			
25	F4 Dominance of Most Abundant Shrub Species	Determine which two woody plant species comprise the greatest portion of the low (<3 m) woody cover . Then choose one:		[PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
26		those species together comprise > 50% of such cover.	1	
27		those species together do not comprise > 50% of such cover.	0	
28	F5 Woody Diameter Classes	Mark ALL the types that comprise >5% of the woody canopy cover in the AA or >5% of the wooded areas (if any) along its upland edge (perimeter) . The edge should include only the trees whose canopies extend into the AA.		Estimate the diameters at chest height. If small-diameter trees are overtopped (shaded) by larger ones, visualise a "subcanopy" at the average height of the smaller-dbh trees, to serve as a basis for the minimum 5% canopy requirement in this question. The trees and shrubs need not be wetland species. [AM, CS, POL, SBM, Sens, WBN]
29		coniferous, 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall.	0	
30		broad-leaved deciduous 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall.	1	
31		coniferous, 10-19 cm diameter.	0	
32		broad-leaved deciduous 10-19 cm diameter.	0	
33		coniferous, 20-40 cm diameter.	0	
34		broad-leaved deciduous 20-40 cm diameter.	0	
35		coniferous, >40 cm diameter.	0	
36		broad-leaved deciduous >40 cm diameter.	0	
37	F6 Height Class Interspersion	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the AA:		[AM, INV, NR, PH, SBM, Sens]
38		A. Neither the vegetation taller than 1 m nor the vegetation shorter than that comprise >70% of the vegetated part of the AA. They each comprise 30-70%. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.		
39		A1. The two height classes are mostly scattered and intermixed throughout the AA.	1	
40		A2. Not A1. The two height classes are mostly in separate zones or bands, or in proportionately large clumps.	0	
41		B. Either the vegetation shorter than 1 m comprises >70% of the vegetated part of the AA, or the vegetation taller than that does. One size class might even be totally absent. Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column:		
42		B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly scattered and intermixed within the prevalent one.	0	
43		B2. Not B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly located apart from the prevalent one, in separate zones or clumps, or is completely absent.	0	
44	F7 Large Snags (Dead Standing Trees)	The number of large snags (diameter >20 cm) in the AA plus adjacent upland area within 10 m of the wetland edge is:		Snags are dead standing trees that often (not always) lack bark and foliage. Include only ones that are at least 2 m tall. [POL, SBM, WBN]
45		None, or fewer than 8/ hectare which exceed this diameter.	0	
46		Several (>8/hectare) and a pond, lake, or slow-flowing water wider than 10 m is within 1 km.	0	
47		Several (>8/hectare) but above not true.	1	
48	F8 Downed Wood	The number of downed wood pieces longer than 2 m and with diameter >10 cm, and not persistently submerged, is:		Exclude temporary "burn piles." [AM, INV, POL, SBM]
49		Few or none that meet these criteria.	0	
50		Several (>5 if AA is >5 hectares, less for smaller AAs) meet these criteria.	1	
51	F9 N Fixers	The percentage of the AA's vegetated cover that contains nitrogen-fixing plants (e.g., alder, sweetgale, clover, lupine, alfalfa, other legumes) is:		Do not include N-fixing algae or lichens. [FA, FR, INV, NRv, OE, PH, SBM, Sens]
52		<1% or none.	0	
53		1-25% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	1	
54		25-50% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	
55		50-75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	
56		>75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	

A	B	C	D	E
57	F10 Sphagnum Moss Extent	The cover of Sphagnum moss (or any moss that forms a dense cushion many centimeters thick), including the moss obscured by taller sedges and other plants rooted in it, is:		
58		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
59		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
60		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
61		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
62		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
63	F11 % Bare Ground & Thatch	Consider the parts of the AA that lack surface water at the driest time of the growing season. Viewed from directly above the ground layer, the predominant condition in those areas at that time is:		
64		Little or no (<5%) <i>bare ground</i> is visible between erect stems or under canopy anywhere in the vegetated AA. Ground is extensively blanketed by dense thatch, moss, lichens, graminoids with great stem densities, or plants with ground-hugging foliage.	0	
65		Slightly bare ground (5-20% bare between plants) is visible in places, but those areas comprise less than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	1	
66		Much bare ground (20-50% bare between plants) is visible in places, and those areas comprise more than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
67		Other conditions.	0	
68		Not applicable. Surface water (either open or obscured by emergent plants) covers all of the AA all the time.	0	
69	F12 Ground Irregularity	Imagine the AA without any living vegetation. Excluding the portion of the AA that is always under water, the number of hummocks, small pits, raised mounds, animal burrows, ruts, gullies, natural levees, microdepressions, and other areas of peat or mineral soil that are raised or depressed >10 cm compared to most of the area within a few meters surrounding them is:		
70		Few or none (minimal microtopography; <1% of the land has such features, or entire AA is always water-covered).	0	
71		Intermediate.	1	
72		Several (extensive micro-topography).	0	
73	F13 Upland Inclusions	Within the AA, inclusions of upland are:		
74		Few or none.	1	
75		Intermediate (1 - 10% of vegetated part of the AA).	0	
76		Many (e.g., wetland-upland "mosaic", >10% of the vegetated AA).	0	
77	F14 Soil Texture	In parts of the AA that lack persistent water, the texture of soil in the uppermost layer is mostly: [To determine this, use a trowel to check in at least 3 widely spaced locations, and use the soil texture key (in Appendix A of the Manual).]		
78		Loamy : soils that may contain a little fine grit and do not make a "ribbon" longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
79		Fines : includes silt, clay, silt, soils that make a ribbon longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
80		Deep Peat , to 40 cm depth or greater.	0	
81		Shallow Peat or organic <40 cm deep.	1	
82		Coarse : includes sand, loamy sand, gravel, cobble, soils that do not make a ribbon when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
83	F15 Shorebird Feeding Habitats	During any 2 consecutive weeks of the growing season, the extent of mudflats, bare unshaded saturated areas not covered by thatch, and unshaded waters shallower than 6 cm is: [Include also any area that is adjacent to the AA.]		
84		None, or <100 sq. m.	1	
85		100-1000 sq. m.	0	
86		1000 – 10,000 sq. m.	0	
87		>10,000 sq. m.	0	
88	F16 Herbaceous % of Vegetated Wetland	In aerial ("ducks eye") view, the maximum annual cover of herbaceous vegetation (all non-woody plants except moss) is:		
89		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA or <0.01 hectare (whichever is less). Mark "1" here and SKIP to F20 (Invasive Plant Cover).	0	
90		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
91		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
92		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
93		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
94	F17 Forb Cover	Within parts of the AA having herbaceous cover (excluding SAV), the areal cover of forbs reaches an annual maximum of:		Forbs are flowering plants. Do not include grasses, sedges, cattail, other graminoids, ferns, horsetails, or others that lack showy flowers. [POL]
95		<5% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
96		5-25% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
97		25-50% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
98		50-95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
99		>95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
100	F18 Sedge Cover	Sedges (<i>Carex</i> spp.) and cottongrass (<i>Eriophorum</i> spp.) occupy:		[CS]
101		<5% of the vegetated area, or none.		
102		5-50% of the vegetated area.		
103		50-95% of the vegetated area.		
104		>95% of the vegetated area.		
105	F19 Dominance of Most Abundant Herbaceous Species	Determine which two herbaceous species comprise the greatest portion of the herbaceous cover (excluding mosses and floating-leaved aquatic plants). Then choose one of the following:		For this question, include ferns as well as graminoids and forbs. [EC, INV, PH, POL, Sens]
106		those species together comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		
107		those species together do not comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		
108	F20 Invasive Plant Cover	How extensive is the cover of invasive plant species in the AA? For species, see Plants_invasive worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file.		[EC, PH, POL, Sens]
109		invasive species appear to be absent in the AA, or are present only in trace amount (a few individuals).		
110		invasive species are present in more than trace amounts, but comprise <5% of herbaceous cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
111		invasive species comprise 5-20% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
112		invasive species comprise 20-50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
113		invasive species comprise >50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
114	F21 Invasive Cover Along Upland Edge	Along the wetland-upland boundary, the percent of the upland edge (within 3 m upslope from the wetland) that is occupied by invasive plant species is:		If a plant cannot be identified to species (e.g., winter conditions) but its genus contains an exotic species, assume the unidentified plant to also be exotic. If vegetation is so senesced that exotic species cannot be identified, answer "none". [PH, STR]
115		none of the upland edge (invasives apparently absent), or AA has no upland edge.		
116		some (but <5%) of the upland edge.		
117		5-50% of the upland edge.		
118		most (>50%) of the upland edge.		
119	F22 Fringe Wetland	During most of the year, open water within or adjacent to the vegetated part of the wetland is much wider than the maximum width of the vegetated zone within the wetland. Enter "1" if true, "0" if false.	0	[WBF, WBN, WCv]
120	F23 Lacustrine Wetland	The vegetated part of the AA is within or adjacent to a body of non-tidal standing open water whose size exceeds 8 hectares during most of a normal year.	0	[FR, PR, PU, WBF, WBN]
121	F24 % of AA Without Surface Water	The percentage of the AA that never contains surface water during an average year (that is, except perhaps for a few hours after snowmelt or rainstorms), but which is still a wetland, is:		1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SRv, WBF, WBN, WC]
122		<1%. In other words, all or nearly all of the AA is covered by water permanently or at least seasonally.		
123		1-25% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha never contains surface water.		
124		25-50% of the AA never contains surface water.		
125		50-75% of the AA never contains surface water.		
126		75-99% of the AA never contains surface water, OR >99% and there is at least one persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha in the AA.		
127		99-100%. AND there is no persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha within the AA. Enter "1" and SKIP to F42 (Channel Connection).		
128	F25 % of AA with Persistent Surface Water	Identify the parts of the AA that still contain surface water (flowing or ponded, open or hidden beneath vegetation) even during the driest times of a normal year, i.e., when the AA's surface water is at its lowest annual level. At that time, the percentage of the AA that still contains surface water is:		If you are unable to determine the condition at the driest time of year, ask the land owner or neighbors about it if possible. Indicators of persistence may include fish, some dragonflies, beaver, and muskrat. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, POL, PR, SBM, WBF, WBN]
129		None. The AA dries up completely (no water in channels either) or never has surface water during most years. SKIP to F27.		
130		1-20% of the AA.		
131		20-50% of the AA.		
132		50-95% of the AA.		
133		>95% of the AA. True for many fringe wetlands.		

A	B	C	D	E
134	F26 % of Summertime Water that Is Shaded	At mid-day during the warmest time of year, the area of surface water <u>within</u> the AA that is shaded by vegetation and other features that are within the AA at that time is:		[FA, WC]
135		<5% of the water is shaded, or no surface water is present then.	0	
136		5-25% of the water is shaded.	0	
137		25-50% of the water is shaded.	0	
138		50-75% of the water is shaded.	1	
139		>75% of the water is shaded.	0	
140	F27 % of AA that is Flooded Only Seasonally	The percentage of the AA's area that is between the annual high water and the annual low water (surface water) is:		Flood marks (algal mats, adventitious roots, debris lines, ice scour, etc.) are often evident when not fully inundated. Also, such areas often have a larger proportion of upland and annual (vs. perennial) plant species. In riverine systems, the extent of this zone can be estimated by multiplying by 2 the bankfull height and visualising where that would intercept the land along the river. [CS, FA, INV, NR, OE, PH, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
141		None, or <0.01 hectare and <1% of the AA. SKIP to F29.	0	
142		1-20% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha.	0	
143		20-50% of the AA.	0	
144		50-95% of the AA.	1	
145		>95% of the AA.	0	
146	F28 Annual Water Fluctuation Range	The annual fluctuation in surface water level within most of the parts of the AA that contain surface water at least temporarily is:		Look for flood marks (see above). Because the annual range of water levels is difficult to estimate without multiple visits, consider asking the land owner or neighbors about it. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SR, WBN, WS]
147		<10 cm change (stable or nearly so).	0	
148		10 cm - 50 cm change.	1	
149		0.5 - 1 m change.	0	
150		1-2 m change.	0	
151		>2 m change.	0	
152	Is the AA plus adjacent ponded water smaller than 0.01 hectare (about 10m x 10m, or 1m x 100 m)? If so, enter "1" in column D and SKIP TO F42 (Connection).		0	
153	F29 Predominant Depth Class	During most of the time when surface water is present during the growing season, its depth, averaged over the entire inundated part of the AA, is:		If a boat is unavailable, estimate this by considering wetland size and local topography. Or if timing and safety allow, depths may be measured by drilling through winter ice. This question is asking about the spatial median depth that occurs during most of that time, even if inundation is only seasonal or temporary. If inundation in most but not all of the wetland is brief, the answer will be based on the depth of the most persistently inundated part of the wetland. Include surface water in channels and ditches as well as ponded areas. [CS, FA, FR, INV, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
154		<10 cm deep (but >0).	0	
155		10 - 50 cm deep.	1	
156		0.5 - 1 m deep.	0	
157		1 - 2 m deep.	0	
158		>2 m deep. True for many fringe wetlands.	0	
159	F30 Depth Classes - Evenness of Proportions	When present, surface water in most of the AA usually consists of (select one):		Estimate these proportions by considering the gradient and microtopography of the site. [FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
160		One depth class that comprises >90% of the AA's inundated area (use the classes in the question above).	0	
161		One depth class that comprises 50-90% of the AA's inundated area.	0	
162		Neither of above. There are 3 or more depth classes and none occupy >50%.	1	
163	F31 % of Water That Is Ponded (not Flowing)	During most times when surface water is present, the percentage that is (1) ponded (stagnant, or flows so slowly that fine sediment is not held in suspension) AND (2) is likely to be deeper than 0.5 m in some places, is:		Nearly all wetlands with surface water have some ponded water. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WBN, WC, WS]
164		<5% of the water, or it occupies <100 sq.m cumulatively. Nearly all the surface water is flowing. SKIP to F34.	1	
165		5-30% of the water.	0	
166		30-70% of the water.	0	
167		70-95% of the water.	0	
168		>95% of the water.	0	
169	F32 Ponded Open Water - Minimum Size	During most of the growing season, the largest patch of open water that is ponded and is in or bordering the AA is >0.01 hectare (about 10 m by 10 m) and mostly deeper than 0.5 m. If true enter "1" and continue, If false, enter "0" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	Open water is not obscured by vegetation in aerial ("duck's eye") view. It includes vegetation floating on the water surface or entirely submersed beneath it.
170	F33 % of Ponded Water that is Open	In ducks-eye aerial view, the percentage of the ponded water that is open (lacking emergent vegetation during most of the growing season, and unhidden by a forest or shrub canopy) is:		[AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
171		None, or <1% of the AA and largest pool occupies <0.01 hectares. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
172		1-4% of the ponded water. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
173		5-30% of the ponded water.	0	
174		30-70% of the ponded water.	0	
175		70-99% of the ponded water.	0	
176		100% of the ponded water.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
177	F34	Width of Vegetated Zone within Wetland	At the time during the growing season when the AA's water level is lowest, the average width of vegetated area <u>in the AA</u> that separates adjoining uplands from open water within the AA is:	
178			<1 m.	0
179			1 - 9 m.	0
180			10 - 29 m.	1
181			30 - 49 m.	0
182			50 - 100 m.	0
183			>100 m, or open water is absent at that time.	0
184	F35	Flat Shoreline Extent	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the percentage of the AA's water edge length that is nearly flat (a slope less than about 5% measured within 5 m landward of the water) is:	
185			<1% of the water edge.	0
186			1-25% of the water edge.	0
187			25-50% of the water edge.	0
188			50-75% of the water edge.	0
189			>75% of the water edge.	1
190	F36	Robust Emergents	The percentage of the emergent vegetation cover in the AA that is cattail (<i>Typha spp.</i>), common reed (<i>Phragmites</i>), or tall (>1m) bulrush is:	
191			<1% of the emergent vegetation, or emergent vegetation is absent. SKIP to F38.	1
192			1-25% of the emergent vegetation.	0
193			25-75% of the emergent vegetation.	0
194			>75% of the emergent vegetation.	0
195	F37	Interspersion of Emergents & Open Water	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the spatial pattern of emergent vegetation within the water is mostly:	
196			Scattered. More than 30% of such vegetation forms small islands or corridors surrounded by water.	0
197			Intermediate.	1
198			Clumped. More than 70% of such vegetation is in bands along the wetland perimeter or is clumped at one or a few sides of the surface water area.	0
199	F38	Persistent Deepwater Area	If the deepest patch of surface water (flowing or ponded) in or directly adjacent to the AA is mostly deeper than 0.5 m for >2 weeks during the growing season, enter "1" and continue. If not, enter "0" and SKIP to F42. (Connection).	0
200	F39	Non-vegetated Aquatic Cover	During most of the growing season and in waters deeper than 0.5 m, the cover for fish, aquatic invertebrates, and/or amphibians that is provided NOT by living vegetation, but by accumulations of dead wood and undercut banks is:	
201			Little or none.	0
202			Intermediate.	0
203			Extensive.	0
204	F40	Isolated Island	The AA contains (or is part of) an island or beaver lodge within a lake, pond, or river, and is isolated from the shore by water depths >1 m on all sides during an average June. The island may be solid, or it may be a floating vegetation mat that is sufficiently large and dense to support a waterbird nest.	0
205	F41	Floating Algae & Duckweed	At some time of the year, mats of algae and/or duckweed are likely to cover >50% of the AA's otherwise-unshaded water surface, or blanket >50% of the underwater substrate. If true, enter "1" in next column. If untrue or uncertain, enter "0".	0
				[WBN]
				[EC, PR, WBF]

A	B	C	D	E
206	F42 Channel Connection & Outflow Duration	The most persistent surface water connection (outlet channel or pipe, ditch, or overbank water exchange) between the AA and a downslope stream network is: [Note: If the AA represents only part of a wetland, answer this according to whichever is the least permanent surface connection: the one between the AA and the rest of the wetland, or the surface connection between the wetland and the downslope stream network.]		Consider the connection regardless of whether the surface water is frozen. The "downslope stream network" could consist of ditches, rivers, ponds, or lakes which eventually connect to the ocean. If this cannot be determined while visiting the AA, consult topographic maps perhaps by viewing these online with Toporama (http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html) [CS, FA, FR, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WCv, WS]
207		Persistent (surface water flows out for >9 months/year).		
208		Seasonal (surface water flows out for 14 days to 9 months/year, not necessarily consecutive).		
209		Temporary (surface water flows out for <14 days, not necessarily consecutive).		
210		None -- but maps show a stream network downslope from the AA and within a distance that is less than the AA's length. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
211		No surface water flows out of the wetland except possibly during extreme events (<once per 10 years). Or, water flows only into a wetland, ditch, or lake that lacks an outlet. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
212	F43 Outflow Confinement	During major runoff events, in the places where surface water exits the AA or connected waters nearby, the water:		"Major runoff events" would include biennial high water caused by storms and/or rapid snowmelt. [CS, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, STR, WS]
213		Mostly passes through a pipe, culvert, narrowly breached dike, berm, beaver dam, or other partial obstruction (other than natural topography) that does not appear to drain the wetland artificially during most of the growing season.		
214		Leaves through natural exits (channels or diffuse outflow), not mainly through artificial or temporary features.		
215		Is exported more quickly than usual due to ditches or pipes within the AA or connected to its outlet, or within 10 m of the AA's edge, which drain the wetland artificially, or water is pumped out of the AA.		
216	F44 Tributary Channel	At least once annually, surface water from a tributary channel that is >100 m long moves into the AA. Or, surface water from a larger permanent water body adjacent to the AA spills into the AA. If it enters only via a pipe, that pipe must be fed by a mapped stream or lake further upslope. If no, SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	1	If inlet tributaries cannot be searched for due to inaccessibility of part of the AA, follow suggestions in F42 above. [NRv, PH, PRv, SRv]
217	F45 Input Water Temperature	Based on lack of shade, water source characteristics, or actual temperature measurements, the inflow is likely to be warmer than surface water in the AA during part of most years. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	[WCv]
218	F46 Throughflow Resistance	During its travel through the AA at the time of peak annual flow, water arriving in channels: [select only the ONE encountered by most of the incoming water].		[FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
219		Does not bump into many plant stems as it travels through the AA. Nearly all the water continues to travel in unvegetated (often incised) channels that have minimal contact with wetland vegetation, or through a zone of open water such as an instream pond or lake.		
220		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
221		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation and mostly spreads throughout, or is in widely meandering, multi-branched, or braided channels.		
222		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
223		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems and follows a fairly indirect path from entrance to exit (meandering, multi-branched, or braided).		
224	F47 pH Measurement	The pH in most of the AA's surface water:		Preferably, measure this in larger areas of ponded surface water within the AA, or in streams that have passed through (not along) most of the AA. Unless surface water is completely absent, do not dig holes or make depressions in peat in order to provide water for this measurement. Avoid measuring near roads or in puddles formed only by recent rain. [AM, FA, FR, NR, WBF, PH, PR, Sens, WBF, WBN]
225		Was measured, and is: [enter the reading in the column to the right.]		
226		Was not measured but surface water is present and is darkly tea-coloured. Or if no surface water, then mosses and plants that indicate peatland (e.g., Labrador tea) are prevalent. Enter "1".		
227		Neither of above. Enter "1".		
228		The TDS (total dissolved solids) or conductivity off the AA's surface water is: (select the first true row with information):		
229	F48 TDS and/or Conductivity	TDS is: [Enter the reading in ppm or mg/L in the column to the right, if measured, or answer next row.]		See above for measurement guidance. [FR, INV, NRv, PH, PRv, Sens]
230		Conductivity is: [Enter the reading in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ in the column to the right.]		
231		Was not measured, but plants that indicate saline conditions cover much of the vegetated AA. Enter "1".		
232		Neither of above		
233	F49 Beaver Probability	Use of the AA by beaver during the past 5 years is (select most applicable ONE):		[FA, FR, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
234		Evident from direct observation or presence of gnawed limbs, dams, tracks, dens, lodges, or extensive stands of water-killed trees (snags).		
235		Likely based on known occurrence in the region and proximity to suitable habitat, which may include: (a) a persistent freshwater wetland, pond, or lake, or a perennial low or mid-gradient (<10%) channel, and (b) a corridor or multiple stands of hardwood trees and shrubs in vegetated areas near surface water.		
236		Unlikely because site characteristics above are deficient, and/or this is a settled area or other area where beaver are routinely removed.		

A	B	C	D	E
237	F50 Groundwater Strength of Evidence	Select first applicable choice:		
238		Springs are known to be present within the AA, or if groundwater levels have been monitored, that has demonstrated that groundwater primarily discharges to the wetland for longer periods during the year than periods when the wetland recharges the groundwater.	0	Adhere to these criteria strictly -- do not use personal judgment based on fen conditions, pH, or other evidence. Consult topographic maps to detect breaks in slope described here. Rust deposits associated with groundwater seeps may be most noticeable as orange discoloration in ice formations along streams during early winter. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PRv, SFS, WC, WS]
239		Most of the AA has a slope of >5%, or is very close to the base of a natural slope longer than 100 and much steeper than the slope of the AA, AND the pH of surface water, if known, is >5.5.	1	
240		Neither of above is true, although some groundwater may discharge to or flow through the AA. Or groundwater influx is unknown.	0	
241	F51 Internal Gradient	The gradient along most of the flow path within the AA is:		
242		<2% or the AA has no surface water outlet (not even seasonally).	1	
243		2-5%.	0	
244		6-10%.	0	
245		>10%.	0	
246	Note for the next three questions: If the AA lacks an upland edge, evaluate based on the AA's entire perimeter, and moving outward into whatever areas are adjacent. In many situations, these questions are best answered by measuring from aerial images.			
247	F52 Vegetated Buffer as % of Perimeter	Within a zone extending 30 m laterally from the AA's edge with upland and/or other wetlands, the percentage that contains perennial vegetation cover (except lawns, row crops, heavily grazed land, conifer plantations) is:		[AM, FA, FR, INV, NRv, PH, POL, PRv, SBM, Sens, SRv, STR, WBN]
248		<5%.	0	
249		5 to 30%.	0	
250		30 to 60%.	0	
251		60 to 90%.	1	
252		>90%, or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands. SKIP to F55.	0	
253	F53 Type of Cover in Buffer	Within 30 m upslope of where the wetland transitions to upland, the upland land cover that is NOT perennial vegetation is mostly (mark ONE):		[AM, FA, INV, NRv, PH, POL, SBM, STR, WBN]
254		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.	0	
255		Bare or nearly bare pervious surface or managed vegetation, e.g., lawn, row crops, unpaved road, dike, landslide.	1	
256	F54 Buffer Slope	The steepest and/or most disturbed part of the upland area that is within 30 m of the wetland and occupies >10% of that upland area has a percent slope of:		[NRv, PRv, Sens, SRv]
257		<1% (flat -- almost no noticeable slope) or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands.	0	
258		2-5%.	0	
259		5-30%.	1	
260		>30%.	0	
261	F55 Cliffs or Steep Banks	In the AA or within 100 m, there are elevated terrestrial features such as cliffs, talus slopes, stream banks, or excavated pits (but not riprap) that extend at least 2 m nearly vertically, are unvegetated, and potentially contain crevices or other substrate suitable for nesting or den areas. Enter 1 (yes) or 0 (no).	0	Do not include upturned trees as potential den sites. [POL, SBM]
262	F56 New or Expanded Wetland	Human actions within or adjacent to the AA have persistently expanded a naturally occurring wetland or created a wetland where there previously was none (e.g., by excavation, impoundment):		Determine this using historical aerial photography, old maps, soil maps, or permit files as available [CS, NR, OE, PH, Sens]
263		No.	0	
264		Yes, and created or expanded 20 - 100 years ago.	0	
265		Yes, and created or expanded 3-20 years ago.	0	
266		Yes, and created or expanded within last 3 years.	0	
267		Yes, but time of origin or expansion unknown.	1	
268		Unknown if new or expanded within 20 years or not.	0	
269	F57 Burn History	More than 1% of the AA's previously vegetated area:		Look for charred soil or stumps (in multiple widely-spaced locations) or ask landowner. [CS, PH, STR]
270		Burned within past 5 years.	0	
271		Burned 6-10 years ago.	0	
272		Burned 11-30 years ago.	0	
273		Burned >30 years ago, or no evidence of a burn and no data.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
274	F58	Visibility	The maximum percentage of the wetland that is visible from the best vantage point on public roads, public parking lots, public buildings, or public maintained trails that intersect, adjoin, or are within 100 m of the AA (select one) is: <25%. 25-50%. >50%.	[PU, STR, WBFv] 0 0 1
275				
276				
277				
278	F59	Non-consumptive Uses - Actual or Potential	Assuming access permission was granted, select ALL statements that are true of the AA as it currently exists: For an average person, walking is physically possible <u>in</u> (not just near) >5% of the AA during most of the growing season, e.g., free of deep water and dense shrub thickets. Maintained roads, parking areas, or foot-trails are within 10 m of the AA, or the AA can be accessed part of the year by boats arriving via contiguous waters. Within or near the AA, there is an interpretive center, trails with interpretive signs or brochures, and/or regular guided interpretive tours.	[PU, STR] 0 1 0
279				
280				
281				
282	F60	Unvisited Core Area	The percentage of the AA almost never visited by humans during an average growing season probably comprises: [Note: Only include the part actually walked or driven (not simply viewed from) with a vehicle or boat. Do not include visitors on trails outside of the AA unless more than half the wetland is visible from the trails and they are within 30 m of the wetland edge. In that case include only the area occupied by the trail.] <5% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA. <5% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA. 5-50% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA. 5-50% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA. 50-95%, with or without inhabited building nearby. >95% of the AA with or without inhabited building nearby.	[AM, FAV, FRV, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN] 0 0 0 0 0 0 1
283				
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289	F61	Frequently Visited Area	The part of the AA visited by humans almost daily for several weeks during an average growing season probably comprises: [See note above.] <5%. If F60 was answered ">95%" (mostly never visited), SKIP to F64. 5-50%. 50-95%. >95% of the AA.	[AM, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN] 1 0 0 0
290				
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293				
294	F62	BMP - Soils	Boardwalks, paved trails, fences or other infrastructure and/or well-enforced regulations appear to effectively prevent visitors from walking on soil within nearly all of the AA when the soil is unfrozen. Enter "1" if true.	[PH, PU] 0
295	F63	BMP - Wildlife Protection	Fences, observation blinds, platforms, paved trails, exclusion periods, and/or well-enforced prohibitions on motorised boats, off-leash pets, and off road vehicles appear to effectively exclude or divert visitors and their pets from the AA at critical times in order to minimize disturbance of wildlife (except during hunting seasons). Enter "1" if true.	[AM, PU, WBF, WBN] 0
296	F64	Consumptive Uses (Provisioning Services)	Recent evidence was found within the AA of the following potentially-sustainable consumptive uses. Select ALL that apply. Low-impact commercial timber harvest (e.g., selective thinning). Commercial or traditional-use harvesting of native plants, their fruits, or mushrooms. Waterfowl hunting. Fishing. Trapping of furbearers. None of the above.	[FAv, FRv, WBFv] 0 0 0 0 0 1
297				
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302				
303	F65	Domestic Wells	The closest wells or water bodies that currently provide drinking water are: Within 0-100 m. of the AA. 100-500 m. away. >500 m. away, or no information.	[NRv] 0 0 1
304				
305				
306				
307	F66	Calcareous Fen	The AA is, or is part of, a calcareous fen. See the Plants_Calcar worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file for list of plant indicators (calciphiles). Enter 1 if more than two Strong or more than five Moderate calciphile species are present; otherwise enter 0, but if not able to identify those and no information, change to blank.	[PH, PR] 0
308				

Investigator: Jordan Davis, Alex Scott	Site Identifier: Higgins Mtn, WL14	Date: 06 October 2022	
Stressor (S) Data Form for Non-Tidal Wetlands. WESP-AC for Nova Scotia version 2.			
S1	Aberrant Timing of Water Inputs	Data	
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item that is likely to have caused the timing of water inputs (but not necessarily their volume) to shift by hours, days, or weeks, becoming either more muted (smaller or less frequent peaks spread over longer times, more temporal homogeneity of flow or water levels) or more flashy (larger or more frequent spikes but over shorter times). [FA, FR, INV, PH, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater from impervious surfaces that drains directly to the wetland.</p> <p>Water subsidies from wastewater effluent, septic system leakage, snow storage areas, or irrigation.</p> <p>Regular removal of surface or groundwater for irrigation or other consumptive use.</p> <p>Flow regulation in tributaries or water level regulation in adjoining water body, or other control structure at water entry points that regulates inflow to the wetland.</p> <p>A dam, dike, levee, weir, berm, or fill -- within or downgradient from the wetland -- that interferes with surface or subsurface flow in/out of the AA (e.g., road fill, wellpads, pipelines).</p> <p>Excavation within the wetland, e.g., dugout, artificial pond, dead-end ditch.</p> <p>Artificial drains or ditches in or near the wetland.</p> <p>Accelerated downcutting or channelization of an adjacent or internal channel (incised below the historical water table level).</p> <p>Logging within the wetland.</p> <p>Subsidence or compaction of the wetland's substrate as a result of machinery, livestock, fire, drainage, or off road vehicles.</p> <p>Straightening, ditching, dredging, and/or lining of tributary channels.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items had no measurable effect on the timing of water conditions in any part of the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>			
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)
Spatial extent of timing shift within the wetland:	>95% of wetland.	5-95% of wetland.	<5% of wetland.
When most of the timing shift began:	<3 yrs ago.	3-9 yrs ago.	10-100 yrs ago.
Score the following 2 rows only if the altered inputs began within past 10 years, and only for the part of the wetland that experiences those.			
Input timing now vs. previously:	Shift of weeks.	Shift of days.	Shift of hours or minutes.
Flashiness or muting:	Became very flashy or controlled.	Intermediate.	Became mildly flashy or controlled.
		Sum=	0.42
S2	Accelerated Inputs of Contaminants and/or Salts	Data	
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of contaminants or salts to the AA. [AM, FA, PH, POL, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills, industrial facilities.</p> <p>Metals & chemical wastes from mining, shooting ranges, snow storage areas, oil/gas extraction, other sources (download many locations from National Pollutant Release Inventory and view KMZ overlay in Google Earth. https://www.ec.gc.ca/inrp-npri/default.asp?lang=En&n=B85A1846-1</p> <p>Road salt.</p> <p>Spraying of pesticides, as applied to lawns, croplands, roadsides, or other areas in the CA.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly higher levels of contaminants and/or salts, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>			
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)
Usual toxicity of most toxic contaminants:	Industrial effluent, mining waste, unmanaged landfill.	Cropland, managed landfill, pipeline or transmission rights-of-way.	Low density residential.
Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.
AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.
		Sum=	0
		Stressor subscore=	0.00

S3	Accelerated Inputs of Nutrients				
	In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of nutrients to the wetland. [NRv, PRv, STR]				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills.				
	Fertilizers applied to lawns, ag lands, or other areas in the CA.				
	Livestock, dogs.				
	Artificial drainage of upslope lands.				1
	If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly more nutrients, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Type of loading:	High density of unmaintained septic, some types of industrial sources.	Moderate density septic, cropland, secondary wastewater treatment plant.	Livestock, pets, low density residential.	1
	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	1
	AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	2
					Sum= 4
					Stressor subscore= 0.44
S4	Excessive Sediment Loading from Contributing Area				
	In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the CA that is likely to have elevated the load of waterborne or windborne sediment reaching the wetland from its CA. [FA, FR, INV, PH, SRv, STR]				
	Erosion from plowed fields, fill, timber harvest, dirt roads, vegetation clearing, fires.				1
	Erosion from construction, in-channel machinery in the CA.				
	Erosion from off-road vehicles in the CA.				
	Erosion from livestock or foot traffic in the CA.				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent.				
	Sediment from road sanding, gravel mining, other mining, oil/ gas extraction.				
	Accelerated channel downcutting or headcutting of tributaries due to altered land use.				
	Other human-related disturbances within the CA.				
	If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points (3, 2, or 1 as shown in header) in the last column. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively add significantly more sediment or suspended solids to the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Erosion in CA:	Extensive evidence, high intensity.*	Potentially (based on high-intensity* land use) or scattered evidence.	Potentially (based on low-intensity* land use) with little or no direct evidence.	1
	Recentness of significant soil disturbance in the CA:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	1
	Duration of sediment inputs to the wetland:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	1
	AA proximity to actual or potential sources:	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m.	In more distant part of contributing area.	2
	* high-intensity= extensive off-road vehicle use, plowing, grading, excavation, erosion with or without veg removal; low-intensity= veg removal only with little or no apparent erosion or disturbance of soil or sediment.				Sum= 5
					Stressor subscore= 0.42

S5	Soil or Sediment Alteration Within the Assessment Area				
<p><i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the wetland that is likely to have compacted, eroded, or otherwise altered the wetland's soil. Consider only items occurring within past 100 years or since wetland was created or restored (whichever is less). [CS, INV, NR, PH, SR, STR]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compaction from machinery, off-road vehicles, livestock, or mountain bikes, especially during wetter periods. Leveling or other grading not to the natural contour. Tillage, plowing (but excluding disking for enhancement of native plants). Fill or riprap, excluding small amounts of upland soils containing organic amendments (compost, etc.) or small amounts of topsoil imported from another wetland. Excavation. Ditch cleaning or dredging in or adjacent to the wetland. Boat traffic in or adjacent to the wetland and sufficient to cause shore erosion or stir bottom sediments. Artificial water level or flow manipulations sufficient to cause erosion or stir bottom sediments. <p><i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not measurably alter the soil structure and/or topography, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i></p>					
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
Spatial extent of altered soil:	>95% of wetland or >95% of its upland edge (if any).	5-95% of wetland or 5-95% of its upland edge (if any).	<5% of wetland and <5% of its upland edge (if any).	0	
Recentness of significant soil alteration in wetland:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0	
Duration:	Long-lasting, minimal veg recovery.	Long-lasting but mostly revegetated.	Short-term, revegetated, not intense.	0	
Timing of soil alteration:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Mainly during one-time or scattered events.	0	
			Sum=	0	
			Stressor subscore=	0.00	

Assessment Area (AA) Results:

Wetland ID: WL14

Date: 06 October 2022

Observer: JD AS

Latitude & Longitude (decimal degrees): 45.56578056, 63.63432500

Scores will appear below after data are entered in worksheets OF, F, and S. See Manual for definitions and descriptions of how scores were computed.						
Wetland Functions or Other Attributes:	Function Score (Normalised)	Function Rating	Benefits Score (Normalised)	Benefits Rating	Function Score (raw)	Benefits Score (raw)
Water Storage & Delay (WS)	2.46	Lower	7.84	Higher	3.78	3.48
Stream Flow Support (SFS)	5.24	Higher	8.36	Higher	4.22	5.57
Water Cooling (WC)	8.35	Higher	3.71	Moderate	5.57	2.01
Sediment Retention & Stabilisation (SR)	5.50	Moderate	9.30	Higher	6.49	4.56
Phosphorus Retention (PR)	2.44	Lower	8.84	Higher	5.27	6.88
Nitrate Removal & Retention (NR)	5.73	Higher	10.00	Higher	6.91	10.00
Carbon Sequestration (CS)	2.39	Lower			6.32	
Organic Nutrient Export (OE)	8.26	Higher			5.40	
Anadromous Fish Habitat (FA)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Resident Fish Habitat (FR)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Aquatic Invertebrate Habitat (INV)	7.84	Higher	5.06	Moderate	6.69	3.97
Amphibian & Turtle Habitat (AM)	7.93	Higher	6.16	Higher	7.28	6.84
Waterbird Feeding Habitat (WBF)	7.52	Higher	10.00	Higher	5.72	10.00
Waterbird Nesting Habitat (WBN)	8.32	Higher	10.00	Higher	6.03	10.00
Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat (SBM)	5.51	Moderate	10.00	Higher	4.80	10.00
Pollinator Habitat (POL)	7.87	Moderate	0.00	Lower	6.52	0.00
Native Plant Habitat (PH)	4.36	Moderate	3.77	Lower	5.64	3.77
Public Use & Recognition (PU)			2.80	Moderate		2.22
Wetland Sensitivity (Sens)			5.83	Moderate		3.83
Wetland Ecological Condition (EC)			3.62	Lower		6.94
Wetland Stressors (STR) (higher score means more stress)			7.99	Higher		4.02
Summary Ratings for Grouped Functions:						
HYDROLOGIC Group (WS)	2.46	Lower	7.84	Higher	3.78	3.48
WATER QUALITY SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SR, PR, NR, CS)	4.87	Moderate	9.69	Higher	6.58	8.57
AQUATIC SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SFS, INV, OE, WC)	7.89	Higher	7.04	Moderate	6.08	4.71
AQUATIC HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of FA, FR, AM, WBF, WBN)	6.53	Higher	7.62	Higher	5.54	7.68
TRANSITION HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of SBM, PH, POL)	6.89	Higher	7.30	Moderate	6.09	7.30
WETLAND CONDITION (EC)			3.62	Lower		6.94
WETLAND RISK (average of Sensitivity & Stressors)			6.91	Higher		3.93
		NOTE: A score of 0 does not mean the function or benefit is absent from the wetland. It means only that this wetland has a capacity that is equal or less than the lowest-scoring one, for that function or benefit, from among all the NS calibration wetlands that were assessed previously.				

NOVA SCOTIA - Functional WSS Interpretation Tool

Function-Benefit Product (FBP)	FBP SCORE	FBP SCORE CATEGORY
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - HYDROLOGIC	19.25148092	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - WATER QUALITY SUPPORT	47.18250378	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC SUPPORT	55.49373748	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC HABITAT	49.77047286	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - TRANSITION HABITAT	50.28148422	Low

Habitat Rule Satisfied? NO

Support Rule Satisfied? NO

Habitat/Support Hybrid Rule Satisfied? NO

CONCLUSION: Site is not a WSS

Cover Page: Basic Description of Assessment	WESP-AC version 2
Site Name:	Higgins Mountain, WL15
Investigator Name:	Madeline Maher, Alex Scott, Jordan Davis
Date of Field Assessment:	06 October 2022
Nearest Town:	Masstown
Latitude (decimal degrees):	45.56623889
Longitude (decimal degrees):	63.63502500
Is a map based on a formal on-site wetland delineation available?	Yes
Approximate size of the Assessment Area (AA, in hectares):	0.04
AA as percent of entire wetland (approx.). Attach sketch map if AA is smaller than the entire contiguous wetland.	15
What percent (approx.) of the wetland were you able to visit?	15
What percent (approx.) of the AA were you able to visit?	100
Were you able to ask the site owner/manager about any of the questions?	No
Indicate here if you intentionally surveyed for rare plants, calciphile plants, or rare animals:	Yes
Have you attended a WESP-AC training session? If so, indicate approximate month & year.	October 2022
How many wetlands have you assessed previously using WESP-AC? (approx.)	30
Comments about the site or this WESP-AC assessment (attach extra page if desired):	

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date: 08 November 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL15		Investigator: Madeline Maher	
2	Form OF (Office). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia wetlands only. DIRECTIONS: Conduct an assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answering many of the questions below will require using these online map viewers: Google Earth Pro: https://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html Provincial Landscape Viewer: https://nsgis.novascotia.ca/plv/ For most wetlands, completing this office data form will require 1-2 hours. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see bracketed abbreviations in the Definitions/Explanations column. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.				
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations
4	OF1	Province	Mark the province in which the AA is located by changing the 0 in the column next to it to a "1". Mark only one.		This determines to which province's calibration wetlands the raw score of any wetland is normalised. In the function and benefits models, it also triggers the automatic exclusion of indicators for which no spatial data exists in a particular province.
5			New Brunswick	0	
6			Nova Scotia	1	
7			Prince Edward Island	0	
8			Newfoundland-Labrador	0	
9	OF2	Ponded Area Within 1 km.	The area of surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		"Adjacent" means not separated from the AA by a wide expanse (>50 m) of upland (including roads >50 m wide). Include ponded areas likely to be hidden by wetland vegetation. If surface water extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. Do not include tidal areas. Measure the area from aerial imagery using Google Earth Pro (click on Ruler icon in toolbar, then Polygon in pop-up menu). [PH, SBM, WBN]
10			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
11			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	1	
12			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
13			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
14			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
15			>100 hectares.	0	
16	OF3	Ponded Water & Wetland Within 1 km.	The area of wetlands and surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. If the AA's wetland vegetation extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. "Ponded" means not flowing in rivers or streams. [Sens, WBF]
17			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
18			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
19			0.1 - 1 hectare.	1	
20			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
21			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
22			>100 hectares.	0	
23	OF4	Size of Largest Nearby Vegetated Tract or Corridor	The largest vegetated patch or corridor that includes the AA's vegetation plus all adjacent upland vegetation that is not lawn, row crops, heavily grazed lands, conifer plantation is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. Use Google Earth Pro's polygon ruler (as described above). Exclude conifer plantations only if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens]
24			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
25			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
26			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
27			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
28			10 to 100 hectares.	1	
29			100 to 1000 hectares.	0	
30			>1000 hectares. [This is nearly always the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]	0	

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31	OF5 Distance to Large Vegetated Tract	The minimum distance from the edge of the AA to the edge of the closest vegetated land (but excluding row crops, lawn, conifer plantation) larger than 375 hectares (about 2 km on a side), is:	1	To measure distance, use Google Earth Pro (Ruler > Line tool). The 375-ha criterion is from the Fundy Model Forest Project. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
32		<50 m, and not separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, bare ground, lawn, or impervious surface. Or the AA itself contains >375 ha of vegetation. [This is often the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]		
33		<50 m, but completely separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by those features, and AA does not contain >375 ha of vegetation.		
34		50-500 m, and not separated.		
35		50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
36		0.5 - 5 km, and not separated.		
37		0.5 - 5 km, but separated by those features.		
38		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors which are that large are >5 km away).		
39	OF6 Herbaceous Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 5 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 1 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "1". [* NOTE: Exclude lawns, row crops, heavily grazed lands, forest, shrublands. Include moss as well as grasslike plants in this use of "herbaceous vegetation"]	0	For this question only, consider moss to be herbaceous vegetation. Determine the score by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth after successively drawing or estimating the boundaries of the buffers of 5 km, 1 km, and 100 m radius focused on the center of the AA. Circles of specified radius can be drawn in Google Earth Pro by clicking on the Ruler icon, then Circle in the pop-up menu. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
40	OF7 Woody Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% woody* but uplands within 5 km have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 1 km have <10% woody cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "1" [* NOTE: woody cover = trees & shrubs taller than 1 m.]	0	See above. Do not consider conifer plantations to be forest if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv]
41	OF8 Local Vegetated Cover Percentage	Draw a 5-km radius circle measured from the center of the AA. Ignoring all permanent water in the circle, the percent of the remaining area that is wooded or unmanaged herbaceous vegetation (NOT lawn, row crops, bare or heavily grazed land, clearcuts, or conifer plantations) is:	0	In Google Earth, draw the 5 km buffer and then estimate land cover percentages, or do GIS analysis of an appropriate land cover layer. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
42		<5% of the land.		
43		5 to 20% of the land.		
44		20 to 60% of the land.		
45		60 to 90% of the land.		
46		>90% of the land. SKIP to OF10.		
47	OF9 Type of Land Cover Alteration	Within the 5-km radius circle, and ignoring all permanent water, the land area that is bare or non-perennial cover is mostly:	0	[AM, SBM]
48		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
49		Bare pervious surface, e.g., lawn, recent (<5 yrs ago) clearcut, dirt or gravel road, cropland, landslide, conifer plantation.		
50	OF10 Distance by Road to Nearest Population Center	Measured along the maintained road nearest the AA, the distance to the nearest population center is:	0	"Population center" means a settled area with more than about 5 regularly- inhabited structures per square kilometer. In Google Earth Pro, click on the Ruler icon, then Path, and draw and measure the route. [FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, WBFv]
51		<100 m.		
52		100 - 500 m.		
53		0.5 - 1 km.		
54		1 - 5 km.		
55		>5 km.		

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56	OF11 Distance to Nearest Maintained Road	From the center of the AA, the distance to the nearest maintained public road (dirt or paved) is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth Pro and measuring with the Ruler>Line tool [AM, FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBN]	
57		<10 m.			
58		10 - 25 m.			
59		25 - 50 m.			
60		50 - 100 m.			
61		100 - 500 m.			
62		>500 m.			
63	OF12 Wildlife Access	Draw a circle of radius of 5 km from the center of the AA. If mammals and amphibians can move from the center of the AA to ALL other separate wetlands and ponds located within the circle without being forced to cross pavement (any width), lawns, bare ground, and/or marine waters, mark 1= yes can move to all, 0= no. Change to blank if there are no other wetlands within 5 km.	0	Draw the 5 km circle in Google Earth Pro using the Circle tool and search for roads and wetlands within it, being alert for roads hidden under forest canopy. [AM, SBM, STR]	
64	OF13 Distance to Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) ponded water body visible in GoogleEarth imagery is:		In Google Earth Pro, zoom in closely to examine the surrounding landscape for ponds, lakes, and wetlands that appear to be permanently flooded. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]	
65		<50 m, and not separated by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, lawn, bare ground, or impervious surface.			
66		<50 m, but completely separated by those features.			
67		50-500 m, and not separated.			
68		50-500 m, but separated by those features.			
69		0.5 - 1 km, and not separated.			
70		0.5 - 1 km, but separated by those features.			
71	OF14 Distance to Large Ponded Water	None of the above (the closest patches or corridors that large are >1 km away).	1	Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth. [Sens, WBF, WBN]	
72		The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate)non-tidal body of water that is ponded during most of the year and is larger than 8 hectares during most of a normal year is:			
73		<100 m.			
74		100 m - 1 km.			
75		1 - 2 km.			
76		2-5 km.			
77		5-10 km.			
78	OF15 Tidal Proximity	>10 km.	0	In Google Earth, measure the distance to the ocean (including Bay of Fundy) or tidal river, whichever is closer. If you need to see how far upriver a river is tidal, see the KMZ file provided with this calculator for NS (NS Headtide). Points shown in those files are only an approximation, so local information if available may be preferable. [FA, WBF]	
79		The distance from the AA edge to the closest tidal water body (regardless of its salinity) is:			
80		<100 m.			
81		100 m - 1 km.			
82		1 - 5 km.			
83		5-10 km.			
84		10-40 km.	1		
85	OF16 Upland Edge Contact	>40 km.	0	[NR, SBM, Sens]	
86		Select one:			
87		The AA has no upland edge (or upland is <1% of perimeter). The AA is entirely surrounded by (& contiguous with) other wetlands or water.	0		
88		1-25% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland (including filled areas). The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0		
89		25-50% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0		
90		50-75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0		
91		More than 75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. Any remainder adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA. This will be true for most assessments done with WESP-AC.	1		

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92	OF17 Flood Damage from Non-tidal Waters	Within 5 km downstream or downslope of the AA (select first true choice):	0	Contact local authorities to determine if such maps exist. Where available, LiDAR imagery can provide finer elevational resolution useful for flood modeling. [WSv]
93		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding not caused by tidal storm surges.		
94		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas, but infrastructure is absent or is not vulnerable to floods from a non-tidal river. In some cases levees, upriver dams, or other measures may partly limit damage or risk from smaller events.		
95		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
96		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there is no infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
97	OF18 Relative Elevation in Watershed	In Google Earth, enable the Terrain layer (lower left menu) and open the NS_Watersheds Secondary KMZ file that accompanies this calculator. Then determine the AA's approximate elevation (bottom right, NOT the "eye alt"). Then move cursor around to determine the watershed's maximum and minimum elevation. Divide the AA's elevation by the (max-min).	0.94	[FA, NR, Sens, SFSv, WCv, WSv]
98	OF19 Water Quality Sensitive Watershed or Area	The AA is in a Protected Water Supply area (Designated Water Supply Area, Natural Watershed Municipal Surface Water Supply Area, or Municipal Water Supply Area) according to the provided KMZ overlay ("NS Protected Water Supply Areas"). Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	If an ACCDC report is available for this AA, it also may contain such information. [NRv]
99	OF20 Degraded Water Upstream	Sampling indicates a problem with concentrations of metals, hydrocarbons, nutrients, or other substances (excluding bacteria, acidic water, high temperatures) being present at levels harmful to aquatic life or humans, and:	0	May use existing data, or sample those waters as part of this wetland assessment. "Harmful" should be evaluated with regard to current federal or provincial water quality standards. [AM, FA, FR, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WBF, WBN]
100		The condition is present within the AA.		
101		The condition is present in waters within 1 km that flow into the AA, but has not been documented in the AA itself.		
102		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
103		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
104	OF21 Degraded Water Downstream	The problem described above is downslope from the AA, and:	0	May use existing data, or monitor waters as part of this wetland assessment. [NRv, PRv, SRv]
105		The condition is present within 1 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel.		
106		The condition is present within 5 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel, or within 1 km but not connected to the AA by a channel.		
107		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
108		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
109	OF22 Wetland as a % of Its Contributing Area (Catchment)	From a topographic map and field observations, estimate the approximate boundaries of the catchment (CA) of the entire wetland of which the AA may be only a part. Then adjust those boundaries if necessary based on your field observations of the surrounding terrain, and/or by using procedures described in the Manual. Divide the area of the wetland (not just the AA) by the approximate area of its catchment excluding the area of the wetland itself. When doing the calculation, if ponded water is adjacent to the wetland, include that in the wetland area. The result is:	0	Topographic maps may be viewed online at the National Atlas of Canada (Toporama): http://atlas.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html [NR, PR, Sens, SR, WS]
110		<0.01, or catchment size unknown due to stormwater pipes that collect water from an indeterminate area.		
111		0.01 to 0.1.		
112		0.1 to 1.		
113		>1 (wetland is larger than its catchment (e.g., wetland with flat surrounding terrain and no inlet, or is entirely isolated by dikes, or is a raised bog)).		
114	OF23 Unvegetated Surface in the Contributing Area	The proportion of the AA's contributing area (measured to no more than 1000 m upslope) that is comprised of buildings, roads, parking lots, other pavement, exposed bedrock, landslides, and other mostly-bare surface is about :	0	[FA, INV, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WCv, WSv]
115		<10%.		
116		10 to 25%.		
117		>25%.		

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118	OF24	Transport From Upslope A relatively large proportion of the precipitation that falls farther upslope in the CA reaches this wetland quickly as runoff (surface water), as indicated by the following: (a) input channel is present, (b) input channels have been straightened, (c) upslope wetlands have been ditched extensively, (d) land cover is mostly non-forest, (e) CA slopes are steep, and/or (f) most CA soils are shallow (bedrock near surface) and/or have high runoff coefficients. This statement is:		[NRv, PRv, SRv, WSv]
119		Mostly true.	0	
120		Somewhat true.	0	
121		Mostly untrue.	1	
122	OF25	Aspect The overland flow direction of most surface water (in streams, rivers, or runoff) that enters the AA is:		[AM, NR, SFS, WC, WS]
123		Northward (N, NE). north-facing contributing area.	1	
124		Southward (S, SW). south-facing contributing area.	0	
125		Other (E, SE, W, NW), or no detectable uphill slope or input channel (flat).	0	
126	OF26	Internal Flow Distance (Path Length) The horizontal flow distance from the wetland's inlet to outlet is:		Identify inlets and outlets, if any, from topographic maps (use elevations to determine which are inlets and which are outlets) and augment by field inspection. With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, select Nova Scotia Topo as the Basemap. Also enable the layer Forestry>WAM Predicted Flow. Then measure the inlet-outlet distance. [NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
127		<10 m.	0	
128		10 - 50 m.	1	
129		50 - 100 m.	0	
130		100 - 1000 m.	0	
131		1-2 km.	0	
132		>2 km, or wetland lacks an inlet and outlet.	0	
133	OF27	Growing Degree Days In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called NS_GrowingDegreeDays. Place your cursor over the AA and left-click. From the pop-up window, enter the GRIDCODE number in the next column.	1882	This layer was provided by Dr. Dan McKenney of the Canadian Forest Service [AM, CS, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WCv, WS]
134	OF28	Fish Access or Use According to agency biologists and/or your own observations, the AA. [Mark just the first choice that is true.]:		Regarding the last choice, if uncertain if an AA is fishless, consider the possibility its waters have been stocked. [AM, FA, FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
135		Is known to support rearing and/or spawning by Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels. Go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife>Significant Habitat>Species at Risk. Contact local fishery biologists, review the ACCDC report, and visit these websites: http://www.salmonatlas.com/atlanticsalmon/canada-east/index.1.html http://atlanticsalmofederation.org/rivers/introduction.html	0	
136		Has not been documented to support Atlantic salmon rearing and/or spawning, but is connected to nearby waters likely to contain Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels and is probably accessed by those during some conditions.	0	
137		Is probably not accessed by any anadromous fish species but is known or likely to have other fish at least seasonally.	0	
138		Is known or likely to be fishless (e.g., too small, dry, and/or not accessible even temporarily, and not stocked).	1	
139	OF29	Species of Conservation Concern Within the past 10 years, in the AA (or in its adjoining waters or wetland), qualified observers have documented/mark all applicable]:		Request information from ACCDC and/or conduct your own survey at an appropriate season using an approved protocol. For birds, also check eBird.org. NOTE for NS: If your WESP-AC is being completed for a Wetland Alteration Application to NS-ECC, your ACCDC results and any taxon-specific survey results must be submitted along with your WESP-AC results, and application. [AMv, EC, PHv, POLv, SBMv, Sens, WBFv, WBNv]
140		Presence of one or more of the plant species listed in the Plants_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, or the AA is within a mapped Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora Buffer (go to Provincial Landscape Viewer> Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones).	0	
141		Presence of one or more of the amphibian or reptile species (AM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
142		Presence of one or more of the waterbird species (WBF, WBN) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
143		Presence of one or more of the nesting songbird or raptor species (SBM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, during their nesting season (May-July for most species).	0	
144		None of the above, or no data.	1	

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145	OF30 Important Bird Area (IBA)	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called IBAs_Canada . The AA is all or part of an officially designated IBA. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.		0	The source of this layer, which should be checked periodically for updates, is: http://www.ibacanada.com/mapviewer.jsp?lang=EN [SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
146	OF31 Black Duck Nesting Area	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called BlackDuck. Adjust its alignment and opacity. Determine the predicted density (pairs per 25 sq. km) of nesting American Black Duck in the AA's vicinity: <10 (enter 0), 10-20 (enter 1), 20-30 (enter 2), >30 (enter 3). If outside of region shown in map, change to blank.		0	This was provided by Dr. David Leske. [WBNv]
147	OF32 Wintering Deer or Moose Concentration Areas	If AA is on private land with no information, change to blank (not 0). Otherwise: With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, for Wintering Moose, go to Wildlife> Significant Habitat. For Mainland Moose Concentration Areas, go to Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0.		0	[SBM]
148	OF33 Other Conservation Designation	The AA is all or part of an area designated by government, First Nations, or the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) for its exceptional ecological features or highly intact natural conditions. With Provincial Landscape Viewer, see Protected Areas. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If uncertain, consult NCC and agencies for more recent information.		0	See: https://novascotia.ca/parksandprotectedareas/plan/interactive-map/ [PU]
149	OF34 Conservation Investment	The AA is part of or contiguous to a wetland on which public or private organizational funds were spent to preserve, create, restore, or enhance the wetland (excluding mitigation wetlands). Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank (not 0).		0	[PU]
150	OF35 Mitigation Investment	The AA is all or part of a mitigation site used explicitly to offset impacts elsewhere. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.			[PU]
151	OF36 Sustained Scientific Use	Plants, animals, or water in the AA have been monitored for >2 years, unrelated to any regulatory requirements, and data are available to the public. Or the AA is part of an area that has been designated by an agency or institution as a benchmark, reference, or status-trends monitoring area. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.			[PU]
152	OF37 Calcareous Region	The AA is NOT in a subregion that has been heavily exposed to acid precipitation. Enter "1" if true (green or yellow in map in Appendix A of the Manual). Enter "0" if false. If no information, change to blank.			[AM, FA, FR, INV, PH]
153	OF38 Ownership	Select the ONE ownership that covers the most of the AA. In Google Earth, open KMZ file called NS_CrownlandsUse more recent information if available.			"Private lands" may include those owned or leased by non-governmental organizations, e.g., charitable conservation land trusts, DUC, TNC. [PU, STR]
154		New timber harvest, roads, mineral extraction, and intensive summer recreation (e.g., off-road vehicles) are permanently prohibited. Includes many publicly-owned Protected Lands, and private lands under long-term (30+ year) legal agreements to maintain nearly-unaltered conditions.		0	
155		Ownership is public (e.g., municipal, Crown Reservations/Notations) but some or all of the above activities are allowed.		0	
156		Ownership is private but public access is allowed, and/or a shorter-term conservation easement (whether renewable or not) is in place.		0	
157		Ownership is private and owner does not allow access, or access permission unknown, and not a conservation easement.		0	

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1	Date: 06 October 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL15		Investigator: Jordan Davis, , Alex Scott		
2	Form F (Field). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia. DIRECTIONS: Walk for no less than 10 minutes from the wetland edge towards its core, in the part of the AA that is proposed for alteration. If no alteration is proposed, walk in a portion that appears to be most representative of the wetland overall. Walk only where it is safe and legal to do so. Conduct the assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answer these questions primarily based on your onsite observations and interpretations. Do not write in shaded parts of this data form. Answering some questions accurately may require conferring with the landowner or other knowledgeable persons, and/or reviewing aerial imagery. For most wetlands, completing this field data form will require 1-2 hours on a site. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see the accompanying Interpretations form. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage & Delay, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.					
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations	
4	F1	Wetland Type	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the vegetated part of the AA:			
5	A. Moss and/or lichen cover more than 25% of the ground. Often dominated by ericaceous shrubs (e.g., Labrador tea) or other acid-tolerant plants (e.g., bog cranberry, pitcher plant, sundew, orchids). Substrate is mostly undecomposed peat. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.			Ericaceous shrubs are ones in the heather family (Ericaceae). Most have leathery evergreen leaves. They include rhododendron, azalea, swamp laurel, leatherleaf, Labrador tea, and others. Most require acidic soil. Although not in the family Ericaceae, sweetgale (<i>Myrica gale</i>) should be counted also. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, Sens, SFS, WBF, WBN]		
6	A1. Surface water is usually absent or, if present, pH is typically <4.5 and conductivity is usually <100 µS/cm (<64 ppm TDS). Trees are absent or nearly so. Sedge cover usually sparse or absent but cottongrass and/or lichen cover may be extensive, as well as cloudberry, lingonberry, sheep laurel, and a sedge (<i>Carex rariflora</i>). Wetland surface and surrounding landscape are seldom sloping and wetland often is domed (convex). Inlet and outlet channels are usually absent. If known, pH of peat is <4.0.		0			
7	A2. Not A1. Surface water, if present, has pH typically >4.5 and conductivity is usually >100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Sedge cover is usually extensive, and/or tree and tall shrub cover is extensive. Sometimes at toe of slope or edge of water body. An exit channel is usually present. Wetter than A1 and peat depth may be shallower (<2 m).		0			
8	B. Moss and/or lichen cover less than 25% of the ground. Soil is mineral or decomposed organic (muck). Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column:					
9	B1. Trees and shrubs taller than 1 m comprise more than 25% of the vegetated cover. Surface water is mostly absent or inundates the vegetation only seasonally (e.g., vernal pools or floodplain).		0			
10	B2. Not B1. Tree & tall shrubs comprise less than 25% of the vegetated cover. Vegetation is mostly herbaceous, e.g., cattail, bulrush, burreed, pond lily, horsetail. Surface water may be extensive and fluctuates seasonally, being either persistent or drying up partly or entirely.		2			
11	Reminder: For all questions, the AA should include all persistent waters in ponds smaller than 8 hectares (~283 m on a side) that are adjacent to the AA. The AA should also include part of the water area of adjacent ponded water larger than 8 ha and adjacent rivers wider than 20 m. Specifically, the AA should include the open water part adjacent to wetland vegetation and equal in width to the average width of that vegetated zone. Throughout this data form, " adjacent " is used synonymously with abutting , adjoining , bordering , contiguous -- and means no upland (manmade or natural) completely separates the described features along their directly shared edge. Features joined only by a channel are not necessarily considered to be adjacent -- a large portion of their edges must match. The features do not have to be hydrologically connected in order to be considered adjacent.					
12	F2		Wetland Types - Adjoining or Subordinate	If the AA is smaller than 1 ha, mark all other types that occupy more than 1% of the vegetated AA. If the AA is larger than 1 ha, mark all other types which are within or adjacent to the AA and occupy more than 1 ha, as visible from the AA or as interpreted from aerial imagery. Do not mark again the type marked in F1.		1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, INV, SBM, WBF]
13	A1.			0		
14	A2.	1				
15	B1.	0				
16	B2.	0				

A	B	C	D	E
17	F3 Woody Height & Form Diversity	Following EACH row below, indicate with a number code the percentage of the living vegetation in the AA which is occupied by that feature (6 if >95%, 5 if 75-95%, 4 if 50-75%, 3 if 25-50%, 2 if 5-25%, 1 if <5%, 0 if none). If the vegetated part of the AA is largely herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation, these percentages should not sum to 100%.		Deciduous shrubs in this region usually include buttonbush, Labrador tea, bayberry (<i>Morella</i>), huckleberry, cranberry, cloudberry, sweetgale, alder, willow, birch, ash, dogwood, and a few others. If you assigned a code of 3 or higher to any of the first four choices and the ground cover beneath the trees/shrubs is <25% moss, then question F1 might be "B1". [CS, INV, NR, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
18		coniferous trees (may include tamarack) taller than 3 m.		
19		deciduous trees taller than 3 m.		
20		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.		
21		deciduous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.		
22		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs <1 m tall not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.		
23		deciduous shrubs or trees <1 m tall (e.g., deciduous seedlings) not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.		
24		Note : If none of top 4 rows in F3 was marked 2 or greater, SKIP to F9 (N fixers).		
25	F4 Dominance of Most Abundant Shrub Species	Determine which two woody plant species comprise the greatest portion of the low (<3 m) woody cover . Then choose one:		[PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
26		those species together comprise > 50% of such cover.		
27		those species together do not comprise > 50% of such cover.		
28	F5 Woody Diameter Classes	Mark ALL the types that comprise >5% of the woody canopy cover in the AA or >5% of the wooded areas (if any) along its upland edge (perimeter). The edge should include only the trees whose canopies extend into the AA.		Estimate the diameters at chest height. If small-diameter trees are overtapped (shaded) by larger ones, visualise a "subcanopy" at the average height of the smaller-dbh trees, to serve as a basis for the minimum 5% canopy requirement in this question. The trees and shrubs need not be wetland species. [AM, CS, POL, SBM, Sens, WBN]
29		coniferous, 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall.		
30		broad-leaved deciduous 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall.		
31		coniferous, 10-19 cm diameter.		
32		broad-leaved deciduous 10-19 cm diameter.		
33		coniferous, 20-40 cm diameter.		
34		broad-leaved deciduous 20-40 cm diameter.		
35		coniferous, >40 cm diameter.		
36		broad-leaved deciduous >40 cm diameter.		
37	F6 Height Class Interspersion	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the AA:		[AM, INV, NR, PH, SBM, Sens]
38		A. Neither the vegetation taller than 1 m nor the vegetation shorter than that comprise >70% of the vegetated part of the AA. They each comprise 30-70%. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.		
39		A1. The two height classes are mostly scattered and intermixed throughout the AA.		
40		A2. Not A1. The two height classes are mostly in separate zones or bands, or in proportionately large clumps.		
41		B. Either the vegetation shorter than 1 m comprises >70% of the vegetated part of the AA, or the vegetation taller than that does. One size class might even be totally absent. Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column:		
42		B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly scattered and intermixed within the prevalent one.		
43		B2. Not B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly located apart from the prevalent one, in separate zones or clumps, or is completely absent.		
44	F7 Large Snags (Dead Standing Trees)	The number of large snags (diameter >20 cm) in the AA plus adjacent upland area within 10 m of the wetland edge is:		Snags are dead standing trees that often (not always) lack bark and foliage. Include only ones that are at least 2 m tall. [POL, SBM, WBN]
45		None, or fewer than 8/ hectare which exceed this diameter.		
46		Several (>8/hectare) and a pond, lake, or slow-flowing water wider than 10 m is within 1 km.		
47		Several (>8/hectare) but above not true.		
48	F8 Downed Wood	The number of downed wood pieces longer than 2 m and with diameter >10 cm, and not persistently submerged, is:		Exclude temporary "burn piles." [AM, INV, POL, SBM]
49		Few or none that meet these criteria.		
50		Several (>5 if AA is >5 hectares, less for smaller AAs) meet these criteria.		
51	F9 N Fixers	The percentage of the AA's vegetated cover that contains nitrogen-fixing plants (e.g., alder, sweetgale, clover, lupine, alfalfa, other legumes) is:		Do not include N-fixing algae or lichens. [FA, FR, INV, NRv, OE, PH, SBM, Sens]
52		<1% or none.		
53		1-25% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).		
54		25-50% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).		
55		50-75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).		
56		>75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).		

A	B	C	D	E
57	F10 Sphagnum Moss Extent	The cover of Sphagnum moss (or any moss that forms a dense cushion many centimeters thick), including the moss obscured by taller sedges and other plants rooted in it, is:		
58		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
59		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
60		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
61		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
62		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
63	F11 % Bare Ground & Thatch	Consider the parts of the AA that lack surface water at the driest time of the growing season. Viewed from directly above the ground layer, the predominant condition in those areas at that time is:		
64		Little or no (<5%) bare ground is visible between erect stems or under canopy anywhere in the vegetated AA. Ground is extensively blanketed by dense thatch, moss, lichens, graminoids with great stem densities, or plants with ground-hugging foliage.	0	Thatch is dead plant material (stems, leaves) resting on the ground surface. Bare ground that is present under a tree or shrub canopy should be counted. Boulders count as bare ground. Wetlands with mineral soils and that are heavily shaded or are dominated by annual plant species tend to have more extensive areas that are bare during the early growing season. [AM, EC, INV, NR, OE, POL, PR, SBM, Sens]
65		Slightly bare ground (5-20% bare between plants) is visible in places, but those areas comprise less than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	1	
66		Much bare ground (20-50% bare between plants) is visible in places, and those areas comprise more than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
67		Other conditions.	0	
68		Not applicable. Surface water (either open or obscured by emergent plants) covers all of the AA all the time.	0	
69	F12 Ground Irregularity	Imagine the AA without any living vegetation. Excluding the portion of the AA that is always under water, the number of hummocks, small pits, raised mounds, animal burrows, ruts, gullies, natural levees, microdepressions, and other areas of peat or mineral soil that are raised or depressed >10 cm compared to most of the area within a few meters surrounding them is:		
70		Few or none (minimal microtopography; <1% of the land has such features, or entire AA is always water-covered).	1	The depressions may be of human or natural origin. [AM, EC, INV, NR, PH, POL, PR, SBM, SR, WS]
71		Intermediate.	0	
72		Several (extensive micro-topography).	0	
73	F13 Upland Inclusions	Within the AA, inclusions of upland are:		[AM, NR, SBM]
74		Few or none.	1	
75		Intermediate (1 - 10% of vegetated part of the AA).	0	
76		Many (e.g., wetland-upland "mosaic", >10% of the vegetated AA).	0	
77	F14 Soil Texture	In parts of the AA that lack persistent water, the texture of soil in the uppermost layer is mostly: [To determine this, use a trowel to check in at least 3 widely spaced locations, and use the soil texture key (in Appendix A of the Manual).]		
78		Loamy: soils that may contain a little fine grit and do not make a "ribbon" longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	1	
79		Fines: includes silt, clay, silt, soils that make a ribbon longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
80		Deep Peat, to 40 cm depth or greater.	0	
81		Shallow Peat or organic <40 cm deep.	0	
82		Coarse: includes sand, loamy sand, gravel, cobble, soils that do not make a ribbon when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
83		During any 2 consecutive weeks of the growing season, the extent of mudflats, bare unshaded saturated areas not covered by thatch, and unshaded waters shallower than 6 cm is: [Include also any area that is adjacent to the AA.]		This addresses needs of many but not all migratory sandpipers, plovers, and related species. [WBF]
84	F15 Shorebird Feeding Habitats	None, or <100 sq. m.	1	
85		100-1000 sq. m.	0	
86		1000 – 10,000 sq. m.	0	
87		>10,000 sq. m.	0	
88	F16 Herbaceous % of Vegetated Wetland	In aerial ("ducks eye") view, the maximum annual cover of herbaceous vegetation (all non-woody plants except moss) is:		[AM, WBF, WBN]
89		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA or <0.01 hectare (whichever is less). Mark "1" here and SKIP to F20 (Invasive Plant Cover).	0	
90		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
91		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
92		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
93		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
94	F17 Forb Cover	Within parts of the AA having herbaceous cover (excluding SAV), the areal cover of forbs reaches an annual maximum of:		Forbs are flowering plants. Do not include grasses, sedges, cattail, other graminoids, ferns, horsetails, or others that lack showy flowers. [POL]
95		<5% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		0
96		5-25% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		1
97		25-50% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		0
98		50-95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		0
99		>95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		0
100	F18 Sedge Cover	Sedges (<i>Carex</i> spp.) and cottongrass (<i>Enophorum</i> spp.) occupy:		[CS]
101		<5% of the vegetated area, or none.		0
102		5-50% of the vegetated area.		1
103		50-95% of the vegetated area.		0
104		>95% of the vegetated area.		0
105	F19 Dominance of Most Abundant Herbaceous Species	Determine which two herbaceous species comprise the greatest portion of the herbaceous cover (excluding mosses and floating-leaved aquatic plants). Then choose one of the following:		For this question, include ferns as well as graminoids and forbs. [EC, INV, PH, POL, Sens]
106		those species together comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		0
107		those species together do not comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		1
108	F20 Invasive Plant Cover	How extensive is the cover of invasive plant species in the AA? For species, see Plants_invasive worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file.		[EC, PH, POL, Sens]
109		invasive species appear to be absent in the AA, or are present only in trace amount (a few individuals).		
110		invasive species are present in more than trace amounts, but comprise <5% of herbaceous cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
111		invasive species comprise 5-20% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
112		invasive species comprise 20-50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
113		invasive species comprise >50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
114	F21 Invasive Cover Along Upland Edge	Along the wetland-upland boundary, the percent of the upland edge (within 3 m upslope from the wetland) that is occupied by invasive plant species is:		If a plant cannot be identified to species (e.g., winter conditions) but its genus contains an exotic species, assume the unidentified plant to also be exotic. If vegetation is so senesced that exotic species cannot be identified, answer "none". [PH, STR]
115		none of the upland edge (invasives apparently absent), or AA has no upland edge.		
116		some (but <5%) of the upland edge.		
117		5-50% of the upland edge.		
118		most (>50%) of the upland edge.		
119	F22 Fringe Wetland	During most of the year, open water within or adjacent to the vegetated part of the wetland is much wider than the maximum width of the vegetated zone within the wetland. Enter "1" if true, "0" if false.	0	[WBF, WBN, WCv]
120	F23 Lacustrine Wetland	The vegetated part of the AA is within or adjacent to a body of non-tidal standing open water whose size exceeds 8 hectares during most of a normal year.	0	[FR, PR, PU, WBF, WBN]
121	F24 % of AA Without Surface Water	The percentage of the AA that <u>never</u> contains <u>surface</u> water during an average year (that is, except perhaps for a few hours after snowmelt or rainstorms), but which is still a wetland, is:		1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SRv, WBF, WBN, WC]
122		<1%. In other words, all or nearly all of the AA is covered by water permanently or at least seasonally.		
123		1-25% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha never contains surface water.		
124		25-50% of the AA never contains surface water.		
125		50-75% of the AA never contains surface water.		
126		75-99% of the AA never contains surface water, OR >99% and there is at least one persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha in the AA.		
127		99-100%. AND there is no persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha within the AA. Enter "1" and SKIP to F42 (Channel Connection).		

A	B	C	D	E
128	F25	% of AA with Persistent Surface Water	Identify the parts of the AA that still contain surface water (flowing or ponded, open or hidden beneath vegetation) even during the driest times of a normal year, i.e., when the AA's surface water is at its lowest annual level. At that time, the percentage of the AA that still contains surface water is:	If you are unable to determine the condition at the driest time of year, ask the land owner or neighbors about it if possible. Indicators of persistence may include fish, some dragonflies, beaver, and muskrat. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, POL, PR, SBM, WBF, WBN]
129			None. The AA dries up completely (no water in channels either) or never has surface water during most years. SKIP to F27.	0
130			1-20% of the AA.	1
131			20-50% of the AA.	0
132			50-95% of the AA.	0
133			>95% of the AA. True for many fringe wetlands.	0
134	F26	% of Summertime Water that Is Shaded	At mid-day during the warmest time of year, the area of surface water <u>within</u> the AA that is shaded by vegetation and other features <u>that are within</u> the AA at that time is:	[FA, WC]
135			<5% of the water is shaded, or no surface water is present then.	0
136			5-25% of the water is shaded.	0
137			25-50% of the water is shaded.	0
138			50-75% of the water is shaded.	1
139			>75% of the water is shaded.	0
140	F27	% of AA that is Flooded Only Seasonally	The percentage of the AA's area that is between the annual high water and the annual low water (surface water) is:	Flood marks (algal mats, adventitious roots, debris lines, ice scour, etc.) are often evident when not fully inundated. Also, such areas often have a larger proportion of upland and annual (vs. perennial) plant species. In riverine systems, the extent of this zone can be estimated by multiplying by 2 the bankful height and visualising where that would intercept the land along the river. [CS, FA, INV, NR, OE, PH, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
141			None, or <0.01 hectare and <1% of the AA. SKIP to F29.	0
142			1-20% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha.	1
143			20-50% of the AA.	0
144			50-95% of the AA.	0
145			>95% of the AA.	0
146	F28	Annual Water Fluctuation Range	The annual fluctuation in surface water level within most of the parts of the AA that contain surface water at least temporarily is:	Look for flood marks (see above). Because the annual range of water levels is difficult to estimate without multiple visits, consider asking the land owner or neighbors about it. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SR, WBN, WS]
147			<10 cm change (stable or nearly so).	0
148			10 cm - 50 cm change.	1
149			0.5 - 1 m change.	0
150			1-2 m change.	0
151			>2 m change.	0
152		Is the AA plus adjacent ponded water smaller than 0.01 hectare (about 10m x 10m, or 1m x 100 m)? If so, enter "1" in column D and SKIP TO F42 (Connection).		
				0
153	F29	Predominant Depth Class	During most of the time when surface water is present during the growing season, its depth, averaged over the entire inundated part of the AA, is:	If a boat is unavailable, estimate this by considering wetland size and local topography. Or if timing and safety allow, depths may be measured by drilling through winter ice. This question is asking about the spatial median depth that occurs during most of that time, even if inundation is only seasonal or temporary. If inundation in most but not all of the wetland is brief, the answer will be based on the depth of the most persistently inundated part of the wetland. Include surface water in channels and ditches as well as ponded areas. [CS, FA, FR, INV, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
154			<10 cm deep (but >0).	0
155			10 - 50 cm deep.	1
156			0.5 - 1 m deep.	0
157			1 - 2 m deep.	0
158			>2 m deep. True for many fringe wetlands.	0
159	F30	Depth Classes - Evenness of Proportions	When present, surface water in most of the AA usually consists of (select one):	Estimate these proportions by considering the gradient and microtopography of the site. [FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
160			One depth class that comprises >90% of the AA's inundated area (use the classes in the question above).	0
161			One depth class that comprises 50-90% of the AA's inundated area.	0
162			Neither of above. There are 3 or more depth classes and none occupy >50%.	1
163	F31	% of Water That Is Ponded (not Flowing)	During most times when surface water is present, the percentage that is (1) ponded (stagnant, or flows so slowly that fine sediment is not held in suspension) AND (2) is likely to be deeper than 0.5 m in some places, is:	Nearly all wetlands with surface water have some ponded water. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WBN, WC, WS]
164			<5% of the water, or it occupies <100 sq.m cumulatively. Nearly all the surface water is flowing. SKIP to F34.	1
165			5-30% of the water.	0
166			30-70% of the water.	0
167			70-95% of the water.	0
168			>95% of the water.	0

	A	B	C	D	E
169	F32	Ponded Open Water - Minimum Size	During most of the growing season, the largest patch of open water that is ponded and is in or bordering the AA is >0.01 hectare (about 10 m by 10 m) and mostly deeper than 0.5 m. If true enter "1" and continue. If false, enter "0" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	Open water is not obscured by vegetation in aerial ("duck's eye" view. It includes vegetation floating on the water surface or entirely submerged beneath it.
170	F33	% of Ponded Water that is Open	In ducks-eye aerial view, the percentage of the ponded water that is open (lacking emergent vegetation during most of the growing season, and unhidden by a forest or shrub canopy) is:		[AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
171			None, or <1% of the AA and largest pool occupies <0.01 hectares. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
172			1-4% of the ponded water. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
173			5-30% of the ponded water.	0	
174			30-70% of the ponded water.	0	
175			70-99% of the ponded water.	0	
176			100% of the ponded water.	0	
177	F34	Width of Vegetated Zone within Wetland	At the time during the growing season when the AA's water level is lowest, the average width of vegetated area in the AA that separates adjoining uplands from open water within the AA is:		"Vegetated area" does not include underwater or floating-leaved plants, i.e., aquatic bed. Width may include wooded riparian areas if they have wetland soil or plant indicators. [AM, CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SR, WBN]
178			<1 m.	0	
179			1 - 9 m.	1	
180			10 - 29 m.	0	
181			30 - 49 m.	0	
182			50 - 100 m.	0	
183			> 100 m, or open water is absent at that time.	0	
184	F35	Flat Shoreline Extent	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the percentage of the AA's water edge length that is nearly flat (a slope less than about 5% measured within 5 m landward of the water) is:		If several isolated pools are present in early summer, estimate the percent of their collective shorelines that has such a gentle slope. [SR, WBN]
185			<1% of the water edge.	0	
186			1-25% of the water edge.	0	
187			25-50% of the water edge.	0	
188			50-75% of the water edge.	1	
189			>75% of the water edge.	0	
190	F36	Robust Emergents	The percentage of the emergent vegetation cover in the AA that is cattail (<i>Typha</i> spp.), common reed (<i>Phragmites</i>), or tall (>1m) bulrush is:		Emergent vegetation is herbaceous plants whose stems are partly above and partly below the water surface during most of the time water is present. [WBN]
191			<1% of the emergent vegetation, or emergent vegetation is absent. SKIP to F38 .	1	
192			1-25% of the emergent vegetation.	0	
193			25-75% of the emergent vegetation.	0	
194			>75% of the emergent vegetation.	0	
195	F37	Interspersion of Emergents & Open Water	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the spatial pattern of emergent vegetation within the water is mostly:		[AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, SR, WBF, WBN]
196			Scattered. More than 30% of such vegetation forms small islands or corridors surrounded by water.	0	
197			Intermediate.	0	
198			Clumped. More than 70% of such vegetation is in bands along the wetland perimeter or is clumped at one or a few sides of the surface water area.	0	
199	F38	Persistent Deepwater Area	If the deepest patch of surface water (flowing or ponded) in or directly adjacent to the AA is mostly deeper than 0.5 m for >2 weeks during the growing season, enter "1" and continue. If not, enter "0" and SKIP to F42 (Connection).	0	
200	F39	Non-vegetated Aquatic Cover	During most of the growing season and in waters deeper than 0.5 m, the cover for fish, aquatic invertebrates, and/or amphibians that is provided NOT by living vegetation, but by accumulations of dead wood and undercut banks is:		For this question, consider only the wood that is at or above the water surface. Estimates of underwater wood based only on observations from terrestrial viewpoints are unreliable so should not be attempted. [AM, FA, FR, INV]
201			Little or none.	0	
202			Intermediate.	0	
203			Extensive.	0	
204	F40	Isolated Island	The AA contains (or is part of) an island or beaver lodge within a lake, pond, or river, and is isolated from the shore by water depths >1 m on all sides during an average June. The island may be solid, or it may be a floating vegetation mat that is sufficiently large and dense to support a waterbird nest.	0	[WBN]
205	F41	Floating Algae & Duckweed	At some time of the year, mats of algae and/or duckweed are likely to cover >50% of the AA's otherwise-unshaded water surface, or blanket >50% of the underwater substrate. If true, enter "1" in next column. If untrue or uncertain, enter "0".	0	[EC, PR, WBF]

A	B	C	D	E
206	F42 Channel Connection & Outflow Duration	The most persistent surface water connection (outlet channel or pipe, ditch, or overbank water exchange) between the AA and a downslope stream network is: [Note: If the AA represents only part of a wetland, answer this according to whichever is the least permanent surface connection: the one between the AA and the rest of the wetland, or the surface connection between the wetland and the downslope stream network.]		Consider the connection regardless of whether the surface water is frozen. The "downslope stream network" could consist of ditches, rivers, ponds, or lakes which eventually connect to the ocean. If this cannot be determined while visiting the AA, consult topographic maps perhaps by viewing these online with Toporama (http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html) [CS, FA, FR, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WCv, WS]
207		Persistent (surface water flows out for >9 months/year).		
208		Seasonal (surface water flows out for 14 days to 9 months/year, not necessarily consecutive).		
209		Temporary (surface water flows out for <14 days, not necessarily consecutive).		
210		None -- but maps show a stream network downslope from the AA and within a distance that is less than the AA's length. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
211		No surface water flows out of the wetland except possibly during extreme events (<once per 10 years). Or, water flows only into a wetland, ditch, or lake that lacks an outlet. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
212	F43 Outflow Confinement	During major runoff events, in the places where surface water exits the AA or connected waters nearby, the water:		"Major runoff events" would include biennial high water caused by storms and/or rapid snowmelt. [CS, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, STR, WS]
213		Mostly passes through a pipe, culvert, narrowly breached dike, berm, beaver dam, or other partial obstruction (other than natural topography) that does not appear to drain the wetland artificially during most of the growing season.		
214		Leaves through natural exits (channels or diffuse outflow), not mainly through artificial or temporary features.		
215		Is exported more quickly than usual due to ditches or pipes within the AA or connected to its outlet, or within 10 m of the AA's edge, which drain the wetland artificially, or water is pumped out of the AA.		
216	F44 Tributary Channel	At least once annually, surface water from a tributary channel that is >100 m long moves into the AA. Or, surface water from a larger permanent water body adjacent to the AA spills into the AA. If it enters only via a pipe, that pipe must be fed by a mapped stream or lake further upslope. If no, SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	If inlet tributaries cannot be searched for due to inaccessibility of part of the AA, follow suggestions in F42 above. [NRv, PH, PRv, SRv]
217	F45 Input Water Temperature	Based on lack of shade, water source characteristics, or actual temperature measurements, the inflow is likely to be warmer than surface water in the AA during part of most years. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	[WCv]
218	F46 Throughflow Resistance	During its travel through the AA at the time of peak annual flow, water arriving in channels: [select only the ONE encountered by most of the incoming water].		[FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
219		Does not bump into many plant stems as it travels through the AA. Nearly all the water continues to travel in unvegetated (often incised) channels that have minimal contact with wetland vegetation, or through a zone of open water such as an instream pond or lake.		
220		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
221		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation and mostly spreads throughout, or is in widely meandering, multi-branched, or braided channels.		
222		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
223		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems and follows a fairly indirect path from entrance to exit (meandering, multi-branched, or braided).		
224	F47 pH Measurement	The pH in most of the AA's surface water:		Preferably, measure this in larger areas of ponded surface water within the AA, or in streams that have passed through (not along) most of the AA. Unless surface water is completely absent, do not dig holes or make depressions in peat in order to provide water for this measurement. Avoid measuring near roads or in puddles formed only by recent rain. [AM, FA, FR, NR, WBF, PH, PR, Sens, WBF, WBN]
225		Was measured, and is: [enter the reading in the column to the right.]		
226		Was not measured but surface water is present and is darkly tea-coloured. Or if no surface water, then mosses and plants that indicate peatland (e.g., Labrador tea) are prevalent. Enter "1".	1	
227		Neither of above. Enter "0".	0	
228	F48 TDS and/or Conductivity	The TDS (total dissolved solids) or conductivity off the AA's surface water is: (select the first true row with information):		See above for measurement guidance. [FR, INV, NRv, PH, PRv, Sens]
229		TDS is: [Enter the reading in ppm or mg/L in the column to the right, if measured, or answer next row.]		
230		Conductivity is [Enter the reading in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ in the column to the right.]		
231		Was not measured, but plants that indicate saline conditions cover much of the vegetated AA. Enter "1".	0	
232		Neither of above	1	
233		Use of the AA by beaver during the past 5 years is (select most applicable ONE):		
234	F49 Beaver Probability	Evident from direct observation or presence of gnawed limbs, dams, tracks, dens, lodges, or extensive stands of water-killed trees (snags).	0	[FA, FR, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
235		Likely based on known occurrence in the region and proximity to suitable habitat, which may include: (a) a persistent freshwater wetland, pond, or lake, or a perennial low or mid-gradient (<10%) channel, and (b) a corridor or multiple stands of hardwood trees and shrubs in vegetated areas near surface water.	0	
236		Unlikely because site characteristics above are deficient, and/or this is a settled area or other area where beaver are routinely removed.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
237	F50 Groundwater Strength of Evidence	Select first applicable choice:		
238		Springs are known to be present within the AA, or if groundwater levels have been monitored, that has demonstrated that groundwater primarily discharges to the wetland for longer periods during the year than periods when the wetland recharges the groundwater.	0	Adhere to these criteria strictly -- do not use personal judgment based on fen conditions, pH, or other evidence. Consult topographic maps to detect breaks in slope described here. Rust deposits associated with groundwater seeps may be most noticeable as orange discoloration in ice formations along streams during early winter. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PRv, SFS, WC, WS]
239		Most of the AA has a slope of >5%, or is very close to the base of a natural slope longer than 100 and much steeper than the slope of the AA, AND the pH of surface water, if known, is >5.5.	1	
240		Neither of above is true, although some groundwater may discharge to or flow through the AA. Or groundwater influx is unknown.	0	
241	F51 Internal Gradient	The gradient along most of the flow path within the AA is:		
242		<2% or the AA has no surface water outlet (not even seasonally).	0	This is not the same as the shoreline slope. It is the elevational difference between the AA's inlet and outlet, divided by the flow-distance between them and converted to percent. If available, use a clinometer to measure this. Free clinometer apps can be downloaded to smartphones. If the wetland is
243		2-5%.	1	large (longer than ~1 km), this may be estimated using Google Earth to determine the minimum and maximum elevation within the AA, then dividing by length and multiplying by 100. [CS, NR, OE, PR,
244		6-10%.	0	SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
245		>10%.	0	
246	Note for the next three questions: If the AA lacks an upland edge, evaluate based on the AA's entire perimeter, and moving outward into whatever areas are adjacent. In many situations, these questions are best answered by measuring from aerial images.			
247	F52 Vegetated Buffer as % of Perimeter	Within a zone extending 30 m laterally from the AA's edge with upland and/or other wetlands, the percentage that contains perennial vegetation cover (except lawns, row crops, heavily grazed land, conifer plantations) is:		[AM, FA, FR, INV, NRv, PH, POL, PRv, SBM, Sens, SRv, STR, WBN]
248		<5%.	0	
249		5 to 30%.	0	
250		30 to 60%.	0	
251		60 to 90%.	0	
252		>90%, or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands. SKIP to F55.	1	
253	F53 Type of Cover in Buffer	Within 30 m upslope of where the wetland transitions to upland, the upland land cover that is NOT perennial vegetation is mostly (mark ONE):		[AM, FA, INV, NRv, PH, POL, SBM, STR, WBN]
254		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.	0	
255		Bare or nearly bare pervious surface or managed vegetation, e.g., lawn, row crops, unpaved road, dike, landslide.	0	
256	F54 Buffer Slope	The steepest and/or most disturbed part of the upland area that is within 30 m of the wetland and occupies >10% of that upland area has a percent slope of:		[NRv, PRv, Sens, SRv]
257		<1% (flat -- almost no noticeable slope) or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands.	0	
258		2-5%.	0	
259		5-30%.	0	
260		>30%.	0	
261	F55 Cliffs or Steep Banks	In the AA or within 100 m, there are elevated terrestrial features such as cliffs, talus slopes, stream banks, or excavated pits (but not riprap) that extend at least 2 m nearly vertically, are unvegetated, and potentially contain crevices or other substrate suitable for nesting or den areas. Enter 1 (yes) or 0 (no).	0	Do not include upturned trees as potential den sites. [POL, SBM]
262	F56 New or Expanded Wetland	Human actions within or adjacent to the AA have persistently expanded a naturally occurring wetland or created a wetland where there previously was none (e.g., by excavation, impoundment):		Determine this using historical aerial photography, old maps, soil maps, or permit files as available [CS, NR, OE, PH, Sens]
263		No.	1	
264		Yes, and created or expanded 20 - 100 years ago.	0	
265		Yes, and created or expanded 3-20 years ago.	0	
266		Yes, and created or expanded within last 3 years.	0	
267		Yes, but time of origin or expansion unknown.	0	
268		Unknown if new or expanded within 20 years or not.	0	
269	F57 Burn History	More than 1% of the AA's previously vegetated area:		Look for charred soil or stumps (in multiple widely-spaced locations) or ask landowner. [CS, PH, STR]
270		Burned within past 5 years.	0	
271		Burned 6-10 years ago.	0	
272		Burned 11-30 years ago.	0	
273		Burned >30 years ago, or no evidence of a burn and no data.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
274	F58 Visibility	The maximum percentage of the wetland that is visible from the best vantage point on public roads, public parking lots, public buildings, or public maintained trails that intersect, adjoin, or are within 100 m of the AA (select one) is:		[PU, STR, WBFv]
275		<25%.	1	
276		25-50%.	0	
277		>50%.	0	
278	F59 Non-consumptive Uses - Actual or Potential	Assuming access permission was granted, select ALL statements that are true of the AA as it currently exists:		[PU, STR]
279		For an average person, walking is physically possible <u>in</u> (not just near) >5% of the AA during most of the growing season, e.g., free of deep water and dense shrub thickets.	1	
280		Maintained roads, parking areas, or foot-trails are within 10 m of the AA, or the AA can be accessed part of the year by boats arriving via contiguous waters.	0	
281		Within or near the AA, there is an interpretive center, trails with interpretive signs or brochures, and/or regular guided interpretive tours.	0	
282	F60 Unvisited Core Area	The percentage of the AA almost never visited by humans during an average growing season probably comprises: <i>[Note: Only include the part actually walked or driven (not simply viewed from) with a vehicle or boat. Do not include visitors on trails outside of the AA unless more than half the wetland is visible from the trails and they are within 30 m of the wetland edge. In that case include only the area occupied by the trail.]</i>		[AM, FAv, FRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
283		<5% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
284		<5% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
285		5-50% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
286		5-50% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
287		50-95%, with or without inhabited building nearby.	0	
288		>95% of the AA with or without inhabited building nearby.	1	
289	F61 Frequently Visited Area	The part of the AA visited by humans almost daily for several weeks during an average growing season probably comprises: <i>[See note above.]</i>		[AM, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
290		<5%. If F60 was answered ">95%" (mostly never visited), SKIP to F64.	1	
291		5-50%.	0	
292		50-95%.	0	
293		>95% of the AA.	0	
294	F62 BMP - Soils	Boardwalks, paved trails, fences or other infrastructure and/or well-enforced regulations appear to effectively prevent visitors from walking on soil within nearly all of the AA when the soil is unfrozen. Enter "1" if true.	0	[PH, PU]
295	F63 BMP - Wildlife Protection	Fences, observation blinds, platforms, paved trails, exclusion periods, and/or well-enforced prohibitions on motorised boats, off-leash pets, and off road vehicles appear to effectively exclude or divert visitors and their pets from the AA at critical times in order to minimize disturbance of wildlife (except during hunting seasons). Enter "1" if true.	0	[AM, PU, WBF, WBN]
296	F64 Consumptive Uses (Provisioning Services)	Recent evidence was found within the AA of the following potentially-sustainable consumptive uses. Select ALL that apply.		[FAv, FRv, WBFv]
297		Low-impact commercial timber harvest (e.g., selective thinning).	0	
298		Commercial or traditional-use harvesting of native plants, their fruits, or mushrooms.	0	
299		Waterfowl hunting.	0	
300		Fishing.	0	
301		Trapping of furbearers.	0	
302		None of the above.	1	
303	F65 Domestic Wells	The closest wells or water bodies that currently provide drinking water are:		[NRv]
304		Within 0-100 m. of the AA.	0	
305		100-500 m. away.	0	
306		>500 m. away, or no information.	1	
307	F66 Calcareous Fen	The AA is, or is part of, a calcareous fen. See the Plants_Calcar worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file for list of plant indicators (calciphiles). Enter 1 if more than two Strong or more than five Moderate calciphile species are present; otherwise enter 0, but if not able to identify those and no information, change to blank.		[PH, PR]
308				

Investigator: Jordan Davis, Alex Scott	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL15	Date: 06 October 2022	
Stressor (S) Data Form for Non-Tidal Wetlands. WESP-AC for Nova Scotia version 2.			
S1	Aberrant Timing of Water Inputs	Data	
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item that is likely to have caused the timing of water inputs (but not necessarily their volume) to shift by hours, days, or weeks, becoming either more muted (smaller or less frequent peaks spread over longer times, more temporal homogeneity of flow or water levels) or more flashy (larger or more frequent spikes but over shorter times). [FA, FR, INV, PH, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater from impervious surfaces that drains directly to the wetland.</p> <p>Water subsidies from wastewater effluent, septic system leakage, snow storage areas, or irrigation.</p> <p>Regular removal of surface or groundwater for irrigation or other consumptive use.</p> <p>Flow regulation in tributaries or water level regulation in adjoining water body, or other control structure at water entry points that regulates inflow to the wetland.</p> <p>A dam, dike, levee, weir, berm, or fill -- within or downgradient from the wetland -- that interferes with surface or subsurface flow in/out of the AA (e.g., road fill, wellpads, pipelines).</p> <p>Excavation within the wetland, e.g., dugout, artificial pond, dead-end ditch.</p> <p>Artificial drains or ditches in or near the wetland.</p> <p>Accelerated downcutting or channelization of an adjacent or internal channel (incised below the historical water table level).</p> <p>Logging within the wetland.</p> <p>Subsidence or compaction of the wetland's substrate as a result of machinery, livestock, fire, drainage, or off road vehicles.</p> <p>Straightening, ditching, dredging, and/or lining of tributary channels.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items had no measurable effect on the timing of water conditions in any part of the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>			
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)
Spatial extent of timing shift within the wetland:	>95% of wetland.	5-95% of wetland.	<5% of wetland.
When most of the timing shift began:	<3 yrs ago.	3-9 yrs ago.	10-100 yrs ago.
Score the following 2 rows only if the altered inputs began within past 10 years, and only for the part of the wetland that experiences those.			
Input timing now vs. previously:	Shift of weeks.	Shift of days.	Shift of hours or minutes.
Flashiness or muting:	Became very flashy or controlled.	Intermediate.	Became mildly flashy or controlled.
		Sum=	0.42
S2	Accelerated Inputs of Contaminants and/or Salts		
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of contaminants or salts to the AA. [AM, FA, PH, POL, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills, industrial facilities.</p> <p>Metals & chemical wastes from mining, shooting ranges, snow storage areas, oil/gas extraction, other sources (download many locations from National Pollutant Release Inventory and view KMZ overlay in Google Earth. https://www.ec.gc.ca/inrp-npri/default.asp?lang=En&n=B85A1846-1</p> <p>Road salt.</p> <p>Spraying of pesticides, as applied to lawns, croplands, roadsides, or other areas in the CA.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly higher levels of contaminants and/or salts, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>			
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)
Usual toxicity of most toxic contaminants:	Industrial effluent, mining waste, unmanaged landfill.	Cropland, managed landfill, pipeline or transmission rights-of-way.	Low density residential.
Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.
AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.
		Sum=	0
		Stressor subscore=	0.00

S3	Accelerated Inputs of Nutrients				
	In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of nutrients to the wetland. [NRv, PRv, STR]				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills.				
	Fertilizers applied to lawns, ag lands, or other areas in the CA.				
	Livestock, dogs.				
	Artificial drainage of upslope lands.				
	If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly more nutrients, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Type of loading:	High density of unmaintained septic, some types of industrial sources.	Moderate density septic, cropland, secondary wastewater treatment plant.	Livestock, pets, low density residential.	0
	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
	AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
					Sum= 0
					Stressor subscore= 0.00
S4	Excessive Sediment Loading from Contributing Area				
	In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the CA that is likely to have elevated the load of waterborne or windborne sediment reaching the wetland from its CA. [FA, FR, INV, PH, SRv, STR]				
	Erosion from plowed fields, fill, timber harvest, dirt roads, vegetation clearing, fires.				1
	Erosion from construction, in-channel machinery in the CA.				
	Erosion from off-road vehicles in the CA.				
	Erosion from livestock or foot traffic in the CA.				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent.				
	Sediment from road sanding, gravel mining, other mining, oil/ gas extraction.				
	Accelerated channel downcutting or headcutting of tributaries due to altered land use.				
	Other human-related disturbances within the CA.				
	If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points (3, 2, or 1 as shown in header) in the last column. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively add significantly more sediment or suspended solids to the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Erosion in CA:	Extensive evidence, high intensity.*	Potentially (based on high-intensity* land use) or scattered evidence.	Potentially (based on low-intensity* land use) with little or no direct evidence.	1
	Recentness of significant soil disturbance in the CA:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	1
	Duration of sediment inputs to the wetland:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	1
	AA proximity to actual or potential sources:	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m.	In more distant part of contributing area.	2
	* high-intensity= extensive off-road vehicle use, plowing, grading, excavation, erosion with or without veg removal; low-intensity= veg removal only with little or no apparent erosion or disturbance of soil or sediment.				Sum= 5
					Stressor subscore= 0.42

S5	Soil or Sediment Alteration Within the Assessment Area				
<p><i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the wetland that is likely to have compacted, eroded, or otherwise altered the wetland's soil. Consider only items occurring within past 100 years or since wetland was created or restored (whichever is less). [CS, INV, NR, PH, SR, STR]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compaction from machinery, off-road vehicles, livestock, or mountain bikes, especially during wetter periods. Leveling or other grading not to the natural contour. Tillage, plowing (but excluding disking for enhancement of native plants). Fill or riprap, excluding small amounts of upland soils containing organic amendments (compost, etc.) or small amounts of topsoil imported from another wetland. Excavation. Ditch cleaning or dredging in or adjacent to the wetland. Boat traffic in or adjacent to the wetland and sufficient to cause shore erosion or stir bottom sediments. Artificial water level or flow manipulations sufficient to cause erosion or stir bottom sediments. <p><i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not measurably alter the soil structure and/or topography, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i></p>					
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
Spatial extent of altered soil:	>95% of wetland or >95% of its upland edge (if any).	5-95% of wetland or 5-95% of its upland edge (if any).	<5% of wetland and <5% of its upland edge (if any).	0	
Recentness of significant soil alteration in wetland:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0	
Duration:	Long-lasting, minimal veg recovery.	Long-lasting but mostly revegetated.	Short-term, revegetated, not intense.	0	
Timing of soil alteration:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Mainly during one-time or scattered events.	0	
			Sum=	0	
			Stressor subscore=	0.00	

Assessment Area (AA) Results:

Wetland ID: WL15

Date: 06 October 2022

Observer: JD AS

Latitude & Longitude (decimal degrees): 45.56623889, 63.63502500

Scores will appear below after data are entered in worksheets OF, F, and S. See Manual for definitions and descriptions of how scores were computed.

Wetland Functions or Other Attributes:	Function Score (Normalised)	Function Rating	Benefits Score (Normalised)	Benefits Rating	Function Score (raw)	Benefits Score (raw)
Water Storage & Delay (WS)	6.14	Moderate	5.30	Moderate	6.53	2.35
Stream Flow Support (SFS)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Water Cooling (WC)	8.35	Higher	0.00	Lower	5.57	0.00
Sediment Retention & Stabilisation (SR)	10.00	Higher	1.68	Moderate	10.00	0.82
Phosphorus Retention (PR)	10.00	Higher	1.50	Moderate	10.00	1.17
Nitrate Removal & Retention (NR)	10.00	Higher	5.00	Moderate	10.00	5.00
Carbon Sequestration (CS)	1.99	Lower			6.14	
Organic Nutrient Export (OE)	7.52	Higher			4.92	
Anadromous Fish Habitat (FA)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Resident Fish Habitat (FR)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Aquatic Invertebrate Habitat (INV)	10.00	Higher	7.15	Higher	9.09	5.10
Amphibian & Turtle Habitat (AM)	10.00	Higher	7.18	Higher	10.16	7.68
Waterbird Feeding Habitat (WBF)	7.40	Higher	10.00	Higher	5.64	10.00
Waterbird Nesting Habitat (WBN)	10.00	Higher	10.00	Higher	7.37	10.00
Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat (SBM)	8.50	Higher	10.00	Higher	7.40	10.00
Pollinator Habitat (POL)	9.37	Higher	0.00	Lower	7.77	0.00
Native Plant Habitat (PH)	2.48	Lower	5.06	Lower	4.89	5.06
Public Use & Recognition (PU)			2.11	Moderate		1.75
Wetland Sensitivity (Sens)			7.85	Higher		4.41
Wetland Ecological Condition (EC)			5.36	Moderate		7.78
Wetland Stressors (STR) (higher score means more stress)			6.53	Higher		3.32
Summary Ratings for Grouped Functions:						
HYDROLOGIC Group (WS)	6.14	Moderate	5.30	Moderate	6.53	2.35
WATER QUALITY SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SR, PR, NR, CS)	9.00	Higher	3.86	Moderate	9.52	3.67
AQUATIC SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SFS, INV, OE, WC)	8.23	Higher	4.77	Moderate	6.99	3.40
AQUATIC HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of FA, FR, AM, WBF, WBN)	7.74	Higher	7.72	Higher	7.40	7.77
TRANSITION HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of SBM, PH, POL)	8.08	Higher	7.51	Moderate	7.23	7.51
WETLAND CONDITION (EC)			5.36	Moderate		7.78
WETLAND RISK (average of Sensitivity & Stressors)			7.19	Higher		3.86
	NOTE: A score of 0 does not mean the function or benefit is absent from the wetland. It means only that this wetland has a capacity that is equal or less than the lowest-scoring one, for that function or benefit, from among all the NS calibration wetlands that were assessed previously.					

NOVA SCOTIA - Functional WSS Interpretation Tool

Function-Benefit Product (FBP)	FBP SCORE	FBP SCORE CATEGORY
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - HYDROLOGIC	32.55929081	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - WATER QUALITY SUPPORT	34.76834044	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC SUPPORT	39.25602261	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC HABITAT	59.74026133	Moderate
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - TRANSITION HABITAT	60.66130244	Low

Habitat Rule Satisfied? NO

Support Rule Satisfied? NO

Habitat/Support Hybrid Rule Satisfied? NO

CONCLUSION: Site is not a WSS

Cover Page: Basic Description of Assessment	WESP-AC version 2
Site Name:	Higgins Mountain, WL16
Investigator Name:	Madeline Maher, Blake Fairclough
Date of Field Assessment:	12 October, 2022
Nearest Town:	Masstown
Latitude (decimal degrees):	45.55665278°
Longitude (decimal degrees):	63.60867778°
Is a map based on a formal on-site wetland delineation available?	Yes
Approximate size of the Assessment Area (AA, in hectares):	0.40
AA as percent of entire wetland (approx.). Attach sketch map if AA is smaller than the entire contiguous wetland.	100
What percent (approx.) of the wetland were you able to visit?	100
What percent (approx.) of the AA were you able to visit?	100
Were you able to ask the site owner/manager about any of the questions?	No
Indicate here if you intentionally surveyed for rare plants, calciphile plants, or rare animals:	Yes
Have you attended a WESP-AC training session? If so, indicate approximate month & year.	Yes
How many wetlands have you assessed previously using WESP-AC? (approx.)	20
Comments about the site or this WESP-AC assessment (attach extra page if desired):	

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date: 24 October 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL16		Investigator: Madeline Maher	
2	Form OF (Office). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia wetlands only. DIRECTIONS: Conduct an assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answering many of the questions below will require using these online map viewers: Google Earth Pro: https://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html Provincial Landscape Viewer: https://nsgis.novascotia.ca/plv/ For most wetlands, completing this office data form will require 1-2 hours. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see bracketed abbreviations in the Definitions/Explanations column. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.				
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations
4	OF1	Province	Mark the province in which the AA is located by changing the 0 in the column next to it to a "1". Mark only one.		This determines to which province's calibration wetlands the raw score of any wetland is normalised. In the function and benefits models, it also triggers the automatic exclusion of indicators for which no spatial data exists in a particular province.
5			New Brunswick	0	
6			Nova Scotia	1	
7			Prince Edward Island	0	
8			Newfoundland-Labrador	0	
9	OF2	Ponded Area Within 1 km.	The area of surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		"Adjacent" means not separated from the AA by a wide expanse (>50 m) of upland (including roads >50 m wide). Include ponded areas likely to be hidden by wetland vegetation. If surface water extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. Do not include tidal areas. Measure the area from aerial imagery using Google Earth Pro (click on Ruler icon in toolbar, then Polygon in pop-up menu). [PH, SBM, WBN]
10			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
11			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
12			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
13			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
14			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
15			>100 hectares.	0	
16	OF3	Ponded Water & Wetland Within 1 km.	The area of wetlands and surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. If the AA's wetland vegetation extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. "Ponded" means not flowing in rivers or streams. [Sens, WBF]
17			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
18			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
19			0.1 - 1 hectare.	1	
20			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
21			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
22			>100 hectares.	0	
23	OF4	Size of Largest Nearby Vegetated Tract or Corridor	The largest vegetated patch or corridor that includes the AA's vegetation plus all adjacent upland vegetation that is not lawn, row crops, heavily grazed lands, conifer plantation is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. Use Google Earth Pro's polygon ruler (as described above). Exclude conifer plantations only if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens]
24			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
25			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
26			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
27			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
28			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
29			100 to 1000 hectares.	0	
30			>1000 hectares. <i>[This is nearly always the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]</i>	1	

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31	OF5 Distance to Large Vegetated Tract	The minimum distance from the edge of the AA to the edge of the closest vegetated land (but excluding row crops, lawn, conifer plantation) larger than 375 hectares (about 2 km on a side), is:	1	To measure distance, use Google Earth Pro (Ruler > Line tool). The 375-ha criterion is from the Fundy Model Forest Project. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
32		<50 m, and not separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, bare ground, lawn, or impervious surface. Or the AA itself contains >375 ha of vegetation. [This is often the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]		
33		<50 m, but completely separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by those features, and AA does not contain >375 ha of vegetation.		
34		50-500 m, and not separated.		
35		50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
36		0.5 - 5 km, and not separated.		
37		0.5 - 5 km, but separated by those features.		
38		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors which are that large are >5 km away).		
39	OF6 Herbaceous Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 5 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 1 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "1". [* NOTE: Exclude lawns, row crops, heavily grazed lands, forest, shrublands. Include moss as well as grasslike plants in this use of "herbaceous vegetation"]	0	For this question only, consider moss to be herbaceous vegetation. Determine the score by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth after successively drawing or estimating the boundaries of the buffers of 5 km, 1 km, and 100 m radius focused on the center of the AA. Circles of specified radius can be drawn in Google Earth Pro by clicking on the Ruler icon, then Circle in the pop-up menu. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
40	OF7 Woody Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% woody* but uplands within 5 km have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 1 km have <10% woody cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "1" [* NOTE: woody cover = trees & shrubs taller than 1 m.]	0	See above. Do not consider conifer plantations to be forest if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv]
41	OF8 Local Vegetated Cover Percentage	Draw a 5-km radius circle measured from the center of the AA. Ignoring all permanent water in the circle, the percent of the remaining area that is wooded or unmanaged herbaceous vegetation (NOT lawn, row crops, bare or heavily grazed land, clearcuts, or conifer plantations) is:	0	In Google Earth, draw the 5 km buffer and then estimate land cover percentages, or do GIS analysis of an appropriate land cover layer. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
42		<5% of the land.		
43		5 to 20% of the land.		
44		20 to 60% of the land.		
45		60 to 90% of the land.		
46		>90% of the land. SKIP to OF10.		
47	OF9 Type of Land Cover Alteration	Within the 5-km radius circle, and ignoring all permanent water, the land area that is bare or non-perennial cover is mostly:	0	[AM, SBM]
48		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
49		Bare pervious surface, e.g., lawn, recent (<5 yrs ago) clearcut, dirt or gravel road, cropland, landslide, conifer plantation.		
50	OF10 Distance by Road to Nearest Population Center	Measured along the maintained road nearest the AA, the distance to the nearest population center is:	0	"Population center" means a settled area with more than about 5 regularly- inhabited structures per square kilometer. In Google Earth Pro, click on the Ruler icon, then Path, and draw and measure the route. [FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, WBFv]
51		<100 m.		
52		100 - 500 m.		
53		0.5 - 1 km.		
54		1 - 5 km.		
55		>5 km.		

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56	OF11 Distance to Nearest Maintained Road	From the center of the AA, the distance to the nearest maintained public road (dirt or paved) is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth Pro and measuring with the Ruler>Line tool [AM, FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBN]	
57		<10 m.			
58		10 - 25 m.			
59		25 - 50 m.			
60		50 - 100 m.			
61		100 - 500 m.			
62		>500 m.			
63	OF12 Wildlife Access	Draw a circle of radius of 5 km from the center of the AA. If mammals and amphibians can move from the center of the AA to ALL other separate wetlands and ponds located within the circle without being forced to cross pavement (any width), lawns, bare ground, and/or marine waters, mark 1= yes can move to all, 0= no. Change to blank if there are no other wetlands within 5 km.	0	Draw the 5 km circle in Google Earth Pro using the Circle tool and search for roads and wetlands within it, being alert for roads hidden under forest canopy. [AM, SBM, STR]	
64	OF13 Distance to Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) ponded water body visible in GoogleEarth imagery is:		In Google Earth Pro, zoom in closely to examine the surrounding landscape for ponds, lakes, and wetlands that appear to be permanently flooded. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]	
65		<50 m, and not separated by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, lawn, bare ground, or impervious surface.			
66		<50 m, but completely separated by those features.			
67		50-500 m, and not separated.			
68		50-500 m, but separated by those features.			
69		0.5 - 1 km, and not separated.			
70		0.5 - 1 km, but separated by those features.			
71	OF14 Distance to Large Ponded Water	None of the above (the closest patches or corridors that large are >1 km away).	1	Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth. [Sens, WBF, WBN]	
72		The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate)non-tidal body of water that is ponded during most of the year and is larger than 8 hectares during most of a normal year is:			
73		<100 m.			
74		100 m - 1 km.			
75		1 - 2 km.			
76		2-5 km.			
77		5-10 km.			
78	OF15 Tidal Proximity	>10 km.	0	In Google Earth, measure the distance to the ocean (including Bay of Fundy) or tidal river, whichever is closer. If you need to see how far upriver a river is tidal, see the KMZ file provided with this calculator for NS (NS Headtide). Points shown in those files are only an approximation, so local information if available may be preferable. [FA, WBF]	
79		The distance from the AA edge to the closest tidal water body (regardless of its salinity) is:			
80		<100 m.			
81		100 m - 1 km.			
82		1 - 5 km.			
83		5-10 km.			
84		10-40 km.	1		
85	OF16 Upland Edge Contact	>40 km.	0	[NR, SBM, Sens]	
86		Select one:			
87		The AA has no upland edge (or upland is <1% of perimeter). The AA is entirely surrounded by (& contiguous with) other wetlands or water.	0		
88		1-25% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland (including filled areas). The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0		
89		25-50% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0		
90		50-75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0		
91		More than 75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. Any remainder adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA. This will be true for most assessments done with WESP-AC.	1		

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92	OF17 Flood Damage from Non-tidal Waters	Within 5 km downstream or downslope of the AA (select first true choice):	0	Contact local authorities to determine if such maps exist. Where available, LiDAR imagery can provide finer elevational resolution useful for flood modeling. [WSv]
93		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding not caused by tidal storm surges.		
94		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas, but infrastructure is absent or is not vulnerable to floods from a non-tidal river. In some cases levees, upriver dams, or other measures may partly limit damage or risk from smaller events.		
95		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
96		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there is no infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
97	OF18 Relative Elevation in Watershed	In Google Earth, enable the Terrain layer (lower left menu) and open the NS_Watersheds Secondary KMZ file that accompanies this calculator. Then determine the AA's approximate elevation (bottom right, NOT the "eye alt"). Then move cursor around to determine the watershed's maximum and minimum elevation. Divide the AA's elevation by the (max-min).	0.97	[FA, NR, Sens, SFSv, WCv, WSv]
98	OF19 Water Quality Sensitive Watershed or Area	The AA is in a Protected Water Supply area (Designated Water Supply Area, Natural Watershed Municipal Surface Water Supply Area, or Municipal Water Supply Area) according to the provided KMZ overlay ("NS Protected Water Supply Areas"). Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	If an ACCDC report is available for this AA, it also may contain such information. [NRv]
99	OF20 Degraded Water Upstream	Sampling indicates a problem with concentrations of metals, hydrocarbons, nutrients, or other substances (excluding bacteria, acidic water, high temperatures) being present at levels harmful to aquatic life or humans, and:	0	May use existing data, or sample those waters as part of this wetland assessment. "Harmful" should be evaluated with regard to current federal or provincial water quality standards. [AM, FA, FR, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WBF, WBN]
100		The condition is present within the AA.		
101		The condition is present in waters within 1 km that flow into the AA, but has not been documented in the AA itself.		
102		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
103		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
104	OF21 Degraded Water Downstream	The problem described above is downslope from the AA, and:	0	May use existing data, or monitor waters as part of this wetland assessment. [NRv, PRv, SRv]
105		The condition is present within 1 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel.		
106		The condition is present within 5 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel, or within 1 km but not connected to the AA by a channel.		
107		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
108		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
109	OF22 Wetland as a % of Its Contributing Area (Catchment)	From a topographic map and field observations, estimate the approximate boundaries of the catchment (CA) of the entire wetland of which the AA may be only a part. Then adjust those boundaries if necessary based on your field observations of the surrounding terrain, and/or by using procedures described in the Manual. Divide the area of the wetland (not just the AA) by the approximate area of its catchment excluding the area of the wetland itself. When doing the calculation, if ponded water is adjacent to the wetland, include that in the wetland area. The result is:	0	Topographic maps may be viewed online at the National Atlas of Canada (Toporama): http://atlas.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html [NR, PR, Sens, SR, WS]
110		<0.01, or catchment size unknown due to stormwater pipes that collect water from an indeterminate area.		
111		0.01 to 0.1.		
112		0.1 to 1.		
113		>1 (wetland is larger than its catchment (e.g., wetland with flat surrounding terrain and no inlet, or is entirely isolated by dikes, or is a raised bog)).		
114	OF23 Unvegetated Surface in the Contributing Area	The proportion of the AA's contributing area (measured to no more than 1000 m upslope) that is comprised of buildings, roads, parking lots, other pavement, exposed bedrock, landslides, and other mostly-bare surface is about :	0	[FA, INV, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WCv, WSv]
115		<10%.		
116		10 to 25%.		
117		>25%.		

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118	OF24	Transport From Upslope A relatively large proportion of the precipitation that falls farther upslope in the CA reaches this wetland quickly as runoff (surface water), as indicated by the following: (a) input channel is present, (b) input channels have been straightened, (c) upslope wetlands have been ditched extensively, (d) land cover is mostly non-forest, (e) CA slopes are steep, and/or (f) most CA soils are shallow (bedrock near surface) and/or have high runoff coefficients. This statement is:		[NRv, PRv, SRv, WSv]
119		Mostly true.	0	
120		Somewhat true.	0	
121		Mostly untrue.	1	
122	OF25	Aspect The overland flow direction of most surface water (in streams, rivers, or runoff) that enters the AA is:		[AM, NR, SFS, WC, WS]
123		Northward (N, NE). north-facing contributing area.	0	
124		Southward (S, SW). south-facing contributing area.	0	
125		Other (E, SE, W, NW), or no detectable uphill slope or input channel (flat).	1	
126	OF26	Internal Flow Distance (Path Length) The horizontal flow distance from the wetland's inlet to outlet is:		Identify inlets and outlets, if any, from topographic maps (use elevations to determine which are inlets and which are outlets) and augment by field inspection. With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, select Nova Scotia Topo as the Basemap. Also enable the layer Forestry>WAM Predicted Flow. Then measure the inlet-outlet distance. [NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
127		<10 m.	0	
128		10 - 50 m.	0	
129		50 - 100 m.	0	
130		100 - 1000 m.	0	
131		1-2 km.	0	
132		>2 km, or wetland lacks an inlet and outlet.	1	
133	OF27	Growing Degree Days In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called NS_GrowingDegreeDays. Place your cursor over the AA and left-click. From the pop-up window, enter the GRIDCODE number in the next column.	1882	This layer was provided by Dr. Dan McKenney of the Canadian Forest Service [AM, CS, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WCv, WS]
134	OF28	Fish Access or Use According to agency biologists and/or your own observations, the AA. [Mark just the first choice that is true.]:		Regarding the last choice, if uncertain if an AA is fishless, consider the possibility its waters have been stocked. [AM, FA, FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
135		Is known to support rearing and/or spawning by Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels. Go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife>Significant Habitat>Species at Risk. Contact local fishery biologists, review the ACCDC report, and visit these websites: http://www.salmonatlas.com/atlanticsalmon/canada-east/index.1.html http://atlanticssalmofederation.org/rivers/introduction.html	0	
136		Has not been documented to support Atlantic salmon rearing and/or spawning, but is connected to nearby waters likely to contain Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels and is probably accessed by those during some conditions.	0	
137		Is probably not accessed by any anadromous fish species but is known or likely to have other fish at least seasonally.	0	
138		Is known or likely to be fishless (e.g., too small, dry, and/or not accessible even temporarily, and not stocked).	1	
139	OF29	Species of Conservation Concern Within the past 10 years, in the AA (or in its adjoining waters or wetland), qualified observers have documented/mark all applicable]:		Request information from ACCDC and/or conduct your own survey at an appropriate season using an approved protocol. For birds, also check eBird.org. NOTE for NS: If your WESP-AC is being completed for a Wetland Alteration Application to NS-ECC, your ACCDC results and any taxon-specific survey results must be submitted along with your WESP-AC results, and application. [AMv, EC, PHv, POLv, SBMv, Sens, WBFv, WBNv]
140		Presence of one or more of the plant species listed in the Plants_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, or the AA is within a mapped Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora Buffer (go to Provincial Landscape Viewer> Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones).	0	
141		Presence of one or more of the amphibian or reptile species (AM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
142		Presence of one or more of the waterbird species (WBF, WBN) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
143		Presence of one or more of the nesting songbird or raptor species (SBM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, during their nesting season (May-July for most species).	0	
144		None of the above, or no data.	1	

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145	OF30 Important Bird Area (IBA)	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called IBAs_Canada . The AA is all or part of an officially designated IBA. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.		0	The source of this layer, which should be checked periodically for updates, is: http://www.ibacanada.com/mapviewer.jsp?lang=EN [SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
146	OF31 Black Duck Nesting Area	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called BlackDuck. Adjust its alignment and opacity. Determine the predicted density (pairs per 25 sq. km) of nesting American Black Duck in the AA's vicinity: <10 (enter 0), 10-20 (enter 1), 20-30 (enter 2), >30 (enter 3). If outside of region shown in map, change to blank.			This was provided by Dr. David Leske. [WBNv]
147	OF32 Wintering Deer or Moose Concentration Areas	If AA is on private land with no information, change to blank (not 0). Otherwise: With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, for Wintering Moose, go to Wildlife> Significant Habitat. For Mainland Moose Concentration Areas, go to Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0.		0	[SBM]
148	OF33 Other Conservation Designation	The AA is all or part of an area designated by government, First Nations, or the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) for its exceptional ecological features or highly intact natural conditions. With Provincial Landscape Viewer, see Protected Areas. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If uncertain, consult NCC and agencies for more recent information.		0	See: https://novascotia.ca/parksandprotectedareas/plan/interactive-map/ [PU]
149	OF34 Conservation Investment	The AA is part of or contiguous to a wetland on which public or private organizational funds were spent to preserve, create, restore, or enhance the wetland (excluding mitigation wetlands). Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank (not 0).		0	[PU]
150	OF35 Mitigation Investment	The AA is all or part of a mitigation site used explicitly to offset impacts elsewhere. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.			[PU]
151	OF36 Sustained Scientific Use	Plants, animals, or water in the AA have been monitored for >2 years, unrelated to any regulatory requirements, and data are available to the public. Or the AA is part of an area that has been designated by an agency or institution as a benchmark, reference, or status-trends monitoring area. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.			[PU]
152	OF37 Calcareous Region	The AA is NOT in a subregion that has been heavily exposed to acid precipitation. Enter "1" if true (green or yellow in map in Appendix A of the Manual). Enter "0" if false. If no information, change to blank.			[AM, FA, FR, INV, PH]
153	OF38 Ownership	Select the ONE ownership that covers the most of the AA. In Google Earth, open KMZ file called NS_CrownlandsUse more recent information if available.			"Private lands" may include those owned or leased by non-governmental organizations, e.g., charitable conservation land trusts, DUC, TNC. [PU, STR]
154		New timber harvest, roads, mineral extraction, and intensive summer recreation (e.g., off-road vehicles) are permanently prohibited. Includes many publicly-owned Protected Lands, and private lands under long-term (30+ year) legal agreements to maintain nearly-unaltered conditions.		0	
155		Ownership is public (e.g., municipal, Crown Reservations/Notations) but some or all of the above activities are allowed.		0	
156		Ownership is private but public access is allowed, and/or a shorter-term conservation easement (whether renewable or not) is in place.		0	
157		Ownership is private and owner does not allow access, or access permission unknown, and not a conservation easement.		0	

	A	B	C	D	E		
1	Date: 12 October, 2022	Site Identifier:Higgins Mountain, WL16		Investigator: Madeline Maher, Blake Fairclough			
2	Form F (Field). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia. DIRECTIONS: Walk for no less than 10 minutes from the wetland edge towards its core, in the part of the AA that is proposed for alteration. If no alteration is proposed, walk in a portion that appears to be most representative of the wetland overall. Walk only where it is safe and legal to do so. Conduct the assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answer these questions primarily based on your onsite observations and interpretations. Do not write in shaded parts of this data form. Answering some questions accurately may require conferring with the landowner or other knowledgeable persons, and/or reviewing aerial imagery. For most wetlands, completing this field data form will require 1-2 hours on a site. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see the accompanying Interpretations form. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage & Delay, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.						
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations		
4	F1	Wetland Type	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the vegetated part of the AA:		<p>Ericaceous shrubs are ones in the heather family (Ericaceae). Most have leathery evergreen leaves. They include rhododendron, azalea, swamp laurel, leatherleaf, Labrador tea, and others. Most require acidic soil. Although not in the family Ericaceae, sweetgale (<i>Myrica gale</i>) should be counted also. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, Sens, SFS, WBF, WBN]</p>		
5	A. Moss and/or lichen cover more than 25% of the ground. Often dominated by ericaceous shrubs (e.g., Labrador tea) or other acid-tolerant plants (e.g., bog cranberry, pitcher plant, sundew, orchids). Substrate is mostly undecomposed peat. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.						
6	A1. Surface water is usually absent or, if present, pH is typically <4.5 and conductivity is usually <100 µS/cm (<64 ppm TDS). Trees are absent or nearly so. Sedge cover usually sparse or absent but cottongrass and/or lichen cover may be extensive, as well as cloudberry, lingonberry, sheep laurel, and a sedge (<i>Carex rariflora</i>). Wetland surface and surrounding landscape are seldom sloping and wetland often is domed (convex). Inlet and outlet channels are usually absent. If known, pH of peat is <4.0.		0				
7	A2. Not A1. Surface water, if present, has pH typically >4.5 and conductivity is usually >100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Sedge cover is usually extensive, and/or tree and tall shrub cover is extensive. Sometimes at toe of slope or edge of water body. An exit channel is usually present. Wetter than A1 and peat depth may be shallower (<2 m).		1				
8	B. Moss and/or lichen cover less than 25% of the ground. Soil is mineral or decomposed organic (muck). Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column:						
9	B1. Trees and shrubs taller than 1 m comprise more than 25% of the vegetated cover. Surface water is mostly absent or inundates the vegetation only seasonally (e.g., vernal pools or floodplain).		0				
10	B2. Not B1. Tree & tall shrubs comprise less than 25% of the vegetated cover. Vegetation is mostly herbaceous, e.g., cattail, bulrush, burreed, pond lily, horsetail. Surface water may be extensive and fluctuates seasonally, being either persistent or drying up partly or entirely.		0				
11	Reminder: For all questions, the AA should include all persistent waters in ponds smaller than 8 hectares (~283 m on a side) that are adjacent to the AA. The AA should also include part of the water area of adjacent ponded water larger than 8 ha and adjacent rivers wider than 20 m. Specifically, the AA should include the open water part adjacent to wetland vegetation and equal in width to the average width of that vegetated zone. Throughout this data form, " adjacent " is used synonymously with abutting , adjoining , bordering , contiguous -- and means no upland (manmade or natural) completely separates the described features along their directly shared edge. Features joined only by a channel are not necessarily considered to be adjacent -- a large portion of their edges must match. The features do not have to be hydrologically connected in order to be considered adjacent.						
12	F2		Wetland Types - Adjoining or Subordinate	If the AA is smaller than 1 ha, mark all other types that occupy more than 1% of the vegetated AA. If the AA is larger than 1 ha, mark all other types which are within or adjacent to the AA and occupy more than 1 ha, as visible from the AA or as interpreted from aerial imagery. Do not mark again the type marked in F1.			1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, INV, SBM, WBF]
13	A1.			0			
14	A2.	0					
15	B1.	0					
16	B2.	0					

A	B	C	D	E
17	F3 Woody Height & Form Diversity	Following EACH row below, indicate with a number code the percentage of the living vegetation in the AA which is occupied by that feature (6 if >95%, 5 if 75-95%, 4 if 50-75%, 3 if 25-50%, 2 if 5-25%, 1 if <5%, 0 if none). If the vegetated part of the AA is largely herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation, these percentages should not sum to 100%.		
18		coniferous trees (may include tamarack) taller than 3 m.	2	
19		deciduous trees taller than 3 m.	2	
20		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	2	
21		deciduous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	3	
22		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs <1 m tall not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	2	
23		deciduous shrubs or trees <1 m tall (e.g., deciduous seedlings) not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	1	
24		Note : If none of top 4 rows in F3 was marked 2 or greater, SKIP to F9 (N fixers).		
25	F4 Dominance of Most Abundant Shrub Species	Determine which two woody plant species comprise the greatest portion of the low (<3 m) woody cover . Then choose one:		[PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
26		those species together comprise > 50% of such cover.	1	
27		those species together do not comprise > 50% of such cover.	0	
28	F5 Woody Diameter Classes	Mark ALL the types that comprise >5% of the woody canopy cover in the AA or >5% of the wooded areas (if any) along its upland edge (perimeter). The edge should include only the trees whose canopies extend into the AA.		
29		coniferous, 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall.	1	
30		broad-leaved deciduous 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall.	1	
31		coniferous, 10-19 cm diameter.	1	
32		broad-leaved deciduous 10-19 cm diameter.	0	
33		coniferous, 20-40 cm diameter.	0	
34		broad-leaved deciduous 20-40 cm diameter.	0	
35		coniferous, >40 cm diameter.	0	
36		broad-leaved deciduous >40 cm diameter.	0	
37	F6 Height Class Interspersion	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the AA:		[AM, INV, NR, PH, SBM, Sens]
38		A. Neither the vegetation taller than 1 m nor the vegetation shorter than that comprise >70% of the vegetated part of the AA. They each comprise 30-70%. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.		
39		A1. The two height classes are mostly scattered and intermixed throughout the AA.	1	
40		A2. Not A1. The two height classes are mostly in separate zones or bands, or in proportionately large clumps.	0	
41		B. Either the vegetation shorter than 1 m comprises >70% of the vegetated part of the AA, or the vegetation taller than that does. One size class might even be totally absent. Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column:		
42		B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly scattered and intermixed within the prevalent one.	0	
43		B2. Not B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly located apart from the prevalent one, in separate zones or clumps, or is completely absent.	0	
44	F7 Large Snags (Dead Standing Trees)	The number of large snags (diameter >20 cm) in the AA plus adjacent upland area within 10 m of the wetland edge is:		
45		None, or fewer than 8/ hectare which exceed this diameter.	1	
46		Several (>8/hectare) and a pond, lake, or slow-flowing water wider than 10 m is within 1 km.	0	
47		Several (>8/hectare) but above not true.	0	
48	F8 Downed Wood	The number of downed wood pieces longer than 2 m and with diameter >10 cm, and not persistently submerged, is:		Exclude temporary "burn piles." [AM, INV, POL, SBM]
49		Few or none that meet these criteria.	1	
50		Several (>5 if AA is >5 hectares, less for smaller AAs) meet these criteria.	0	
51	F9 N Fixers	The percentage of the AA's vegetated cover that contains nitrogen-fixing plants (e.g., alder, sweetgale, clover, lupine, alfalfa, other legumes) is:		
52		<1% or none.	0	
53		1-25% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	
54		25-50% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	
55		50-75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	1	
56		>75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	

A	B	C	D	E
57	F10 Sphagnum Moss Extent	The cover of Sphagnum moss (or any moss that forms a dense cushion many centimeters thick), including the moss obscured by taller sedges and other plants rooted in it, is:		
58		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
59		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
60		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
61		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
62		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
63	F11 % Bare Ground & Thatch	Consider the parts of the AA that lack surface water at the driest time of the growing season. Viewed from directly above the ground layer, the predominant condition in those areas at that time is:		
64		Little or no (<5%) bare ground is visible between erect stems or under canopy anywhere in the vegetated AA. Ground is extensively blanketed by dense thatch, moss, lichens, graminoids with great stem densities, or plants with ground-hugging foliage.	1	Thatch is dead plant material (stems, leaves) resting on the ground surface. Bare ground that is present under a tree or shrub canopy should be counted. Boulders count as bare ground. Wetlands with mineral soils and that are heavily shaded or are dominated by annual plant species tend to have more extensive areas that are bare during the early growing season. [AM, EC, INV, NR, OE, POL, PR, SBM, Sens]
65		Slightly bare ground (5-20% bare between plants) is visible in places, but those areas comprise less than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
66		Much bare ground (20-50% bare between plants) is visible in places, and those areas comprise more than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
67		Other conditions.	0	
68		Not applicable. Surface water (either open or obscured by emergent plants) covers all of the AA all the time.	0	
69	F12 Ground Irregularity	Imagine the AA without any living vegetation. Excluding the portion of the AA that is always under water, the number of hummocks, small pits, raised mounds, animal burrows, ruts, gullies, natural levees, microdepressions, and other areas of peat or mineral soil that are raised or depressed >10 cm compared to most of the area within a few meters surrounding them is:		
70		Few or none (minimal microtopography; <1% of the land has such features, or entire AA is always water-covered).	0	
71		Intermediate.	1	
72		Several (extensive micro-topography).	0	
73	F13 Upland Inclusions	Within the AA, inclusions of upland are:		
74		Few or none.	1	[AM, NR, SBM]
75		Intermediate (1 - 10% of vegetated part of the AA).	0	
76		Many (e.g., wetland-upland "mosaic", >10% of the vegetated AA).	0	
77	F14 Soil Texture	In parts of the AA that lack persistent water, the texture of soil in the uppermost layer is mostly: [To determine this, use a trowel to check in at least 3 widely spaced locations, and use the soil texture key (in Appendix A of the Manual).]		
78		Loamy: soils that may contain a little fine grit and do not make a "ribbon" longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
79		Fines: includes silt, clay, silt, soils that make a ribbon longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
80		Deep Peat, to 40 cm depth or greater.	1	
81		Shallow Peat or organic <40 cm deep.	0	
82		Coarse: includes sand, loamy sand, gravel, cobble, soils that do not make a ribbon when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
83		During any 2 consecutive weeks of the growing season, the extent of mudflats, bare unshaded saturated areas not covered by thatch, and unshaded waters shallower than 6 cm is: [Include also any area that is adjacent to the AA.]		This addresses needs of many but not all migratory sandpipers, plovers, and related species. [WBF]
84	F15 Shorebird Feeding Habitats	None, or <100 sq. m.	1	
85		100-1000 sq. m.	0	
86		1000 – 10,000 sq. m.	0	
87		>10,000 sq. m.	0	
88	F16 Herbaceous % of Vegetated Wetland	In aerial ("ducks eye") view, the maximum annual cover of herbaceous vegetation (all non-woody plants except moss) is:		
89		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA or <0.01 hectare (whichever is less). Mark "1" here and SKIP to F20 (Invasive Plant Cover).	0	
90		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
91		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
92		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
93		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
94	F17 Forb Cover	Within parts of the AA having herbaceous cover (excluding SAV), the areal cover of forbs reaches an annual maximum of:		Forbs are flowering plants. Do not include grasses, sedges, cattail, other graminoids, ferns, horsetails, or others that lack showy flowers. [POL]
95		<5% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		1
96		5-25% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		0
97		25-50% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		0
98		50-95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		0
99		>95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		0
100	F18 Sedge Cover	Sedges (<i>Carex</i> spp.) and cottongrass (<i>Enophorum</i> spp.) occupy:		[CS]
101		<5% of the vegetated area, or none.		0
102		5-50% of the vegetated area.		1
103		50-95% of the vegetated area.		0
104		>95% of the vegetated area.		0
105	F19 Dominance of Most Abundant Herbaceous Species	Determine which two herbaceous species comprise the greatest portion of the herbaceous cover (excluding mosses and floating-leaved aquatic plants). Then choose one of the following:		For this question, include ferns as well as graminoids and forbs. [EC, INV, PH, POL, Sens]
106		those species together comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		1
107		those species together do not comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		0
108	F20 Invasive Plant Cover	How extensive is the cover of invasive plant species in the AA? For species, see Plants_invasive worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file.		[EC, PH, POL, Sens]
109		invasive species appear to be absent in the AA, or are present only in trace amount (a few individuals).		
110		invasive species are present in more than trace amounts, but comprise <5% of herbaceous cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
111		invasive species comprise 5-20% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
112		invasive species comprise 20-50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
113		invasive species comprise >50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
114	F21 Invasive Cover Along Upland Edge	Along the wetland-upland boundary, the percent of the upland edge (within 3 m upslope from the wetland) that is occupied by invasive plant species is:		If a plant cannot be identified to species (e.g., winter conditions) but its genus contains an exotic species, assume the unidentified plant to also be exotic. If vegetation is so senesced that exotic species cannot be identified, answer "none". [PH, STR]
115		none of the upland edge (invasives apparently absent), or AA has no upland edge.		
116		some (but <5%) of the upland edge.		
117		5-50% of the upland edge.		
118		most (>50%) of the upland edge.		
119	F22 Fringe Wetland	During most of the year, open water within or adjacent to the vegetated part of the wetland is much wider than the maximum width of the vegetated zone within the wetland. Enter "1" if true, "0" if false.	0	[WBF, WBN, WCv]
120	F23 Lacustrine Wetland	The vegetated part of the AA is within or adjacent to a body of non-tidal standing open water whose size exceeds 8 hectares during most of a normal year.	0	[FR, PR, PU, WBF, WBN]
121	F24 % of AA Without Surface Water	The percentage of the AA that <u>never</u> contains <u>surface</u> water during an average year (that is, except perhaps for a few hours after snowmelt or rainstorms), but which is still a wetland, is:		1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SRv, WBF, WBN, WC]
122		<1%. In other words, all or nearly all of the AA is covered by water permanently or at least seasonally.		
123		1-25% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha never contains surface water.		
124		25-50% of the AA never contains surface water.		
125		50-75% of the AA never contains surface water.		
126		75-99% of the AA never contains surface water, OR >99% and there is at least one persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha in the AA.		
127		99-100%. AND there is no persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha within the AA. Enter "1" and SKIP to F42 (Channel Connection).	1	

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128	F25	% of AA with Persistent Surface Water	Identify the parts of the AA that still contain surface water (flowing or ponded, open or hidden beneath vegetation) even during the driest times of a normal year, i.e., when the AA's surface water is at its lowest annual level. At that time, the percentage of the AA that still contains surface water is:	If you are unable to determine the condition at the driest time of year, ask the land owner or neighbors about it if possible. Indicators of persistence may include fish, some dragonflies, beaver, and muskrat. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, POL, PR, SBM, WBF, WBN]
129			None. The AA dries up completely (no water in channels either) or never has surface water during most years. SKIP to F27.	0
130			1-20% of the AA.	0
131			20-50% of the AA.	0
132			50-95% of the AA.	0
133			>95% of the AA. True for many fringe wetlands.	0
134	F26	% of Summertime Water that Is Shaded	At mid-day during the warmest time of year, the area of surface water <u>within</u> the AA that is shaded by vegetation and other features <u>that are within</u> the AA at that time is:	[FA, WC]
135			<5% of the water is shaded, or no surface water is present then.	0
136			5-25% of the water is shaded.	0
137			25-50% of the water is shaded.	0
138			50-75% of the water is shaded.	0
139			>75% of the water is shaded.	0
140	F27	% of AA that is Flooded Only Seasonally	The percentage of the AA's area that is between the annual high water and the annual low water (surface water) is:	Flood marks (algal mats, adventitious roots, debris lines, ice scour, etc.) are often evident when not fully inundated. Also, such areas often have a larger proportion of upland and annual (vs. perennial) plant species. In riverine systems, the extent of this zone can be estimated by multiplying by 2 the bankfull height and visualising where that would intercept the land along the river. [CS, FA, INV, NR, OE, PH, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
141			None, or <0.01 hectare and <1% of the AA. SKIP to F29.	0
142			1-20% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha.	0
143			20-50% of the AA.	0
144			50-95% of the AA.	0
145			>95% of the AA.	0
146	F28	Annual Water Fluctuation Range	The annual fluctuation in surface water level within most of the parts of the AA that contain surface water at least temporarily is:	Look for flood marks (see above). Because the annual range of water levels is difficult to estimate without multiple visits, consider asking the land owner or neighbors about it. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SR, WBN, WS]
147			<10 cm change (stable or nearly so).	0
148			10 cm - 50 cm change.	0
149			0.5 - 1 m change.	0
150			1-2 m change.	0
151			>2 m change.	0
152		Is the AA plus adjacent ponded water smaller than 0.01 hectare (about 10m x 10m, or 1m x 100 m)? If so, enter "1" in column D and SKIP TO F42 (Connection).		0
153	F29	Predominant Depth Class	During most of the time when surface water is present during the growing season, its depth, averaged over the entire inundated part of the AA, is:	If a boat is unavailable, estimate this by considering wetland size and local topography. Or if timing and safety allow, depths may be measured by drilling through winter ice. This question is asking about the spatial median depth that occurs during most of that time, even if inundation is only seasonal or temporary. If inundation in most but not all of the wetland is brief, the answer will be based on the depth of the most persistently inundated part of the wetland. Include surface water in channels and ditches as well as ponded areas. [CS, FA, FR, INV, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
154			<10 cm deep (but >0).	0
155			10 - 50 cm deep.	0
156			0.5 - 1 m deep.	0
157			1 - 2 m deep.	0
158			>2 m deep. True for many fringe wetlands.	0
159	F30	Depth Classes - Evenness of Proportions	When present, surface water in most of the AA usually consists of (select one):	Estimate these proportions by considering the gradient and microtopography of the site. [FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
160			One depth class that comprises >90% of the AA's inundated area (use the classes in the question above).	0
161			One depth class that comprises 50-90% of the AA's inundated area.	0
162			Neither of above. There are 3 or more depth classes and none occupy >50%.	0
163	F31	% of Water That Is Ponded (not Flowing)	During most times when surface water is present, the percentage that is (1) ponded (stagnant, or flows so slowly that fine sediment is not held in suspension) AND (2) is likely to be deeper than 0.5 m in some places, is:	Nearly all wetlands with surface water have some ponded water. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WBN, WC, WS]
164			<5% of the water, or it occupies <100 sq.m cumulatively. Nearly all the surface water is flowing. SKIP to F34.	0
165			5-30% of the water.	0
166			30-70% of the water.	0
167			70-95% of the water.	0
168			>95% of the water.	0

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169	F32	Ponded Open Water - Minimum Size	During most of the growing season, the largest patch of open water that is ponded and is in or bordering the AA is >0.01 hectare (about 10 m by 10 m) and mostly deeper than 0.5 m. If true enter "1" and continue. If false, enter "0" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	Open water is not obscured by vegetation in aerial ("duck's eye" view. It includes vegetation floating on the water surface or entirely submerged beneath it.
170	F33	% of Ponded Water that is Open	In ducks-eye aerial view, the percentage of the ponded water that is open (lacking emergent vegetation during most of the growing season, and unhidden by a forest or shrub canopy) is:		[AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
171			None, or <1% of the AA and largest pool occupies <0.01 hectares. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
172			1-4% of the ponded water. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
173			5-30% of the ponded water.	0	
174			30-70% of the ponded water.	0	
175			70-99% of the ponded water.	0	
176			100% of the ponded water.	0	
177	F34	Width of Vegetated Zone within Wetland	At the time during the growing season when the AA's water level is lowest, the average width of vegetated area in the AA that separates adjoining uplands from open water within the AA is:		"Vegetated area" does not include underwater or floating-leaved plants, i.e., aquatic bed. Width may include wooded riparian areas if they have wetland soil or plant indicators. [AM, CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SR, WBN]
178			<1 m.	0	
179			1 - 9 m.	0	
180			10 - 29 m.	0	
181			30 - 49 m.	0	
182			50 - 100 m.	0	
183			> 100 m, or open water is absent at that time.	0	
184	F35	Flat Shoreline Extent	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the percentage of the AA's water edge length that is nearly flat (a slope less than about 5% measured within 5 m landward of the water) is:		If several isolated pools are present in early summer, estimate the percent of their collective shorelines that has such a gentle slope. [SR, WBN]
185			<1% of the water edge.	0	
186			1-25% of the water edge.	0	
187			25-50% of the water edge.	0	
188			50-75% of the water edge.	0	
189			>75% of the water edge.	0	
190	F36	Robust Emergents	The percentage of the emergent vegetation cover in the AA that is cattail (<i>Typha</i> spp.), common reed (<i>Phragmites</i>), or tall (>1m) bulrush is:		Emergent vegetation is herbaceous plants whose stems are partly above and partly below the water surface during most of the time water is present. [WBN]
191			<1% of the emergent vegetation, or emergent vegetation is absent. SKIP to F38 .	0	
192			1-25% of the emergent vegetation.	0	
193			25-75% of the emergent vegetation.	0	
194			>75% of the emergent vegetation.	0	
195	F37	Interspersion of Emergents & Open Water	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the spatial pattern of emergent vegetation within the water is mostly:		[AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, SR, WBF, WBN]
196			Scattered. More than 30% of such vegetation forms small islands or corridors surrounded by water.	0	
197			Intermediate.	0	
198			Clumped. More than 70% of such vegetation is in bands along the wetland perimeter or is clumped at one or a few sides of the surface water area.	0	
199	F38	Persistent Deepwater Area	If the deepest patch of surface water (flowing or ponded) in or directly adjacent to the AA is mostly deeper than 0.5 m for >2 weeks during the growing season, enter "1" and continue. If not, enter "0" and SKIP to F42 (Connection).	0	
200	F39	Non-vegetated Aquatic Cover	During most of the growing season and in waters deeper than 0.5 m, the cover for fish, aquatic invertebrates, and/or amphibians that is provided NOT by living vegetation, but by accumulations of dead wood and undercut banks is:		For this question, consider only the wood that is at or above the water surface. Estimates of underwater wood based only on observations from terrestrial viewpoints are unreliable so should not be attempted. [AM, FA, FR, INV]
201			Little or none.	0	
202			Intermediate.	0	
203			Extensive.	0	
204	F40	Isolated Island	The AA contains (or is part of) an island or beaver lodge within a lake, pond, or river, and is isolated from the shore by water depths >1 m on all sides during an average June. The island may be solid, or it may be a floating vegetation mat that is sufficiently large and dense to support a waterbird nest.	0	[WBN]
205	F41	Floating Algae & Duckweed	At some time of the year, mats of algae and/or duckweed are likely to cover >50% of the AA's otherwise-unshaded water surface, or blanket >50% of the underwater substrate. If true, enter "1" in next column. If untrue or uncertain, enter "0".	0	[EC, PR, WBF]

A	B	C	D	E
206	F42 Channel Connection & Outflow Duration	The most persistent surface water connection (outlet channel or pipe, ditch, or overbank water exchange) between the AA and a downslope stream network is: [Note: If the AA represents only part of a wetland, answer this according to whichever is the least permanent surface connection: the one between the AA and the rest of the wetland, or the surface connection between the wetland and the downslope stream network.]		Consider the connection regardless of whether the surface water is frozen. The "downslope stream network" could consist of ditches, rivers, ponds, or lakes which eventually connect to the ocean. If this cannot be determined while visiting the AA, consult topographic maps perhaps by viewing these online with Toporama (http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html) [CS, FA, FR, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WCv, WS]
207		Persistent (surface water flows out for >9 months/year).		
208		Seasonal (surface water flows out for 14 days to 9 months/year, not necessarily consecutive).		
209		Temporary (surface water flows out for <14 days, not necessarily consecutive).		
210		None -- but maps show a stream network downslope from the AA and within a distance that is less than the AA's length. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
211		No surface water flows out of the wetland except possibly during extreme events (<once per 10 years). Or, water flows only into a wetland, ditch, or lake that lacks an outlet. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
212	F43 Outflow Confinement	During major runoff events, in the places where surface water exits the AA or connected waters nearby, the water:		"Major runoff events" would include biennial high water caused by storms and/or rapid snowmelt. [CS, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, STR, WS]
213		Mostly passes through a pipe, culvert, narrowly breached dike, berm, beaver dam, or other partial obstruction (other than natural topography) that does not appear to drain the wetland artificially during most of the growing season.		
214		Leaves through natural exits (channels or diffuse outflow), not mainly through artificial or temporary features.		
215		Is exported more quickly than usual due to ditches or pipes within the AA or connected to its outlet, or within 10 m of the AA's edge, which drain the wetland artificially, or water is pumped out of the AA.		
216	F44 Tributary Channel	At least once annually, surface water from a tributary channel that is >100 m long moves into the AA. Or, surface water from a larger permanent water body adjacent to the AA spills into the AA. If it enters only via a pipe, that pipe must be fed by a mapped stream or lake further upslope. If no, SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	If inlet tributaries cannot be searched for due to inaccessibility of part of the AA, follow suggestions in F42 above. [NRv, PH, PRv, SRv]
217	F45 Input Water Temperature	Based on lack of shade, water source characteristics, or actual temperature measurements, the inflow is likely to be warmer than surface water in the AA during part of most years. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	[WCv]
218	F46 Throughflow Resistance	During its travel through the AA at the time of peak annual flow, water arriving in channels: [select only the ONE encountered by most of the incoming water].		[FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
219		Does not bump into many plant stems as it travels through the AA. Nearly all the water continues to travel in unvegetated (often incised) channels that have minimal contact with wetland vegetation, or through a zone of open water such as an instream pond or lake.		
220		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
221		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation and mostly spreads throughout, or is in widely meandering, multi-branched, or braided channels.		
222		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
223		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems and follows a fairly indirect path from entrance to exit (meandering, multi-branched, or braided).		
224	F47 pH Measurement	The pH in most of the AA's surface water:		Preferably, measure this in larger areas of ponded surface water within the AA, or in streams that have passed through (not along) most of the AA. Unless surface water is completely absent, do not dig holes or make depressions in peat in order to provide water for this measurement. Avoid measuring near roads or in puddles formed only by recent rain. [AM, FA, FR, NR, WBF, PH, PR, Sens, WBF, WBN]
225		Was measured, and is: [enter the reading in the column to the right.]		
226		Was not measured but surface water is present and is darkly tea-coloured. Or if no surface water, then mosses and plants that indicate peatland (e.g., Labrador tea) are prevalent. Enter "1".	1	
227		Neither of above. Enter "0".	0	
228	F48 TDS and/or Conductivity	The TDS (total dissolved solids) or conductivity off the AA's surface water is: (select the first true row with information):		See above for measurement guidance. [FR, INV, NRv, PH, PRv, Sens]
229		TDS is: [Enter the reading in ppm or mg/L in the column to the right, if measured, or answer next row.]		
230		Conductivity is [Enter the reading in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ in the column to the right.]		
231		Was not measured, but plants that indicate saline conditions cover much of the vegetated AA. Enter "1".	0	
232		Neither of above	1	
233		Use of the AA by beaver during the past 5 years is (select most applicable ONE):		
234	F49 Beaver Probability	Evident from direct observation or presence of gnawed limbs, dams, tracks, dens, lodges, or extensive stands of water-killed trees (snags).	0	[FA, FR, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
235		Likely based on known occurrence in the region and proximity to suitable habitat, which may include: (a) a persistent freshwater wetland, pond, or lake, or a perennial low or mid-gradient (<10%) channel, and (b) a corridor or multiple stands of hardwood trees and shrubs in vegetated areas near surface water.	0	
236		Unlikely because site characteristics above are deficient, and/or this is a settled area or other area where beaver are routinely removed.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
237	F50 Groundwater Strength of Evidence	Select first applicable choice:		
238		Springs are known to be present within the AA, or if groundwater levels have been monitored, that has demonstrated that groundwater primarily discharges to the wetland for longer periods during the year than periods when the wetland recharges the groundwater.	0	Adhere to these criteria strictly -- do not use personal judgment based on fen conditions, pH, or other evidence. Consult topographic maps to detect breaks in slope described here. Rust deposits associated with groundwater seeps may be most noticeable as orange discoloration in ice formations along streams during early winter. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PRv, SFS, WC, WS]
239		Most of the AA has a slope of >5%, or is very close to the base of a natural slope longer than 100 and much steeper than the slope of the AA, AND the pH of surface water, if known, is >5.5.	0	
240		Neither of above is true, although some groundwater may discharge to or flow through the AA. Or groundwater influx is unknown.	1	
241	F51 Internal Gradient	The gradient along most of the flow path within the AA is:		
242		<2% or the AA has no surface water outlet (not even seasonally).	1	This is not the same as the shoreline slope. It is the elevational difference between the AA's inlet and outlet, divided by the flow-distance between them and converted to percent. If available, use a clinometer to measure this. Free clinometer apps can be downloaded to smartphones. If the wetland is large (longer than ~1 km), this may be estimated using Google Earth to determine the minimum and maximum elevation within the AA, then dividing by length and multiplying by 100. [CS, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
243		2-5%.	0	
244		6-10%.	0	
245		>10%.	0	
246	Note for the next three questions: If the AA lacks an upland edge, evaluate based on the AA's entire perimeter, and moving outward into whatever areas are adjacent. In many situations, these questions are best answered by measuring from aerial images.			
247	F52 Vegetated Buffer as % of Perimeter	Within a zone extending 30 m laterally from the AA's edge with upland and/or other wetlands, the percentage that contains perennial vegetation cover (except lawns, row crops, heavily grazed land, conifer plantations) is:		[AM, FA, FR, INV, NRv, PH, POL, PRv, SBM, Sens, SRv, STR, WBN]
248		<5%.	0	
249		5 to 30%.	0	
250		30 to 60%.	0	
251		60 to 90%.	0	
252		>90%, or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands. SKIP to F55.	1	
253	F53 Type of Cover in Buffer	Within 30 m upslope of where the wetland transitions to upland, the upland land cover that is NOT perennial vegetation is mostly (mark ONE):		[AM, FA, INV, NRv, PH, POL, SBM, STR, WBN]
254		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.	0	
255		Bare or nearly bare pervious surface or managed vegetation, e.g., lawn, row crops, unpaved road, dike, landslide.	0	
256	F54 Buffer Slope	The steepest and/or most disturbed part of the upland area that is within 30 m of the wetland and occupies >10% of that upland area has a percent slope of:		[NRv, PRv, Sens, SRv]
257		<1% (flat -- almost no noticeable slope) or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands.	0	
258		2-5%.	0	
259		5-30%.	0	
260		>30%.	0	
261	F55 Cliffs or Steep Banks	In the AA or within 100 m, there are elevated terrestrial features such as cliffs, talus slopes, stream banks, or excavated pits (but not riprap) that extend at least 2 m nearly vertically, are unvegetated, and potentially contain crevices or other substrate suitable for nesting or den areas. Enter 1 (yes) or 0 (no).	0	Do not include upturned trees as potential den sites. [POL, SBM]
262	F56 New or Expanded Wetland	Human actions within or adjacent to the AA have persistently expanded a naturally occurring wetland or created a wetland where there previously was none (e.g., by excavation, impoundment):		Determine this using historical aerial photography, old maps, soil maps, or permit files as available [CS, NR, OE, PH, Sens]
263		No.	1	
264		Yes, and created or expanded 20 - 100 years ago.	0	
265		Yes, and created or expanded 3-20 years ago.	0	
266		Yes, and created or expanded within last 3 years.	0	
267		Yes, but time of origin or expansion unknown.	0	
268		Unknown if new or expanded within 20 years or not.	0	
269	F57 Burn History	More than 1% of the AA's previously vegetated area:		Look for charred soil or stumps (in multiple widely-spaced locations) or ask landowner. [CS, PH, STR]
270		Burned within past 5 years.	0	
271		Burned 6-10 years ago.	0	
272		Burned 11-30 years ago.	0	
273		Burned >30 years ago, or no evidence of a burn and no data.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
274	F58 Visibility	The maximum percentage of the wetland that is visible from the best vantage point on public roads, public parking lots, public buildings, or public maintained trails that intersect, adjoin, or are within 100 m of the AA (select one) is:		[PU, STR, WBFv]
275		<25%.	1	
276		25-50%.	0	
277		>50%.	0	
278	F59 Non-consumptive Uses - Actual or Potential	Assuming access permission was granted, select ALL statements that are true of the AA as it currently exists:		[PU, STR]
279		For an average person, walking is physically possible <u>in</u> (not just near) >5% of the AA during most of the growing season, e.g., free of deep water and dense shrub thickets.	1	
280		Maintained roads, parking areas, or foot-trails are within 10 m of the AA, or the AA can be accessed part of the year by boats arriving via contiguous waters.	0	
281		Within or near the AA, there is an interpretive center, trails with interpretive signs or brochures, and/or regular guided interpretive tours.	0	
282	F60 Unvisited Core Area	The percentage of the AA almost never visited by humans during an average growing season probably comprises: <i>[Note: Only include the part actually walked or driven (not simply viewed from) with a vehicle or boat. Do not include visitors on trails outside of the AA unless more than half the wetland is visible from the trails and they are within 30 m of the wetland edge. In that case include only the area occupied by the trail.]</i>		[AM, FAv, FRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
283		<5% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
284		<5% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
285		5-50% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
286		5-50% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
287		50-95%, with or without inhabited building nearby.	0	
288		>95% of the AA with or without inhabited building nearby.	1	
289	F61 Frequently Visited Area	The part of the AA visited by humans almost daily for several weeks during an average growing season probably comprises: <i>[See note above.]</i>		[AM, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
290		<5%. If F60 was answered ">95%" (mostly never visited), SKIP to F64.	0	
291		5-50%.	0	
292		50-95%.	0	
293		>95% of the AA.	0	
294	F62 BMP - Soils	Boardwalks, paved trails, fences or other infrastructure and/or well-enforced regulations appear to effectively prevent visitors from walking on soil within nearly all of the AA when the soil is unfrozen. Enter "1" if true.	0	[PH, PU]
295	F63 BMP - Wildlife Protection	Fences, observation blinds, platforms, paved trails, exclusion periods, and/or well-enforced prohibitions on motorised boats, off-leash pets, and off road vehicles appear to effectively exclude or divert visitors and their pets from the AA at critical times in order to minimize disturbance of wildlife (except during hunting seasons). Enter "1" if true.	0	[AM, PU, WBF, WBN]
296	F64 Consumptive Uses (Provisioning Services)	Recent evidence was found within the AA of the following potentially-sustainable consumptive uses. Select ALL that apply.		[FAv, FRv, WBFv]
297		Low-impact commercial timber harvest (e.g., selective thinning).	0	
298		Commercial or traditional-use harvesting of native plants, their fruits, or mushrooms.	0	
299		Waterfowl hunting.	0	
300		Fishing.	0	
301		Trapping of furbearers.	0	
302		None of the above.	1	
303	F65 Domestic Wells	The closest wells or water bodies that currently provide drinking water are:		[NRv]
304		Within 0-100 m. of the AA.	0	
305		100-500 m. away.	0	
306		>500 m. away, or no information.	1	
307	F66 Calcareous Fen	The AA is, or is part of, a calcareous fen. See the Plants_Calcar worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file for list of plant indicators (calciphiles). Enter 1 if more than two Strong or more than five Moderate calciphile species are present; otherwise enter 0, but if not able to identify those and no information, change to blank.		[PH, PR]

Investigator: Madeline Maher, Blake Fairclough	Site Identifier: Higgins Mtn, WL16	Date: 12 October, 2022		
Stressor (S) Data Form for Non-Tidal Wetlands. WESP-AC for Nova Scotia version 2.				
S1	Aberrant Timing of Water Inputs	Data		
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item that is likely to have caused the timing of water inputs (but not necessarily their volume) to shift by hours, days, or weeks, becoming either more muted (smaller or less frequent peaks spread over longer times, more temporal homogeneity of flow or water levels) or more flashy (larger or more frequent spikes but over shorter times). [FA, FR, INV, PH, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater from impervious surfaces that drains directly to the wetland.</p> <p>Water subsidies from wastewater effluent, septic system leakage, snow storage areas, or irrigation.</p> <p>Regular removal of surface or groundwater for irrigation or other consumptive use.</p> <p>Flow regulation in tributaries or water level regulation in adjoining water body, or other control structure at water entry points that regulates inflow to the wetland.</p> <p>A dam, dike, levee, weir, berm, or fill -- within or downgradient from the wetland -- that interferes with surface or subsurface flow in/out of the AA (e.g., road fill, wellpads, pipelines).</p> <p>Excavation within the wetland, e.g., dugout, artificial pond, dead-end ditch.</p> <p>Artificial drains or ditches in or near the wetland.</p> <p>Accelerated downcutting or channelization of an adjacent or internal channel (incised below the historical water table level).</p> <p>Logging within the wetland.</p> <p>Subsidence or compaction of the wetland's substrate as a result of machinery, livestock, fire, drainage, or off road vehicles.</p> <p>Straightening, ditching, dredging, and/or lining of tributary channels.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items had no measurable effect on the timing of water conditions in any part of the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>				
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
Spatial extent of timing shift within the wetland:	>95% of wetland.	5-95% of wetland.	<5% of wetland.	0
When most of the timing shift began:	<3 yrs ago.	3-9 yrs ago.	10-100 yrs ago.	0
Score the following 2 rows only if the altered inputs began within past 10 years, and only for the part of the wetland that experiences those.				
Input timing now vs. previously:	Shift of weeks.	Shift of days.	Shift of hours or minutes.	0
Flashiness or muting:	Became very flashy or controlled.	Intermediate.	Became mildly flashy or controlled.	0
			Sum=	0
			Stressor subscore=	0.00
S2	Accelerated Inputs of Contaminants and/or Salts			
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of contaminants or salts to the AA. [AM, FA, PH, POL, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills, industrial facilities.</p> <p>Metals & chemical wastes from mining, shooting ranges, snow storage areas, oil/ gas extraction, other sources (download many locations from National Pollutant Release Inventory and view KMZ overlay in Google Earth. https://www.ec.gc.ca/inrp-npri/default.asp?lang=En&n=B85A1846-1</p> <p>Road salt.</p> <p>Spraying of pesticides, as applied to lawns, croplands, roadsides, or other areas in the CA.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly higher levels of contaminants and/or salts, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>				
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
Usual toxicity of most toxic contaminants:	Industrial effluent, mining waste, unmanaged landfill.	Cropland, managed landfill, pipeline or transmission rights-of-way.	Low density residential.	0
Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
			Sum=	0
			Stressor subscore=	0.00

S3	Accelerated Inputs of Nutrients				
	In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of nutrients to the wetland. [NRv, PRv, STR]				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills.				
	Fertilizers applied to lawns, ag lands, or other areas in the CA.				
	Livestock, dogs.				
	Artificial drainage of upslope lands.				
	If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly more nutrients, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Type of loading:	High density of unmaintained septic, some types of industrial sources.	Moderate density septic, cropland, secondary wastewater treatment plant.	Livestock, pets, low density residential.	0
	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
	AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
				Sum=	0
				Stressor subscore=	0.00
S4	Excessive Sediment Loading from Contributing Area				
	In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the CA that is likely to have elevated the load of waterborne or windborne sediment reaching the wetland from its CA. [FA, FR, INV, PH, SRv, STR]				
	Erosion from plowed fields, fill, timber harvest, dirt roads, vegetation clearing, fires.				
	Erosion from construction, in-channel machinery in the CA.				
	Erosion from off-road vehicles in the CA.				
	Erosion from livestock or foot traffic in the CA.				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent.				
	Sediment from road sanding, gravel mining, other mining, oil/ gas extraction.				
	Accelerated channel downcutting or headcutting of tributaries due to altered land use.				
	Other human-related disturbances within the CA.				
	If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points (3, 2, or 1 as shown in header) in the last column. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively add significantly more sediment or suspended solids to the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Erosion in CA:	Extensive evidence, high intensity.*	Potentially (based on high-intensity* land use) or scattered evidence.	Potentially (based on low-intensity* land use) with little or no direct evidence.	0
	Recentness of significant soil disturbance in the CA:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0
	Duration of sediment inputs to the wetland:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
	AA proximity to actual or potential sources:	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
	* high-intensity= extensive off-road vehicle use, plowing, grading, excavation, erosion with or without veg removal; low-intensity= veg removal only with little or no apparent erosion or disturbance of soil or sediment.				Sum=
					0
				Stressor subscore=	0.00

S5	Soil or Sediment Alteration Within the Assessment Area				
<p><i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the wetland that is likely to have compacted, eroded, or otherwise altered the wetland's soil. Consider only items occurring within past 100 years or since wetland was created or restored (whichever is less). [CS, INV, NR, PH, SR, STR]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compaction from machinery, off-road vehicles, livestock, or mountain bikes, especially during wetter periods. Leveling or other grading not to the natural contour. Tillage, plowing (but excluding disking for enhancement of native plants). Fill or riprap, excluding small amounts of upland soils containing organic amendments (compost, etc.) or small amounts of topsoil imported from another wetland. Excavation. Ditch cleaning or dredging in or adjacent to the wetland. Boat traffic in or adjacent to the wetland and sufficient to cause shore erosion or stir bottom sediments. Artificial water level or flow manipulations sufficient to cause erosion or stir bottom sediments. <p><i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not measurably alter the soil structure and/or topography, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i></p>					
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
Spatial extent of altered soil:	>95% of wetland or >95% of its upland edge (if any).	5-95% of wetland or 5-95% of its upland edge (if any).	<5% of wetland and <5% of its upland edge (if any).	0	
Recentness of significant soil alteration in wetland:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0	
Duration:	Long-lasting, minimal veg recovery.	Long-lasting but mostly revegetated.	Short-term, revegetated, not intense.	0	
Timing of soil alteration:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Mainly during one-time or scattered events.	0	
			Sum=	0	
			Stressor subscore=	0.00	

Assessment Area (AA) Results:

Wetland ID: WL16

Date: 12 October, 2022

Observer: MM BF

Latitude & Longitude (decimal degrees): 45.55665278°, 63.60867778°

Scores will appear below after data are entered in worksheets OF, F, and S. See Manual for definitions and descriptions of how scores were computed.

Wetland Functions or Other Attributes:	Function Score (Normalised)	Function Rating	Benefits Score (Normalised)	Benefits Rating	Function Score (raw)	Benefits Score (raw)
Water Storage & Delay (WS)	9.59	Higher	9.68	Higher	9.10	4.29
Stream Flow Support (SFS)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Water Cooling (WC)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Sediment Retention & Stabilisation (SR)	7.86	Higher	1.13	Moderate	8.33	0.56
Phosphorus Retention (PR)	3.48	Moderate	1.07	Moderate	5.92	0.83
Nitrate Removal & Retention (NR)	10.00	Higher	7.50	Higher	10.00	7.50
Carbon Sequestration (CS)	7.73	Higher			8.86	
Organic Nutrient Export (OE)	8.17	Higher			5.34	
Anadromous Fish Habitat (FA)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Resident Fish Habitat (FR)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Aquatic Invertebrate Habitat (INV)	6.46	Higher	0.51	Lower	6.13	1.52
Amphibian & Turtle Habitat (AM)	2.13	Lower	3.88	Moderate	4.24	4.96
Waterbird Feeding Habitat (WBF)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Waterbird Nesting Habitat (WBN)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat (SBM)	5.60	Moderate	10.00	Higher	4.88	10.00
Pollinator Habitat (POL)	5.94	Moderate	0.00	Lower	4.92	0.00
Native Plant Habitat (PH)	3.32	Lower	3.27	Lower	5.23	3.27
Public Use & Recognition (PU)			0.77	Lower		0.83
Wetland Sensitivity (Sens)			10.00	Higher		5.47
Wetland Ecological Condition (EC)			4.78	Moderate		7.50
Wetland Stressors (STR) (higher score means more stress)			4.64	Moderate		2.41
Summary Ratings for Grouped Functions:						
HYDROLOGIC Group (WS)	9.59	Higher	9.68	Higher	9.10	4.29
WATER QUALITY SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SR, PR, NR, CS)	8.63	Higher	5.37	Moderate	9.14	5.23
AQUATIC SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SFS, INV, OE, WC)	5.91	Higher	0.34	Lower	4.50	1.01
AQUATIC HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of FA, FR, AM, WBF, WBN)	1.28	Lower	2.33	Moderate	2.54	2.98
TRANSITION HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of SBM, PH, POL)	5.45	Moderate	7.21	Moderate	5.12	7.21
WETLAND CONDITION (EC)			4.78	Moderate		7.50
WETLAND RISK (average of Sensitivity & Stressors)			7.32	Higher		3.94

NOTE: A score of 0 does not mean the function or benefit is absent from the wetland. It means only that this wetland has a capacity that is equal or less than the lowest-scoring one, for that function or benefit, from among all the NS calibration wetlands that were assessed previously.

NOVA SCOTIA - Functional WSS Interpretation Tool

Function-Benefit Product (FBP)	FBP SCORE	FBP SCORE CATEGORY
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - HYDROLOGIC	92.83708709	High
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - WATER QUALITY SUPPORT	46.34370641	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC SUPPORT	2.013025798	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC HABITAT	2.971941467	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - TRANSITION HABITAT	39.26467965	Low

Habitat Rule Satisfied? NO

Support Rule Satisfied? NO

Habitat/Support Hybrid Rule Satisfied? NO

CONCLUSION: Site is not a WSS

Cover Page: Basic Description of Assessment	WESP-AC version 2
Site Name:	Higgins Mountain, WL17
Investigator Name:	Rohan Kariyawansa, Matt Stanbrook
Date of Field Assessment:	Oct 14th, 2022
Nearest Town:	Masstown
Latitude (decimal degrees):	45.5048482866263
Longitude (decimal degrees):	-63.625505070528774
Is a map based on a formal on-site wetland delineation available?	Yes
Approximate size of the Assessment Area (AA, in hectares):	0.08
AA as percent of entire wetland (approx.). Attach sketch map if AA is smaller than the entire contiguous wetland.	100%
What percent (approx.) of the wetland were you able to visit?	100%
What percent (approx.) of the AA were you able to visit?	100%
Were you able to ask the site owner/manager about any of the questions?	no
Indicate here if you intentionally surveyed for rare plants, calciphile plants, or rare animals:	yes
Have you attended a WESP-AC training session? If so, indicate approximate month & year.	R. Kariyawansa - yes, Oct 2022
How many wetlands have you assessed previously using WESP-AC? (approx.)	3-4 dozen
Comments about the site or this WESP-AC assessment (attach extra page if desired):	

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date: 08 Nov 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL17		Investigator: Rohan Kariyawansa	
2	Form OF (Office). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia wetlands only. DIRECTIONS: Conduct an assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answering many of the questions below will require using these online map viewers: Google Earth Pro: https://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html Provincial Landscape Viewer: https://nsgl.novascotia.ca/plv/ For most wetlands, completing this office data form will require 1-2 hours. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see bracketed abbreviations in the Definitions/Explanations column. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.				
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations
4	OF1	Province	Mark the province in which the AA is located by changing the 0 in the column next to it to a "1". Mark only one.		This determines to which province's calibration wetlands the raw score of any wetland is normalised. In the function and benefits models, it also triggers the automatic exclusion of indicators for which no spatial data exists in a particular province.
5			New Brunswick	0	
6			Nova Scotia	1	
7			Prince Edward Island	0	
8			Newfoundland-Labrador	0	
9	OF2	Ponded Area Within 1 km.	The area of surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		"Adjacent" means not separated from the AA by a wide expanse (>50 m) of upland (including roads >50 m wide). Include ponded areas likely to be hidden by wetland vegetation. If surface water extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. Do not include tidal areas. Measure the area from aerial imagery using Google Earth Pro (click on Ruler icon in toolbar, then Polygon in pop-up menu). [PH, SBM, WBN]
10			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	1	
11			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
12			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
13			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
14			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
15			>100 hectares.	0	
16	OF3	Ponded Water & Wetland Within 1 km.	The area of wetlands and surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. If the AA's wetland vegetation extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. "Ponded" means not flowing in rivers or streams. [Sens, WBF]
17			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	1	
18			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
19			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
20			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
21			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
22			>100 hectares.	0	
23	OF4	Size of Largest Nearby Vegetated Tract or Corridor	The largest vegetated patch or corridor that includes the AA's vegetation plus all adjacent upland vegetation that is not lawn, row crops, heavily grazed lands, conifer plantation is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. Use Google Earth Pro's polygon ruler (as described above). Exclude conifer plantations only if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens]
24			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
25			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
26			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
27			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
28			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
29			100 to 1000 hectares.	0	
30			>1000 hectares. <i>[This is nearly always the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]</i>	1	

A	B	C	D	E
31	OF5 Distance to Large Vegetated Tract	The minimum distance from the edge of the AA to the edge of the closest vegetated land (but excluding row crops, lawn, conifer plantation) larger than 375 hectares (about 2 km on a side), is:	1	To measure distance, use Google Earth Pro (Ruler > Line tool). The 375-ha criterion is from the Fundy Model Forest Project. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
32		<50 m, and not separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, bare ground, lawn, or impervious surface. Or the AA itself contains >375 ha of vegetation. [This is often the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]		
33		<50 m, but completely separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by those features, and AA does not contain >375 ha of vegetation.		
34		50-500 m, and not separated .		
35		50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
36		0.5 - 5 km, and not separated .		
37		0.5 - 5 km, but separated by those features.		
38		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors which are that large are >5 km away).		
39	OF6 Herbaceous Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 5 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 1 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "1". [* NOTE: Exclude lawns, row crops, heavily grazed lands, forest, shrublands. Include moss as well as grasslike plants in this use of "herbaceous vegetation"]	2	For this question only, consider moss to be herbaceous vegetation. Determine the score by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth after successively drawing or estimating the boundaries of the buffers of 5 km, 1 km, and 100 m radius focused on the center of the AA. Circles of specified radius can be drawn in Google Earth Pro by clicking on the Ruler icon, then Circle in the pop-up menu. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
40	OF7 Woody Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% woody* but uplands within 5 km have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 1 km have <10% woody cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "1" [* NOTE: woody cover = trees & shrubs taller than 1 m.]	1	See above. Do not consider conifer plantations to be forest if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv]
41	OF8 Local Vegetated Cover Percentage	Draw a 5-km radius circle measured from the center of the AA. Ignoring all permanent water in the circle, the percent of the remaining area that is wooded or unmanaged herbaceous vegetation (NOT lawn, row crops, bare or heavily grazed land, clearcuts, or conifer plantations) is:	0	In Google Earth, draw the 5 km buffer and then estimate land cover percentages, or do GIS analysis of an appropriate land cover layer. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
42		<5% of the land.		
43		5 to 20% of the land.		
44		20 to 60% of the land.		
45		60 to 90% of the land.		
46		>90% of the land. SKIP to OF10.		
47	OF9 Type of Land Cover Alteration	Within the 5-km radius circle, and ignoring all permanent water, the land area that is bare or non-perennial cover is mostly:	[AM, SBM]	
48		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
49		Bare pervious surface, e.g., lawn, recent (<5 yrs ago) clearcut, dirt or gravel road, cropland, landslide, conifer plantation.		
50	OF10 Distance by Road to Nearest Population Center	Measured along the maintained road nearest the AA, the distance to the nearest population center is:	0	"Population center" means a settled area with more than about 5 regularly- inhabited structures per square kilometer. In Google Earth Pro, click on the Ruler icon, then Path, and draw and measure the route. [FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, WBFv]
51		<100 m.		
52		100 - 500 m.		
53		0.5- 1 km.		
54		1 - 5 km.		
55		>5 km.		

A	B	C	D	E
56	OF11 Distance to Nearest Maintained Road	From the center of the AA, the distance to the nearest maintained public road (dirt or paved) is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth Pro and measuring with the Ruler>Line tool [AM, FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBN]
57		<10 m.		
58		10 - 25 m.		
59		25 - 50 m.		
60		50 - 100 m.		
61		100 - 500 m.		
62		>500 m.		
63	OF12 Wildlife Access	Draw a circle of radius of 5 km from the center of the AA. If mammals and amphibians can move from the center of the AA to ALL other separate wetlands and ponds located within the circle without being forced to cross pavement (any width), lawns, bare ground, and/or marine waters, mark 1= yes can move to all, 0= no. Change to blank if there are no other wetlands within 5 km.	0	Draw the 5 km circle in Google Earth Pro using the Circle tool and search for roads and wetlands within it, being alert for roads hidden under forest canopy. [AM, SBM, STR]
64	OF13 Distance to Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) ponded water body visible in GoogleEarth imagery is:		In Google Earth Pro, zoom in closely to examine the surrounding landscape for ponds, lakes, and wetlands that appear to be permanently flooded. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
65		<50 m, and not separated by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, lawn, bare ground, or impervious surface.		
66		<50 m, but completely separated by those features.		
67		50-500 m, and not separated.		
68		50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
69		0.5 - 1 km, and not separated.		
70		0.5 - 1 km, but separated by those features.		
71		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors that large are >1 km away).		
72	OF14 Distance to Large Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate)non-tidal body of water that is ponded during most of the year and is larger than 8 hectares during most of a normal year is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth. [Sens, WBF, WBN]
73		<100 m.		
74		100 m - 1 km.		
75		1-2 km.		
76		2-5 km.		
77		5-10 km.		
78		>10 km.		
79	OF15 Tidal Proximity	The distance from the AA edge to the closest tidal water body (regardless of its salinity) is:		In Google Earth, measure the distance to the ocean (including Bay of Fundy) or tidal river, whichever is closer. If you need to see how far upriver a river is tidal, see the KMZ file provided with this calculator for NS (NS Headtide). Points shown in those files are only an approximation, so local information if available may be preferable. [FA, WBF]
80		<100 m.		
81		100 m - 1 km.		
82		1 - 5 km.		
83		5-10 km.		
84		10-40 km.		
85		>40 km.		
86	OF16 Upland Edge Contact	Select one:		[NR, SBM, Sens]
87		The AA has no upland edge (or upland is <1% of perimeter). The AA is entirely surrounded by (& contiguous with) other wetlands or water.		
88		1-25% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland (including filled areas). The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
89		25-50% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
90		50-75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
91		More than 75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. Any remainder adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA. This will be true for most assessments done with WESP-AC.		

A	B	C	D	E
92	OF17 Flood Damage from Non-tidal Waters	Within 5 km downstream or downslope of the AA (select first true choice):	0	Contact local authorities to determine if such maps exist. Where available, LiDAR imagery can provide finer elevational resolution useful for flood modeling. [WSv]
93		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding not caused by tidal storm surges.		
94		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas, but infrastructure is absent or is not vulnerable to floods from a non-tidal river. In some cases levees, upriver dams, or other measures may partly limit damage or risk from smaller events.		
95		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
96		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there is no infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
97	OF18 Relative Elevation in Watershed	In Google Earth, enable the Terrain layer (lower left menu) and open the NS_Watersheds Secondary KMZ file that accompanies this calculator. Then determine the AA's approximate elevation (bottom right, NOT the "eye alt"). Then move cursor around to determine the watershed's maximum and minimum elevation. Divide the AA's elevation by the (max-min).	1.54	[FA, NR, Sens, SFSv, WCv, WSv]
98	OF19 Water Quality Sensitive Watershed or Area	The AA is in a Protected Water Supply area (Designated Water Supply Area, Natural Watershed Municipal Surface Water Supply Area, or Municipal Water Supply Area) according to the provided KMZ overlay ("NS Protected Water Supply Areas"). Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	If an ACCDC report is available for this AA, it also may contain such information. [NRv]
99	OF20 Degraded Water Upstream	Sampling indicates a problem with concentrations of metals, hydrocarbons, nutrients, or other substances (excluding bacteria, acidic water, high temperatures) being present at levels harmful to aquatic life or humans, and:	0	May use existing data, or sample those waters as part of this wetland assessment. "Harmful" should be evaluated with regard to current federal or provincial water quality standards. [AM, FA, FR, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WBF, WBN]
100		The condition is present within the AA.		
101		The condition is present in waters within 1 km that flow into the AA, but has not been documented in the AA itself.		
102		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
103		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
104	OF21 Degraded Water Downstream	The problem described above is downslope from the AA, and:	0	May use existing data, or monitor waters as part of this wetland assessment. [NRv, PRv, SRv]
105		The condition is present within 1 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel.		
106		The condition is present within 5 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel, or within 1 km but not connected to the AA by a channel.		
107		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
108		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
109	OF22 Wetland as a % of Its Contributing Area (Catchment)	From a topographic map and field observations, estimate the approximate boundaries of the catchment (CA) of the entire wetland of which the AA may be only a part. Then adjust those boundaries if necessary based on your field observations of the surrounding terrain, and/or by using procedures described in the Manual. Divide the area of the wetland (not just the AA) by the approximate area of its catchment excluding the area of the wetland itself. When doing the calculation, if ponded water is adjacent to the wetland, include that in the wetland area. The result is:	0	Topographic maps may be viewed online at the National Atlas of Canada (Toporama): http://atlas.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html [NR, PR, Sens, SR, WS]
110		<0.01, or catchment size unknown due to stormwater pipes that collect water from an indeterminate area.		
111		0.01 to 0.1.		
112		0.1 to 1.		
113		>1 (wetland is larger than its catchment (e.g., wetland with flat surrounding terrain and no inlet, or is entirely isolated by dikes, or is a raised bog)).		
114	OF23 Unvegetated Surface in the Contributing Area	The proportion of the AA's contributing area (measured to no more than 1000 m upslope) that is comprised of buildings, roads, parking lots, other pavement, exposed bedrock, landslides, and other mostly-bare surface is about :	0	[FA, INV, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WCv, WSv]
115		<10%.		
116		10 to 25%.		
117		>25%.		

A	B	C	D	E
118	OF24	Transport From Upslope A relatively large proportion of the precipitation that falls farther upslope in the CA reaches this wetland quickly as runoff (surface water), as indicated by the following: (a) input channel is present, (b) input channels have been straightened, (c) upslope wetlands have been ditched extensively, (d) land cover is mostly non-forest, (e) CA slopes are steep, and/or (f) most CA soils are shallow (bedrock near surface) and/or have high runoff coefficients. This statement is:		[NRv, PRv, SRv, WSv]
119		Mostly true.	0	
120		Somewhat true.	0	
121		Mostly untrue.	1	
122	OF25	Aspect The overland flow direction of most surface water (in streams, rivers, or runoff) that enters the AA is:		[AM, NR, SFS, WC, WS]
123		Northward (N, NE). north-facing contributing area.	0	
124		Southward (S, SW). south-facing contributing area.	1	
125		Other (E, SE, W, NW), or no detectable uphill slope or input channel (flat).	0	
126	OF26	Internal Flow Distance (Path Length) The horizontal flow distance from the wetland's inlet to outlet is:		Identify inlets and outlets, if any, from topographic maps (use elevations to determine which are inlets and which are outlets) and augment by field inspection. With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, select Nova Scotia Topo as the Basemap. Also enable the layer Forestry>WAM Predicted Flow. Then measure the inlet-outlet distance. [NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
127		<10 m.	0	
128		10 - 50 m.	1	
129		50 - 100 m.	0	
130		100 - 1000 m.	0	
131		1-2 km.	0	
132		>2 km, or wetland lacks an inlet and outlet.	0	
133	OF27	Growing Degree Days In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called NS_GrowingDegreeDays. Place your cursor over the AA and left-click. From the pop-up window, enter the GRIDCODE number in the next column.	1823	This layer was provided by Dr. Dan McKenney of the Canadian Forest Service [AM, CS, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WCv, WS]
134	OF28	Fish Access or Use According to agency biologists and/or your own observations, the AA. [Mark just the first choice that is true.]:		Regarding the last choice, if uncertain if an AA is fishless, consider the possibility its waters have been stocked. [AM, FA, FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
135		Is known to support rearing and/or spawning by Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels. Go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife>Significant Habitat>Species at Risk. Contact local fishery biologists, review the ACCDC report, and visit these websites: http://www.salmontlas.com/atlanticsalmon/canada-east/index.1.html http://atlanticssalmofederation.org/rivers/introduction.html	0	
136		Has not been documented to support Atlantic salmon rearing and/or spawning, but is connected to nearby waters likely to contain Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels and is probably accessed by those during some conditions.	0	
137		Is probably not accessed by any anadromous fish species but is known or likely to have other fish at least seasonally.	0	
138		Is known or likely to be fishless (e.g., too small, dry, and/or not accessible even temporarily, and not stocked).	1	
139	OF29	Species of Conservation Concern Within the past 10 years, in the AA (or in its adjoining waters or wetland), qualified observers have documented [mark all applicable]:		Request information from ACCDC and/or conduct your own survey at an appropriate season using an approved protocol. For birds, also check eBird.org. NOTE for NS: If your WESP-AC is being completed for a Wetland Alteration Application to NS-ECC, your ACCDC results and any taxon-specific survey results must be submitted along with your WESP-AC results, and application. [AMv, EC, PHv, POLv, SBMv, Sens, WBFv, WBNv]
140		Presence of one or more of the plant species listed in the Plants_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, or the AA is within a mapped Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora Buffer (go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones).	0	
141		Presence of one or more of the amphibian or reptile species (AM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
142		Presence of one or more of the waterbird species (WBF, WBN) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
143		Presence of one or more of the nesting songbird or raptor species (SBM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, during their nesting season (May-July for most species).	0	
144		None of the above, or no data.	1	

	A	B	C	D	E
145	OF30 Important Bird Area (IBA)	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called IBAs_Canada . The AA is all or part of an officially designated IBA. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.		0	The source of this layer, which should be checked periodically for updates, is: http://www.ibacanada.com/mapviewer.jsp?lang=EN [SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
146	OF31 Black Duck Nesting Area	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called BlackDuck. Adjust its alignment and opacity. Determine the predicted density (pairs per 25 sq. km) of nesting American Black Duck in the AA's vicinity: <10 (enter 0), 10-20 (enter 1), 20-30 (enter 2), >30 (enter 3). If outside of region shown in map, change to blank.		0	This was provided by Dr. David Leske. [WBNv]
147	OF32 Wintering Deer or Moose Concentration Areas	If AA is on private land with no information, change to blank (not 0). Otherwise: With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, for Wintering Moose, go to Wildlife> Significant Habitat. For Mainland Moose Concentration Areas, go to Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0.		1	[SBM]
148	OF33 Other Conservation Designation	The AA is all or part of an area designated by government, First Nations, or the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) for its exceptional ecological features or highly intact natural conditions. With Provincial Landscape Viewer, see Protected Areas. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If uncertain, consult NCC and agencies for more recent information.		0	See: https://novascotia.ca/parksandprotectedareas/plan/interactive-map/ [PU]
149	OF34 Conservation Investment	The AA is part of or contiguous to a wetland on which public or private organizational funds were spent to preserve, create, restore, or enhance the wetland (excluding mitigation wetlands). Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank (not 0).		0	[PU]
150	OF35 Mitigation Investment	The AA is all or part of a mitigation site used explicitly to offset impacts elsewhere. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.		0	[PU]
151	OF36 Sustained Scientific Use	Plants, animals, or water in the AA have been monitored for >2 years, unrelated to any regulatory requirements, and data are available to the public. Or the AA is part of an area that has been designated by an agency or institution as a benchmark, reference, or status-trends monitoring area. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.		0	[PU]
152	OF37 Calcareous Region	The AA is NOT in a subregion that has been heavily exposed to acid precipitation. Enter "1" if true (green or yellow in map in Appendix A of the Manual). Enter "0" if false. If no information, change to blank.		0	[AM, FA, FR, INV, PH]
153	OF38 Ownership	Select the ONE ownership that covers the most of the AA. In Google Earth, open KMZ file called NS_CrownlandsUse more recent information if available.			"Private lands" may include those owned or leased by non-governmental organizations, e.g., charitable conservation land trusts, DUC, TNC. [PU, STR]
154		New timber harvest, roads, mineral extraction, and intensive summer recreation (e.g., off-road vehicles) are permanently prohibited. Includes many publicly-owned Protected Lands, and private lands under long-term (30+ year) legal agreements to maintain nearly-unaltered conditions.		0	
155		Ownership is public (e.g., municipal, Crown Reservations/Notations) but some or all of the above activities are allowed.		1	
156		Ownership is private but public access is allowed, and/or a shorter-term conservation easement (whether renewable or not) is in place.		0	
157		Ownership is private and owner does not allow access, or access permission unknown, and not a conservation easement.		0	

	A	B	C	D	E		
1	Date: October 14th 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL17		Investigator: Matt Stanbrook, Rohan Kariyawansa			
2	Form F (Field). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia. DIRECTIONS: Walk for no less than 10 minutes from the wetland edge towards its core, in the part of the AA that is proposed for alteration. If no alteration is proposed, walk in a portion that appears to be most representative of the wetland overall. Walk only where it is safe and legal to do so. Conduct the assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answer these questions primarily based on your onsite observations and interpretations. Do not write in shaded parts of this data form. Answering some questions accurately may require conferring with the landowner or other knowledgeable persons, and/or reviewing aerial imagery. For most wetlands, completing this field data form will require 1-2 hours on a site. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see the accompanying Interpretations form. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage & Delay, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sens= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.						
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations		
4	F1	Wetland Type	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the vegetated part of the AA:		<p>Ericaceous shrubs are ones in the heather family (Ericaceae). Most have leathery evergreen leaves. They include rhododendron, azalea, swamp laurel, leatherleaf, Labrador tea, and others. Most require acidic soil. Although not in the family Ericaceae, sweetgale (<i>Myrica gale</i>) should be counted also. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, Sens, SFS, WBF, WBN]</p>		
5	A. Moss and/or lichen cover more than 25% of the ground. Often dominated by ericaceous shrubs (e.g., Labrador tea) or other acid-tolerant plants (e.g., bog cranberry, pitcher plant, sundew, orchids). Substrate is mostly undecomposed peat. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.						
6	A1. Surface water is usually absent or, if present, pH is typically <4.5 and conductivity is usually <100 µS/cm (<64 ppm TDS). Trees are absent or nearly so. Sedge cover usually sparse or absent but cottongrass and/or lichen cover may be extensive, as well as cloudberry, lingonberry, sheep laurel, and a sedge (<i>Carex rariflora</i>). Wetland surface and surrounding landscape are seldom sloping and wetland often is domed (convex). Inlet and outlet channels are usually absent. If known, pH of peat is <4.0.		1				
7	A2. Not A1. Surface water, if present, has pH typically >4.5 and conductivity is usually >100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Sedge cover is usually extensive, and/or tree and tall shrub cover is extensive. Sometimes at toe of slope or edge of water body. An exit channel is usually present. Wetter than A1 and peat depth may be shallower (<2 m).		0				
8	B. Moss and/or lichen cover less than 25% of the ground. Soil is mineral or decomposed organic (muck). Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column:						
9	B1. Trees and shrubs taller than 1 m comprise more than 25% of the vegetated cover. Surface water is mostly absent or inundates the vegetation only seasonally (e.g., vernal pools or floodplain).		0				
10	B2. Not B1. Tree & tall shrubs comprise less than than 25% of the vegetated cover. Vegetation is mostly herbaceous, e.g., cattail, bulrush, burreed, pond lily, horsetail. Surface water may be extensive and fluctuates seasonally, being either persistent or drying up partly or entirely.		0				
11	Reminder: For all questions, the AA should include all persistent waters in ponds smaller than 8 hectares (~283 m on a side) that are adjacent to the AA. The AA should also include part of the water area of adjacent ponded water larger than 8 ha and adjacent rivers wider than 20 m. Specifically, the AA should include the open water part adjacent to wetland vegetation and equal in width to the average width of that vegetated zone. Throughout this data form, " adjacent " is used synonymously with abutting, adjoining, bordering, contiguous – and means no upland (manmade or natural) completely separates the described features along their directly shared edge. Features joined only by a channel are not necessarily considered to be adjacent – a large portion of their edges must match. The features do not have to be hydrologically connected in order to be considered adjacent.						
12	F2		Wetland Types - Adjoining or Subordinate	If the AA is smaller than 1 ha, mark all other types that occupy more than 1% of the vegetated AA. If the AA is larger than 1 ha, mark all other types which are within or adjacent to the AA and occupy more than 1 ha, as visible from the AA or as interpreted from aerial imagery. Do not mark again the type marked in F1.			<p>1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, INV, SBM, WBF]</p>
13	A1.			0			
14	A2.	0					
15	B1.	0					
16	B2.	0					

A	B	C	D	E
17	F3 Woody Height & Form Diversity	Following EACH row below, indicate with a number code the percentage of the living vegetation in the AA which is occupied by that feature (6 if >95%, 5 if 75-95%, 4 if 50-75%, 3 if 25-50%, 2 if 5-25%, 1 if <5%, 0 if none). If the vegetated part of the AA is largely herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation, these percentages should not sum to 100%.		
18		coniferous trees (may include tamarack) taller than 3 m.	0	
19		deciduous trees taller than 3 m.	4	
20		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	0	
21		deciduous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	0	
22		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs <1 m tall not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	0	
23		deciduous shrubs or trees <1 m tall (e.g., deciduous seedlings) not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	0	
24		Note: If none of top 4 rows in F3 was marked 2 or greater, SKIP to F9 (N fixers).		
25				
26	F4 Dominance of Most Abundant Shrub Species	Determine which two woody plant species comprise the greatest portion of the low (<3 m) woody cover . Then choose one:	[PH, POL, SBM, Sens]	
27		those species together comprise > 50% of such cover.	0	
28	F5 Woody Diameter Classes	those species together do not comprise > 50% of such cover.	1	
29		Mark ALL the types that comprise >5% of the woody canopy cover in the AA or >5% of the wooded areas (if any) along its upland edge (perimeter). The edge should include only the trees whose canopies extend into the AA.		
30		coniferous, 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall.	0	
31		broad-leaved deciduous 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall.	1	
32		coniferous, 10-19 cm diameter.	0	
33		broad-leaved deciduous 10-19 cm diameter.	1	
34		coniferous, 20-40 cm diameter.	0	
35		broad-leaved deciduous 20-40 cm diameter.	1	
36		coniferous, >40 cm diameter.	0	
37		broad-leaved deciduous >40 cm diameter.	0	
38	F6 Height Class Interspersion	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the AA:	[AM, INV, NR, PH, SBM, Sens]	
39		A. Neither the vegetation taller than 1 m nor the vegetation shorter than that comprise >70% of the vegetated part of the AA. They each comprise 30-70%. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.		
40		A1. The two height classes are mostly scattered and intermixed throughout the AA.	1	
41		A2. Not A1. The two height classes are mostly in separate zones or bands, or in proportionately large clumps.	0	
42		B. Either the vegetation shorter than 1 m comprises >70% of the vegetated part of the AA, or the vegetation taller than that does. One size class might even be totally absent. Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column:		
43		B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly scattered and intermixed within the prevalent one.	0	
44		B2. Not B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly located apart from the prevalent one, in separate zones or clumps, or is completely absent.	0	
45				
46				
47				
48	F7 Large Snags (Dead Standing Trees)	The number of large snags (diameter >20 cm) in the AA plus adjacent upland area within 10 m of the wetland edge is:		
49		None, or fewer than 8/ hectare which exceed this diameter.	1	
50		Several (>8/hectare) and a pond, lake, or slow-flowing water wider than 10 m is within 1 km.	0	
51	F8 Downed Wood	Several (>8/hectare) but above not true.	0	
52		The number of downed wood pieces longer than 2 m and with diameter >10 cm, and not persistently submerged, is:		
53		Few or none that meet these criteria.	1	
54		Several (>5 if AA is >5 hectares, less for smaller AAs) meet these criteria.	0	
55				
56				
57				
58	F9 N Fixers	The percentage of the AA's vegetated cover that contains nitrogen-fixing plants (e.g., alder, sweetgale, clover, lupine, alfalfa, other legumes) is:		
59		<1% or none.	1	
60		1-25% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	
61		25-50% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	
62		50-75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	
63		>75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	
64				

A	B	C	D	E
F10 57 58 59 60 61 62	Sphagnum Moss Extent	The cover of Sphagnum moss (or any moss that forms a dense cushion many centimeters thick), including the moss obscured by taller sedges and other plants rooted in it, is:		Exclude moss growing on trees and rocks. [CS, PH]
		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
F11 63 64 65 66 67 68	% Bare Ground & Thatch	Consider the parts of the AA that lack surface water at the driest time of the growing season. Viewed from directly above the ground layer, the predominant condition in those areas at that time is:		Thatch is dead plant material (stems, leaves) resting on the ground surface. Bare ground that is present under a tree or shrub canopy should be counted. Boulders count as bare ground. Wetlands with mineral soils and that are heavily shaded or are dominated by annual plant species tend to have more extensive areas that are bare during the early growing season. [AM, EC, INV, NR, OE, POL, PR, SBM, Sens]
		Little or no (<5%) <i>bare ground</i> is visible between erect stems or under canopy anywhere in the vegetated AA. Ground is extensively blanketed by dense thatch, moss, lichens, graminoids with great stem densities, or plants with ground-hugging foliage.	1	
		Slightly bare ground (5-20% bare between plants) is visible in places, but those areas comprise less than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
		Much bare ground (20-50% bare between plants) is visible in places, and those areas comprise more than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
		Other conditions.	0	
		Not applicable. Surface water (either open or obscured by emergent plants) covers all of the AA all the time.	0	
F12 69 70 71 72	Ground Irregularity	Imagine the AA without any living vegetation. Excluding the portion of the AA that is always under water, the number of hummocks, small pits, raised mounds, animal burrows, ruts, gullies, natural levees, microdepressions, and other areas of peat or mineral soil that are raised or depressed >10 cm compared to most of the area within a few meters surrounding them is:		The depressions may be of human or natural origin. [AM, EC, INV, NR, PH, POL, PR, SBM, SR, WS]
		Few or none (minimal microtopography; <1% of the land has such features, or entire AA is always water-covered).	0	
		Intermediate.	1	
		Several (extensive micro-topography).	0	
F13 73 74 75 76	Upland Inclusions	Within the AA, inclusions of upland are:		[AM, NR, SBM]
		Few or none.	0	
		Intermediate (1 - 10% of vegetated part of the AA).	1	
		Many (e.g., wetland-upland "mosaic"; >10% of the vegetated AA).	0	
F14 77 78 79 80 81 82	Soil Texture	In parts of the AA that lack persistent water, the texture of soil in the uppermost layer is mostly: [To determine this, use a trowel to check in at least 3 widely spaced locations, and use the soil texture key (in Appendix A of the Manual).]		[CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, WS]
		Loamy: soils that may contain a little fine grit and do not make a "ribbon" longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
		Fines: includes silt, clay, silt, soils that make a ribbon longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	1	
		Deep Peat, to 40 cm depth or greater.	0	
		Shallow Peat or organic <40 cm deep.	0	
		Coarse: includes sand, loamy sand, gravel, cobble, soils that do not make a ribbon when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
F15 83 84 85 86 87	Shorebird Feeding Habitats	During any 2 consecutive weeks of the growing season, the extent of mudflats, bare unshaded saturated areas not covered by thatch, and unshaded waters shallower than 6 cm is: [Include also any area that is adjacent to the AA.]		This addresses needs of many but not all migratory sandpipers, plovers, and related species. [WBF]
		None, or <100 sq. m.	1	
		100-1000 sq. m.	0	
		1000 – 10,000 sq. m.	0	
		>10,000 sq. m.	0	
F16 88 89 90 91 92 93	Herbaceous % of Vegetated Wetland	In aerial ("ducks eye") view, the maximum annual cover of herbaceous vegetation (all non-woody plants except moss) is:		[AM, WBF, WBN]
		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA or <0.01 hectare (whichever is less). Mark "*" here and SKIP to F20 (Invasive Plant Cover).	0	
		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
94	F17 Forb Cover	Within parts of the AA having herbaceous cover (excluding SAV), the areal cover of forbs reaches an annual maximum of:		Forbs are flowering plants. Do not include grasses, sedges, cattail, other graminoids, ferns, horsetails, or others that lack showy flowers. [POL]
95		<5% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
96		5-25% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
97		25-50% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
98		50-95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
99		>95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
100	F18 Sedge Cover	Sedges (<i>Carex</i> spp.) and cottongrass (<i>Eriophorum</i> spp.) occupy:		[CS]
101		<5% of the vegetated area, or none.		
102		5-50% of the vegetated area.		
103		50-95% of the vegetated area.		
104		>95% of the vegetated area.		
105	F19 Dominance of Most Abundant Herbaceous Species	Determine which two herbaceous species comprise the greatest portion of the herbaceous cover (excluding mosses and floating-leaved aquatic plants). Then choose one of the following:		For this question, include ferns as well as graminoids and forbs. [EC, INV, PH, POL, Sens]
106		those species together comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		
107		those species together do not comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		
108	F20 Invasive Plant Cover	How extensive is the cover of invasive plant species in the AA? For species, see Plants_invasive worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file.		[EC, PH, POL, Sens]
109		invasive species appear to be absent in the AA, or are present only in trace amount (a few individuals).		
110		invasive species are present in more than trace amounts, but comprise <5% of herbaceous cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
111		invasive species comprise 5-20% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
112		invasive species comprise 20-50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
113		invasive species comprise >50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
114	F21 Invasive Cover Along Upland Edge	Along the wetland-upland boundary, the percent of the upland edge (within 3 m upslope from the wetland) that is occupied by invasive plant species is:		If a plant cannot be identified to species (e.g., winter conditions) but its genus contains an exotic species, assume the unidentified plant to also be exotic. If vegetation is so senesced that exotic species cannot be identified, answer "none". [PH, STR]
115		none of the upland edge (invasives apparently absent), or AA has no upland edge.		
116		some (but <5%) of the upland edge.		
117		5-50% of the upland edge.		
118		most (>50%) of the upland edge.		
119	F22 Fringe Wetland	During most of the year, open water within or adjacent to the vegetated part of the wetland is much wider than the maximum width of the vegetated zone within the wetland. Enter "1" if true, "0" if false.	0	[WBF, WBN, WCv]
120	F23 Lacustrine Wetland	The vegetated part of the AA is within or adjacent to a body of non-tidal standing open water whose size exceeds 8 hectares during most of a normal year.	0	[FR, PR, PU, WBF, WBN]
121	F24 % of AA Without Surface Water	The percentage of the AA that never contains surface water during an average year (that is, except perhaps for a few hours after snowmelt or rainstorms), but which is still a wetland, is:		1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SRv, WBF, WBN, WC]
122		<1%. In other words, all or nearly all of the AA is covered by water permanently or at least seasonally .		
123		1-25% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha never contains surface water.		
124		25-50% of the AA never contains surface water.		
125		50-75% of the AA never contains surface water.		
126		75-99% of the AA never contains surface water, OR >99% and there is at least one persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha in the AA.		
127		99-100%. AND there is no persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha within the AA. Enter "1" and SKIP to F42 (Channel Connection).		
128	F25 % of AA with Persistent Surface Water	Identify the parts of the AA that still contain surface water (flowing or ponded, open or hidden beneath vegetation) even during the driest times of a normal year, i.e., when the AA's surface water is at its lowest annual level. At that time, the percentage of the AA that still contains surface water is:		If you are unable to determine the condition at the driest time of year, ask the land owner or neighbors about it if possible. Indicators of persistence may include fish, some dragonflies, beaver, and muskrat. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, POL, PR, SBM, WBF, WBN]
129		None. The AA dries up completely (no water in channels either) or never has surface water during most years. SKIP to F27 .		
130		1-20% of the AA.		
131		20-50% of the AA.		
132		50-95% of the AA.		
133		>95% of the AA. True for many fringe wetlands.		

A	B	C	D	E
F26 134 135 136 137 138 139	% of Summertime Water that Is Shaded	At mid-day during the warmest time of year, the area of surface water <u>within</u> the AA that is shaded by vegetation and other features that are within the AA at that time is: <5% of the water is shaded, or no surface water is present then. 5-25% of the water is shaded. 25-50% of the water is shaded. 50-75% of the water is shaded. >75% of the water is shaded.	0 0 0 0 0	[FA, WC]
F27 140 141 142 143 144 145	% of AA that is Flooded Only Seasonally	The percentage of the AA's area that is between the annual high water and the annual low water (surface water) is: None, or <0.01 hectare and <1% of the AA. SKIP to F29. 1-20% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha. 20-50% of the AA. 50-95% of the AA. >95% of the AA.	0 0 0 0 1	Flood marks (algal mats, adventitious roots, debris lines, ice scour, etc.) are often evident when not fully inundated. Also, such areas often have a larger proportion of upland and annual (vs. perennial) plant species. In riverine systems, the extent of this zone can be estimated by multiplying by 2 the bankfull height and visualising where that would intercept the land along the river. [CS, FA, INV, NR, OE, PH, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
F28 146 147 148 149 150 151	Annual Water Fluctuation Range	The annual fluctuation in surface water level within most of the parts of the AA that contain surface water at least temporarily is: <10 cm change (stable or nearly so). 10 cm - 50 cm change. 0.5 - 1 m change. 1-2 m change. >2 m change.	0 1 0 0 0	Look for flood marks (see above). Because the annual range of water levels is difficult to estimate without multiple visits, consider asking the land owner or neighbors about it. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SR, WBN, WS]
152	Is the AA plus adjacent ponded water smaller than 0.01 hectare (about 10m x 10m, or 1m x 100 m)? If so, enter "1" in column D and SKIP TO F42 (Connection).			0
F29 153 154 155 156 157 158	Predominant Depth Class	During most of the time when surface water is present during the growing season, its depth, averaged over the entire inundated part of the AA, is: <10 cm deep (but >0). 10 - 50 cm deep. 0.5 - 1 m deep. 1 - 2 m deep. >2 m deep. True for many fringe wetlands.	0 1 0 0 0	If a boat is unavailable, estimate this by considering wetland size and local topography. Or if timing and safety allow, depths may be measured by drilling through winter ice. This question is asking about the spatial median depth that occurs during most of that time, even if inundation is only seasonal or temporary. If inundation in most but not all of the wetland is brief, the answer will be based on the depth of the most persistently inundated part of the wetland. Include surface water in channels and ditches as well as ponded areas. [CS, FA, FR, INV, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
F30 159 160 161 162	Depth Classes - Evenness of Proportions	When present, surface water in most of the AA usually consists of (select one): One depth class that comprises >90% of the AA's inundated area (use the classes in the question above). One depth class that comprises 50-90% of the AA's inundated area. Neither of above. There are 3 or more depth classes and none occupy >50%.	0 1 0	Estimate these proportions by considering the gradient and microtopography of the site. [FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
F31 163 164 165 166 167 168	% of Water That Is Ponded (not Flowing)	During most times when surface water is present, the percentage that is (1) ponded (stagnant, or flows so slowly that fine sediment is not held in suspension) AND (2) is likely to be deeper than 0.5 m in some places, is: <5% of the water, or it occupies <100 sq.m cumulatively. Nearly all the surface water is flowing. SKIP to F34. 5-30% of the water. 30-70% of the water. 70-95% of the water. >95% of the water.	0 0 0 0 1	Nearly all wetlands with surface water have some ponded water. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WBN, WC, WS]
F32 169	Ponded Open Water - Minimum Size	During most of the growing season, the largest patch of open water that is ponded and is in or bordering the AA is >0.01 hectare (about 10 m by 10 m) and mostly deeper than 0.5 m. If true enter "1" and continue, If false, enter "0" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	Open water is not obscured by vegetation in aerial ("duck's eye") view. It includes vegetation floating on the water surface or entirely submersed beneath it.
F33 170 171 172 173 174 175 176	% of Ponded Water that is Open	In ducks-eye aerial view, the percentage of the ponded water that is open (lacking emergent vegetation during most of the growing season, and unhidden by a forest or shrub canopy) is: None, or <1% of the AA and largest pool occupies <0.01 hectares. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed). 1-4% of the ponded water. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed). 5-30% of the ponded water. 30-70% of the ponded water. 70-99% of the ponded water. 100% of the ponded water.	0 0 0 0 0 0	[AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]

A	B	C	D	E
177	F34	Width of Vegetated Zone within Wetland	At the time during the growing season when the AA's water level is lowest, the average width of vegetated area <u>in the AA</u> that separates adjoining uplands from open water within the AA is:	"Vegetated area" does not include underwater or floating-leaved plants, i.e., aquatic bed. Width may include wooded riparian areas if they have wetland soil or plant indicators. [AM, CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SR, WBN]
178			<1 m.	0
179			1 - 9 m.	0
180			10 - 29 m.	0
181			30 - 49 m.	0
182			50 - 100 m.	0
183			>100 m, or open water is absent at that time.	0
184	F35	Flat Shoreline Extent	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the percentage of the AA's water edge length that is nearly flat (a slope less than about 5% measured within 5 m landward of the water) is:	If several isolated pools are present in early summer, estimate the percent of their collective shorelines that has such a gentle slope. [SR, WBN]
185			<1% of the water edge.	0
186			1-25% of the water edge.	0
187			25-50% of the water edge.	0
188			50-75% of the water edge.	0
189			>75% of the water edge.	0
190	F36	Robust Emergents	The percentage of the emergent vegetation cover in the AA that is cattail (<i>Typha</i> spp.), common reed (<i>Phragmites</i>), or tall (>1m) bulrush is:	Emergent vegetation is herbaceous plants whose stems are partly above and partly below the water surface during most of the time water is present. [WBN]
191			<1% of the emergent vegetation, or emergent vegetation is absent. SKIP to F38.	0
192			1-25% of the emergent vegetation.	0
193			25-75% of the emergent vegetation.	0
194			>75% of the emergent vegetation.	0
195	F37	Interspersion of Emergents & Open Water	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the spatial pattern of emergent vegetation within the water is mostly:	[AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, SR, WBF, WBN]
196			Scattered. More than 30% of such vegetation forms small islands or corridors surrounded by water.	0
197			Intermediate.	0
198			Clumped. More than 70% of such vegetation is in bands along the wetland perimeter or is clumped at one or a few sides of the surface water area.	0
199	F38	Persistent Deepwater Area	If the deepest patch of surface water (flowing or ponded) in or directly adjacent to the AA is mostly deeper than 0.5 m for >2 weeks during the growing season, enter "1" and continue. If not, enter "0" and SKIP to F42. (Connection).	0
200	F39	Non-vegetated Aquatic Cover	During most of the growing season and in waters deeper than 0.5 m, the cover for fish, aquatic invertebrates, and/or amphibians that is provided NOT by living vegetation, but by accumulations of dead wood and undercut banks is:	For this question, consider only the wood that is at or above the water surface. Estimates of underwater wood based only on observations from terrestrial viewpoints are unreliable so should not be attempted. [AM, FA, FR, INV]
201			Little or none.	0
202			Intermediate.	0
203			Extensive.	0
204	F40	Isolated Island	The AA contains (or is part of) an island or beaver lodge within a lake, pond, or river, and is isolated from the shore by water depths >1 m on all sides during an average June. The island may be solid, or it may be a floating vegetation mat that is sufficiently large and dense to support a waterbird nest.	0 [WBN]
205	F41	Floating Algae & Duckweed	At some time of the year, mats of algae and/or duckweed are likely to cover >50% of the AA's otherwise-unshaded water surface, or blanket >50% of the underwater substrate. If true, enter "1" in next column. If untrue or uncertain, enter "0".	0 [EC, PR, WBF]

A	B	C	D	E
206	F42 Channel Connection & Outflow Duration	The most persistent surface water connection (outlet channel or pipe, ditch, or overbank water exchange) between the AA and a downslope stream network is: [Note: If the AA represents only part of a wetland, answer this according to whichever is the least permanent surface connection: the one between the AA and the rest of the wetland, or the surface connection between the wetland and the downslope stream network.]		Consider the connection regardless of whether the surface water is frozen. The "downslope stream network" could consist of ditches, rivers, ponds, or lakes which eventually connect to the ocean. If this cannot be determined while visiting the AA, consult topographic maps perhaps by viewing these online with Toporama (http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html) [CS, FA, FR, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WCv, WS]
207		Persistent (surface water flows out for >9 months/year).		
208		Seasonal (surface water flows out for 14 days to 9 months/year, not necessarily consecutive).		
209		Temporary (surface water flows out for <14 days, not necessarily consecutive).		
210		None -- but maps show a stream network downslope from the AA and within a distance that is less than the AA's length. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
211		No surface water flows out of the wetland except possibly during extreme events (<once per 10 years). Or, water flows only into a wetland, ditch, or lake that lacks an outlet. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	1	
212	F43 Outflow Confinement	During major runoff events, in the places where surface water exits the AA or connected waters nearby, the water:		"Major runoff events" would include biennial high water caused by storms and/or rapid snowmelt. [CS, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, STR, WS]
213		Mostly passes through a pipe, culvert, narrowly breached dike, berm, beaver dam, or other partial obstruction (other than natural topography) that does not appear to drain the wetland artificially during most of the growing season.		
214		Leaves through natural exits (channels or diffuse outflow), not mainly through artificial or temporary features.		
215		Is exported more quickly than usual due to ditches or pipes within the AA or connected to its outlet, or within 10 m of the AA's edge, which drain the wetland artificially, or water is pumped out of the AA.		
216	F44 Tributary Channel	At least once annually, surface water from a tributary channel that is >100 m long moves into the AA. Or, surface water from a larger permanent water body adjacent to the AA spills into the AA. If it enters only via a pipe, that pipe must be fed by a mapped stream or lake further upslope. If no, SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	If inlet tributaries cannot be searched for due to inaccessibility of part of the AA, follow suggestions in F42 above. [NRv, PH, PRv, SRv]
217	F45 Input Water Temperature	Based on lack of shade, water source characteristics, or actual temperature measurements, the inflow is likely to be warmer than surface water in the AA during part of most years. Enter 1=yes, 0=no.	0	[WCv]
218	F46 Throughflow Resistance	During its travel through the AA at the time of peak annual flow, water arriving in channels: [select only the ONE encountered by most of the incoming water].		[FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
219		Does not bump into many plant stems as it travels through the AA. Nearly all the water continues to travel in unvegetated (often incised) channels that have minimal contact with wetland vegetation, or through a zone of open water such as an instream pond or lake.		
220		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
221		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation and mostly spreads throughout, or is in widely meandering, multi-branched, or braided channels.		
222		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
223		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems and follows a fairly indirect path from entrance to exit (meandering, multi-branched, or braided).		
224	F47 pH Measurement	The pH in most of the AA's surface water:		Preferably, measure this in larger areas of ponded surface water within the AA, or in streams that have passed through (not along) most of the AA. Unless surface water is completely absent, do not dig holes or make depressions in peat in order to provide water for this measurement. Avoid measuring near roads or in puddles formed only by recent rain. [AM, FA, FR, NR, WBF, PH, PR, Sens, WBF, WBN]
225		Was measured, and is: [enter the reading in the column to the right.]		
226		Was not measured but surface water is present and is darkly tea-coloured. Or if no surface water, then mosses and plants that indicate peatland (e.g., Labrador tea) are prevalent. Enter "1".	0	
227		Neither of above. Enter "1".	1	
228	F48 TDS and/or Conductivity	The TDS (total dissolved solids) or conductivity off the AA's surface water is: (select the first true row with information):		See above for measurement guidance. [FR, INV, NRv, PH, PRv, Sens]
229		TDS is: [Enter the reading in ppm or mg/L in the column to the right, if measured, or answer next row.]		
230		Conductivity is: [Enter the reading in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ in the column to the right.]		
231		Was not measured, but plants that indicate saline conditions cover much of the vegetated AA. Enter "1".	0	
232		Neither of above	1	
233	F49 Beaver Probability	Use of the AA by beaver during the past 5 years is (select most applicable ONE):		[FA, FR, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
234		Evident from direct observation or presence of gnawed limbs, dams, tracks, dens, lodges, or extensive stands of water-killed trees (snags).		
235		Likely based on known occurrence in the region and proximity to suitable habitat, which may include: (a) a persistent freshwater wetland, pond, or lake, or a perennial low or mid-gradient (<10%) channel, and (b) a corridor or multiple stands of hardwood trees and shrubs in vegetated areas near surface water.	0	
236		Unlikely because site characteristics above are deficient, and/or this is a settled area or other area where beaver are routinely removed.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
237	F50 Groundwater Strength of Evidence	Select first applicable choice:	0 0 1 1	Adhere to these criteria strictly -- do not use personal judgment based on fen conditions, pH, or other evidence. Consult topographic maps to detect breaks in slope described here. Rust deposits associated with groundwater seeps may be most noticeable as orange discoloration in ice formations along streams during early winter. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PRv, SFS, WC, WS]
238		Springs are known to be present within the AA, or if groundwater levels have been monitored, that has demonstrated that groundwater primarily discharges to the wetland for longer periods during the year than periods when the wetland recharges the groundwater.		
239		Most of the AA has a slope of >5%, or is very close to the base of a natural slope longer than 100 and much steeper than the slope of the AA, AND the pH of surface water, if known, is >5.5.		
240		Neither of above is true, although some groundwater may discharge to or flow through the AA. Or groundwater influx is unknown.		
241	F51 Internal Gradient	The gradient along most of the flow path within the AA is:	1 0 0 0 0	This is not the same as the shoreline slope. It is the elevational difference between the AA's inlet and outlet, divided by the flow-distance between them and converted to percent. If available, use a clinometer to measure this. Free clinometer apps can be downloaded to smartphones. If the wetland is large (longer than ~1 km), this may be estimated using Google Earth to determine the minimum and maximum elevation within the AA, then dividing by length and multiplying by 100. [CS, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
242		<2% or the AA has no surface water outlet (not even seasonally).		
243		2-5%.		
244		6-10%.		
245		>10%.		
246	Note for the next three questions: If the AA lacks an upland edge, evaluate based on the AA's entire perimeter, and moving outward into whatever areas are adjacent. In many situations, these questions are best answered by measuring from aerial images.			
247	F52 Vegetated Buffer as % of Perimeter	Within a zone extending 30 m laterally from the AA's edge with upland and/or other wetlands, the percentage that contains perennial vegetation cover (except lawns, row crops, heavily grazed land, conifer plantations) is:	0 1 0 0 0	[AM, FA, FR, INV, NRv, PH, POL, PRv, SBM, Sens, SRv, STR, WBN]
248		<5%.		
249		5 to 30%.		
250		30 to 60%.		
251		60 to 90%.		
252		>90%, or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands. SKIP to F55.		
253	F53 Type of Cover in Buffer	Within 30 m upslope of where the wetland transitions to upland, the upland land cover that is NOT perennial vegetation is mostly (mark ONE):	0 1 0	[AM, FA, INV, NRv, PH, POL, SBM, STR, WBN]
254		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
255		Bare or nearly bare pervious surface or managed vegetation, e.g., lawn, row crops, unpaved road, dike, landslide.		
256	F54 Buffer Slope	The steepest and/or most disturbed part of the upland area that is within 30 m of the wetland and occupies >10% of that upland area has a percent slope of:	0 1 0 0 0	[NRv, PRv, Sens, SRv]
257		<1% (flat – almost no noticeable slope) or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands.		
258		2-5%.		
259		5-30%.		
260		>30%.		
261	F55 Cliffs or Steep Banks	In the AA or within 100 m, there are elevated terrestrial features such as cliffs, talus slopes, stream banks, or excavated pits (but not riprap) that extend at least 2 m nearly vertically, are unvegetated, and potentially contain crevices or other substrate suitable for nesting or den areas. Enter 1 (yes) or 0 (no).	0	Do not include upturned trees as potential den sites. [POL, SBM]
262	F56 New or Expanded Wetland	Human actions within or adjacent to the AA have persistently expanded a naturally occurring wetland or created a wetland where there previously was none (e.g., by excavation, impoundment):	1 0 0 0 0 0 0	Determine this using historical aerial photography, old maps, soil maps, or permit files as available [CS, NR, OE, PH, Sens]
263		No.		
264		Yes, and created or expanded 20 - 100 years ago.		
265		Yes, and created or expanded 3-20 years ago.		
266		Yes, and created or expanded within last 3 years.		
267		Yes, but time of origin or expansion unknown.		
268		Unknown if new or expanded within 20 years or not.		
269	F57 Burn History	More than 1% of the AA's previously vegetated area:	0 0 0 0 1	Look for charred soil or stumps (in multiple widely-spaced locations) or ask landowner. [CS, PH, STR]
270		Burned within past 5 years.		
271		Burned 6-10 years ago.		
272		Burned 11-30 years ago.		
273		Burned >30 years ago, or no evidence of a burn and no data.		

A	B	C	D	E
274	F58	Visibility	The maximum percentage of the wetland that is visible from the best vantage point on public roads, public parking lots, public buildings, or public maintained trails that intersect, adjoin, or are within 100 m of the AA (select one) is:	[PU, STR, WBFv]
275			<25%.	0
276			25-50%.	0
277			>50%.	1
278	F59	Non-consumptive Uses - Actual or Potential	Assuming access permission was granted, select ALL statements that are true of the AA as it currently exists:	[PU, STR]
279			For an average person, walking is physically possible <u>in</u> (not just near) >5% of the AA during most of the growing season, e.g., free of deep water and dense shrub thickets.	1
280			Maintained roads, parking areas, or foot-trails are within 10 m of the AA, or the AA can be accessed part of the year by boats arriving via contiguous waters.	0
281			Within or near the AA, there is an interpretive center, trails with interpretive signs or brochures, and/or regular guided interpretive tours.	0
282	F60	Unvisited Core Area	The percentage of the AA almost never visited by humans during an average growing season probably comprises: [Note: Only include the part actually walked or driven (not simply viewed from) with a vehicle or boat. Do not include visitors on trails outside of the AA unless more than half the wetland is visible from the trails and they are within 30 m of the wetland edge. In that case include only the area occupied by the trail.]	[AM, FAv, FRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
283			<5% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
284			<5% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
285			5-50% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
286			5-50% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
287			50-95%, with or without inhabited building nearby.	0
288			>95% of the AA with or without inhabited building nearby.	1
289	F61	Frequently Visited Area	The part of the AA visited by humans almost daily for several weeks during an average growing season probably comprises: [See note above.]	[AM, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
290			<5%. If F60 was answered ">95%" (mostly never visited), SKIP to F64.	1
291			5-50%.	0
292			50-95%.	0
293			>95% of the AA.	0
294	F62	BMP - Soils	Boardwalks, paved trails, fences or other infrastructure and/or well-enforced regulations appear to effectively prevent visitors from walking on soil within nearly all of the AA when the soil is unfrozen. Enter "1" if true.	[PH, PU]
295	F63	BMP - Wildlife Protection	Fences, observation blinds, platforms, paved trails, exclusion periods, and/or well-enforced prohibitions on motorised boats, off-leash pets, and off road vehicles appear to effectively exclude or divert visitors and their pets from the AA at critical times in order to minimize disturbance of wildlife (except during hunting seasons). Enter "1" if true.	[AM, PU, WBF, WBN]
296	F64	Consumptive Uses (Provisioning Services)	Recent evidence was found within the AA of the following potentially-sustainable consumptive uses. Select ALL that apply.	[FAv, FRv, WBFv]
297			Low-impact commercial timber harvest (e.g., selective thinning).	0
298			Commercial or traditional-use harvesting of native plants, their fruits, or mushrooms.	0
299			Waterfowl hunting.	0
300			Fishing.	0
301			Trapping of furbearers.	0
302			None of the above.	1
303	F65	Domestic Wells	The closest wells or water bodies that currently provide drinking water are:	[NRv]
304			Within 0-100 m. of the AA.	0
305			100-500 m. away.	0
306			>500 m. away, or no information.	1
307	F66	Calcareous Fen	The AA is, or is part of, a calcareous fen. See the Plants_Calcar worksheet in the accompanying SuplInfo file for list of plant indicators (calciphiles). Enter 1 if more than two Strong or more than five Moderate calciphile species are present; otherwise enter 0, but if not able to identify those and no information, change to blank.	[PH, PR]

Investigator: Rohan Kariyawansa	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL17	Date: October 14th 2022		
Stressor (S) Data Form for Non-Tidal Wetlands. WESP-AC for Nova Scotia version 2.				
S1	Aberrant Timing of Water Inputs	Data		
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item that is likely to have caused the timing of water inputs (but not necessarily their volume) to shift by hours, days, or weeks, becoming either more muted (smaller or less frequent peaks spread over longer times, more temporal homogeneity of flow or water levels) or more flashy (larger or more frequent spikes but over shorter times). [FA, FR, INV, PH, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater from impervious surfaces that drains directly to the wetland.</p> <p>Water subsidies from wastewater effluent, septic system leakage, snow storage areas, or irrigation.</p> <p>Regular removal of surface or groundwater for irrigation or other consumptive use.</p> <p>Flow regulation in tributaries or water level regulation in adjoining water body, or other control structure at water entry points that regulates inflow to the wetland.</p> <p>A dam, dike, levee, weir, berm, or fill -- within or downgradient from the wetland -- that interferes with surface or subsurface flow in/out of the AA (e.g., road fill, wellpads, pipelines).</p> <p>Excavation within the wetland, e.g., dugout, artificial pond, dead-end ditch.</p> <p>Artificial drains or ditches in or near the wetland.</p> <p>Accelerated downcutting or channelization of an adjacent or internal channel (incised below the historical water table level).</p> <p>Logging within the wetland.</p> <p>Subsidence or compaction of the wetland's substrate as a result of machinery, livestock, fire, drainage, or off road vehicles.</p> <p>Straightening, ditching, dredging, and/or lining of tributary channels.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items had no measurable effect on the timing of water conditions in any part of the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>				
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
Spatial extent of timing shift within the wetland:	>95% of wetland.	5-95% of wetland.	<5% of wetland.	0
When most of the timing shift began:	<3 yrs ago.	3-9 yrs ago.	10-100 yrs ago.	0
Score the following 2 rows only if the altered inputs began within past 10 years, and only for the part of the wetland that experiences those.				
Input timing now vs. previously:	Shift of weeks.	Shift of days.	Shift of hours or minutes.	0
Flashiness or muting:	Became very flashy or controlled.	Intermediate.	Became mildly flashy or controlled.	0
			Sum=	0
			Stressor subscore=	0.00
S2	Accelerated Inputs of Contaminants and/or Salts	Data		
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of contaminants or salts to the AA. [AM, FA, PH, POL, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills, industrial facilities.</p> <p>Metals & chemical wastes from mining, shooting ranges, snow storage areas, oil/ gas extraction, other sources (download many locations from National Pollutant Release Inventory and view KMZ overlay in Google Earth. https://www.ec.gc.ca/inrp-npri/default.asp?lang=En&n=B85A1846-1</p> <p>Road salt.</p> <p>Spraying of pesticides, as applied to lawns, croplands, roadsides, or other areas in the CA.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly higher levels of contaminants and/or salts, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>				
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
Usual toxicity of most toxic contaminants:	Industrial effluent, mining waste, unmanaged landfill.	Cropland, managed landfill, pipeline or transmission rights-of-way.	Low density residential.	0
Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
			Sum=	0
			Stressor subscore=	0.00

S3	Accelerated Inputs of Nutrients				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of nutrients to the wetland. [NRv, PRv, STR]</i>				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills.				
	Fertilizers applied to lawns, ag lands, or other areas in the CA.				
	Livestock, dogs.				
	Artificial drainage of upslope lands.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly more nutrients, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Type of loading:	High density of unmaintained septic, some types of industrial sources.	Moderate density septic, cropland, secondary wastewater treatment plant.	Livestock, pets, low density residential.	0
	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0	
			Sum=	0	
			Stressor subscore=	0.00	
S4	Excessive Sediment Loading from Contributing Area				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the CA that is likely to have elevated the load of waterborne or windborne sediment reaching the wetland from its CA. [FA, FR, INV, PH, SRv, STR]</i>				
	Erosion from plowed fields, fill, timber harvest, dirt roads, vegetation clearing, fires.				
	Erosion from construction, in-channel machinery in the CA.				
	Erosion from off-road vehicles in the CA.				
	Erosion from livestock or foot traffic in the CA.				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent.				
	Sediment from road sanding, gravel mining, other mining, oil/gas extraction.				
	Accelerated channel downcutting or headcutting of tributaries due to altered land use.				
	Other human-related disturbances within the CA.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points (3, 2, or 1 as shown in header) in the last column. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively add significantly more sediment or suspended solids to the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Erosion in CA:	Extensive evidence, high intensity.*	Potentially (based on high-intensity* land use) or scattered evidence.	Potentially (based on low-intensity* land use) with little or no direct evidence.	0
	Recentness of significant soil disturbance in the CA:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0
	Duration of sediment inputs to the wetland:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
	AA proximity to actual or potential sources:	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
	<i>* high-intensity= extensive off-road vehicle use, plowing, grading, excavation, erosion with or without veg removal; low-intensity= veg removal only with little or no apparent erosion or disturbance of soil or sediment.</i>				Sum=
				Stressor subscore=	0.00

S5	Soil or Sediment Alteration Within the Assessment Area				
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the wetland that is likely to have compacted, eroded, or otherwise altered the wetland's soil. Consider only items occurring within past 100 years or since wetland was created or restored (whichever is less). [CS, INV, NR, PH, SR, STR]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compaction from machinery, off-road vehicles, livestock, or mountain bikes, especially during wetter periods. Leveling or other grading not to the natural contour. Tillage, plowing (but excluding disking for enhancement of native plants). Fill or riprap, excluding small amounts of upland soils containing organic amendments (compost, etc.) or small amounts of topsoil imported from another wetland. Excavation. Ditch cleaning or dredging in or adjacent to the wetland. Boat traffic in or adjacent to the wetland and sufficient to cause shore erosion or stir bottom sediments. Artificial water level or flow manipulations sufficient to cause erosion or stir bottom sediments. <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not measurably alter the soil structure and/or topography, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>					
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
Spatial extent of altered soil:	>95% of wetland or >95% of its upland edge (if any).	5-95% of wetland or 5-95% of its upland edge (if any).	<5% of wetland and <5% of its upland edge (if any).	0	
Recentness of significant soil alteration in wetland:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0	
Duration:	Long-lasting, minimal veg recovery.	Long-lasting but mostly revegetated.	Short-term, revegetated, not intense.	0	
Timing of soil alteration:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Mainly during one-time or scattered events.	0	
			Sum=	0	
			Stressor subscore=	0.00	

Assessment Area (AA) Results:

Wetland ID: WL17

Date: October 14th 2022

Observer: RK MS

Latitude & Longitude (decimal degrees): 45.5048482866263, -63.625505070528774

Scores will appear below after data are entered in worksheets OF, F, and S. See Manual for definitions and descriptions of how scores were computed.						
Wetland Functions or Other Attributes:	Function Score (Normalised)	Function Rating	Benefits Score (Normalised)	Benefits Rating	Function Score (raw)	Benefits Score (raw)
Water Storage & Delay (WS)	8.01	Higher	8.69	Higher	7.93	3.85
Stream Flow Support (SFS)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Water Cooling (WC)	1.70	Lower	0.00	Lower	1.13	0.00
Sediment Retention & Stabilisation (SR)	10.00	Higher	2.25	Moderate	10.00	1.10
Phosphorus Retention (PR)	10.00	Higher	2.23	Moderate	10.00	1.74
Nitrate Removal & Retention (NR)	10.00	Higher	6.17	Moderate	10.00	6.17
Carbon Sequestration (CS)	4.37	Moderate			7.27	
Organic Nutrient Export (OE)	3.96	Moderate			2.59	
Anadromous Fish Habitat (FA)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Resident Fish Habitat (FR)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Aquatic Invertebrate Habitat (INV)	2.10	Lower	3.01	Moderate	4.35	2.87
Amphibian & Turtle Habitat (AM)	2.82	Lower	4.72	Moderate	4.60	5.65
Waterbird Feeding Habitat (WBF)	5.49	Moderate	6.67	Moderate	4.18	6.67
Waterbird Nesting Habitat (WBN)	3.20	Moderate	6.67	Higher	2.32	6.67
Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat (SBM)	7.00	Moderate	6.67	Moderate	6.09	6.67
Pollinator Habitat (POL)	7.94	Moderate	6.67	Moderate	6.58	6.67
Native Plant Habitat (PH)	2.28	Lower	6.45	Moderate	4.81	6.45
Public Use & Recognition (PU)			2.94	Moderate		2.32
Wetland Sensitivity (Sens)			10.00	Higher		5.63
Wetland Ecological Condition (EC)			8.26	Higher		9.17
Wetland Stressors (STR) (higher score means more stress)			8.58	Higher		4.30
Summary Ratings for Grouped Functions:						
HYDROLOGIC Group (WS)	8.01	Higher	8.69	Higher	7.93	3.85
WATER QUALITY SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SR, PR, NR, CS)	9.30	Higher	4.86	Moderate	9.66	4.58
AQUATIC SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SFS, INV, OE, WC)	2.95	Moderate	2.01	Lower	3.18	1.91
AQUATIC HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of FA, FR, AM, WBF, WBN)	3.90	Moderate	5.14	Higher	3.41	5.23
TRANSITION HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of SBM, PH, POL)	6.84	Higher	6.63	Moderate	6.20	6.63
WETLAND CONDITION (EC)			8.26	Higher		9.17
WETLAND RISK (average of Sensitivity & Stressors)			9.29	Higher		4.96
		NOTE: A score of 0 does not mean the function or benefit is absent from the wetland. It means only that this wetland has a capacity that is equal or less than the lowest-scoring one, for that function or benefit, from among all the NS calibration wetlands that were assessed previously.				

NOVA SCOTIA - Functional WSS Interpretation Tool

Function-Benefit Product (FBP)	FBP SCORE	FBP SCORE CATEGORY
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - HYDROLOGIC	69.60327291	High
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - WATER QUALITY SUPPORT	45.16809745	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC SUPPORT	5.926971491	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC HABITAT	20.02344608	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - TRANSITION HABITAT	45.32685394	Low

Habitat Rule Satisfied? NO

Support Rule Satisfied? NO

Habitat/Support Hybrid Rule Satisfied? NO

CONCLUSION: Site is not a WSS

Cover Page: Basic Description of Assessment	WESP-AC version 2
Site Name:	Higgins Mountain, WL18
Investigator Name:	Madeline Maher, Rohan Kariyawansa, Matt Stanbrooke
Date of Field Assessment:	13 October 2022
Nearest Town:	Masstown
Latitude (decimal degrees):	45.51330278
Longitude (decimal degrees):	63.58741111
Is a map based on a formal on-site wetland delineation available?	Yes
Approximate size of the Assessment Area (AA, in hectares):	0.87
AA as percent of entire wetland (approx.). Attach sketch map if AA is smaller than the entire contiguous wetland.	85
What percent (approx.) of the wetland were you able to visit?	85
What percent (approx.) of the AA were you able to visit?	100
Were you able to ask the site owner/manager about any of the questions?	No
Indicate here if you intentionally surveyed for rare plants, calciphile plants, or rare animals:	Yes
Have you attended a WESP-AC training session? If so, indicate approximate month & year.	October 2022
How many wetlands have you assessed previously using WESP-AC? (approx.)	30
Comments about the site or this WESP-AC assessment (attach extra page if desired):	

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date: 09 November 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL18		Investigator: Madeline Maher	
2	Form OF (Office). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia wetlands only. DIRECTIONS: Conduct an assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answering many of the questions below will require using these online map viewers: Google Earth Pro: https://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html Provincial Landscape Viewer: https://nsgis.novascotia.ca/plv/ For most wetlands, completing this office data form will require 1-2 hours. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see bracketed abbreviations in the Definitions/Explanations column. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.				
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations
4	OF1	Province	Mark the province in which the AA is located by changing the 0 in the column next to it to a "1". Mark only one.		This determines to which province's calibration wetlands the raw score of any wetland is normalised. In the function and benefits models, it also triggers the automatic exclusion of indicators for which no spatial data exists in a particular province.
5			New Brunswick	0	
6			Nova Scotia	1	
7			Prince Edward Island	0	
8			Newfoundland-Labrador	0	
9	OF2	Ponded Area Within 1 km.	The area of surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		"Adjacent" means not separated from the AA by a wide expanse (>50 m) of upland (including roads >50 m wide). Include ponded areas likely to be hidden by wetland vegetation. If surface water extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. Do not include tidal areas. Measure the area from aerial imagery using Google Earth Pro (click on Ruler icon in toolbar, then Polygon in pop-up menu). [PH, SBM, WBN]
10			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
11			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	1	
12			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
13			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
14			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
15			>100 hectares.	0	
16	OF3	Ponded Water & Wetland Within 1 km.	The area of wetlands and surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. If the AA's wetland vegetation extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. "Ponded" means not flowing in rivers or streams. [Sens, WBF]
17			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
18			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	1	
19			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
20			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
21			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
22			>100 hectares.	0	
23	OF4	Size of Largest Nearby Vegetated Tract or Corridor	The largest vegetated patch or corridor that includes the AA's vegetation plus all adjacent upland vegetation that is not lawn, row crops, heavily grazed lands, conifer plantation is:		See definition of adjacent in OF2. Use Google Earth Pro's polygon ruler (as described above). Exclude conifer plantations only if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens]
24			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
25			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
26			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
27			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
28			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
29			100 to 1000 hectares.	1	
30			>1000 hectares. <i>[This is nearly always the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]</i>	0	

A	B	C	D	E
31	OF5 Distance to Large Vegetated Tract	The minimum distance from the edge of the AA to the edge of the closest vegetated land (but excluding row crops, lawn, conifer plantation) larger than 375 hectares (about 2 km on a side), is:	1	To measure distance, use Google Earth Pro (Ruler > Line tool). The 375-ha criterion is from the Fundy Model Forest Project. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
32		<50 m, and not separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, bare ground, lawn, or impervious surface. Or the AA itself contains >375 ha of vegetation. [This is often the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]		
33		<50 m, but completely separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by those features, and AA does not contain >375 ha of vegetation.		
34		50-500 m, and not separated .		
35		50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
36		0.5 - 5 km, and not separated .		
37		0.5 - 5 km, but separated by those features.		
38		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors which are that large are >5 km away).		
39	OF6 Herbaceous Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 5 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 1 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "1". [* NOTE: Exclude lawns, row crops, heavily grazed lands, forest, shrublands. Include moss as well as grasslike plants in this use of "herbaceous vegetation"]	0	For this question only, consider moss to be herbaceous vegetation. Determine the score by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth after successively drawing or estimating the boundaries of the buffers of 5 km, 1 km, and 100 m radius focused on the center of the AA. Circles of specified radius can be drawn in Google Earth Pro by clicking on the Ruler icon, then Circle in the pop-up menu. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
40	OF7 Woody Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% woody* but uplands within 5 km have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 1 km have <10% woody cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "1" [* NOTE: woody cover = trees & shrubs taller than 1 m.]	0	See above. Do not consider conifer plantations to be forest if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv]
41	OF8 Local Vegetated Cover Percentage	Draw a 5-km radius circle measured from the center of the AA. Ignoring all permanent water in the circle, the percent of the remaining area that is wooded or unmanaged herbaceous vegetation (NOT lawn, row crops, bare or heavily grazed land, clearcuts, or conifer plantations) is:	0	In Google Earth, draw the 5 km buffer and then estimate land cover percentages, or do GIS analysis of an appropriate land cover layer. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
42		<5% of the land.		
43		5 to 20% of the land.		
44		20 to 60% of the land.		
45		60 to 90% of the land.		
46		>90% of the land. SKIP to OF10.		
47	OF9 Type of Land Cover Alteration	Within the 5-km radius circle, and ignoring all permanent water, the land area that is bare or non-perennial cover is mostly:	0	[AM, SBM]
48		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
49		Bare pervious surface, e.g., lawn, recent (<5 yrs ago) clearcut, dirt or gravel road, cropland, landslide, conifer plantation.		
50	OF10 Distance by Road to Nearest Population Center	Measured along the maintained road nearest the AA, the distance to the nearest population center is:	0	"Population center" means a settled area with more than about 5 regularly- inhabited structures per square kilometer. In Google Earth Pro, click on the Ruler icon, then Path, and draw and measure the route. [FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, WBFv]
51		<100 m.		
52		100 - 500 m.		
53		0.5- 1 km.		
54		1 - 5 km.		
55		>5 km.		

A	B	C	D	E
56	OF11 Distance to Nearest Maintained Road	From the center of the AA, the distance to the nearest maintained public road (dirt or paved) is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth Pro and measuring with the Ruler>Line tool [AM, FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBN]
57		<10 m.	1	
58		10 - 25 m.	0	
59		25 - 50 m.	0	
60		50 - 100 m.	0	
61		100 - 500 m.	0	
62		>500 m.	0	
63	OF12 Wildlife Access	Draw a circle of radius of 5 km from the center of the AA. If mammals and amphibians can move from the center of the AA to ALL other separate wetlands and ponds located within the circle without being forced to cross pavement (any width), lawns, bare ground, and/or marine waters, mark 1= yes can move to all, 0= no. Change to blank if there are no other wetlands within 5 km.	0	Draw the 5 km circle in Google Earth Pro using the Circle tool and search for roads and wetlands within it, being alert for roads hidden under forest canopy. [AM, SBM, STR]
64	OF13 Distance to Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) ponded water body visible in GoogleEarth imagery is:		In Google Earth Pro, zoom in closely to examine the surrounding landscape for ponds, lakes, and wetlands that appear to be permanently flooded. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
65		<50 m, and not separated by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, lawn, bare ground, or impervious surface.	0	
66		<50 m, but completely separated by those features.	0	
67		50-500 m, and not separated.	0	
68		50-500 m, but separated by those features.	0	
69		0.5 - 1 km, and not separated.	0	
70		0.5 - 1 km, but separated by those features.	0	
71		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors that large are >1 km away).	1	
72	OF14 Distance to Large Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate)non-tidal body of water that is ponded during most of the year and is larger than 8 hectares during most of a normal year is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth. [Sens, WBF, WBN]
73		<100 m.	0	
74		100 m - 1 km.	0	
75		1-2 km.	0	
76		2-5 km.	0	
77		5-10 km.	1	
78		>10 km.	0	
79	OF15 Tidal Proximity	The distance from the AA edge to the closest tidal water body (regardless of its salinity) is:		In Google Earth, measure the distance to the ocean (including Bay of Fundy) or tidal river, whichever is closer. If you need to see how far upriver a river is tidal, see the KMZ file provided with this calculator for NS (NS Headtide). Points shown in those files are only an approximation, so local information if available may be preferable. [FA, WBF]
80		<100 m.	0	
81		100 m - 1 km.	0	
82		1 - 5 km.	0	
83		5-10 km.	0	
84		10-40 km.	1	
85		>40 km.	0	
86	OF16 Upland Edge Contact	Select one:		[NR, SBM, Sens]
87		The AA has no upland edge (or upland is <1% of perimeter). The AA is entirely surrounded by (& contiguous with) other wetlands or water.	0	
88		1-25% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland (including filled areas). The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0	
89		25-50% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0	
90		50-75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.	0	
91		More than 75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. Any remainder adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA. This will be true for most assessments done with WESP-AC.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
92	OF17 Flood Damage from Non-tidal Waters	Within 5 km downstream or downslope of the AA (select first true choice):	0	Contact local authorities to determine if such maps exist. Where available, LiDAR imagery can provide finer elevational resolution useful for flood modeling. [WSv]
93		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding not caused by tidal storm surges.		
94		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas, but infrastructure is absent or is not vulnerable to floods from a non-tidal river. In some cases levees, upriver dams, or other measures may partly limit damage or risk from smaller events.		
95		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
96		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there is no infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
97	OF18 Relative Elevation in Watershed	In Google Earth, enable the Terrain layer (lower left menu) and open the NS_Watersheds Secondary KMZ file that accompanies this calculator. Then determine the AA's approximate elevation (bottom right, NOT the "eye alt"). Then move cursor around to determine the watershed's maximum and minimum elevation. Divide the AA's elevation by the (max-min).	0.80	[FA, NR, Sens, SFSv, WCv, WSv]
98	OF19 Water Quality Sensitive Watershed or Area	The AA is in a Protected Water Supply area (Designated Water Supply Area, Natural Watershed Municipal Surface Water Supply Area, or Municipal Water Supply Area) according to the provided KMZ overlay ("NS Protected Water Supply Areas"). Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	If an ACCDC report is available for this AA, it also may contain such information. [NRv]
99	OF20 Degraded Water Upstream	Sampling indicates a problem with concentrations of metals, hydrocarbons, nutrients, or other substances (excluding bacteria, acidic water, high temperatures) being present at levels harmful to aquatic life or humans, and:	0	May use existing data, or sample those waters as part of this wetland assessment. "Harmful" should be evaluated with regard to current federal or provincial water quality standards. [AM, FA, FR, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WBF, WBN]
100		The condition is present within the AA.		
101		The condition is present in waters within 1 km that flow into the AA, but has not been documented in the AA itself.		
102		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
103		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
104	OF21 Degraded Water Downstream	The problem described above is downslope from the AA, and:	0	May use existing data, or monitor waters as part of this wetland assessment. [NRv, PRv, SRv]
105		The condition is present within 1 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel.		
106		The condition is present within 5 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel, or within 1 km but not connected to the AA by a channel.		
107		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
108		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
109	OF22 Wetland as a % of Its Contributing Area (Catchment)	From a topographic map and field observations, estimate the approximate boundaries of the catchment (CA) of the entire wetland of which the AA may be only a part. Then adjust those boundaries if necessary based on your field observations of the surrounding terrain, and/or by using procedures described in the Manual. Divide the area of the wetland (not just the AA) by the approximate area of its catchment excluding the area of the wetland itself. When doing the calculation, if ponded water is adjacent to the wetland, include that in the wetland area. The result is:	0	Topographic maps may be viewed online at the National Atlas of Canada (Toporama): http://atlas.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html [NR, PR, Sens, SR, WS]
110		<0.01, or catchment size unknown due to stormwater pipes that collect water from an indeterminate area.		
111		0.01 to 0.1.		
112		0.1 to 1.		
113		>1 (wetland is larger than its catchment (e.g., wetland with flat surrounding terrain and no inlet, or is entirely isolated by dikes, or is a raised bog)).		
114	OF23 Unvegetated Surface in the Contributing Area	The proportion of the AA's contributing area (measured to no more than 1000 m upslope) that is comprised of buildings, roads, parking lots, other pavement, exposed bedrock, landslides, and other mostly-bare surface is about :	0	[FA, INV, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WCv, WSv]
115		<10%.		
116		10 to 25%.		
117		>25%.		

A	B	C	D	E
118	OF24	Transport From Upslope A relatively large proportion of the precipitation that falls farther upslope in the CA reaches this wetland quickly as runoff (surface water), as indicated by the following: (a) input channel is present, (b) input channels have been straightened, (c) upslope wetlands have been ditched extensively, (d) land cover is mostly non-forest, (e) CA slopes are steep, and/or (f) most CA soils are shallow (bedrock near surface) and/or have high runoff coefficients. This statement is:		[NRv, PRv, SRv, WSv]
119		Mostly true.	0	
120		Somewhat true.	1	
121		Mostly untrue.	0	
122	OF25	Aspect The overland flow direction of most surface water (in streams, rivers, or runoff) that enters the AA is:		[AM, NR, SFS, WC, WS]
123		Northward (N, NE). north-facing contributing area.	0	
124		Southward (S, SW). south-facing contributing area.	0	
125		Other (E, SE, W, NW), or no detectable uphill slope or input channel (flat).	1	
126	OF26	Internal Flow Distance (Path Length) The horizontal flow distance from the wetland's inlet to outlet is:		Identify inlets and outlets, if any, from topographic maps (use elevations to determine which are inlets and which are outlets) and augment by field inspection. With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, select Nova Scotia Topo as the Basemap. Also enable the layer Forestry>WAM Predicted Flow. Then measure the inlet-outlet distance. [NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
127		<10 m.	0	
128		10 - 50 m.	0	
129		50 - 100 m.	0	
130		100 - 1000 m.	0	
131		1-2 km.	0	
132		>2 km, or wetland lacks an inlet and outlet.	1	
133	OF27	Growing Degree Days In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called NS_GrowingDegreeDays. Place your cursor over the AA and left-click. From the pop-up window, enter the GRIDCODE number in the next column.	1821	This layer was provided by Dr. Dan McKenney of the Canadian Forest Service [AM, CS, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WCv, WS]
134	OF28	Fish Access or Use According to agency biologists and/or your own observations, the AA. [Mark just the first choice that is true.]:		Regarding the last choice, if uncertain if an AA is fishless, consider the possibility its waters have been stocked. [AM, FA, FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
135		Is known to support rearing and/or spawning by Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels. Go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife>Significant Habitat>Species at Risk. Contact local fishery biologists, review the ACCDC report, and visit these websites: http://www.salmontlas.com/atlanticsalmon/canada-east/index.1.html http://atlanticssalmofederation.org/rivers/introduction.html	0	
136		Has not been documented to support Atlantic salmon rearing and/or spawning, but is connected to nearby waters likely to contain Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels and is probably accessed by those during some conditions.	0	
137		Is probably not accessed by any anadromous fish species but is known or likely to have other fish at least seasonally.	0	
138		Is known or likely to be fishless (e.g., too small, dry, and/or not accessible even temporarily, and not stocked).	1	
139	OF29	Species of Conservation Concern Within the past 10 years, in the AA (or in its adjoining waters or wetland), qualified observers have documented [mark all applicable]:		Request information from ACCDC and/or conduct your own survey at an appropriate season using an approved protocol. For birds, also check eBird.org. NOTE for NS: If your WESP-AC is being completed for a Wetland Alteration Application to NS-ECC, your ACCDC results and any taxon-specific survey results must be submitted along with your WESP-AC results, and application. [AMv, EC, PHv, POLv, SBMv, Sens, WBFv, WBNv]
140		Presence of one or more of the plant species listed in the Plants_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, or the AA is within a mapped Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora Buffer (go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones).	0	
141		Presence of one or more of the amphibian or reptile species (AM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
142		Presence of one or more of the waterbird species (WBF, WBN) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
143		Presence of one or more of the nesting songbird or raptor species (SBM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, during their nesting season (May-July for most species).	0	
144		None of the above, or no data.	1	
145	OF30	Important Bird Area (IBA) In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called IBAs_Canada. The AA is all or part of an officially designated IBA. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	The source of this layer, which should be checked periodically for updates, is: http://www.ibacanada.com/mapviewer.jsp?lang=EN [SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]

	A	B	C	D	E
146	OF31	Black Duck Nesting Area	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called BlackDuck. Adjust its alignment and opacity. Determine the predicted density (pairs per 25 sq. km) of nesting American Black Duck in the AA's vicinity: <10 (enter 0), 10-20 (enter 1), 20-30 (enter 2), >30 (enter 3). If outside of region shown in map, change to blank.	0	This was provided by Dr. David Leske. [WBNv]
147	OF32	Wintering Deer or Moose Concentration Areas	If AA is on private land with no information, change to blank (not 0). Otherwise: With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, for Wintering Moose, go to Wildlife> Significant Habitat. For Mainland Moose Concentration Areas, go to Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0.	0	[SBM]
148	OF33	Other Conservation Designation	The AA is all or part of an area designated by government, First Nations, or the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) for its exceptional ecological features or highly intact natural conditions. With Provincial Landscape Viewer, see Protected Areas. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If uncertain, consult NCC and agencies for more recent information.	0	See: https://novascotia.ca/parksandprotectedareas/plan/interactive-map/ [PU]
149	OF34	Conservation Investment	The AA is part of or contiguous to a wetland on which public or private organizational funds were spent to preserve, create, restore, or enhance the wetland (excluding mitigation wetlands). Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank (not 0).		[PU]
150	OF35	Mitigation Investment	The AA is all or part of a mitigation site used explicitly to offset impacts elsewhere. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.		[PU]
151	OF36	Sustained Scientific Use	Plants, animals, or water in the AA have been monitored for >2 years, unrelated to any regulatory requirements, and data are available to the public. Or the AA is part of an area that has been designated by an agency or institution as a benchmark, reference, or status-trends monitoring area. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.		[PU]
152	OF37	Calcareous Region	The AA is NOT in a subregion that has been heavily exposed to acid precipitation. Enter "1" if true (green or yellow in map in Appendix A of the Manual). Enter "0" if false. If no information, change to blank.		[AM, FA, FR, INV, PH]
153	OF38	Ownership	Select the ONE ownership that covers the most of the AA. In Google Earth, open KMZ file called NS_CrownlandsUse more recent information if available.		"Private lands" may include those owned or leased by non-governmental organizations, e.g., charitable conservation land trusts, DUC, TNC. [PU, STR]
154			New timber harvest, roads, mineral extraction, and intensive summer recreation (e.g., off-road vehicles) are permanently prohibited. Includes many publicly-owned Protected Lands, and private lands under long-term (30+ year) legal agreements to maintain nearly-unaltered conditions.	0	
155			Ownership is public (e.g., municipal, Crown Reservations/Notations) but some or all of the above activities are allowed.	0	
156			Ownership is private but public access is allowed, and/or a shorter-term conservation easement (whether renewable or not) is in place.	0	
157			Ownership is private and owner does not allow access, or access permission unknown, and not a conservation easement.	0	

	A	B	C	D	E		
1	Date: 13 October 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL18		Investigator: Rohan Kariyawansa, Blake Fairclough			
2	<p>Form F (Field). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia. DIRECTIONS: Walk for no less than 10 minutes from the wetland edge towards its core, in the part of the AA that is proposed for alteration. If no alteration is proposed, walk in a portion that appears to be most representative of the wetland overall. Walk only where it is safe and legal to do so. Conduct the assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answer these questions primarily based on your onsite observations and interpretations. Do not write in shaded parts of this data form. Answering some questions accurately may require conferring with the landowner or other knowledgeable persons, and/or reviewing aerial imagery. For most wetlands, completing this field data form will require 1-2 hours on a site. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see the accompanying Interpretations form. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage & Delay, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sens= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.</p>						
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations		
4	F1	Wetland Type	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the vegetated part of the AA:		<p>Ericaceous shrubs are ones in the heather family (Ericaceae). Most have leathery evergreen leaves. They include rhododendron, azalea, swamp laurel, leatherleaf, Labrador tea, and others. Most require acidic soil. Although not in the family Ericaceae, sweetgale (<i>Myrica gale</i>) should be counted also. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, Sens, SFS, WBF, WBN]</p>		
5	A. Moss and/or lichen cover more than 25% of the ground. Often dominated by ericaceous shrubs (e.g., Labrador tea) or other acid-tolerant plants (e.g., bog cranberry, pitcher plant, sundew, orchids). Substrate is mostly undecomposed peat. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.						
6	A1. Surface water is usually absent or, if present, pH is typically <4.5 and conductivity is usually <100 µS/cm (<64 ppm TDS). Trees are absent or nearly so. Sedge cover usually sparse or absent but cottongrass and/or lichen cover may be extensive, as well as cloudberry, lingonberry, sheep laurel, and a sedge (<i>Carex rariflora</i>). Wetland surface and surrounding landscape are seldom sloping and wetland often is domed (convex). Inlet and outlet channels are usually absent. If known, pH of peat is <4.0.		1				
7	A2. Not A1. Surface water, if present, has pH typically >4.5 and conductivity is usually >100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Sedge cover is usually extensive, and/or tree and tall shrub cover is extensive. Sometimes at toe of slope or edge of water body. An exit channel is usually present. Wetter than A1 and peat depth may be shallower (<2 m).		0				
8	B. Moss and/or lichen cover less than 25% of the ground. Soil is mineral or decomposed organic (muck). Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column:						
9	B1. Trees and shrubs taller than 1 m comprise more than 25% of the vegetated cover. Surface water is mostly absent or inundates the vegetation only seasonally (e.g., vernal pools or floodplain).		0				
10	B2. Not B1. Tree & tall shrubs comprise less than than 25% of the vegetated cover. Vegetation is mostly herbaceous, e.g., cattail, bulrush, burreed, pond lily, horsetail. Surface water may be extensive and fluctuates seasonally, being either persistent or drying up partly or entirely.		0				
11	<p>Reminder: For all questions, the AA should include all persistent waters in ponds smaller than 8 hectares (~283 m on a side) that are adjacent to the AA. The AA should also include part of the water area of adjacent ponded water larger than 8 ha and adjacent rivers wider than 20 m. Specifically, the AA should include the open water part adjacent to wetland vegetation and equal in width to the average width of that vegetated zone. Throughout this data form, "adjacent" is used synonymously with abutting, adjoining, bordering, contiguous -- and means no upland (manmade or natural) completely separates the described features along their directly shared edge. Features joined only by a channel are not necessarily considered to be adjacent -- a large portion of their edges must match. The features do not have to be hydrologically connected in order to be considered adjacent.</p>						
12	F2		Wetland Types - Adjoining or Subordinate	If the AA is smaller than 1 ha, mark all other types that occupy more than 1% of the vegetated AA. If the AA is larger than 1 ha, mark all other types which are within or adjacent to the AA and occupy more than 1 ha, as visible from the AA or as interpreted from aerial imagery. Do not mark again the type marked in F1.			<p>1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, INV, SBM, WBF]</p>
13	A1.			0			
14	A2.	0					
15	B1.	0					
16	B2.	1					

A	B	C	D	E
17	F3 Woody Height & Form Diversity	Following EACH row below, indicate with a number code the percentage of the living vegetation in the AA which is occupied by that feature (6 if >95%, 5 if 75-95%, 4 if 50-75%, 3 if 25-50%, 2 if 5-25%, 1 if <5%, 0 if none). If the vegetated part of the AA is largely herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation, these percentages should not sum to 100%.		
18		coniferous trees (may include tamarack) taller than 3 m.	1	
19		deciduous trees taller than 3 m.	0	
20		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	2	
21		deciduous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.	3	
22		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs <1 m tall not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	1	
23		deciduous shrubs or trees <1 m tall (e.g., deciduous seedlings) not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.	1	
24		Note: If none of top 4 rows in F3 was marked 2 or greater, SKIP to F9 (N fixers).		
25				
26	F4 Dominance of Most Abundant Shrub Species	Determine which two woody plant species comprise the greatest portion of the low (<3 m) woody cover . Then choose one:	[PH, POL, SBM, Sens]	
27		those species together comprise > 50% of such cover.	1	
		those species together do not comprise > 50% of such cover.	0	
28	F5 Woody Diameter Classes	Mark ALL the types that comprise >5% of the woody canopy cover in the AA or >5% of the wooded areas (if any) along its upland edge (perimeter). The edge should include only the trees whose canopies extend into the AA.		
29		coniferous, 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall.	1	
30		broad-leaved deciduous 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall.	1	
31		coniferous, 10-19 cm diameter.	1	
32		broad-leaved deciduous 10-19 cm diameter.	0	
33		coniferous, 20-40 cm diameter.	0	
34		broad-leaved deciduous 20-40 cm diameter.	0	
35		coniferous, >40 cm diameter.	0	
36		broad-leaved deciduous >40 cm diameter.	0	
37	F6 Height Class Interspersion	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the AA:	[AM, INV, NR, PH, SBM, Sens]	
38		A. Neither the vegetation taller than 1 m nor the vegetation shorter than that comprise >70% of the vegetated part of the AA. They each comprise 30-70%. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.		
39		A1. The two height classes are mostly scattered and intermixed throughout the AA.	1	
40		A2. Not A1. The two height classes are mostly in separate zones or bands, or in proportionately large clumps.	0	
41		B. Either the vegetation shorter than 1 m comprises >70% of the vegetated part of the AA, or the vegetation taller than that does. One size class might even be totally absent. Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column:		
42		B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly scattered and intermixed within the prevalent one.	0	
43		B2. Not B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly located apart from the prevalent one, in separate zones or clumps, or is completely absent.	0	
44	F7 Large Snags (Dead Standing Trees)	The number of large snags (diameter >20 cm) in the AA plus adjacent upland area within 10 m of the wetland edge is:		
45		None, or fewer than 8/ hectare which exceed this diameter.	0	
46		Several (>8/hectare) and a pond, lake, or slow-flowing water wider than 10 m is within 1 km.	0	
47		Several (>8/hectare) but above not true.	1	
48	F8 Downed Wood	The number of downed wood pieces longer than 2 m and with diameter >10 cm, and not persistently submerged, is:		
49		Few or none that meet these criteria.	0	
50		Several (>5 if AA is >5 hectares, less for smaller AAs) meet these criteria.	1	
51	F9 N Fixers	The percentage of the AA's vegetated cover that contains nitrogen-fixing plants (e.g., alder, sweetgale, clover, lupine, alfalfa, other legumes) is:		
52		<1% or none.	0	
53		1-25% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	
54		25-50% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	1	
55		50-75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	
56		>75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).	0	

A	B	C	D	E
F10 57 58 59 60 61 62	Sphagnum Moss Extent	The cover of Sphagnum moss (or any moss that forms a dense cushion many centimeters thick), including the moss obscured by taller sedges and other plants rooted in it, is:		Exclude moss growing on trees and rocks. [CS, PH]
		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
F11 63 64 65 66 67 68	% Bare Ground & Thatch	Consider the parts of the AA that lack surface water at the driest time of the growing season. Viewed from directly above the ground layer, the predominant condition in those areas at that time is:		Thatch is dead plant material (stems, leaves) resting on the ground surface. Bare ground that is present under a tree or shrub canopy should be counted. Boulders count as bare ground. Wetlands with mineral soils and that are heavily shaded or are dominated by annual plant species tend to have more extensive areas that are bare during the early growing season. [AM, EC, INV, NR, OE, POL, PR, SBM, Sens]
		Little or no (<5%) <i>bare ground</i> is visible between erect stems or under canopy anywhere in the vegetated AA. Ground is extensively blanketed by dense thatch, moss, lichens, graminoids with great stem densities, or plants with ground-hugging foliage.	1	
		Slightly bare ground (5-20% bare between plants) is visible in places, but those areas comprise less than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
		Much bare ground (20-50% bare between plants) is visible in places, and those areas comprise more than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
		Other conditions.	0	
		Not applicable. Surface water (either open or obscured by emergent plants) covers all of the AA all the time.	0	
F12 69 70 71 72	Ground Irregularity	Imagine the AA without any living vegetation. Excluding the portion of the AA that is always under water, the number of hummocks, small pits, raised mounds, animal burrows, ruts, gullies, natural levees, microdepressions, and other areas of peat or mineral soil that are raised or depressed >10 cm compared to most of the area within a few meters surrounding them is:		The depressions may be of human or natural origin. [AM, EC, INV, NR, PH, POL, PR, SBM, SR, WS]
		Few or none (minimal microtopography; <1% of the land has such features, or entire AA is always water-covered).	0	
		Intermediate.	1	
		Several (extensive micro-topography).	0	
F13 73 74 75 76	Upland Inclusions	Within the AA, inclusions of upland are:		[AM, NR, SBM]
		Few or none.	1	
		Intermediate (1 - 10% of vegetated part of the AA).	0	
		Many (e.g., wetland-upland "mosaic"; >10% of the vegetated AA).	0	
F14 77 78 79 80 81 82	Soil Texture	In parts of the AA that lack persistent water, the texture of soil in the uppermost layer is mostly: [To determine this, use a trowel to check in at least 3 widely spaced locations, and use the soil texture key (in Appendix A of the Manual).]		[CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, WS]
		Loamy: soils that may contain a little fine grit and do not make a "ribbon" longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
		Fines: includes silt, clay, silt, soils that make a ribbon longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
		Deep Peat: to 40 cm depth or greater.	1	
		Shallow Peat or organic <40 cm deep.	0	
		Coarse: includes sand, loamy sand, gravel, cobble, soils that do not make a ribbon when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
F15 83 84 85 86 87	Shorebird Feeding Habitats	During any 2 consecutive weeks of the growing season, the extent of mudflats, bare unshaded saturated areas not covered by thatch, and unshaded waters shallower than 6 cm is: [Include also any area that is adjacent to the AA.]		This addresses needs of many but not all migratory sandpipers, plovers, and related species. [WBF]
		None, or <100 sq. m.	1	
		100-1000 sq. m.	0	
		1000 – 10,000 sq. m.	0	
		>10,000 sq. m.	0	
F16 88 89 90 91 92 93	Herbaceous % of Vegetated Wetland	In aerial ("ducks eye") view, the maximum annual cover of herbaceous vegetation (all non-woody plants except moss) is:		[AM, WBF, WBN]
		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA or <0.01 hectare (whichever is less). Mark "*" here and SKIP to F20 (Invasive Plant Cover).	0	
		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
94	F17 Forb Cover	Within parts of the AA having herbaceous cover (excluding SAV), the areal cover of forbs reaches an annual maximum of:		Forbs are flowering plants. Do not include grasses, sedges, cattail, other graminoids, ferns, horsetails, or others that lack showy flowers. [POL]
95		<5% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
96		5-25% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
97		25-50% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
98		50-95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
99		>95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		
100	F18 Sedge Cover	Sedges (<i>Carex</i> spp.) and cottongrass (<i>Eriophorum</i> spp.) occupy:		[CS]
101		<5% of the vegetated area, or none.		
102		5-50% of the vegetated area.		
103		50-95% of the vegetated area.		
104		>95% of the vegetated area.		
105	F19 Dominance of Most Abundant Herbaceous Species	Determine which two herbaceous species comprise the greatest portion of the herbaceous cover (excluding mosses and floating-leaved aquatic plants). Then choose one of the following:		For this question, include ferns as well as graminoids and forbs. [EC, INV, PH, POL, Sens]
106		those species together comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		
107		those species together do not comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		
108	F20 Invasive Plant Cover	How extensive is the cover of invasive plant species in the AA? For species, see Plants_invasive worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file.		[EC, PH, POL, Sens]
109		invasive species appear to be absent in the AA, or are present only in trace amount (a few individuals).		
110		invasive species are present in more than trace amounts, but comprise <5% of herbaceous cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
111		invasive species comprise 5-20% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
112		invasive species comprise 20-50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
113		invasive species comprise >50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
114	F21 Invasive Cover Along Upland Edge	Along the wetland-upland boundary, the percent of the upland edge (within 3 m upslope from the wetland) that is occupied by invasive plant species is:		If a plant cannot be identified to species (e.g., winter conditions) but its genus contains an exotic species, assume the unidentified plant to also be exotic. If vegetation is so senesced that exotic species cannot be identified, answer "none". [PH, STR]
115		none of the upland edge (invasives apparently absent), or AA has no upland edge.		
116		some (but <5%) of the upland edge.		
117		5-50% of the upland edge.		
118		most (>50%) of the upland edge.		
119	F22 Fringe Wetland	During most of the year, open water within or adjacent to the vegetated part of the wetland is much wider than the maximum width of the vegetated zone within the wetland. Enter "1" if true, "0" if false.	0	[WBF, WBN, WCv]
120	F23 Lacustrine Wetland	The vegetated part of the AA is within or adjacent to a body of non-tidal standing open water whose size exceeds 8 hectares during most of a normal year.	0	[FR, PR, PU, WBF, WBN]
121	F24 % of AA Without Surface Water	The percentage of the AA that never contains surface water during an average year (that is, except perhaps for a few hours after snowmelt or rainstorms), but which is still a wetland, is:		1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SRv, WBF, WBN, WC]
122		<1%. In other words, all or nearly all of the AA is covered by water permanently or at least seasonally .		
123		1-25% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha never contains surface water.		
124		25-50% of the AA never contains surface water.		
125		50-75% of the AA never contains surface water.		
126		75-99% of the AA never contains surface water, OR >99% and there is at least one persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha in the AA.	1	
127		99-100%. AND there is no persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha within the AA. Enter "1" and SKIP to F42 (Channel Connection).	0	
128	F25 % of AA with Persistent Surface Water	Identify the parts of the AA that still contain surface water (flowing or ponded, open or hidden beneath vegetation) even during the driest times of a normal year, i.e., when the AA's surface water is at its lowest annual level. At that time, the percentage of the AA that still contains surface water is:		If you are unable to determine the condition at the driest time of year, ask the land owner or neighbors about it if possible. Indicators of persistence may include fish, some dragonflies, beaver, and muskrat. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, POL, PR, SBM, WBF, WBN]
129		None. The AA dries up completely (no water in channels either) or never has surface water during most years. SKIP to F27 .		
130		1-20% of the AA.	1	
131		20-50% of the AA.	0	
132		50-95% of the AA.	0	
133		>95% of the AA. True for many fringe wetlands.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
134	F26	% of Summertime Water that Is Shaded At mid-day during the warmest time of year, the area of surface water <u>within</u> the AA that is shaded by vegetation and other features that are within the AA at that time is:		[FA, WC]
135		<5% of the water is shaded, or no surface water is present then.	1	
136		5-25% of the water is shaded.	0	
137		25-50% of the water is shaded.	0	
138		50-75% of the water is shaded.	0	
139		>75% of the water is shaded.	0	
140	F27	% of AA that is Flooded Only Seasonally The percentage of the AA's area that is between the annual high water and the annual low water (surface water) is:		Flood marks (algal mats, adventitious roots, debris lines, ice scour, etc.) are often evident when not fully inundated. Also, such areas often have a larger proportion of upland and annual (vs. perennial) plant species. In riverine systems, the extent of this zone can be estimated by multiplying by 2 the bankfull height and visualising where that would intercept the land along the river. [CS, FA, INV, NR, OE, PH, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
141		None, or <0.01 hectare and <1% of the AA. SKIP to F29.	0	
142		1-20% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha.	1	
143		20-50% of the AA.	0	
144		50-95% of the AA.	0	
145		>95% of the AA.	0	
146	F28	Annual Water Fluctuation Range The annual fluctuation in surface water level within most of the parts of the AA that contain surface water at least temporarily is:		Look for flood marks (see above). Because the annual range of water levels is difficult to estimate without multiple visits, consider asking the land owner or neighbors about it. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SR, WBN, WS]
147		<10 cm change (stable or nearly so).	1	
148		10 cm - 50 cm change.	0	
149		0.5 - 1 m change.	0	
150		1-2 m change.	0	
151		>2 m change.	0	
152		Is the AA plus adjacent ponded water smaller than 0.01 hectare (about 10m x 10m, or 1m x 100 m)? If so, enter "1" in column D and SKIP TO F42 (Connection).	0	
153	F29	Predominant Depth Class During most of the time when surface water is present during the growing season, its depth, averaged over the entire inundated part of the AA, is:		If a boat is unavailable, estimate this by considering wetland size and local topography. Or if timing and safety allow, depths may be measured by drilling through winter ice. This question is asking about the spatial median depth that occurs during most of that time, even if inundation is only seasonal or temporary. If inundation in most but not all of the wetland is brief, the answer will be based on the depth of the most persistently inundated part of the wetland. Include surface water in channels and ditches as well as ponded areas. [CS, FA, FR, INV, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
154		<10 cm deep (but >0).	0	
155		10 - 50 cm deep.	1	
156		0.5 - 1 m deep.	0	
157		1 - 2 m deep.	0	
158		>2 m deep. True for many fringe wetlands.	0	
159	F30	Depth Classes - Evenness of Proportions When present, surface water in most of the AA usually consists of (select one):		Estimate these proportions by considering the gradient and microtopography of the site. [FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
160		One depth class that comprises >90% of the AA's inundated area (use the classes in the question above).	1	
161		One depth class that comprises 50-90% of the AA's inundated area.	0	
162		Neither of above. There are 3 or more depth classes and none occupy >50%.	0	
163	F31	% of Water That Is Ponded (not Flowing) During most times when surface water is present, the percentage that is (1) ponded (stagnant, or flows so slowly that fine sediment is not held in suspension) AND (2) is likely to be deeper than 0.5 m in some places, is:		Nearly all wetlands with surface water have some ponded water. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WBN, WC, WS]
164		<5% of the water, or it occupies <100 sq.m cumulatively. Nearly all the surface water is flowing. SKIP to F34.	0	
165		5-30% of the water.	0	
166		30-70% of the water.	0	
167		70-95% of the water.	0	
168		>95% of the water.	1	
169	F32	Ponded Open Water - Minimum Size During most of the growing season, the largest patch of open water that is ponded and is in or bordering the AA is >0.01 hectare (about 10 m by 10 m) and mostly deeper than 0.5 m. If true enter "1" and continue, If false, enter "0" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	Open water is not obscured by vegetation in aerial ("duck's eye") view. It includes vegetation floating on the water surface or entirely submersed beneath it.
170	F33	% of Ponded Water that is Open In ducks-eye aerial view, the percentage of the ponded water that is open (lacking emergent vegetation during most of the growing season, and unhidden by a forest or shrub canopy) is:		[AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
171		None, or <1% of the AA and largest pool occupies <0.01 hectares. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
172		1-4% of the ponded water. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
173		5-30% of the ponded water.	0	
174		30-70% of the ponded water.	0	
175		70-99% of the ponded water.	0	
176		100% of the ponded water.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
177	F34 Width of Vegetated Zone within Wetland	At the time during the growing season when the AA's water level is lowest, the average width of vegetated area <u>in the AA</u> that separates adjoining uplands from open water within the AA is: <1 m. 1 - 9 m. 10 - 29 m. 30 - 49 m. 50 - 100 m. >100 m, or open water is absent at that time.	0 0 0 1 0 0	"Vegetated area" does not include underwater or floating-leaved plants, i.e., aquatic bed. Width may include wooded riparian areas if they have wetland soil or plant indicators. [AM, CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SR, WBN]
178				
179				
180				
181				
182				
183				
184	F35 Flat Shoreline Extent	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the percentage of the AA's water edge length that is nearly flat (a slope less than about 5% measured within 5 m landward of the water) is: <1% of the water edge. 1-25% of the water edge. 25-50% of the water edge. 50-75% of the water edge. >75% of the water edge.	0 1 0 0 0	If several isolated pools are present in early summer, estimate the percent of their collective shorelines that has such a gentle slope. [SR, WBN]
185				
186				
187				
188				
189				
190	F36 Robust Emergents	The percentage of the emergent vegetation cover in the AA that is cattail (<i>Typha</i> spp.), common reed (<i>Phragmites</i>), or tall (>1m) bulrush is: <1% of the emergent vegetation, or emergent vegetation is absent. SKIP to F38. 1-25% of the emergent vegetation. 25-75% of the emergent vegetation. >75% of the emergent vegetation.	0 0 1 0	Emergent vegetation is herbaceous plants whose stems are partly above and partly below the water surface during most of the time water is present. [WBN]
191				
192				
193				
194				
195	F37 Interspersion of Emergents & Open Water	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the spatial pattern of emergent vegetation within the water is mostly: Scattered. More than 30% of such vegetation forms small islands or corridors surrounded by water. Intermediate. Clumped. More than 70% of such vegetation is in bands along the wetland perimeter or is clumped at one or a few sides of the surface water area.	0 0 1	[AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, SR, WBF, WBN]
196				
197				
198				
199	F38 Persistent Deepwater Area	If the deepest patch of surface water (flowing or ponded) in or directly adjacent to the AA is mostly deeper than 0.5 m for >2 weeks during the growing season, enter "1" and continue. If not, enter "0" and SKIP to F42. (Connection).	0	
200	F39 Non-vegetated Aquatic Cover	During most of the growing season and in waters deeper than 0.5 m, the cover for fish, aquatic invertebrates, and/or amphibians that is provided NOT by living vegetation, but by accumulations of dead wood and undercut banks is: Little or none. Intermediate. Extensive.	0 0 0	For this question, consider only the wood that is at or above the water surface. Estimates of underwater wood based only on observations from terrestrial viewpoints are unreliable so should not be attempted. [AM, FA, FR, INV]
201				
202				
203				
204	F40 Isolated Island	The AA contains (or is part of) an island or beaver lodge within a lake, pond, or river, and is isolated from the shore by water depths >1 m on all sides during an average June. The island may be solid, or it may be a floating vegetation mat that is sufficiently large and dense to support a waterbird nest.	0	[WBN]
205	F41 Floating Algae & Duckweed	At some time of the year, mats of algae and/or duckweed are likely to cover >50% of the AA's otherwise-unshaded water surface, or blanket >50% of the underwater substrate. If true, enter "1" in next column. If untrue or uncertain, enter "0".	0	[EC, PR, WBF]

A	B	C	D	E
206	F42 Channel Connection & Outflow Duration	The most persistent surface water connection (outlet channel or pipe, ditch, or overbank water exchange) between the AA and a downslope stream network is: [Note: If the AA represents only part of a wetland, answer this according to whichever is the least permanent surface connection: the one between the AA and the rest of the wetland, or the surface connection between the wetland and the downslope stream network.]		Consider the connection regardless of whether the surface water is frozen. The "downslope stream network" could consist of ditches, rivers, ponds, or lakes which eventually connect to the ocean. If this cannot be determined while visiting the AA, consult topographic maps perhaps by viewing these online with Toporama (http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html) [CS, FA, FR, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WCv, WS]
207		Persistent (surface water flows out for >9 months/year).		
208		Seasonal (surface water flows out for 14 days to 9 months/year, not necessarily consecutive).		
209		Temporary (surface water flows out for <14 days, not necessarily consecutive).		
210		None -- but maps show a stream network downslope from the AA and within a distance that is less than the AA's length. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
211		No surface water flows out of the wetland except possibly during extreme events (<once per 10 years). Or, water flows only into a wetland, ditch, or lake that lacks an outlet. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
212	F43 Outflow Confinement	During major runoff events, in the places where surface water exits the AA or connected waters nearby, the water:		"Major runoff events" would include biennial high water caused by storms and/or rapid snowmelt. [CS, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, STR, WS]
213		Mostly passes through a pipe, culvert, narrowly breached dike, berm, beaver dam, or other partial obstruction (other than natural topography) that does not appear to drain the wetland artificially during most of the growing season.		
214		Leaves through natural exits (channels or diffuse outflow), not mainly through artificial or temporary features.		
215		Is exported more quickly than usual due to ditches or pipes within the AA or connected to its outlet, or within 10 m of the AA's edge, which drain the wetland artificially, or water is pumped out of the AA.		
216	F44 Tributary Channel	At least once annually, surface water from a tributary channel that is >100 m long moves into the AA. Or, surface water from a larger permanent water body adjacent to the AA spills into the AA. If it enters only via a pipe, that pipe must be fed by a mapped stream or lake further upslope. If no, SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	If inlet tributaries cannot be searched for due to inaccessibility of part of the AA, follow suggestions in F42 above. [NRv, PH, PRv, SRv]
217	F45 Input Water Temperature	Based on lack of shade, water source characteristics, or actual temperature measurements, the inflow is likely to be warmer than surface water in the AA during part of most years. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	[WCv]
218	F46 Throughflow Resistance	During its travel through the AA at the time of peak annual flow, water arriving in channels: [select only the ONE encountered by most of the incoming water].		[FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
219		Does not bump into many plant stems as it travels through the AA. Nearly all the water continues to travel in unvegetated (often incised) channels that have minimal contact with wetland vegetation, or through a zone of open water such as an instream pond or lake.		
220		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
221		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation and mostly spreads throughout, or is in widely meandering, multi-branched, or braided channels.		
222		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
223		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems and follows a fairly indirect path from entrance to exit (meandering, multi-branched, or braided).		
224	F47 pH Measurement	The pH in most of the AA's surface water:		Preferably, measure this in larger areas of ponded surface water within the AA, or in streams that have passed through (not along) most of the AA. Unless surface water is completely absent, do not dig holes or make depressions in peat in order to provide water for this measurement. Avoid measuring near roads or in puddles formed only by recent rain. [AM, FA, FR, NR, WBF, PH, PR, Sens, WBF, WBN]
225		Was measured, and is: [enter the reading in the column to the right.]		
226		Was not measured but surface water is present and is darkly tea-coloured. Or if no surface water, then mosses and plants that indicate peatland (e.g., Labrador tea) are prevalent. Enter "1".		
227		Neither of above. Enter "1".		
228		The TDS (total dissolved solids) or conductivity off the AA's surface water is: (select the first true row with information):		
229	F48 TDS and/or Conductivity	TDS is: [Enter the reading in ppm or mg/L in the column to the right, if measured, or answer next row.]		See above for measurement guidance. [FR, INV, NRv, PH, PRv, Sens]
230		Conductivity is [Enter the reading in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ in the column to the right.]		
231		Was not measured, but plants that indicate saline conditions cover much of the vegetated AA. Enter "1".		
232		Neither of above		
233	F49 Beaver Probability	Use of the AA by beaver during the past 5 years is (select most applicable ONE):		[FA, FR, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
234		Evident from direct observation or presence of gnawed limbs, dams, tracks, dens, lodges, or extensive stands of water-killed trees (snags).		
235		Likely based on known occurrence in the region and proximity to suitable habitat, which may include: (a) a persistent freshwater wetland, pond, or lake, or a perennial low or mid-gradient (<10%) channel, and (b) a corridor or multiple stands of hardwood trees and shrubs in vegetated areas near surface water.		
236		Unlikely because site characteristics above are deficient, and/or this is a settled area or other area where beaver are routinely removed.		

A	B	C	D	E
237	F50 Groundwater Strength of Evidence	Select first applicable choice:	0 0 1 0	Adhere to these criteria strictly -- do not use personal judgment based on fen conditions, pH, or other evidence. Consult topographic maps to detect breaks in slope described here. Rust deposits associated with groundwater seeps may be most noticeable as orange discoloration in ice formations along streams during early winter. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PRv, SFS, WC, WS]
238		Springs are known to be present within the AA, or if groundwater levels have been monitored, that has demonstrated that groundwater primarily discharges to the wetland for longer periods during the year than periods when the wetland recharges the groundwater.		
239		Most of the AA has a slope of >5%, or is very close to the base of a natural slope longer than 100 and much steeper than the slope of the AA, AND the pH of surface water, if known, is >5.5.		
240		Neither of above is true, although some groundwater may discharge to or flow through the AA. Or groundwater influx is unknown.		
241	F51 Internal Gradient	The gradient along most of the flow path within the AA is:	This is not the same as the shoreline slope. It is the elevational difference between the AA's inlet and outlet, divided by the flow-distance between them and converted to percent. If available, use a clinometer to measure this. Free clinometer apps can be downloaded to smartphones. If the wetland is large (longer than ~1 km), this may be estimated using Google Earth to determine the minimum and maximum elevation within the AA, then dividing by length and multiplying by 100. [CS, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]	
242		<2% or the AA has no surface water outlet (not even seasonally).	1	
243		2-5%.	0	
244		6-10%.	0	
245		>10%.	0	
246	Note for the next three questions: If the AA lacks an upland edge, evaluate based on the AA's entire perimeter, and moving outward into whatever areas are adjacent. In many situations, these questions are best answered by measuring from aerial images.			
247	F52 Vegetated Buffer as % of Perimeter	Within a zone extending 30 m laterally from the AA's edge with upland and/or other wetlands, the percentage that contains perennial vegetation cover (except lawns, row crops, heavily grazed land, conifer plantations) is:	[AM, FA, FR, INV, NRv, PH, POL, PRv, SBM, Sens, SRv, STR, WBN]	
248		<5%.	0	
249		5 to 30%.	0	
250		30 to 60%.	0	
251		60 to 90%.	0	
252		>90%, or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands. SKIP to F55.	1	
253	F53 Type of Cover in Buffer	Within 30 m upslope of where the wetland transitions to upland, the upland land cover that is NOT perennial vegetation is mostly (mark ONE):	[AM, FA, INV, NRv, PH, POL, SBM, STR, WBN]	
254		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.	0	
255		Bare or nearly bare pervious surface or managed vegetation, e.g., lawn, row crops, unpaved road, dike, landslide.	0	
256	F54 Buffer Slope	The steepest and/or most disturbed part of the upland area that is within 30 m of the wetland and occupies >10% of that upland area has a percent slope of:	[NRv, PRv, Sens, SRv]	
257		<1% (flat – almost no noticeable slope) or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands.	0	
258		2-5%.	0	
259		5-30%.	0	
260		>30%.	0	
261	F55 Cliffs or Steep Banks	In the AA or within 100 m, there are elevated terrestrial features such as cliffs, talus slopes, stream banks, or excavated pits (but not riprap) that extend at least 2 m nearly vertically, are unvegetated, and potentially contain crevices or other substrate suitable for nesting or den areas. Enter 1 (yes) or 0 (no).	0	Do not include upturned trees as potential den sites. [POL, SBM]
262	F56 New or Expanded Wetland	Human actions within or adjacent to the AA have persistently expanded a naturally occurring wetland or created a wetland where there previously was none (e.g., by excavation, impoundment):	Determine this using historical aerial photography, old maps, soil maps, or permit files as available [CS, NR, OE, PH, Sens]	
263		No.	1	
264		Yes, and created or expanded 20 - 100 years ago.	0	
265		Yes, and created or expanded 3-20 years ago.	0	
266		Yes, and created or expanded within last 3 years.	0	
267		Yes, but time of origin or expansion unknown.	0	
268		Unknown if new or expanded within 20 years or not.	0	
269	F57 Burn History	More than 1% of the AA's previously vegetated area:	Look for charred soil or stumps (in multiple widely-spaced locations) or ask landowner. [CS, PH, STR]	
270		Burned within past 5 years.	0	
271		Burned 6-10 years ago.	0	
272		Burned 11-30 years ago.	0	
273		Burned >30 years ago, or no evidence of a burn and no data.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
274	F58	Visibility	The maximum percentage of the wetland that is visible from the best vantage point on public roads, public parking lots, public buildings, or public maintained trails that intersect, adjoin, or are within 100 m of the AA (select one) is:	[PU, STR, WBFv]
275			<25%.	0
276			25-50%.	1
277			>50%.	0
278	F59	Non-consumptive Uses - Actual or Potential	Assuming access permission was granted, select ALL statements that are true of the AA as it currently exists:	[PU, STR]
279			For an average person, walking is physically possible <u>in</u> (not just near) >5% of the AA during most of the growing season, e.g., free of deep water and dense shrub thickets.	0
280			Maintained roads, parking areas, or foot-trails are within 10 m of the AA, or the AA can be accessed part of the year by boats arriving via contiguous waters.	1
281			Within or near the AA, there is an interpretive center, trails with interpretive signs or brochures, and/or regular guided interpretive tours.	0
282	F60	Unvisited Core Area	The percentage of the AA almost never visited by humans during an average growing season probably comprises: [Note: Only include the part actually walked or driven (not simply viewed from) with a vehicle or boat. Do not include visitors on trails outside of the AA unless more than half the wetland is visible from the trails and they are within 30 m of the wetland edge. In that case include only the area occupied by the trail.]	[AM, Fav, FRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
283			<5% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
284			<5% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
285			5-50% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
286			5-50% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0
287			50-95%, with or without inhabited building nearby.	1
288			>95% of the AA with or without inhabited building nearby.	0
289	F61	Frequently Visited Area	The part of the AA visited by humans almost daily for several weeks during an average growing season probably comprises: [See note above.]	[AM, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
290			<5%. If F60 was answered ">95%" (mostly never visited), SKIP to F64.	1
291			5-50%.	0
292			50-95%.	0
293			>95% of the AA.	0
294	F62	BMP - Soils	Boardwalks, paved trails, fences or other infrastructure and/or well-enforced regulations appear to effectively prevent visitors from walking on soil within nearly all of the AA when the soil is unfrozen. Enter "1" if true.	[PH, PU]
295	F63	BMP - Wildlife Protection	Fences, observation blinds, platforms, paved trails, exclusion periods, and/or well-enforced prohibitions on motorised boats, off-leash pets, and off road vehicles appear to effectively exclude or divert visitors and their pets from the AA at critical times in order to minimize disturbance of wildlife (except during hunting seasons). Enter "1" if true.	[AM, PU, WBF, WBN]
296	F64	Consumptive Uses (Provisioning Services)	Recent evidence was found within the AA of the following potentially-sustainable consumptive uses. Select ALL that apply.	[FAv, FRv, WBFv]
297			Low-impact commercial timber harvest (e.g., selective thinning).	0
298			Commercial or traditional-use harvesting of native plants, their fruits, or mushrooms.	0
299			Waterfowl hunting.	0
300			Fishing.	0
301			Trapping of furbearers.	0
302			None of the above.	1
303	F65	Domestic Wells	The closest wells or water bodies that currently provide drinking water are:	[NRv]
304			Within 0-100 m. of the AA.	0
305			100-500 m. away.	0
306			>500 m. away, or no information.	1
307	F66	Calcareous Fen	The AA is, or is part of, a calcareous fen. See the Plants_Calcar worksheet in the accompanying SuplInfo file for list of plant indicators (calciphiles). Enter 1 if more than two Strong or more than five Moderate calciphile species are present; otherwise enter 0, but if not able to identify those and no information, change to blank.	[PH, PR]

Investigator: Rohan Kariyawansa, Blake Fairclough	Site Identifier: Higgins Mtn, WL18	Date: 13 October 2022	
Stressor (S) Data Form for Non-Tidal Wetlands. WESP-AC for Nova Scotia version 2.			
S1	Aberrant Timing of Water Inputs	Data	
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item that is likely to have caused the timing of water inputs (but not necessarily their volume) to shift by hours, days, or weeks, becoming either more muted (smaller or less frequent peaks spread over longer times, more temporal homogeneity of flow or water levels) or more flashy (larger or more frequent spikes but over shorter times). [FA, FR, INV, PH, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater from impervious surfaces that drains directly to the wetland.</p> <p>Water subsidies from wastewater effluent, septic system leakage, snow storage areas, or irrigation.</p> <p>Regular removal of surface or groundwater for irrigation or other consumptive use.</p> <p>Flow regulation in tributaries or water level regulation in adjoining water body, or other control structure at water entry points that regulates inflow to the wetland.</p> <p>A dam, dike, levee, weir, berm, or fill -- within or downgradient from the wetland -- that interferes with surface or subsurface flow in/out of the AA (e.g., road fill, wellpads, pipelines).</p> <p>Excavation within the wetland, e.g., dugout, artificial pond, dead-end ditch.</p> <p>Artificial drains or ditches in or near the wetland.</p> <p>Accelerated downcutting or channelization of an adjacent or internal channel (incised below the historical water table level).</p> <p>Logging within the wetland.</p> <p>Subsidence or compaction of the wetland's substrate as a result of machinery, livestock, fire, drainage, or off road vehicles.</p> <p>Straightening, ditching, dredging, and/or lining of tributary channels.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items had no measurable effect on the timing of water conditions in any part of the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>			
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)
Spatial extent of timing shift within the wetland:	>95% of wetland.	5-95% of wetland.	<5% of wetland.
When most of the timing shift began:	<3 yrs ago.	3-9 yrs ago.	10-100 yrs ago.
Score the following 2 rows only if the altered inputs began within past 10 years, and only for the part of the wetland that experiences those.			
Input timing now vs. previously:	Shift of weeks.	Shift of days.	Shift of hours or minutes.
Flashiness or muting:	Became very flashy or controlled.	Intermediate.	Became mildly flashy or controlled.
		Sum=	0.58
S2	Accelerated Inputs of Contaminants and/or Salts	Data	
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of contaminants or salts to the AA. [AM, FA, PH, POL, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills, industrial facilities.</p> <p>Metals & chemical wastes from mining, shooting ranges, snow storage areas, oil/ gas extraction, other sources (download many locations from National Pollutant Release Inventory and view KMZ overlay in Google Earth. https://www.ec.gc.ca/inrp-npri/default.asp?lang=En&n=B85A1846-1</p> <p>Road salt.</p> <p>Spraying of pesticides, as applied to lawns, croplands, roadsides, or other areas in the CA.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly higher levels of contaminants and/or salts, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>			
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)
Usual toxicity of most toxic contaminants:	Industrial effluent, mining waste, unmanaged landfill.	Cropland, managed landfill, pipeline or transmission rights-of-way.	Low density residential.
Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.
AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.
		Sum=	4
		Stressor subscore=	0.44

S3	Accelerated Inputs of Nutrients				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of nutrients to the wetland. [NRv, PRv, STR]</i>				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills.				
	Fertilizers applied to lawns, ag lands, or other areas in the CA.				
	Livestock, dogs.				
	Artificial drainage of upslope lands.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly more nutrients, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Type of loading:	High density of unmaintained septic, some types of industrial sources.	Moderate density septic, cropland, secondary wastewater treatment plant.	Livestock, pets, low density residential.	1
	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	1
	AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	2
					Sum= 4
					Stressor subscore= 0.44
S4	Excessive Sediment Loading from Contributing Area				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the CA that is likely to have elevated the load of waterborne or windborne sediment reaching the wetland from its CA. [FA, FR, INV, PH, SRv, STR]</i>				
	Erosion from plowed fields, fill, timber harvest, dirt roads, vegetation clearing, fires.				
	Erosion from construction, in-channel machinery in the CA.				
	Erosion from off-road vehicles in the CA.				
	Erosion from livestock or foot traffic in the CA.				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent.				
	Sediment from road sanding, gravel mining, other mining, oil/ gas extraction.				
	Accelerated channel downcutting or headcutting of tributaries due to altered land use.				
	Other human-related disturbances within the CA.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points (3, 2, or 1 as shown in header) in the last column. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively add significantly more sediment or suspended solids to the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Erosion in CA:	Extensive evidence, high intensity.*	Potentially (based on high-intensity* land use) or scattered evidence.	Potentially (based on low-intensity* land use) with little or no direct evidence.	1
	Recentness of significant soil disturbance in the CA:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	1
	Duration of sediment inputs to the wetland:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	1
	AA proximity to actual or potential sources:	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m.	In more distant part of contributing area.	2
	* high-intensity= extensive off-road vehicle use, plowing, grading, excavation, erosion with or without veg removal; low-intensity= veg removal only with little or no apparent erosion or disturbance of soil or sediment.				Sum= 5
					Stressor subscore= 0.42

S5	Soil or Sediment Alteration Within the Assessment Area				
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the wetland that is likely to have compacted, eroded, or otherwise altered the wetland's soil. Consider only items occurring within past 100 years or since wetland was created or restored (whichever is less). [CS, INV, NR, PH, SR, STR]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compaction from machinery, off-road vehicles, livestock, or mountain bikes, especially during wetter periods. Leveling or other grading not to the natural contour. Tillage, plowing (but excluding disking for enhancement of native plants). Fill or riprap, excluding small amounts of upland soils containing organic amendments (compost, etc.) or small amounts of topsoil imported from another wetland. Excavation. Ditch cleaning or dredging in or adjacent to the wetland. Boat traffic in or adjacent to the wetland and sufficient to cause shore erosion or stir bottom sediments. Artificial water level or flow manipulations sufficient to cause erosion or stir bottom sediments. <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not measurably alter the soil structure and/or topography, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>					
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
Spatial extent of altered soil:	>95% of wetland or >95% of its upland edge (if any).	5-95% of wetland or 5-95% of its upland edge (if any).	<5% of wetland and <5% of its upland edge (if any).	0	
Recentness of significant soil alteration in wetland:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0	
Duration:	Long-lasting, minimal veg recovery.	Long-lasting but mostly revegetated.	Short-term, revegetated, not intense.	0	
Timing of soil alteration:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Mainly during one-time or scattered events.	0	
			Sum=	0	
			Stressor subscore=	0.00	

Assessment Area (AA) Results:

Wetland ID: WL18

Date: 13 October 2022

Observer: RK BF

Latitude & Longitude (decimal degrees): 45.51330278, 63.58741111

Scores will appear below after data are entered in worksheets OF, F, and S. See Manual for definitions and descriptions of how scores were computed.

Wetland Functions or Other Attributes:	Function Score (Normalised)	Function Rating	Benefits Score (Normalised)	Benefits Rating	Function Score (raw)	Benefits Score (raw)
Water Storage & Delay (WS)	0.98	Lower	7.33	Higher	2.68	3.25
Stream Flow Support (SFS)	8.28	Higher	7.04	Moderate	6.67	4.68
Water Cooling (WC)	4.08	Moderate	3.22	Moderate	2.72	1.75
Sediment Retention & Stabilisation (SR)	3.04	Lower	1.42	Moderate	4.57	0.69
Phosphorus Retention (PR)	4.14	Moderate	5.71	Higher	6.34	4.44
Nitrate Removal & Retention (NR)	3.01	Moderate	5.00	Moderate	4.95	5.00
Carbon Sequestration (CS)	4.10	Moderate			7.14	
Organic Nutrient Export (OE)	8.63	Higher			5.64	
Anadromous Fish Habitat (FA)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Resident Fish Habitat (FR)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Aquatic Invertebrate Habitat (INV)	1.49	Lower	4.24	Moderate	4.10	3.53
Amphibian & Turtle Habitat (AM)	3.60	Moderate	6.99	Higher	5.01	7.52
Waterbird Feeding Habitat (WBF)	6.08	Moderate	10.00	Higher	4.63	10.00
Waterbird Nesting Habitat (WBN)	4.96	Moderate	10.00	Higher	3.60	10.00
Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat (SBM)	9.11	Higher	10.00	Higher	7.93	10.00
Pollinator Habitat (POL)	8.04	Higher	0.00	Lower	6.66	0.00
Native Plant Habitat (PH)	4.06	Moderate	4.86	Lower	5.52	4.86
Public Use & Recognition (PU)			1.52	Moderate		1.34
Wetland Sensitivity (Sens)			8.63	Higher		4.63
Wetland Ecological Condition (EC)			4.78	Moderate		7.50
Wetland Stressors (STR) (higher score means more stress)			6.03	Moderate		3.08
Summary Ratings for Grouped Functions:						
HYDROLOGIC Group (WS)	0.98	Lower	7.33	Higher	2.68	3.25
WATER QUALITY SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SR, PR, NR, CS)	3.86	Moderate	4.88	Moderate	6.44	4.19
AQUATIC SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SFS, INV, OE, WC)	7.12	Higher	5.94	Moderate	5.72	4.00
AQUATIC HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of FA, FR, AM, WBF, WBN)	4.51	Moderate	7.70	Higher	3.83	7.75
TRANSITION HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of SBM, PH, POL)	8.09	Higher	7.48	Moderate	7.31	7.48
WETLAND CONDITION (EC)			4.78	Moderate		7.50
WETLAND RISK (average of Sensitivity & Stressors)			7.33	Higher		3.86

NOTE: A score of 0 does not mean the function or benefit is absent from the wetland. It means only that this wetland has a capacity that is equal or less than the lowest-scoring one, for that function or benefit, from among all the NS calibration wetlands that were assessed previously.

NOVA SCOTIA - Functional WSS Interpretation Tool

Function-Benefit Product (FBP)	FBP SCORE	FBP SCORE CATEGORY
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - HYDROLOGIC	7.16443905	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - WATER QUALITY SUPPORT	18.81200697	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC SUPPORT	42.27955326	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC HABITAT	34.69411544	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - TRANSITION HABITAT	60.4690211	Low

Habitat Rule Satisfied? NO

Support Rule Satisfied? NO

Habitat/Support Hybrid Rule Satisfied? NO

CONCLUSION: Site is not a WSS

Cover Page: Basic Description of Assessment	WESP-AC version 2
Site Name:	Higgins Mountain, WL19
Investigator Name:	Madeline Maher, Rohan Kariyawansa, Matt Stanbrook
Date of Field Assessment:	10 October 2022
Nearest Town:	Masstown
Latitude (decimal degrees):	45.50740833
Longitude (decimal degrees):	63.58568889
Is a map based on a formal on-site wetland delineation available?	Yes
Approximate size of the Assessment Area (AA, in hectares):	0.39
AA as percent of entire wetland (approx.). Attach sketch map if AA is smaller than the entire contiguous wetland.	100
What percent (approx.) of the wetland were you able to visit?	100
What percent (approx.) of the AA were you able to visit?	100
Were you able to ask the site owner/manager about any of the questions?	No
Indicate here if you intentionally surveyed for rare plants, calciphile plants, or rare animals:	Yes
Have you attended a WESP-AC training session? If so, indicate approximate month & year.	October 2022
How many wetlands have you assessed previously using WESP-AC? (approx.)	40
Comments about the site or this WESP-AC assessment (attach extra page if desired):	

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Date: 09 November 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL19		Investigator: Madeline Maher	
2	Form OF (Office). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia wetlands only. DIRECTIONS: Conduct an assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answering many of the questions below will require using these online map viewers: Google Earth Pro: https://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html Provincial Landscape Viewer: https://nsgis.novascotia.ca/plv/ For most wetlands, completing this office data form will require 1-2 hours. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see bracketed abbreviations in the Definitions/Explanations column. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.				
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations
4	OF1	Province	Mark the province in which the AA is located by changing the 0 in the column next to it to a "1". Mark only one.	0	This determines to which province's calibration wetlands the raw score of any wetland is normalised. In the function and benefits models, it also triggers the automatic exclusion of indicators for which no spatial data exists in a particular province.
5			New Brunswick	0	
6			Nova Scotia	1	
7			Prince Edward Island	0	
8			Newfoundland-Labrador	0	
9	OF2	Ponded Area Within 1 km.	The area of surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:	0	"Adjacent" means not separated from the AA by a wide expanse (>50 m) of upland (including roads >50 m wide). Include ponded areas likely to be hidden by wetland vegetation. If surface water extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. Do not include tidal areas. Measure the area from aerial imagery using Google Earth Pro (click on Ruler icon in toolbar, then Polygon in pop-up menu). [PH, SBM, WBN]
10			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	1	
11			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
12			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
13			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
14			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
15			>100 hectares.	0	
16	OF3	Ponded Water & Wetland Within 1 km.	The area of wetlands and surface water ponded during most of the growing season that is both (1) in or adjacent to the AA and (2) within 1 km is:	0	See definition of adjacent in OF2. If the AA's wetland vegetation extends beyond 1 km, include only the part within 1 km. "Ponded" means not flowing in rivers or streams. [Sens, WBF]
17			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
18			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	1	
19			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
20			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
21			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
22			>100 hectares.	0	
23	OF4	Size of Largest Nearby Vegetated Tract or Corridor	The largest vegetated patch or corridor that includes the AA's vegetation plus all adjacent upland vegetation that is not lawn, row crops, heavily grazed lands, conifer plantation is:	0	See definition of adjacent in OF2. Use Google Earth Pro's polygon ruler (as described above). Exclude conifer plantations only if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens]
24			<0.01 hectare (about 10 m x 10 m).	0	
25			0.01 - 0.1 hectare.	0	
26			0.1 - 1 hectare.	0	
27			1 to 10 hectares.	0	
28			10 to 100 hectares.	0	
29			100 to 1000 hectares.	1	
30			>1000 hectares. <i>[This is nearly always the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]</i>	0	

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31	OF5 Distance to Large Vegetated Tract	The minimum distance from the edge of the AA to the edge of the closest vegetated land (but excluding row crops, lawn, conifer plantation) larger than 375 hectares (about 2 km on a side), is:	1	To measure distance, use Google Earth Pro (Ruler > Line tool). The 375-ha criterion is from the Fundy Model Forest Project. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
32		<50 m, and not separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, bare ground, lawn, or impervious surface. Or the AA itself contains >375 ha of vegetation. [This is often the answer in relatively undeveloped landscapes.]		
33		<50 m, but completely separated from the 375-ha vegetated area by those features, and AA does not contain >375 ha of vegetation.		
34		50-500 m, and not separated .		
35		50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
36		0.5 - 5 km, and not separated .		
37		0.5 - 5 km, but separated by those features.		
38		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors which are that large are >5 km away).		
39	OF6 Herbaceous Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 5 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 1 km have <10% herbaceous cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF7. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation cover is >10% herbaceous* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% herbaceous cover. If so, enter "1". [* NOTE: Exclude lawns, row crops, heavily grazed lands, forest, shrublands. Include moss as well as grasslike plants in this use of "herbaceous vegetation"]	0	For this question only, consider moss to be herbaceous vegetation. Determine the score by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth after successively drawing or estimating the boundaries of the buffers of 5 km, 1 km, and 100 m radius focused on the center of the AA. Circles of specified radius can be drawn in Google Earth Pro by clicking on the Ruler icon, then Circle in the pop-up menu. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
40	OF7 Woody Uniqueness	The AA's vegetation cover is >10% woody* but uplands within 5 km have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "3" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 1 km have <10% woody cover. If so enter "2" and continue to OF8. If not, consider: The AA's vegetation is >10% woody* but uplands within 100 m of the wetland edge have <10% woody cover. If so, enter "1" [* NOTE: woody cover = trees & shrubs taller than 1 m.]	0	See above. Do not consider conifer plantations to be forest if it is obvious that trees were planted in rows. [AMv, PHv, POLv, SBMv]
41	OF8 Local Vegetated Cover Percentage	Draw a 5-km radius circle measured from the center of the AA. Ignoring all permanent water in the circle, the percent of the remaining area that is wooded or unmanaged herbaceous vegetation (NOT lawn, row crops, bare or heavily grazed land, clearcuts, or conifer plantations) is:	1	In Google Earth, draw the 5 km buffer and then estimate land cover percentages, or do GIS analysis of an appropriate land cover layer. [AM, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]
42		<5% of the land.		
43		5 to 20% of the land.		
44		20 to 60% of the land.		
45		60 to 90% of the land.		
46		>90% of the land. SKIP to OF10.		
47	OF9 Type of Land Cover Alteration	Within the 5-km radius circle, and ignoring all permanent water, the land area that is bare or non-perennial cover is mostly:	1	[AM, SBM]
48		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.		
49		Bare pervious surface, e.g., lawn, recent (<5 yrs ago) clearcut, dirt or gravel road, cropland, landslide, conifer plantation.		
50	OF10 Distance by Road to Nearest Population Center	Measured along the maintained road nearest the AA, the distance to the nearest population center is:	0	"Population center" means a settled area with more than about 5 regularly- inhabited structures per square kilometer. In Google Earth Pro, click on the Ruler icon, then Path, and draw and measure the route. [FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, WBFv]
51		<100 m.		
52		100 - 500 m.		
53		0.5- 1 km.		
54		1 - 5 km.		
55		>5 km.		

A	B	C	D	E
56	OF11 Distance to Nearest Maintained Road	From the center of the AA, the distance to the nearest maintained public road (dirt or paved) is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth Pro and measuring with the Ruler>Line tool [AM, FAv, FRv, NRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBN]
57		<10 m.		
58		10 - 25 m.		
59		25 - 50 m.		
60		50 - 100 m.		
61		100 - 500 m.		
62		>500 m.		
63	OF12 Wildlife Access	Draw a circle of radius of 5 km from the center of the AA. If mammals and amphibians can move from the center of the AA to ALL other separate wetlands and ponds located within the circle without being forced to cross pavement (any width), lawns, bare ground, and/or marine waters, mark 1= yes can move to all, 0= no. Change to blank if there are no other wetlands within 5 km.	0	Draw the 5 km circle in Google Earth Pro using the Circle tool and search for roads and wetlands within it, being alert for roads hidden under forest canopy. [AM, SBM, STR]
64	OF13 Distance to Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate) ponded water body visible in GoogleEarth imagery is:		In Google Earth Pro, zoom in closely to examine the surrounding landscape for ponds, lakes, and wetlands that appear to be permanently flooded. [AM, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
65		<50 m, and not separated by any width of paved roads, stretches of open water, row crops, lawn, bare ground, or impervious surface.		
66		<50 m, but completely separated by those features.		
67		50-500 m, and not separated.		
68		50-500 m, but separated by those features.		
69		0.5 - 1 km, and not separated.		
70		0.5 - 1 km, but separated by those features.		
71		None of the above (the closest patches or corridors that large are >1 km away).	0	
72	OF14 Distance to Large Ponded Water	The distance from the AA center to the closest (but separate)non-tidal body of water that is ponded during most of the year and is larger than 8 hectares during most of a normal year is:		Determine this by viewing aerial imagery in Google Earth. [Sens, WBF, WBN]
73		<100 m.		
74		100 m - 1 km.		
75		1-2 km.		
76		2-5 km.		
77		5-10 km.		
78		>10 km.		
79	OF15 Tidal Proximity	The distance from the AA edge to the closest tidal water body (regardless of its salinity) is:		In Google Earth, measure the distance to the ocean (including Bay of Fundy) or tidal river, whichever is closer. If you need to see how far upriver a river is tidal, see the KMZ file provided with this calculator for NS (NS Headtide). Points shown in those files are only an approximation, so local information if available may be preferable. [FA, WBF]
80		<100 m.		
81		100 m - 1 km.		
82		1 - 5 km.		
83		5-10 km.		
84		10-40 km.		
85		>40 km.		
86	OF16 Upland Edge Contact	Select one:		[NR, SBM, Sens]
87		The AA has no upland edge (or upland is <1% of perimeter). The AA is entirely surrounded by (& contiguous with) other wetlands or water.		
88		1-25% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland (including filled areas). The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
89		25-50% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
90		50-75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. The rest adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA.		
91		More than 75% of the AA's perimeter abuts upland. Any remainder adjoins other wetlands or water that is mostly wider than the AA. This will be true for most assessments done with WESP-AC.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
92	OF17 Flood Damage from Non-tidal Waters	Within 5 km downstream or downslope of the AA (select first true choice):	0	Contact local authorities to determine if such maps exist. Where available, LiDAR imagery can provide finer elevational resolution useful for flood modeling. [WSv]
93		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding not caused by tidal storm surges.		
94		Maps show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas, but infrastructure is absent or is not vulnerable to floods from a non-tidal river. In some cases levees, upriver dams, or other measures may partly limit damage or risk from smaller events.		
95		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there appears to be infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
96		Maps do not show Flood Zone or Flood Risk areas (or no such mapping has been done locally) and there is no infrastructure vulnerable to river flooding unrelated to tidal storm surges.		
97	OF18 Relative Elevation in Watershed	In Google Earth, enable the Terrain layer (lower left menu) and open the NS_Watersheds Secondary KMZ file that accompanies this calculator. Then determine the AA's approximate elevation (bottom right, NOT the "eye alt"). Then move cursor around to determine the watershed's maximum and minimum elevation. Divide the AA's elevation by the (max-min).	0.76	[FA, NR, Sens, SFSv, WCv, WSv]
98	OF19 Water Quality Sensitive Watershed or Area	The AA is in a Protected Water Supply area (Designated Water Supply Area, Natural Watershed Municipal Surface Water Supply Area, or Municipal Water Supply Area) according to the provided KMZ overlay ("NS Protected Water Supply Areas"). Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	If an ACCDC report is available for this AA, it also may contain such information. [NRv]
99	OF20 Degraded Water Upstream	Sampling indicates a problem with concentrations of metals, hydrocarbons, nutrients, or other substances (excluding bacteria, acidic water, high temperatures) being present at levels harmful to aquatic life or humans, and:	0	May use existing data, or sample those waters as part of this wetland assessment. "Harmful" should be evaluated with regard to current federal or provincial water quality standards. [AM, FA, FR, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WBF, WBN]
100		The condition is present within the AA.		
101		The condition is present in waters within 1 km that flow into the AA, but has not been documented in the AA itself.		
102		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
103		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
104	OF21 Degraded Water Downstream	The problem described above is downslope from the AA, and:	0	May use existing data, or monitor waters as part of this wetland assessment. [NRv, PRv, SRv]
105		The condition is present within 1 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel.		
106		The condition is present within 5 km downslope and connected to the AA by a channel, or within 1 km but not connected to the AA by a channel.		
107		Sampling during both low water periods and times with high runoff (storms, snowmelt) indicates no problems in either the AA or inflowing waters.		
108		Data are insufficient (no or inadequate sampling within 1 km, or condition exists only at >1 km upstream). This is the situation for nearly all wetlands in this region.		
109	OF22 Wetland as a % of Its Contributing Area (Catchment)	From a topographic map and field observations, estimate the approximate boundaries of the catchment (CA) of the entire wetland of which the AA may be only a part. Then adjust those boundaries if necessary based on your field observations of the surrounding terrain, and/or by using procedures described in the Manual. Divide the area of the wetland (not just the AA) by the approximate area of its catchment excluding the area of the wetland itself. When doing the calculation, if ponded water is adjacent to the wetland, include that in the wetland area. The result is:	0	Topographic maps may be viewed online at the National Atlas of Canada (Toporama): http://atlas.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html [NR, PR, Sens, SR, WS]
110		<0.01, or catchment size unknown due to stormwater pipes that collect water from an indeterminate area.		
111		0.01 to 0.1.		
112		0.1 to 1.		
113		>1 (wetland is larger than its catchment (e.g., wetland with flat surrounding terrain and no inlet, or is entirely isolated by dikes, or is a raised bog)).		
114	OF23 Unvegetated Surface in the Contributing Area	The proportion of the AA's contributing area (measured to no more than 1000 m upslope) that is comprised of buildings, roads, parking lots other pavement, exposed bedrock, landslides, and other mostly-bare surface is about :	0	[FA, INV, NRv, PRv, SRv, STR, WCv, WSv]
115		<10%.		
116		10 to 25%.		
117		>25%.		

A	B	C	D	E
118	OF24	Transport From Upslope A relatively large proportion of the precipitation that falls farther upslope in the CA reaches this wetland quickly as runoff (surface water), as indicated by the following: (a) input channel is present, (b) input channels have been straightened, (c) upslope wetlands have been ditched extensively, (d) land cover is mostly non-forest, (e) CA slopes are steep, and/or (f) most CA soils are shallow (bedrock near surface) and/or have high runoff coefficients. This statement is:		[NRv, PRv, SRv, WSv]
119		Mostly true.	0	
120		Somewhat true.	0	
121		Mostly untrue.	1	
122	OF25	Aspect The overland flow direction of most surface water (in streams, rivers, or runoff) that enters the AA is:		[AM, NR, SFS, WC, WS]
123		Northward (N, NE). north-facing contributing area.	0	
124		Southward (S, SW). south-facing contributing area.	0	
125		Other (E, SE, W, NW), or no detectable uphill slope or input channel (flat).	1	
126	OF26	Internal Flow Distance (Path Length) The horizontal flow distance from the wetland's inlet to outlet is:		Identify inlets and outlets, if any, from topographic maps (use elevations to determine which are inlets and which are outlets) and augment by field inspection. With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, select Nova Scotia Topo as the Basemap. Also enable the layer Forestry>WAM Predicted Flow. Then measure the inlet-outlet distance. [NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
127		<10 m.	0	
128		10 - 50 m.	0	
129		50 - 100 m.	0	
130		100 - 1000 m.	0	
131		1-2 km.	0	
132		>2 km, or wetland lacks an inlet and outlet.	1	
133	OF27	Growing Degree Days In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called NS_GrowingDegreeDays. Place your cursor over the AA and left-click. From the pop-up window, enter the GRIDCODE number in the next column.	1821	This layer was provided by Dr. Dan McKenney of the Canadian Forest Service [AM, CS, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WCv, WS]
134	OF28	Fish Access or Use According to agency biologists and/or your own observations, the AA. [Mark just the first choice that is true.]:		Regarding the last choice, if uncertain if an AA is fishless, consider the possibility its waters have been stocked. [AM, FA, FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
135		Is known to support rearing and/or spawning by Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels. Go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife>Significant Habitat>Species at Risk. Contact local fishery biologists, review the ACCDC report, and visit these websites: http://www.salmontlas.com/atlanticsalmon/canada-east/index.1.html http://atlanticssalmofederation.org/rivers/introduction.html	0	
136		Has not been documented to support Atlantic salmon rearing and/or spawning, but is connected to nearby waters likely to contain Atlantic salmon or other anadromous species or eels and is probably accessed by those during some conditions.	0	
137		Is probably not accessed by any anadromous fish species but is known or likely to have other fish at least seasonally.	0	
138		Is known or likely to be fishless (e.g., too small, dry, and/or not accessible even temporarily, and not stocked).	1	
139	OF29	Species of Conservation Concern Within the past 10 years, in the AA (or in its adjoining waters or wetland), qualified observers have documented [mark all applicable]:		Request information from ACCDC and/or conduct your own survey at an appropriate season using an approved protocol. For birds, also check eBird.org. NOTE for NS: If your WESP-AC is being completed for a Wetland Alteration Application to NS-ECC, your ACCDC results and any taxon-specific survey results must be submitted along with your WESP-AC results, and application. [AMv, EC, PHv, POLv, SBMv, Sens, WBFv, WBNv]
140		Presence of one or more of the plant species listed in the Plants_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, or the AA is within a mapped Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora Buffer (go to Provincial Landscape Viewer>Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones).	0	
141		Presence of one or more of the amphibian or reptile species (AM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
142		Presence of one or more of the waterbird species (WBF, WBN) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file.	0	
143		Presence of one or more of the nesting songbird or raptor species (SBM) of conservation concern as listed in the Wildlife_Rare worksheet of the accompanying SupplInfo file, during their nesting season (May-July for most species).	0	
144		None of the above, or no data.	1	

	A	B	C	D	E
145	OF30 Important Bird Area (IBA)	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called IBAs_Canada . The AA is all or part of an officially designated IBA. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.		0	The source of this layer, which should be checked periodically for updates, is: http://www.ibacanada.com/mapviewer.jsp?lang=EN [SBMv, WBFv, WBNv]
146	OF31 Black Duck Nesting Area	In Google Earth, open the KMZ file that accompanies this calculator, called BlackDuck. Adjust its alignment and opacity. Determine the predicted density (pairs per 25 sq. km) of nesting American Black Duck in the AA's vicinity: <10 (enter 0), 10-20 (enter 1), 20-30 (enter 2), >30 (enter 3). If outside of region shown in map, change to blank.		0	This was provided by Dr. David Leske. [WBNv]
147	OF32 Wintering Deer or Moose Concentration Areas	If AA is on private land with no information, change to blank (not 0). Otherwise: With the Provincial Landscape Viewer, for Wintering Moose, go to Wildlife> Significant Habitat. For Mainland Moose Concentration Areas, go to Wildlife> Special Management Practice Zones. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0.		0	[SBM]
148	OF33 Other Conservation Designation	The AA is all or part of an area designated by government, First Nations, or the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) for its exceptional ecological features or highly intact natural conditions. With Provincial Landscape Viewer, see Protected Areas. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If uncertain, consult NCC and agencies for more recent information.		0	See: https://novascotia.ca/parksandprotectedareas/plan/interactive-map/ [PU]
149	OF34 Conservation Investment	The AA is part of or contiguous to a wetland on which public or private organizational funds were spent to preserve, create, restore, or enhance the wetland (excluding mitigation wetlands). Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank (not 0).		0	[PU]
150	OF35 Mitigation Investment	The AA is all or part of a mitigation site used explicitly to offset impacts elsewhere. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.			[PU]
151	OF36 Sustained Scientific Use	Plants, animals, or water in the AA have been monitored for >2 years, unrelated to any regulatory requirements, and data are available to the public. Or the AA is part of an area that has been designated by an agency or institution as a benchmark, reference, or status-trends monitoring area. Ask the property owner. Enter: yes= 1, no= 0. If no information, change to blank.			[PU]
152	OF37 Calcareous Region	The AA is NOT in a subregion that has been heavily exposed to acid precipitation. Enter "1" if true (green or yellow in map in Appendix A of the Manual). Enter "0" if false. If no information, change to blank.			[AM, FA, FR, INV, PH]
153	OF38 Ownership	Select the ONE ownership that covers the most of the AA. In Google Earth, open KMZ file called NS_CrownlandsUse more recent information if available.			"Private lands" may include those owned or leased by non-governmental organizations, e.g., charitable conservation land trusts, DUC, TNC. [PU, STR]
154		New timber harvest, roads, mineral extraction, and intensive summer recreation (e.g., off-road vehicles) are permanently prohibited. Includes many publicly-owned Protected Lands, and private lands under long-term (30+ year) legal agreements to maintain nearly-unaltered conditions.		0	
155		Ownership is public (e.g., municipal, Crown Reservations/Notations) but some or all of the above activities are allowed.		0	
156		Ownership is private but public access is allowed, and/or a shorter-term conservation easement (whether renewable or not) is in place.		0	
157		Ownership is private and owner does not allow access, or access permission unknown, and not a conservation easement.		0	

	A	B	C	D	E		
1	Date: 10 October 2022	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL19		Investigator: Rohan Kariyawansa, Matt Stanbrook			
2	Form F (Field). Non-tidal Wetland Data Form. WESP-AC version 2 for Nova Scotia. DIRECTIONS: Walk for no less than 10 minutes from the wetland edge towards its core, in the part of the AA that is proposed for alteration. If no alteration is proposed, walk in a portion that appears to be most representative of the wetland overall. Walk only where it is safe and legal to do so. Conduct the assessment only after reading the accompanying Manual and the Explanations column of the data form. In the Data column, change the 0 (false) to a 1 (true) for the best choice, or for multiple choices where allowed and so indicated. Answer these questions primarily based on your onsite observations and interpretations. Do not write in shaded parts of this data form. Answering some questions accurately may require conferring with the landowner or other knowledgeable persons, and/or reviewing aerial imagery. For most wetlands, completing this field data form will require 1-2 hours on a site. For a list of functions to which each question pertains, see the accompanying Interpretations form. For detailed descriptions of each WESP-AC model, see Appendix B of the accompanying Manual. Codes for functions and values are: WS= Water Storage & Delay, SFS= Stream Flow Support, WC= Water Cooling, SR= Sediment Retention & Stabilisation, PR= Phosphorus Retention, NR= Nitrate Removal, CS= Carbon Sequestration, OE= Organic Nutrient Export, INV= Invertebrate Habitat, FA= Anadromous Fish Habitat, FR= Resident Fish Habitat, AM= Amphibian & Reptile Habitat, WBF= Feeding Waterbird Habitat, WBN= Nesting Waterbird Habitat, SBM= Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat, POL= Pollinator Habitat, PH= Native Plant Habitat, PU= Public Use & Recognition, EC= Ecological Condition, Sen= Wetland Sensitivity, STR= Stressors.						
3	#	Indicators	Condition Choices	Data	Definitions/Explanations		
4	F1	Wetland Type	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the vegetated part of the AA:		Ericaceous shrubs are ones in the heather family (Ericaceae). Most have leathery evergreen leaves. They include rhododendron, azalea, swamp laurel, leatherleaf, Labrador tea, and others. Most require acidic soil. Although not in the family Ericaceae, sweetgale (<i>Myrica gale</i>) should be counted also. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, Sens, SFS, WBF, WBN]		
5	A. Moss and/or lichen cover more than 25% of the ground. Often dominated by ericaceous shrubs (e.g., Labrador tea) or other acid-tolerant plants (e.g., bog cranberry, pitcher plant, sundew, orchids). Substrate is mostly undecomposed peat. Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.						
6	A1. Surface water is usually absent or, if present, pH is typically <4.5 and conductivity is usually <100 µS/cm (<64 ppm TDS). Trees are absent or nearly so. Sedge cover usually sparse or absent but cottongrass and/or lichen cover may be extensive, as well as cloudberry, lingonberry, sheep laurel, and a sedge (<i>Carex rariflora</i>). Wetland surface and surrounding landscape are seldom sloping and wetland often is domed (convex). Inlet and outlet channels are usually absent. If known, pH of peat is <4.0.		1				
7	A2. Not A1. Surface water, if present, has pH typically >4.5 and conductivity is usually >100 µS/cm (>64 ppm TDS). Sedge cover is usually extensive, and/or tree and tall shrub cover is extensive. Sometimes at toe of slope or edge of water body. An exit channel is usually present. Wetter than A1 and peat depth may be shallower (<2 m).		0				
8	B. Moss and/or lichen cover less than 25% of the ground. Soil is mineral or decomposed organic (muck). Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in their adjoining column:						
9	B1. Trees and shrubs taller than 1 m comprise more than 25% of the vegetated cover. Surface water is mostly absent or inundates the vegetation only seasonally (e.g., vernal pools or floodplain).		0				
10	B2. Not B1. Tree & tall shrubs comprise less than than 25% of the vegetated cover. Vegetation is mostly herbaceous, e.g., cattail, bulrush, burreed, pond lily, horsetail. Surface water may be extensive and fluctuates seasonally, being either persistent or drying up partly or entirely.		0				
11	Reminder: For all questions, the AA should include all persistent waters in ponds smaller than 8 hectares (~283 m on a side) that are adjacent to the AA. The AA should also include part of the water area of adjacent ponded water larger than 8 ha and adjacent rivers wider than 20 m. Specifically, the AA should include the open water part adjacent to wetland vegetation and equal in width to the average width of that vegetated zone. Throughout this data form, " adjacent " is used synonymously with abutting , adjoining , bordering , contiguous -- and means no upland (manmade or natural) completely separates the described features along their directly shared edge. Features joined only by a channel are not necessarily considered to be adjacent -- a large portion of their edges must match. The features do not have to be hydrologically connected in order to be considered adjacent.						
12	F2		Wetland Types - Adjoining or Subordinate	If the AA is smaller than 1 ha, mark all other types that occupy more than 1% of the vegetated AA. If the AA is larger than 1 ha, mark all other types which are within or adjacent to the AA and occupy more than 1 ha, as visible from the AA or as interpreted from aerial imagery. Do not mark again the type marked in F1.			1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, INV, SBM, WBF]
13	A1.			0			
14	A2.	0					
15	B1.	1					
16	B2.	0					

A	B	C	D	E	
17	F3 Woody Height & Form Diversity	Following EACH row below, indicate with a number code the percentage of the living vegetation in the AA which is occupied by that feature (6 if >95%, 5 if 75-95%, 4 if 50-75%, 2 if 25-50%, 1 if 5-25%, 0 if none). If the vegetated part of the AA is largely herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation, these percentages should not sum to 100%.		Deciduous shrubs in this region usually include buttonbush, Labrador tea, bayberry (<i>Morella</i>), huckleberry, cranberry, cloudberry, sweetgale, alder, willow, birch, ash, dogwood, and a few others. If you assigned a code of 3 or higher to any of the first four choices and the ground cover beneath the trees/shrubs is <25% moss, then question F1 might be "B1". [CS, INV, NR, PH, POL, SBM, Sens]	
18		coniferous trees (may include tamarack) taller than 3 m.		0	
19		deciduous trees taller than 3 m.		0	
20		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.		0	
21		deciduous shrubs or trees 1-3 m tall not directly below the canopy of trees.		1	
22		coniferous or ericaceous shrubs <1 m tall not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.		0	
23		deciduous shrubs or trees <1 m tall (e.g., deciduous seedlings) not directly below the canopy of taller vegetation.		0	
24		Note : If none of top 4 rows in F3 was marked 2 or greater, SKIP to F9 (N fixers).			
25		Determine which two woody plant species comprise the greatest portion of the low (<3 m) woody cover . Then choose one:		[PH, POL, SBM, Sens]	
26	F4 Dominance of Most Abundant Shrub Species	those species together comprise > 50% of such cover.	1		
27		those species together do not comprise > 50% of such cover.			
28	F5 Woody Diameter Classes	Mark ALL the types that comprise >5% of the woody canopy cover in the AA or >5% of the wooded areas (if any) along its upland edge (perimeter) . The edge should include only the trees whose canopies extend into the AA.		Estimate the diameters at chest height. If small-diameter trees are overtopped (shaded) by larger ones, visualise a "subcanopy" at the average height of the smaller-dbh trees, to serve as a basis for the minimum 5% canopy requirement in this question. The trees and shrubs need not be wetland species. [AM, CS, POL, SBM, Sens, WBN]	
29		coniferous, 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall.			
30		broad-leaved deciduous 1-9 cm diameter and >1 m tall.			
31		coniferous, 10-19 cm diameter.			
32		broad-leaved deciduous 10-19 cm diameter.			
33		coniferous, 20-40 cm diameter.			
34		broad-leaved deciduous 20-40 cm diameter.			
35		coniferous, >40 cm diameter.			
36		broad-leaved deciduous >40 cm diameter.			
37	F6 Height Class Interspersion	Follow the key below and mark the ONE row that best describes MOST of the AA:		[AM, INV, NR, PH, SBM, Sens]	
38		A. Neither the vegetation taller than 1 m nor the vegetation shorter than that comprise >70% of the vegetated part of the AA. They each comprise 30-70% . Choose between A1 and A2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column. Otherwise go to B below.			
39		A1. The two height classes are mostly scattered and intermixed throughout the AA.	1		
40		A2. Not A1. The two height classes are mostly in separate zones or bands, or in proportionately large clumps.			
41		B. Either the vegetation shorter than 1 m comprises >70% of the vegetated part of the AA, or the vegetation taller than that does. One size class might even be totally absent. Choose between B1 and B2 and mark the choice with a 1 in the adjoining column:	0		
42		B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly scattered and intermixed within the prevalent one.			
43		B2. Not B1. The less prevalent height class is mostly located apart from the prevalent one, in separate zones or clumps, or is completely absent.			
44	F7 Large Snags (Dead Standing Trees)	The number of large snags (diameter >20 cm) in the AA plus adjacent upland area within 10 m of the wetland edge is:		Snags are dead standing trees that often (not always) lack bark and foliage. Include only ones that are at least 2 m tall. [POL, SBM, WBN]	
45		None, or fewer than 8/ hectare which exceed this diameter.			
46		Several (>8/hectare) and a pond, lake, or slow-flowing water wider than 10 m is within 1 km.			
47		Several (>8/hectare) but above not true.			
48	F8 Downed Wood	The number of downed wood pieces longer than 2 m and with diameter >10 cm, and not persistently submerged, is:		Exclude temporary "burn piles." [AM, INV, POL, SBM]	
49		Few or none that meet these criteria.			
50		Several (>5 if AA is >5 hectares, less for smaller AAs) meet these criteria.			
51	F9 N Fixers	The percentage of the AA's vegetated cover that contains nitrogen-fixing plants (e.g., alder, sweetgale, clover, lupine, alfalfa, other legumes) is:		Do not include N-fixing algae or lichens. [FA, FR, INV, NRv, OE, PH, SBM, Sens]	
52		<1% or none.			
53		1-25% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).			
54		25-50% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).			
55		50-75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).			
56		>75% of the vegetated cover, in the AA or along its water edge (whichever has more).			

A	B	C	D	E
F10 57 58 59 60 61 62	Sphagnum Moss Extent	The cover of Sphagnum moss (or any moss that forms a dense cushion many centimeters thick), including the moss obscured by taller sedges and other plants rooted in it, is:		Exclude moss growing on trees and rocks. [CS, PH]
		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	1	
		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
F11 63 64 65 66 67 68	% Bare Ground & Thatch	Consider the parts of the AA that lack surface water at the driest time of the growing season. Viewed from directly above the ground layer, the predominant condition in those areas at that time is:		Thatch is dead plant material (stems, leaves) resting on the ground surface. Bare ground that is present under a tree or shrub canopy should be counted. Boulders count as bare ground. Wetlands with mineral soils and that are heavily shaded or are dominated by annual plant species tend to have more extensive areas that are bare during the early growing season. [AM, EC, INV, NR, OE, POL, PR, SBM, Sens]
		Little or no (<5%) bare ground is visible between erect stems or under canopy anywhere in the vegetated AA. Ground is extensively blanketed by dense thatch, moss, lichens, graminoids with great stem densities, or plants with ground-hugging foliage.	1	
		Slightly bare ground (5-20% bare between plants) is visible in places, but those areas comprise less than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
		Much bare ground (20-50% bare between plants) is visible in places, and those areas comprise more than 5% of the unflooded parts of the AA.	0	
		Other conditions.	0	
		Not applicable. Surface water (either open or obscured by emergent plants) covers all of the AA all the time.	0	
F12 69 70 71 72	Ground Irregularity	Imagine the AA without any living vegetation. Excluding the portion of the AA that is always under water, the number of hummocks, small pits, raised mounds, animal burrows, ruts, gullies, natural levees, microdepressions, and other areas of peat or mineral soil that are raised or depressed >10 cm compared to most of the area within a few meters surrounding them is:		The depressions may be of human or natural origin. [AM, EC, INV, NR, PH, POL, PR, SBM, SR, WS]
		Few or none (minimal microtopography; <1% of the land has such features, or entire AA is always water-covered).	0	
		Intermediate.	0	
		Several (extensive micro-topography).	1	
F13 73 74 75 76	Upland Inclusions	Within the AA, inclusions of upland are:		[AM, NR, SBM]
		Few or none.	1	
		Intermediate (1 - 10% of vegetated part of the AA).	0	
		Many (e.g., wetland-upland "mosaic", >10% of the vegetated AA).	0	
F14 77 78 79 80 81 82	Soil Texture	In parts of the AA that lack persistent water, the texture of soil in the uppermost layer is mostly: [To determine this, use a trowel to check in at least 3 widely spaced locations, and use the soil texture key (in Appendix A of the Manual).]		[CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, WS]
		Loamy: soils that may contain a little fine grit and do not make a "ribbon" longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
		Fines: includes silt, clay, silt, soils that make a ribbon longer than 2 cm when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	1	
		Deep Peat, to 40 cm depth or greater.	0	
		Shallow Peat or organic <40 cm deep.	0	
		Coarse: includes sand, loamy sand, gravel, cobble, soils that do not make a ribbon when moistened, rolled, squeezed, and extended between thumb and forefinger.	0	
F15 83 84 85 86 87	Shorebird Feeding Habitats	During any 2 consecutive weeks of the growing season, the extent of mudflats, bare unshaded saturated areas not covered by thatch, and unshaded waters shallower than 6 cm is: [Include also any area that is adjacent to the AA.]		This addresses needs of many but not all migratory sandpipers, plovers, and related species. [WBF]
		None, or <100 sq. m.	1	
		100-1000 sq. m.	0	
		1000 – 10,000 sq. m.	0	
		>10,000 sq. m.	0	
F16 88 89 90 91 92 93	Herbaceous % of Vegetated Wetland	In aerial ("ducks eye") view, the maximum annual cover of herbaceous vegetation (all non-woody plants except moss) is:		[AM, WBF, WBN]
		<5% of the vegetated part of the AA or <0.01 hectare (whichever is less). Mark "1" here and SKIP to F20 (Invasive Plant Cover).	1	
		5-25% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		25-50% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		50-95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	
		>95% of the vegetated part of the AA.	0	

A	B	C	D	E
94	F17 Forb Cover	Within parts of the AA having herbaceous cover (excluding SAV), the areal cover of forbs reaches an annual maximum of:		Forbs are flowering plants. Do not include grasses, sedges, cattail, other graminoids, ferns, horsetails, or others that lack showy flowers. [POL]
95		<5% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		0
96		5-25% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		0
97		25-50% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		0
98		50-95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		0
99		>95% of the herbaceous part of the AA.		0
100	F18 Sedge Cover	Sedges (<i>Carex</i> spp.) and cottongrass (<i>Eriophorum</i> spp.) occupy:	[CS]	
101		<5% of the vegetated area, or none.		0
102		5-50% of the vegetated area.		0
103		50-95% of the vegetated area.		0
104		>95% of the vegetated area.		0
105	F19 Dominance of Most Abundant Herbaceous Species	Determine which two herbaceous species comprise the greatest portion of the herbaceous cover (excluding mosses and floating-leaved aquatic plants). Then choose one of the following:		For this question, include ferns as well as graminoids and forbs. [EC, INV, PH, POL, Sens]
106		those species together comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		0
107		those species together do not comprise > 50% of the areal cover of herbaceous plants at any time during the year.		0
108	F20 Invasive Plant Cover	How extensive is the cover of invasive plant species in the AA? For species, see Plants_invasive worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file.	[EC, PH, POL, Sens]	
109		invasive species appear to be absent in the AA, or are present only in trace amount (a few individuals).		
110		invasive species are present in more than trace amounts, but comprise <5% of herbaceous cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
111		invasive species comprise 5-20% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
112		invasive species comprise 20-50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
113		invasive species comprise >50% of the herb cover (or woody cover, if the invasives are woody).		
114		Along the wetland-upland boundary, the percent of the upland edge (within 3 m upslope from the wetland) that is occupied by invasive plant species is:		
115	F21 Invasive Cover Along Upland Edge	none of the upland edge (invasives apparently absent), or AA has no upland edge.	1	If a plant cannot be identified to species (e.g., winter conditions) but its genus contains an exotic species, assume the unidentified plant to also be exotic. If vegetation is so senesced that exotic species cannot be identified, answer "none". [PH, STR]
116		some (but <5%) of the upland edge.	0	
117		5-50% of the upland edge.	0	
118		most (>50%) of the upland edge.	0	
119	F22 Fringe Wetland	During most of the year, open water within or adjacent to the vegetated part of the wetland is much wider than the maximum width of the vegetated zone within the wetland. Enter "1" if true, "0" if false.	0	[WBF, WBN, WCv]
120	F23 Lacustrine Wetland	The vegetated part of the AA is within or adjacent to a body of non-tidal standing open water whose size exceeds 8 hectares during most of a normal year.	0	[FR, PR, PU, WBF, WBN]
121	F24 % of AA Without Surface Water	The percentage of the AA that never contains <u>surface</u> water during an average year (that is, except perhaps for a few hours after snowmelt or rainstorms), but which is still a wetland, is:	1 hectare is 10,000 sq. m or about 2.5 acres. It could have dimensions of 100 m by 100 m, 1000 m by 10 m, or similar. [AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SRv, WBF, WBN, WC]	
122		<1%. In other words, all or nearly all of the AA is covered by water permanently or at least seasonally.		
123		1-25% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha never contains surface water.		
124		25-50% of the AA never contains surface water.		
125		50-75% of the AA never contains surface water.		
126		75-99% of the AA never contains surface water, OR >99% and there is at least one persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha in the AA.		
127		99-100%. AND there is no persistently ponded water body larger than 1 ha within the AA. Enter "1" and SKIP to F42 (Channel Connection) .	1	

A	B	C	D	E
128	F25	% of AA with Persistent Surface Water	Identify the parts of the AA that still contain surface water (flowing or ponded, open or hidden beneath vegetation) even during the driest times of a normal year, i.e., when the AA's surface water is at its lowest annual level. At that time, the percentage of the AA that still contains surface water is:	If you are unable to determine the condition at the driest time of year, ask the land owner or neighbors about it if possible. Indicators of persistence may include fish, some dragonflies, beaver, and muskrat. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, POL, PR, SBM, WBF, WBN]
129			None. The AA dries up completely (no water in channels either) or never has surface water during most years. SKIP to F27.	0
130			1-20% of the AA.	0
131			20-50% of the AA.	0
132			50-95% of the AA.	0
133			>95% of the AA. True for many fringe wetlands.	0
134	F26	% of Summertime Water that Is Shaded	At mid-day during the warmest time of year, the area of surface water <u>within</u> the AA that is shaded by vegetation and other features <u>that are within</u> the AA at that time is:	[FA, WC]
135			<5% of the water is shaded, or no surface water is present then.	0
136			5-25% of the water is shaded.	0
137			25-50% of the water is shaded.	0
138			50-75% of the water is shaded.	0
139			>75% of the water is shaded.	0
140	F27	% of AA that is Flooded Only Seasonally	The percentage of the AA's area that is between the annual high water and the annual low water (surface water) is:	Flood marks (algal mats, adventitious roots, debris lines, ice scour, etc.) are often evident when not fully inundated. Also, such areas often have a larger proportion of upland and annual (vs. perennial) plant species. In riverine systems, the extent of this zone can be estimated by multiplying by 2 the bankfull height and visualising where that would intercept the land along the river. [CS, FA, INV, NR, OE, PH, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
141			None, or <0.01 hectare and <1% of the AA. SKIP to F29.	0
142			1-20% of the AA, or <1% but >0.01 ha.	0
143			20-50% of the AA.	0
144			50-95% of the AA.	0
145			>95% of the AA.	0
146	F28	Annual Water Fluctuation Range	The annual fluctuation in surface water level within most of the parts of the AA that contain surface water at least temporarily is:	Look for flood marks (see above). Because the annual range of water levels is difficult to estimate without multiple visits, consider asking the land owner or neighbors about it. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SR, WBN, WS]
147			<10 cm change (stable or nearly so).	0
148			10 cm - 50 cm change.	0
149			0.5 - 1 m change.	0
150			1-2 m change.	0
151			>2 m change.	0
152		Is the AA plus adjacent ponded water smaller than 0.01 hectare (about 10m x 10m, or 1m x 100 m)? If so, enter "1" in column D and SKIP TO F42 (Connection).		0
153	F29	Predominant Depth Class	During most of the time when surface water is present during the growing season, its depth, averaged over the entire inundated part of the AA, is:	If a boat is unavailable, estimate this by considering wetland size and local topography. Or if timing and safety allow, depths may be measured by drilling through winter ice. This question is asking about the spatial median depth that occurs during most of that time, even if inundation is only seasonal or temporary. If inundation in most but not all of the wetland is brief, the answer will be based on the depth of the most persistently inundated part of the wetland. Include surface water in channels and ditches as well as ponded areas. [CS, FA, FR, INV, OE, PH, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
154			<10 cm deep (but >0).	0
155			10 - 50 cm deep.	0
156			0.5 - 1 m deep.	0
157			1 - 2 m deep.	0
158			>2 m deep. True for many fringe wetlands.	0
159	F30	Depth Classes - Evenness of Proportions	When present, surface water in most of the AA usually consists of (select one):	Estimate these proportions by considering the gradient and microtopography of the site. [FR, INV, WBF, WBN]
160			One depth class that comprises >90% of the AA's inundated area (use the classes in the question above).	0
161			One depth class that comprises 50-90% of the AA's inundated area.	0
162			Neither of above. There are 3 or more depth classes and none occupy >50%.	0
163	F31	% of Water That Is Ponded (not Flowing)	During most times when surface water is present, the percentage that is (1) ponded (stagnant, or flows so slowly that fine sediment is not held in suspension) AND (2) is likely to be deeper than 0.5 m in some places, is:	Nearly all wetlands with surface water have some ponded water. [AM, CS, INV, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, WBF, WBN, WC, WS]
164			<5% of the water, or it occupies <100 sq.m cumulatively. Nearly all the surface water is flowing. SKIP to F34.	0
165			5-30% of the water.	0
166			30-70% of the water.	0
167			70-95% of the water.	0
168			>95% of the water.	0

	A	B	C	D	E
169	F32	Ponded Open Water - Minimum Size	During most of the growing season, the largest patch of open water that is ponded and is in or bordering the AA is >0.01 hectare (about 10 m by 10 m) and mostly deeper than 0.5 m. If true enter "1" and continue. If false, enter "0" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	Open water is not obscured by vegetation in aerial ("duck's eye") view. It includes vegetation floating on the water surface or entirely submerged beneath it.
170	F33	% of Ponded Water that is Open	In ducks-eye aerial view, the percentage of the ponded water that is open (lacking emergent vegetation during most of the growing season, and unhidden by a forest or shrub canopy) is:		[AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WC]
171			None, or <1% of the AA and largest pool occupies <0.01 hectares. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
172			14% of the ponded water. Enter "1" and SKIP to F41 (Floating Algae & Duckweed).	0	
173			5-30% of the ponded water.	0	
174			30-70% of the ponded water.	0	
175			70-99% of the ponded water.	0	
176			100% of the ponded water.	0	
177	F34	Width of Vegetated Zone within Wetland	At the time during the growing season when the AA's water level is lowest, the average width of vegetated area <u>in the AA</u> that separates adjoining uplands from open water within the AA is:		"Vegetated area" does not include underwater or floating-leaved plants, i.e., aquatic bed. Width may include wooded riparian areas if they have wetland soil or plant indicators. [AM, CS, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, Sens, SR, WBN]
178			<1 m.	0	
179			1 - 9 m.	0	
180			10 - 29 m.	0	
181			30 - 49 m.	0	
182			50 - 100 m.	0	
183			> 100 m, or open water is absent at that time.	0	
184	F35	Flat Shoreline Extent	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the percentage of the AA's water edge length that is nearly flat (a slope less than about 5% measured within 5 m landward of the water) is:		If several isolated pools are present in early summer, estimate the percent of their collective shorelines that has such a gentle slope. [SR, WBN]
185			<1% of the water edge.	0	
186			1-25% of the water edge.	0	
187			25-50% of the water edge.	0	
188			50-75% of the water edge.	0	
189			>75% of the water edge.	0	
190	F36	Robust Emergents	The percentage of the emergent vegetation cover in the AA that is cattail (<i>Typha</i> spp.), common reed (<i>Phragmites</i>), or tall (>1m) bulrush is:		Emergent vegetation is herbaceous plants whose stems are partly above and partly below the water surface during most of the time water is present. [WBN]
191			<1% of the emergent vegetation, or emergent vegetation is absent. SKIP to F38 .	0	
192			1-25% of the emergent vegetation.	0	
193			25-75% of the emergent vegetation.	0	
194			>75% of the emergent vegetation.	0	
195	F37	Interspersion of Emergents & Open Water	During most of the part of the growing season when water is present, the spatial pattern of emergent vegetation within the water is mostly:		[AM, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PR, SBM, SR, WBF, WBN]
196			Scattered. More than 30% of such vegetation forms small islands or corridors surrounded by water.	0	
197			Intermediate.	0	
198			Clumped. More than 70% of such vegetation is in bands along the wetland perimeter or is clumped at one or a few sides of the surface water area.	0	
199	F38	Persistent Deepwater Area	If the deepest patch of surface water (flowing or ponded) in or directly adjacent to the AA is mostly deeper than 0.5 m for >2 weeks during the growing season, enter "1" and continue. If not, enter "0" and SKIP to F42 (Connection).	0	
200	F39	Non-vegetated Aquatic Cover	During most of the growing season and in waters deeper than 0.5 m, the cover for fish, aquatic invertebrates, and/or amphibians that is provided NOT by living vegetation, but by accumulations of dead wood and undercut banks is:		For this question, consider only the wood that is at or above the water surface. Estimates of underwater wood based only on observations from terrestrial viewpoints are unreliable so should not be attempted. [AM, FA, FR, INV]
201			Little or none.	0	
202			Intermediate.	0	
203			Extensive.	0	
204	F40	Isolated Island	The AA contains (or is part of) an island or beaver lodge within a lake, pond, or river, and is isolated from the shore by water depths >1 m on all sides during an average June. The island may be solid, or it may be a floating vegetation mat that is sufficiently large and dense to support a waterbird nest.	0	[WBN]
205	F41	Floating Algae & Duckweed	At some time of the year, mats of algae and/or duckweed are likely to cover >50% of the AA's otherwise-unshaded water surface, or blanket >50% of the underwater substrate. If true, enter "1" in next column. If untrue or uncertain, enter "0".	0	[EC, PR, WBF]

A	B	C	D	E
206	F42 Channel Connection & Outflow Duration	The most persistent surface water connection (outlet channel or pipe, ditch, or overbank water exchange) between the AA and a downslope stream network is: [Note: If the AA represents only part of a wetland, answer this according to whichever is the least permanent surface connection: the one between the AA and the rest of the wetland, or the surface connection between the wetland and the downslope stream network.]		Consider the connection regardless of whether the surface water is frozen. The "downslope stream network" could consist of ditches, rivers, ponds, or lakes which eventually connect to the ocean. If this cannot be determined while visiting the AA, consult topographic maps perhaps by viewing these online with Toporama (http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/toporama/en/index.html) [CS, FA, FR, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SFS, SR, WCv, WS]
207		Persistent (surface water flows out for >9 months/year).		
208		Seasonal (surface water flows out for 14 days to 9 months/year, not necessarily consecutive).		
209		Temporary (surface water flows out for <14 days, not necessarily consecutive).		
210		None – but maps show a stream network downslope from the AA and within a distance that is less than the AA's length. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
211		No surface water flows out of the wetland except possibly during extreme events (<once per 10 years). Or, water flows only into a wetland, ditch, or lake that lacks an outlet. SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).		
212	F43 Outflow Confinement	During major runoff events, in the places where surface water exits the AA or connected waters nearby, the water:		'Major runoff events' would include biennial high water caused by storms and/or rapid snowmelt. [CS, NR, OE, PR, Sens, SR, STR, WS]
213		Mostly passes through a pipe, culvert, narrowly breached dike, berm, beaver dam, or other partial obstruction (other than natural topography) that does not appear to drain the wetland artificially during most of the growing season.		
214		Leaves through natural exits (channels or diffuse outflow), not mainly through artificial or temporary features.		
215		Is exported more quickly than usual due to ditches or pipes within the AA or connected to its outlet, or within 10 m of the AA's edge, which drain the wetland artificially, or water is pumped out of the AA.		
216	F44 Tributary Channel	At least once annually, surface water from a tributary channel that is >100 m long moves into the AA. Or, surface water from a larger permanent water body adjacent to the AA spills into the AA. If it enters only via a pipe, that pipe must be fed by a mapped stream or lake further upslope. If no, SKIP to F47 (pH Measurement).	0	If inlet tributaries cannot be searched for due to inaccessibility of part of the AA, follow suggestions in F42 above. [NRv, PH, PRv, SRv]
217	F45 Input Water Temperature	Based on lack of shade, water source characteristics, or actual temperature measurements, the inflow is likely to be warmer than surface water in the AA during part of most years. Enter 1= yes, 0= no.	0	[WCv]
218	F46 Throughflow Resistance	During its travel through the AA at the time of peak annual flow, water arriving in channels: [select only the ONE encountered by most of the incoming water].		[FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PR, SR, WS]
219		Does not bump into many plant stems as it travels through the AA. Nearly all the water continues to travel in unvegetated (often incised) channels that have minimal contact with wetland vegetation, or through a zone of open water such as an instream pond or lake.		
220		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
221		Bumps into herbaceous vegetation and mostly spreads throughout, or is in widely meandering, multi-branched, or braided channels.		
222		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems but mostly remains in fairly straight channels.		
223		Bumps into tree trunks and/or shrub stems and follows a fairly indirect path from entrance to exit (meandering, multi-branched, or braided).		
224	F47 pH Measurement	The pH in most of the AA's surface water:		Preferably, measure this in larger areas of ponded surface water within the AA, or in streams that have passed through (not along) most of the AA. Unless surface water is completely absent, do not dig holes or make depressions in peat in order to provide water for this measurement. Avoid measuring near roads or in puddles formed only by recent rain. [AM, FA, FR, NR, WBF, PH, PR, Sens, WBF, WBN]
225		Was measured, and is: [Enter the reading in the column to the right.]		
226		Was not measured but surface water is present and is darkly tea-coloured. Or if no surface water, then mosses and plants that indicate peatland (e.g., Labrador tea) are prevalent. Enter "1".		
227		Neither of above. Enter "1".	1	
228	F48 TDS and/or Conductivity	The TDS (total dissolved solids) or conductivity off the AA's surface water is: (select the first true row with information):		See above for measurement guidance. [FR, INV, NRv, PH, PRv, Sens]
229		TDS is: [Enter the reading in ppm or mg/L in the column to the right, if measured, or answer next row.]		
230		Conductivity is [Enter the reading in $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ in the column to the right.]		
231		Was not measured, but plants that indicate saline conditions cover much of the vegetated AA. Enter "1".		
232		Neither of above	1	
233		Use of the AA by beaver during the past 5 years is (select most applicable ONE):		
234	F49 Beaver Probability	Evident from direct observation or presence of gnawed limbs, dams, tracks, dens, lodges, or extensive stands of water-killed trees (snags).	0	[FA, FR, PH, SBM, Sens, WBF, WBN]
235		Likely based on known occurrence in the region and proximity to suitable habitat, which may include: (a) a persistent freshwater wetland, pond, or lake, or a perennial low or mid-gradient (<10%) channel, and (b) a corridor or multiple stands of hardwood trees and shrubs in vegetated areas near surface water.	0	
236		Unlikely because site characteristics above are deficient, and/or this is a settled area or other area where beaver are routinely removed.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
237	F50 Groundwater Strength of Evidence	Select first applicable choice: Springs are known to be present within the AA, or if groundwater levels have been monitored, that has demonstrated that groundwater primarily discharges to the wetland for longer periods during the year than periods when the wetland recharges the groundwater.	0	Adhere to these criteria strictly -- do not use personal judgment based on fen conditions, pH, or other evidence. Consult topographic maps to detect breaks in slope described here. Rust deposits associated with groundwater seeps may be most noticeable as orange discoloration in ice formations along streams during early winter. [AM, CS, FA, FR, INV, NR, OE, PH, PRv, SFS, WC, WS]
238		Most of the AA has a slope of >5%, or is very close to the base of a natural slope longer than 100 and much steeper than the slope of the AA, AND the pH of surface water, if known, is >5.5.	0	
239		Neither of above is true, although some groundwater may discharge to or flow through the AA. Or groundwater influx is unknown.	1	
240				
241	F51 Internal Gradient	The gradient along most of the flow path within the AA is:		This is not the same as the shoreline slope. It is the elevational difference between the AA's inlet and outlet, divided by the flow-distance between them and converted to percent. If available, use a clinometer to measure this. Free clinometer apps can be downloaded to smartphones. If the wetland is large (longer than ~1 km), this may be estimated using Google Earth to determine the minimum and maximum elevation within the AA, then dividing by length and multiplying by 100. [CS, NR, OE, PR, SR, WBF, WBN, WS]
242		<2% or the AA has no surface water outlet (not even seasonally).	1	
243		2-5%.	0	
244		6-10%.	0	
245		>10%.	0	
246	Note for the next three questions: If the AA lacks an upland edge, evaluate based on the AA's entire perimeter, and moving outward into whatever areas are adjacent. In many situations, these questions are best answered by measuring from aerial images.			
247	F52 Vegetated Buffer as % of Perimeter	Within a zone extending 30 m laterally from the AA's edge with upland and/or other wetlands, the percentage that contains perennial vegetation cover (except lawns, row crops, heavily grazed land, conifer plantations) is:		[AM, FA, FR, INV, NRv, PH, POL, PRv, SBM, Sens, SRv, STR, WBN]
248		<5%.	0	
249		5 to 30%.	0	
250		30 to 60%.	1	
251		60 to 90%.	0	
252		>90%, or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands. SKIP to F55.	0	
253	F53 Type of Cover in Buffer	Within 30 m upslope of where the wetland transitions to upland, the upland land cover that is NOT perennial vegetation is mostly (mark ONE):		[AM, FA, INV, NRv, PH, POL, SBM, STR, WBN]
254		Impervious surface, e.g., paved road, parking lot, building, exposed rock.	1	
255		Bare or nearly bare pervious surface or managed vegetation, e.g., lawn, row crops, unpaved road, dike, landslide.	0	
256	F54 Buffer Slope	The steepest and/or most disturbed part of the upland area that is within 30 m of the wetland and occupies >10% of that upland area has a percent slope of:		[NRv, PRv, Sens, SRv]
257		<1% (flat -- almost no noticeable slope) or all the area within 30 m of the AA edge is other wetlands.	0	
258		2-5%.	1	
259		5-30%.	0	
260		>30%.	0	
261	F55 Cliffs or Steep Banks	In the AA or within 100 m, there are elevated terrestrial features such as cliffs, talus slopes, stream banks, or excavated pits (but not riprap) that extend at least 2 m nearly vertically, are unvegetated, and potentially contain crevices or other substrate suitable for nesting or den areas. Enter 1 (yes) or 0 (no).	0	Do not include upturned trees as potential den sites. [POL, SBM]
262	F56 New or Expanded Wetland	Human actions within or adjacent to the AA have persistently expanded a naturally occurring wetland or created a wetland where there previously was none (e.g., by excavation, impoundment):		Determine this using historical aerial photography, old maps, soil maps, or permit files as available [CS, NR, OE, PH, Sens]
263		No.	1	
264		Yes, and created or expanded 20 - 100 years ago.	0	
265		Yes, and created or expanded 3-20 years ago.	0	
266		Yes, and created or expanded within last 3 years.	0	
267		Yes, but time of origin or expansion unknown.	0	
268		Unknown if new or expanded within 20 years or not.	0	
269	F57 Burn History	More than 1% of the AA's previously vegetated area:		Look for charred soil or stumps (in multiple widely-spaced locations) or ask landowner. [CS, PH, STR]
270		Burned within past 5 years.	0	
271		Burned 6-10 years ago.	0	
272		Burned 11-30 years ago.	0	
273		Burned >30 years ago, or no evidence of a burn and no data.	1	

A	B	C	D	E
274	F58 Visibility	The maximum percentage of the wetland that is visible from the best vantage point on public roads, public parking lots, public buildings, or public maintained trails that intersect, adjoin, or are within 100 m of the AA (select one) is:		[PU, STR, WBFv]
275		<25%.	1	
276		25-50%.	0	
277		>50%.	0	
278	F59 Non-consumptive Uses - Actual or Potential	Assuming access permission was granted, select ALL statements that are true of the AA as it currently exists:		[PU, STR]
279		For an average person, walking is physically possible <u>in</u> (not just near) >5% of the AA during most of the growing season, e.g., free of deep water and dense shrub thickets.	1	
280		Maintained roads, parking areas, or foot-trails are within 10 m of the AA, or the AA can be accessed part of the year by boats arriving via contiguous waters.	0	
281		Within or near the AA, there is an interpretive center, trails with interpretive signs or brochures, and/or regular guided interpretive tours.	0	
282	F60 Unvisited Core Area	The percentage of the AA almost never visited by humans during an average growing season probably comprises: [Note: Only include the part actually walked or driven (not simply viewed from) with a vehicle or boat. Do not include visitors on trails outside of the AA unless more than half the wetland is visible from the trails and they are within 30 m of the wetland edge. In that case include only the area occupied by the trail.]		[AM, FAv, FRv, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
283		<5% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
284		<5% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
285		5-50% and no inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
286		5-50% and inhabited building is within 100 m of the AA.	0	
287		50-95%, with or without inhabited building nearby.	0	
288		>95% of the AA with or without inhabited building nearby.	1	
289	F61 Frequently Visited Area	The part of the AA visited by humans almost daily for several weeks during an average growing season probably comprises: [See note above.]		[AM, PH, PU, SBM, STR, WBF, WBN]
290		<5%. If F60 was answered ">95%" (mostly never visited), SKIP to F64.	1	
291		5-50%.	0	
292		50-95%.	0	
293		>95% of the AA.	0	
294	F62 BMP - Soils	Boardwalks, paved trails, fences or other infrastructure and/or well-enforced regulations appear to effectively prevent visitors from walking on soil within nearly all of the AA when the soil is unfrozen. Enter "1" if true.	0	[PH, PU]
295	F63 BMP - Wildlife Protection	Fences, observation blinds, platforms, paved trails, exclusion periods, and/or well-enforced prohibitions on motorised boats, off-leash pets, and off road vehicles appear to effectively exclude or divert visitors and their pets from the AA at critical times in order to minimize disturbance of wildlife (except during hunting seasons). Enter "1" if true.	0	[AM, PU, WBF, WBN]
296	F64 Consumptive Uses (Provisioning Services)	Recent evidence was found within the AA of the following potentially-sustainable consumptive uses. Select ALL that apply.		[FAv, FRv, WBFv]
297		Low-impact commercial timber harvest (e.g., selective thinning).	0	
298		Commercial or traditional-use harvesting of native plants, their fruits, or mushrooms.	0	
299		Waterfowl hunting.	0	
300		Fishing.	0	
301		Trapping of furbearers.	0	
302		None of the above.	1	
303	F65 Domestic Wells	The closest wells or water bodies that currently provide drinking water are:		[NRv]
304		Within 0-100 m. of the AA.	0	
305		100-500 m. away.	0	
306		>500 m. away, or no information.	1	
307	F66 Calcareous Fen	The AA is, or is part of, a calcareous fen. See the Plants_Calcar worksheet in the accompanying SupplInfo file for list of plant indicators (calciphiles). Enter 1 if more than two Strong or more than five Moderate calciphile species are present; otherwise enter 0, but if not able to identify those and no information, change to blank.		[PH, PR]

Investigator: Rohan Kariyawansa, Matt Stanbrook	Site Identifier: Higgins Mountain, WL19	Date: 10 October 2022		
Stressor (S) Data Form for Non-Tidal Wetlands. WESP-AC for Nova Scotia version 2.				
S1	Aberrant Timing of Water Inputs	Data		
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item that is likely to have caused the timing of water inputs (but not necessarily their volume) to shift by hours, days, or weeks, becoming either more muted (smaller or less frequent peaks spread over longer times, more temporal homogeneity of flow or water levels) or more flashy (larger or more frequent spikes but over shorter times). [FA, FR, INV, PH, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater from impervious surfaces that drains directly to the wetland.</p> <p>Water subsidies from wastewater effluent, septic system leakage, snow storage areas, or irrigation.</p> <p>Regular removal of surface or groundwater for irrigation or other consumptive use.</p> <p>Flow regulation in tributaries or water level regulation in adjoining water body, or other control structure at water entry points that regulates inflow to the wetland.</p> <p>A dam, dike, levee, weir, berm, or fill -- within or downgradient from the wetland -- that interferes with surface or subsurface flow in/out of the AA (e.g., road fill, wellpads, pipelines).</p> <p>Excavation within the wetland, e.g., dugout, artificial pond, dead-end ditch.</p> <p>Artificial drains or ditches in or near the wetland.</p> <p>Accelerated downcutting or channelization of an adjacent or internal channel (incised below the historical water table level).</p> <p>Logging within the wetland.</p> <p>Subsidence or compaction of the wetland's substrate as a result of machinery, livestock, fire, drainage, or off road vehicles.</p> <p>Straightening, ditching, dredging, and/or lining of tributary channels.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items had no measurable effect on the timing of water conditions in any part of the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>				
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
Spatial extent of timing shift within the wetland:	>95% of wetland.	5-95% of wetland.	<5% of wetland.	0
When most of the timing shift began:	<3 yrs ago.	3-9 yrs ago.	10-100 yrs ago.	0
Score the following 2 rows only if the altered inputs began within past 10 years, and only for the part of the wetland that experiences those.				
Input timing now vs. previously:	Shift of weeks.	Shift of days.	Shift of hours or minutes.	0
Flashiness or muting:	Became very flashy or controlled.	Intermediate.	Became mildly flashy or controlled.	0
			Sum=	0
			Stressor subscore=	0.00
S2	Accelerated Inputs of Contaminants and/or Salts	Data		
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of contaminants or salts to the AA. [AM, FA, PH, POL, STR]</p> <p>Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills, industrial facilities.</p> <p>Metals & chemical wastes from mining, shooting ranges, snow storage areas, oil/ gas extraction, other sources (download many locations from National Pollutant Release Inventory and view KMZ overlay in Google Earth. https://www.ec.gc.ca/inrp-npri/default.asp?lang=En&n=B85A1846-1</p> <p>Road salt.</p> <p>Spraying of pesticides, as applied to lawns, croplands, roadsides, or other areas in the CA.</p> <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly higher levels of contaminants and/or salts, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>				
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
Usual toxicity of most toxic contaminants:	Industrial effluent, mining waste, unmanaged landfill.	Cropland, managed landfill, pipeline or transmission rights-of-way.	Low density residential.	0
Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
			Sum=	0
			Stressor subscore=	0.00

S3	Accelerated Inputs of Nutrients				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item -- occurring in either the wetland or its CA -- that is likely to have accelerated the inputs of nutrients to the wetland. [NRv, PRv, STR]</i>				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent (including failing septic systems), landfills.				
	Fertilizers applied to lawns, ag lands, or other areas in the CA.				
	Livestock, dogs.				
	Artificial drainage of upslope lands.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively expose the AA to significantly more nutrients, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Type of loading:	High density of unmaintained septic, some types of industrial sources.	Moderate density septic, cropland, secondary wastewater treatment plant.	Livestock, pets, low density residential.	0
	Frequency & duration of input:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
AA proximity to main sources (actual or potential):	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m. or in groundwater.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0	
			Sum=	0	
			Stressor subscore=	0.00	
S4	Excessive Sediment Loading from Contributing Area				
	<i>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the CA that is likely to have elevated the load of waterborne or windborne sediment reaching the wetland from its CA. [FA, FR, INV, PH, SRv, STR]</i>				
	Erosion from plowed fields, fill, timber harvest, dirt roads, vegetation clearing, fires.				
	Erosion from construction, in-channel machinery in the CA.				
	Erosion from off-road vehicles in the CA.				
	Erosion from livestock or foot traffic in the CA.				
	Stormwater or wastewater effluent.				
	Sediment from road sanding, gravel mining, other mining, oil/gas extraction.				
	Accelerated channel downcutting or headcutting of tributaries due to altered land use.				
	Other human-related disturbances within the CA.				
	<i>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points (3, 2, or 1 as shown in header) in the last column. However, if you believe the checked items did not cumulatively add significantly more sediment or suspended solids to the AA, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</i>				
		Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)	
	Erosion in CA:	Extensive evidence, high intensity.*	Potentially (based on high-intensity* land use) or scattered evidence.	Potentially (based on low-intensity* land use) with little or no direct evidence.	0
	Recentness of significant soil disturbance in the CA:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.	0
	Duration of sediment inputs to the wetland:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Infrequent & during high runoff events mainly.	0
	AA proximity to actual or potential sources:	0 - 15 m.	15-100 m.	In more distant part of contributing area.	0
	<i>* high-intensity= extensive off-road vehicle use, plowing, grading, excavation, erosion with or without veg removal; low-intensity= veg removal only with little or no apparent erosion or disturbance of soil or sediment.</i>				Sum=
			Stressor subscore=	0.00	

S5	Soil or Sediment Alteration Within the Assessment Area				
<p>In the last column, place a check mark next to any item present in the wetland that is likely to have compacted, eroded, or otherwise altered the wetland's soil. Consider only items occurring within past 100 years or since wetland was created or restored (whichever is less). [CS, INV, NR, PH, SR, STR]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compaction from machinery, off-road vehicles, livestock, or mountain bikes, especially during wetter periods. Leveling or other grading not to the natural contour. Tillage, plowing (but excluding disking for enhancement of native plants). Fill or riprap, excluding small amounts of upland soils containing organic amendments (compost, etc.) or small amounts of topsoil imported from another wetland. Excavation. Ditch cleaning or dredging in or adjacent to the wetland. Boat traffic in or adjacent to the wetland and sufficient to cause shore erosion or stir bottom sediments. Artificial water level or flow manipulations sufficient to cause erosion or stir bottom sediments. <p>If any items were checked above, then for each row of the table below, assign points. However, if you believe the checked items did not measurably alter the soil structure and/or topography, then leave the "0's" for the scores in the following rows. To estimate effects, contrast the current condition with the condition if the checked items never occurred or were no longer present.</p>					
	Severe (3 points)	Medium (2 points)	Mild (1 point)		
Spatial extent of altered soil:	>95% of wetland or >95% of its upland edge (if any).	5-95% of wetland or 5-95% of its upland edge (if any).	<5% of wetland and <5% of its upland edge (if any).		0
Recentness of significant soil alteration in wetland:	Current & ongoing.	1-12 months ago.	>1 yr ago.		0
Duration:	Long-lasting, minimal veg recovery.	Long-lasting but mostly revegetated.	Short-term, revegetated, not intense.		0
Timing of soil alteration:	Frequent and year-round.	Frequent but mostly seasonal.	Mainly during one-time or scattered events.		0
			Sum=		0
				Stressor subscore=	0.00

Assessment Area (AA) Results:

Wetland ID: WL19

Date: 10 October 2022

Observer: RK MS

Latitude & Longitude (decimal degrees): 45.50740833, 63.58568889

Scores will appear below after data are entered in worksheets OF, F, and S. See Manual for definitions and descriptions of how scores were computed.						
Wetland Functions or Other Attributes:	Function Score (Normalised)	Function Rating	Benefits Score (Normalised)	Benefits Rating	Function Score (raw)	Benefits Score (raw)
Water Storage & Delay (WS)	8.85	Higher	4.29	Moderate	8.55	1.90
Stream Flow Support (SFS)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Water Cooling (WC)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Sediment Retention & Stabilisation (SR)	8.58	Higher	1.13	Moderate	8.89	0.56
Phosphorus Retention (PR)	2.85	Lower	1.25	Moderate	5.53	0.97
Nitrate Removal & Retention (NR)	10.00	Higher	7.50	Higher	10.00	7.50
Carbon Sequestration (CS)	7.22	Higher			8.61	
Organic Nutrient Export (OE)	6.86	Moderate			4.48	
Anadromous Fish Habitat (FA)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Resident Fish Habitat (FR)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Aquatic Invertebrate Habitat (INV)	6.55	Higher	0.44	Lower	6.17	1.48
Amphibian & Turtle Habitat (AM)	0.65	Lower	1.07	Lower	3.47	2.64
Waterbird Feeding Habitat (WBF)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Waterbird Nesting Habitat (WBN)	0.00	Lower	0.00	Lower	0.00	0.00
Songbird, Raptor, & Mammal Habitat (SBM)	6.24	Moderate	2.50	Lower	5.43	2.50
Pollinator Habitat (POL)	9.32	Higher	0.00	Lower	7.72	0.00
Native Plant Habitat (PH)	2.33	Lower	4.38	Lower	4.83	4.38
Public Use & Recognition (PU)			1.59	Moderate		1.39
Wetland Sensitivity (Sens)			8.82	Higher		4.69
Wetland Ecological Condition (EC)			10.00	Higher		10.00
Wetland Stressors (STR) (higher score means more stress)			6.71	Higher		3.40
Summary Ratings for Grouped Functions:						
HYDROLOGIC Group (WS)	8.85	Higher	4.29	Moderate	8.55	1.90
WATER QUALITY SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SR, PR, NR, CS)	8.58	Higher	5.40	Moderate	9.13	5.25
AQUATIC SUPPORT Group (max+avg/2 of SFS, INV, OE, WC)	5.10	Moderate	0.30	Lower	4.41	0.99
AQUATIC HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of FA, FR, AM, WBF, WBN)	0.39	Lower	0.64	Lower	2.08	1.59
TRANSITION HABITAT Group (max+avg/2 of SBM, PH, POL)	7.64	Higher	3.34	Lower	6.86	3.34
WETLAND CONDITION (EC)			10.00	Higher		10.00
WETLAND RISK (average of Sensitivity & Stressors)			7.76	Higher		4.04
		NOTE: A score of 0 does not mean the function or benefit is absent from the wetland. It means only that this wetland has a capacity that is equal or less than the lowest-scoring one, for that function or benefit, from among all the NS calibration wetlands that were assessed previously.				

NOVA SCOTIA - Functional WSS Interpretation Tool

Function-Benefit Product (FBP)	FBP SCORE	FBP SCORE CATEGORY
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - HYDROLOGIC	37.94374995	Moderate
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - WATER QUALITY SUPPORT	46.31392192	Low
SUPPORT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC SUPPORT	1.509351514	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - AQUATIC HABITAT	0.250695093	Low
HABITAT SUPERGROUP - TRANSITION HABITAT	25.51735523	Low

Habitat Rule Satisfied? NO

Support Rule Satisfied? NO

Habitat/Support Hybrid Rule Satisfied? NO

CONCLUSION: Site is not a WSS