

# Marsh Habitat Survey (Southwest US)

Please print legibly and remain within the boxes and mark each individual choice by filling in the corresponding circle. Please use ballpoint pen (not felt tip).

## 1. Initial Survey & Location Information

Name of Observer(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/20\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_:\_\_\_ AM/PM Survey Site Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Survey Site #: \_\_\_\_\_ Latitude: \_\_\_\_\_ Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Habitat Assessment Survey

A) Using a range finder or a visual estimation, what is the maximum usable radius in meters?  
\_\_\_\_\_

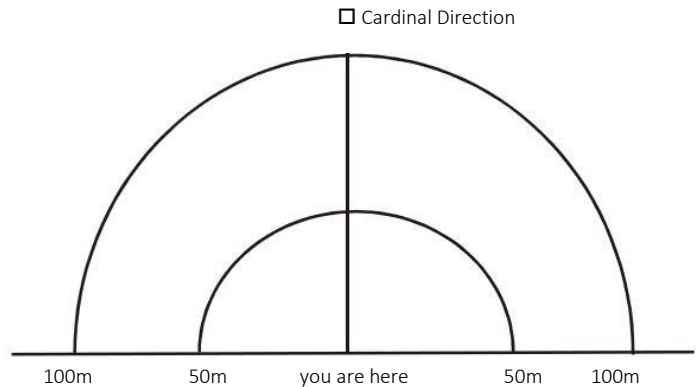
B) Percentage of Major Habitat Features within the 50 meter radius:

- Open water with no obvious vegetation \_\_\_\_\_%
- Exposed mud, sand, or rock with no obvious vegetation \_\_\_\_\_%
- Herbaceous submersed and floating cover \_\_\_\_\_%
- Herbaceous emergent vegetation cover \_\_\_\_\_%
- Trees (woody plants over 3 m tall) \_\_\_\_\_%
- Shrubs (woody plants under 3 m tall) \_\_\_\_\_%
- Pavement (or hard-scape trail) \_\_\_\_\_%

TOTAL PERCENTAGE (total MUST sum to 100%) \_\_\_\_\_

C) Draw a sketch of the major habitat features below:

Note: Use responses from question B as a reference for this sketch



## 3. Vegetation Assessment Survey

A) Select the observed floating plants listed below:

Note: Check all that apply, or skip if is there is no floating plants

Floating plants commonly found in Arizona:

- Duckweed (Lemna)
- Pennywort (Hydrocotyl)
- Water Plantain (Alisma)
- Floating Primrose (Ludwigia)
- Giant Salvinia (Salvinia Molesta)

Floating plants commonly found in Mexico:

- Spiked Water-milfoil (Myriophyllum spicatum)
- Waterhyme (Hydrilla Verticillata)
- Widgeon Grass (Ruppia Maritima)
- Spiny Naiad (Najas Marina)
- Widgeon Grass (Ruppia Maritima)
- Water Hyssop (Bacopa Monnieri)

Other (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

B) Floating plant cover in open water zones:

Note: Check one answer

- None
- Slight
- Moderate
- Dense
- Unknown
- Other (please describe): \_\_\_\_\_

C) Percentage of Dominant Emergent Vegetation:

Note: Select the top 4 plants that dominate the habitat.

Emergent vegetation commonly found in Arizona:

- Southern Cattail (Typha Domingensis) \_\_\_\_\_%
- Common Reed (Phragmites) \_\_\_\_\_%
- Grasses like Giant Reed, Salt Grass, Rice Grass, etc. \_\_\_\_\_%
- Papyrus Sedge (Cyperus Papyrus) \_\_\_\_\_%
- Umbrella Papyrus (Cyperus Involucratus) \_\_\_\_\_%
- Rushes like Spike Rush, Torrey's Rush, etc. \_\_\_\_\_%

Bulrushes like Hard-stem Bulrush, Three-square Bulrush, etc. \_\_\_\_\_%

Saltcedar (Tamarisk) \_\_\_\_\_%

Seep Willow (Bacharis) \_\_\_\_\_%

Goodings Willow (Salix Goodingii) \_\_\_\_\_%

Arrow Weed (Pulchea Sericea) \_\_\_\_\_%

Coyote Willow (Salix Exigua) \_\_\_\_\_%

If a dominant plant is not listed, please make a note: \_\_\_\_\_%

TOTAL PERCENTAGE (total MUST sum to 100%)  
100%

Emergent vegetation commonly found in Mexico:

Iodine Bush (Allenrolfea occidentalis) \_\_\_\_\_%

American Glasswort (Salicornia Virginica) \_\_\_\_\_%

Parish's Glasswort (Salicornia Subterminalis) \_\_\_\_\_%

Greasewood (Sarcobatus Vermiculatus) \_\_\_\_\_%

Bush Seepweed (Suaeda Moquinil) \_\_\_\_\_%

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**D) Select the following description that best describes the emergent vegetation in this habitat:**

- New growth  
  Mature with mostly water in between  
  Mature with floating mats  
  Decadent with floating mats and little/no visible open water

**E) Water Depth Measurements:**

**NOTE:** This section is not a requirement if you are surveying on the river via boat.

Depth (please measure in centimeters)	
Distance Measured	Depth Measured
0 (at edge)	
0.5 (meter)	
1.0 (meters)	

**4. Additional Habitat Assessment**

**A) Choose the best description for the inundation permanency at the survey site:**

- Permanent  
  Semi-Permanent  
  Seasonal  
  Tidal

**B) Within the maximum survey radius directly behind you, check which single option best describes the area:**

- Open Water  
 Marsh  
 Riparian  
 Desert  
 Mangroves (for surveys in Mexico)  
 Field (Disturbed or Agriculture)  
 Urban / Developed Land  
 Other (please describe): \_\_\_\_\_

**C) Please choose what kinds of human influences appear to significantly impact the sample area. Any management activities are addressed in the next question:**

- Roads & Highways  
 Industrial  
 Pollution  
 Fishing (for surveys in Mexico)  
 Wastewater Treatment  
 Urban Structures  
 Noise  
 Channels, ditches, dams, dykes  
 None (natural area)  
 Other (please describe): \_\_\_\_\_

**D) Are there any obvious signs of management or ecological restoration activities? Check all that apply.**

- Herbicide  
 Cutting  
 Fire  
 Planting  
 Restoration Area  
 None  
 Other (please describe): \_\_\_\_\_

**E) Were any animals or evidence of presence observed?**

- Yes  
  No

**F) If yes, what animals did you observe? Please list in the space below:**

**G) Did you observe the following food resources? Check all that apply.**

- Freshwater Clams  
 Crayfish  
 Dragonfly Larvae  
 Mosquito Fish  
 None  
 Other (please describe): \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Other Comments & Observations**

Use this section to enter any other comments for survey modifications or field observation not included in this survey: