

LARGE PEATLAND ECOSYSTEM ELEMENT OCCURRENCE RANKING FORM (MNAP staff use only)

Peatland Name: _____ EO Number: _____

Info Source: _____ Date: _____

Ranking Completed By: _____ Date: _____

Peatland Type Unpatterned Stream Drainage Fen (D&A type 2) Quad Name: _____
 Unpatterned Open Basin Fen (D&A type 3) Quad Code: _____
 Raised Level Bog (D&A type 6)
 Eccentric Bog (D&A type 7)
 Domed Bog (D&A type 8)

1. CURRENT CONDITION and quality of the peatland.

- Condition Rank **A** – No apparent signs of human disturbance (or long enough ago that effects are no longer visible or are extremely minor); community well-developed
 B – Some signs of human disturbance or degradation, but peatland generally intact
 C – Signs of human disturbance or degradation, and peatland compromised in some significant way
 D – Highly disturbed (multiple impacts causing peatland to be drastically altered)

Comments:

2. QUALITY:

What is the approximate size of the peatland occurrence? _____ ac / ha
 Covers the natural extent of this ecosystem type Has been truncated through adjacent land use

- >= 1500 ac (600 ha) automatically **A**
 750-1500 ac (300-600 ha) automatically **B**, and **A** if at least 1 QM scores 1
 250-750 ac (100-300 ha) **A** if 2+ QM = 1, or if 1 QM=1 and >=2 QM = 2; **B** if any QM=1 or if at least 2 QM=2; **C** otherwise
 <250 ac (100 ha) **B** if any QM=1 (unlikely) or if 3+QM=2; **C** if 1-2 QM=2; **D** otherwise

QUALITY MEASURES (QM): Diversity of Peatland Types; Diversity of Vegetation Types; Exemplariness; Unusual Features

Diversity of Peatland Types

(Is it part of a multiple-unit peatland?)

- 1 = Three or more peatland types
 2 = Two peatland types
 3 = Single unit peatland

Diversity of Vegetation Types

(Counting these as the 2004 MNAP Natural Community Classification types)

- 1 = 8 or more types
 2 = 4-7 types
 3 = 1-3 types

2. QUALITY (Continued)/ QUALITY MEASURES (Continued)

Exemplariness

This applies to the structure, composition, and developmental characteristics of the peatland. Look especially at vegetation zonation and development of peatland morphology (e.g., development of secondary pools). Because this can require extensive expertise to apply evenly, this criterion is optional, i.e., 'not judged' is acceptable.

- Not judged
- 1 = outstanding example of peatland type
- 2 = good example of peatland type
- 3 = unremarkable example of peatland type

Unusual geographical, geological, or landscape setting feature (see list below)

- 1 = two or more features, or one really remarkable, one-of-a-kind feature
- 2 = one feature
- 3 = none documented

- peatland type at edge of range (e.g., raised bog in York County)
- floristic anomaly (e.g., *Chamaecyparis* on raised bog; or *Symplocarpus foetidus* fens on Isle au Haut)
- esker
- beach deposit
- morainal ridge
- deep trough occupied by peatland
- mountain rising directly from peatland edge
- limestone, marble, or dolomite substrate
- other

Comments:

Quality / Size Rank **A** – Excellent **B** – Good **C** – Fair **D** – Poor

3. LANDSCAPE CONTEXT of the area surrounding the peatland. What land uses and/or natural communities surround the observed area? Describe the types and extent of anthropogenic disturbance around the observed area, and to what degree this may affect the observed community. To what degree can the observed community be protected from effects of adjacent land uses?

- Landscape Rank**
- A** – Peatland surrounded by > = 1000 acres of undisturbed landscape
 - B** – Peatland surrounded by fairly intact landscape, though there may be cuts nearby
 - C** – Peatland surrounded by fragmented forest or rural landscape
 - D** – Surrounding area developed

4. MNAP overall peatland rank: **A** – Excellent **B** – Good **C** – Fair **D** – Poor

Describe rationale (EO rank specs in MNAP element files; general EO rank specs for forests, etc.):

Very large and diverse wetland system with mosaic of wetland community types, abundant wildlife (including bald eagle, black tern, northern harrier, possible Virginia rail, savannah sparrow)

Date:

Reviewer:

Additional Comments/Observations: