

**VERNAL POOL SURVEY FORM**  
**Nongame and Natural Heritage Program**  
**Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife**

rev. Apr. 2009

**Survey Site Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ Is this an update?  EO# (if known): \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Use a topographic or place name if possible)

**Surveyor(s):** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing address (phone, email): \_\_\_\_\_

**Survey Date(s):** \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Unusual data sensitivity issues?  If so, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

**LANDOWNER(S) / CONTACT(S)** (Name, Telephone, Address, Email—if not in a Site Summary Form) Permission?  
 \_\_\_\_\_   
 \_\_\_\_\_

**VERNAL POOL INFORMATION**

Pool water depth (inches) on date of visit: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Maximum pool water depth (inches) based on stained leaves, etc.: \_\_\_\_\_

Pool size (ft<sup>2</sup>) on date of visit: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Maximum pool size (ft<sup>2</sup>) based on stained leaves, etc.: \_\_\_\_\_

Typical annual date of pool drying, if known: \_\_\_\_\_ Source of info: \_\_\_\_\_

Vernal pool elevation (feet): \_\_\_\_\_ Canopy closure over pool from surrounding forest (%): \_\_\_\_\_

Dominant tree species forming canopy: \_\_\_\_\_

Vernal Pool vegetation (include dominant species by stratum and abundance for species growing within the maximum extent of the pool:

Vernal Pool soil description:

**Evidence of Amphibian Breeding** (indicate number observed | date of observation)

Species	Courting Adults		Spermatophores		Egg Masses		Salamander Larvae	
	#	Date	#	Date	#	Date	#	Date
Spotted salamander								
Blue-spotted salamander								
Jefferson salamander								
	Breeding Chorus		Mated Pairs		Egg Masses		Frog Tadpoles	
Wood frog	-N/A-							
Western chorus frog	-N/A-							

No evidence of above species breeding:

Fairy shrimp observed:  Date(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Other vernal pool observations (other wildlife use, water level observations, etc.):

Additional inventory needed?  If so, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION of SITE**

Describe the larger *Site* around vernal pool and its range and variability (give a word picture of natural and man-made features, including topography, community types, geologic substrata, land uses, evidence of disturbance, exotics, etc.):

Describe specifically the area from 0-100 feet surrounding the vernal pool (include natural community/forest types and their condition, forest management, other land uses, woody debris abundance, presence of roads, and other features):

Describe specifically the area from 100-600 feet surrounding the vernal pool (include natural community/forest types and their condition, forest management, other land uses, woody debris abundance, presence of roads, and other features):

Distance to the nearest road from pool (feet): \_\_\_\_\_

**VERNAL POOL RANKING:** A range of ranks may be used (e.g. AB)

Using VT NNHP vernal pool ranking specifications \* to fill in the grid below

	Rank:	Comments:
Amphibian Breeding:		
Current Condition:		
Landscape Context:		
Size:		Pool size (sq. feet) and how determined:
Overall Rank:		

\* Available at [www.vtfishandwildlife.com/wildlife\\_nongame.cfm](http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com/wildlife_nongame.cfm).

**MANAGEMENT/PROTECTION RECOMMENDATIONS**

Recommendations (include provisions for vernal pool and zones from 0-100 feet and 100-600 feet from pool edge):

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** (check box if attached; first two are required)

- Pool diagram** (shape; locations of downed logs or other debris, seasonal inlets or outlets, vegetation patches, human disturbance, amphibian egg masses; include north arrow and approximate scale)
- Photographs of pool and evidence of amphibians** (include date of each photo)
- Plant list (optional)
- Animal list (optional)

Comments that do not fit in another field:

**MAPPING**

**Attach a digital or paper map of the vernal pool boundary mapped as point or polygon (required):**

Shapefile attached:  File must be NAD83 State Plane:  File name: \_\_\_\_\_

Base Map Used to delineate occurrence:	GPS Coordinates (optional, but must provide Datum):
1:24,000 USGS Quad: <input type="checkbox"/>	
1:25,000 USGS Quad: <input type="checkbox"/>	
1:5000 Ortho Photo: <input type="checkbox"/>	
GPS: <input type="checkbox"/> Accuracy: _____	
Other: <input type="checkbox"/> Specify: _____	GPS Datum (NAD83 preferred): _____

**Please send completed forms to: Mark Ferguson, mark.ferguson [at] state.vt.us / Nongame & Natural Heritage Program, Vermont Fish & Wildlife Dept., 103 South Main Street, Building 10 South, Waterbury, VT 05671-0501 / (802)-241-3667**