

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 (ft²) on date of visit: _____ Date: _____

Maximum pool size (ft²) 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.

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: 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 Coordinates (optional, but must provide Datum): GPS Datum (NAD83 preferred): _____
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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