

Guidelines for Using the Prairie Potholes Region HGM Calc Book

Overview

This Excel workbook is designed to assist the user enter the raw data collected from each site. The regression equations needed to calculate the variable subindex score for each wetland function are already entered into this spreadsheet. Gray blocks within the spreadsheet designate the presence of these equations. Other equations, such as English to metric conversions, are also present in gray blocks. White blocks indicate where the user is expected to enter their data. The worksheets are password protected; therefore information can only be entered in the white blocks. The tab key can be used to navigate to each cell where data may be entered. All data should be entered in English units.

Each category, along with the corresponding variables, is located in one of four worksheets. These worksheets are labeled by category. Also included in this calc book is a title sheet, functional capacity indices (functions) worksheet, summary sheet, FCI-FCU worksheet, vegetation field form, and soils field form.

This workbook is designed to calculate the variable subindices and FCIs for one site.

Sheet-by-Sheet Instructions

Title Sheet: Enter the date, project name and location, team members, and comments as needed. This data is not mandatory for any calculations.

Vegetation:

$V_{\text{GRASSCONT}}$: Record the perimeter of the wetland and the amount of grassland along the perimeter in feet.

$V_{\text{GRASSWIDTH}}$: Assign 12 points placed at equal intervals around the perimeter of the wetland boundary. It is recommended that the first point be located on the northern edge of the wetland and that the remaining points correspond to the hours of a clock. From each point, measure, perpendicular from the edge of the wetland, the width of the adjacent grassland from the edge of the wetland out to a distance of 50 feet. Record this width, in feet, in the white blocks.

V_{VEGCOMP} : Stratify the wetland by vegetation zones and/or plant community types dominant. Enter the name or number of the zone in the appropriate white block. The 'Vegetation Zone' blocks are not included in calculations, therefore are optional. Record all plant species in the 'species name' column under the appropriate vegetation zone. Do not duplicate plant names. Enter the coefficient of conservatism (see Appendix C of the Prairie Potholes HGM guidebook) in the 'C value' column next to the species name.