

Natural Community Reporting Form for Potentially Significant Examples

Please provide the following information to the NH Natural Heritage Bureau (NHB) if you have located a potentially significant natural community. *Particularly important information is indicated by an asterisk; other items are desirable but not required.* Call (603) 271-2214 with any questions.

***Your Name:** _____ ***Phone:** _____ **Email:** _____

Location Information

***Date natural community last observed:** _____

***Town:** _____ **Site Name:** _____

***Directions:** _____

***Please attach a map. Note:** A photocopied portion of a USGS topographic map is preferred, with an outline of the area you actually visited. You may add another outline of what you believe to be the full extent of the natural community, beyond the area actually visited.

Natural Community Classification

***Your ad hoc name (e.g., cattail marsh):** _____

NHB Community Name (if known): _____

***Broad habitat type (e.g., riparian forest; coastal marsh):** _____

*Community Structure (select one)

_____ Forest (canopy cover >60%)	_____ Herbaceous (herb dom; < 25% woody)
_____ Woodland (canopy cover 25-60%)	_____ Nonvascular (lichen, bryophyte, or algae dom.)
_____ Shrubland (<25% trees and >25% shrubs)	_____ Sparse veg. (substrate dominated; < 25% veg.)

***Cover Type** (select one of the following if you selected forest, woodland, or shrubland above): _____ Generally coniferous-dominated
_____ Generally mixed (each >25% total cover)
_____ Generally deciduous-dominated

Veg Cover. For each vegetation layer below, provide an estimate of cover from the following list: >60%, 25-60%, 10-25%, 5-10%, 1-5%, <1%, 0%

Canopy cover: _____ Nonvascular cover: _____

Shrub cover: _____ Bare substrate cover: _____

Herb cover: _____ Substrate type (loam, sand, boulder, etc.): _____

Community Composition

***Dominant canopy species:** _____

Other common canopy species: _____

Dominant understory species: _____

Dominant shrub layer species: _____

Dominant herb layer species: _____

***Other characteristic species (indicators of distinctive conditions such as high pH soil, elevation, geographic region; other particularly abundant species):**

Environment

*Topographic position (e.g., ridge crest, toe slope): _____

Soil texture or type (peat, muck, sand, silt, etc. or NRCS name): _____

*Moisture regime _____

*Flood regime _____

Hydric _____

Inundated _____

Wet-mesic _____

Seasonally flooded _____

Mesic _____

Temporarily flooded _____

Dry-mesic _____

Saturated _____

Dry (xeric) _____

Other _____

Other important environmental factors (e.g., steep slope, wind exposure): _____

Quality

*Estimated size of community (contiguous or close together in natural landscape): _____

*Confidence in size estimate: High _____ Medium _____ Low _____

Size of surrounding natural landscape (total natural area): _____

*Quality of nearby surrounding landscape (excellent, good, fair, or poor): _____

*Maturity if forest/woodland (estimated age and DBH of canopy trees; frequency of large snags): _____

Evidence of human disturbance (logging, old roads, ditches, foot trails): _____

How much has human disturbance impacted the integrity of the natural community?: _____

Exotic species (species, abundance): _____

Disruption of natural disturbance regime (e.g., fire suppression, flood alteration): _____

Other Site Information

Other natural community types present: _____

Rare species present: _____

*Owner/manager of site: _____

Documentation

Describe any additional information or documentation you have for this occurrence/site: _____

Others knowledgeable about the community or site: _____