

## X. VERNAL POOL CHARACTERIZATION FORM

Project File # \_\_\_\_\_ Project Name \_\_\_\_\_ Pool ID \_

Observer \_\_\_\_\_ Phone or Email \_\_\_\_\_

Landowner/Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Phone or Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address

Location of vernal pool: \_\_\_\_\_

Survey date(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Longitude/Latitude (in decimal degrees) \_\_\_\_\_

### A. VERNAL POOL CHARACTERISTICS

#### 1. Landscape setting (check all that apply)

Upland depression

Pool part of wildlife corridor

Pool part of a pool complete (within 1000 feet of one or more other vernal pools)

#### 2. Vernal pool condition

Describe any recent modification to the pool: \_\_\_\_\_

#### 3. Describe the aquatic resource type(s) in pool (e.g., forested, scrub-shrub, etc.) -

\_\_\_\_\_

#### 4. Pool canopy cover (%): \_\_\_\_\_

#### 5. Predominant substrate (e.g., mineral soil, organic matter): \_\_\_\_\_

#### 6. Pool size

a. Approximate dimensions at maximum capacity (include units):

Length \_\_\_\_\_ Width: \_\_\_\_\_ Area: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Maximum depth at deepest point (include units): \_\_\_\_\_

#### 7. Hydrology

a. Estimated month pool dries, or if never: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Inlet/outlet (none, temporary, permanent): \_\_\_\_\_

#### 8. Water quality (clear, high turbidity, high algal content, tannic): \_\_\_\_\_

### OTHER COMMENTS:

Append photos, sketch of pool and surrounding landscape.

**B. VERNAL POOL ENVELOPE (100 ft) AND CRITICAL TERRESTRIAL HABITAT (100-750 ft)**

a. **Landuse type and approximate percentage within 100 ft VP envelope** (total equals 100%)

- Forested \_\_\_\_\_ % (15 pts)
- Shrub \_\_\_\_\_ % (10 pts)
- Open (e.g., meadow, agriculture, golf course) \_\_\_\_\_ % (5 pts)
- Developed (includes area beyond barriers) \_\_\_\_\_ % (0 pts)

b. **TOTAL for VP envelope** (maximum of 15): \_\_\_\_\_

c. **Landuse type and approximate percentage within 100-750 ft VP critical terrestrial habitat**  
(total equals 100%)

- Forested \_\_\_\_\_ % (15 pts)
- Shrub \_\_\_\_\_ % (10 pts)
- Open (e.g., meadow, agriculture, golf course) \_\_\_\_\_ % (5 pts)
- Developed (includes area beyond barriers) \_\_\_\_\_ % (0 pts)

d. **TOTAL for VP CTH** (maximum of 15): \_\_\_\_\_

e. **How above determined** (field estimate, GIS, air photo interpretation): \_\_\_\_\_

**C. SPECIES PRESENT IN VERNAL POOL**

INDICATOR SPECIES	DATE	EGG MASSES (#)	TADPOLES/ LARVAE
Wood Frog ( <i>Lithobates sylvaticus</i> )			
Spotted Salamander ( <i>Ambystoma maculatum</i> )			
Blue-spotted Salamander ( <i>Ambystoma laterale</i> )			
Jefferson's Salamander ( <i>Ambystoma jeffersonianum</i> )			
Marbled Salamander ( <i>Ambystoma opacum</i> )			
Fairy shrimp ( <i>Eubranchipus</i> spp.)		Present/ absent	Abundance:
OTHER SPECIES	DATE	PRESENCE/ ABSENCE	FEW/ COMMON/ MANY
Rare species (list):			
Facultative species: (e.g., Spring Peeper ( <i>Pseudacris crucifer</i> ), Gray Tree Frog ( <i>Hyla versicolor</i> ), Caddisflies (Limnephilidae, Phryganeidae), American Toad ( <i>Anaxyrus americanus</i> ), Eastern Spadefoot Toad ( <i>Scaphiopus holbrookii</i> ), Fowler's Toad ( <i>Anaxyrus fowleri</i> ), Fingernail Clams (Sphaerlidae, Pisidiidae)). List:			
Predator Species (e.g., Bullfrog/Green frog tadpoles, Fish): List:			
Other species (e.g. ducks, turtles, etc.): List:			