

# DRAFT

## SW ReGAP Vegetation Field Form

Recorders Initials: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/20\_\_\_\_ Plot ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Mapping Zone: \_\_\_\_\_ State: AZ CO NM UT UTM Zone: \_\_\_\_\_ GPS: Y N

UTM Easting: \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ UTM Northing: \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ % Error +/-: \_\_\_\_\_ Datum: \_\_\_\_\_

Site Confidence: 1 2 3 4 5 Plot Size (Pixels): \_\_\_\_\_(E-W) X \_\_\_\_\_(N-S) Elev: \_\_\_\_\_m  
Low-----High

Slope: \_\_\_\_\_° Aspect: \_\_\_\_\_° Slope Shape: CV CC S CX MU

Physiognomic Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Hydrologic Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Forest Structure: Single Multi

Landform: \_\_\_\_\_ Photo ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Location Notes:

TREES	DBH	Ht(m)	% Comp.	% Cover	SHRUBS	Ht(m)	% Comp.	% Cover
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>TOTAL</b>			

FORBS	Ht(m)	% Comp.	% Cover	GRASS	Ht(m)	% Comp.	% Cover
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>TOTAL</b>			

OTHER	% Cover	Albedo
Surface Rocks		
Soil/BG/LR		
Water		
Cryptobiotic		
Rock Outcrop		
<b>TOTAL</b>		

Soil Type (circle one): Clay Silt Sand Gravel Cobble Stone Boulder

Alliance: \_\_\_\_\_

Alliance Confidence: Low Moderate High

1<sup>st</sup> Alternative: \_\_\_\_\_

Description/Notes/Inclusions:

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## Explanations/Descriptions of SW ReGAP Vegetation Field Form

**Initials:** Enter recorders initials, 3 characters.

**Date:** Enter 2 digit month, 2 digit day, and 2 digit year.

**Plot ID:** Enter 2 letter State code (State where site is located), a 6 digit date, 2 letter examiner's initials and a 2 digit number, ie. NM071100BM07.

**Mapping Zone:** Enter the number of the mapping zone.

**State:** Enter the State collecting the data, regardless of the location of the site.

**UTM Zone:** Enter the UTM zone in which the plot is located.

**GPS:** Circle whether plot was located using a GPS.

**Datum:** Enter the datum your collecting the data in. NAD83 is the preferred datum.

**UTM East:** UTM easting coordinate (6 digits).

**UTM North:** UTM northing coordinate (7 digits).

**GPS Error +/-:** If your GPS has averaging capabilities, enter +/- error.

**Confidence:** Use a number from 1 through 5.

- 5** High Confidence – on site.
- 4** Confident – remote (spotting scope) data reasonable for overstory and site characteristics.
- 3** Low Confidence – questionable site location or plan ID.
- 2** Old or compromised site data.
- 1** Old site data, not appropriate for training site.

**Plot Size:** Approximation of dimensions of sample site expressed in “X” pixels by “Y” pixels. i.e., 4X4 would describe a site 4 pixels in east/west by 4 pixels north/south. One pixel equals approx. 30X30 m.

**Elevation:** Elevation in meters. GPS unit must be receiving signal in 3D mode.

**Physiognomic Class:** Choose one class from the list below.

To decide which Class, start with the uppermost woody layer (e.g. trees, then shrubs, then dwarf-shrubs, etc.). Evaluate that layer against the class definitions, which are ordered by the woody layers down to the herbaceous and non-vascular. Then if the vegetation you are sampling doesn't fit the definition, move to the next class. Example: if there are trees do they have 60-100% cover (forest)? If not, then do they have 25-60% (woodland)? If tree cover is less than 25%, then typically go to shrubland definition. Do the shrubs over .5m in height have > 25% cover (shrubland)? If not, then typically go to the dwarf-shrubland definition. And so on.

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**Forest:** Trees with their crowns overlapping (generally forming 60-100% cover).

**Woodland:** Open stands of trees with crowns not usually touching (generally forming 25-60% cover). Canopy tree cover may be less than 25% in cases where it exceeds shrub, dwarf-shrub, herb, and nonvascular cover.

**Shrubland:** Shrubs generally greater than 0.5m tall with individuals or clumps overlapping to not touching (generally forming more than 25% cover, trees generally less than 25% cover). Shrub cover may be less than 25% where it exceeds tree, dwarf-shrub, herb, and nonvascular cover respectively. Vegetation dominated by woody vines is generally treated in this class.

**Dwarf-Shrubland:** Low growing shrubs usually under 0.5m tall with individuals or clumps overlapping to not touching (generally forming more than 25% cover, trees and tall shrubs generally less than 25% cover). Dwarf-shrub cover may be less than 25% where it exceeds tree, shrub, herb and nonvascular cover.

**Herbaceous:** Herbs (graminoids, forbs and ferns) dominant (generally forming at least 25% cover; trees, shrubs, and dwarf-shrubs generally with less than 25% cover). Herb cover may be less than 25% where it exceeds tree, shrub, dwarf-shrub and nonvascular cover.

**Nonvascular:** Nonvascular dominant cover (bryophytes, non-crustose lichens, and algae), generally forming at least 25% cover. Nonvascular cover may be less than 25% where it exceeds tree, shrub, dwarf-shrub, and herb cover.

**Sparse Vegetation:** Abiotic substrate features dominant. Vegetation is scattered to nearly absent and generally restricted to areas of concentrated resources (total vegetation cover is typically less than 25% and greater than 0%).

**Hydrologic Class:** Choose one of the following classes.

**Upland:** All sites above floodplains and away from them. Alluvial and flooding processes do not strongly influence the vegetation. Overland flow or sheet/rill erosion from rain events may be present.

**Riparian:** Site occurring along river or stream channels – flows may be perennial or intermittent. Enough seasonal groundwater or surface water is present that the dominant vegetation is different from the adjacent uplands (may include lake shore vegetation). In the arid/semi-arid west, there is typically an obvious difference between the upland vegetation and the riparian zone.

**Wetland:** Sites are saturated for extended periods during the growing season; surface water is often present. Alluvial/fluvial hydrologic processes are not predominant.

**Playa Lakebed:** Poorly drained, depressional site where water concentrates intermittently then evaporates. The high rate of evapotranspiration often results in elevated levels of salts on the surface or in the soil profile, which strongly influences the vegetation.

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**Forest Structure:** Either “Single”, for areas with mostly all the same class sizes, or “Multi”, for areas not with mostly all the same class sizes.

**Slope:** Slope of site in degrees.

**Shape:** Enter 1 or 2 letter designation for the shape of the site.

<b>CV</b>	Convex	generally convex
<b>CC</b>	Concave	generally concave
<b>S</b>	Straight	generally straight, on a slope or flat
<b>CX</b>	Complex	site contains a combination of all three
<b>MU</b>	Micro-undulating	< 1 meter relief micro-slopes

**Aspect:** Direction of slope, using a compass, in degrees.

**Landform:** See Land Form List below for input information. Select only one from the list below:

<u>Form</u>	<u>Slope</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Setting</u>
<b>Dune</b>	5 to 20	wind deposited and wind shaped sand hills	mixed
<b>Alluvial Fan</b>	2 to 15	deposits of usually cobbly and/or gravelly soil minerals in fan shaped patterns at the mouths of canyons or other drainage intercept points, subsequently downcut and dissected	mixed
<b>Lava Flow</b>	2 to 30	landforms of exposed basalt boulders	mixed
<b>Foot Slope</b>	5 to 15	colluvial slopes at the base of steep valley side slopes	mixed
<b>Lake Terrace</b>	0 to 2	similar to lake plains but elevated above the level of the basin floor	mixed
<b>Mudflow</b>	< 15	similar to alluvial fans but associated with mudflow conditions	mixed
<b>Bajada</b>	1 to 15	coalesced alluvial fans flanking the base of mountain ranges	mixed
<b>Landslide/ Debris Flow</b>	2 to 30	colluvial/fluvial deposits along valleys below avalanche chutes or mass wasted headwalls	mixed
<b>Draw</b>	15 to 60	low relief valleys as a feature of mountain slopes and dissected intermediate landforms	mixed
<b>Moraine</b>	< 45	glacially deposited valley fill of unsorted rock and soil debris	mixed
<b>Swale</b>	1 to 5	a depressional landform; can be either upland or basin with closed or impeded drainage	mixed
<b>Slump</b>	0 to 60	displaced masses (usually soft regolith) with irregular forms and drainage patterns	mixed
<b>Slump Block</b>	0 to 60	apparently displaced masses with irregular forms but intact blocks of rock stratigraphy	mixed
<b>Stream</b>	0 to 2	a nearly flat landform somewhat elevated from the	mixed

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<b>Terrace</b>		floodplain or a downcut floodplain	
<b>Wash</b>	0 to 5	flat bottomed intermittent stream channels typical of desert landscapes, may be vegetated	mixed
<b>Valley Bottom</b>	0 to 3	narrow stream drainage bottoms, without extensive floodplains	mixed
<b>Cirque</b>	> 30	glacial headwall	erosional
<b>Fault Scarp</b>		steep slopes between faulted blocks	erosional
<b>Cliff</b>	> 60	nearly vertical rock exposures	erosional
<b>Hill</b>	> 15	convex sloping landforms of about 10 to 300 meters vertical relief	erosional
<b>Headwall</b>	> 30	steep slopes at the upper drainage of valleys created by glaciers or mass wasting	erosional
<b>Cinder Cone</b>	30 to 60	conical volcanic hill	erosional
<b>Dipslope</b>	1 to 30	gentle slope along tilted rock strata, slope equals tilt of strata	erosional
<b>Bluff</b>	> 45	nearly vertical escarpments	erosional
<b>Canyon Side</b>	25 to 45	very steep slopes in narrow "V" or "notch" canyons	erosional
<b>Mountainside</b>	15 to 60	steeply sloping landforms not part of a valley side	erosional
<b>Peak</b>	> 15	sloping summits in mountains or hills	erosional
<b>Plateau</b>	< 5	a nearly level, extensive or remnant upland divide	erosional
<b>Ridge</b>	< 60	convex interflueves in mountain or canyon topography or in dissected hills or benches	erosional
<b>Scarp Slope</b>	> 45	the steep side of uplifted strata, presents cross section of strata	erosional
<b>Saddle</b>	< 15	low area in summit divides	erosional
<b>Avalanche Chute</b>	30 to 60	very steep draws with evidence of recent slides and/or colonizing vegetation	erosional
<b>Valley Side Slope</b>	20 to 30	the nearly straight portion of a valley slope, from the rounded shoulder to a foot slope (if present)	erosional
<b>Mesa</b>	< 5	elevated plateau	erosional
<b>Bog</b>	0	flat nearly closed drainage, saturated or ponded most of the time	depositional
<b>Flood-Plain</b>	0 to 1	adjacent to and slightly higher than stream channel and bars, nearly level	depositional
<b>Marsh</b>	0	ponded drainage with emergent vegetation	depositional

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<b>Playa</b>	0 to 1	seasonally flooded basin floor with salt crust, lacking vegetation	depositional
<b>Basin Floor</b>	0 to 1	near base level, nearly flat, extensive and contiguous	depositional
<b>Lake Plain</b>	0 to 2	nearly flat areas associated with ancient lakes	depositional

**Photo ID:** A short code identifying the site photo(s). This code should be the same one that is used to identify the photos when they are downloaded. We are using the PlotID with a number tagged to the end. (e.g. NM071100GM07\_1, NM071100BM07\_2)

**Location Notes:** Enter a brief description of the location.

**Trees:** Give the full genus and species name for each dominant species.

**Ht:** Enter the approximate height of the trees in meters.

**DBH:** Diameter at Breast Height measurement. Indicate units (cm or inches).

**%CP (Percent Composition):** Approximate percentage of composition, within strata.

**%CC (Percent Cover):** Approximate percentage of coverage, within strata.

**Total For Trees:** Total for %CC & %CP of trees. Both categories can equal but not exceed 100%.

**Shrubs:** Give the full genus and species name for each dominant species.

**Ht:** Enter the approximate height of the shrubs in meters.

**%CP (Percent Composition):** Approximate percentage of composition, within strata.

**%CC (Percent Cover):** Approximate percentage of coverage, within strata.

**Total For Shrubs:** Total for %CC & %CP of shrubs. Both categories can equal but not exceed 100%.

**Forbs:** Give the full genus and species name for each dominant species.

**Ht:** Enter the approximate height of the forbs in meters.

**%CP (Percent Composition):** Approximate percentage of composition, within strata.

**%CC (Percent Cover):** Approximate percentage of coverage, within strata.

**Total For Forbs:** Total for %CC & %CP of forbs. Both categories can equal but not exceed 100%.

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**Grass:** Give the full genus and species name for each dominant species.

**Ht:** Enter the approximate height of the grass in meters.

**%CP (Percent Composition):** Approximate percentage of composition, within strata.

**%CC (Percent Cover):** Approximate percentage of coverage, within strata.

**Total For Grass:** Total for %CC & %CP of grasses. Both categories can equal but not exceed 100%.

**Total Vegetation CC%:** Sum the four previous vegetation totals.

**Surface Rock %:** Enter approximate percentage of surface rock

**Soil/Bare Ground/ Litter %:** Enter approximate percentage.

**Water %:** Enter approximate percentage of water coverage

**Cryptobiotic Crust %:** Enter approximate percentage of cryptobiotic crust

**Rock Outcrop %:** Enter approximate percentage of rock outcrop

**Total Coverage:** Total coverage from vegetation and ground cover classes.

**Rock Outcrop Albedo:** Enter the 3 digit code that corresponds to the color chart provided. You will enter a "G", "R" or "B" with a number from 1 to 10.

**Ground Albedo:** Enter the 3 digit code that corresponds to the color chart provided. You will enter a "G", "R", or "B" with a number from 1 to 10.

**Soil Type:** Dominant soil type. Clay (<.002mm), Silt (.002-.05mm), Sand (.05-2.0mm), Gravel (2-7.5mm), Cobble (7.5-25mm), Stones (25-60mm), Boulder (>60mm). Circle only one.

**TNC Alliance:** Alliance as defined by TNC Terrestrial Vegetation Classification.

**Alliance Confidence:** Confidence of your Alliance choice. Circle one.

**1<sup>st</sup> Alternative Alliance:** Alternate Alliance Level Classification (if any)

**Understory Canopy:** For information purposes only

**Site/Community Notes:** Information about surrounding area