

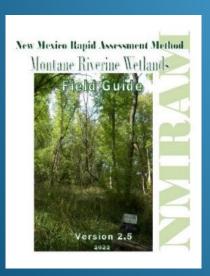
New Mexico Environment Department



New Mexico Rapid Assessment Method (NMRAM)

Riverine Wetlands

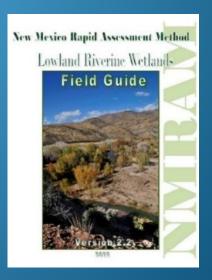
Vegetation Horizontal Patch Structure



New Mexico Environment Department Surface Water Quality Bureau Wetlands Program

> Natural Heritage New Mexico University of New Mexico





Vegetation Horizontal Patch Structure

• **Definition:** Vegetation Horizontal Patch Structure metric is an assessment of general vegetation patch diversity and complexity of the patch pattern (interspersion among vegetation patch types) within an SA



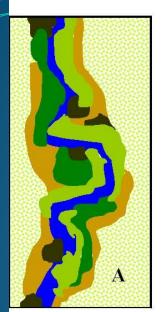
- Rationale: Multiple horizontal plant patches across the SA indicate:
 - high biotic diversity
 - diverse habitat structure for wildlife
 - intact ecosystem processes

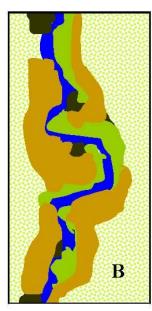


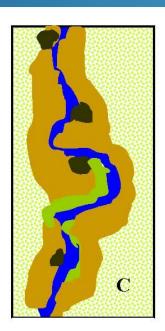




Vegetation Horizontal Patch Structure







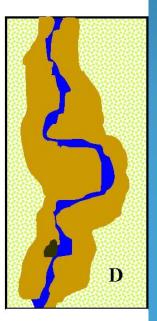


Table B2a. Horizontal Patch Structure Diagram Details					
	Α	В	С	D	
	30%	60%	80%	95%	
	30%	30%	10%	5%	
	30%	10%	10%		
	10%				
No. CTs	4	3	3	2	



Vegetation Horizontal Patch Structure

	Table B2. Rating for Vegetation Horizontal Patch Structure				
Rating Descripti		Description			
0	4	Most closely matches Pattern A. SA has a diverse patch structure (≥4 patch types) and complexity. A dominant patch type would be difficult to determine.			
•	3	Pattern B. SA has a moderate degree of patch diversity (3 patch types present) and complexity. A single, dominant patch type may be present, although the other patch types would be well represented and have more than one occurrence in the SA.			
0	2	Pattern C. SA has a low degree of patch diversity and complexity. Two or three patch types may be present; however, a single, dominant patch type exists with the others occupying a small portion of the SA.			
0	1	Pattern D. SA has essentially little to no patch diversity or complexity. The SA is dominated by a single patch type. Other patch types, if present, occur infrequently and occupy a small portion of the SA.			



