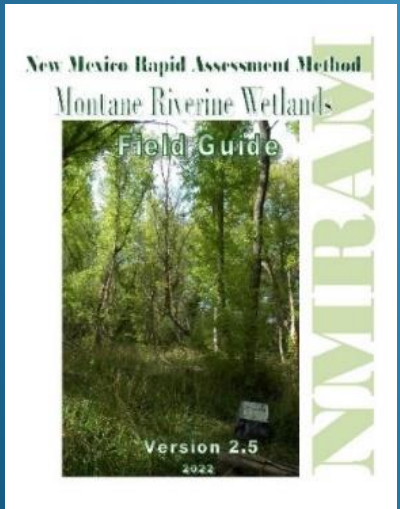
New Mexico Environment Department

New Mexico Rapid Assessment Method (NMRAM)

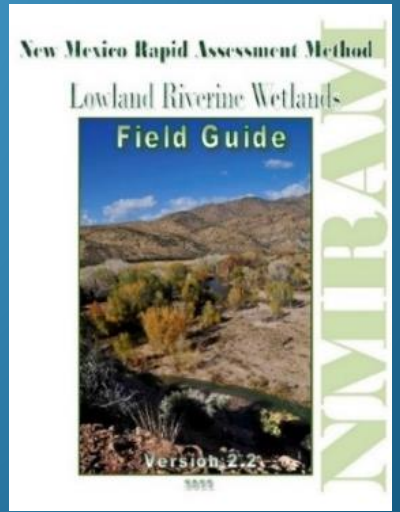
Riverine Wetlands

Native Riparian Tree Regeneration



New Mexico Environment Department
Surface Water Quality Bureau
Wetlands Program

Natural Heritage New Mexico
University of New Mexico



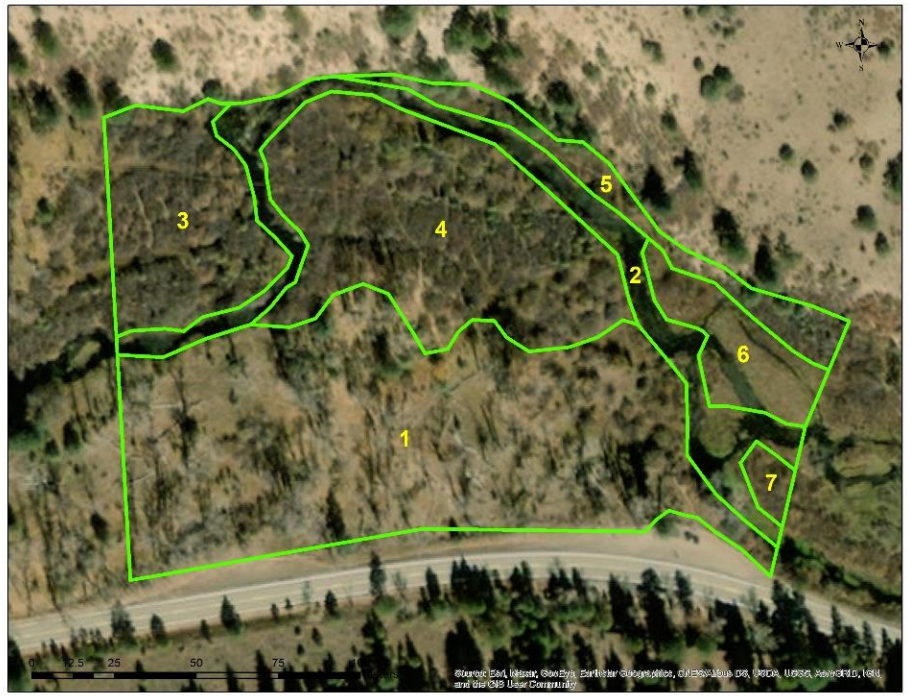
Native Riparian Tree Regeneration

- **Definition:** This metric assesses the abundance and spatial distribution of riparian tree regeneration across the SA (tree seedling, saplings, and poles under 12.7 cm (5 inches) diameter at breast height (DBH).
- **Rationale:** Healthy riverine wetlands should consist of a mosaic of woody vegetation stands that include both mature and young regeneration trees.
  - Reproduction is tied to natural disturbance cycles
  - Absence of young trees may indicate ecological dysfunction

Native Riparian Tree Regeneration

Worksheet 5. Vegetation Community Patch Polygon Data for Biotic Metrics B3, B4, and B5 for Polygons from SA Biotic Map. Enter data for each polygon under a unique number assigned from the SA Biotic Map. Each polygon is evaluated with respect to Vegetation Vertical Structure (B3), Native Tree Regeneration (B4), and Invasive Exotic Plant Species Cover (B5) metrics. Enter the Vertical Structure Type (VST) for B3, tree regeneration % cover within the polygon for B4 and the % co the Tables in Appendix B and the Field Guide for metric instructions. Enter the species codes for the invasive exotic species found in the po Appendix D). Use the comments box for documenting and describing vegetation community patch features.

Polygon No	B3 Vertical Structure Type	B4 Tree Regeneration % Cover	B5 Invasive Exotic Species % Cover	Invasive Exotic Species (List Code(s))	Comments
1	VST 2	1	0		Higher terrace with mature Cottonwood and c
2	VST 6W	0	0.5	CIAR4, CIVU	Channel with dense RAAQ and unknown aquat
3	VST 5	0	0.5	CIVU, CIAR4	Dense mixed shrub (3-4m tall) willow - SAEX and SALI
4	VST 5	0	0.5	CIVU, CIAR4	Dense mixed willow shrub (3-4 m tall) with Carex
5	VST 5	0	1	CIVU, CIAR4	Dense mixed willow shrub (3-4 m tall) with Carex sp.,
6	VST 6S	0	7	CIAR4, CIVU	Multi-channel, islands in channel with dense herbaceous
7	VST 5	0	0.5	CIVU, CIAR4	Dense mixed willow shrub (3-4 m tall) with Carex
8					



B4 - Native Riparian Tree Regeneration

Table B4. Native Riparian Tree Regeneration rating. Using the polygon percent cover of native tree seedlings, saplings and poles from Worksheet 5, rate the SA based on polygon percent cover and patch density. Enter the rating on the SA Rank Summary Worksheet.

Rating	Description
○ 4	Native poles, sapling, and seedlings trees well represented, obvious regeneration, many patches or polygons with >5% cover, typically multiple size (age) classes.
○ 3	Native poles, saplings and/or seedlings common, scattered patches or polygons with 1% -5% cover, size classes few.
● 2	Native poles, saplings and/or seedlings present but uncommon, restricted to one or two patches or polygons with typically <1% cover, little size class differentiation.
○ 1	Native poles, saplings, and/or seedlings absent (0% cover).

Native Riparian Tree Regeneration

- Tree Species that are applicable for this metric:
  - Narrowleaf Cottonwood (*Populus angustifolia*)
  - Plains/Rio Grande Cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*)
  - Freemont Cottonwood (*Populus fremontii*)
  - Lanceleaf Cottonwood (*Populus x acuminata*)
  - Arizona sycamore (*Platanus wrightii*)
  - Peachleaf Willow (*Salix amygdaloides*)
  - Goodding's Willow (*Salix gooddingii*)