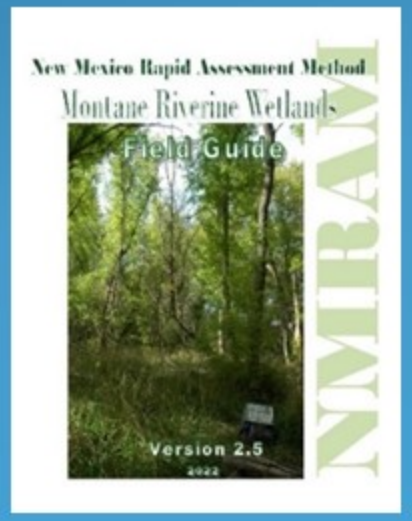
New Mexico Environment Department

New Mexico Rapid Assessment Method (NMRAM)

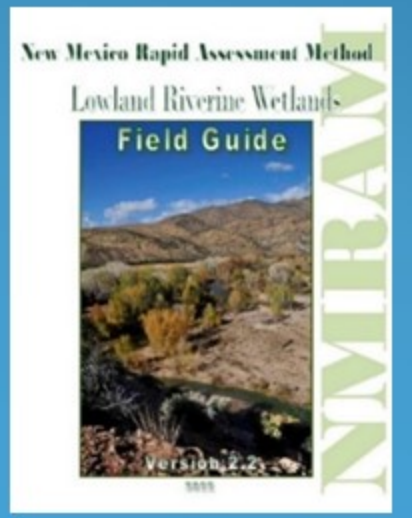
Riverine Wetlands

Abiotic Metrics Intro
Floodplain Recon



New Mexico Environment Department
Surface Water Quality Bureau
Wetlands Program

Natural Heritage New Mexico
University of New Mexico



Abiotic Metrics

1. Floodplain Hydrologic Connectivity
    1. Entrenchment Ratio (Montane)
    2. Narrative Method (Montane)
    3. Evidence Checklist (Lowland)
2. Physical Patch Complexity
3. Channel Equilibrium (Montane)
4. Stream Bank Stability and Cover (Montane)
5. Soil Surface Condition
6. Channel Mobility (Lowland)
7. Groundwater Index (Lowland)

Abiotic Survey Overview

- Plan potential locations for cross-sections and reconnaissance surveys
  - Divide SA into 3 segments
  - Montane – 3 cross-sections locations
    - Straight riffle segments (never in pools)
    - Separated by meander bends
  - Lowland – walking survey roughly middle of each segment

Abiotic Survey Overview

- Sketch major features of the floodplain
  - Signs of overbank flooding
  - Side channel locations and activity
  - Physical patch complexity indicators
  - Major areas of soil disturbance
  - Other disturbances
- Photo points
  - Photo point log (last Worksheet)
  - GPS location
  - features that alter the size of the SA, or significantly impact floodplain connectivity, are particularly useful to photograph and map.