

**WAC 173-183-710 Wetlands vulnerability classification.** (1)

Freshwater wetland environments and portions thereof, are classified into 4 types based on the identification system set forth below.

(a) Category I wetlands. The following types of wetlands are classed as category I wetlands:

(i) Documented habitat for threatened or endangered plant, animal, or fish species recognized by federal or state agencies; or

(ii) Documented Natural Heritage wetland sites or high quality native wetland communities which qualify as Natural Heritage wetland sites; or

(iii) Documented habitat of regional (Pacific Coast) or national significance for migratory birds; or

(iv) Regionally rare wetland communities; or

(v) Wetlands with irreplaceable ecological functions; or

(vi) Documented wetlands of local significance.

(b) Category II wetlands. The following types of wetlands are classed as category II wetlands:

(i) Documented habitat recognized by federal and state agencies for sensitive plant, animal, or fish species; or

(ii) Documented priority habitats and species recognized by state agencies; or

(iii) Wetlands with significant functions which may not be adequately replicated through creation or restoration; or

(iv) Wetlands with significant habitat value; or

(v) Documented wetlands of local significance.

(c) Category III wetlands. The following types of wetlands are classed as category III when they satisfy no category I, II, or IV criteria.

(d) Category IV wetlands. The following types of wetlands are classed as category IV wetlands:

(i) Wetlands less than one acre in size and hydrologically isolated and comprised of one vegetated class that is dominated (more than eighty percent areal cover) by one species from the list in Table 21; or

(ii) Wetlands less than two acres and hydrologically isolated with one vegetative class and more than ninety percent of the areal cover is any combination of species from the list in Table 22.

**Table 21. List of invasive/exotic plant species for rating Category IV wetlands.**

Common name	Scientific name
Soft Rush	<i>Juncus effusus</i>
Reed	<i>Phragmites communis</i>
Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>
Reed Canary Grass	<i>Phalaris arundinaceae</i>
Purple loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
Townsend's cordgrass	<i>Spartina townsendii</i>
Nonnative blackberry	<i>Rubus discolor, laciniatus, vestitus, macrophyllus</i>
Velvet grass	<i>Holyus lanarus, mollis</i>
Fescue	<i>Festuca arundinaceae, pratensis</i>
Quackgrass	<i>Agropyron repena</i>
Meadow foxtail	<i>Alopercurus pratensis, aequalis</i>
Orchardgrass	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Ryegrass	<i>Lolium perenne, multiflorum, temulentum</i>
Timothy	<i>Phleum pratense</i>
Bluegrass	<i>Poa compressa, palustris, pratensis</i>
Bromes	<i>Bromus tectorum, rigidus, brizaformis, geocalinus, japonicus, mollis, commutatus, inermis, cractus</i>
Sandbur	<i>Cauchrus longispinus</i>
Crab Grass	<i>Digitalisa sanguinalis</i>
Barnyard grass	<i>Echinochloa crusgalli</i>
Green Bristlegrass	<i>Setaria viridius</i>
Foxtail Barley	<i>Hordeum jubatum</i>
Dogtail	<i>Cynosurus cristatus, achinatus</i>
Russian Thistle	<i>Salsola kali</i>
Knotweeds	<i>Polygonium aviculare, concoloculus, cuspidatum, lapathifolium, persicaria</i>
Tumblemustards	<i>Sisymbrium altissimum, loesclii, officinale</i>
Scotch broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>
Sweet clover	<i>Melilotus alba, officinalis</i>
Bird's foot trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>
Alfalfa	<i>Medicago sativa</i>
Clover	<i>Trifolium dubium, pratense, repens, aryense, subterraneum, hybridum</i>
Spurge	<i>Euphorbia pepius, caula</i>
St. John's wort	<i>Hypericum parfoliatum</i>
Teasel	<i>Dipsacus sylvestris</i>
Pineapple weed	<i>Marricaria matricartioides</i>
Tansy	<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>
Thistles	<i>Cirsium vulgare, arvense</i>
Burdock	<i>Arctium minus</i>
Knapweeds	<i>Centauras solstitialis, repens, cyanus, maculosa</i>
Cultivated species; wheat, corn, barley, triticum, rye	

**Table 22. List of native species for rating of Category IV wetlands.**

Common name	Scientific name
Hard hack	<i>Spirea douglasii</i>
Cattail	<i>Typha latifolia</i>
Soft rush	<i>Juncus effusus</i>

(2) Freshwater wetland environment vulnerability score (WVS). The vulnerability of freshwater wetland environments is based on the stream typing system established in WAC 222-16-030 incorporated by reference. The rating of the freshwater wetland environment vulnera-

bility ranges from 1 to 5, where 5 represents the most sensitive category and 1 represents the least sensitive category as follows:

Table 23. Freshwater Wetlands Vulnerability Score (WVS).

WVS	QUALIFICATION
5	Category I wetlands
4	Category II wetlands
3	Category III wetlands
1	Category IV wetlands

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 90.48 RCW. WSR 92-10-005 (Order 91-13), § 173-183-710, filed 4/23/92, effective 5/24/92.]