

**Table 1.** Simplified Keys for Landscape Position, Landform, and Water Flow Path

**Landscape Position**

1. Wetland borders a waterbody (river, stream, lake, reservoir, estuary, or ocean)	2
1. Wetland does not border a waterbody; it is completely surrounded by upland	<i>Terrene</i>
2. Wetland lies along an ocean shore and is subject to tidal flooding	<i>Marine</i>
2. Wetland does not lie along an ocean shore	3
3. Wetland lies along an estuary (salt to brackish tidal waters) and is subject to frequent tidal flooding	<i>Estuarine</i>
3. Wetland does not lie along an estuary or if so, it is not subject to frequent tidal flooding	4
4. Wetland forms the shore of a lake or reservoir or lies within its basin	<i>Lentic</i>
4. Wetland lies along a river or stream, or if along an estuary or estuarine wetland it is not subject to frequent tidal flooding	5
5. Wetland is the source of a river or stream and although the watercourse originates from the wetland, it does not flow through the entire length of the wetland, or it borders an estuarine wetland (subject to storm tides only)	<i>Terrene</i>
5. River or stream flows through the wetland	6
6. Wetland is periodically flooded by river or stream overflow	<i>Lotic</i> <sup>1</sup>
6. Wetland is not periodically flooded by the river or stream	<i>Terrene</i>

**Landform**

1. Wetland occurs on a slope >2%	<i>Slope</i>
1. Wetland does not occur on a slope >2%	2
2. Wetland forms an island completely surrounded by water (excluding wetlands where extensive grid ditching might create this condition at a small scale)	<i>Island</i>
2. Wetland does not form on an island	3
3. Wetland occurs in the shallow water zone of a permanent nontidal waterbody, the intertidal zone of an estuary, or the regularly flooded (daily tidal inundation) zone of freshwater tidal wetlands	<i>Fringe</i> <sup>2</sup>
3. Wetland does not occur in these waters or intertidal zones	4
4. Wetland forms a nonvegetated bank or is within the banks of a river or stream	<i>Fringe</i>
4. Wetland is not a nonvegetated river or stream bank or within the banks	5
5. Wetland occurs on an active alluvial plain	<i>Floodplain</i> <sup>3</sup>
5. Wetland does not occur on an active floodplain	6
6. Wetland occurs in a distinct depression	<i>Basin</i>
6. Wetland occurs on a nearly level landform	<i>Flat</i>

<sup>1</sup> Lotic wetlands are further separated based on watercourse width - polygon = Lotic River vs. linear = Lotic Stream at a scale of 1:24,000 and then are divided into gradients largely related to steepness or flow: 1) high, 2) middle, 3) low, 4) intermittent, and 5) tidal.

<sup>2</sup> Tidally restricted wetlands behind causeways, dikes, and similar structures are classified as Basins.

<sup>3</sup> Basin and Flat sub-landforms can be identified within this landform when desirable.

## Water Flow Path<sup>4</sup>

1. Wetland is typically surrounded by upland (nonhydric soil); receives precipitation and runoff from adjacent areas with no apparent outflow *Isolated*<sup>5</sup>
1. Wetland is not isolated 2
2. Wetland is a sink receiving water from a river, stream, or other surface water source, lacking surface water outflow *Inflow*
2. Wetland is not a sink; surface water flows through or out of the wetland 3
3. Wetland is subjected to tidal flooding *Bidirectional-Tidal*
3. Wetland is not tidally influenced 4
4. Water flows out of the wetland, but does not flow into this wetland from another source *Outflow*<sup>6</sup>
4. Water flows in and out of the wetland 5
5. Water flows through the wetland, often coming from upstream or uphill sources *Throughflow*<sup>6</sup>
5. Wetland is along a lake or reservoir and its water levels are subjected to the rise and fall of this waterbody; no stream flow through the wetland *Bidirectional-Nontidal*

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<sup>4</sup> Surface water connections are emphasized because they are more readily identified than groundwater linkages. Note: The “Paludified” water flow path is not included in this simple key; paludified wetlands are common in northern climates where bogs are one of the most common wetland types in the region.

<sup>5</sup>Wetland is geographically isolated; hydrological relationship to other wetlands and watercourses may be more complex than can be determined by simple visual assessment of surface water conditions.

<sup>6</sup>If stream data are separated into intermittent and perennial reaches, consider separating Outflow and Throughflow into perennial (OU and TH) and intermittent (OI and TI) water flow paths