

# Key to Major Wetland and Riparian Habitats in Oregon

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1a. Soils alkaline (sodic); lower elevation drylands in Columbia Basin, Blue Mountains, and Basin and Range ecoregions.....	<b>Alkaline wetlands</b>
1b. Soils not alkaline; locations various.....	2
2a. Vegetation mostly perennially submerged or floating on water surface.....	<b>Aquatic beds</b>
2b. Vegetation emergent, seasonally flooded, or seasonally saturated.....	3
3a. Sites subject to tidal flooding.....	4
3b. Sites not tidal.....	5
4a. Water fresh, along tidally-influenced rivers upstream from marine-sourced salinity.....	<b>Freshwater tidal wetlands</b>
4b. Water with marine-sourced salinity, strongly saline to brackish (euhaline to oligohaline), in estuaries and lower reaches of tidally-influenced rivers.....	<b>Salt marshes and brackish marshes</b>
5a. Sites mostly perennially saturated or flooded, usually from groundwater discharge, or proximity to streams, lakes, or ponds.....	6
5a. Sites mostly seasonally saturated or flooded.....	11
6a. Sites obviously occurring around springs.....	<b>Springs</b>
6b. Sites otherwise.....	7
7a. Sites in spray zones of waterfalls, usually on bedrock.....	<b>Spray zones</b>
7b. Sites otherwise.....	8
8a. Sites usually perennially flooded by streams, lakes, or ponds.....	<b>Freshwater marshes</b>
8a. Sites perennially saturated but usually not flooded.....	9
9a. Soils obviously organic.....	10
9b. Sites mineral or organic.....	11
10a. Soils formed over ultramafic bedrock.....	<b>Serpentine fens</b>
10b. Soils formed over non-ultramafic bedrock, sand, or cemented soil hardpan (duripan).....	<b>Fens</b>
11a. Sites montane depressions where accumulated snow provides hydration well into the growing season.....	<b>Snowbed depressions</b>
11b. Sites otherwise.....	12
12a. Sites low to mid-elevation depressions flooded by winter precipitation, mostly drying early in the growing season.....	<b>Vernal pools</b>
12b. Sites otherwise.....	13
13a. Sites dominated by trees.....	<b>Forested wetlands and riparian forest</b>
13b. Sites otherwise.....	14
14a. Sites dominated by shrubs.....	<b>Shrub swamps and shrub riparian</b>
14b. Sites dominated by forbs and graminoids.....	15
15a. Hydration seasonal or perennial, montane.....	<b>Wet Meadows</b>
15b. Hydration seasonal, interior valleys W of Cascade Range.....	<b>Wet prairies</b>