COMMUNITY FORM 1: TRANSECT, SITE SURVEY SUMMARY

rev. May, 1998

MA Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program

A. Identifiers

1. Site name: _____ 2. Survey site name: W-6

3. Quad name(s) Pittsfield East (1:25,000) 4. Quad code(s): _____ 5. County name(s): Berkshire 6. County code(s): _____

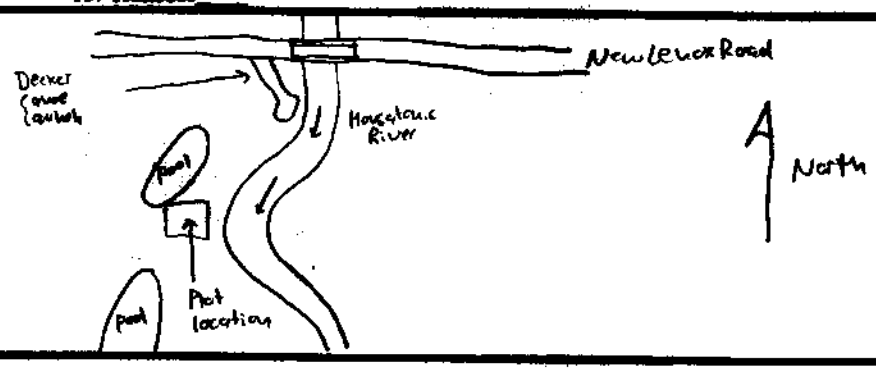
7. Town (LOCALJURIS): Lenox 8. Directions: from the New Lenox Road, park at the Decker Canoe launch on the west side of the Housatonic River and follow the river channel south to the south end of the second Pool, approximately 150 meters.

9. Sourcecode: FOOHA101MAUS 10. Survey date 22 sep 2000 11. State: MA

12. Surveyors: Arthur Haines and Chris Werner

B. Topography 13. Transect

14. Reconnaissance diagram: Scale:



C. Vegetation / Habitat

15. Observation point 1	Observation point 2	Observation point 3
16. Community name: Wet Meadow 17. Additional data: Site form X form 3 X	Community name: Additional data: Site form ___ form 3 ___	Community name: Additional data: Site form ___ form 3 ___
18. General description (physiognomy, char./dom spp. of tree, shrub, herb, bryophyte layers) Open community which was formally agricultural land. Area is best classified as a wet meadow (dominated by Phalaris arundinacea and Impatiens capensis (in plot) and Calamagrostis canadensis and Carex lacustris (out of plot)) with interspersed deep emergent marshes in the frequent pools (dominated by Lythrum salicaria, Lemna minor, and Persicaria punctata). Very few trees occur in the community and are largely restricted to the edge of the channel. Dense shrub patches are scattered throughout.	General description	General description:

Reconnaissance Diagram: Scale:

Observation Point 4 ___	Observation Point 5 __	Observation Point 6 __	Observation Point 7 __
Community name:_____ Additional data: Site form ___ form 3___	Community name:_____ Additional data: Site form____ form 3____	Community name:_____ Additional data: Site form____ form 3____	Community name:_____ Additional data: Site form____ form 3____
General Description:	General Description:	General Description:	General Description:

Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program

Division of Fisheries & Wildlife
Route 135
Westborough, MA 01581
(508) 792-7270, ext. 200

NATURAL COMMUNITY SITE REPORT FORM

A location map must accompany this form.

Survey Date: 22 September 2000 Today's Date: 4 October 2000
Type of Communtiy: Wet Meadow Code:
Town: Lenox County: Berkshire Survey Site Name: W-6 Wendenon Road
Surveyor Name(s): Arthur Haines and Chris Werner
Directions to site: See Site Survey Summary

Vegetation Description (EODATA, vegetation, dominant or significant species, community structure):
Relatively open community growing on floodplain adjacent to Housatonic River. Site dominated by graminoids (Pharis arundinacea and Calamagrostis canadensis) with intermixed forbs (Impatiens capensis, Urtica dioica, and Eupatorium maculatum) and dense patches of Shrubs (Cornus amomum with some Cornus serifera and Salix discolor). Trees (a broken corridor) are largely confined to edge of river channel (Salix nigra, Acer rubrum, Acer negundo, and Acer saccharinum).

Physical Description (GENDESC, natural disturbances, aquatic features, notable landforms, scenic qualities, natural hazards):
Area is a broad, level floodplain with numerous low areas that form vernal or permanent pools (depending on season) utilized by various herpetiles (especially Rana pipiens). Stream channel has vertically cut banks with significant bank erosion occurring.

Surrounding Land Use (physical structures and land use practices in the surrounding area):
Land is primarily used for agriculture and is the reason why this open community exists (cleared land). A hunting club as well as paddlers and anglers also use this site or nearby land.

Are there any rare species at this site? Please specify: Eleocharis intermedia occurs on a silt accretion bar close to this site and American bitterns have been seen on multiple occasions in pools.

Management / Ownership

Is this area part of a managed conservationa area: yes Managed Area Name: Housatonic River Valley SWMA

Threats to Site/Management Recommendations (on-site and off-site threats to site and management implications; if applicable, discuss why the community may no longer exist here): Community will eventually succeed to shrub swamp and eventually, forested floodplain. Mowing would be needed periodically to maintain community (if desired). Non-native species control is also required.

Evidence of Disturbance (livestock grazing, structures, past logging, mining, plantations, orchards, exotic flora or fauna):
Land was formally cleared for agriculture; non-native species.

Owner Information

Owner's Name: Commonwealth of Massachusetts Telephone: ( )

Address:

Is Owner: Aware of EO? ____yes ____no ____unknown Protecting EO? ____yes ____no ____unknown

Owner Comments:

Element Occurrence (EO) Summary

EO Quality: (How does this occurrence compare with others you have seen? Consider such factors as acreage, maturity, "naturalness," and any unique or special biotic features.)

A - Excellent B - Good (C) - Marginal D - Poor

Comments: Site has been artificially created through clearing of canopy

EO Condition: (Consider disturbances which may have had a negative impact on this occurrence. Have exotics invaded? Can the community occurrence recover from past disturbances?)

A - Excellent B - Good (C) - Marginal D - Poor

Comments: Exotic species common near/in vernal pools.

EO Viability: (What are the long-term prospects for continued existence of this occurrence at the indicated level of quality?)

A - Excellent B - Good (C) - Marginal D - Poor

Comments: Community will succeed without intervention

EO Defensibility: (Can this occurrence be protected from extrinsic human factors?)

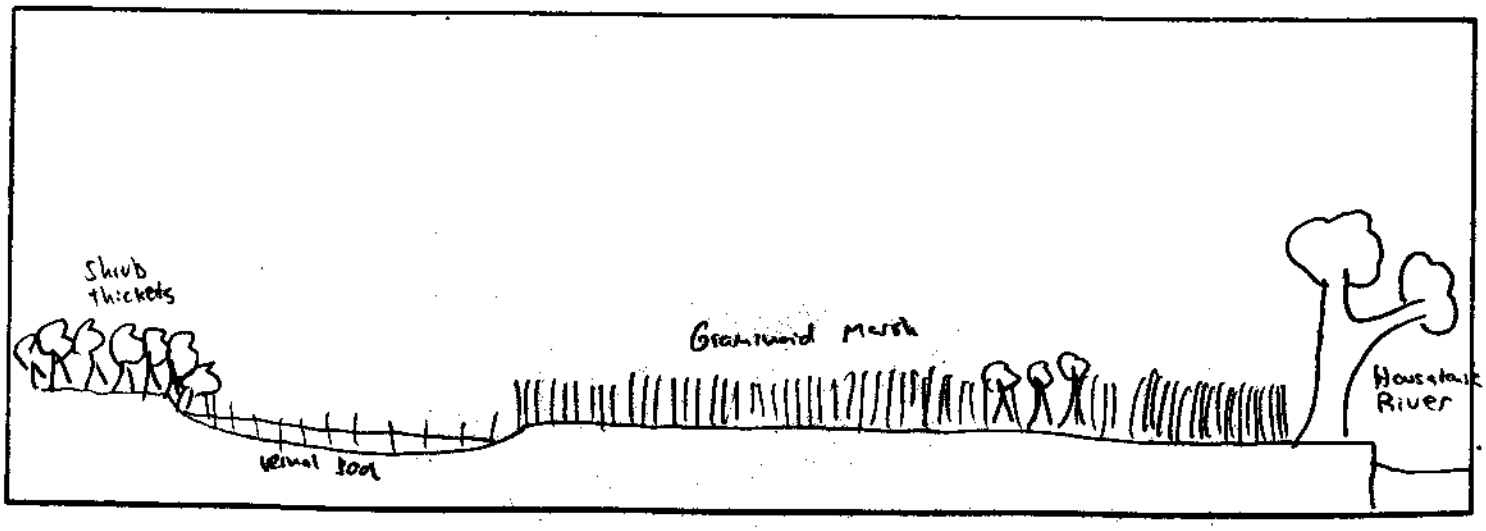
A - Excellent (B) - Good C - Marginal D - Poor

Comments: Public ownership of property

EO Rank: (A summary of all factors listed above.) A - Excellent B - Good (C) - Marginal D - Poor

Comments: Community is utilized by many riparian species and it links to other communities to form a wildlife corridor along the Housatonic River.

Draw a cross section of the natural community, showing topographic and aquatic features, vegetation structure, and location of various plant communities or species. Include scale and direction.



Form 3: Quantitative Community Characterization

rev. May, 1996

MA Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program

A. Identifiers (general EOR information)

Sci. name: 1.SNAME: _____ 2.GNAME: _____

3.Site name: _____ 4.Survey site name: W-6

5.Quad name(s): Pittsfield East 6.Quad code(s): _____ 7.County name(s): Berkshire 8.County code(s): _____

9.Town (LOCALJURIS): Lenox 17.State: MA 10.~~Lat~~ UTM N 4694650 11.~~Long~~ 0644515 ~~W-E~~

12. Directions: See site survey summary

13.Sourcecode: FOOHAIGMAUS 14.Survey date 22 Sep 2000 15.Last obs _____ 16.First obs: _____

18 Surveyors: _____

B. Environmental Description

19.Transect / Observation point #

20.Image annotation #

21.Elevation: 293 m

22.Topographic position:
- ___ Interfluve
- ___ High slope
- ___ High level
- ___ Midslope
- X Low level
- ___ Channel bed
- ___ Other
- ___ Backslope
- ___ Step in slope
- ___ Lowslope
- ___ Toeslope
- ___ Channel wall
- ___ Basin floor

23.Topographic sketch:

see included topographic map

24.Slope degrees: 0-3°

25.Slope aspect: west (toward pool)

26.Parent material:

unknown

27.Soil profile description: note depth, texture, and color of each horizon. Note significant changes such as depth to mottling, depth to water table, root penetration depth (SOILCOM)

28.Organic horizon depth: _____

29.Organic horizon type: _____

30.Average pH of mineral soil: _____

A plow layer undoubtedly exists.

31.Soil moisture regime:
- ___ Extremely dry
- ___ Very dry
- ___ Dry
- ___ Somewhat moist
- X Moist
- ___ Somewhat wet
- ___ Wet
- ___ Very wet
- ___ Permanently inundated
- X Periodically inundated

32.Stoniness:
- ___ Stone free <0.1%
- ___ Moderately stony 0.1-1%
- ___ Stony 3-15%
- ___ Very stony 15-50%
- ___ Exceedingly stony 50-90%
- ___ Stone piles >90%

unknown

33.Soil drainage:
- ___ Rapidly drained
- ___ Well drained
- ___ Moderately well drained
- X Somewhat poorly drained
- ___ drained
- X Poorly drained
- ___ Very poorly drained

(range)

34.Average texture:
- ___ sand
- ___ sandy loam
- ___ loam
- ___ silt loam
- ___ clay loam
- ___ clay
- ___ peat
- ___ muck

other _____

35.Unvegetated surface:
- ___ % Bedrock
- ___ % Large rocks (cobbles, boulders > 10 cm)
- ___ % Small rocks (gravel, 0.2-10 cm)
- ___ % Sand (0.1-2 mm)
- ___ % Bare soil
- 95 % Litter, duff
- 5 % Wood (> 1 cm)
- 5 % Water
- ___ % Other: _____

36.Environmental Comments: vegetation homogeneity, erosion / sedimentation, inundation, etc.

Heterogeneous environment (vernal pools, open marsh/field, shrub patches, trees along stream channel). Erosion prominent at bank edge.

37.Plot representativeness:

Representative of open areas of graminoid marsh.

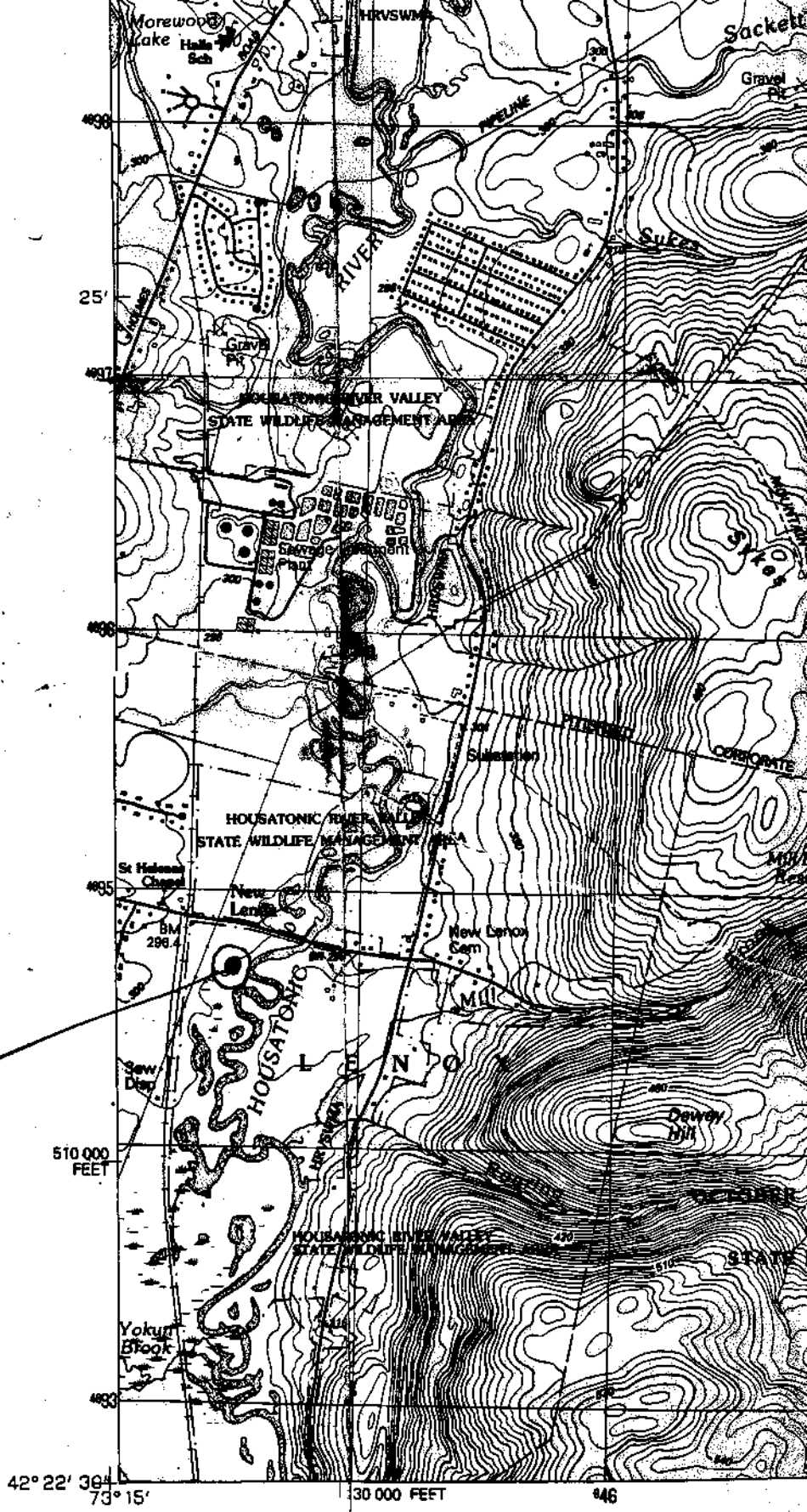
C. Vegetation 38 System: ___ Terrestrial X Palustrine ___ Estuarine 39. Plot number: 1 40. Plot dimensions: 20 x 20 M

41. Leaf type:	42. Leaf phenology:	43. Physiognomic type:	
___ Broad-leaf	___ Deciduous	___ Forest	___ Woodland
___ Semi-broad-leaf	___ Semi-deciduous	___ Sparse woodland	___ Scrub thicket
___ Semi-needle-leaf	___ Semi-Evergreen	___ Shrubland	___ Sparse shrubland
___ Needle-leaf	___ Evergreen	___ Dwarf shrubland	___ Dwarf scrub thicket
X Graminoid	X Perennial	___ Sparse dwarf shrubland	___ Non-vascular
___ Broad-leaf herbaceous	___ Annual	X Herbaceous	
___ Pteridophyte		___ Sparsely vegetated	

44.	height	% cover
T1 Emergent tree	Absent	0
T2 Tree canopy	18 M	1
T3 Tree sub-canopy	Absent	0
S1 Tall shrub	Absent	0
S2 Short shrub	Absent	0
H Herbaceous	2 M	95
N Non-vascular	Absent	0
E Epiphyte (vascular)	Absent	0
V Vine / liana	2 M	2

45. Species / percent cover: starting with uppermost stratum, list all species and % cover for each in the stratum. For forests and woodlands, list on a separate line below each tree species the DBH of all trees above 10 cm diameter. Separate the measurements with a comma and note whether in cm or inches.

D6b		Epilobium ciliatum ssp. glandulosum (Elymus virginicus var. virginicus)	
Salix nigra 7 inches	r. 2	(Galium mollugo, Geum laciniatum, Festuca	
(Acer negundo)		rubra, Poa palustris, Verbena hastata)	
(Acer saccharinum)		C1-3r	
(Acer rubrum)		Calystegia sepium	1.2
		Echinocystis lobata	r.1
G1-3c		Solanum dulcamara	r.1
Phalaris arundinacea	4.5	(Fallopia scandens)	
Impatiens capensis	2-.2		
Persicaria sagittata	1.2		
Lythrum salicaria	2-.3		
Urtica dioica	+.1	D4 (absent from plot)	
Solidago gigantea	+.1	(Cornus amomum)	
Symphyotrichum lanceolatum	+.1	(Cornus sericea)	
Asclepias syriaca	+.1	(Salix discolor)	
(Solidago altissima)		(Rubus idaeus)	
(Symphyotrichum novi-belgii) Brassica nigra			
(Eupatorium maculatum			
(Asclepias incarnata)			
(Calamagrostis canadensis)			
(Carex lacustris)			



W-6

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