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: 18-UP-2

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

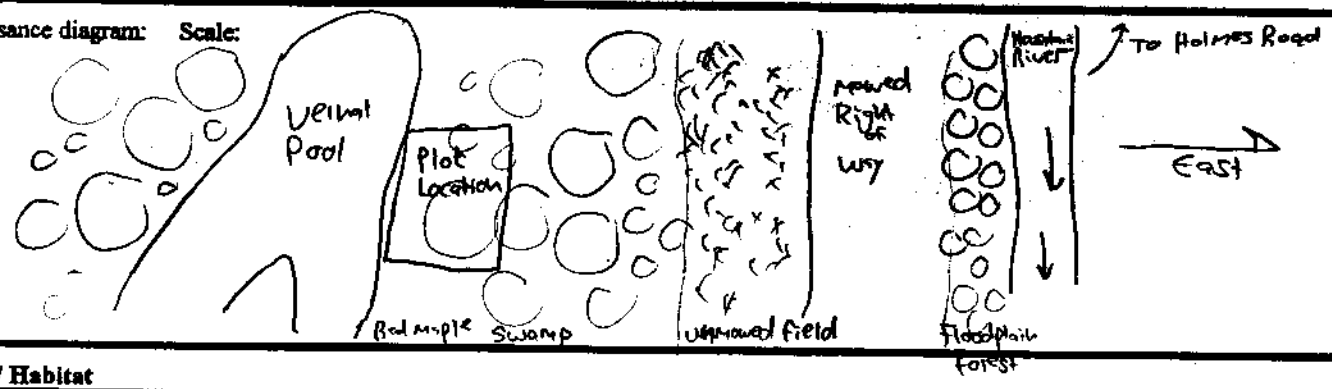
7.Town (LOCALJURIS): Pittsfield 8.Directions: From the Holmes Road, on the West side of the bridge over the Housatonic River, pass through a yellow gate and follow an open field/road south along river for 100 meters. Turn right (west) and walk directly into swamp until intersection with vernal pool.

9.Sourcecode: FOOHAIOCMAUS 10.Survey date 31 Aug 2004 11.State: MA

12.Surveyors: Arthur Haines, Lisa Kuronya

B. Topography 13. Transect 1

14.Reconnaissance diagram: Scale:



C. Vegetation / Habitat

15. Observation point 1___	Observation point 2___	Observation point 3___
16. Community name: Red maple swamp 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) Red Maple Swamp with some early successional trees and Pinus strobus (adjacent to field). Other dominent trees include Ulmus americana, Populus tremuloides, and Betula populifolia. Shrub layer largely comprised of dense Cornus amomum thickets. Herb layer filling gaps between shrubs in understory. Dominated by Onoclea sensibilis, Cinna latifolia, Symphyotrichum lateriflorum, and Cardamine pratensis.	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: 31 August 2000 Today's Date: 13 October 2000
Type of Communtiy: Red Maple Swamp Code:
Town: Pittsfield County: Berkshire Survey Site Name: 18-VP-2
Surveyor Name(s): Arthur Haines, Lisa Kurchy9
Directions to site: see Community form 1.

Vegetation Description (EODATA, vegetation, dominant or significant species, community structure):
Forested Swamp dominated by Acer rubrum, Betula populifolia, Ulmus americana, and Populus tremuloides. Understory strongly dominated by Cornus amomum in large, dense tangles. Herbaceous species largely filling space between shrub thickets and comprised mainly of facultative wetland plants.

Physical Description (GENDESC, natural disturbances, aquatic features, notable landforms, scenic qualities, natural hazards):
Relatively level topography that is flooded from adjacent vernal pool during high water events. Residential areas surround forest on two sides. An open field for sewer access lies to the east. Vernal pool located to the west is surrounded by dense border of Cornus amomum and used by several herpetiles for breeding (Rana sylvatica, Rana pipiens, Pseudacris crucifer).

Surrounding Land Use (physical structures and land use practices in the surrounding area):
Residential use on two sides of swamp fragment, open to east for sewer access (open field). This swamp is part of a largely continuous, narrow strip of forested community that forms a wildlife corridor through much of Pittsfield, Lenox, and Lee.

Are there any rare species at this site? Please specify: none observed

Management / Ownership

Is this area part of a managed conservationa area: yes Managed Area Name: Housatonic River State WMA.

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):
Threatened by PCB contamination and mediated, in part, by cleanup of source areas.

Evidence of Disturbance (livestock grazing, structures, past logging, mining, plantations, orchards, exotic flora or fauna):
Area likely cleared in recent past as evidenced by early successional trees.

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: Fragmented by Urbanization, with Many non-native species

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:

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:

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

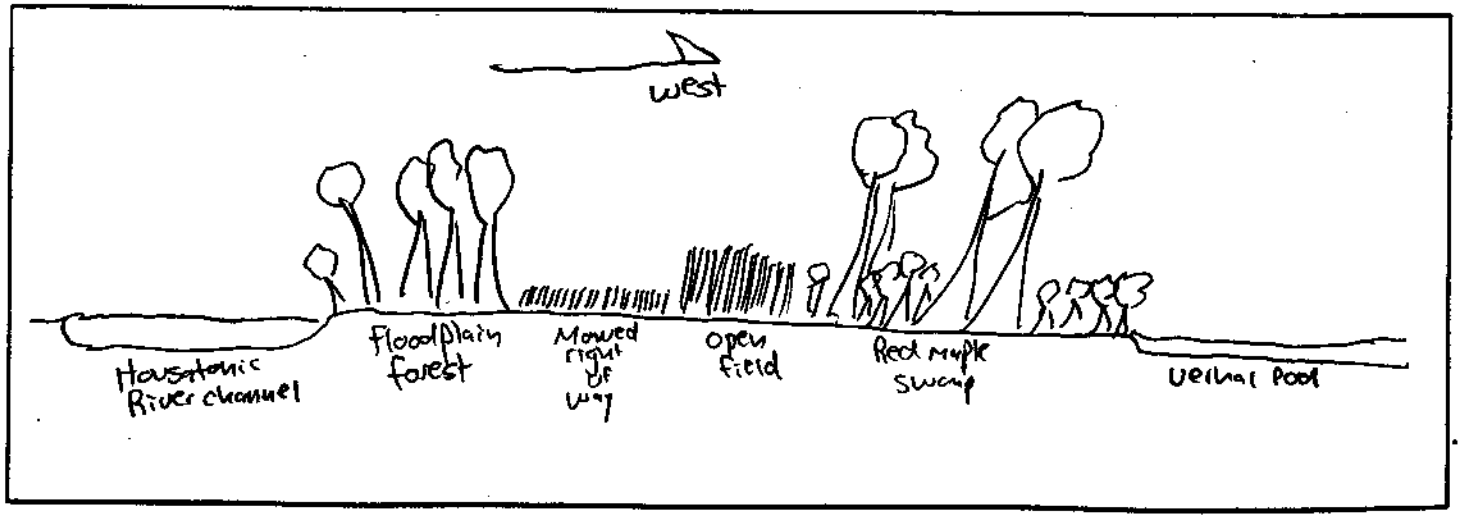
A - Excellent (B) - Good C - Marginal D - Poor

Comments: Public Ownership of Property

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

Comments: Though of low rank, site does provide important wildlife habitat for the local area

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, 1998

MA Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program

A. Identifiers (general EOR information)

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

3.Site name: _____ 4.Survey site name: 18-UP-2

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

9.Town (LOCALJURIS): Pittsfield 17.State: MA 10.~~Lat~~ UTM N 4698450 11.~~Long~~ 0644820 ~~W~~ E

12. Directions: See Community form 1.

13.Sourcecode: FOOHAIOIMAUS 14.Survey date 31 August 2000 15.Last obs _____ 16.First obs: _____

18 Surveyors: Arthur Haines and Lisa Kuronya

B. Environmental Description

19.Transect / Observation point #

20.Image annotation #

21.Elevation: ca. 295 meters

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

23.Topographic sketch:

24.Slope degrees: 0-5°

25.Slope aspect: west

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: _____

31.Soil moisture regime:
- ___ Extremely dry
- X Somewhat wet
- ___ Very dry
- ___ Wet
- ___ Dry
- ___ Very wet
- ___ Somewhat moist
- ___ Moist
- ___ 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
- X Somewhat poorly drained
- ___ Well drained
- ___ Poorly drained
- ___ Moderately well drained
- ___ Very poorly drained

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

other _____

35.Unvegetated surface:
- ___ % Bedrock
- ___ % Large rocks (cobbles, boulders > 10 cm)
- ___ % Small rocks (gravel, 0.2-10 cm)
- ___ % Sand (0.1-2 mm)
- 20 % Bare soil
- 65 % Litter, duff
- 10 % Wood (> 1 cm)
- 5 % Water
- ___ % Other: _____

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

Local Area heterogeneous as to plant communities, alternates between shrub thickets and open-understory swamp with nearby vernal pool and open field.

37.Plot representativeness:

Relatively representative

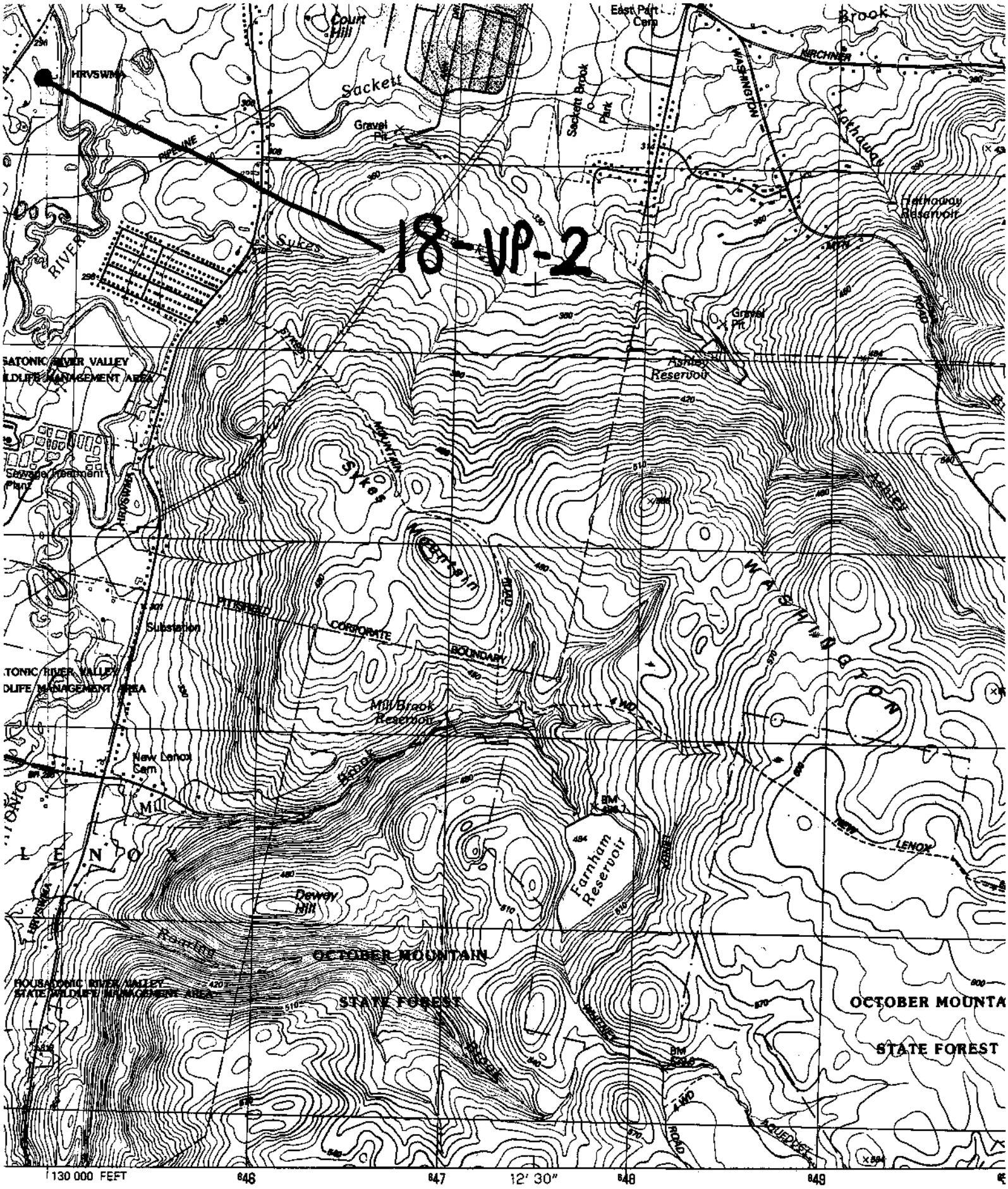
C. Vegetation 38.System: ___ Terrestrial X Palustrine ___ Estuarine 39.Plot number: ___ 40.Plot dimensions: 20 X 20 meters

41.Leaf type:	42.Leaf phenology:	43.Physiognomic type:	
X Broad-leaf	X Deciduous	X 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
___ Graminoid	___ Perennial	___ Sparse dwarf shrubland	___ Non-vascular
___ Broad-leaf herbaceous	___ Annual	___ Herbaceous	
___ Pteridophyte		___ Sparsely vegetated	

44.	height	% cover
T1 Emergent tree	Absent	0
T2 Tree canopy	25m	50
T3 Tree sub-canopy	10m	20
S1 Tall shrub	2m	50
S2 Short shrub	1m	5
H Herbaceous	1m	35
N Non-vascular	0.001m	1
E Epiphyte	Absent	0
V Vine / liana	5m	5

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.

D6-7; [redacted]		Carex projecta	+.2		
Ulmus americana 12,15	1.1	Athyrthium felix-femina	+.2		
Acer rubrum 15,22,15,13	2+.1	Galium trifidum	+.2		
Betula populifolia 5,	+.1	Lysimichia ciliata	r.1		
Populus tremuloides 14,5,11	2+.1	Juglands cinerea	r.1		
D5r		Cardamine pratensis var. pratensis	1.2		
Rhamnus cathartica	+.2	Solidago gigantea	r.1		
Populus tremuloides	r.1	Impatiens capensis	+.2		
D4i		Iris versicolor	r.2		
Cornus amomum var. amomum	4.4	Lonicera Morrowii	+.2		
Viburnum dentatum	+.2	Alliaria petiolata	r.1		
Rhamnus cathartica	r.1				
H1-3i		C1-4r			
Onoclea sensibilis	1.2	Vitis riparia	2.2		
Persicaria punctata	+.2				
Cinna latifolia	1.1				
Symphotricum lateriflorum	+.1				
Persicaria virginiana	r.1				
Arisaema triphyllum	r.1				
Spiraea alba var. latifolia	+.2				
Cornus amomum	+.1				



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KILOMETERS 1 .5 0 1

MILES 1 .5 0