DELAWARE WETLAND VALUE ASSESSMENT FORM   Version 1.1

Site # _____   **Site Name** _____   **Date** _____

Observers _____   **Lat / Long** _____   **AA moved from original location?   yes / no**

HGM _____   **Cowardin** _____   **LLWW** _____   **Wetland AA size and shape** _____

VALUE-ADDED METRICS   Points ☐

1. UNIQUENSS/SIGNIFICANCE

- ☐ **20 pts   Wetland is ecologically significant in DE**
- ☐ **5 pts   Wetland is rare in the given landscape**
- ☐ **5 pts   Wetland has been restored, established, or enhanced**

   Specify: _____
   _____

2. WETLAND SIZE   _____ha   Points ☐

- ☐ **10 pts   ≥ 300 ha**
- ☐ **8 pts   ≥ 150 to < 300 ha**
- ☐ **6 pts   ≥ 50 to < 150 ha**
- ☐ **4 pts   ≥ 15 to < 50 ha**
- ☐ **2 pt   ≥ 5 to < 15 ha**
- ☐ **0 pts   < 5 ha**

3. HABITAT AVAILABILITY   ____ha/6.16ha =____%   ☐

- ☐ **10 pts   100% of buffer unfragmented and natural**
- ☐ **8 pts   ≥80 to <100% of buffer unfragmented and natural**
- ☐ **6 pts   ≥60 to <80% of buffer unfragmented and natural**
- ☐ **4 pts   ≥30 to <60% of buffer unfragmented and natural**
- ☐ **2 pts   ≥5 to <30% of buffer is unfragmented and natural**
- ☐ **0 pts   <5% of buffer is unfragmented and natural**

4. DELAWARE ECOLOGICAL NETWORK   ☐

   Select one of the following:

- ☐ **8 pts   AA and buffer entirely within core area**
- ☐ **6 pts   AA entirely within core area, buffer partially within**
- ☐ **4 pts   AA partially within core area**
- ☐ **0 pts   None of AA within core area**

   Select all that apply:

- ☐ **2 pts   AA partially in polygon with Final Score ≥0.50**
- ☐ **4 pts   AA partially in polygon that contains a BCD element occurrence**

   _____ **DEN Final Score value**   _____ **# of BCD EO**

COMMENTS:

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

VALUE-ADDED METRICS   Points ☐

5. HABITAT STRUCTURE AND COMPLEXITY
   2 pts for each structure present in AA
- ☐ **Snags (≥15cm DBH, ≥45°)**   **#** _____
- ☐ **≥ 3 Large downed wood (≥15cm DBH, <45°) #** _____
- ☐ **Coarse woody debris (7.5-15cm DBH, <45°)**
- ☐ **Microtopographic relief (≥10% of AA)**
- ☐ **Surface water suitable for amphibians/macroinvertebrates**
- ☐ **Surface water suitable for fish**
- ☐ **Tree canopy gap   est: ____% of AA**
   1 pt for each stratum present in AA
   Plant Layers (≥10% of AA)
   - ☐ **Submerged aquatic vegetation**
   - ☐ **Herb**
   - ☐ **Shrub/Sapling**
   - ☐ **Tree**
   - ☐ **Vine**

6. FLOOD STORAGE/WATER QUALITY   ☐
   2 pts for each present
- ☐ **AA is adjacent to surface waters**
- ☐ **Water pools on ≥ 50% of AA**
- ☐ **AA is 75% vegetated and has evidence of storm flow (wrack, sedimentation)**

   Complete with GIS (Cowardin and LLWW classifications):
   - ☐ **AA has water regime C or wetter**
   - ☐ **AA rated 'Moderate' or 'High' for sediment retention**
   - ☐ **AA rated 'High' for surface water detention**

7. EDUCATIONAL VALUE   ☐
   1 pt for each present
- ☐ **AA is viewable from a public road**
- ☐ **AA is on public property with public access**

   For public property only:
   - ☐ **Parking available for ≥ 2 vehicles**
   - ☐ **Trail system relatively close to AA**
   - ☐ **Elevated boardwalk/trail through the AA**

   Y / N / NA   Will proposed activity increase public access and/or opportunity for education?

FINAL SCORE:

Sum of values: ☐

Value Category: ☐ **Rich ≥45**   ☐ **Moderate <45 ≥30**   ☐ **Limited <30**

Refer to protocol for variable scoring and detailed descriptions

entered:_____

checked:_____