

Accuracy Assessment Form
NPS Vegetation Inventory

1. PLOT (WAYPOINT) #: JOTR- - _____ 2. DATE: _____

3. OBSERVER (DETERMINING ASSOCIATION) _____

4. Observer (assisting) _____

5. ACCURACY OF NAVIGATION (METERS) _____

6. How Determined: _____

7. UTM EASTING _____ 8. UTM NORTHING _____

9. UTM Zone 11 10. Datum NAD83

11. If GPS Position is an *intentional* offset from the waypoint, circle the explanation:

- a. Mosaicing scenario (too heterogeneous to key because of wo or more clearly distinct types within observation area)
- b. Physical constraints in reaching waypoint
- c. Other (explain as needed): _____

12. VEGETATION ASSOCIATION (Primary call): _____

13. Other possible associations (complexing scenario) (if applicable):

14. Explanation for #14 (if applicable): _____

15. Dominant/characteristic species in tree layer (~ 1 – 5 species, where layer is present)

16. Dominant/characteristic species in shrub layer (1 – 5 species, where layer is present)

17. Dominant/characteristic species in herbaceous layer (1 – 5 species, where layer is present)

18. Other comments (if needed)

Accuracy Assessment Form Instructions

FIELDS DENOTED BY ALL CAPITAL LETTERS ARE MANDATORY FOR EACH PLOT (either digital or written or both). Other fields should be filled out as applicable and/or as needed. It may be possible to enter some items denoted in blue at the end of the field day to save time.

1. Enter unique number for waypoint representing center of plot.
2. Enter Date (can enter in all sheets at end of day).
3. Enter Observer (full name) making final decision on determining dominant association for plot.
4. Enter other observer(s) who were present.
5. Enter estimated accuracy of GPS navigation to real waypoint position (can enter on all sheets at end of day if same method was used for all waypoints; enter individually in field if a point-by-point estimate was made).
6. Enter how #6 was determined (e.g., EPE reading at waypoint, 99% precisions for recorded GPS point, etc.).
7. Enter UTM Easting (in meters to nearest meter).
8. Enter UTM Northing (in meters to nearest meter).
9. UTM Zone (default entered).
10. Datum (default entered).
11. If the plot is moved because of a (a) mosaicing situation or spatial complexity: two or more types in original observation area that are too different to evaluate as one observation, (b) physical constraints (eg., waypoint is in middle of a cliff), or (c) other reasons, note this and why.
12. Record vegetation association dominating (occupying most area of) plot (plot is circular, 40 or 28 meters in radius, with waypoint at center). Land use categories are acceptable, if one fits better than an association in the key. Try to decide on just one association (the “best fit”), but if the site is truly transitional between two or more intergrading types (“complexing situation” or thematic complexity) and you are not sure to which association it best fits, list the most likely association here and other possible associations in 13, as applicable. Explain rationale for other possibilities (refer to key, as necessary) in #14. May use “Other” if nothing makes sense, but explain in #19 if you do.
13. See #12.
14. See #12.
15. List the most abundant, frequent, and/or characteristic species (Latin names) in the tree layer (suggest 0-5 species). Mark names of species that are significantly more abundant than the others (i.e., strongly dominant) with an asterisk (*).
16. List the most abundant, frequent, and/or characteristic species (Latin names) in the shrub layer (suggest 0-5 species). Mark names of species that are significantly more abundant than the others (i.e., strongly dominant) with an asterisk (*).
17. List the most abundant, frequent, and/or characteristic species (Latin names) in the herbaceous layer (suggest 0-5 species). Mark names of species that are significantly more abundant than the others (i.e., strongly dominant) with an asterisk (*).
18. Use this space to make comments on other items that are confusing or require more detailed explanation.