



Appendix 6. Preliminary Classification of Arid NT Wetlands (superceded)

The preliminary (or working) classification was created in 2000 as a basis for field sampling. It was revised in the light of field work to create the final classification described in the main body of this report. The working classification is presented here since the database of wetland survey data includes numbers from the working classification where they were recorded in the field as part of a brief description of some wetlands.

BASINS (temporary lakes, ponds and swamps)

Freshwater, temporary, un-vegetated:

1. freshwater temporary large clay pan / lake [P] {B6}
 2. freshwater temporary large stony pan / lake [P] {B6}
 3. freshwater temporary small clay pan / pond [Ts] {B10}
 4. freshwater temporary small stony pan / pond [Ts] {B10}
- (drop 'large' if using lake and drop 'small' if using pond)

Saline, temporary, un-vegetated:

5. saline temporary large pan / lake - extensively salt-crusted when dry [R] {B8}
6. saline temporary large pan / lake - relatively uncrusted when dry [R] {B8}
7. saline temporary small pan / pond - extensively salt-crusted when dry [Ss] {B*?}
8. saline temporary small pan / pond - relatively uncrusted when dry [Ss] {B*?}

The terms pan, pond or lake to be chosen according to situation or local use. A basin wetland that is greater than 8 ha is a lake or a large pan. A basin wetland that is smaller than 8 ha is a pond or a small pan.

The term salt-crusted refers to the situation where salt crust is the dominant feature of the ground when dry. Uncrusted lakes/pans include those that have salt evident on the soil as white patches but not forming a generally continuous surface. The distinction between extensive salt crusted lakes and other saline lakes corresponds to the distinction between hypersaline and saline. Freshwater basins may extend into saline soils that exhibit some surface salinity making classification difficult when dry.

Freshwater, temporary, vegetated:

9. eucalypt wooded swamp [Xf] {B14? But not seasonal}
 10. acacia wooded swamp [Xf] {B13}
 11. melaleuca shrubby swamp [W] {B13}
 12. acacia/other shrubby swamp [W] {B13}
 13. lignum swamp [W] {B13}
 14. northern bluebush (*Chenopodium auricomum*) swamp [W] {B13}
 15. budda-pea/sesbania swamp (*Aeschynomene indica*, *Sesbania* spp.) [Ts] {B10}
 16. typha/phragmites swamp [Ts] {B10}
 17. canegrass swamp [Ts / W] {B10}
 18. other grass and sedge swamp (*Panicum*, *Cyperus*, *Eleocharis*) [Ts] {B10}
 19. forb swamp and meadow (*Cullen*, *Marsilea*) [Ts] {B10}
 20. Samphire freshwater swamp [Ts] {B10}
- (type 20. May be indistinct from claypans)

Saline, temporary, vegetated:

21. samphire saline swamp [Ss] {B11}

Flats (channel floodouts; terminal and non-terminal)

Stream flood-out areas (terminal or sub-terminal)

22. wooded flood-out flat (or 'wooded/shrubby flood-out flat') [Xf] {B4 / B14? But not seasonal}
 23. grassy flood-out flat [Ts] {B4}
 24. bare flood-out flat (clay-pan like but less defined edges associated with floodout area) [Ts] {B4}
- (note: if major channels present, use 'wooded water course')

Preliminary Classification continued:

SPRINGS including Spring Fed Pools & Soaks

25. soak (spring fed water-logged area) [Y/Ts] {B17/B9}
26. mounded artesian spring [Y/Ts] {B17/B9}
27. un-mounded artesian spring [Y/Ts] {B17/B9}
28. spring-fed rock hole (see also below) [Y/Tp] {B17/B9}

SMALL ROCK BASINS AND HOLES

29. upland non-watercourse rock-hole (not spring fed; see above) [Ts] {B10}

CHANNELS

Persistent Waterholes in Drainage Lines

30. permanent waterhole in lowland watercourse *f* [Tp] {B9/B2}
31. permanent waterhole in upland watercourse ** (assoc. With ranges) [Tp] {B9/B2}
32. semi-permanent waterhole in lowland watercourse [Ts/N] {B10/B2}
33. semi-permanent waterhole in upland watercourse ** [Ts/N] {B10/B2}

(permanent = never dry; semi- permanent =dry in drought only)

(*f* no distinction is made between those in gaps in major ranges, those at the base of ranges and others. This may be a desirable modification according to Jenny Davis' report on the Waterholes of the West MacDonnell Ranges (Davis, 1995)

(** or 'gully')

Not persistent (= temporary) Waterholes in Drainage Lines

34. temporary waterhole in lowland watercourse [Ts/N] {B10/B2}
35. temporary waterhole in upland watercourse** [Ts/N] {B10/B2}

(Not persistent = temporary)

(** or 'gully')

Not persistent (= temporary) Drainage Lines (excluding waterholes)

36. eucalypt wooded watercourse (may have multiple channels) [N] {B2}
37. acacia wooded watercourse (may have multiple channels) [N] {B2}
38. melaleuca shrubby watercourse [N] {B2}
39. other shrubby watercourse (lignum, acacia-shrubs) [N] {B2}
40. watercourse without trees and shrubs (grassy, bare) [N] {B2}

SUB TERRANEAN

41. karst care wetlands (limestone country) [Zk(b)] {B19}
- (note: none documented)

ARTIFICIAL

42. stock dams and tanks [2/6] {B2}
43. water storage reservoirs [6] {B1}
44. sewage ponds and outflow swamps [8/Ts] {B6}
45. bore overflow and drain swamps [?Ts] {?}