

Appendix 4.

The Nature Conservancy's  
Standard Plant Community Survey Form

**Community  
Reconnaissance survey**

Surveyors

Date (y/m/d)

Locate site

Site name

State

USGS quad name

County

Town (T/R/S)

Sketch route taken.  
sample macroplots.

Depict route in cross-section as a toposequence. Mark and number observation points and

**Table of observations**

Point of Observ'n	Soil description	Dominant species	Community description
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

Are all observation points numbered on base map or aerial photo?    Yes    No

**Community Occurrence survey**

Surveyors

Date (y/m/d)

Site name

Describe occurrence

Community element name

Community element code

Observation point number

Describe condition/quality of occurrence

Occurrence rank (ignore size, defensibility)

A B C D

Comment

Size (relative to other known occurrences)

very large large small very small

Comment (exact acres, if known)

Landscape condition (of 1000 acres around occurrence)

good condition unfragmented degraded unfragmented degraded partly fragmented degraded highly fragmented

Threats to occurrence

Is the extent of the occurrence mapped on base map or aerial photo? Yes No

Were macroplot samples taken? Yes No

The macroplot codes are \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Community  
Macroplot location**

Surveyors

Date (y/m/d)

Macroplot code

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**Sketch macroplot.** Mark the macroplot's main corner or marker, macroplot dimensions, geographical features and landmarks near the macroplot, and photo points.

Is the macroplot marked on base map or aerial photo?    Yes    No

**Mark macroplot (optional)**

Macroplot landmark

Marked with

Direction to  
main marker

Distance to  
main marker

A

B

C

Describe macroplot marker

Height of marker above ground (cm)

Other information used to locate macroplot

**Community  
Macroplot description**

Macroplot code \_\_\_\_\_

Macroplot dimensions \_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_ meters

Missing and atypical features

Natural and unnatural disturbances

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**Topographical description**

Elevation \_\_\_\_\_ feet meters

Slope \_\_\_\_\_ % degrees

Aspect (degrees) \_\_\_\_\_

- Topographical position

**Surface description (optional)**

Cross section of surface

- Microtopography

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Surface substrate	% Cover
Bedrock	
Boulders	
Cobbles and stones 7.5 - 50 cm	
Gravel	
Mineral Soil	
Decaying wood	
Other dead organic matter	
Water	

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100% Total

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- Additional environmental description (optional)
  
  - Ecological moisture regime









**Community  
Macroplot Soil Profile**

Surveyors

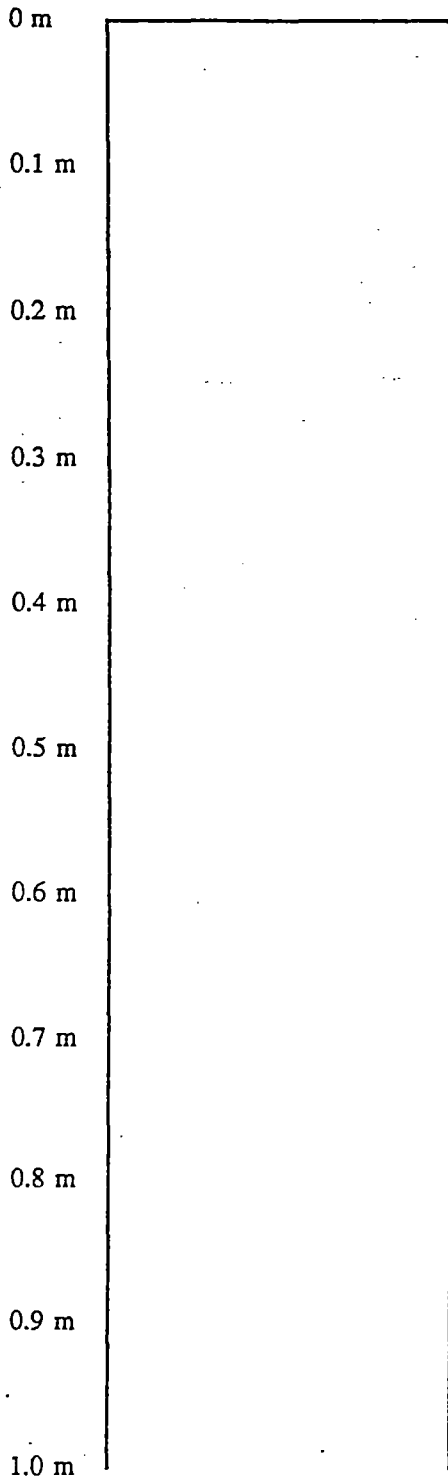
Date (y/m/d)

Macroplot code

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Map soil profile (optional)

Describe soil horizons (optional). Include color, texture, structure, consistence, pH in upper horizon, rooting, rocks, etc.



Other comments about the soil