

Draft Guidelines for Developing the CRAM Metrics

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The purpose of this document is to guide the Core Team of the CRAM through the process of developing the metrics. Individual metrics may not exactly follow these guidelines.

The objective of these guidelines is to help the different authors to produce comparable metrics for review by the Core Team.

It is assumed that the CRAM metrics will be used in scoring forms similar to what has been produced as Version 5.1 of the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method (OPRAM).

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Note: Some of the elements of these guidelines, such as author names and alternatives analysis, will be omitted from the final metrics after their full review and acceptance by the Core Team and Regional Teams.

Metric Title: (as it will appear on the scoring form)

Lead Author(s): (for the purpose of tracking production and responding to reviews).

Rationale:

The core metrics of the CRAM are supposed to be common to all wetlands and regions. Why is this metric included? To what key functions of interest to the wetland management community does this metric relate?

Seasonality:

Is there a limited period of time during a year when this metric should be scored? Why or why not?

List of Attributes:

Each metric represents a set of attributes. For example, the metric called “Hydrology” might have attributes of “sources of water”, “maximum water depth”, “duration of inundation/saturation”, etc.

Annotations of the Attributes:

Each attribute should be briefly annotated with its expected relationship to the functions represented by the metric. For example, the annotation for the attribute called “maximum water depth” for the Hydrology metric might be “maximum depth relates to and The major attributes of each metric should be listed.

List of Conditions of the Attributes:

Each attribute can be classified per its general condition. For example, for the “maximum water depth” of the “Hydrology”, the classes of condition might be “permanently inundated”, “regularly inundated”, “seasonally inundated or saturated”, etc. The major classes of condition for each attribute of each metric should be listed.