VERNAL POOL TYPES

1) **Open Pool** – "Classic" vernal pool with trees, shrubs, and herbaceous (non-woody) plants covering less than 10% of the ground within the pool when the pool is flooded or wet. Herbaceous plants are plants whose stems and leaves die at the end of the growing season and have no woody stems above ground.

2) **Sparsely Vegetated Pool** – Trees, shrubs, and non-woody herbaceous plants covering 10% to less than 30% of the ground within the pool when the pool is flooded or wet.

3) **Shrubby Pool** – Pool is dominated by shrubs, with shrubs covering 30% or more of the ground within the pool when it is flooded or wet, and representing the tallest vegetation layer within the pool.

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4) **Forested Pool** – Pool is dominated by trees with rooted, live trees covering 30% or more of the ground within the pool when it is flooded or wet, and representing the tallest vegetation layer within the pool. For example, a forested swamp pool, pool within a larger forested swamp, and a floodplain pool.

Forested Swamp Pool
Yu Man Lee

Floodplain Forest
Yu Man Lee

5) **Marsh Pool** – Pool dominated by non-woody herbaceous plants, including emergent plants which are plants that grow in water and stick up out of the water. Non-woody herbaceous and emergent plants cover 30% or more of the ground within the pool when it is flooded or wet, and represent the uppermost vegetation layer within the pool. Trees and shrubs may be present but cover less than 30% of the pool.

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