

## TVA Rapid Assessment Method (TVARAM) Scoring Breakpoints For Categories of Wetland Function & Integrity

The *TVA Rapid Assessment Method* (TVARAM) is a regionalized version of the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method (ORAM) that is designed to distinguish between three categories of wetland function and integrity:

- Category 1: wetlands with “minimal wetland function and/or integrity”;
- Category 2: wetlands with “moderate wetland function and/or integrity”; and
- Category 3: wetlands with “superior wetland function and/or integrity”.

TVARAM Score	Wetland Category*
0 – 29.9	1
30 – 34.9	1 or 2 gray zone**
35 – 59.9	2
60 – 64.9	2 or 3 gray zone**
65 – 100	3
Metric 5 Raw Score*** of 30 or over	3

\*SOURCE DATA: *Final Report to U.S. EPA Grant No. CD985276/ Interim Report to U.S. EPA Grant No. CD985875. Volume 1: Vegetation Indices of Biotic Integrity (VIBI) for Wetlands and Calibration of the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands v. 5.0. August 1, 2000.* <<http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/wetlands/FinE657IntG833.pdf>>.

\*\* If the TVARAM score is between the scoring ranges for Categories 1 and 2 or Categories 2 and 3 (i.e. is in the “gray zone” between categories), the Rater can do either of the following:  
 1. Assign the wetland to the higher of the two categories (e.g. if the wetland is in the gray zone between Category 1 and 2, the Rater would assign the wetland to Category 2);  
 2. Assess the quality of the wetland using a non-rapid method of functional or biological assessment such as the *Vegetation Indices of Biotic Integrity* (VIBI), and use this information to assign the wetland to a category.

\*\*\*Used in lieu of ORAM narrative categorization.