**SHARP Community Cover Class Data File Attributes**

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Attribute definitions for SHARP Database Exports

Grant – Grant number of the project we surveyed.

Rest\_Unit – Restoration Unit name. Includes USFWS unit names, NFWF project numbers and others.

ContSite – Control site. Which Restoration Unit/NWR the Control points are matched up with.

CoverType – Vegetation community type.

 Low Marsh: Regularly flooded by daily tides. Dominated by tall form *Spartina alterniflora* (>50cm); also *Spartina cynosuroides*.

High Marsh: Flooded by mean tide or greater. Often dominated by *Spartina patens*, *Distichlis spicata*, *Juncus gerardii*. Includes areas of short form *Spartina alterniflora* (<35cm) as well as *Juncus roemerianus*, *Schoenoplectus pungens*, *Bolboschoenus robustus*, *Limonium carolinianum* and *Sympyotrichum tenuifolium*.

Salt Marsh Terrestrial Border: Infrequently flooded by spring and storm tides. Could include areas of higher elevation on the marsh platform (commonly islands or linear patches next to excavated ditches). Most common species include *Iva frutescens*, *Baccharis halimifolia*, *Solidago sempervirens* and *Panicum virgatum*.

Brackish Terrestrial Border: Rarely flooded by tides, but often tidally influenced fresh/brackish marsh. Could include fresher areas of high water table on marsh plain. Most common species include *Typha* spp., *Bolboschoenus robustus* and *Spartina pectinata*. Could include native *Phragmites australis* if properly identified.

Invasives: Species such as *Phragmites australis* and *Lythrum salicaria*. Colonization and spread are often the result of disturbance.

Pannes, Pools and Creeks: Channels, creeks, ditches, pannes and pools.

Open Water: Larger areas of water; bays, rivers, ponds.

Upland: Non-wetland areas of upland that fall into the 50m circle. Includes land uses of all types, natural or developed.

Wrack: Dead vegetation that has been cast onto the marsh surface.

Average.Cover.Class.Category – Average cover class for the area within 50m of bird point:

0 – 0% cover

0.5 – <1% cover

1 – 1-5% cover

2 – 6-10% cover

3 – 11-25% cover

4 – 26-5% cover

5 – 51-75% cover

6 – 76-100% cover

SE – The standard error for the average cover class category.