

## **Ranking Scale**

5. Normal **zonation**. Some species may have migrated inward one **zone**, but they are not in enough numbers and/or right along the **zone** edge. **Adaptive species** in the **transition zone** are not considered abnormal if they are not in high numbers and distribution.
  4. Species have moved in one **zone** in enough numbers and distribution to be of concern, and/or species with an **adaptive** classification are in high numbers and distribution in the **transition zone**.
  3. Species have moved in one **zone** in high numbers and distribution, and/or species have moved in two **zones** in enough numbers and distribution to be of concern.
  2. Species have moved in two **zones** in high numbers and distribution, and/or some species with an **upland** classification have moved into the **deep zone** in enough numbers and distribution to be of concern.
  1. Species with an **upland** classification have moved into the **deep zone** in high numbers and distribution.
- NA. Not enough **cover** to make evaluation (< 5 percent for groundcover, and < 2 individuals for "shrubs and small trees" and "trees")

## **Guidance:**

### For **groundcover**:

- a. "Enough numbers" generally means greater than 5 percent **cover** for all species.
- b. "High numbers" generally means greater than 25 percent **cover**.
- c. "Enough distribution" generally means located beyond a few feet of the appropriate **zone**.
- d. "High distribution" generally means located throughout much of the **zone**.

### For **shrubs and small trees, and trees**:

- a. "Enough numbers" generally means 2 or 3 specimens.
- b. "High numbers" generally means greater than 5 specimens.
- c. "Enough distribution" generally means located beyond a few feet of the appropriate **zone**.
- d. "High distribution" generally means located throughout much of the **zone**.

*If there are not enough specimens to justify one score, choose the one higher. For example, if all you have is one T shrub well into the deep zone (two zone move), a "3" is not justified (less than 2 to 3 specimens). Choose a "4".*

*Note: For scoring purposes, AD species are treated the same as T species when they are found in the Outer Deep and Deep zones.*