

Appendix V. Key to riparian vegetation types

## KEY TO RIPARIAN VEGETATION TYPES

- 1a. Tree overstory cover  $\geq$  25%. 2.
- 2a. The tree canopy contains mainly conifers, or about equal amounts of conifers and deciduous trees.  
Group A: Coniferous tree types
- 2b. The tree canopy contains mainly deciduous trees; conifers are minor or absent.  
Group B: Deciduous tree types
- 1b. Tree overstory cover < 25%.....3
- 3a. Tall shrubs (> 1.5m tall; Salix geyeriana, S. boothii, S. lasiandra, Alnus incana) contribute  $\geq$  25% cover.  
Group C: Tall shrub types
- 3b. Tall shrubs contribute < 25% cover.....4
- 4a. Medium shrubs (< 1.5m tall; Salix wolfii, Artemisia cana) or tree seedlings or saplings contribute  $\geq$  25% cover.  
Group D: Medium shrub types
- 4b. Medium shrubs or tree seedlings or saplings contribute <25% cover.  
Group E: Herbaceous types

**Group A: Coniferous tree types**

- 1a. Picea engelmannii contributes at least 25% of the tree canopy, which may consist mainly of Abies lasiocarpa or Pinus contorta. Picea pungens is absent or contributes little cover (Picea engelmannii series).

Only one type has been identified so far:

Picea engelmannii/Galium triflorum community

- 1b. Picea pungens contributes  $\geq$  50% of the tree canopy, which may consist mainly of Pinus contorta.

Picea pungens series

**Group B: Deciduous tree types**

Only one series has been identified so far:

Populus angustifolia contributes  $\geq$  50% of the tree canopy.

Populus angustifolia series

**Group C: Tall shrub types**

- 1a. Willows (genus Salix) contribute most of the canopy cover.....2
- 2a. Salix geyeriana or Salix lasiandra, alone or in combination, contribute  $\geq$  50% of the canopy cover (Salix geyeriana series).....3
- 3a. Carex rostrata contributes  $\geq$  20% cover to the understory.  
S. geyeriana/Carex rostrata community
- 3b. Carex rostrata contributes < 20% cover to the understory.....4



**Group E: Herbaceous types**

1a. Graminoids (grasses, sedges, and rushes) contribute most of the cover; forbs are minor.....2

2a. Sedges (genus Carex) contribute  $\geq 50\%$  of the cover.....3

3a. Carex microptera contributes  $\geq 25\%$  cover.

Carex microptera community

3b. Carex microptera contributes  $< 25\%$  cover.....4

4a. Carex rostrata contributes  $\geq 25\%$  cover.

Carex rostrata community

4b. Carex rostrata contributes  $< 25\%$  cover.

Only one type has been identified so far:

Carex aquatilis contributes  $\geq 25\%$  cover.

Carex aquatilis community

2b. Sedges contribute  $< 50\%$  of the cover

Only one type has been identified so far:

Juncus balticus contributes  $\geq 25\%$  cover.

Juncus balticus community