

Appendix 4. Plant community types in the potential Playas Research Natural Area. The communities are listed by common name within physiognomic units from The Nature Conservancy's vegetation classification system (The Nature Conservancy 1997). Following the common name for a community, the scientific names are given for the equivalent plant association of Johnston (1987), vegetation type of Thilenius et al. (1995), and vegetation type from The Nature Conservancy's classification (The Nature Conservancy 1997).

V. Herbaceous vegetation (Woody plant cover <25%)

A. Perennial Graminoid

5. Temperate or Subpolar Grassland without a tree or shrub layer (tree or shrub cover <10%)

- Western wheatgrass/Needle spikerush association
- Johnston: Elytrigia smithii/Eleocharis acicularis plant association
- Thilenius: Agropyron smithii sodgrass steppe
- TNC: Pascopyrum smithii-Eleocharis spp. herbaceous vegetation

7. Temperate or Subpolar Grassland with a shrub layer (10%-25% canopy cover by shrubs \geq 0.5m tall)

- Blue grama/Western wheatgrass association
- Johnston: Bouteloua gracilis/Elytrigia smithii plant association
- Thilenius: Artemisia tridentat/Bouteloua gracilis-Agropyron smithii shrub-steppe
- TNC: Artemisia tridentata ssp. wyomingensis/Mixed Grass sparse shrubland