

## Mapping Conventions

### BR - California

**Field Trips:** March 18-22, 1991  
April 13-18, 1991

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#### **Project Area (1:100K Maps):**

Week of March 18: San Francisco SE (1 quad), San Jose SW (16 quads), Monterey NW (15 quads), Monterey NE (8 quads), Monterey SE (25 quads), San Luis Obispo NE (13 quads), San Luis Obispo SE (1 quad), Santa Maria I (14 quads), Los Angeles NW (4 quads), Los Angeles SW (11 quads), Los Angeles SE (6 quads), Los Angeles NE (24 quads).

Week of April 13: Monterey NE (5 quads), San Jose SE (18 quads), San Jose NE (20 quads), San Jose NW (4 quads), Sacramento SE (16 quads), Sacramento SW (9 quads), Sacramento NW (23 quads), Santa Rosa NE (9 quads), Chico SW (1 quad), Ukiah SE (7 quads), Ukiah NE (9 quads), Redding SE (4 quads), Redding NE (8 quads).

**Map Conventions:**

**1. Forested**

**PFOA,C**

- Cottonwood (Populus spp.), willow (Salix spp.), box elder (Acer negundo), Oregon ash (Fraxinus latifolia), valley oak (Quercus lobata). Signature typically shows bright red, fluffy crowns, and is usually associated with drainages, river floodplains, or wet meadows. *fremonti (FacW)* *(FacW)* *— fac*

**PFOB**

- Cottonwood (Populus spp.), willow (Salix spp.). Signature shows bright red and deep red. These areas are generally associated with springs on the topographic maps.

*Quercus, aspen (Populus tremula) Fac +*

**2. Scrub-Shrub**

**PSSA,C**

- Willow (Salix spp.), mulefat (Baccharis viminea), cottonwood (Populus spp.). Signature typically shows bright red with a richer tone of red as you go from temporarily to seasonally flooded. These wetlands are usually associated with drainages, river floodplains, or wet meadows. *(FacW)*

**PSSB**

- Willow (Salix spp.), cottonwood (Populus spp.). Signature typically shows bright and deep red. These areas are usually associated with springs on the topographic maps.

**3. Emergents**

**PEMA,C,F,H**

- Juncus spp., Scirpus spp., Typha spp. Emergent wetlands are generally found along rivers and streams, in wet meadows, irrigated fields, impoundments, lakes, and ponds. The signature varied from smooth white or grey to smooth light and dark red in seasonally flooded areas. Semipermanently flooded areas exhibit a dark muddy tone, and permanently flooded areas exhibit a very dark tone with apparent open water. *- obl / facw* *obl* *obl.*

**PEMB**

- Typha spp. Juncus spp. Saturated wetlands are confined to seeps in front of impoundments and seeps or springs on hillsides. Signatures vary but are typically a smooth deep red.

**E2EMN,P**

- Distichlis spp., Salicornia spp., Atriplex spp. Estuarine emergent wetlands are found in tidally influenced marshes where the amount of salt water entering the area is limited by the tidal range. Regularly flooded areas had a darker muddy tone, while irregularly flooded areas had a pinker tone. *facw* *- Obl. (Pickle mud / Gommot)* *Batis (saltwater)*

#### 4. Aquatic Bed

- PABF,H** - Potamogeton spp. Lemna spp. Signatures varied from a smooth pink to a smooth brown. This classification will be used only when a signature is present or the area has been field checked.
- M1ABL** - Kelp beds are noticeable on the photography and give a dark red return from under the water.

#### SPECIFICS:

1. Soil surveys will be followed closely (whenever available) for upland/wetland breaks.
2. Beaver (b), impounded (h), excavated (x), and artificial substrate (r) modifiers will be used when appropriate.
3. Riverine/streambed classification closely followed U.S.G.S. topographic maps. Perennial rivers with a dry streambed signature will be classified R4SBF. Some intermittent rivers will not be pulled if the signature is too weak.
4. Vegetated rivers and streams with shrubs (SS) or trees (FO) will be classified seasonally flooded (C) for perennial rivers and temporarily flooded (A) for intermittent streambeds. However, photo signature overrides topographic maps when necessary.
5. Dry river washes will be classified as R4SBA or R4SBC where they are strong enough. R4SBJ will be used on some dry washes when the channel within the wash is classified R4SBA.
6. River bars will be classified as unconsolidated shore (US) unless field checked to be rocky shore (RS).
7. All reservoirs will be delineated according to the photography.
8. The California Aqueduct will be classified as R2UBKHrx to maintain consistency with external tie maps.
9. Before the March 18th field trip the region had been suffering from 5 year drought conditions. Immediately prior to and during the field reconnaissance heavy rains hit many areas causing extensive flooding of rivers and streams and water ponding in fields that had previously been dry.

10. The Santa Maria River will be classified as a linear R4SBA with surrounding polygons of R4SBJ, for the majority of its length.
11. All canals and ditches will be classified as artificially flooded (K) when they are connected to larger aqueducts. Other canals and ditches will be classified artificially flooded when there is an apparent reason to do so. An additional water regime (A,C,F, or H) will be placed on all canals and ditches.
12. The artificial substrate (r) modifier will be used predominantly on the larger aqueducts.
13. In the absence of collateral data the break between R1 and E1 and R1 and R2 or R3 will be made at logical geographic positions according to the photography and topographic maps.
14. Most vernal pools will be classified as PEMA, however, there will be PEMC vernal pools in some instances. The photo signature, and in some cases the size of the pool will be the key to the classification. As a general rule, larger vernal pools may retain water for a longer period of time than the smaller ones. Areas of many small vernal pools interconnected by vernal channels will be classified as PEMA/u when the extent of the detail needed is beyond the scope of our capability.