

**BLM/GAME AND FISH  
WYOMING**

**CODY NW, CODY SW, SHERIDAN SW, ARMINTO NW,  
ARMINTO SW, CASPER NE, TORRINGTON NW,  
AND TORRINGTON SE**

**PHOTO INTERPRETATION CONVENTIONS**

**RIVERINE SYSTEM**

The U.S.G.S. Water Resource Book Wy. 90, along with local information collected while ground truthing, will be used to determine the water regime on streams and rivers. If information is unavailable then photo signature will dictate water regime.

- R3UBH** - Upper perennial, unconsolidated bottom, permanently flooded. These rivers have some velocity, cobble bottom, and little or no developed floodplain. The signature will be open water. Paint Rock Creek in Sheridan SW, Shoshone River in Cody NW, North Fork Shoshone in Cody SW and the major drainages flowing out of the mountains are examples of this classification.
- R3UBF** - Upper perennial, unconsolidated bottom, semipermanently flooded. These rivers will have some velocity, cobble bottom, and little or no developed floodplain. The permanent named drainages with a smaller streambed not showing an open water signature on photo, are examples of this classification.
- R2UBH** - Lower perennial, unconsolidated bottom, permanently flooded. These rivers are low gradient with meander scars and often have a developed floodplain. Signature is open water. The North Platte River is an example of this classification.
- R2UBF** - Lower perennial, unconsolidated bottom, semipermanently flooded. These streams have a smaller channel than those with a R2UBH classification but will still have an open water signature. This classification will be used on streams that have been classified as R4SBF in the past.
- R3USC** - Upper perennial, unconsolidated shore, seasonally flooded. These are unvegetated cobble, sand or mud flats along upper perennial rivers. Signatures will vary from blue to grey.
- R3USA** - Upper perennial, unconsolidated shore, temporarily flooded. These are unvegetated cobble, sand or mud flats. Signature will be scoured white.

R4SBC/A - Intermittent, streambed, seasonally/temporarily flooded. These streambeds will be smaller in size with little or no water present. Signature will dictate water regime.

Irrigation Canals: These canals are used to move water for irrigating fields. All irrigation canals depicted on the base map, whether named or not, will be delineated providing we have a corresponding signature. The classifications listed below will be used to describe canals in this project.

Road ditches in the study area do not move the water used for irrigation and many times were seen as upland. These ditches that are vegetated as well as irrigation canals with a vegetated signature will be covered under the PEMCx classification.

R2UBGx - Lower perennial, unconsolidated bottom, intermittently exposed, excavated. The signature will be open water. These canals will be shown on the base map as a polygon or double linear and large enough to polygon when delineated. The Big Horn Canal in Sheridan SW is an example of this classification.

R2UBFx - Lower perennial, unconsolidated bottom, semipermanently flooded, excavated. The signature will be open water and are not quite polygon size on photo. The Lower Hanover Canal located in Sheridan SW is an example of this classification.

R4SBCx - Intermittent, streambed, seasonally flooded, excavated. Canals that have an open water signature, are pen width, and depicted on the base map as a linear will carry this classification.

R4SBAX - Intermittent, streambed, temporarily flooded, excavated. This classification will be used on canals that are void of water or emergents. Signature will be scoured white.

## LACUSTRINE SYSTEM

All lacustrine systems will be greater than twenty (20) acres. Emergent vegetation around these lakes will be classified under the palustrine system. Those areas influenced by impoundments will carry the impounded (h) modifier.

- L1UBH** - Limnetic, unconsolidated bottom, permanently flooded. Lakes located in mountains with any part of the shoreline bedrock regardless of size will be classified L1UBH. West Ten Sleep Lake is an example of this classification. The Guernsey Reservoir, Pathfinder Reservoir, Buffalo Bill Reservoir, Glendo Reservoir and Alcove Reservoir will be classified L1UBH using the "h" modifier to show these are impounded.
- L2ABG** - Littoral, aquatic bed, intermittently exposed. This classification will be used on shallow lakes greater than twenty acres. Signatures will be open water with the presence of either aquatic bed or even emergents invading from the shoreline.
- L2USC/Ah** - Littoral, unconsolidated shore, seasonally/temporarily flooded, impounded. Signatures will range from a bluish grey for seasonally flooded to a scoured white for temporarily flooded. These signatures are associated with the L1UBHh classification.

## PALUSTRINE SYSTEM

- PEMA** - Emergent, temporarily flooded. This signature varied depending on setting and situation. The pale pink signatures with edges that frayed proved to be upland. The signature was a deep pink or a white and pink mottled signature with a well defined basin.
- PEMC** - Emergent, seasonally flooded. Some hayed fields had small pockets of seasonal emergents predominantly bordering irrigation ditches. Pastures tended to be more wet with larger pockets and swales within them. Signatures here were dark tones of deep red mottles. Use setting and situation to distinguish between the dark red signature of PEMC and that of PEMF. The key here between PEMA and PEMC is the darker mottling is present in PEMC and absent in the PEMA.

- PEMF** - Emergent, semipermanently flooded. These areas usually appear as swales and pockets and can also be found in lakes and bordering shallow basins. Signatures here vary from a dark red black to a textured red. Some swales of cattail were a mottled mixture of pink and red. The key here for PEMF is the texture that the cattail and hardstem produce. Also use setting and situation for these areas.
- PEMB** - Emergent, saturated. The only saturated areas are located on slopes or in conjunction with springs or seeps.
- PEMCx** - Emergent, seasonally flooded, excavated. This classification will be used on all irrigation canals and road ditches with an emergent signature.
- PABF** - Aquatic bed, semipermanently flooded. This classification will be used on basins with a strong water signature or aquatic bed signature. These also occur as pockets, swales, and oxbows with the same signature as mentioned above.
- PABFx/h** - Aquatic bed, semipermanently flooded, excavated/impounded. The excavated (x) special modifier will be used on manmade ponds with a strong water or aquatic bed signature. The impounded (h) modifier will be used on impounded wetlands with the same signature.
- PABG** - Aquatic bed, intermittently exposed. This classification will be used for larger ponds close to twenty acres. Ponds located in the mountains with vegetated shoreline, that are less than twenty acres, will be classified PABG.
- PABGb** - Aquatic bed, intermittently exposed, beaver. This label is used strictly for beaver dams. Vegetation directly affected by these dams will have the beaver modifier (b) added to the classification (example: PSSCb).
- PUBFx** - Unconsolidated bottom, semipermanently flooded, excavated. This classification will be used on all dugouts. Sludge ponds that accompany oil or gas wells and excavations found in golf courses are examples of this classification. The signature will be open water.
- PABKx** - Aquatic bed, artificially flooded, excavated. This classification will be used on sewage treatment ponds. The signature will be either open water or aquatic bed.

- PUSC - Unconsolidated shore, seasonally flooded. The signatures vary from a very shallow blue water to a medium grey.
- PUSA - Unconsolidated shore, temporarily flooded. This classification will be used when the signature is a scoured white. These areas have a well defined border. Areas change from year to year, one year therefore we are mapping what the photo depicts.
- PSSC - Scrub-shrub, seasonally flooded. These were found in swales, drainages, floodplains, and along ditches. Signature will vary with photo emulsion but shrubs will be compact, fluffy and may have an emergent understory or be associated with emergents.
- PSSA - Scrub-shrub, temporarily flooded. The majority of scrub shrub were found to be temporarily flooded during ground truthing. The signature will be a fluffy clumpy pink. Typically these areas were located in drainages and along rivers. The distinction of PSSA from PSSC will be the lack of emergent understory and darker swales.
- PFOA - Forested, temporarily flooded. Most wetland forested areas ground truthed were temporarily flooded. The majority of these areas were located in drainages or on river floodplains. The key signature will be the tight density of crowns. An emergent understory may also be helpful in distinguishing between wetland and upland trees. The trees along the North Platte River in Torrington SE were historically wet but no longer are inundated and understory is made up of upland vegetation, therefore classified upland.
- PFOB - Forested, saturated. Few areas located on slopes in the mountains are saturated forests. These areas are associated with springs or seeps. The saturated trees are surrounded by saturated emergents or saturated scrub-shrub.