

P. I. CONVENTIONS

Riverine Systems:

The majority of rivers and creeks will be classified as upper perennial, unconsolidated bottom (R3UB) based on the following characteristics: medium to high water velocity (gradient), cobble gravel substrate, low water temperature and high insect population. Pine Creek, Hams Fork, Dutch Joe Creek and Smiths Fork River fall under this classification. Other systems such as the Green River and Salt River will be classified as lower perennial, unconsolidated bottom (R2UB). When determining lower perennial (R2) from upper perennial (R3) during interpretation, factors such as floodplain development, oxbows and meander scars will be taken into consideration. Intermittent streams (R4SB) will be used for the smaller drainages in the area.

For the determination of water regimes the Wyoming Water Resources book will be used. When information is not available in the Water Resources book, photo signatures will determine water regime. Permanent (H), semipermanently exposed (G) and semipermanently flooded (F) will be used when water is seen throughout stream channel. Seasonally flooded (C) will be used with some presence of water and temporarily flooded (A) with no water present on the photography. Unconsolidated shore (US) will be delineated as either C or A, depending on photo signature.

Irrigation canals will carry the excavated (x) modifier. Smaller irrigation canals with a very weak signature will not be delineated.

Reservoirs and Impoundments:

Reservoirs and Impoundments greater than 20 acres will be classified as lacustrine, limnetic, unconsolidated bottom (L1UB) with the permanent (H) water regime.

Open water bodies and impoundments less than 20 acres will be classified as palustrine, aquatic bed, semipermanently flooded (PABF). Though the signature may not always be present on the photography, a large majority were observed supporting aquatic vegetation in the field. Small impoundments with little to no water present will be classified as palustrine, unconsolidated shore (PUS). Seasonal signatures will vary from a blueish-white to a light grey, while the temporary water regime will be mostly white.

Beaver impoundments will be classified as palustrine aquatic bed, intermittently exposed (PABG). The beaver (b) modifier will also be used. Areas around the beaver impoundments will not carry the (b) modifier due to their wetland status previous to beaver intrusion.

All reservoirs and impoundments will carry the impounded modifier (h).

Glacial Lakes:

The majority of glacial lakes in the study area are located in the Wind River range. The L1UBH classification will be given to those over 20 acres in size. Lakes less than 20 acres identified as having a bedrock shoreline will also carry the L1UBH classification. Information provided for Mud Lake lists this glacial lake as less than 20 acres in size with a depth of 16 ft. Its classification will also be L1UBH. Glacial lakes identified as less than 20 acres with a vegetated shoreline will be classified as PUBH.

Palustrine Vegetation:

The majority of emergents along rivers, streams and in draws will be classified as seasonal (PEMC). This signature usually is a deep brownish-red and is mottled in texture. Seep areas will be classified as PEMB or PEMC depending upon degree of slope. Delineate only the darker signature as wetland while the lighter pink surrounding this will be upland.

The majority of shrubs (willows) are found in floodplains and draws. Their classification will be palustrine, scrub shrub, temporarily flooded (PSSA) with seasonal (PSSC) pockets. These seasonal shrubs have a darker signature while the temporary signature is slightly lighter. Willows are also found in seeps. They will be classified as saturated (PSSB). This signature should not be confused with a bright red fluffy signature, which is aspen, an upland specie.

Forested areas along rivers and streams for the most part will be classified as upland. Cottonwood is the dominant specie here, but very few areas will be classified as temporary wetland. No seasonal areas were found while in the field.

OVERVIEW OF HAYED FIELDS

Star Valley Area:

Hayed fields here were found to be mainly upland with seasonal emergent linears and pockets throughout. Seasonal photo signatures here are very light when compared to other areas

ground truthed. Aquatic bed (AB) was found prevalent in many streams but will be classified as (R4SB).

Bear River Valley:

The area around Cokeville will be classified mainly as seasonal, with some semipermanent and temporary areas. Dave Lockmann (Wyoming Game and Fish) will send more information on this area.

Merna Area:

This area is very different from other areas ground truthed. Photographic signatures here are a darker black mixed with deep red with no distinct swales or linears present. Some very dark mottled areas will be delineated conservatively as seasonal (PEMC). The temporary (PEMA)/upland break could not be determined in field. These areas will be left as upland with the temporary/upland break made at draft map review.

West of the Green River:

Hayed fields in this area will be classified mainly as temporary with seasonal linears and pockets. Temporarily flooded signatures vary from a lighter deep mottled red to a white return (Horteum) mixed with a darker red. The upland signature is a grey or a white-grey mix. These upland areas will be delineated separately whenever possible. Seasonal signatures will only be the very darker brown and bright pink tones. Difficulty arises when delineating grazed and mowed areas within the hayed fields. Delineations will not be influenced by land use changes and wetland signatures will be carried across.

East of the Green River:

Hay fields east of the Green River were found to be seasonal more often than temporary. Signatures vary from browns, greens and pinks with seasonal being darker while temporary signatures are much lighter. Seasonal swales and pockets will still be delineated within these temporary areas. If swales are absent from mowed fields, then these areas will be left as upland and reviewed closely at draft map review.

Area along Big Sandy:

Only the darker red signature along Big Sandy will be temporary with the more mottled being seasonal. Gray/Green signatures and those with just a hint of rose will be upland.

West of Big Sandy Reservoir:

This area is very dry, consisting mainly of sage brush. Areas symbolized by the intermittent symbol or depression

on topographic maps will be classified as palustrine, emergent, temporarily flooded (PEMA). A white and a white-pinkish signature is associated with this wetland.

General:

Excavated sludge or overflow pits associated with gas and oil wells will be classified as unconsolidated bottom, semipermanently flooded, excavated (PUBFx).

Borrow pits and sewage treatment ponds will be classified as aquatic bed, semipermanently flooded, excavated (ABFx).

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