

Appendix A: Cordova Vegetation Type Classification Key

Vegetation Type Key:

- 1a. Total Tree cover 10-100%**Forest Type Key**
 - 1b. Tree cover less than 10%2
 - 2a. At least 25 percent cover is erect to decumbent shrubs3
 - 3a. shrubs taller than 1.5 m (5 ft) are most abundant**Tall Shrub Key**
 - 3b. shrubs 20 cm (8 in) to 1.5 m in height are most abundant**Low Shrub Key**
 - 3c. shrubs <20cm are most abundant**Dwarf Shrub Key**
 - 2b. Herbaceous vegetation at least 25%**Herbaceous Key**
 - 2c. Herbaceous vegetation less than 25%**Non-vascular/Non-vegetated/Sparse Vegetation Key**
- (After selection, go to indicated Key)

Forest Type Key

- 1a. At least 75% of the total tree cover present is needleleaf**Needleleaf Forest Key**
- 1b. At least 75% of total tree cover broadleaf**Broadleaf Forest**
 -**Black Cottonwood**
- 1c. Not as above**Mixed Broadleaf – Needleleaf Forest**
 -**Sitka Spruce – Black Cottonwood**

Needleleaf Forest Key (At least 75% of the total tree cover present is needleleaf)

- 1a. Saturated peatlands with stunted trees. Wetland indicators include sphagnum peat, wetland sedges, tufted clubrush, cottongrass, bog rosemary (*Andromeda polifolia*), bog cranberry (*Vaccinium oxycoccus*) or sundew (*Drosera* spp.) tree canopy cover usually 10-35%
 -**Forested Peatland**
- 1b. Non-wetland2
- 2a. Total tree cover is at least 15% hemlock (mountain or western)3
 - 3a. At least 15% of total tree cover is spruce**Hemlock – Sitka Spruce**
 - 3b. At least 15% of total tree cover is Yellow Cedar**Hemlock – Yellow Cedar**
 - 3c. Less than 15% total tree cover is Yellow Cedar or Sitka spruce, trees not Krumholtz
 -**Hemlock**
 - 3d. Dominant tree cover is dwarf mountain hemlock (usually upper elevation with krumholtz growth form), not wetland.....**Dwarf Mountain Hemlock**
- 2b. Total tree cover is less than 15% hemlock and At least 15% total tree cover is Sitka spruce
 -**Sitka Spruce**
- 2c. Not as above**Other Conifer**
(describe in notes)

Tall Shrub Key (shrubs taller than 5 ft (1.5 m) are most abundant)

- 1a. Alder and willow combined cover greater than 50% total shrub cover2
 - 2a. Alder with greater than 75% of the combined cover of alder and willow
.....**Alder**
 - 2b. Willow with greater than 75% of the combined cover of alder and
willow.....**Tall Willow**
 - 3c. Neither alder nor willow make up 75%**Alder - Willow**
- 1b. (Not as above) Other tall shrubs (e.g., Mt. ash, Malus, Elderberry, Salmonberry, etc.)
.....**Other Tall Shrub**
(describe in notes)

Low Shrub Key (shrubs 8 in (20 cm) to 1.5 m in height are most abundant)

- 1a. At least 15% Sweet gale.....**Sweetgale**
- 1b. At least 15% Willow**Low Willow**
- 1c. At least 15% Copperbush.....**Copperbush**
- 1d. At least 15% Salmonberry.....**Salmonberry**
- 3b. Not as above**Other Low Shrub**
(describe in notes)

Dwarf Shrub Key

- 1a. At least 25% lichen, not wetland **Dwarf Shrub / Lichen**
- 1b. Ericaceous dwarf shrubs or crowberry
dominant.....2
 - 2a. Wetland sites with sphagnum, sedges, or deer cabbage; other indicators may include
bog rosemary (*Andromeda polifolia*), bog cranberry (*Vaccinium oxycoccus*) and sundew
(*Drosera* spp.) **Dwarf Shrub / Sedge peatland**
 - 2b. Mesic sites, not peatlands.....**Ericaceous Dwarf Shrub**
- 1c. Dwarf willow dominant; less than 25% lichen**Willow Dwarf Shrub**

Herbaceous Key (Herbaceous vegetation at least 25% and shrub cover is less than 25%)

- 1a. Emergent or terrestrial herbaceous vegetation cover at least 25%2
 - 2a. Dry soils (beach rye, fescue, hairgrass)**Dry Herbaceous**
 - 2b. Moderate moisture (bluejoint, fireweed, umbels, mixed
forb).....**Mesic Herbaceous**
 - 2c. Wet sites often with standing water (marsh, rich fen, sedges, cottongrass, water often
present).....**Wet Herbaceous**

2d. Saturated peatlands with wetland sedges, tufted clubrush, or cottongrass. Other indicators may include bog rosemary (*Andromeda polifolia*), bog cranberry (*Vaccinium oxycoccus*) and sundew (*Drosera* spp.).....**Sedge Peatland**

1b. Emergent or terrestrial herbaceous vegetation cover less than 25%. Dominant vegetation growing submerged in water or floating on the water surface.....**Aquatic Herbaceous**

Non-Vascular/Non-Vegetated/Sparse Vegetation Types (Herbaceous vascular vegetation is less than 25%)

1a. Lichen cover greater than 25%**Lichen**

1b. Area is currently developed for urban, residential, administrative use.....**Developed**

1c. Area is dominated by open water or a confined watercourse.....**Water**

1b. Vegetation cover 10-25%.....**Sparse vegetation**

1d. Less than 10% vascular vegetation.....**Barren**

Tree Canopy Cover Class Key

1a. Total tree cover at least 10 percent, but less than 25%**Woodland (10-24%)**

1b. Total tree cover greater than or equal to 25% but less than 60%**Open (25-59%)**

1c. Total tree cover is at least 60 percent**Closed (60-100%)**

Tree Size Class Key

TS1 (0 - 4.9" dbh)

TS2 (5 - 8.9" dbh)

TS3 (9 - 20.9" dbh)

TS4 (≥ 21 " dbh)

NT Non Tree

Tall Shrub Canopy Cover Class Key

1a. Total tall shrub cover at least 9 percent, but less than 25%**Sparse (9-24%)**

1b. Total tall shrub cover greater than or equal to 25% but less than 60%.....**Open (25-59%)**

1c. Total tall shrub cover is at least 60 percent.....**Closed (60-100%)**