

Habitat descriptions and codes for the Bear Creek Atlas.

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**Grasslands (dominated by grass and low shrubs)**

- TSG – shortgrass prairie (grasses, low shrubs, some yucca)
- TTG - taller grassland in low-elevation areas
- TMG – montane meadow (grasses, some low shrubs)
- TAL - alpine tundra (meadows, grasses, forbs above timberline)

**Shrublands (woody plants <20' in height, trees <10%)**

- SOS - Oak Scrub (oak brush, tree-like oak woodlands)
- SMM – montane shrubland (mountain mahogany, snowberry, serviceberry, chokecherry)
- SLE - low-elevation shrubland (taller shrublands not defined above)
- SMC – mid-elevation carr (willow and alders often associated with water or moist ground, often with overstory of riparian trees)
- SBC – higher-elevation carr (willow thickets often associated with water or moist ground, usually lacking an overstory)
- SKR – krummholz (conifer shrubland: short or even prostrate)
- SSL-# – clear cut areas, # should indicate forest type below
- SBL-# - burned areas; # should indicate forest type below

**Woodland (<30% crown cover by trees)**

- WJJ – scattered Rocky Mountain Junipers
- WPP – woodland dominated by Ponderosa Pine

**Forest (>30% crown cover by trees)**

- FRD – riparian deciduous (cottonwoods boxelders)
- FRC – riparian coniferous (blue spruce, Douglas fir)
- FAM – mixed aspen-conifer forest, <50% conifer
- FAP – pure aspen, <5% conifer
- FUC – upland (montane) coniferous forest: specify type (ponderosa pine {P}, Douglas fir {D}, lodgepole pine {L}, Engelmann spruce {E}, subalpine fir {S}, bristlecone {B} or limber pines {M})

**Wetlands**

- AEM - emergent marshes: saturated soil with annual vegetation, such as cattail, bulrush, sedges
- ASU – submerged or floating mats of vegetation
- ASL - shoreline: open shores of streams or lakes; little vegetation
- OWL – open water: lakes and ponds
- OWS – open water: streams

**Urban and Other**

- URB - residential: includes parks and industrial areas
  - RRL - rural: scattered farm buildings, with/without plantings
  - TSU – barren ground: plowed fields, blowouts, dunes
  - MCL - cliffs (but not talus, scree, rock piles, which would be MSC)
  - MBK - dirt or clay bank: natural or man made
  - MSB - bridges & culverts: use this for nest location only
  - MSP - power poles, transmission towers (for nests); not fence posts
  - MSC - miscellaneous: anything not above; specify
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