

PREFACE TO 2017 UPDATE OF WETLAND AND RIPARIAN PLANT ASSOCIATIONS IN OREGON

John A. Christy
Oregon Biodiversity Information Center, Institute for Natural Resources
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In 2016-2017, with funding from with funding from EPA and the Oregon Department of State Lands, the Oregon Biodiversity Information Center (ORBIC) has updated the wetland classification for the Oregon Explorer website. To assist with ongoing work on stream classification and mapping of riparian resources, riparian associations have been added to the online list of wetland associations. Many of the riparian associations were already included in previous ORBIC and NatureServe classifications, but review of more recent literature has added new types. For the sake of completeness, a number of wetland associations have been restored to the classification that were omitted from the 2012 revision. Coverage for serpentine fens and vernal pools has been improved. On Oregon Explorer, associations are grouped under the same 15 major habitats as they were in 2012, which were expanded to include riparian types. The 2017 update also includes identification keys to (1) the 15 major wetland habitats, and (2) all wetland and riparian associations that have been included in the revision.

Most of these associations have been included in the [International Vegetation Classification System \(IVCS\)](#), and are accessible via links, when available, to descriptions on the [NatureServe Explorer](#) website. A number of associations designated as "provisional" currently are not included in IVCS. For documentary purposes, the provisional types are linked, whenever possible, to the original publications that reported them from Oregon.

In general, riparian, alkaline, forested, shrub, fen, and salt marsh plant associations are well covered by IVCS and the 2017 classification. However, these are the types that have been most widely published and are most likely to represent overlapping concepts. As part of its review process, IVCS has synonymized many published associations in an attempt to codify an acceptable range of variability among similar types.

Wetland Indicator Status. Under the heading "Environmental Setting", descriptions of plant associations currently included in the NatureServe Explorer indicate whether they meet wetland criteria, although it is not clear if the most current [2016 National Wetland Plant List](#) was used in the assessment.

Global (G) and subnational/ state (S) ranks. Most ranks are the same as those in the 2012 revision, and are consistent with the Granks already in the IVCS. Changes in ranks reflect the use of rounded ranks instead of more tentative rank ranges (e.g. G2 or G3 instead of G2G3), or changes from GU or GQ, with corresponding changes in S ranks. [Ranking concepts](#) are defined on the ORBIC website.

Plant nomenclature. Nomenclature continues to evolve because of ongoing international analyses of plant systematics that have altered many familiar genera, redistributed genera to different plant families, split up families, and caused other families to disappear entirely. Because of this, the major online databases of plant name (including the National Wetland Plant List) do not always agree on names used. In the past, ORBIC followed the [PLANTS Database](#), as do the IVCS and NatureServe Explorer, but we now follow the [Oregon Flora Project checklist of vascular plants](#) (version 1-7, June 2017), which in most cases follows [Flora of North America](#). These are the names being used in the new [Flora of Oregon](#), which will be the state's standard reference for the next 20 years.

The following list shows changes in plant names used previously by ORBIC, IVCS, the National List of Wetland Plant Names, and recent regional guides to plant associations. The names on the left are the ones used previously, while those on the right are those used in the updated 2017 classification and conform to the current checklist of the Oregon Flora Project.

Abies concolor = *Abies concolor* × *Abies grandis*
Adiantum pedatum = *Adiantum aleuticum*

Argentina egedii = *Potentilla anserina* ssp. *pacifica*
Aster modestus = *Canadanthus modestus*
Azolla mexicana = *Azolla microphylla*
Betula nana [misapplied in Oregon] = *Betula glandulosa*
Callitriche palustris = *Callitriche verna*
Caltha biflora = *Caltha leptosepala*
Caltha leptosepala ssp. *howellii* = *Caltha leptosepala*
Camissonia tanacetifolia = *Taraxia tanacetifolia*
Carex deweyana ssp. *leptopoda* = *Carex leptopoda*
Carex eurycarpa = *Carex angustata*
Carex muricata = *Carex echinata* ssp. *echinata*
Celtis laevigata var. *reticulata* = *Celtis reticulata*
Chamaecyparis nootkatensis = *Callitropsis nootkatensis*
Chrysosplenium glechomaefolium = *Chrysosplenium glechomifolium*
Cornus alba = *Cornus sericea*
Cornus canadensis = *Cornus unalaschkensis*
Cornus sericea ssp. *occidentalis* = *Cornus sericea*
Cornus sericea ssp. *sericea* = *Cornus sericea*
Dasiphora floribunda = *Dasiphora fruticosa*
Dasiphora fruticosa ssp. *floribunda* = *Dasiphora fruticosa*
Deschampsia caespitosa = *Deschampsia cespitosa*
Eleocharis pauciflora = *Eleocharis quinqueflora*
Eriophorum cringerum = *Calliscirpus criniger*
Fauria crista-galli = *Nephrophyllidium crista-galli*
Fontinalis antipyretica var. *oregonensis* = *Fontinalis antipyretica*
Glaux maritima = *Lysimachia maritima*
Gymnocarpium dryopteris = *Gymnocarpium disjunctum*
Heracleum lanatum = *Heracleum maximum*
Juncus arcticus = *Juncus balticus*
Juncus effusus var. *brunneus* = *Juncus hesperius*
Juncus lesueurii = *Juncus lescurii*
Ledum glandulosum = *Rhododendron columbianum*
Lupinus arcticus var. *subalpinus* = *Lupinus latifolius* var. *subalpinus*
Lysichiton americanum = *Lysichiton americanus*
Mentha arvensis = *Mentha canadensis*
Mimulus guttatus = *Erythranthe guttata*
Mimulus lewisii = *Erythranthe lewisii*
Mimulus tilingii = *Erythranthe tilingii*
Morella californica = *Myrica californica*
Navarretia minima = *Navarretia leucocephala* ssp. *minima*
Nuphar lutea ssp. *polysepala* = *Nuphar polysepala*
Polygonum amphibium = *Persicaria amphibia*
Polygonum bistortoides = *Bistorta bistortoides*
Polygonum confertiflorum = *Polygonum polygaloides* ssp. *confertiflorum*
Polygonum hydropiperoides = *Persicaria hydropiperoides*
Polygonum kelloggii = *Polygonum polygaloides* ssp. *kelloggii*
Populus angustifolia [misapplied in Oregon] = *Populus trichocarpa*
Populus balsamifera ssp. *trichocarpa* = *Populus trichocarpa*
Potentilla pacifica = *Potentilla anserina* ssp. *pacifica*
Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum = *Nasturtium officinale*
Rubus discolor = *Rubus bifrons*
Ruppia cirrhosa = *Ruppia maritima*
Salicornia depressa [misapplied in Oregon] = *Sarcocornia perennis*
Salicornia virginica = *Sarcocornia perennis*
Salix arctica = *Salix petrophila*
Salix eriocephala var. *mackenziana* = *Salix prolixa*

Salix fluviatilis = *Salix exigua* var. *columbiana*
Salix lucida ssp. *caudata* = *Salix lasiandra* var. *caudata*
Salix lucida ssp. *lasiandra* = *Salix lasiandra* var. *lasiandra*
Salix myrtillofolia = *Salix boothii*
Salix planifolia ssp. *planifolia* = *Salix planifolia* var. *planifolia*
Salix rigida var. *macrogamma* = *Salix proluxa*
Sanguisorba sitchensis = *Sanguisorba stipulata*
Saxifraga arguta = *Micranthes odontoloma*
Saxifraga ferruginea = *Micranthes ferruginea*
Saxifraga odontoloma = *Micranthes odontoloma*
Saxifraga oregana = *Micranthes oregana*
Saxifraga tolmiei = *Micranthes tolmiei*
Schoenoplectus maritimus = *Bolboschoenus maritimus* ssp. *paludosus*
Scirpus acutus = *Schoenoplectus acutus*
Scirpus americanus = *Schoenoplectus pungens*
Scirpus maritimus = *Bolboschoenus maritimus* ssp. *paludosus*
Scirpus nevadensis = *Amphiscirpus nevadensis*
Scirpus subterminalis = *Schoenoplectus subterminalis*
Scirpus validus = *Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani*
Smilacina stellata = *Maianthemum stellatum*
Spiraea densiflora = *Spiraea splendens*
Suaeda moquinii = *Suaeda nigra*
Utricularia macrorhiza = *Utricularia vulgaris* ssp. *macrorhiza*
Vaccinium alaskaense = *Vaccinium ovalifolium*

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