

**PLANT ELEMENT OCCURRENCE  
EXTERNAL FIELD FORM DATA DICTIONARY**



Element Common Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Element Scientific Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(For a list of elements tracked by CNHP, refer to <http://www.cnhp.colostate.edu/list.html>)

**Element Common Name(s):** State common name for an Element.

**Element Scientific Name:** State scientific name for an Element.

**Data Sensitivity**

Data Sensitive Element Occurrence:  Y  N  
If yes, list reason (i.e., landowner requests confidentiality): \_\_\_\_\_

**Data Sensitive Element Occurrence:** Indicates whether the location of the element occurrence is considered sensitive by CNHP staff. Occurrences are most often considered sensitive due to land status, such as on some private property.

**Ownership**

Owner Type:  Private  USFS  BLM  State  Military  Indian  BuRec  NPS  Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Owner Name (or National Forest, BLM District, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_  
Owner Comments (special requests, permissions, circumstances): \_\_\_\_\_

**Ownership:** This field is used for information about the owner such as their name, address, phone number, contacts other than owners, information about the owner (they have a big dog, they like us, etc.) used in conjunction with the reference. Anytime the observer provides the BLM as the owner it is listed here as the very first item, without the reference. When an observer tells that the occurrence is within a Managed Area that is not on our maps, that is also listed here in conjunction with the reference.

**SIZE/POPULATION BIOLOGY** (area of occupancy, population abundance, density, fluctuation):

Estimated Number of Individuals (or exact count, if feasible; if plants are spreading vegetatively, indicate number of aerial stems): \_\_\_\_\_  
Estimated Population Size: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Subpopulations (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_  
Size of Area Covered by Population:  none (point) or \_\_\_\_\_  sq. feet  acres  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**Size:** Area of occupancy, population abundance, density, fluctuation.

**Estimated Population Size:** The entry for this field should be as precise as possible, avoid using terms like 100s or 1000s. Please also indicate the estimation method used (e.g. ocular estimate, plot, transect, etc.).

**CONDITION** (productivity, vigor/health, evidence of reproduction, health of population, degree of anthropogenic disturbance, naturalness of hydrology, and other ecological processes):

Phenology: Vegetative: \_\_\_\_\_% Flower: \_\_\_\_\_% Fruit: \_\_\_\_\_%

Reproductive Success: (evidence of seed dispersal and establishment): \_\_\_\_\_

Age Classes Present: \_\_\_\_\_

Symbiotic or Parasitic Relationships (e.g. pollinators): \_\_\_\_\_

Evidence of Disease, Predation or Injury: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**Condition:** Productivity and vigor of the observed feature/element.

**Age Classes Present:** Valid entries include: flowering mature individuals, seedlings or rosettes, fruiting individuals, etc.

**Evidence of disease, predation or injury:** Avoid only answering yes, provide a list of what was observed. For e.g. appears to be grazed by elk, fungus on leaves, etc.

**LANDSCAPE CONTEXT** (biological structure, species composition, degree of fragmentation and connectivity, condition, and extent of **surrounding landscape**; abiotic physical/chemical factors):

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**Landscape Context:** structure, condition and extent of surrounding landscape; abiotic physical/chemical factors. An integrated measure of the quality of biotic and abiotic factors, structures, and processes surrounding the Element Occurrence (EO), and the degree to which they affect the continued existence of the occurrence. Components of this factor are:

- landscape structure and extent surrounding the EO, including genetic connectivity;
- development/maturity of the surrounding landscape context (for community EOs);
- ecological processes in the surrounding landscape context;
- species composition and biological structure of the surrounding landscape context;
- abiotic physical/chemical factors in the surrounding landscape context.

General Habitat Comments (describe the general landscape surrounding the EO): \_\_\_\_\_

Dominant Plant Community (list dominant species currently present, include age structure if known): \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Associated Plant Species: \_\_\_\_\_

**General Habitat Comments:** Describe the general landscape surrounding the EO.

Topographic Position: \_\_\_\_\_

**Topographic Position:** Domain values for Topographic Position are:

**Interfluve** - (crest, summit, ridge): linear top of ridge, hill or mountain; the elevated area between two fluves (drainageways) that sheds water to the drainageways.

**High Slope** - (shoulder slope, upper slope, convex creep slope): geomorphic component that forms the uppermost inclined surface at the top of a slope. It comprises the transition zone from backslope to summit, and the surface is dominantly convex in profile and erosional in origin.

**High Level** - (mesa) level top of plateau.

**Midslope** - (transportational midslope, middle slope): intermediate slope position between high and low.

**Backslope** - (dipslope): subset of midslopes which are steep, linear and may include cliff segments (fall faces).

**Step in Slope** - (ledge, terracette): nearly level shelf interrupting a steep slope, rock wall, or cliff face.

**Lowslope** - (lower slope, foot slope, colluvial footslope): inner gently inclined surface at the base of a slope. Surface profile is generally concave and a transition between midslope or backslope, and toeslope.

**Toeslope** - (alluvial toeslope): outermost gently inclined surface at base of a slope. Toeslopes in profile are commonly gentle and linear and characterized by alluvial deposition.

**Low Level** - (terrace): valley floor or shoreline representing the former position of an alluvial plain, lake, or shore.

**Channel Wall** - (bank): sloping side of a channel.

**Channel Bed** - (narrow valley bottom, gully arroyo): bed of single or braided watercourse commonly barren of vegetation and formed of modern alluvium.

**Basin Floor** - (depression): nearly level to gently sloping, bottom surface of an intermontane basin.

**(null)** - Not assessed or unknown

Aspect: \_\_\_\_\_

**Aspect:** The aspect(s) of the slope(s) (compass direction in which the slope faces) of the terrain on which the community Element Occurrence (EO) is generally located. Domain values for Aspect are:

Flat  
Variable  
N (338 - 22 degrees)  
NE (23 - 67 degrees)  
E (68 - 112 degrees)  
SE (113 - 157 degrees)  
S (158 - 202 degrees)  
SW (203 - 247 degrees)  
W (248 - 292 degrees)  
NW (293 - 337 degrees)

% Slope: \_\_\_\_\_

**Slope:** The general slope(s) of the terrain on which the community Element Occurrence (EO) is generally located. Domain values for Slope:

Flat (0%, 0 degrees)  
Gentle (0 - 5%, 1 - 10 degrees)  
Moderate (5 - 15%, 10 - 25 degrees)  
Somewhat steep (15 - 25%, 25 - 50 degrees)  
Steep (25 - 45%, 50 - 100 degrees)  
Very steep (45 - 70%, 100 - 275 degrees)  
Abrupt (70 - 100%, 275 - 300 degrees)  
Overhanging/Sheltered (>100%, >300 degrees)

Slope Shape:  Concave     Convex     Straight     Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Light Exposure:  Open     Shaded     Partial shade     Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Moisture:  Dry     Moist     Saturated     Inundated     Seasonal seepage     Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Soil Texture: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Geomorphic Land Form (e.g., glaciated mountain slopes and ridges, alpine glacial valley, rolling uplands, breaklands, alluvial-colluvial-lacustrine, rockslides, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

**Soil Texture:** Value(s) selected from a drop-down menu that indicate(s) the soil texture(s) that characterize the habitat of the taxon. Domain values for Soil Texture are:

- Clay/silt
- Loam
- Sand
- Gravel/cobble
- Rocky
- Bare rock
- (null) - Not assessed or unknown

**Management Comments**

Evidence of Threats and Disturbance (e.g. effects on population viability due to mining, recreation, grazing, exotic species; past/present/future recommendations; comments on any management needed to ensure continued existence of the EO, as well as the chances and means of fulfilling those needs): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Predominant Land Uses: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exotic Species: \_\_\_\_\_

**Management Comments:** Comments on any management needed to ensure continued existence of the Element Occurrence (EO), as well as the chances and means of fulfilling those needs. Also include a general description of current land management practices (if known). Please ensure your comments are as fact-based as possible, avoid broad subjective statements. This field should be a descriptive field.

**Protection Comments** (Are there any protection plans or strategies in place?; comments on any legal protection to ensure continued existence of the EO, and the chances and means of fulfilling those needs): \_\_\_\_\_

**Protection Comments:** Comments on any legal protection needed to ensure continued existence of the Element Occurrence (EO), and the chances and means of fulfilling those needs. Also any comments on existing protection strategies for the site. Please ensure your comments are as fact-based as possible and avoid broad subjective statements. This field should be a descriptive field.

**General Comments**

\_\_\_\_\_

**General Comments:** Any comments needed that do not fit in any other category.