

Upland Sand and Gravel Sparse Vegetation

COMMON NAME	Upland Sand and Gravel Sparse Vegetation
SYNONYM	Upland Flats
PHYSIOGNOMIC CLASS	Sparse vegetation (VII)
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBCLASS	Unconsolidated material sparse vegetation (VII.C)
PHYSIOGNOMIC GROUP	Sparsely vegetated sand flats (VII.C.2)
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBGROUP	Natural/semi-natural (VII.C.2.N)
FORMATION	Sand flats (VII.C.2.N.a.)
ALLIANCE	Undefined

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENCE LEVEL 3

USFWS WETLAND SYSTEM Upland

RANGE

Globally

This community has not been described other than at Fort Laramie NHS. It is likely to be found elsewhere in Wyoming and nearby states.

Fort Laramie National Historic Site

This community occurs predominantly on the upper and lower floodplains, with occasional occurrences away from the river.

ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

Globally

Information not available.

Fort Laramie National Historic Site

This community occurs on gravelly or sandy soils on the floodplain, and occasionally in drainage bottoms at upland sites.

MOST ABUNDANT SPECIES

Globally

Information not available.

Fort Laramie National Historic Site

Stratum

Species

Shrub

Atemisia frigida

Herbaceous

Artemisia campestris, *Opuntia polyacantha*, *Sporobolus cryptandrus*

DIAGNOSTIC SPECIES

Globally

Information not available.

Fort Laramie National Historic Site

Artemisia campestris, *Opuntia polyacantha*

USGS-NPS Vegetation Mapping Program
Fort Laramie National Historic Site

VEGETATION DESCRIPTION

Globally

Information not available.

Fort Laramie National Historic Site

This community typically consists of a low herbaceous stratum (less than 0.5 m in height) with 10-50% cover. Shrub cover is variable or absent, with *Artemisia frigida* occurring most frequently. *Cryptogamic* soil is often well developed.

OTHER NOTEWORTHY SPECIES Information not available.

CONSERVATION RANK

RANK JUSTIFICATION

DATABASE CODE Information not available.

COMMENTS

Globally

This community has not been described other than at Fort Laramie NHS. It likely occurs elsewhere, but it needs further review for a complete rangewide description.

Fort Laramie National Historic Site

Sites away from the river (washes and blowouts) are somewhat different than floodplain occurrences. *Opuntia polyacantha* can occur at these sites, but *Artemisia campestris* was not observed. *A. filifolia* is occasional; *Ambrosia psilostachya* and *Calamovilfa longifolia* also were locally common.

REFERENCES