

Impatiens (capensis, pallida) - Monarda didyma - Rudbeckia laciniata var. humilis
Herbaceous Vegetation

COMMON NAME (Orange Jewelweed, Pale Jewelweed) - Beebalm - Appalachian Black-eyed
SYNONYM Rich Montane Seep (High Elevation Type)
PHYSIOGNOMIC CLASS Herbaceous Vegetation (V)
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBCLASS Perennial forb vegetation (V.B)
PHYSIOGNOMIC GROUP Temperate or subpolar perennial forb vegetation (V.B.2)
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBGROUP Natural/Semi-natural (V.B.2.N)
FORMATION Saturated temperate perennial forb vegetation (V.B.2.N.f)

ALLIANCE *Impatiens (capensis, pallida) - Monarda didyma* Saturated Herbaceous Alliance

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENCE LEVEL 2

USFWS WETLAND SYSTEM Palustrine

RANGE

Globally

This community occurs at moderate to high elevations of the southern Blue Ridge Mountains of western North Carolina, eastern Tennessee, southwestern Virginia, northern Georgia, and probably northwestern South Carolina.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

This community was not sampled on the Cades Cove or Mount Le Conte quadrangles. It is likely on the Mount Le Conte quadrangle, as well as in other high elevation areas of the Park.

ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

Globally

These small wetlands occur at high elevations, over 4000 feet, on upper slopes and ridgetops, within forest openings and on boulderfields.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

No information

MOST ABUNDANT SPECIES

Globally

Stratum

Herbaceous

Species

Impatiens capensis, Impatiens pallida, Monarda didyma, Rudbeckia laciniata var. humilis

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Stratum

No information

Species

CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES

Globally

Impatiens capensis, Impatiens pallida, Monarda didyma, Rudbeckia laciniata var. humilis

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

No information

VEGETATION DESCRIPTION

Globally

Forb-dominated palustrine vegetation occurring as small wetlands at high elevations (greater than 1200 meters or 4000 feet), on upper slopes and ridgetops. These areas lack extensive *Sphagnum* and are typically open, without shading from a forest canopy. The nominal species often have high coverage (*Impatiens capensis, Impatiens pallida, Monarda didyma, Rudbeckia laciniata var. humilis*). Other characteristic species include *Aconitum reclinatum, Cardamine clematidis, Carex leptonevia, Carex flexuosa, Carex ruthii, Chelone lyonii, Cicuta maculata, Claytonia caroliniana, Conioselinum chinense, Euonymus obovatus, Geum geniculatum, Helenum autumnale, Houstonia serpyllifolia, Lilium superbum, Lilium grayii, Senecio aureus, Solidago patula, Thalictrum clavatum, Trautvetteria carolinensis, Veratrum viride, Viola cucullata, and Viola macloskeyi ssp. pallens*.

This vegetation is often associated with boulderfields or other northern hardwood forests; see *Betula alleghaniensis* - *Fagus grandifolia* - *Aesculus flava* - (*Acer saccharum*) Forest Alliance (I.B.2.N.b).

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

No information

OTHER NOTEWORTHY SPECIES

No information

CONSERVATION RANK G3

RANK JUSTIFICATION

It occurs as a small patch community, embedded in a variety of regional forest types. While restricted in range and of small size, the community is relatively frequent within its range; many examples are protected, and threats are relatively few and minor.

DATABASE CODE CEGL004293

COMMENTS

Globally

Another high elevation herbaceous seep association known from the southern Appalachians, *Diphylleia cymosa* - *Saxifraga micranthidifolia* - *Laportea canadensis* Herbaceous Vegetation, typically occurs at lower elevations and is associated with cove forests.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

This community is too small to map and often occurs under a forested canopy.

REFERENCES

Nelson 1986, Schafale and Weakley 1990