

Carex torta Herbaceous Vegetation

COMMON NAME Twisted Sedge Herbaceous Vegetation
SYNONYM Rocky Bar and Shore (Twisted Sedge Type)
PHYSIOGNOMIC CLASS Herbaceous Vegetation (V)
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBCLASS Perennial graminoid vegetation (V.A)
PHYSIOGNOMIC GROUP Temperate or subpolar grassland (V.A.5)
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBGROUP Natural/Semi-natural (V.A.5.N)
FORMATION Temporarily flooded temperate or subpolar grassland (V.A.5.N.j)

ALLIANCE *Carex torta* Temporarily Flooded Herbaceous Alliance

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENCE LEVEL 2

USFWS WETLAND SYSTEM Temporarily Flooded

RANGE

Globally

This community occurs in the southern Appalachians of Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee, in the Cumberland Plateau of Kentucky, the Interior Low Plateau of Tennessee, the Allegheny Mountains of Virginia, and may range into Alabama.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

This community was sampled from the northeast portion of the Mount Le Conte quadrangle, along the Little Pigeon and Greenbrier rivers. It was not sampled on the Cades Cove quadrangle. It should occur in other areas of the Park, in association with larger rivers.

ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

Globally

This community occurs on sand, gravel, and rock bars on larger rivers and streams where the tree canopy does not completely cover the riverbed.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

This community occurs on river margins, rocky non-forested islands, and small shaded overflow outlets.

MOST ABUNDANT SPECIES

Globally

<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Species</u>
Herbaceous	<i>Carex torta</i>

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Species</u>
See above	

CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES

Globally

Carex torta

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

See above

VEGETATION DESCRIPTION

Globally

This association is characterized by light-demanding, tough-rooted herbaceous perennials tolerant of frequent inundation and flood-scouring. *Carex torta* forms dense, extensive colonies. There is often bare substrate of boulders, cobbles, gravel or sand.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

See above

OTHER NOTEWORTHY SPECIES

No information

CONSERVATION RANK G3G4

RANK JUSTIFICATION

DATABASE CODE C EGL004103

COMMENTS

Globally

None

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

This community occurs adjacent to alluvial forests of *Liquidambar styraciflua* and *Platanus occidentalis*, surrounded by floodplain forests (*i.e.* Poplar-Gum-Hemlock). The Little Pigeon River has many seasonally dry forks that support this community. It may be visible on air photography.

REFERENCES

Schafale and Weakley 1990