

***Platanus occidentalis* - *Fraxinus pennsylvanica* - *Acer negundo* / *Boehmeria cylindrica* Forest**

COMMON NAME Sycamore - Green Ash - Box Elder / False-nettle Forest  
SYNONYM Montane Alluvial Forest (Cades Cove)  
PHYSIOGNOMIC CLASS Forest (I)  
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBCLASS Deciduous forest (I.B)  
PHYSIOGNOMIC GROUP Cold-deciduous forest (I.B.2)  
PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBGROUP Natural/Semi-natural (I.B.2.N)  
FORMATION Temporarily flooded cold-deciduous forest (I.B.2.N.d)

ALLIANCE *Platanus occidentalis* - (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*, *Celtis laevigata*, *Acer saccharinum*)  
Temporarily Flooded Forest Alliance

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENCE LEVEL 3

USFWS WETLAND SYSTEM Palustrine

RANGE

**Globally**

This community is thought to occur in Tennessee and may range into Kentucky.

**Great Smoky Mountains National Park**

This community was not sampled on the Cades Cove or Mount Le Conte quadrangles. It was observed along the stretch of Abrams Creek, east of the Loop Road and in the vicinity of Sparks Road, on the Cades Cove quadrangle.

ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

**Globally**

No information

**Great Smoky Mountains National Park**

This community occurs on broad flats along streams and may be associated with calcareous geology. It is within a landscape of pastures and fields and impacted by cattle grazing.

MOST ABUNDANT SPECIES

**Globally**

Stratum Species

No information

**Great Smoky Mountains National Park**

Stratum Species

No information

CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES

**Globally**

No information

**Great Smoky Mountains National Park**

*Platanus occidentalis*, *Acer negundo* var. *negundo*, *Acer rubrum* var. *trilobum*, *Quercus imbricaria*, *Prunus serotina*, *Boehmeria cylindrica*, *Verbesina alternifolia*

VEGETATION DESCRIPTION

**Globally**

No information

**Great Smoky Mountains National Park**

This forest has a closed canopy dominated by *Platanus occidentalis*, *Acer negundo* var. *negundo*, *Acer rubrum* var. *trilobum*, *Liriodendron tulipifera*, and *Quercus imbricaria*. In some areas the canopy is dominated by *Quercus imbricaria* and *Prunus serotina*. The subcanopy stratum is sparse and primarily composed of canopy species. The shrub stratum is sparse. The herb layer includes *Boehmeria cylindrica*, *Verbesina alternifolia*, *Phacelia purshii*, *Senecio aureus*, *Carex intumescens*, *Iris* spp., and *Carex* spp. This alluvial forest can contain seasonally wet inclusions dominated by *Juncus effusus*, *Panicum* sp., and *Fescue* sp.

OTHER NOTEWORTHY SPECIES

No information

CONSERVATION RANK                    G3G4

RANK JUSTIFICATION

DATABASE CODE                        CEGL007339

COMMENTS

***Globally***

This association was described from Cades Cove, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and may need substantial revision with additional information. This type is thought to differ from montane alluvial forests found at higher elevations and on acid substrates in the Blue Ridge. Similar vegetation could be in Indiana, Illinois, or Missouri.

***Great Smoky Mountains National Park***

This community is meant to cover streamside forests within the open fields of Cades Cove.

REFERENCES

None