

Cirsium arvense - Weedy Forb Great Plains Herbaceous Vegetation [Provisional]

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| COMMON NAME | Canada Thistle - Weedy Forb Herbaceous Vegetation [Provisional] |
| SYNONYM | Great Plains Weedy Meadows |
| PHYSIOGNOMIC CLASS | Herbaceous (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 | |
| ALLIANCE | [Not developed] |

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENCE LEVEL 3

USFWS WETLAND SYSTEM Upland

RANGE

Globally

This association was newly derived from Black Hills data and needs further rangewide review.

Wind Cave National Park

Recent burn sparse vegetation is found in areas of recent prescribed fires at Wind Cave NP.

ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

Globally

This association was newly derived from Black Hills data and needs further rangewide review.

Wind Cave National Park

Recent burn sparse vegetation is found on sites of all aspects and slopes that have been well-burned within the past several years.

MOST ABUNDANT SPECIES

Globally

Stratum Species

Information not available.

Wind Cave National Park

Stratum Species

Herbaceous *Cirsium arvense*, *Conyza canadensis*, *Oryzopsis micrantha*, *Verbascum thapsus*

CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES

Globally

Information not available.

Wind Cave National Park

Information not available.

VEGETATION DESCRIPTION

Globally

This association was newly derived from Black Hills data and needs further rangewide review.

Wind Cave National Park

Cover and species composition of recent burn sparse vegetation is quite variable, both among and within stands. Some areas support lush growth of early successional species; others are largely bare blackened soil. Common species include Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*), little mountain-ricegrass (*Oryzopsis micrantha*), hoarhound (*Marrubium vulgare*) and Canada horseweed (*Conyza canadensis*). Typically there is an overstory of standing dead trees.

OTHER NOTEWORTHY SPECIES

CONSERVATION RANK GW

DATABASE CODE CEGL005260

MAP UNITS

Recent burn sparse vegetation is one of the types included in map units 11, 12 and 13, burned ponderosa pine woodlands, on the Wind Cave vegetation map. It is not mapped separately.

COMMENTS

Wind Cave National Park

The recent burn sparse vegetation type develops only after fires hot enough to kill most of the understory. Recently-burned stands with intact shrub and/or herbaceous strata are classified as the appropriate shrub or herbaceous vegetation type.

The recent burn sparse vegetation type is an early successional stage that develops on well-burned sites during the first few years following a fire. The recent burn sparse vegetation type often occurs in a mosaic with unburned or partially burned pine forest and woodland types.

A large percentage of the recent burn sparse vegetation at Wind Cave NP was visited during the mapping project.

REFERENCES