

APPENDIX C. Owens Farm Vegetation Polygon Descriptions

Polygon A	
Cover type	Oregon white oak forest
Description	<u>Overstory:</u> Oregon white oak with scattered large, open-grown oaks surrounded by denser young oaks. Also present in overstory are bigleaf maple, sweet cherry and Douglas fir. The forest in the southwest portion of Owens Farm has been partial cut in the past, probably for firewood. <u>Understory:</u> Dense shrub layer throughout much of the polygon. Dominants include Armenian blackberry throughout much of the polygon. Also common and forming dense thickets in some areas are poison oak, Pacific serviceberry, California hazelnut, and osoberry. The herb layer is relatively sparse with sword fern, sweet cicely and creeping blackberry.
Location	Western portion of site west of Highway 99W.
Rare species	Meadow checkermallow (<i>Sidalcea campestris</i>), Acorn Woodpecker, Western Gray Squirrel
Invasive species	Sweet cherry, Douglas fir, English hawthorn, Armenian blackberry, <i>Daphne laureola</i> , Irish/English ivy
Comments	Appears to have been partial cut in the past for firewood.
Polygon B	
Cover type	Forested wetland
Description	Narrow wetland swale in oak forest, dominated by spreading rush, dense sedge, and creeping bentgrass.
Location	Southwest part of the property west of Highway 99W.
Rare species	--
Invasive species	Armenian blackberry, English hawthorn, creeping bentgrass
Comments	Very small, narrow wetland in seepy swale.
Polygon C	
Cover type	Emergent wetland
Description	Wetland swale dominated by spreading rush, dense sedge, and creeping bentgrass. Willows and other shrubs are scattered in the wetlands. Armenian blackberry forms dense thickets at margins in areas transitioning to upland forest.
Location	Southwest part of the property west of Highway 99W. Embedded in oak forest.
Rare species	--
Invasive species	Armenian blackberry, English hawthorn, creeping bentgrass
Polygon D	
Cover type	Old agricultural field.
Description	Abandoned farm field which is now dominated by Armenian blackberry and introduced grasses and forbs. There are a few cascara saplings scattered in the eastern part of the polygon.
Location	West of Highway 99W between Oregon ash forest and Oregon white oak forest.
Rare species	--
Invasive species	Armenian blackberry, creeping bentgrass
Comments	Entire area was mowed in 2005 except for a few native tree saplings. There are very few other native plant species present.

Polygon E	
Cover type	Oregon ash forest.
Description	Overstory is dominated by Oregon ash with scattered Oregon white oaks. Slough sedge is an understory dominant in some areas, but non-native species dominate the understory in most areas. Himalayan blackberry and introduced pasture grasses such as meadow foxtail have impacted the understory and false brome is scattered.
Location	West of Highway 99W on bottomlands along Jackson Creek.
Rare species	Nelson's checkermallow
Invasive species	Armenian blackberry, meadow foxtail, false brome
Comments	Nelson's checkermallow would benefit from more open overstory and control of invasive plant species.
Polygons F & G	
Cover type	Wetland/upland prairie mosaic
Description	Remnant prairie dominated by Nootka rose, Armenian blackberry, Suksdorf's hawthorn and introduced grasses, but retaining a significant component of native prairie herbs including tufted hairgrass, California oatgrass, boadglumed wheatgrass, slender cinquefoil, barestem lomatium, small camas, Hall's aster and Nelson's checkermallow.
Location	West of Highway 99W north of Jackson Creek near the north property boundary.
Rare species	Nelson's checkermallow
Invasive species	Armenian blackberry, native shrubs, velvet grass, meadow foxtail.
Comments	Largest concentration of Nelson's checkermallow at Owens Farm. Habitat is imminently threatened by invasives, especially woody native and introduced species. Forest and shrub edges to the south and west have potential for native prairie restoration. Extent of open area north of Jackson Creek has been greatly reduced from historic levels as visible on historical aerial photographs.
Polygon H	
Cover type	Riparian scrub-shrub wetlands.
Description	Broad corridor of shrub-dominated wetlands surrounding a complex of creek channels, sloughs, and small beaver ponds. Dominants include Pacific willow, Hooker's willow, creek dogwood, Pacific ninebark and Oregon ash. A variety of native herbs include small camas, poison larkspur, enchanter's nightshade and Siberian candyflower. Armenian blackberry forms dense thickets in many parts and false brome is common in the herb layer.
Location	West of Highway 99W along Jackson and Frazier Creeks in the northeast corner and extending along the north property boundary.
Rare species	Yellow-breasted chat
Invasive species	Armenian blackberry, false brome.
Comments	Dense and tangled vegetation make access difficult, but provide a good buffer for the steams and associated wildlife. False brome and Armenian blackberry are impacting native herb layer and reducing diversity of native forbs.
Polygons I & J	
Cover type	Wetland prairie (partially restored old agricultural fields)
Description	Bottomland areas formerly in annual ryegrass production. Initial restoration activities have resulted in a mix of native wet prairie grasses and introduced grasses and forbs.

Location	West of Highway 99W on bottomlands south of Polygon H.
Rare species	Nelson's checkermallow in Polygon J.
Invasive species	Reed canarygrass and a variety of introduced grasses and forbs
Comments	These areas are quite weedy but have some native prairie species from recent restoration efforts. They will require additional efforts to restore functioning native wet prairie.
Polygons K & L	
Cover type	Agricultural grass fields.
Description	Upland fields on gentle north slopes which are cultivated for orchard grass seed. Polygon K has no trees. Polygon L has scattered large old Oregon white oaks.
Location	West of Highway 99W in center of property on east and west sides of Polygon M.
Rare species	--
Invasive species	Armenian blackberry (at margins)
Comments	Good opportunities for upland prairie and oak savanna restoration. Weed problems are minimal due to agricultural weed control.
Polygon M	
Cover type	Oregon white oak woodland.
Description	Open stand of mature Oregon white oak with cleared understory which was formerly densely shrubby with hazel, osoberry, snowberry and Armenian blackberry. Herb layer is sparse and of low diversity due to the heavy shrub cover.
Location	West of Highway 99W in center of property between upland agricultural fields.
Rare species	--
Invasive species	Armenian blackberry, sweet cherry
Comments	This area was mechanically cleared in fall of 2003 to open the understory and remove non-native overstory trees. Subsequent regrowth of Armenian blackberry was controlled with spot herbicide applications. Native and introduced shrubs are resprouting vigorously. Herb layer restoration with upland prairie grasses and forbs would help to exclude invasive species. On-going effort will be necessary to control shrubs and maintain an open understory.
Polygons N & O	
Cover type	Degraded wet prairie.
Description	Weedy wet prairie dominated by introduced grasses with a few scattered natives such as tufted hairgrass, soft rush and spreading rush. Small patches of less impacted vegetation occur adjacent to Jackson and Frazier Creeks and have small patches of Nelson's checkermallow. Exotic and native woody plants are colonizing and threaten the remaining prairie remnants.
Location	East of Highway 99W at north end of property in center of property between upland agricultural fields.
Rare species	Nelson's checkermallow
Invasive species	Armenian blackberry, English hawthorn, domestic apple, domestic pear, native shrubs, introduced grasses.
Comments	This area was mechanically cleared in fall of 2003 to open the understory and remove non-native overstory trees. Subsequent regrowth of Armenian blackberry was controlled with spot herbicide applications. Herb layer restoration with upland prairie grasses and forbs would help to exclude invasive species.
Polygon P	

Cover type	Riparian scrub-shrub wetlands.
Description	Similar to Polygon H.
Location	East of Highway 99W along Jackson and Frazier Creeks.
Rare species	--
Invasive species	Armenian blackberry
Comments	Similar to Polygon H.
Polygon Q	
Cover type	Wet meadow
Description	Wet meadow/pasture dominated by meadow foxtail and reed canary grass.
Location	East of Highway 99W near center of property.
Rare species	--
Invasive species	Meadow foxtail, reed canarygrass. Armenian blackberry at margins.
Comments	Very low diversity meadow dominated by exotic, perennial grasses.
Polygon R	
Cover type	Agricultural grass field.
Description	Flat, upland agricultural field in cultivation for orchard grass seed.
Location	East of Highway 99W at south end of property.
Rare species	--
Invasive species	Armenian blackberry at margins.
Comments	Good opportunity for upland prairie and oak savanna restoration. Weed problems are minimal due to agricultural weed control. Potential reintroduction site for Kincaid's lupine which grows nearby on Jackson-Frazier Wetlands property to the east.
Polygon S	
Cover type	Bigleaf maple forest.
Description	Overstory dominated by bigleaf maple. Shrub layer dominated by Armenian blackberry, English hawthorn, sweet cherry, snowberry. Herb layer sparse with Pacific snakeroot, false brome.
Location	East of Highway 99W along eastern boundary at south end of property. Extends to the east into Jackson-Frazier Wetlands property.
Rare species	-- (Kincaid's lupine just outside property boundary to the east.)
Invasive species	Armenian blackberry, English hawthorn, sweet cherry, English holly, false brome.
Comments	Understory threatened by blackberry and false brome. Historically savanna or upland prairie. Restoration could include opening both overstory and understory, removal of non-natives, planting of native prairie and understory herbs.