# Intro:

Big Rivers has evolved since the first datasheets. A data collection grid was initially created in 2017 to help track the data elements collected at each park. The grid below is a revised version indicating the data collected in 2018. *Cover for individual species is not listed though it is collected (WCC species – BLCA, CANY, & DINO[[1]](#footnote-1); URC species – BLCA; ARC species – CANY & DINO).*

The grid is heavily referenced for development and may also be used for assisting in data entry.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | |  | | exists or will be added | ✓ | item either exists or should be added to datasheets for 2018 |
| |  | | --- | |  | | datasheet section | 🗹 | checkbox (flag) |

*Each row of the table below represents a row (or sections) in datasheets as well as identifying data applicable to specific park(s). Row order isn’t exactly what will be seen on the datasheets, but is close.*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Item** | **BLCA** | **CANY** | **DINO** | **CURE[[2]](#footnote-2)** |
| Feature | ✓ |  |  |  |
| Transect | ✓ | ✓ |  |  |
| Plot Number[[3]](#footnote-3) |  |  | ✓ |  |
| Plot Location | ✓ | ✓ |  |  |
| Modal Sediment Size Class *(Mod Wentworth Scale)* | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |  |
| % Modal Sediment Cover | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |  |
| % Water | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |  |
| % Sand & Fines | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |  |
| % Litter | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |  |
| % Woody Debris | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |  |
| % FA Cover | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |  |
| % Social Trails | ✓ |  |  |  |
| Beaver Browse 🗹 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |  |
| Plot Density | ✓ |  |  |  |
| Taglines | ✓ |  |  |  |
| WCC | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |  |
| WCC – Total % Cover | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |  |
| WCC – No Canopy Veg 🗹 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |  |
| % Standing Dead | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |  |
| URC | ✓ |  |  |  |
| URC – Total % Cover *(< 1.5m in height, all species)* | ✓ |  |  |  |
| URC – No Indicator Species 🗹 | ✓ |  |  |  |
| ARC |  | ✓ | ✓ |  |
| ARC – Total % Cover |  | ✓ | ✓ |  |
| ARC – No Rooted Veg 🗹 |  | ✓ | ✓ |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Abbreviations:**  WCC = Woody Canopy Cover  URC = Understory Rooted Cover  ARC = All Rooted Cover | **Background (*in database*):**  BLCA, CANY, & DINO all have WCC  BLCA has URC  CANY & DINO both have ARC |

# Background Discussion:

Big Rivers parks have similarities and differences. Datasheets over the past two years have attempted to highlight and organize them; however changes are needed to further clarify and distinguish park specific nuances.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Park** | **Data Collection** | | | |
| ***Similarities*** | | | | |
| **ALL** | **All parks collect:** | | | |
|  |  | % Inundation  % Sand & Finer  % Standing Dead[[4]](#footnote-4) | % Litter  % Woody Debris  % Filamentous Algae[[5]](#footnote-5) | Modal Sediment Size Class  Modal Sediment Size % Cover  🗹 Beaver Browse[[6]](#footnote-6) |
| **ALL** | WCC – Woody canopy cover includes ***both*** rooted ***and*** unrooted canopy cover  🗹 No Canopy Veg flag = no canopy cover found in the plot  Total Plot Cover % includes all canopy species | | | |
| **CANY & DINO** | ARC – All rooted cover includes ***all*** rooted species  🗹 No Rooted Veg flag = no rooted species found in the plot  Total Plot Cover % includes *all* species rooted in the plot | | | |
| ***Differences*** | | | | |
| **BLCA** | URC – Understory species from a list of “**indicator**” species  Total Plot Cover % *includes* ***all*** ***species*** *– both those on the indicator list & those that are not*  🗹 No Indicator Species flag = no indicator species found in the plot  Previously 🗹 No Rooted Veg was listed on BLCA datasheets in URC  This checkbox was used to indicate **no indicator species were found** in the plot ***not*** to indicate no rooted vegetation was found in the plot.  Indicator species are identified prior to  Total Plot Cover % includes ***all*** species in the plot – ***not* only indicator species**  % Social Trails – total plot covered by social trails | | | |

1. Woody canopy cover data were recorded as “Species – unrooted” (e.g., *Populus fremontii* – unrooted) on the 2018 data sheets for DINO since the WCC section had not been added yet. These data were not recorded using the exact same methodology as used at BLCA and CANY, however, so the data may not be comparable. Starting in 2019, WCC data will be collected in the same way at all three parks. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. CURE is empty because data is not collected for these items; instead GPS is used for data collection. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Replicate & Calibration plots (#s or locations) be prefixed with either a R (replicate) or a C (calibration) followed by a real or dummy plot # or plot location. (dummy #s begin w/ 900 to avoid collisions with actual plot #s). This allows us to leverage database plot fields for calibrations & replicates and to automate comparisons for them. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. TBD if this will include *both* herbaceous and woody standing dead as is done in GRCA. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Previously FA % was recorded multiple times (WCC & URC) for BLCA & CANY and was not included on the DINO datasheet. In 2018 FA % will be recorded once for a plot for **all** parks. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Prior to 2018 beaver browse data was sporadically noted so pre-2017 data for this presence/absence indicator is incomplete. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)