

SECTION 3 RESULTS

3.1 DETERMINATION OF PRESENCE

This survey determined the presence of both GCWA and BCVI at CSSA. Detections are plotted on a map and shown in Figure 3.1. Table 3.1 lists each detection with weather conditions, observation times, coordinates, and vegetation community. A total of 20 individual birds were observed, not including two groups of fledglings. Results are summarized below:

Nineteen GCWA detections were identified in habitat areas typical of the species. Of these, 18 GCWA were detected through both visual sightings and audible calls, while one GCWA detection was through only counter singing. Some of these detections were mated pairs, formulating an estimated total of 16 GCWA territories. Four fledglings were observed, and are not included in the total count.

One BCVI was identified through an audible song heard in a habitat area typical of this species.

3.2 DETERMINATION OF HABITAT

Habitat was divided into two classifications - core habitat and non-core habitat (Figure 3.1). Core habitat was defined by a 200 meter radius circle around bird detections recorded during the 2005 survey. Potential habitat was defined by vegetation community type and abiotic factors such as slope and canopy structure. Table 3.2 shows GCWA and BCVI core and potential habitat at CSSA.

Table 3.2 GCWA and BCVI Core and Potential Habitat at CSSA

Species	Habitat Level	TOTAL Installation		East Pasture		North Pasture		Inner Cantonment	
		Acres	%	Acres	%*	Acres	%*	Acres	%*
BCVI	Core	31.1	0.8%	31.1	0.8	0	0.0	0	0.0
	Potential	109.9	2.7%	43.5	1.1	41.8	1.0	24.6	0.6
GCWA	Core	463.1	11.2%	82.5	2.1	275.9	6.9	104.7	2.6
	Potential	778.1	19.5%	160	4.0	507.4	12.7	110.7	2.8

*Percent of total installation acreage (4004 acres)

3.3 VEGETATION COMMUNITY DESCRIPTIONS

The vegetation communities at CSSA consist of grasslands, woodlands, and savannas. Each vegetation community can be further divided into community types. Eight vegetation community types were mapped during the 2005 survey (Figure 3.2). Table 3.3 lists each vegetation community type with calculated areas. Definitions of vegetation communities are based on classification schemes provided by USFWS (Underwood 2005, personal communication), which are derived from National Resources Conservation Service and Diamond *et al.* (1988). Vegetation community types at CSSA include:

- **Juniper-Live Oak Woodlands**
 Composed of woody species ranging between 3 – 10 meters, with a canopy closure of 71 – 100 percent. Ashe juniper dominate with a heavy Live oak component.
- **Juniper Woodlands**
 Composed of woody species ranging between 3 – 10 meters, with a canopy closure of 71 – 100 percent. Ashe juniper dominate.
- **Live Oak-Juniper Woodlands**
 Composed of woody species ranging between 3 – 10 meters, with a canopy closure of 71 – 100 percent. Live oaks dominate with a heavy Ashe juniper component. Other oak species persist, such as Texas oak and shin oak.
- **Juniper Dominant Shrublands**
 Ashe juniper dominates and is under 3 meters in height.
- **Live Oak Dominant Shrublands**
 Live oaks and shin oaks under 3 meters in height, with other shrubs and low tree species such as flame-leaf sumac, persimmon, and agarita.

Herbaceous Bluestem and Short Grass Prairie

Woody species compose less than 25 percent of ground cover, dominated by herbaceous vegetation.

- ***Mixed Oak Savanna***

Woody species, composed primarily of live oak, shin oak, persimmon, and Ashe juniper, form 25 – 50 percent cover.

3.4 CSSA OBSERVED BIRD LIST

An observed bird list for the 2005 survey season was compiled by surveyors. Attachment D lists a total of 92 species observed during site visits. Taxonomic and nomenclature changes are updated through the 46th supplement to the AOU Check-list of North American Birds, 7th Edition (Banks, *et al.* 2005).