We will be updating some ecological name category values in Biotics (done early morning 11/4/2021) to add clarity and allow for easier abbreviation of the values. The updates will happen in your domain table but your display\_value will be untouched, so you won't see a difference in the interface. After the update we'll send out SQL so you can update the display\_value if you'd like.

SQL to update DISPLAY\_VALUE:

If you wish to see the new values in your Biotics interface, you’ll need to update the DISPLAY\_VALUE column in the name category domain table, using the SQL provided here. You’ll need to run the update statements in SQL Developer, SQL+, or other SQL tool that can update Biotics. When you’ve committed the changes, clear your browser cache. If you still don’t see the updated values, you may need to run “Grant/Refresh Database Privileges” under “Configuration” in the Biotics main menu.

--To update display\_value to be the same as name\_category\_desc for the 10 specific records that were updated in this release, run this query and commit:

update D\_NAME\_CATEGORY set DISPLAY\_VALUE = NAME\_CATEGORY\_DESC where D\_NAME\_CATEGORY\_ID in(23,12,14,16,11,20,21,13,15,17);

--(optional) IF YOU WANT TO LOOK FIRST, run this query. There should be 10 results, possibly more:

select \* from d\_name\_category where NAME\_CATEGORY\_DESC <> DISPLAY\_VALUE;

--(optional) If there are more than 10 results in the previous query and you want to update display\_value to be the same as name\_category\_desc for *all* of the results, you can use this update query instead of (or in addition to) the first one:

update D\_NAME\_CATEGORY set DISPLAY\_VALUE = NAME\_CATEGORY\_DESC where NAME\_CATEGORY\_DESC <> DISPLAY\_VALUE;

This is happening now because the abbreviations are needed for the in-progress Data Exchange Alerts Workbench.

**Reasoning for updating the names of nonstandard ecological classifications used by programs (first table below):** Almost all contain the word “Other”, which is a little odd and also NatureServe-Central-centric. It’s also difficult to abbreviate the values containing “Other”. “Local” is much clearer than “Other”, and we often use “L” as an abbreviation for “Local”, but an abbreviation of “Other” looks like a zero. We're not using “S” for Subnational because we call Member Program Biotics “Local” installations with "Locally" maintained records. The more generic "Local" includes national and regional installations. (We do manage 2 national classifications, the CNVC and USNVC, though the latter uses only IVC types.)

**Reasoning for updating Central Name Categories (second table below):** We wanted to add something analogous to L=Local to the beginning of each Central value. In doing so we discovered that some of the classifications were incorrectly named "International". So those now begin with C=Central. However, adding "Central Terrestrial" in front of the International classification names would make them even longer than they already are, and removing "International" would make them unrecognizable, so those will remain with I=International at the beginning.

**Reasoning for updating Classification Level values:** Classification Level usually matches Name Category for ecological types. E.g., the name category previously named "Terrestrial Community - Other Classification" has 2 classification levels: "Terrestrial Community - Other Classification" and "Terrestrial Community - Other Classification Variant". Renaming the name category to "Local Terrestrial Community" requires renaming the classification levels so they match the name category appropriately: "Local Terrestrial Community" and "Local Terrestrial Community Variant".

Note: When I first sent this announcement, I overlooked that corresponding Classification Level updates are needed. (Thank you to Jodi Shippee for reminding me!) So those updates will come in the next release which is scheduled for November 24.

These are the updates. See the [Scientific Name Domains help topic](https://help.natureserve.org/biotics/Content/Record_Management/Scientific_Name/SN_Scientific_Name_Domains.htm) for the full list.

**Local (“Other”) Ecological Name Categories**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ID** | **Old NAME\_CATEGORY\_DESC** | **Updated NAME\_CATEGORY\_DESC** | **Updated CLASSIFICATION\_LEVEL\_NAME(s)** (to be released Nov. 24) | **Abbreviation** |
| 11 | Terrestrial Community - Other Classification | Local Terrestrial Community Classification | Local Terrestrial CommunityLocal Terrestrial Community Variant | L Terrestrial |
| 20 | Terrestrial Community Complex - Other Classification | Local Terrestrial Community Complex Classification | Local Terrestrial Community Complex | L Complex |
| 21 | Terrestrial Ecological System - Other Classification | Local Terrestrial Ecological System Classification | Local Terrestrial Ecological System | L System |
| 13 | Freshwater Community - Other Classification | Local Freshwater Classification | Local Freshwater | L Freshwater |
| 15 | Coastal/Marine Community - Other Classification | Local Coastal/Marine Classification | Local Coastal/Marine | L Marine |
| 17 | Subterranean Community - Other Classification | Local Subterranean Classification | Local Subterranean | L Subterr. |

**Central Ecological Name Categories**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ID** | **Old NAME\_CATEGORY\_DESC** | **Updated NAME\_CATEGORY\_DESC** | **Updated CLASSIFICATION\_LEVEL\_NAME(s)** (to be released Nov. 24) | **Abbreviation** |
| 8 | International Vegetation Classification - Natural |   |  | IVC-Natural |
| 22 | International Vegetation Classification - Cultural |   |  | IVC-Cultural |
| 9 | International Vegetation Classification - Complex |   | International Vegetation Complex | IVC-Complex |
| 10 | International Terrestrial Ecological System Classification |   | International Terrestrial Ecological System | I Terr System |
| 23 | Terrestrial Non-Vegetated Classification | Central Terrestrial Non-Vegetated Classification | Central Terrestrial Non-Vegetated Level 1 - 3 | C Non-Veg |
| 12 | International Freshwater Ecological Classification | Central Freshwater Classification | Central Freshwater Level 1 - 2 | C Freshwater |
| 14 | Coastal Marine Ecological Classification System | Central Coastal/Marine Classification | Central Coastal/Marine Level 1 - 2 | C Marine |
| 16 | International Subterranean Ecological Classification | Central Subterranean Classification | Central Subterranean Level 1 - 4 | C Subterr. |

**Local + Central Ecological Name Categories**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ID** | **NAME\_CATEGORY\_DESC** |  | **Abbreviation** |
| 18 | Other (Ecological) |  | Other Eco |
| 25 | Geological Feature |  | Geological |

