

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

This draft ecological site description is approved for field use and testing for a one year period beginning MM, YYYY.  
Additional information and comments on this site should be sent to the Utah State Range Management Specialist.

STATE: Utah

SITE TYPE: Rangeland

ECOLOGICAL SITE NAME: Upland Loam (Utah serviceberry)

SITE NUMBER: 029XY310UT

MLRA: 029X

Original Site Description: Author: TS

Date: 01/01/1991

Revised Site Description: Author: TS

Date: 05/20/1994

Approved by: Title: State Range Cons. Signed: Pat Shaver

Date: 07/11/1994

Ecological Site Definition - A distinctive kind of land, with specific physical characteristics, which differs from other kinds of land in its ability to produce a distinctive kind and amount of vegetation, and in its response to management.

### **A. PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS**

*(description narrative of this particular site)*

#### **1. SOILS**

Depth: 20-40 inches

Surface Textures: Very Cobbly Surface Layers of Coarse Sandy Loam and Clay Loam

Surface Fragments(<=3" % cover, >3" % cover):

Subsurface Textures: Sandy Clay Loams or Clay

Subsurface Fragments(<=3" % vol, >3" % vol):

Geologic Parent Materials: Weathered Coarse Grained Acid Igneous Rock

Moisture Regime:

Temperature Regime:

Runoff:

Permeability(min-max):

Drainage Class(min-max): Well Drained

Water Erosion Hazard:

Wind Erosion Hazard:

Electrical Conductivity (EC in mmhos/cm):

Sodium Adsorption Ration (SAR):

Soil Reaction (1:1 water):

Soil Reaction (0.1 M CaCl<sub>2</sub>):

pH Range:

Available Water Capacity (inches):

Major Soils Associated With This Site:

Soil Survey Area: 641

Dagflat V-COB-SA-L, 30-60%

Collbran V-COB-CL, 2-30%

**Additional information may be found in Section II of the Field Office Technical Guide.**



### **1. Potential Plant Community Description and Ecological Factors**

The dominant aspect of this plant community is Utah serviceberry and other shrubs. The composition by air-dry weight is approximately 40 percent perennial grasses, 15 percent forbs, and 45 percent shrubs.

### **2. Plant Community Composition by Weight and Percentage**

#### Grasses and Grasslike, %

Common Name	National Symbol	Group	Pounds per Acre		% by Weight of Total Composition	
			Low	High	Low	High
Bottlebrush squirreltail	ELEL5		17	25.5	2	3
Indian ricegrass	ACHY		42.5	85	5	10
Needleandthread	HECO26		25.5	42.5	3	5
Prairie junegrass	KOMA		17	25.5	2	3
Western wheatgrass	PASM		25.5	42.5	3	5
Blue grama	BOGR2	1	0	17	0	2
Dryland sedge	CAREX	1	0	17	0	2
Galleta	HIJA	1	0	17	0	2
Sand dropseed	SPCR	1	0	17	0	2
Other perennial grasses	PPGG	1	0	17	0	2
Other annual grasses	AAGG	1	0	17	0	2

#### Forbs, %

Common Name	National Symbol	Group	Pounds per Acre		% by Weight of Total Composition	
			Low	High	Low	High
American vetch	VIAM		25.5	42.5	3	5
Phlox	PHLOX		42.5	85	5	10
Daisy	ERIGE2	2	0	17	0	2
Spurred lupine	LUCAC	2	0	17	0	2
Groundsel	SENEC	2	0	17	0	2
Happlopappus	HAWA	2	0	17	0	2
Star bedstraw	GAST	2	0	17	0	2
Other perennial forbs	PPFF	2	0	17	0	2
Other annual forbs	AAFF	2	0	17	0	2

#### Shrubs/Vines, %

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Common Name	National Symbol	Group	Pounds per Acre		% by Weight of Total Composition	
			Low	High	Low	High
Antelope bitterbrush	PUTR2		25.5	42.5	3	5
Birchleaf mountainmahogany	CEMO2		25.5	42.5	3	5
Mountain big sagebrush	ARTRV		8.5	127.5	1	15
Shrub live oak	QUTU2		0	25.5	0	3
Broom snakeweed	GUSA2		17	25.5	2	3
Utah serviceberry	AMUT		17	127.5	2	15
Fringed sagebrush	ARFR4	3	85	25.5	10	3
Prickly pear	OPUNT	3	0	25.5	0	3
Wright eriogonum	ERWR	3	0	25.5	0	3
Sticklyleaf low rabbitbrush	CHVI8	3	0	25.5	0	3
Other shrubs	SSSS	3	0	25.5	0	3

Trees, %

Common Name	National Symbol	Group	Pounds per Acre		% by Weight of Total Composition	
			Low	High	Low	High
Utah juniper	JUOS	4	17	42.5	2	5
Singleleaf pinyon	PIMO	4	25.5	42.5	3	5

### **3. Plant Community Annual Production**

At the highest potential similarity index, this site will produce approximately the following amount of air-dry herbage, expressed as pounds/acre:

	Low	High
Favorable Year	950	1050
Average Year	750	850
Unfavorable Year	350	450

### **4. Ground Cover and Structure**

a. Vegetative

Vegetation Type	Percent Canopy Cover	Height Range (ft)	Percent Basal Area Cover
Grasses & Grass-like (perennial)	10	1	3
Forbs (perennial)	0	0	0
Shrubs	30	3	10
Trees	5	6	1
Cryptogams			

b. Other

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Litter	
Coarse Fragments	
Bare Ground	

### **5. Ecological Dynamics of the Site**

Historically this site has burned with fire, which kept the invading singleleaf pinyon and Utah juniper from taking over.

### **Plant Communities & Transitional Pathways**

(Show a steady state diagram with influences to move from one steady state to another)

### **6. Plant Growth Curves**

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Percent Growth												
Name												
ID Number												
Description												

### **7. Aspect Differences Near MLRA Boundaries**

(Give related range sites in MLRA's above and below)

### **8. Associated Sites Within MLRA**

029XY320UT  
 Upland Shallow Loam (Pinyon-Utah juniper)

029XY330UT  
 Upland Stony Loam (Shrub live oak)

### **9. Correlated Sites in Other States**

(Give site name and number)

## **D. MAJOR USES OF THIS SITE**

### **1. Livestock**

#### a. Site Factors Influencing Management

This site is important deer winter range. In the northeast part of Washington County it is also elk winter range.

#### b. Guide to Forage Quality(Plant preference by season)

Species	Oct-Nov	Dec-Feb	Mar-May	Jun-Sep

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VG = Very Good    G = Good    F = Fair    P = Poor

**2. Wildlife**

a. Site Factors Influencing Management

This section will be added as information is available.

b. List of Potential Species Present

This section will be added as information is available.

This is a short list of the more common species found. Many other species are present as well and migratory birds are present at times.

c. Guide to Forage Preference of Managed Wildlife Species

Wildlife Species →				
Plant Species ↓	Use	Season	Use	Season

Use - A = preferred or desirable  
 B = some use, but less important  
 C = little use or used occasionally

Season - F = Fall (Oct-Nov)  
 W = Winter (Dec-Feb)  
 Sp. = Spring (Mar-May)  
 Su. = Summer (Jun-Sep)

**3. Recreational Uses**

This section will be added as information is available.

**4. Wood Products**

None

**5. Other Uses**

**E. THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES**

1. Plants

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 2. Animals

### **F. MODAL LOCATION AND DOCUMENTATION**

State: Utah                      County:  
 Latitude:                      Longitude:

Modal Soil: Dagflat Very Cobbly Sandy Loam, 30-60% Slope – fine-loamy, mixed, mesic Aridic Argiustoll

Type Location: Township 39S, Range 18W, Section 14

General Legal Description:

#### **Field Office Site Location**

Cedar City

#### **Data Collected and References**

Sampling Source	Number of Records	Range Similarity Index			
		> 76%	51-75%	26-50%	0-25%
NRCS - ECS - 417					
UTAH - RANGE - 2					
OTHER	7				
Permanent Transect Location					

#### **Other References**