

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: Semidesert Stony Loam (Salina wildrye)

SITE NUMBER: 034XY244UT

MLRA: 034

Original Site Description: Author: GSC

Date: 08/15/1985

Revised Site Description: Author: GSC

Date: 02/15/1994

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

Date: 06/25/1994

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: Cobbly Fine Sandy Loam

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

Subsurface Textures: Silty Clay Loam and Silty Clay Over Gysiferous Shale

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

Geologic Parent Materials: Alluvium Over residuum from Sandstone and Shale

Moisture Regime:

Temperature Regime: Mesic

Runoff: Medium

Permeability(min-max): Very Slow

Drainage Class(min-max): Well Drained

Water Erosion Hazard: Moderate

Wind Erosion Hazard:

Electrical Conductivity (EC in mmhos/cm):

Sodium Adsorption Ration (SAR):

Soil Reaction (1:1 water):

Soil Reaction (0.1 M CaCl₂):

pH Range:

Available Water Capacity (inches):

Major Soils Associated With This Site:

Soil Survey Area: 047

Lockerby CB-FSL

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

2. PHYSIOGRAPHIC FEATURES

Site Type: Rangeland

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1. Potential Plant Community Description and Ecological Factors

The dominant aspect of the plant community is Salina wildrye. The composition by air-dry weight is approximately 70 percent perennial grasses, 10 percent forbs and 20 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
Salina wildrye	LESAS		150	165	50	55
Galleta	HIJA		9	15	3	5
Indian ricegrass	ACHY		9	15	3	5
Needleandthread	HECO26		9	15	3	5
Bottlebrush squirreltail	ELEL5		9	15	3	5
Muttongrass	POFE		9	15	3	5
Other perennial grasses	PPGG	1	9	15	3	5
Other annual grasses	AAGG	1	9	15	3	5

Forbs, %

Common Name	National Symbol	Group	Pounds per Acre		% by Weight of Total Composition	
			Low	High	Low	High
Golden princeplume	STPI	2	3	6	1	2
Gumweed tansyaster	MAGR2	2	3	6	1	2
James catseye	CRCI3	2	3	6	1	2
Scarlet globemallow	SPCO	2	3	6	1	2
Indian pipeweed	ERIN4	2	3	6	1	2
Nevada onion	ALNE	2	3	6	1	2
Woolly milkvetch	ASMO7	2	3	6	1	2
Cushion wild buckwheat	EROV	2	3	6	1	2
Carpet phlox	PHHO	2	3	6	1	2
Sego lily	CANU3	2	3	6	1	2
Northwestern Indian paintbrush	CAAN7	2	3	6	1	2
Small leaf pussytoes	ANMI3	2	3	6	1	2
Juniper desert parsley	LOJU	2	3	6	1	2
Western sticktight	LAOC3	2	3	6	1	2
Pacific aster	ASCH2	2	3	6	1	2
Other perennial forbs	PPFF	2	15	30	5	10
Other annual forbs	AAFF	2	15	30	5	10

Shrubs/Vines, %

Common Name	National Symbol	Group	Pounds per Acre	% by Weight of Total Composition
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			Low	High	Low	High
Shadscale	ATCO		9	15	3	5
Broom snakeweed	GUSA2		9	15	3	5
Low rabbitbrush	CHVI8		3	9	1	3
Mormon tea	EPVI	3	3	6	1	2
Slender wild buckwheat	ERMI4	3	3	6	1	2
Granite pricklygilia	LEPU	3	3	6	1	2
Winterfat	KRLA2	3	3	6	1	2
Kingcup cactus	ECTR	3	3	6	1	2
Rubber rabbitbrush	ERNA10	3	3	6	1	2
Torrey jointfir	EPTO	3	3	6	1	2
Cushion milkwort	POSU2	3	3	6	1	2
Central pricklypear	OPPO	3	3	6	1	2
Bud sagebrush	ARSP5	3	3	6	1	2
other shrubs	SSSS	3	15	30	5	10

Trees, %

Common Name	National Symbol	Group	Pounds per Acre		% by Weight of Total Composition	
			Low	High	Low	High

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	350	400
Average Year	250	300
Unfavorable Year	150	200

4. Ground Cover and Structure

a. Vegetative

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Vegetation Type	Percent Canopy Cover	Height Range (ft.)	Percent Basal Area Cover
Grasses & Grass-like (perennial)	50	2	30
Forbs (perennial)	5	1	2
Shrubs	10	2	5
Trees			
Cryptogams			

b. Other

Litter	
Coarse Fragments	
Bare Ground	

5. Ecological Dynamics of the Site

As ecological condition deteriorates due to grazing pressure, or drought, perennial grasses decrease while unpalatable shrubs and forbs increase. When the potential natural plant community is burned most of the perennial grasses and shadscale decrease while low rabbitbrush, broom snakeweed and weeds increase. Cheatgrass is most likely to invade this site.

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	0	0	5	15	45	35	0	0	0	0	0	0
Name	PNC											
ID Number	UT2441											
Description	Excellent Condition											

7. Aspect Differences Near MLRA Boundaries

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

8. Associated Sites Within MLRA

034XY247UT
 Semidesert Stony Loam (Utah juniper-Pinyon)

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 provides proper grazing for sheep and cattle during fall, winter, and spring.

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

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

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

2. Wildlife

a. Site Factors Influencing Management

This site provides food and limited cover for wildlife.

b. List of Potential Species Present

Wildlife using this site include jackrabbit, snake, coyote, and hawk.

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 site has moderate recreational opportunities and often has scenic vistas.

4. Wood Products

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 None

5. Other Uses

E. THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

- 1. Plants
- 2. Animals

F. MODAL LOCATION AND DOCUMENTATION

State: Utah County:
 Latitude: Longitude:

Modal Soil: Lockerby CB-FSL — fine, montmorillonitic, mesic Usteritic Camborthids

Type Location: Consult the Grand County Soil Survey Report

General Legal Description:

Field Office Site Location

Roosevelt
 Price

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					
Permanent Transect Location					

Other References