

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 Shallow Dissected Slope (Pinyon-Utah juniper)

SITE NUMBER: 035XY311UT

MLRA: 035

Original Site Description: Author: DJS

Date:

Revised Site Description: Author: DJS

Date: 06/02/1992

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

Date: 05/27/1994

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: 4-15 inches

Surface Textures: Loamy

Surface Fragments(<=3" % cover, >3" % cover): 35-65%

Subsurface Textures: Loamy

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

Geologic Parent Materials: Residuum and Alluvium from Sandstone

Moisture Regime:

Temperature Regime: Mesic

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 CaCl₂):

pH Range:

Available Water Capacity (inches): 1-2

Major Soils Associated With This Site:

Soil Survey Area: 642

No name—just classification

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 general view of this site is pinyon pine, Utah juniper, and roundleaf buffaloberry. The composition by air-dry weight is approximately 15 percent perennial grasses, 10 percent forbs, 55 percent shrubs, and 20 percent trees.

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
Galleta	HIJA		10	20	5	10
Indian ricegrass	ACHY	1	2	6	1	3
Needleandthread	HECO26	1	2	6	1	3
Bottlebrush squirreltail	ELEL5	1	2	6	1	3
Blue grama	BOGR2	1	2	6	1	3
Muttongrass	POFE	1	2	6	1	3
Sandberg bluegrass	POSE	1	2	6	1	3
Other perennial grasses	PPGG	1	6	10	3	5
Other annual grasses	AAGG	1	6	10	3	5

Forbs, %

Common Name	National Symbol	Group	Pounds per Acre		% by Weight of Total Composition	
			Low	High	Low	High
Perennial rockcress	ARPE2	2	2	6	1	3
Woolly milkvetch	ASMO7	2	2	6	1	3
Wright birdbeak	COWR2	2	2	6	1	3
Plateau yellow catseye	CRFL5	2	2	6	1	3
Utah fleabane	ERUT	2	2	6	1	3
Desert trumpet	ERIN4	2	2	6	1	3
Desert elkweed	FRAL5	2	2	6	1	3
Spreading skyrocket	IPPO2	2	2	6	1	3
Stemless fournerve daisy	TEACA2	2	2	6	1	3
Low lupine	LUPU	2	2	6	1	3
Utah firecracker	PEUT	2	2	6	1	3
Carpet phlox	PHHO	2	2	6	1	3
Lobeleaf groundsel	SEMU3	2	2	6	1	3
Other perennial forbs	PPFF	2	10	20	5	10
Other annual forbs	AAFF	2	10	20	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
Roundleaf buffaloberry	SHRO		20	30	10	15
Bitterbrush	PUTR2		20	30	10	15
Birchleaf mountainmahogany	CEMO2		20	30	10	15
Utah serviceberry	AMUT		10	20	5	10
Mountain big sagebrush	ARTRV	3	2	6	1	3
Rubber rabbitbrush	ERNA10	3	2	6	1	3
Mexican cliffrose	PUME	3	2	6	1	3
Mormon tea	EPVI	3	2	6	1	3
Crispleaf wild buckwheat	ERCO14	3	2	6	1	3
Singleleaf ash	FRAN2	3	2	6	1	3
Gambel oak	QUGA	3	2	6	1	3
Spanish bayonet	YUHA	3	2	6	1	3
Other shrubs	SSSS	3	10	20	5	10

Trees, %

Common Name	National Symbol	Group	Pounds per Acre		% by Weight of Total Composition	
			Low	High	Low	High
Pinyon	PIED		24	30	12	15
Utah juniper	JUOS		6	10	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	250	300
Average Year	150	200
Unfavorable Year	50	100

4. Ground Cover and Structure

a. Vegetative

Vegetation Type	Percent Canopy Cover	Height Range (ft.)	Percent Basal Area Cover
Grasses & Grass-like (perennial)	10	2	5
Forbs (perennial)	5	1	1
Shrubs	40	4	15
Trees	25	12	15
Cryptogams			

b. Other

Litter	
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Coarse Fragments	
Bare Ground	

5. Ecological Dynamics of the Site

Because of the steep and rugged terrain characteristic of this site, livestock grazing normally does not occur to a significant degree and is therefore not an important factor in altering the plant community. Where overgrazing does occur palatable grasses and bitterbrush decrease while pinyon, Utah juniper and annual and perennial forbs increase. Because of the sparse vegetation, fire normally does not carry well through this site. If the site is burned, pinyon and juniper will decrease while annual and perennial grasses and forbs increase. Annual forbs are 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	0	10	30	45	5	5	5	0	0	0
Name	PNC											
ID Number	UT3111											
Description	Excellent Condition											

7. Aspect Differences Near MLRA Boundaries

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

8. Associated Sites Within MLRA

035XY315UT

Upland Shallow Loam (Pinyon-Utah juniper)

9. Correlated Sites in Other States

(Give site name and number)

D. MAJOR USES OF THIS SITE

1. Livestock

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a. Site Factors Influencing Management

Livestock grazing is not an important factor in altering the plant community because of steep and rugged terrain.

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

The potential is poor for openland habitat, fair for woodland habitat, very poor for wetland habitat, and fair for rangeland habitat. The site is fair for wildlife.

b. List of Potential Species Present

Species that find feed and cover for at least part of the year on this site are deer, antelope, coyote, quail, mourning dove, owls, hawks, rabbits, songbirds, and small mammals.

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 fair values for aesthetics and natural beauty. Hunting is fair for deer, antelope, upland game, and rabbits. Potential is fair for camping and picnicking on the basis of vegetation.

4. Wood Products

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Fence posts and firewood.

5. Other Uses

E. THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

1. Plants
2. Animals

F. MODAL LOCATION AND DOCUMENTATION

State: Utah County:
 Latitude: Longitude:

Modal Soil: loamy, mixed (calcareous), mesic, shallow Ustic Torriorthent

Type Location: Section 12, Township 38S, Range 3W, Southwest of Cannonville, Utah.

General Legal Description:

Field Office Site Location

Price
 Cedar City
 Richfield

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