

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: Mountain Very Steep Loam (Oak)

SITE NUMBER: 048AY465UT

MLRA: 048A

Original Site Description: Author: GSC DJS

Date: 01/18/1994

Revised Site Description: Author:

Date:

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: >60 inches

Surface Textures: Fine Sandy Loam or Very Stony or Cobbly Loam

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

Subsurface Textures:

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

Geologic Parent Materials: Colluvium and Residuum from Sandstone, Siltstone, and Shale

Moisture Regime:

Temperature Regime:

Runoff: Rapid

Permeability(min-max):

Drainage Class(min-max): Well Drained

Water Erosion Hazard: Severe

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): 4-9

Major Soils Associated With This Site:

Soil Survey Area: 624

Razorba Family

Datino Variant STV-L

Curecanti Family L

Rabbitex BY-L

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

2. PHYSIOGRAPHIC FEATURES

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1. Potential Plant Community Description and Ecological Factors

The dominant aspect of this site is Gambel oak and serviceberry. The composition by air-dry weight is approximately 35 percent perennial grasses, 10 percent forbs, and 55 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		100	150	10	15
Muttongrass	POFE		50	100	5	10
Bluebunch wheatgrass	PSSP6		50	100	5	10
Letterman needlegrass	ACLE9	1	10	30	1	3
Needleandthread	HECO26	1	10	30	1	3
Columbia needlegrass	ACNE9	1	10	30	1	3
Mountain brome	BRCA5	1	10	30	1	3
Western wheatgrass	PASM	1	10	30	1	3
Slender wheatgrass	ELTR7	1	10	30	1	3
Ross sedge	CARO5	1	10	30	1	3
King fescue	LEKI2	1	10	30	1	3
Bottlebrush squirreltail	ELEL5	1	10	30	1	3
Other perennial grasses	PPGG	1	30	50	3	5
Other annual grasses	AAGG	1	30	50	3	5

Forbs, %

Common Name	National Symbol	Group	Pounds per Acre		% by Weight of Total Composition	
			Low	High	Low	High
Dusty beardtongue	PECO5	2	10	20	1	2
Pacific aster	ASCH2	2	10	20	1	2
Thickleaf peavine	LALA3	2	10	20	1	2
Twolobe larkspur	DENU2	2	10	20	1	2
Creeping Oregon grape	MARE11	2	10	20	1	2
Purple cluster cranesbill	GECA3	2	10	20	1	2
Spurred lupine	LUCAC3	2	10	20	1	2
American purple vetch	VIAM	2	10	20	1	2
Common yarrow	ACMI	2	10	20	1	2
Plateau yellow catseye	CRFL5	2	10	20	1	2
Shockley wild buckwheat	ERSH	2	10	20	1	2
Louisiana wormwood	ARLU	2	10	20	1	2
Coast goldenrod	SOSP	2	10	20	1	2
Wyoming Indian paintbrush	CALI4	2	10	20	1	2
Other perennial forbs	PPFF	2	150	200	15	20
Other annual forbs	AAFF	2	150	200	15	20

Shrubs/Vines, %

Common Name	National	Group	Pounds per Acre	% by Weight of
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	Symbol				Total Composition	
			Low	High	Low	High
Gambel oak	QUGA		250	350	25	35
Mountain snowberry	SYOR2		50	100	5	10
Birchleaf mountainmahogany	CEMO2		30	50	3	5
Utah serviceberry	AMUT		30	50	3	5
Mountain big sagebrush	ARTRV		30	50	3	5
Bitterbrush	PUTR2	3	10	30	1	3
Low rabbitbrush	CHVI8	3	10	30	1	3
Woods rose	ROWO	3	10	30	1	3
Squaw apple	PERA4	3	10	30	1	3
Chokecherry	PRVI	3	10	30	1	3
Longleaf brickellbush	BRLO	3	10	30	1	3
Mountain lover	PAMY	3	10	30	1	3
Curleaf mountainmahogany	CELE3	3	10	30	1	3
Rubber rabbitbrush	ERNA10	3	10	30	1	3
Other shrubs	SSSS	3	50	100	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	1300	1400
Average Year	900	1000
Unfavorable Year	500	600

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)	20	2.5	10
Forbs (perennial)	5	1	2
Shrubs	40	8	20
Trees			
Cryptogams			

b. Other

Litter	
Coarse Fragments	
Bare Ground	

5. Ecological Dynamics of the Site

Because of steep slopes, this site is grazed very little or not at all by livestock. Fire will temporarily reduce the density of big sagebrush, bitterbrush, and serviceberry. Gambel oak, rabbitbrush, and Salina wildrye will increase after a burn.

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	5	15	40	30	5	5	0	0	0
Name	PNC											
ID Number	UT4651											
Description	Excellent Condition											

7. Aspect Differences Near MLRA Boundaries

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

8. Associated Sites Within MLRA

048AY436UT
 Mountain Shallow Loam (Mountain big sagebrush)

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

This site is not grazed by livestock because of steep slopes.

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 produces food and cover for wildlife.

b. List of Potential Species Present

Wildlife using this site include jackrabbit, coyote, mule deer, and elk.

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 aesthetic appeal but very limited recreation potential.

4. Wood Products

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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: Razorba Family – coarse-loamy, mixed Pachic Crypborolls

Type Location: See Carbon County, Grand County and Canyonlands soil survey reports

General Legal Description:

Field Office Site Location

Price
 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