

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 Stony Loam (Oak)

SITE NUMBER: 047AY471UT

MLRA: E47

Original Site Description: Author: DLT

Date: 12/23/1992

Revised Site Description: Author:

Date:

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

Date:

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: 40-60 inches

Surface Textures: Very Stony Loam and Very Cobbly Loam

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

Subsurface Textures:

Subsurface Fragments(<=3" % vol, >3" % vol): >50%

Geologic Parent Materials:

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 CaCl₂):

pH Range:

Available Water Capacity (inches):

Major Soils Associated With This Site:

Soil Survey Area: 613

Gappmayer Family ST-L, 40-70%

Yeates Hollow STV-L, 40-70%

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

1. Potential Plant Community Description and Ecological Factors

The vegetation of this site is 35 percent perennial grasses, 10 percent forbs, and 55 percent shrubs with a general oakbrush aspect.

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
Slender wheatgrass	ELTR7		95	190	5	10
Bluebunch wheatgrass	PSSP6		95	190	5	10
Muttongrass	POFE		57	95	3	5
Geyer sedge	CAGE2	1	19	57	1	3
Great basin wildrye	LECI4	1	19	57	1	3
Columbia needlegrass	ACNE9	1	19	57	1	3
Indian ricegrass	ACHY	1	19	57	1	3
Mountain brome	BRCA5	1	19	57	1	3
Other perennial grasses	PPGG	1	95	190	5	10
Other annual grasses	AAGG	1	95	190	5	10

Forbs, %

Common Name	National Symbol	Group	Pounds per Acre		% by Weight of Total Composition	
			Low	High	Low	High
Thickleaf peavine	LALA3	2	19	38	1	2
Sticky purple cranesbill	GEVI2	2	19	38	1	2
Common yarrow	ACMI2	2	19	38	1	2
Shortstem wild buckwheat	ERBR5	2	19	38	1	2
Western mountain aster	ASOC	2	19	38	1	2
American purple vetch	VIAM	2	19	38	1	2
Low beardtongue	PEHU	2	19	38	1	2
Longleaf hawksbeard	CRAC2	2	19	38	1	2
Carpet phlox	PHHO	2	19	38	1	2
Other perennial forbs	PPFF	2	95	285	5	15
Other annual forbs	AAFF	2	95	285	5	15

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		475	570	25	30
Mountain big sagebrush	ARTRV		95	190	5	10
Bitterbrush	PUTR2		95	190	5	10
Mountain snowberry	SYOR2	3	19	57	1	3
Saskatoon serviceberry	AMAL2	3	19	57	1	3
Creeping Oregon grape	MARE11	3	19	57	1	3
Birchleaf mountain mahogany	CEMO2	3	19	57	1	3
Stickyleaf low rabbitbrush	CHVIV4	3	19	57	1	3
Slender wild buckwheat	ERMI4	3	19	57	1	3
Other shrubs	SSSS	3	95	190	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	2200	2300
Average Year	1800	1900
Unfavorable Year	1400	1500

4. Ground Cover and Structure

a. Vegetative

Vegetation Type	Percent Canopy Cover	Height Range (ft)	Percent Basal Area Cover
Grasses & Grass-like (perennial)	25	2	10
Forbs (perennial)	10	1	5
Shrubs	40	8	15
Trees			
Cryptogams			

b. Other

Litter	
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Coarse Fragments	
Bare Ground	

5. Ecological Dynamics of the Site

Species that are not a part of the climax that are most likely to invade the site under excessive grazing use are cheatgrass, annual forbs, curlycup gumweed, houndstongue, flannel mullein, tarweed, rubber rabbitbrush and snakeweed. Gambel oak will increase and may become almost a pure stand under excessive grazing use or repeated range fires.

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	20	50	5	10	5	5	0	0
Name	PNC											
ID Number	UT4631											
Description	Excellent Condition											

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Percent Growth	0	0	0	0	30	50	0	10	10	0	0	0
Name	Good Condition											
ID Number	UT4632											
Description	needlegrass, bluegrass and oak											

7. Aspect Differences Near MLRA Boundaries

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

8. Associated Sites Within MLRA

047AY432UT
Mountain Loam (Oak)

047AY430UT
Mountain 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 provides a fairly good balance of nutritious forage. Sheep, cattle, and horses do well grazing during the spring, summer, and fall seasons.

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

Wildlife potential is fair to poor for openland, good to fair for woodland, very poor for wetland and good to fair for rangeland.

b. List of Potential Species Present

It is good habitat for chukars, quail, mule deer, elk, songbirds, squirrels, snowshoe hare, cottontails, bobcat, and coyotes. It is fair habitat for cougars, bear, golden eagle, hawks 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 excellent potential for aesthetics and natural beauty. It has a large number of forbs and shrubs which have flowers in bloom from early spring throughout the summer and late into the fall. It has shrubs which offer screening for camping and picnicking. Hunting is good for upland game birds, snowshoe hare, elk, and mule deer. Fishing is opportune on streams through and adjacent to this site. This site has values for snowmobiling and skiing during a fairly long period of the season.

4. Wood Products

Fence posts and stays can be harvested from the Gambel oak. This species also supplies fireplace wood, campfire wood and materials for knick-knacks and novelties.

5. Other Uses

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E. THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

1. Plants
2. Animals

Both the American peregrine falcon and prairie falcon may occasionally seek their prey on this site.

F. MODAL LOCATION AND DOCUMENTATION

State: Utah County:
 Latitude: Longitude:

Modal Soil: Yeates Hollow STV-L, 40-70% — clayey-skeletal, montmorillonitic, frigid Typic Argixerolls

Type Location: NE ¼, NE ¼, SE ¼, Section 15, Township 1S, Range 3E

General Legal Description:

Field Office Site Location

Logan
 Murray
 Provo
 Price
 Richfield
 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					
Permanent Transect Location					

Other References