

Appendix 2.

Ecological Reference Worksheet

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Contact for lead author : Brenda Simpson Reference site used? Yes/No No

Date: 8/1/2005 MLRA: WP-2 Ecological Site: Foothills WP-2 This must be verified based on soils and climate (see Ecological Site Description). Current plant community cannot be used to identify the ecological site.

Indicators: For each indicator, describe the potential for the site. Where possible, (1) use numbers, (2) include expected range of values for above and below average years for <u>each</u> community within the reference state, when appropriate & (3) site data. Continue description on separate sheet.	Indicator Weight
1. Number and extent of rills : No rills or past evidence.	1
2. Presence of water flow patterns: Minimal water flow patterns < 2 feet in length where rock cover is > 15%. Flow patterns more common on inclusions where rock cover is < 15% -these areas make up 20% of the site.	1
3. Number and height of erosional pedestals or terracettes: Terracettes are rare. Common pedestals < 1 inch, most evident where rock cover is < 15%.	1
4. Bare ground from Ecological Site Description or other studies (rock, litter, lichen, moss, plant canopy are not bare ground) : Bare ground is 33%. Where rock cover is >15%, bare areas are < 1 foot and disconnected. Where rock cover is <15%, bare areas are < 3 feet and connected.	1
5. Number of gullies and erosion associated with gullies: Gullies uncommon on majority of site. Where rock cover is < 15%, ephemeral gullies < 1 foot deep are present, moderately active.	1
6. Extent of wind scoured, blowouts and/or depositional areas: No blowouts or noticeable depositional areas. Occasional scour areas exist where rock cover is < 15%.	1
7. Amount of litter movement (describe size and distance expected to travel) : Litter varies from fine to coarse. Litter movement is less than 2 feet.	1
8. Soil surface (top few mm) resistance to erosion (stability) values are averages - most sites will show a range of values for both plant canopy and interspaces, if different): Soil stability class 4 under plants and class 3 in interspaces.	1
9. Soil surface structures and SOM content (include type and strength of structure, and A-horizon color and thickness for both plant canopy and interspaces, if different) : Soil surface structure is weak fine granular; A-Horizon color is reddish brown (5YR 4/4), 0-3 inches thick; SOM is 0.7%.	1
10. Effect of plant community composition (relative proportion of different functional groups) & spatial distribution on infiltration & runoff: Dominant plant composition of warm season bunch grasses are evenly distributed across the site providing adequate protection in normal climatic years and without significant disturbances. Soil infiltration is rated at slow permeability.	1
11. Presence and thickness of compaction layer (usually none; describe soil profile features which may be mistaken for compaction on this site): Compaction layer is not present.	1
12. Functional/Structural Groups (list in order of descending dominance by above-ground weight using symbols: indicate much greater than (>>), greater than (>), and equal to (=) : Warm Season Bunch Grasses >> Cool Season Bunch Grasses = Shrubs = Trees > Forbs. Refer to Appendix 4 for list of species.	1
13. Amount of plant mortality and decadence (include which functional groups are expected to show mortality or decadence) : New plants, mature plants, and decadence of old plants is proportional to maintaining the dominant species. Warm season grasses will show normal mortality and decadence.	1
14. Average percent litter cover (10 %) and depth (0-Jan inches). Litter depth is 0.4 inches.	1
15. Expected annual production (this is TOTAL above-ground production, not just forage production): Average TOTAL production is 563# annually. Low = 375#. High = 750#.	1
16. Potential invasive (including noxious) species (native and non-native). List species which characterize degraded states and which, after a threshold is crossed, "can, and often do , continue to increase regardless of the management of the site and may eventually dominate the site": Pinyon, Juniper, and Cholla.	1
17. Perennial plant reproductive capability : All plants are capable of reproduction. The only limitations are weather related or a natural disease affecting reproduction.	1

Photograph (s)

MLRA :

Date :

Ecological Site :

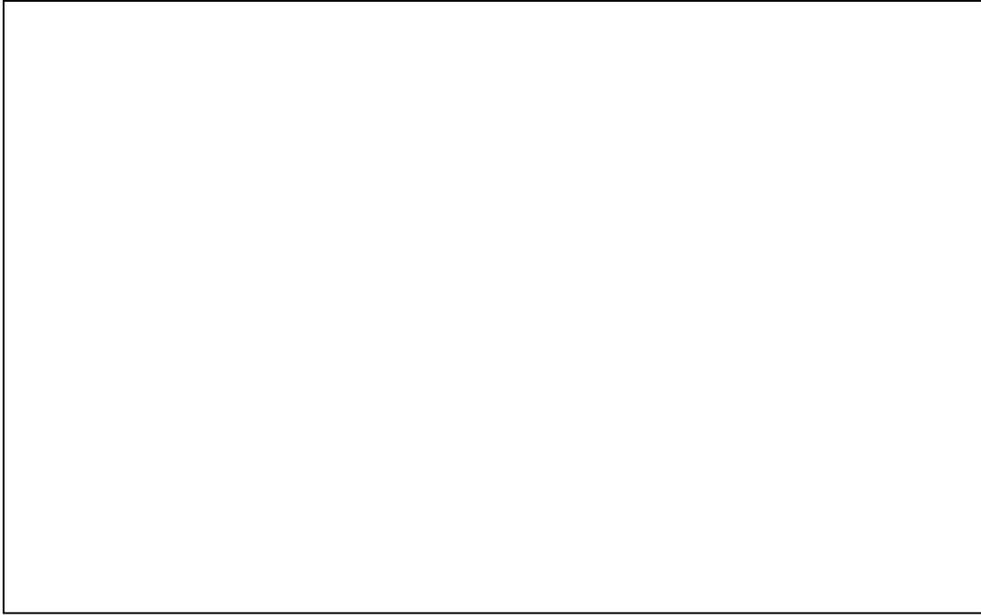


Photo # 1

Comments :

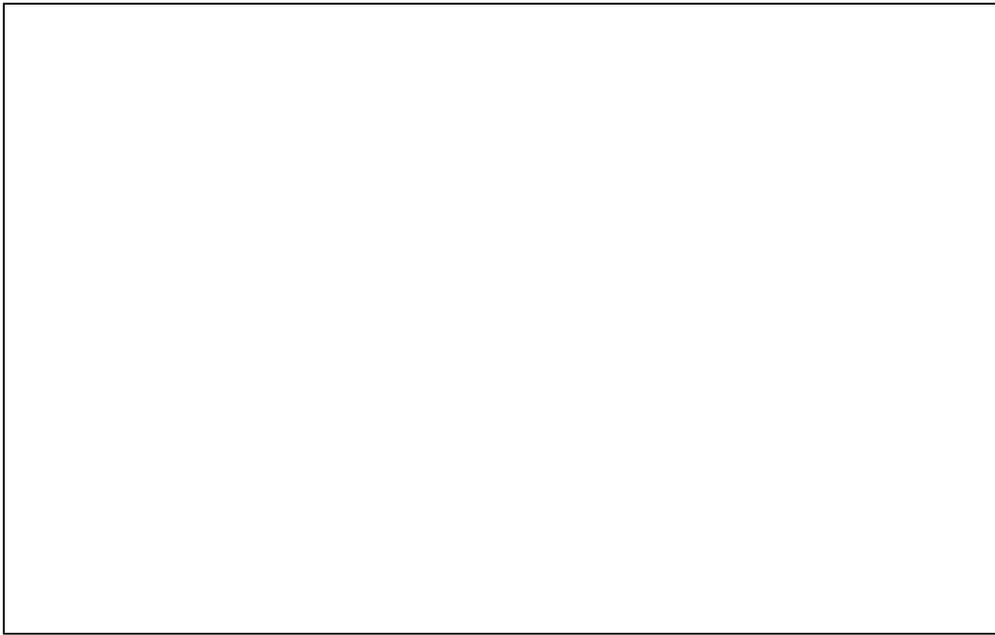


Photo # 2

Comments :

