Ecological site R011XB025ID
Marsh TYLA-SCAC3

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Rangeland health reference sheet

Interpreting Indicators of Rangeland Health is a qualitative assessment protocol used to determine ecosystem condition based on benchmark characteristics described in the Reference Sheet. A suite of 17 (or more) indicators are typically considered in an assessment. The ecological site(s) representative of an assessment location must be known prior to applying the protocol and must be verified based on soils and climate. Current plant community cannot be used to identify the ecological site.

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Approved by	Kendra Moseley
Approval date	
Composition (Indicators 10 and 12) based on	Annual Production

Indicators

1. **Number and extent of rills:** rills do not occur on this site.

2. **Presence of water flow patterns:** water-flow patterns do not occur.

3. **Number and height of erosional pedestals or terracettes:** neither occurs on this site.

4. **Bare ground from Ecological Site Description or other studies (rock, litter, lichen, moss, plant canopy are not bare ground):** none.

5. **Number of gullies and erosion associated with gullies:** none.

6. **Extent of wind scoured, blowouts and/or depositional areas:** blowouts and depositional areas do not occur.

7. **Amount of litter movement (describe size and distance expected to travel):** litter may move in the standing water.

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8. **Soil surface (top few mm) resistance to erosion (stability values are averages - most sites will show a range of values):** values should range from 4 to 6 but needs to be tested.

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9. **Soil surface structure and SOM content (include type of structure and A-horizon color and thickness):** structure ranges from weak and moderate fine and medium granular to weak fine subangular blocky. Soil organic matter (SOM) ranges from 10 to 80 percent. Surface color is usually black to very dark brown to very dark gray. The A or A1 horizon is typically 2 to 11 inches thick.

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10. **Effect of community phase composition (relative proportion of different functional groups) and spatial distribution on infiltration and runoff:** site has standing water.

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11. **Presence and thickness of compaction layer (usually none; describe soil profile features which may be mistaken for compaction on this site):** is not present.

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12. **Functional/Structural Groups (list in order of descending dominance by above-ground annual-production or live foliar cover using symbols: >>, >, = to indicate much greater than, greater than, and equal to):**

    Dominant: rhizomatous species

    Sub-dominant: perennial forbs

    Other:

    Additional:

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13. **Amount of plant mortality and decadence (include which functional groups are expected to show mortality or decadence):** little mortality occurs on the site.

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14. **Average percent litter cover (%) and depth (in):** not applicable.

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15. **Expected annual annual-production (this is TOTAL above-ground annual-production, not just forage annual-production):** is 4500 pounds per acre (5040 Kg/ha) in a year with normal amounts of standing water and temperatures. Rhizomatous species produce 90-95 percent of the total production and forbs less than 10 percent.

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16. **Potential invasive (including noxious) species (native and non-native). List species which BOTH characterize degraded states and have the potential to become a dominant or co-dominant species on the ecological site if their future establishment and growth is not actively controlled by management interventions. Species that become dominant for only one to several years (e.g., short-term response to drought or wildfire) are not invasive plants. Note that unlike other indicators, we are describing what is NOT expected in the reference state**

for the ecological site: purpple loosestrife and common reed.

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17. **Perennial plant reproductive capability:** all functional groups have the potential to reproduce in most years. Most of the plants can reporduce vegetatively.