

Ecological site R041XA107AZ Loamy Slopes 16-20" p.z.

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General information

Provisional. A provisional ecological site description has undergone quality control and quality assurance review. It contains a working state and transition model and enough information to identify the ecological site.



Figure 1. Mapped extent

Areas shown in blue indicate the maximum mapped extent of this ecological site. Other ecological sites likely occur within the highlighted areas. It is also possible for this ecological site to occur outside of highlighted areas if detailed soil survey has not been completed or recently updated.

MLRA notes

Major Land Resource Area (MLRA): 041X–Madrean Archipelago

AZ 41.1 – Mexican Oak-Pine Forest and Oak Savannah

Elevations range from 4500 to 10,700 feet and precipitation ranges from 16 to 30 inches. Vegetation includes Emory oak, Mexican blue oak, Arizona white oak, one-seed juniper, alligator juniper, sacahuista, California bricklebush, skunkbush sumac, Arizona rosewood, wait-a-bit mimosa, sideoats grama, blue grama, purple grama, wooly bunchgrass, plains lovegrass, squirreltail, and pinyon ricegrass. The soil temperature regime ranges from thermic to mesic and the soil moisture regime ranges from aridic ustic to typic ustic. This unit occurs within the Basin and Range Physiographic Province and is characterized by numerous mountain ranges that rise abruptly from broad, plain-like valleys and basins. Igneous and metamorphic rock classes dominate the mountain ranges and sediments filling the basins represent combinations of fluvial, lacustrine, colluvial and alluvial deposits.

Associated sites

R041XA104AZ	Limy Slopes 16-20" p.z.
R041XA108AZ	Loamy Upland 16-20" p.z.
R041XA114AZ	Loamy Bottom 16-20" p.z.

R041XA115AZ	Loamy Swale 16-20" p.z.
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Similar sites

F041XA124AZ	Loamy Hills 20-23" p.z. (QUAR, QUEM)
R041XC314AZ	Loamy Slopes 12-16" p.z.

Table 1. Dominant plant species

Tree	Not specified			
Shrub	(1) agave palmeri (2) nolina microcarpa			
Herbaceous	(1) bouteloua curtipendula(2) eragrostis intermedia			

Physiographic features

This site occurs in the middle elevations of the Madrean Basin and Range province in southeastern Arizona. It occurs on hillslopes, ridges and saddles. Slope aspect is site differentiating at elevations near common resource area boundaries.

Table 2. Representative physiographic features

Landforms	(1) Hill (2) Ridge (3) Saddle
Flooding frequency	None
Elevation	1,372–1,676 m
Slope	15–45%
Aspect	N, E, S

Climatic features

Precipitation in this zone of the common resource area ranges from 16-20 inches per year with elevations from 4700-5500 feet. Approximately 40% of this moisture comes as gentle rain or snow during the winter-spring (Oct-Apr) season; originates in the north Pacific and Gulf of California and comes as frontal storms with long duration and low intensity. The remaining 60% falls in the summer season (May-Sep); originates in the Gulf of Mexico and are convective, usually brief, intense thunderstorms. Snow is common Dec-Mar, averaging 5-15 inches per year, but rarely lasts more than a week. May and June are the driest months. Humidity is low.

Temperatures are mild. Freezing temperatures are common at night from Oct-May, but daytime temperatures are almost always over 40 F. Below 0 F temperatures can occur Dec-Feb. Daytime summer highs rarely exceed 95 F.

Species like plains lovegrass, beargrass, false mesquite and shrubby buckwheat begin growth in late March to April. Warm season grasses begin growth in July or August with receipt of the first summer rains.

Table 3. Representative climatic features

Frost-free period (average)	200 days
Freeze-free period (average)	
Precipitation total (average)	508 mm

Influencing water features

There are no water features associated with this site.

Soil features

These are deep soils which have formed in loamy alluvium of mixed origin. Surface textures range from cobbly sandy loam to very gravelly loam. Very gravelly surface horizons are usually several inches thick. Soils have well-developed covers of rocks, cobbles and gravels. Surface soil is dark colored. Clayey subsoils occur at shallow depths. Some soils have calcic horizons at moderate depths. Plant-soil moisture relationships are good.

Soils mapped on this site include: SSA-666 Cochise county Northwestern part MU's 5 Blacktail, 22 Cherrycow; SSA-667 Santa Cruz and parts of Cochise & Pima counties MU's CdE Canelo GrVSL, CmE Casto GrVSL; SSA-671 Cochise county Douglas-Tombstone part MU's 27 Blacktail & Cherrycow, 41 Brunopeak, 140 Terrarossa, 141 Blacktail.

Table 4. Representative soil features

Surface texture	(1) Cobbly sandy loam(2) Very gravelly loam(3) Gravelly loam
Family particle size	(1) Clayey
Drainage class	Well drained
Permeability class	Moderately slow to slow
Soil depth	152 cm
Surface fragment cover <=3"	10–45%
Surface fragment cover >3"	1–10%
Available water capacity (0-101.6cm)	12.19–24.38 cm
Calcium carbonate equivalent (0-101.6cm)	0–25%
Electrical conductivity (0-101.6cm)	0–2 mmhos/cm
Sodium adsorption ratio (0-101.6cm)	0–2
Soil reaction (1:1 water) (0-101.6cm)	6.1–7.8
Subsurface fragment volume <=3" (Depth not specified)	5–45%
Subsurface fragment volume >3" (Depth not specified)	0–5%

Ecological dynamics

The plant communities found on an ecological site are naturally variable. Composition and production will vary with yearly conditions, location, aspect, and the natural variability of the soils. The historic climax plant community represents the natural potential plant communities found on relict or relatively undisturbed sites. Other plant communities described here represent plant communities that are known to occur when the site is disturbed by factors like fire, grazing, or drought.

Production data provided in this site description is standardized to air dry weight at the end of the summer growing season. The plant communities described in this site description are based on near-normal rainfall years.

NRCS uses a Similarity Index to compare existing plant communities to the plant communities listed here. Similarity Index is determined by comparing the production and composition of a plant community to the production and composition of a plant community described in the site description. To determine Similarity Index, compare the

production (air dry weight) of each species to that shown in the plant community description. For each species, and for each group, count no more than the maximum amount shown for that group. Divide the resulting total by the total normal year production shown in the plant community description. If the rainfall has been significantly above or below normal, use the total production shown for above or below normal years. If field data is not collected at the end of the summer growing season, then the field data must be corrected to the end of the year production before comparing it to the site description. The growth curve can be used as a guide for estimating production at the end of the summer growing season.

State and transition model

41.1 Loamy Slopes 16-20" p.z. (R041XA107AZ)

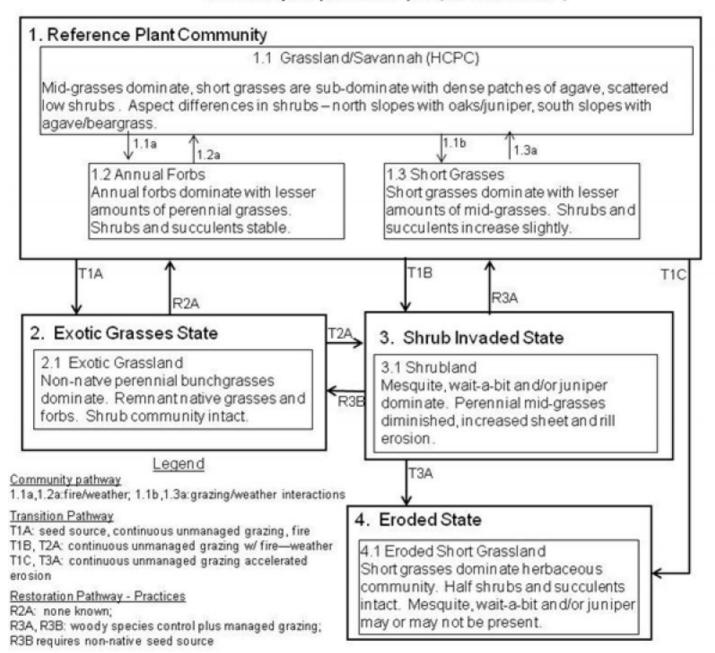


Figure 4. Loamy Slopes 41-1 STM diagram

State 1
Reference State

Community 1.1
Grassland/Savannah (HCPC)



Figure 5. Loamy Slopes 16-20" pz. Agave Palmeri

The historic native state includes the plant communities that occur on the site, including the historic climax plant community. This state includes other plant communities that naturally occupy the site following fire, drought, flooding, herbivores, and other natural disturbances. The historic climax plant community represents the natural climax community that eventually re-occupies the site with proper management. The potential plant community on this site is dominated by warm season perennial mid-grasses. The major grass species are well dispersed throughout the plant community. Stands of Palmer agave occur in dense patches and are not well dispersed through areas of the site. Several species of low shrubs, cacti and other succulents, and forbs are well represented in this plant community. The aspect is open grassland to savannah. North slopes will often have an open canopy of oaks and / or juniper. South slopes will be agave dotted grassland. Mesquite and Lehmann lovegrass are at the upper limits of their elevation range, but can increase on the site, especially below 5000 feet elevation and on southern exposures. Climatic warming may allow these two species to push higher in elevation as time goes by. Naturally occurring fires in June-August were an important factor in shaping this plant community. Fire-free intervals range from 10-20 years. Periodic drought can occur in this LRA and cause significant grass mortality. Droughts in the early 30s, mid 50s, 1975-1976, 88-89, 95-96 and 2002 resulted in the loss of much of the grass cover on this site. This site is the principal habitat for the Agave palmeri in southeastern Arizona, an important food source for the endangered lesser long-nosed bat in June, July, and August. Dense stands of this species occur scattered throughout areas of this site. Nectar production in these stands ranges from 6-10 gallons per acre.

Table 5. Annual production by plant type

Plant Type	Low (Kg/Hectare)	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	High (Kg/Hectare)
Grass/Grasslike	829	1569	2174
Forb	12	67	280
Shrub/Vine	13	56	123
Tree	_	11	56
Total	854	1703	2633

Table 6. Soil surface cover

Tree basal cover	0-1%	
Shrub/vine/liana basal cover	1-2%	
Grass/grasslike basal cover	8-15%	
Forb basal cover	0-1%	
Non-vascular plants	0-1%	
Biological crusts	0-5%	
Litter	20-50%	
Surface fragments >0.25" and <=3"	15-45%	
Surface fragments >3"	0-5%	
Bedrock	0%	
Water	0%	
Bare ground	15-40%	

Table 7. Canopy structure (% cover)

Height Above Ground (M)	Tree	Shrub/Vine	Grass/ Grasslike	Forb
<0.15	_	1-5%	5-10%	1-10%
>0.15 <= 0.3	_	1-5%	10-20%	1-10%
>0.3 <= 0.6	_	1-10%	15-30%	1-20%
>0.6 <= 1.4	_	1-10%	5-15%	0-2%
>1.4 <= 4	0-5%	_	0-5%	_
>4 <= 12	0-5%	-	_	_
>12 <= 24	_	_	_	_
>24 <= 37	_	-	_	_
>37	_	_	_	-

Figure 7. Plant community growth curve (percent production by month). AZ4111, 41.1 16-30. Growth begins in the spring, semi-dormancy occurs during the June drought, most growth occurs during the summer rainy season..

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
0	0	0	5	10	0	15	45	20	5	0	0

Community 1.2 Annual Forbs

Live perennial mid-grass and short-grass basal cover both decrease by more than half compared to the Grassland/Savannah Community. Forbs like annual goldeneye, cudweed and camphorweed dominate the plant community.

Community 1.3 Short Grasses

Mid-grasses are largely absent from the plant community and replaced by short grasses such as curly mesquite, slender grama and sprucetop grama. The absence of mid-grasses reduces fire fuel load resulting in increased half-shrub and succulent shrubs.

Pathway 1.1a Community 1.1 to 1.2

Extended periods with no disturbance (fire or grazing) allow the build-up of perennial grass biomass and results in plant decadence. Periodic drought also causes significant grass mortality. Droughts in the early 30s, mid 50s, 1975-1976, 88-89, 95-96 and 2002 resulted in the loss of much of the grass cover on this site.

Conservation practices

Prescribed Burning
Fence
Livestock Pipeline
Range Planting
Watering Facility
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management
Prescribed Grazing
Grazing Management Plan - Written
Grazing Management Plan - Applied
Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Written
Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Applied

Pathway 1.1b Community 1.1 to 1.3

Continuous unmanaged grazing with heavy to severe utilization impacts perennial mid-grass and affects natural fire cycles.

Conservation practices

Prescribed Burning
Fence
Livestock Pipeline
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management
Native Plant Community Restoration and Management
Prescribed Grazing
Fish and Wildlife Structure
Grazing Management Plan - Written
Grazing Management Plan - Applied
Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Written
Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Applied

Pathway 1.2a Community 1.2 to 1.1

The site recovers rapidly due to excellent covers of stone, cobbles and gravel and the favorable climate that prevails in this common resource area.

Conservation practices

Prescribed	D
Prescrined	Burning

Fence
Livestock Pipeline
Watering Facility
Water Well
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management
Prescribed Grazing
Fish and Wildlife Structure
Grazing Management Plan - Written
Grazing Management Plan - Applied
Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Written
Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Applied

Pathway 1.3a Community 1.3 to 1.1

With managed grazing, native mid-grasses will be able to regain their dominance in the plant community, unless soil erosion is severe enough to strip away the surface horizon.

Conservation practices

Prescribed Burning
Fence
Livestock Pipeline
Pumping Plant
Watering Facility
Water Well
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management
Prescribed Grazing
Fish and Wildlife Structure
Grazing Management Plan - Written
Grazing Management Plan - Applied
Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Written
Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Applied

State 2 Exotic grasses

Community 2.1 Exotic grasses



Figure 8. Loamy Slopes 16-20" pz. Lehmann lovegrass

This state occurs where non-native lovegrass species or yellow bluestem, have invaded from adjacent areas or roads and right-of-ways with a seed source. As these species increase to dominate the plant community, native perennial grasses and forbs decrease to remnant amounts. Fire will usually act to increase species like Lehmann lovegrass. The native half shrubs seem to be able to stay in the plant community. It is not known how *Agave palmeri* fares under this condition.

State 3 Shrub invaded

Community 3.1 Shrub invaded



Figure 9. Loamy Slopes 16-20" pz. juniper invaded

This state occurs where mesquite, wait a bit mimosa, one-seed juniper and / or alligator juniper have invaded or increased to dominate the plant community. This occurs in the absence of fire for long periods of time, with continuous grazing and in the presence of a seed source of these species. As canopy levels of trees and shrubs approach 30%, sheet and rill erosion can begin to accelerate.

State 4
Eroded surface

Community 4.1 Eroded surface



Figure 10. Loamy Slopes 16-20" pz. trailed and eroded

This state occurs where severe soil compaction and trailing has resulted in loss of plant cover and an increase in runoff. Sheet and rill erosion accelerates and the surface (A) horizon is removed faster than it can be replaced by down-slope soil movement and weathering of the ridgetops. When the subsurface argillic (clayey) horizons are exposed, the site has lost its potential productivity. The plant community will shift from warm season plants to cool season plants and the ratio of runoff to infiltration will increase.

Transition T1A State 1 to 2

Non-native bunchgrass seed is purposely or inadvertently introduced into the plant community (wind-blown or mechanical transport). Disturbances such as fire or drought can disrupt the native perennials allowing the non-native grasses an opportunity to expand their range from disturbed or planted areas. Long term events such as continuous unmanaged grazing or community phase pathway 1.1a (shift to the Annual Forbs community phase 1.2) allow non-native bunchgrasses a competitive advantage over natives.

Transition T1B State 1 to 3

Continuous unmanaged grazing with heavy to severe utilization results in persistently low perennial grass cover and extended fire free periods. Shrubs increase in size and number. Remnant native perennial grasses cannot recolonize areas with shrub competition.

Transition T1C State 1 to 4

Long-term, continuous, unmanaged grazing with heavy to severe utilization affects soil site stability and hydrologic functioning. Animal trailing and soil surface compaction compound the effect of plant community changes (increased shrub/decreased perennial grass community) to increase surface water run-off rather than infiltration. Drought conditions accelerate this transition.

Restoration pathway R2A State 2 to 1

No restoration pathway known at this time. Perhaps future development of herbicide or biological treatment to remove perennial exotics will occur.

Conservation practices

Prescribed Burning
Fence
Livestock Pipeline

Pumping Plant
Watering Facility
Water Well
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management
Prescribed Grazing
Fish and Wildlife Structure
Grazing Management Plan - Written
Grazing Management Plan - Applied
Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Written
Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Applied

Transition T2A State 2 to 3

Continuous unmanaged grazing with heavy to severe utilization results in persistently low perennial grass cover and extended fire free periods. Shrubs increase in size and number. Remnant native perennial grasses cannot recolonize areas with shrub competition.

Restoration pathway R3A State 3 to 1

Woody species control, native species seeding (as needed) supported by managed grazing. Shrub control maintained with herbicide and/or prescribed burning.

Conservation practices

Brush Management
Prescribed Burning
Fence
Firebreak
Livestock Pipeline
Pumping Plant
Grazing Land Mechanical Treatment
Range Planting
Watering Facility
Water Well
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management
Restoration and Management of Natural Ecosystems
Prescribed Grazing
Fuel Break
Fish and Wildlife Structure
Grazing Management Plan - Written
Grazing Management Plan - Applied
Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Written
Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Applied

Restoration pathway R3B State 3 to 2

Restoration activities conducted when a non-native seed bank is present on site (Lehmann lovegrass or other non-natives present along trails, roads or in disturbed areas) can result in an exotic grassland community. Native species seeding may enhance the native grass component. Restoration practices are woody species control and native species seeding (as needed) supported by managed grazing. Shrub control maintained with herbicide may favor the native grasses while prescribed burning may favor non-natives. Burning the mixed shrub community with a non-native grass seed source present can result in an exotic grassland co-dominant with shrubs.

Conservation practices

Brush Management
Prescribed Burning
Fence
Firebreak
Grade Stabilization Structure
Livestock Pipeline
Pumping Plant
Grazing Land Mechanical Treatment
Range Planting
Watering Facility
Water Well
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management
Prescribed Grazing
Fuel Break
Fish and Wildlife Structure
Grazing Management Plan - Written
Grazing Management Plan - Applied
Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Written
Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Applied

Transition T3A State 3 to 4

Continuous unmanaged grazing with heavy to severe utilization resulting in persistently low perennial grass cover, extended fire free periods, and adverse soil changes (loss of A horizon organic matter, compaction, and accelerated erosion.)

Additional community tables

Table 8. Community 1.1 plant community composition

Common Name	Symbol	Scientific Name	Annual Production (Kg/Hectare)	Foliar Cover (%)		
Grass/Grasslike						
Dominant mid-grasses	ominant mid-grasses					
sideoats grama	BOCU	Bouteloua curtipendula	448–785	_		
plains lovegrass	ERIN	Eragrostis intermedia	224–785	_		
Texas bluestem	SCCI2	Schizachyrium cirratum	0–224	_		
	Grasslike Dominant mid-grasses sideoats grama plains lovegrass	Grasslike Dominant mid-grasses sideoats grama BOCU plains lovegrass ERIN	Grasslike Dominant mid-grasses sideoats grama BOCU Bouteloua curtipendula plains lovegrass ERIN Eragrostis intermedia	Common Name Symbol Scientific Name (Kg/Hectare) /Grasslike Dominant mid-grasses 785–1681 sideoats grama BOCU Bouteloua curtipendula 448–785 plains lovegrass ERIN Eragrostis intermedia 224–785		

	spiked crinkleawn	TRSP12	Trachypogon spicatus	0–224	_
	green sprangletop	LEDU	Leptochloa dubia	22–224	_
	bullgrass	MUEM	Muhlenbergia emersleyi	0–224	_
	Orcutt's threeawn	ARSCO	Aristida schiedeana var. orcuttiana	11–224	_
	cane bluestem	BOBA3	Bothriochloa barbinodis	56–224	_
	purple muhly	MURI3	Muhlenbergia rigida	0–112	_
	tanglehead	HECO10	Heteropogon contortus	22–112	_
	Arizona cottontop	DICA8	Digitaria californica	0–56	_
	woolyspike balsamscale	ELBA	Elionurus barbiculmis	0–56	_
2	Dominant short grasses			11–336	
	hairy grama	BOHI2	Bouteloua hirsuta	1–112	_
	curly-mesquite	HIBE	Hilaria belangeri	6–56	_
	sprucetop grama	восн	Bouteloua chondrosioides	0–56	_
	black grama	BOER4	Bouteloua eriopoda	0–56	_
	blue grama	BOGR2	Bouteloua gracilis	0–56	_
	purple grama	BORA	Bouteloua radicosa	0–50	_
	slender grama	BORE2	Bouteloua repens	0–28	
	fall witchgrass	DICO6	Digitaria cognata	1–28	_
	common wolfstail	LYPH	Lycurus phleoides	0–28	_
	Hall's panicgrass	PAHA	Panicum hallii	0–28	_
3	Cool season grasses			2–56	
	prairie acacia	ACAN	Acacia angustissima	22–67	_
	yerba de pasmo	BAPT	Baccharis pteronioides	22–67	_
	fairyduster	CAER	Calliandra eriophylla	22–67	_
	Cooley's bundleflower	DECO2	Desmanthus cooleyi	22–67	_
	bastardsage	ERWR	Eriogonum wrightii	22–67	_
	littleleaf ratany	KRER	Krameria erecta	22–67	_
	trailing krameria	KRLA	Krameria lanceolata	22–67	_
	velvetpod mimosa	MIDY	Mimosa dysocarpa	22–67	_
	squirreltail	ELELE	Elymus elymoides ssp. elymoides	1–56	_
	prairie Junegrass	KOMA	Koeleria macrantha	0–22	_
	pinyon ricegrass	PIFI	Piptochaetium fimbriatum	0–22	_
	sedge	CAREX	Carex	1–11	_
	flatsedge	CYPER	Cyperus	0–6	_
	densetuft hairsedge	BUCA2	Bulbostylis capillaris	0–6	_
	muttongrass	POFE	Poa fendleriana	0–2	_
4	Miscellaneous perennia	Miscellaneous perennial grasses			
	spidergrass	ARTE3	Aristida ternipes	1–28	_
	silver bluestem	BOSA	Bothriochloa saccharoides	0–28	_
	tobosagrass	PLMU3	Pleuraphis mutica	0–22	_
	little bluestem	scsc	Schizachyrium scoparium	0–11	_
	vine mesquite	PAOB	Panicum obtusum	0–11	_
	Fendler threeawn	ARPUL	Aristida purpurea var. longiseta	0–11	_
	Wright's threeawn	ARPUW	Aristida purpurea var. wrightii	0–6	

	streambed bristlegrass	SELE6	Setaria leucopila	0–6	
	bulb panicgrass	PABU	Panicum bulbosum	0–6	
	maidencane	PAHE2	Panicum hemitomon	0–6	
	sand dropseed	SPCR	Sporobolus cryptandrus	0–2	
	big sacaton	SPWR2	Sporobolus wrightii	0–2	
	Porter's melicgrass	MEPO	Melica porteri	0–2	
	Arizona muhly	MUAR3	Muhlenbergia arizonica	0–2	
	Rothrock's grama	BORO2	Bouteloua rothrockii	0–2	
	nineawn pappusgrass	ENDE	Enneapogon desvauxii	0–1	
	poverty threeawn	ARDI5	Aristida divaricata	0–1	
	Havard's threeawn	ARHA3	Aristida havardii	0–1	
	bush muhly	MUPO2	Muhlenbergia porteri	0–1	
	slim tridens	TRMU	Tridens muticus	0–1	
	slim tridens	TRMUE	Tridens muticus var. elongatus	0–1	
5	Annual grasses	1	<u> </u>	0–17	
	Mexican panicgrass	PAHI5	Panicum hirticaule	0–6	
	sixweeks fescue	VUOC	Vulpia octoflora	0–6	
	tapertip cupgrass	ERACA	Eriochloa acuminata var. acuminata	0–6	
	Arizona signalgrass	URAR	Urochloa arizonica	0–2	
	Eastwood fescue	VUMIC	Vulpia microstachys var. ciliata	0–2	
	Pacific fescue	VUMIP	Vulpia microstachys var. pauciflora	0–2	
	witchgrass	PACA6	Panicum capillare	0–2	
	prairie threeawn	AROL	Aristida oligantha	0–2	
	needle grama	BOAR	Bouteloua aristidoides	0–1	
	sixweeks grama	BOBA2	Bouteloua barbata	0–1	
	matted grama	BOSI2	Bouteloua simplex	0–1	
	Arizona brome	BRAR4	Bromus arizonicus	0–1	
	feather fingergrass	CHVI4	Chloris virgata	0–1	
	fragilegrass	AETE	Aegopogon tenellus	0–1	
	sixweeks threeawn	ARAD	Aristida adscensionis	0–1	
	prairie false oat	TRIN5	Trisetum interruptum	0–1	
	Mexican lovegrass	ERME	Eragrostis mexicana	0–1	
	tufted lovegrass	ERPEP2	Eragrostis pectinacea var. pectinacea	0–1	
	pitscale grass	HAGR3	Hackelochloa granularis	0–1	
	sweet tanglehead	HEME	Heteropogon melanocarpus	0–1	
	little barley	HOPU	Hordeum pusillum	0–1	
	Mexican sprangletop	LEFUU	Leptochloa fusca ssp. uninervia	0–1	
	mucronate sprangeltop	LEPAB	Leptochloa panicea ssp. brachiata	0–1	
	delicate muhly	MUFR	Muhlenbergia fragilis	0–1	
	littleseed muhly	MUMI	Muhlenbergia microsperma	0–1	
Forb	<u> </u>	1	1	1	
6	Perennial forbs			11–56	
	white sagebrush	ARLU	Artemisia ludoviciana	1–11	

Cooley's bundleflower	DECO2	Desmanthus cooleyı	1–11	– I
bluedicks	DICA14	Dichelostemma capitatum	1–11	_
orange fameflower	PHAU13	Phemeranthus aurantiacus	0–11	_
wild dwarf morning-glory	EVAR	Evolvulus arizonicus	0–6	_
spreading snakeherb	DYSCD	Dyschoriste schiedeana var. decumbens	0–6	_
trailing fleabane	ERFL	Erigeron flagellaris	1–6	_
Texas snoutbean	RHSET	Rhynchosia senna var. texana	1–6	_
rose heath	CHER2	Chaetopappa ericoides	0–6	_
leatherweed	CRPO5	Croton pottsii	0–6	_
Gregg's prairie clover	DAGR2	Dalea greggii	0–6	_
bastard toadflax	COUM	Comandra umbellata	0–2	_
dwarf stickpea	CAHUR	Calliandra humilis var. reticulata	1–2	_
largeflower onion	ALMA4	Allium macropetalum	0–2	_
weakleaf bur ragweed	AMCO3	Ambrosia confertiflora	1–2	_
tuber anemone	ANTU	Anemone tuberosa	0–2	_
shrubby purslane	POSU3	Portulaca suffrutescens	0–2	_
Missouri goldenrod	SOMI2	Solidago missouriensis	0–2	_
brownplume wirelettuce	STPA4	Stephanomeria pauciflora	0–2	
Rocky Mountain zinnia	ZIGR	Zinnia grandiflora	0–2	
Wright's deervetch	LOWR	Lotus wrightii	0–2	
New Mexico fleabane	ERNE3	Erigeron neomexicanus	0–2	
spreading fleabane	ERDI4	Erigeron divergens	0–2	
silver dwarf morning- glory	EVSE	Evolvulus sericeus	0–2	_
small matweed	GUDE	Guilleminea densa	0–2	
lacy tansyaster	MAPI	Machaeranthera pinnatifida	0–2	_
tufted evening primrose	OECA10	Oenothera caespitosa	0–2	_
radishroot woodsorrel	OXAL	Oxalis albicans	0–1	_
Drummond's woodsorrel	OXDR	Oxalis drummondii	0–1	_
locoweed	OXYTR	Oxytropis	0–1	_
beardlip penstemon	PEBA2	Penstemon barbatus	0–1	_
Cochise beardtongue	PEDA	Penstemon dasyphyllus	0–1	_
longstalk chinchweed	PELO	Pectis longipes	0–1	_
Parry's beardtongue	PEPA24	Penstemon parryi	0–1	_
slimleaf bean	PHAN3	Phaseolus angustissimus	0–1	_
Mexican star	MIBI2	Milla biflora	0–1	_
lemon beebalm	MOCIA	Monarda citriodora ssp. austromontana	0–1	
variableleaf bushbean	MAGI2	Macroptilium gibbosifolium	0–1	_
ivyleaf groundcherry	PHHE4	Physalis hederifolia	0–1	
white milkwort	POAL4	Polygala alba	0–1	
velvetseed milkwort	РООВ	Polygala obscura	0–1	
Indian rushpea	HOGL2	Hoffmannseggia glauca	0–1	
red bluet	HORU	Houstonia rubra	0–1	
babyslippers	HYVE	Hybanthus verticillatus	0–1	_

ragged nettlespurge	JAMA	Jatropha macrorhiza	0–1	
San Pedro daisy	LAPO4	Lasianthaea podocephala	0–1	
Fendler's bladderpod	LEFE	Lesquerella fendleri	0–1	
narrowleaf stoneseed	LIIN2	Lithospermum incisum	0–1	
Lewis flax	LILE3	Linum lewisii	0–1	
Greene's bird's-foot trefoil	LOGR4	Lotus greenei	0-1	
Arizona snakecotton	FRAR2	Froelichia arizonica	0–1	
scarlet beeblossom	GACO5	Gaura coccinea	0–1	
pearly globe amaranth	GONI	Gomphrena nitida	0–1	
shaggy dwarf morning- glory	EVNU	Evolvulus nuttallianus	0-1	
Mexican fireplant	EUHE4	Euphorbia heterophylla	0–1	
sun spurge	EURA2	Euphorbia radians	0–1	
Torrey's craglily	ECFL	Echeandia flavescens	0–1	
James' prairie clover	DAJA	Dalea jamesii	0–1	
dwarf prairie clover	DANA	Dalea nana	0–1	
downy prairie clover	DANE	Dalea neomexicana	0–1	
jewels of Opar	TAPA2	Talinum paniculatum	0–1	
Coulter's wrinklefruit	TECO	Tetraclea coulteri	0–1	
hairy fournwort	TENE	Tetramerium nervosum	0–1	
longstalk greenthread	THLO	Thelesperma longipes	0–1	
Hopi tea greenthread	THME	Thelesperma megapotamicum	0–1	
pinewoods spiderwort	TRPI	Tradescantia pinetorum	0–1	
branched noseburn	TRRA5	Tragia ramosa	0–1	
Fort Huachuca vervain	VEGR2	Verbena gracilis	0–1	
American vetch	VIAM	Vicia americana	0–1	
Louisiana vetch	VILUL2	Vicia Iudoviciana ssp. Iudoviciana	0–1	
copper zephyrlily	ZELO	Zephyranthes longifolia	0–1	
copper globemallow	SPAN3	Sphaeralcea angustifolia	0–1	
gooseberryleaf globemallow	SPGR2	Sphaeralcea grossulariifolia	0-1	
slimflower scurfpea	PSTE5	Psoralidium tenuiflorum	0–1	
buffpetal	RHPH2	Rhynchosida physocalyx	0–1	
slimleaf plainsmustard	SCLI12	Schoenocrambe linearifolia	0–1	
twinleaf senna	SEBA3	Senna bauhinioides	0–1	
Lemmon's ragwort	SELE8	Senecio lemmonii	0–1	
New Mexico fanpetals	SINE	Sida neomexicana	0–1	
silverleaf nightshade	SOEL	Solanum elaeagnifolium	0–1	
perennial rockcress	ARPE2	Arabis perennans	0–1	
Watson's dutchman's pipe	ARWA	Aristolochia watsonii	0–1	
Arizona milkvetch	ASAR6	Astragalus arizonicus	0–1	
spider milkweed	ASAS	Asclepias asperula	0–1	

	chaparral asphead	ASHI3	Aspicarpa hirtella	0–1	
	broadleaf milkweed	ASLA4	Asclepias latifolia	0–1	
	woolly locoweed	ASMOB	Astragalus mollissimus var. bigelovii	0–1	
	sheep milkvetch	ASNO3	Astragalus nothoxys	0–1	
	horsetail milkweed	ASSU2	Asclepias subverticillata	0–1	
	dense ayenia	AYMI	Ayenia microphylla	0–1	
	hairyseed bahia	BAAB	Bahia absinthifolia	0–1	
	lyreleaf greeneyes	BELY	Berlandiera lyrata	0–1	
	scarlet spiderling	восо	Boerhavia coccinea	0–1	
	copper fern	воні	Bommeria hispida	0–1	
	trailing windmills	ALIN	Allionia incarnata	0–1	
	melon loco	APUN	Apodanthera undulata	0–1	
	Mexican yellowshow	AMPA3	Amoreuxia palmatifida	0–1	
	Cuman ragweed	AMPS	Ambrosia psilostachya	0–1	
	wholeleaf Indian paintbrush	CAIN14	Castilleja integra	0–1	
	desert mariposa lily	CAKE	Calochortus kennedyi	0–1	
	sego lily	CANU3	Calochortus nuttallii	0–1	
	Indian paintbrush	CASTI2	Castilleja	0–1	
	whitemargin sandmat	CHAL11	Chamaesyce albomarginata	0–1	
	Fendler's lipfern	CHFE2	Cheilanthes fendleri	0–1	
	fairyswords	CHLI	Cheilanthes lindheimeri	0–1	
	birdbill dayflower	CODI4	Commelina dianthifolia	0–1	
	Texas bindweed	COEQ	Convolvulus equitans	0–1	
	whitemouth dayflower	COER	Commelina erecta	0–1	
	fingerleaf gourd	CUDI	Cucurbita digitata	0–1	
	coyote gourd	CUPA	Cucurbita palmata	0–1	
	whiteflower prairie clover	DAAL	Dalea albiflora	0–1	
7	Annual Forbs			1–224	
	longleaf false goldeneye	HELOA2	Heliomeris longifolia var. annua	1–224	
	camphorweed	HESU3	Heterotheca subaxillaris	0–56	
	Wright's cudweed	PSCAC2	Pseudognaphalium canescens ssp. canescens	0–22	
	mesa tansyaster	MATA	Machaeranthera tagetina	0–11	
	woolly plantain	PLPA2	Plantago patagonica	0–11	
	New Mexico thistle	CINE	Cirsium neomexicanum	0–11	
	New Mexico goosefoot	CHNE3	Chenopodium neomexicanum	0–11	
	sensitive partridge pea	CHNI2	Chamaecrista nictitans	0–11	
	smallflowered milkvetch	ASNU4	Astragalus nuttallianus	0–11	
	Thurber's milkvetch	ASTH	Astragalus thurberi	0–11	
	pitseed goosefoot	CHBE4	Chenopodium berlandieri	0–11	
	carelessweed	AMPA	Amaranthus palmeri	0–6	
	western tansymustard	DEPI	Descurainia pinnata	0–6	
	crestrib morning-glory	IPCO2	Ipomoea costellata	0–6	

 redstar	IPCO3	Ipomoea coccinea	0–6	
 ivyleaf morning-glory	IPHE	Ipomoea hederacea	0–6	
Abert's buckwheat	ERAB2	Eriogonum abertianum	0–6	
sorrel buckwheat	ERPO4	Eriogonum polycladon	0–6	
tanseyleaf tansyaster	MATA2	Machaeranthera tanacetifolia	0–6	
curlytop gumweed	GRNUA	Grindelia nuda var. aphanactis	0–6	
slender goldenweed	MAGR10	Machaeranthera gracilis	0–6	
Arizona poppy	KAGR	Kallstroemia grandiflora	0–6	
sweet four o'clock	MILO2	Mirabilis longiflora	0–6	
intermediate pepperweed	LEVIM	Lepidium virginicum var. medium	0–2	
sawtooth sage	SASU7	Salvia subincisa	0–2	
Thurber's morning-glory	IPTH	Ipomoea thurberi	0–2	
wedgeleaf draba	DRCU	Draba cuneifolia	0–2	
 scrambled eggs	COAU2	Corydalis aurea	0–2	
 New Mexico copperleaf	ACNE	Acalypha neomexicana	0–2	
 miner's lettuce	CLPEP	Claytonia perfoliata ssp. perfoliata	0–1	
threadstem sandmat	CHRE4	Chamaesyce revoluta	0–1	
 thymeleaf sandmat	CHSE6	Chamaesyce serpyllifolia	0–1	
slimseed sandmat	CHST8	Chamaesyce stictospora	0–1	
cryptantha	CRYPT	Cryptantha	0–1	
Chihuahuan prairie clover	DAEX2	Dalea exigua	0–1	
American wild carrot	DAPU3	Daucus pusillus	0–1	
sacred thorn-apple	DAWR2	Datura wrightii	0–1	
poorjoe	DITE2	Diodia teres	0–1	
El Paso skyrocket	IPTH2	Ipomopsis thurberi	0–1	
miniature woollystar	ERDI2	Eriastrum diffusum	0–1	
spreading fleabane	ERDI4	Erigeron divergens	0–1	
flaxflowered ipomopsis	IPLOL	Ipomopsis longiflora ssp. longiflora	0–1	
California poppy	ESCAM	Eschscholzia californica ssp. mexicana	0–1	
 Arizona blanketflower	GAAR2	Gaillardia arizonica	0–1	
 red dome blanketflower	GAPI	Gaillardia pinnatifida	0–1	
 lesser yellowthroat gilia	GIFL	Gilia flavocincta	0–1	
El Paso gilia	GIME	Gilia mexicana	0–1	
Dakota mock vervain	GLBIB	Glandularia bipinnatifida var. bipinnatifida	0–1	
crested anoda	ANCR2	Anoda cristata	0–1	
 southwestern pricklypoppy	ARPL3	Argemone pleiacantha	0–1	
halfmoon milkvetch	ASAL6	Astragalus allochrous	0–1	
royal sandmat	CHDI5	Chamaesyce dioica	0–1	
		1		
pillpod sandmat	CHHI3	Chamaesyce hirta	0–1	
 + '	CHHI3 CHHY3	Chamaesyce hirta Chamaesyce hyssopifolia	0-1 0-1	

	tewtlower beggarticks	BILE	Bidens leptocephala	0–1	_
	Coulter's spiderling	BOCO2	Boerhavia coulteri	0–1	_
	erect spiderling	BOER	Boerhavia erecta	0–1	_
	hoary bowlesia	BOIN3	Bowlesia incana	0–1	-
	purple spiderling	BOPU	Boerhavia purpurascens	0–1	_
	fringed redmaids	CACI2	Calandrinia ciliata	0–1	_
	spreading fanpetals	SIAB	Sida abutifolia	0–1	_
	sleepy silene	SIAN2	Silene antirrhina	0–1	_
	streptanthella	STREP	Streptanthella	0–1	_
	golden crownbeard	VEEN	Verbesina encelioides	0–1	_
	Abert's creeping zinnia	SAAB	Sanvitalia abertii	0–1	_
	whitestem blazingstar	MEAL6	Mentzelia albicaulis	0–1	_
	purslane	PORTU	Portulaca	0–1	_
	yerba porosa	PORU6	Porophyllum ruderale	0–1	_
	desert unicorn-plant	PRAL4	Proboscidea althaeifolia	0–1	_
	doubleclaw	PRPA2	Proboscidea parviflora	0–1	_
	plains flax	LIPU4	Linum puberulum	0–1	_
	foothill deervetch	LOHU2	Lotus humistratus	0–1	_
	coastal bird's-foot trefoil	LOSAB	Lotus salsuginosus var. brevivexillus	0–1	_
	shortstem lupine	LUBR2	Lupinus brevicaulis	0–1	_
	bajada lupine	LUCOC	Lupinus concinnus ssp. concinnus	0–1	_
	Fendler's desertdandelion	MAFE	Malacothrix fendleri	0–1	_
	warty caltrop	KAPA	Kallstroemia parviflora	0–1	_
	Coulter's horseweed	LACO13	Laennecia coulteri	0–1	_
	Gordon's bladderpod	LEGO	Lesquerella gordonii	0–1	_
	broadleaved pepperweed	LELA2	Lepidium latifolium	0–1	_
	green carpetweed	MOVE	Mollugo verticillata	0–1	_
	desert evening primrose	OEPR	Oenothera primiveris	0–1	_
	purplewhite owl's-clover	ORPU2	Orthocarpus purpureoalbus	0–1	_
	Arizona phacelia	PHAR13	Phacelia arizonica	0–1	_
	Mangas Spring phacelia	PHBO4	Phacelia bombycina	0–1	_
	Arizona popcornflower	PLAR	Plagiobothrys arizonicus	0–1	_
Shrub	/Vine				
8	Dominant half shrubs			11–56	
	fairyduster	CAER	Calliandra eriophylla	6–22	_
	cliff goldenbush	ERCUS	Ericameria cuneata var. spathulata	0–11	_
	bastardsage	ERWR	Eriogonum wrightii	1–11	_
	prairie acacia	ACAN	Acacia angustissima	1–11	_
	yerba de pasmo	BAPT	Baccharis pteronioides	1–11	_
	littleleaf ratany	KRER	Krameria erecta	0–6	_
	trailing krameria	KRLA	Krameria lanceolata	0–6	_
9	Succulents			2–56	
	Palmer's century plant	AGPA3	Agave palmeri	1–45	_

		I	ı ~ <i>'</i> ı		
	sacahuista	NOMI	Nolina microcarpa	1–34	_
	common sotol	DAWH2	Dasylirion wheeleri	0–2	_
	scarlet hedgehog cactus	ECCOC	Echinocereus coccineus var. coccineus	0–1	_
	pinkflower hedgehog cactus	ECFEF3	Echinocereus fendleri ssp. fendleri	0–1	_
	white fishhook cactus	ECIN2	Echinomastus intertextus	0–1	_
	rainbow cactus	ECPE	Echinocereus pectinatus	0–1	_
	kingcup cactus	ECTR	Echinocereus triglochidiatus	0–1	_
	spinystar	ESVI2	Escobaria vivipara	0–1	_
	Graham's nipple cactus	MAGR9	Mammillaria grahamii	0–1	-
	Macdougal's nipple cactus	MAHEM	Mammillaria heyderi var. macdougalii	0–1	_
	Parry's agave	AGPA4	Agave parryi	0–1	-
	Parry's agave	AGPAP5	Agave parryi ssp. parryi	0–1	
	Santa Cruz beehive cactus	CORE3	Coryphantha recurvata	0–1	_
	walkingstick cactus	CYSP8	Cylindropuntia spinosior	0–1	
	cactus apple	OPEN3	Opuntia engelmannii	0–1	_
	tulip pricklypear	ОРРН	Opuntia phaeacantha	0–1	_
	banana yucca	YUBA	Yucca baccata	0–1	_
	soaptree yucca	YUEL	Yucca elata	0–1	_
	Schott's yucca	YUSC	Yucca ×schottii	0–1	_
10	Miscellaneous shrubs	-		0–11	
	Sonoran scrub oak	QUTU2	Quercus turbinella	0–2	_
	California brickellbush	BRCA3	Brickellia californica	0–2	_
	false boneset	BREU	Brickellia eupatorioides	0–1	_
	littleleaf sumac	RHMI3	Rhus microphylla	0–1	_
	skunkbush sumac	RHTR	Rhus trilobata	0–1	_
	evergreen sumac	RHVIC	Rhus virens var. choriophylla	0–1	<u>-</u>
	heartleaf goldeneye	VICO	Viguiera cordifolia	0–1	<u>-</u>
	longleaf jointfir	EPTR	Ephedra trifurca	0–1	_
	broom snakeweed	GUSA2	Gutierrezia sarothrae	0–1	_
	catclaw mimosa	MIACB	Mimosa aculeaticarpa var. biuncifera	0–1	_
	velvetpod mimosa	MIDY	Mimosa dysocarpa	0–1	_
	Graham's mimosa	MIGR2	Mimosa grahamii	0–1	_
	catclaw acacia	ACGR	Acacia greggii	0–1	_
	milfoil wattle	ACMI	Acacia millefolia	0–1	_
	Wright's beebrush	ALWR	Aloysia wrightii	0–1	_
	Thurber's desert honeysuckle	ANTH2	Anisacanthus thurberi	0–1	_
	Pringle manzanita	ARPR	Arctostaphylos pringlei	0–1	_
	pointleaf manzanita	ARPU5	Arctostaphylos pungens	0–1	_
Tree					
11	Trees			0–56	
_	Arizona white oak	QUAR	Quercus arizonica	0–28	_

Emory oak	QUEM	Quercus emoryi	0–28	_
Mexican blue oak	QUOB	Quercus oblongifolia	0–22	_
Abert's buckwheat	ERAB2	Eriogonum abertianum	2–9	-
hoary tansyaster	MACA2	Machaeranthera canescens	2–9	_
alligator juniper	JUDE2	Juniperus deppeana	0–6	_
oneseed juniper	JUMO	Juniperus monosperma	0–6	-

Animal community

The plant community on this site is suitable for grazing by all classes of livestock at any season. The plant community provides adequate nutrition throughout the year. Steep slopes and very gravelly and/or cobbly surfaces limit livestock grazing distribution on this site. Large areas of this site should be fenced separately from the uplands and bottom sites it is associated with to effectively manage the forage resource it has. The presence of cool season grass species and plains lovegrass cause livestock to forage widely in the early spring on this site making this the best season to effectively use the site. Annual goldeneye can cause poisoning problems in the fall after unusually wet winter-spring seasons.

This site is a primary habitat for pronghorn antelope in southeastern Arizona. It is also habitat for mule and whitetail deer having enough topography and/or tree and shrub cover to maintain both deer species in residence. The potential plant community is rich in both grass and forb species making the site home to a great variety of insect, bird, small mammal and reptile species. The lesser long-nosed bat uses the abundant nectar in the flowers of the Agave Plameri as it flowers throughout June, July, and August. Natural water is lacking on the site and water developments are very important to large mammals and many species of birds and small mammals on the site.

Hydrological functions

With steep slopes and heavy textured soils this site is a good producer of runoff.

Recreational uses

Hunting, hiking, horseback riding, photography, camping, picnicking, bird watching.

Wood products

Limited oak and juniper on north exposures. Mesquite may be present and furnish fuel-wood for campfires.

Other products

Agave for tequila or mescal, beargrass for fibers, medicinal plants like yerba de pasmo.

Inventory data references

Range 417s include 3 in excellent condition, 4 in good condition and 1 in fair condition.

Type locality

Location 1: Cochise County, AZ			
Township/Range/Section	T21S R19E S30		
General legal description	SE 1/4 of section - Ft. Huachuca- West Range		
Location 2: Cochise County, AZ			
Township/Range/Section	T22S R20E S8		
General legal description	NW 1/4 section - Ft. Huachuca - South Range		
Location 3: Pima County, AZ			

Township/Range/Section	T19S R17E S36
General legal description	Tucson - Empire Ranch, Hilton Pasture at KA #11 and 12.
Location 4: Cochise Coun	ity, AZ
Township/Range/Section	T13S R22E S18
General legal description	NW 1/4 - Willcox - Warbonnet Ranch
Location 5: Santa Cruz County, AZ	
Township/Range/Section	T21S R18E S17
General legal description	Audubon Research Ranch

Contributors

Larry D. Ellicott` Unknown Dan Robinett

Approval

Curtis Talbot, 4/09/2021

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.

Author(s)/participant(s)	Wilma Renken, Dan Robinett, Larry Humphrey, Scott Stratton, Linda Kennedy
Contact for lead author	USDA-NRCS Tucson MLRA Soil Survey Office
Date	05/01/2014
Approved by	Curtis Talbot
Approval date	
Composition (Indicators 10 and 12) based on	Annual Production

Indicators

1. Number and extent of rills: North and South aspects: No rills.

Note: When evaluating range health on this ecological site, aspect and slope affect expected reference conditions and should be factored into evaluation. Reference conditions described here are from north- and south-facing aspects with 20% slope, 11 years post-burn (Ryan Fire).

2. Presence of water flow patterns:

North aspect: very short, indistinguishable among high cobble/gravel/vegetation cover.

South aspect: common, short (<5') and discontinuous.

3.	Number and height of erosional pedestals or terracettes: North aspect: pedestals <1" in height occassionally observed on short-grasses; terracettes common, 3-5 ft apart with 1" elevation difference. South aspect: pedestals 1/2"-1" in height common on perennial grasses; terracettes common, 1-2 ft apart with 1"-2" elevation difference.
4.	Bare ground from Ecological Site Description or other studies (rock, litter, lichen, moss, plant canopy are not bare ground): North aspect: 3-6% bare ground evenly distributed among gravel/rock cover; non-vegetated areas are scarce. After fire, 25-30% bare ground is observed. South aspect: 7-8% bare ground evenly distributed among gravel/rock cover; small non-vegetated areas <1 ft in diam. occasionally observed. After fire, 25-30% bare ground is observed.
5.	Number of gullies and erosion associated with gullies: North and South aspects: None
6.	Extent of wind scoured, blowouts and/or depositional areas: North and South aspects: None
7.	Amount of litter movement (describe size and distance expected to travel): North and South aspects: Fine litter moving less than 1 foot, course litter stays in place.
8.	Soil surface (top few mm) resistance to erosion (stability values are averages - most sites will show a range of values): North and South aspects: No difference between canopy-protected and unprotected soil slake values. All values rated as 5's and 6's.
9.	Soil surface structure and SOM content (include type of structure and A-horizon color and thickness): North and South aspects: Soil surface horizon 0-3" depth, gravelly sandy loam, granular structure. Color 7.5 YR 3/3 moist.
10.	Effect of community phase composition (relative proportion of different functional groups) and spatial distribution on infiltration and runoff: North aspect: Perennial grasses are well-dispersed across site with basal cover 15-20%. Foliar cover is 50-70% perennial grasses and 5-10% low shrubs. South aspect: Perennial mid-grasses occur within an evenly dispersed short-grass community. Basal cover of perennial grasses is >10%. Foliar cover is 50-70% within mid-grass patches and 30-50% within short-grasses.
11.	Presence and thickness of compaction layer (usually none; describe soil profile features which may be mistaken for compaction on this site): North and South aspects: No compaction. Clay horizon at 5" depth may be mistaken for compaction.

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: North aspect: Warm season mid-grasses; South aspect: Warm season mid-grasses > short-grasses					
	Sub-dominant: North aspect: short-grasses > low shrubs > perennial forbs > trees; South aspect: low shrubs > perennial forbs					
	Other: succulents					
	Additional: Annual forbs and annual grasses fluctuate with precipitation and can flourish after fire or drought.					
13.	Amount of plant mortality and decadence (include which functional groups are expected to show mortality or decadence): North and South aspects: Perennial grass decadence increases with time since last fire. Current observation (11 years post-burning), both aspects exhibit some perennial grass decadence, little mortality seen overall. Mortality from fire depends upon season and intensity of burn.					
14.	Average percent litter cover (%) and depth (in): North aspect: 55% litter cover; South aspect: 45% litter cover. Litter cover on the low end of the range is expected immmediately post-burn and increases with favorable weather and time.					
15.	Expected annual annual-production (this is TOTAL above-ground annual-production, not just forage annual-production): 763 lbs/ac. in a below average year; 1520 lbs/ac. in an average year; 2350 lbs/ac. in an above average year.					
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: Lehmann lovegrass, Boer lovegrass, yellow bluestem, velvet mesquite					
17.	Perennial plant reproductive capability: Not impaired. Warm season perennial grass seed production highly dependent upon the amount and timing of summer monsoons.					