

Author(s)/participant(s)

Contact for lead author

Date

## **Ecological site R062XB024SD Shallow Loamy - High Central**

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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.

Approved by			]		
Approval date			1		
Composition (Indicators 10 and 12) based on		Annual Production			
Indicators					
1. Number and e	extent of rills:				
2. Presence of w	Presence of water flow patterns:				
3. Number and h	Number and height of erosional pedestals or terracettes:				
4. Bare ground to bare ground):	_	ription or other stud	dies (rock, litter, lichen, moss, plant canopy are not		
5. Number of gu	Number of gullies and erosion associated with gullies:				
6. Extent of wind	Extent of wind scoured, blowouts and/or depositional areas:				
7 Amount of litt	er movement (describe siz	ze and distance evr	nected to travel):		

8.	Soil surface (top few mm) resistance to erosion (stability values are averages - most sites will show a range of values):
9.	Soil surface structure and SOM content (include type of structure and A-horizon color and thickness):
10.	Effect of community phase composition (relative proportion of different functional groups) and spatial distribution on infiltration and runoff:
11.	Presence and thickness of compaction layer (usually none; describe soil profile features which may be mistaken for compaction on this site):
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:
	Sub-dominant:
	Other:
	Additional:
13.	Amount of plant mortality and decadence (include which functional groups are expected to show mortality or decadence):
14.	Average percent litter cover (%) and depth ( in):
15.	Expected annual annual-production (this is TOTAL above-ground annual-production, not just forage annual-production):
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:
17.	Perennial plant reproductive capability: