

Ecological site group DX035X01HESG05

Black Mesa-Navajo Mtn-Loamy uplands

Last updated: 10/12/2022
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Key Characteristics

- Black Mesa Navajo Mountain
- Loamy soils
- Loamy uplands

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.

Physiography

This ecological site occurs in an upland position as gently rolling plains, fans and terraces. Slopes generally range from 0% to 15% with occasional steeper slopes up to 30%.

Climate

Winter to summer moisture ratios range from 70:30 to 60:40. Late spring is usually the driest period, and early fall moisture can be sporadic. Summer rains fall from June through September.

Soil features

Soils grouped in this site are moderately deep or deeper to any plant root restricting layers. The surface horizons have textures of very fine sandy loam to sandy clay loam with various amounts of gravel on the surface.

Vegetation dynamics

Composed primarily of warm season mid-grasses and short grasses with a mix of cool season grasses and subshrubs. Dominant grasses include black grama, blue grama, squirreltail, indian ricegrass, galleta and sideoats grama. Dominant shrubs include winterfat and fourwing saltbush.

Major Land Resource Area

MLRA 035X
Colorado Plateau

Subclasses

- DX035X01I113–Loamy Upland 10-14" p.z.
- DX035X03B625–Loamy Upland (PIED, JUOS) 13-17" p.z. (Provisional)
- R035XB210AZ–Loamy Upland 6-10" p.z.
- R035XC313AZ–Loamy Upland 10-14" p.z.
- R035XC337AZ–Sandstone/Shale Upland 10-14" p.z.
- R035XF605AZ–Loamy Upland 13-17" p.z.
- R035XF608AZ–Limestone / Sandstone Upland 13-17" p.z.
- R035XY243UT–Semidesert Stony Loam (Blackbrush)
- R035XY246UT–Semidesert Stony Loam (Utah Juniper-Pinyon)

Correlated Map Unit Components

22397544, 22397346, 22600864, 22600868

Stage

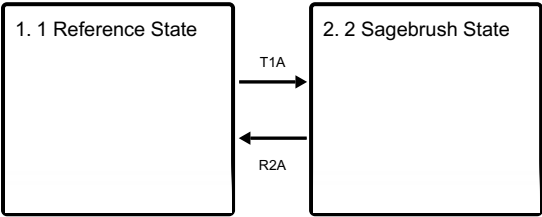
Provisional

Contributors

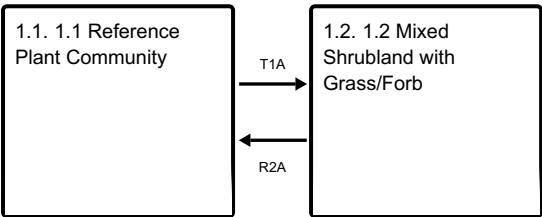
Keith Crossland, Vic Parslow, Harry Hosler, Jeff Fenton
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State and transition model

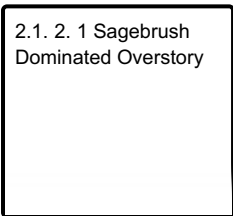
Ecosystem states



State 1 submodel, plant communities



State 2 submodel, plant communities



State 1
1 Reference State

Community 1.1
1.1 Reference Plant Community

Site is primarily made of mid and short grasses with a moderate percentage of shrubs with lesser amounts of forbs. There is a mixture of both cool and warm season grasses and half-shrubs.

Community 1.2
1.2 Mixed Shrubland with Grass/Forb

Site has an increase of large and half shrubs, especially snakeweed and rabbitbrush. Forbs have also increase, especially annual forbs. There is a decline in perennial grasses.

Pathway T1A
Community 1.1 to 1.2

Pathway R2A
Community 1.2 to 1.1

State 2
2 Sagebrush State

Community 2.1
2. 1 Sagebrush Dominated Overstory

Site is dominated by a canopy of Wyoming big sagebrush along with rabbitbrush and snakeweed. Understory is a mix of perennial grasses with annual forbs. There may also be few scattered trees at higher elevations.

Transition T1A
State 1 to 2

Restoration pathway R2A
State 2 to 1

Citations