Ecological site group DX035X02CESG06
Coconino Transition - Aridic Ustic - Limestone or Loamy Cliffs

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Key Characteristics

- Coconino Transition (C)
- Site parent material is limestone or dolomite, or soil is loamy.
- Site soils are aridic ustic or within a 13-17" precipitation zone.
- Site is and/or located on a cliff with slopes >50%.

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

Site is and/or located on a cliff with slopes >50%. Aspects tend to be northeast except in valleys near Truxton Wash and Aubrey Valley.

Climate

Site soils are aridic ustic or within a 13-17" precipitation zone. Precipitation comes predominantly from monsoonal patterns during months of July, August, and September. Winter precipitation is equally predominant in the northern half of the LRU.

Soil features

Limestone or Dolomite soils. Site consists of gently dipping shallow residuum weathered from sedimentary rocks eroded into steep cliff faces and canyons.

Major Land Resource Area

MLRA 035X
Colorado Plateau

Subclasses

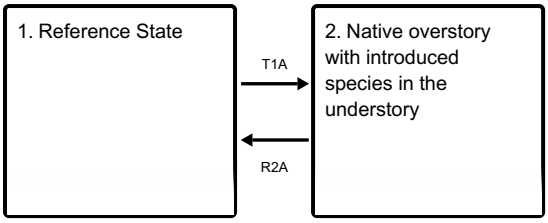
- R035XF601AZ–Sedimentary Cliffs 13-17" p.z.

Stage

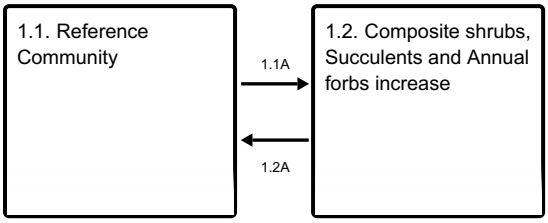
Provisional

State and transition model

Ecosystem states



State 1 submodel, plant communities



State 1
Reference State

Shrubs, succulents and forbs

Community 1.1
Reference Community

Shrubs, succulents, forbs, and grasses mixed.,

Community 1.2
Composite shrubs, Succulents and Annual forbs increase

Pathway 1.1A
Community 1.1 to 1.2

A decrease in palatable species

Pathway 1.2A
Community 1.2 to 1.1

Disturbance such as fire to set back succulents and management to increase palatable grass species.

State 2
Native overstory with introduced species in the understory

Native Overstory with mixed Native - Exotic Understory

Transition T1A
State 1 to 2

A decrease in ecosystem function with invasion of introduced species.

Restoration pathway R2A
State 2 to 1

Improved ecosystem health and plant diversity.

Citations