Ecological site group DX035X02CESG13
Coconino Transition - Ustic Aridic - Clayey Wash

Last updated: 09/01/2021
Accessed: 04/19/2024

Key Characteristics

- Coconino Transition (C)
- Soil at site is basalt or clayey.
- Site soils are ustic aridic or within a 10-14" precipitation zone.
- Site is and/or located in a wash.

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 in a wash. Aspects tend to be northeast except valleys near Truxton Wash and Aubrey Valley.

Climate

Site soils are ustic aridic or within a 10-14" 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

Parent material is basalt. Soils are clayey or clay loam. Site consists of broad alluvial deposits in washes, streams or fans, often deep.

Major Land Resource Area

MLRA 035X
Colorado Plateau

Subclasses

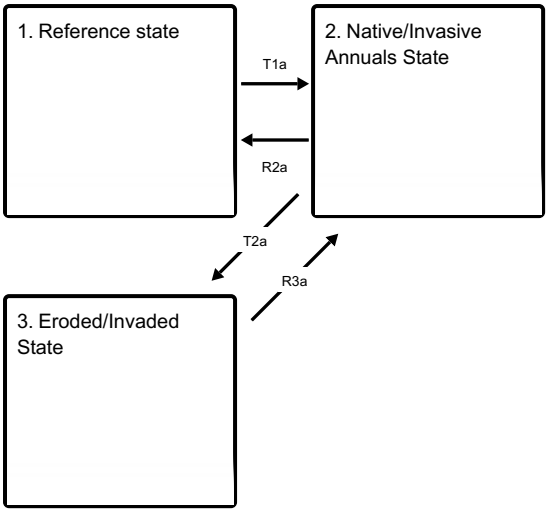
- DX035X01I104–Clay Loam Wash 10-14" p.z.

Stage

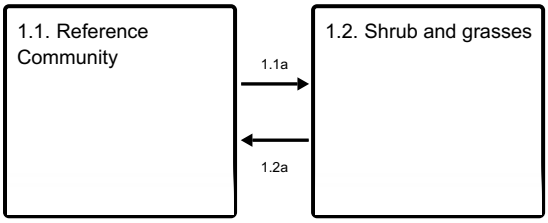
Provisional

State and transition model

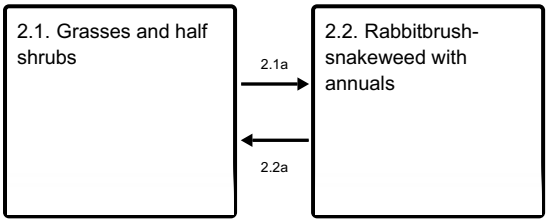
Ecosystem states



State 1 submodel, plant communities



State 2 submodel, plant communities



State 1
Reference state

Alkali sacaton-western wheatgrass/fourwing saltbush

Community 1.1
Reference Community

Alkali sacaton,-western wheatgrass/four wing saltbush

Community 1.2
Shrub and grasses

Fourwing saltbush with galleta, western wheatgrass, blue grama, alkali sacaton and half shrubs

Pathway 1.1a
Community 1.1 to 1.2

A decrease in palatable grass species and an increase in less palatable shrubs.

Pathway 1.2a
Community 1.2 to 1.1

A set-back for shrubs along with management to improve grass species.

State 2
Native/Invasive Annuals State

Native and non-native annuals present in moderate amounts

Community 2.1
Grasses and half shrubs

Blue grama-alkali sacaton-galleta/Rabbit brush-snakeweed with annuals

Community 2.2
Rabbitbrush-snakeweed with annuals

Blue grama, galleta, sand dropseed with native and non-native annuals in moderate amounts

Pathway 2.1a
Community 2.1 to 2.2

A further decline of grass species causing a shift to shrub dominant.

Pathway 2.2a
Community 2.2 to 2.1

A set back to shrubs along with management to improve grass species.

State 3
Eroded/Invaded State

Native / Non-native shrub invaded. Salt ceder, greasewood, rabbitbrush and non-native annuals

Transition T1a
State 1 to 2

Ecosystem degredation leading to invasion of introduced species.

Restoration pathway R2a
State 2 to 1

Slow restoration of ecosystem function along with a decline of introduced species.

Transition T2a
State 2 to 3

Further site degredation and erosion along with spread of introduced species.

Restoration pathway R3a
State 3 to 2

A set back to introduced species and shrubs as sell as slow restoration of soil, plants and hydrology.

Citations