

# Ecological site group DX035X02DESG23

## Grand Canyon - Typic Aridic - Gypsic Upland

Last updated: 10/26/2022  
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### Key Characteristics

- Grand Canyon (D)
- Gypsum
- Gypsum Uplands, Slopes  $\leq$  15%
- Gypsum Uplands, slopes  $\leq$  15%, typic aridic

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 an upland with slopes  $<$ 15%. Physiography is complex.

### Climate

Site soils are typic aridic or within a 6-10" precipitation zone. Precipitation comes monsoonal patterns during months of July, August, and September, and is supplemented by winter storm patterns from November through March.

### Soil features

Parent material is gypsiferous shale, mudstone or interbedded sediments. Soils are clayey or clay loam. Site consists of limited amounts of gently sloping sheet alluvial or eolian deposits over residuum of plateaus and structural benches.

### Vegetation dynamics

Grasses include big galleta, alkali sacaton, sand dropseed, bush muhly, Indian ricegrass, Parish threeawn, and sixweeks fescue. Shrubs include Fourwing saltbush, Anderson wolfberry, honey mesquite, shadscale saltbush, catclaw acacia. Desert globemallow is a common forb.

### Major Land Resource Area

MLRA 035X  
Colorado Plateau

### Subclasses

- R035XE518AZ—Loamy Upland 6-10" p.z. Gypsiferous

### Correlated Map Unit Components

22395003, 22395004, 22395007

### Stage

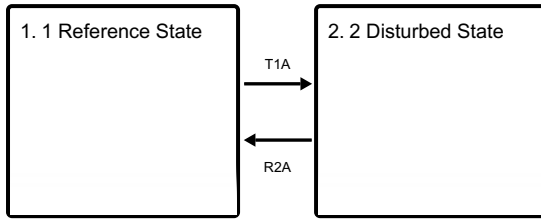
Provisional

## Contributors

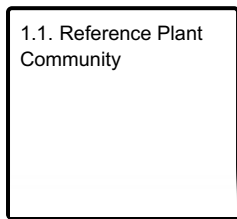
Curtis Talbot

## State and transition model

### Ecosystem states



### State 1 submodel, plant communities



## State 1

### 1 Reference State

A mix of grass, forbs, and shrubs that compete well in dry, clayey soil.

## Community 1.1

### Reference Plant Community

Grasses include big galleta, alkali sacaton, sand dropseed, bush muhly, Indian ricegrass, Parish threeawn, and sixweeks fescue. Shrubs include Fourwing saltbush, Anderson wolfberry, honey mesquite, shadscale saltbush, catclaw acacia. Desert globemallow is a common forb.

## State 2

### 2 Disturbed State

Increases: alkali sacaton, perennial forbs  
Invaders: Russian thistle, red brome, annual weeds  
Excessive bare ground and accelerated soil erosion.

## Transition T1A

### State 1 to 2

Excessive disturbance such as repetitive, high utilization, drought, or disease reducing the grass cover and increasing bare soil.

## Restoration pathway R2A

### State 2 to 1

Long term restoration of ecosystem health.

## Citations