

Ecological site group DX035X02GESG01

Marble Canyon - Typic Aridic - Upland Colluvial

Last updated: 09/02/2021
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Key Characteristics

- Marble Canyon (G)
- Soil at site is colluvial.
- Site soils are typic aridic or within a 6-10" precipitation zone.
- Site is and/or located in an upland with slopes <15%.

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%. Aspects tend toward Marble Canyon, and more generally, the northeast.

Climate

Site soils are typic aridic or within a 6-10" precipitation zone. No clear pattern exists in the seasonal timing of precipitation, generally driest in late spring.

Soil features

Parent material is limestone. Soils are loamy. Site consists of limited amounts of gently sloping sheet alluvial or eolian deposits over residuum of plateaus and structural benches.

Vegetation dynamics

The plant community is made up of mid and short grasses with a significant percentage of desert shrubs and a few forbs. In the original plant community there is a mixture of both cool and warm season grasses. Plant species most likely to invade or increase on this site when it deteriorates are blackbrush annuals.

Major Land Resource Area

MLRA 035X
Colorado Plateau

Subclasses

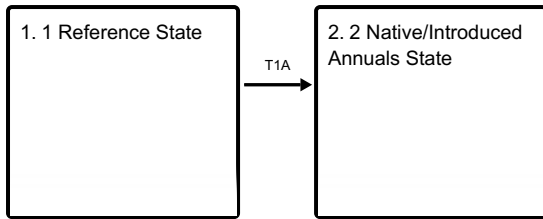
- R035XB236AZ–Colluvial Slopes 6-10" p.z. Warm

Stage

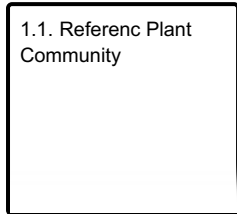
Provisional

State and transition model

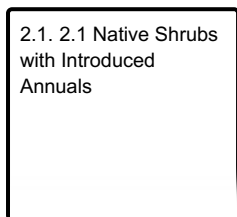
Ecosystem states



State 1 submodel, plant communities



State 2 submodel, plant communities



State 1 1 Reference State

Community 1.1 Referenc Plant Community

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State 2 2 Native/Introduced Annuals State

This state is dominated by blackbrush with lesser amounts of shadscale, galleta and Indian ricegrass. There is an invasion of annual grasses, such as red brome, cheatgrass and Russian thistle. Climatic fluctuations, especially during cooler months, have the potential to produce high amounts of annuals.

Community 2.1 2.1 Native Shrubs with Introduced Annuals

This plant community is dominated by blackbrush with few perennial grasses. Red brome, cheatgrass and Russian thistle are present and well established.

Transition T1A State 1 to 2

Invasion of introduced species. Once introduced species have invaded it is not likely the site can be restored to reference.

Citations