

Ecological site group DX035X02GESG08

Marble Canyon - Typic Aridic - Sandy Upland 7-11" p.z.

Last updated: 09/02/2021
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Key Characteristics

- Marble Canyon (G)
- Soil at site is sandy.
- Site soils are within a 7-11" 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 associated with cold desert and blackbrush vegetation. No clear pattern exists in the seasonal timing of precipitation, generally driest in late spring.

Soil features

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

Vegetation dynamics

This site has a plant community made up primarily of mid and short grasses with smaller percentages of forbs and shrubs. In the potential plant community there is a mixture of both cool and warm season species.

Plants most likely to increase on this site are sand sagebrush, snakeweed, goldenweed, sandhill muhly, rabbitbrush, and annuals. Invader species include russian thistle and cheatgrass.

Major Land Resource Area

MLRA 035X
Colorado Plateau

Subclasses

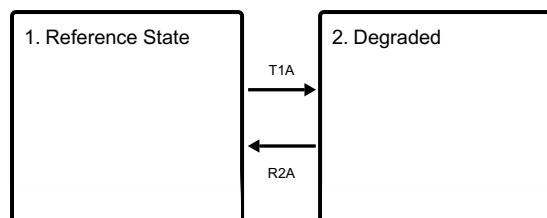
- R035XD412AZ–Sandy Upland 7-11" p.z.

Stage

Provisional

State and transition model

Ecosystem states



State 1 Reference State

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State 2 Degraded

High bare-ground, erosion and scattered sand sage.

Transition T1A State 1 to 2

Loss of ecosystem function along with accelerated erosion.

Restoration pathway R2A State 2 to 1

A slow process to restore soil, plant, and hydrologic processes.

Citations