

Ecological site group DX035X02GESG19

Marble Canyon - Typic Aridic - Shale or Clayey Bottoms

Last updated: 09/02/2021
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Key Characteristics

- Marble Canyon (G)
- shale
- soils are in the typic aridic or within the 6 to 10 inch annual precipitation range
- bottoms

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/bottom. 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 broad alluvial deposits in washes, streams or fans, often deep.

Vegetation dynamics

The plant community is made up primarily of mid and short grasses with a relatively small percentage of forbs and shrubs. 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 shadscale, annuals, and cacti.

Major Land Resource Area

MLRA 035X
Colorado Plateau

Subclasses

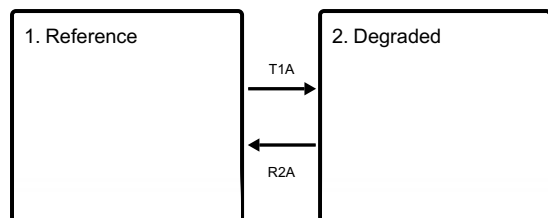
- R035XD418AZ—Clay Loam Bottom 7-11" p.z.

Stage

Provisional

State and transition model

Ecosystem states



State 1 Reference

The reference state is made up primarily of mid and short grasses with a relatively small percentage of forbs and shrubs. In the original plant community there is a mixture of both cool and warm season grasses.

State 2 Degraded

Plant species most likely to invade or increase on this site when it deteriorates are shadscale, annuals, and cacti. This site has lost plant cover and soil stability. The site can not absorb excess moisture or protect the soil from flooding events.

Transition T1A State 1 to 2

Slow drivers such as repetitive high utilization of plant species, increasing bare soil and exposing the site to erosion cause a threshold shift when a flooding event occurs.

Restoration pathway R2A State 2 to 1

Restoration of the floodplain and low terrace through careful management of plant cover and density.

Citations