

Ecological site group DX035X02GESG21

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

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Key Characteristics

- Marble Canyon (G)
- Site parent material is sandstone or soil is a sandy loam.
- 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, and cold desert climate associated with blackbrush vegetation.

Soil features

Parent material is sandstone. Soils are sandy loam. 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 a relatively small percentage of forbs and shrubs. In the original plant community there is a predominance of warm season grasses with shrubs, half shrubs, and cool season grasses.

Major Land Resource Area

MLRA 035X
Colorado Plateau

Subclasses

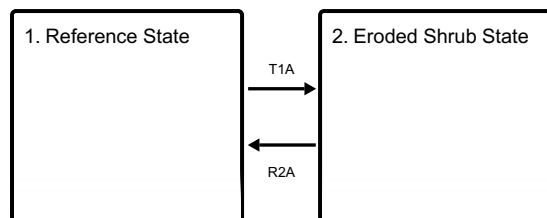
- R035XD414AZ–Sandy Loam Upland 7-11" p.z.

Stage

Provisional

State and transition model

Ecosystem states



State 1 Reference State

This site has a plant community 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 predominance of warm season grasses with shrubs, half shrubs, and cool season grasses.

State 2 Eroded Shrub State

Plant species most likely to invade or increase on this site when it deteriorates are broom snakeweed, rabbit brush, and annuals. Soil cover is minimal leading to erosion.

Transition T1A State 1 to 2

Slow drivers such as repetitive, high utilization of palatable species, especially during drought decreases plant vigor and cover. This leads to increased bare ground, accelerated erosion and invasion by introduced annuals.

Restoration pathway R2A State 2 to 1

A slow restoration of soil, plant and hydrologic processes.

Citations