

Ecological site group GX070A01XESG02

Shallow

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Key Characteristics

- Site does not meet criteria in 1a.
- Root-restrictive layer occurs within 50 cm of the soil surface.

Physiography

This site occurs on landform positions where soils are shallow to root-restrictive layers. Common examples are escarpments and structural benches. Stream channels with exposed bedrock are excluded from this group, and correlate to the Run-On Group instead.

Soil features

Soils are shallow (< 20") to a root-restrictive layer such as lithic contact (sandstone, limestone, basalt), paralithic contact (weathered shale), or petrocalcic materials (layers that are cemented by carbonates).

Major Land Resource Area

MLRA 070A

Canadian River Plains and Valleys

Subclasses

- F070AY020NM–Juniperus monosperma-Pinus edulus/Bouteloua gracilis-Bouteloua curtipendula
- F070AY021NM–Pinus edulus-Juniperus monosperma/Quercus gambelii/Bouteloua curtipendula
- F070AY022NM–Pinus ponderosa-Juniperus scopulorum/Quercus gambelii
- R070AY003NM–Shallow Upland
- R070AY005NM–Shallow Sandstone
- R070AY008NM–Sandstone Breaks
- R070AY009NM–Shale Hills
- R070AY014NM–Hills
- R070AY015NM–Shallow Shale
- R070AY019NM–Shallow Savanna

Stage

Provisional

Contributors

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State and transition model

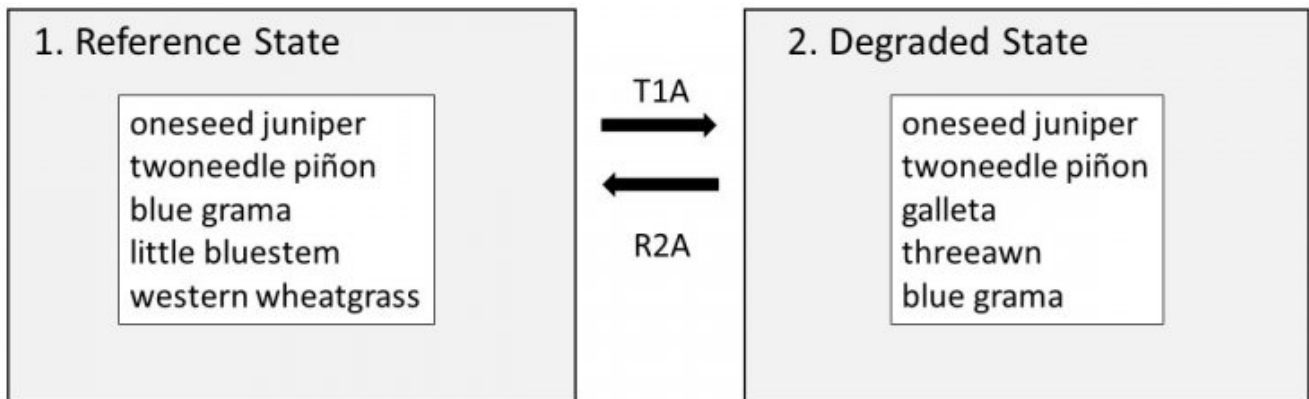


Figure .

**State 1
Reference State**

This state represents relatively late-seral conditions in terms of grazing response. Highly palatable "decreasers" such as western wheatgrass and little bluestem are well-represented.

**State 2
Degraded State**

This state represents relatively early-seral conditions in terms of grazing response. Highly palatable "decreasers" such as western wheatgrass and little bluestem are either poorly represented or absent. Where soils are derived from either shale and not armored by surface fragments, erosion is quite evident in this state.

**Transition T1A
State 1 to 2**

This transition represents a prolonged period of season-long grazing providing little rest and recovery for preferred grazed plants during critical growing periods, coupled with high utilization. Drought may accelerate this transition.

**Restoration pathway R2A
State 2 to 1**

This pathway represents practices which facilitate the recovery of palatable species. A considerable period of prescribed and/ or deferred grazing will likely be necessary, and seeding might also be required. In cases where soils have been eroded, recovery of topsoil will be a long and energy-intensive endeavor.

Citations