

Area 7

DRAM

RANGE SITE DESCRIPTIONS

PE 25-31

Land Resource Area High Plains

1. TOPOGRAPHY AND ELEVATION: This site occurs on nearly level flood-plains and flat drains. Slopes range from 0 to 1 percent. Elevation ranges from 2600 - 3800 feet.
2. SOILS:
 - a. These are deep clay loam and fine sandy loam soils. They absorb water at a moderate rate and have high moisture and fertility holding capacities. These soils receive more outside water from higher lying adjacent sites than from upstream.
 - b. Some soil taxonomic units which characterize this site are: Spur clay loam and fine sandy loam, Loamy Alluvial Land and Bippus clay loam.
 - c. Specific site location:
3. CLIMATE- See Field Office Climatic Description
4. CLIMAX VEGETATION:
 - a. The climax plant community is materially affected by the additional moisture this site receives due to the runoff from adjacent areas. The site occurs as narrow draws and drainage areas with vegetation consisting primarily of mid grasses with an absence of brush species.

MAY 30 1979

Relative Percentage

<u>Grasses</u>	<u>95%</u>	<u>Forbs</u>	<u>5%</u>	<u>Woody</u>	<u>T</u>
Sideoats grama	20	Englemann daisy		Catclaw	
Little bluestem	5	Bush sunflower		Hackberry	
Blue grama	10	Louisiana sagewort			
Feathery bluestem	10	Heath aster			
Vine-mesquite	10	Gaura species			
White tridens	5	Catclaw sensitive-			
Tobosagrass	5	briar			
Western wheatgrass	5	Western ragweed			
Indiangrass		Iron weed			
Switchgrass	5				
Sand bluestem	T				
Plains bristlegrass	5				
Arizona cottontop					
Buffalograss	10				
Sand dropseed					
Canada wildrye					
Hooded windmill-	5				
grass					
Perennial threeawn					

- b. Following continuous heavy grazing, sideoats grama, feathery bluestems and vine-mesquite are replaced by an increase in buffalograss and blue grama. Further deterioration of the vegetation results in an invasion of broom snakeweed and woody species of brush such as mesquite and catclaw.
- c. Approximate total annual air dry yield of the site in excellent condition ranges from 1800 pounds per acre to 3200 pounds per acre depending on rainfall.

- 5. WILDLIFE NATIVE TO THE SITE: The vegetative and physical characteristics of this site limits the presence of large games animals. Antelope may be present in small numbers. Plants which provide suitable food and escape cover are missing. Dove, quail, and pheasant are found in small numbers. Food, cover and nesting and brooding areas are provided by several of the plants found in this site.
- 6. AESTHETIC AND RELATED VALUES: Due to lack of any woody vegetation and its location on the landscape, this site has limited aesthetic values. Where brush has invaded, there is some wildlife cover available.
- 7. HYDROLOGIC CHARACTERISTICS: Because of their flood plain position, these soils receive extra runoff water from upland sites and some accumulation of silt. Areas where plant cover has been removed is subject to water erosion during flood periods.

8. GUIDE TO INITIAL STOCKING RATE:

a.	<u>Condition Class</u>	<u>Percent Climax Vegetation</u>	<u>AC/AU/YL</u>
	Excellent	76-100	14-20
	Good	51-75	15-26
	Fair	26-50	24-40
	Poor	0-25	35+
b.	<u>Seeded Areas:</u>	<u>Percent Ground Cover</u>	
	All Seedings	100-76 75-51 50-26 25-0	
	AC/AU/YL	12-16 16-24 24-30 30+	

9. RELATIVE FORAGE VALUE OF SPECIES:

a.	<u>Cattle:</u>		
	<u>PRIMARY</u>	<u>SECONDARY</u>	<u>LOW VALUE</u>
	Plains bristlegrass	White tridens	Annuals
	Sideoats grama	Sand dropseed	Catclaw
	Buffalograss	Silver bluestem	Threeawns
	Vine-mesquite	Forbs	
	Blue grama		
	Arizona cottontop		
	Western wheatgrass		
b.	<u>Quail & Dove</u>		
	<u>PRIMARY</u>	<u>SECONDARY</u>	<u>LOW VALUE</u>
	Plains bristlegrass	Dropseeds	Threeawn
	Croton	Sideoats grama	Bluestems
	Ragweed		
	Panicums		
	Annual forbs		

DATE: _____

APPROVED BY: _____

MAY 30 1979