

DRAW
DESERT SHRUB
RANGE SITE DESCRIPTION

Land Resource Area Trans-Pecos

Location _____

Date January 1, 1972

1. TOPOGRAPHY AND ELEVATION: This site usually occurs as narrow overflowed draws which receive runoff water from adjoining sites and is so situated as to overflow from even small rains. Slopes range from flat to nearly level, 0 to 1 percent. Elevations range from 2500 to 4500 feet.

2. SOILS:

a. The soil of this site is a deep, calcareous loam formed in recent alluvium in small streams and draws. It takes water moderately fast and has a high available water holding capacity. The soil has a good plant-soil-air-moisture relationship. This in conjunction with the extra moisture received, makes this site highly productive. If unprotected by plant cover, the soils crust badly and water erosion becomes a problem.

b. A soil taxonomic unit which characterizes this site is:
Mimbres loam

c. Specific site location:

3. CLIMAX VEGETATION:

a. The climax plant community is made up of short and mid grasses associated with shrubs. Vegetation varies greatly due to variability of overflow, and soil. Fire may have been a factor in suppressing woody shrubs in the past.

RELATIVE PERCENTAGE

<u>Grasses</u>	80% <u>Woody</u>	15% <u>Forbs</u>	5%
Bush muhly	Kidneywood	Rough menodora	
Blue grama	40 Butterflybush	Globemallow	
Sideoats grama	Range & white ratany	Gaura	
Cane bluestem	Fourwing saltbush	Pepperweed	3
	Guayacan	Desert holly	
Vine-mesquite	Skeletonleaf	Croton	
Twoflower trichloris	goldeneye	10 Goldenweed	
White tridens	Oldman's beard		
Plains bristlegrass	15 Elbowbush	Annuals	2
Whiplas pappusgrass	Apacheplume		
Pink pappusgrass	Mesquite		
Alkali sacaton	Spiney hackberry		
Tobosa	Tarbush		
	Whitethorn acacia	5	
Black grama	5 Cacti		
Spidergrass	Whitebrush		
Fall witchgrass			
	Creosotebush	T	
Ear muhly			
Burrograss			
Sand muhly	10		
Sand dropseed			
Spike dropseed			
Mesa dropseed			

b. As retrogression occurs, there is an increase in tobosa, alkali sacaton, and dropseeds. With continued retrogression, there will be an invasion of woody species such as tarbush and mesquite. Fluffgrass and annual forbs and grasses also invade and increase.

c. Approximate total annual yield of this site in excellent condition ranges from 500 pounds in poor years to 1200 pounds of air-dry herbage in good years.

4. WILDLIFE NATIVE TO THE SITE: The site is inhabited by dove, quail, antelope and deer. Several of the woody plants, forbs, and grasses which grow on the site provide good cover, browse, mast and seeds for game birds and animals, as well as non-game species.

5. GUIDE TO INITIAL STOCKING RATE:

<u>Condition Class</u>	<u>Climax Vegetation</u>	<u>Ac/AU/Yr.L.</u>	<u>AU/Sec/Yr.L.</u>
Excellent	76-100	32-53	12-20
Good	51-75	40-80	8-16
Fair	26-50	58-107	6-11
Poor	0-25	80-213	3-8

RELATIVE FORAGE QUALITY OF SPECIES 1/

a. Cattle

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Sideoats grama	Tobosa	Burrograss
Vine mesquite	Alkali sacaton	Fluffgrass
Blue grama	Black grama	Ear muhly
Bush muhly	Sand dropseed	Annuals
Cane bluestem	Spike dropseed	Mesquite
Plains bristlegrass	Butterflybush	Tarbush
	Fourwing saltbush	Creosotebush
	Apacheplume	

b. Antelope

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Globemallow	Sideoats grama	Burrograss
Plains bristlegrass	Halls panicum	Most other grasses
Guara	Skeletonleaf	Mesquite
Pepperweed	goldeneye	Tarbush
Menodora	Blue grama	Creosotebush
Butterflybush		
Fourwing saltbush		
Apacheplume		
Some annual forbs		

c. Deer

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Butterflybush	Skeletonleaf	Creosotebush
Fourwing saltbush	goldeneye	Tarbush
Oldman's beard	Sideoats grama	Tobosa
Apacheplume	Sideoats grama	Burrograss
Menodora	Plains bristlegrass	
Gaura	Mast of cacti	
Globemallow		
Pepperweed		
Some annual forbs		

d. Dove and Quail

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Seed of:	Seed of:	Seed of:
Vine-mesquite	Dropseeds	Most other grasses
Plains bristlegrass	Broomweed	
Annual forbs		
Mast of woody plants		

1/ Definitions of terms and an explanation of interpretations is given on a separate page which is attached or submitted with each group of range site descriptions.

e. Javelina

Primary

Pricklypear
Cholla
Mesquite beans
Roots of perennial
grasses and forbs
Roots of fourwing
saltbush

Secondary

Perennial grasses

Low Value

Annual grasses
Annual forbs
Creosotebush