

SHALLOW DIVIDE  
DESERT SHRUB  
RANGE SITE DESCRIPTION

Land Resource Area Edwards Plateau

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Date January 1, 1972

1. TOPOGRAPHY AND ELEVATION: This site usually occurs on divides or mesas. Slopes range from nearly flat to gently rolling, 0 to 3 percent. Elevations usually range from 2000 to 3000 feet.
2. SOILS:
  - a. These soils are shallow gravelly clay loams and stony clay loams. The gravelly is lime coated and makes up approximately 20 percent by volume of the soil profile. This is usually underlain by semi-indurated caliche and lime coated gravel at a depth of 10 to 14 inches. If unprotected by plant cover, the soils tend to crust badly, thereby inhibiting infiltration, contributing to high runoff and causing sheet and gully erosion to become severe.
  - b. Soil taxonomic units which characterize this site are:
  - c. Specific site location:
3. CLIMAX VEGETATION:
  - a. The climax vegetation is characterized by sparse stands of warm season bunch and stoloniferous grasses with associated forbs and woody plants.

RELATIVE PERCENTAGE

<u>Grasses</u>	85%	<u>Woody</u>	10%	<u>Forbs</u>	5%
Black grama	30	Skeletonleaf		Bushsunflower	
Chino grama		goldeneye	4	Orange zexmenia	5
Perennial threeawns	15	Sotol	3	Verbena species	
Slim & rough tridens	10	Feather dalea	3	Perennial croton	
Sand dropseed	5	Range ratany			
Burrograss	5				
Halls panicum	5	Kidneywood			
Bush muhly	5	Mariola	T		
Hairy tridens	5	Vine ephedra			
Red grama					
Sideoats grama					
Cane bluestem					
Plains bristlegrass	T				
Green sprangletop					

- b. As retrogression occurs, annuals, fluffgrass, ear muhly, broom snakeweed, dogweed, creosotebush, ocotillo, pricklypear and tasjeillo invade this site. Perennial vegetative cover becomes more sparse and large bare areas exist with only seasonal annual plant cover.
- c. Approximate total annual yield of this site in excellent condition varies from approximately 300 pounds per acre, air-dry herbage, in unfavorable years to 450 pounds in favorable years.
4. WILDLIFE NATIVE TO THE SITE: Deer, dove, quail and javelina are the principal wildlife species of this site. Both mule deer and white-tailed deer are common to the site. Lack of abundant, woody escape cover is a limiting factor for the white-tailed deer. Dove (migratory) and quail populations fluctuate greatly from year to year.
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	75-100	43-54	10-15
Good	51-75	49-128	5-13
Fair	26-50	80-213	3-8
Poor	0-25	150-0	0-4

RELATIVE FORAGE QUALITY OF SPECIES     1/

a. Cattle

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Sideoats grama	Perennial threeawns	Burrograss
Cane bluestem	Slim & rough tridens	Fluffgrass
Plains bristlegrass	Sand dropseed	Ear muhly
Green sprangletop	Halls panicum	Broom snakeweed
Bush muhly	Red grama	Dogweed
Chino grama	Hairy tridens	Creosotebush
Bushsunflower	Skeletonleaf	Mesquite
Verbena	goldeneye	Mariola
	Daleas	Sotol
	Kidneywood	
	Range ratany	
	Orange zexmenia	
	Vine ephedra	

b. Sheep

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Bushsunflower	Cane bluestem	Perennial threeawns
Orange zexmenia	Bush muhly	Burrograss
Verbena	Plains bristlegrass	Fluffgrass
Skeletonleaf goldeneye	Green sprangletop	Ear muhly
Daleas	Halls panicum	Sotol
Kidneywood	Mariola	Cacti
Range ratany	Vine ephedra	Creosotebush
Sideoats grama		Ocotillo
Plains bristlegrass		Broom snakeweed
Hairy tridens		Dogweed
Chino grama		

c. Goats

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Kidneywood	Cane bluestem	Perennial threeawns
Skeletonleaf goldeneye	Chino grama	Burrograss
Daleas	Black grama	Red grama
Range ratany	Slim & rough tridens	Fluffgrass
Vine ephedra	Hairy tridens	Creosotebush
Bushsunflower	Halls panicum	Ocotillo
Orange zexmenia	Sand dropseed	Sotol
Verbena	Mariola	Cacti
Sideoats grama	Pricklypear	Broom snakeweed
Plains bristlegrass	Tasajillo fruits	Dogweed
Bush muhly		Croton
Green sprangletop		

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.

## d. Deer

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Kidneywood	Sideoats grama	Perennial threeawns
Skeletonleaf goldeneye	Plains bristlegrass	Burrograss
Daleas	Hairy tridens	Ear muhly
Range ratany	Fall witchgrass	Fluffgrass
Vine ephedra	Bush muhly	Chino grama
Bushsunflower	Green sprangletop	Black grama
Orange zexmenia	Mariola	Halls panicum
Verbena	Pricklypear	Broom snakeweed
Some annual forbs	Tasajillo fruits	Dogweed
	Mast of other woody shrubs	Ocotillo

## e. Javelina

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Pricklypear	Perennial grasses	Annual grasses
Tasajillo	Perennial forbs	Annual forbs
Cacti fruits	Sotol	
Roots of perennial grasses and forbs		
Mast of most woody shrubs		

## f. Dove and Quail

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Seed of:	Seed of:	Seed of:
Croton	Bushsunflower	Threeawn
Ragweed	Sideoats grama	Most gramas
Verbena	Tridens	Burrograss
Mariola	Orange zexmenia	Fluffgrass
Daleas	Mast of most woody shrubs	Bush muhly
Plains bristlegrass		
Fall witchgrass		
Halls panicum		
Annual forbs w/hard seeds		