

FOOTHILL SLOPE
MOUNTAIN SAVANNAH
RANGE SITE DESCRIPTION

Land Resource Area Trans-Pecos

Location _____

Date January 1, 1972

1. TOPOGRAPHY AND ELEVATION: This site occurs as nearly level to sloping fans and terraces of outwash material at the base of mountains and as fans and terraces of mountain valleys. Slopes range from 1 to 10 percent and elevations range from 5500 to 6500 feet.

2. SOILS:
 - a. Soils are deep, gravelly and sandy clay loams, well drained, moderately permeable and have a high available water holding capacity. Plant-soil-water-air relationships are good. Native plant cover is essential for sheet and gully erosion control on this site.

 - b. Soil taxonomic units which characterize this site are:
 - Hurds gravelly loam
 - Friends fine sandy loam

 - c. Specific site location:

3. CLIMAX VEGETATION:
 - a. The climax vegetation is predominantly mid-grasses with admixtures of short grasses, perennial forbs, and occasional woody vegetation.

<u>RELATIVE PERCENTAGE</u>			
<u>Grasses</u>	80%	<u>Woody</u>	15% <u>Forbs</u> 5%
Black grama	20	Graves oak	Menodora
New Mexico bluestem		Gray oak	3 Mexican sagewort
Texas bluestem	25	Emory oak	Perennial croton
Cane bluestem		Alligator juniper	Bushsunflower 5
		Pinyon pine	Hairy tubetongue
Sideoats grama	24		Milkwort
Blue grama		Apacheplume	
		Catclaw	1
Green sprangletop		Cholla	
Arizona cottontop	12		
Plains lovegrass			
Bull muhly			
Pine muhly	2		
Woolspike			
balsamscale			
Fall witchgrass			
Hairy grama			
Halls panicum	5		
Sprucetop grama			
Wolftail			
Spider threeawn	2		
Wrights threeawn			

- b. As retrogression occurs in the climax plant community, there is an initial strong increase and eventual dominance of blue grama, black grama, sprucetop grama, hairy grama, wolftail, halls panicum, and fall witchgrass, while dominant climax grasses decrease. Further deterioration results in invasion of annual species and woody plants, such as catclaw, juniper, cholla and pricklypear.
- c. Approximate total annual yield of this site in excellent range condition ranges from 1000 pounds per acre of air-dry herbage in unfavorable years to about 1500 pounds per acre in good years.
4. WILDLIFE NATIVE TO THE SITE: Deer, dove and quail inhabit this site, usually in conjunction with adjacent sites. Food species are abundant for these wildlife, but cover for deer is somewhat sparse.
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	23-30	21-28
Good	51-75	32-40	16-20
Fair	26-50	43-53	12-15
Poor	0-25	53-80	8-12

RELATIVE FORAGE QUALITY OF SPECIES 1/

a. Cattle

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Texas bluestem	Blue grama	Halls panicum
New Mexico bluestem	Pine muhly	Sprucetop grama
Cane bluestem	Balsamscale	Wolftail
Sideoats grama	Fall witchgrass	Oaks
Green sprangletop	Hairy grama	Pinyon pine
Arizona cottontop	Spider threawn	Catclaw
Plains lovegrass	Wrights threawn	Cholla
Bull muhly	Apacheplume	Croton
	Menodora	
	Mexican sagewort	
	Bushsunflower	

b. Horses and burros

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Bull muhly	Blue grama	Juniper
Pine muhly	Black grama	Pinyon pine
New Mexico bluestem	Spider threawn	Catclaw
Texas bluestem	Wrights threawn	Cholla
Cane bluestem	Arizona cottontop	
Sideoats grama	Fall witchgrass	
Green sprangletop	Hairy grama	
Plains lovegrass	Halls panicum	
	Sprucetop grama	
	Oaks	

c. Sheep

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Menodora	Bluestems	Juniper
Mexican sagewort	Fall witchgrass	Pinyon pine
Bushsunflower	Hairy grama	Cholla
Hairy tubetongue	Black grama	
Milkwort	Arizona cottontop	
Some annual forbs	Plains lovegrass	
Sideoats grama	Halls panicum	
Blue grama	Sprucetop grama	
Green sprangletop	Wolftail	
	Spider threawn	
	Apacheplume	
	Oaks	
	Catclaw	

d. Goats

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Oaks	Mexican sagewort	Juniper
Apacheplume	Cane bluestem	Pinyon pine
Catclaw	Arizona cottontop	Cholla
Menodora	Plains lovegrass	Croton
Bushsunflower	Fall witchgrass	Bull muhly
Hairy tubetongue	Blue grama	Pine muhly
Milkwort	Black grama	Balsamscale
Sideoats grama	Spider threeawn	
Green sprangletop	Wrights threeawn	

e. Deer

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Menodora	Catclaw	Juniper
Mexican sagewort	Sideoats grama	Pinyon pine
Bushsunflower	Blue grama	Croton
Hairy tubetongue	Green sprangletop	Cholla
Milkwort	Plains lovegrass	Bluestems
Some annual forbs	Fall witchgrass	Muhlys
Oaks	Spider threeawn	Other grasses
Apacheplume		

f. Dove and Quail

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Seed of:	Seed of:	Seed of:
Menodora	Mexican sagewort	Bluestems
Croton	Bushsunflower	Black grama
Fall witchgrass	Sideoats grama	Blue grama
Oak acorns	Plains lovegrass	Other grammas
Pinyon pine	Green sprangletop	Muhlys
Catclaw		Balsamscale
		Threeawns

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.