USDA, SCS
Section II-E
Technical Guide
Area 23

IGNEOUS HILL
RANGE SITE DESCRIPTION
PE 19-31

Land Resource Area Rio Grande Plains

Location

Date 1/1/72

1. TOPOGRAPHY AND ELEVATION: The tops of these igneous intrusions commonly have slope ranges of 3 to 8 percent, while the extremely broken side slopes are usually in excess of 20 percent. Elevation of the surrounding plane is 1,100 to 1,300 feet.

2. SOILS:

   a. Soils of this site are moderately deep, slowly permeable, dark gray to dark grayish brown, neutral to mildly alkaline, stony and gravelly clays. Igneous rock fragments from ten to twelve inches in diameter cover 17 to 70 percent of the surface. Large outcrops of massive rocks are common.

   High rates of run-off are common on this site because of moderate to steep slopes. Soil erodes readily where it is unprotected by the rocks or vegetation. The soil material on this site is very fertile, and vegetation responds well to the growing conditions in the deep pockets and crevices. Woody perennials and deep rooted bunchgrasses are favored on these soils.

   b. Some soil taxonomic units which characterize the site are:

      Ingram stony clay
      Ingram gravelly clay

   c. Specific site location:

3. CLIMAX VEGETATION:

   a. Climax vegetation is characterized by mixture of mid grasses, forbs and woody plants with grasses dominant on the flatter slopes and woody plants dominant on the steeper stony slopes.

RELATIVE PERCENTAGE

Grasses	75%	Woody	15%	Forbs	10%
Sideoats grama	25	Guajillo	10	Englemanndaisy	5
Arizona cottontop	10	Kidneywood		Sensitivebruar	
Plains bristle-grass	10	Guayacan		Orange zexmenia	5
Feathery bluestem	10	Blackbrush		Prairie acacia	
Fall witchgrass	5	Condalia			
Slim tridens		Granjeno	5		
Buffalograss	10	Whitebrush			
Curlymesquite		Mesquite	T		
Texas wintergrass	T	Cacti sp.	T		
Perennial threeawn	5				

b. As retrogression occurs, woody plants such as Guajillo, blackbrush, whitebrush, and blue salvia will increase to form a moderate to dense canopy. Understory will retrogress to perennial threeawn, red grama, ragweed, and annual grasses and weeds.

c. Approximate total annual yield of this site in excellent condition ranges from 1500 pounds per acre in poor production years to 3000 pounds per acre of air-dry vegetation in good production years.

4. WILDLIFE NATIVE TO THE SITE: This site is used by deer, dove, quail, and javelina. Several of the woody plants, forbs and grasses which grow on the site provide good cover, browse, and seeds for game birds and animals.

5. GUIDE TO INITIAL STOCKING RATE:

a.

Condition Class	Percent Climax Vegetation	Ac/AU/Yearlong
Excellent	76-100	16-23
Good	51-75	21-28
Fair	26-50	25-35
Poor	0-25	36+

RELATIVE FORAGE QUALITY OF SPECIES 1/

a. For Cattle

Primary	Secondary	Low Value
Plains Bristlegrass	Guajillo	Blackbrush
Arizona cottontop	Kidneywood	Whitebrush
Sideoats grama	Perennial threeawn	Ceniza
Feathery bluestem	Fall witchgrass	Blue sage (Salvia)
Pink pappus	Slim tridens	Condalias
Englemanndaisy	Orange zexmenia	Granjeno
Prairie acacia	Buffalo-Curly mesquite	Cacti.sp.
Texas wintergrass		

b. For Sheep

Primary	Secondary	Low Value
Plains bristlegrass	Perennial threeawn	Blackbrush
Arizona cottontop	Guajillo	Whitebrush
Feathery bluestem	Buffalograss	Red grama
Sideoats grama	Curly mesquite	Hairy tridens
Texas wintergrass		Purple threeawn
Englemanndaisy		Cacti sp.
Orange zexmenia		
Fall witchgrass		
Annual forbs		

c. For Goats

Primary	Secondary	Low Value
Guajillo	Most grasses	Condalias
Kidneywood	Whitebrush	Blue salvia
Englemanndaisy	Blackbrush	Ragweed
Annual forbs	Cactus	
Arizona cottontop		
Fall witchgrass		

d. For Deer

Primary	Secondary	Low Value
Kidneywood	Most grasses	Blue salvia
Englemanndaisy	Whitebrush	Threeawns
Guajillo	Cacti sp.	Ragweed
Blackbrush		
Annual forbs		

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.

1/1/72