USDA-SCS
Section II.D.
Area _____

SALINE CLAY LOAM
RANGE SITE DESCRIPTION
PE 25-44

Land Resource Area: _____

Location: _____

Date _____

1. TOPOGRAPHY AND ELEVATION: This site is on nearly level to undulating upland areas. Slopes range from 1 to 8 percent but are mostly less than 5 percent. Elevations range from 400 to 900 feet.

2. SOILS:

a. Soils which characterize this site are moderately deep to deep clay loams or sandy clay loams with calcareous clayey subsoils. Permeability of the subsoil is moderately slow to slow. The soils are moderately to strongly saline in the subsoil. Streaks and pockets of gypsum and other salts are found in the subsoils. The moderately deep soils of this site are generally found on the summits and side slopes of hills and are gravelly in places. Rainfall intake is slow, and runoff is medium to rapid. Available water capacity is low to medium due to salinity of the subsoils. The site is slow to recover after the grass cover is removed as the soil crust retards rainfall intake and seedling establishment.

b. Soil taxonomic units which characterize this site:

Campbellton clay loam	Chacon clay loam
Schattel clay loam	Dant clay loam
Moglia clay loam	Charco loam
Pryor clay loam	Altita clay loam

c. Specific Site Location:

3. CLIMAX VEGETATION:

a. The climax plant community is an open grassland with a scattering of blackbrush or woody shrubs. Midgrasses are dominant grass species. The site supports some climax forbs, such as bundleflower and bush sunflower.

RELATIVE PERCENTAGE

Grasses	90%	Woody	5%	Forbs	5%
Pink pappusgrass Pinhole bluestem	30	Blackbrush Guajillo Condalia sp.	3	Bushsunflower Bundleflower Orange zexmenia Arrowleaf sida Sensitivebriar American snoutbean	3
Arizona cottontop Plains bristlegrass	15	Mesquite Spiney hackberry Cacti sp. Wolfberry Vine ephedra Desert yaupon Guayacon Allthorn	2	Annual forbs	2
Two & Fourflower trichloris	15				
Buffalograss Curlymesquite Sideoats grama	15				
Perennial threeawn Tobosagrass	5				
Plains lovegrass Fall witchgreas Bristle panicum Slim tridens Lovegrass tridens Texas bristlegrass	10				

b. As retrogression occurs, blackbrush, mesquite (many branched), and other mixed brush and cacti form a dense canopy. Common invaders to the site are red grama, Texas grama, Hall's panicum, leatherstem and goldenweed.

c. Approximate total annual yield of this site in excellent condition ranges from 2000 pounds per acre in poor production years to 4000 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. ESTHETIC AND RELATED VALUES: Due to the variation of the soil within short distances, the aspect of the vegetation varies greatly. Many plants have evolved an adaptation to salinity and may only be found growing on this site. The brush species are normally low and scattered giving the site an open appearance.

6. HYDROLOGIC CHARACTERISTICS: Because of the moderately slow infiltration rates plus the moderately slow to slow permeability of the soils of this site, moderately high rates of runoff occur. Moderate to moderately high erosion susceptability occurs. Denuded areas erode from high intensity rainfall creating gullies and siltation of streams.

7. GUIDE TO INITIAL STOCKING RATE:

a.

Condition Class	Percent Climax Vegetation	Ac/AU/Yearlong
Excellent	76 - 100	12 - 17
Good	51 - 75	16 - 22
Fair	26 - 50	23 - 28
Poor	0 - 25	26+

b. Introduced Species:

	Percent of the Area Established			
	100-76	75-51	50-26	25-0
Introduced grasses	11-15	15-21	18-25	24+

8. RELATIVE FORAGE QUALITY OF SPECIES 1/

a. For Cattle

Primary	Secondary	Low Value
Tourflower trichloris	Tobosa	Red grama
Pink pappusgrass	Curlymesquite	Texas grama
Whiplash pappusgrass	Buffalograss	Hall's panicum
Pinhole bluestem	Fall witchgrass	Annual forbs
Twoflower trichloris	Bristlegrass	Whorled dropseed
Plains lovegrass	Slim tridens	Texas varilla
Lovegrass tridens	Perennial threeawn	Palofoxia
Arizona cottontop	Bristle panicum	Fleabane
Sideoats grama	Texas bristlegrass	Silverleaf nightshade
Vine ephedra	Orange zexmenia	Upright prairie coneflower
Bushsunflower	Guajillo	Twisted acacia
	Desert yaupon	Mesquite
	Alkali sacaton	Allthorn goatbush
	Guayacan	Allthorn
	Kidneywood	Torrey wolfberry
	Bundleflower	Blackbrush
		Spiny hackberry
		Whitebrush
		Condalia sp.
		Cacti sp.

b. For Deer

Primary	Secondary	Low Value
Most annual forbs	Allthorn goatbush	Whitebrush
Vine ephedra	Plains bristlegrass	Most grasses
Texas kidneywood	Twisted Acacia	Mesquite
Bundleflower	Condalia sp.	Cacti sp.
Orange zexmenia	Guajillo	
Bushsunflower	Blackbrush	
Desert yaupon		
Guayacan		

1/ [illegible] explanation of interpretations is [illegible] which is attached or submitted with each group of range site descriptions.

c. For Quail and Dove

Primary	Secondary	Low Value
Bushsunflower	Desert yaupon fruit	Blackbrush
Bundleflower	Spiny hackberry fruit	Whitebrush
Bristlegrass	Torrey wolfberry	Allthorn
Panicums	Dropseeds	Allthorn goatbush
Orange zexmenia	Cacti sp. fruit	Other grasses
Most annual forb seeds		Mesquite
		Twisted acacia
Annual grass seed		Condalia sp.

d. For Javelina

Primary	Secondary	Low Value
Mesquite beans	Spiny hackberry (mast)	Allthorn goatbush
Vine ephedra	Blackbrush (mast)	Annual forbs
Guajillo	Condalias (mast)	Most grasses
Prickly pear pads and fruit	Twisted acacia bean	

e. For Turkeys

Primary	Secondary	Low Value
Cacti sp. fruit	Desert yaupon fruit	Blackbrush
Bristlegrass	Orange zexmenia	Whitebrush
Panicums	Bundleflower	Mesquite
Bushsunflower	Condalia sp.	Most grasses
Sideoats grama	Torrey wolfberry fruit	Allthorn goatbush
Foliage grasses and forbs	Spiny hackberry fruit	Allthorn