

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

This draft ecological site description is approved for field use and testing for a one year period beginning MM, YYYY.
Additional information and comments on this site should be sent to the Utah State Range Management Specialist.

STATE: Utah

SITE TYPE: Rangeland

ECOLOGICAL SITE NAME: Subalpine Semiwet Meadow (Tufted hairgrass)

SITE NUMBER: 047AY624UT

MLRA: 047A

Original Site Description: Author: DLT, DJS

Date: 12/16/1992

Revised Site Description: Author:

Date:

Approved by: Title: State Range Cons. Signed: Pat Shaver

Date:

Ecological Site Definition - A distinctive kind of land, with specific physical characteristics, which differs from other kinds of land in its ability to produce a distinctive kind and amount of vegetation, and in its response to management.

A. PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

(description narrative of this particular site)

1. SOILS

Depth: 40->60 inches

Surface Textures: Dark, Clay Loam

Surface Fragments(<=3" % cover, >3" % cover):

Subsurface Textures:

Subsurface Fragments(<=3" % vol, >3" % vol): 5-10%

Geologic Parent Materials: Alluvium from Sedimentary Material

Moisture Regime:

Temperature Regime:

Runoff:

Permeability(min-max):

Drainage Class(min-max): Very Poorly Drained

Water Erosion Hazard:

Wind Erosion Hazard:

Electrical Conductivity (EC in mmhos/cm):

Sodium Adsorption Ration (SAR):

Soil Reaction (1:1 water):

Soil Reaction (0.1 M CaCl₂):

pH Range:

Available Water Capacity (inches): 0.18-0.19

Major Soils Associated With This Site:

Soil Survey Area: 613

Furniss Family CL 0-3%

Additional information may be found in Section II of the Field Office Technical Guide.

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1. Potential Plant Community Description and Ecological Factors

The general view of this site is perennial grass and grasslike plants. The composition by air-dry weight is approximately 80 percent perennial grasses and grasslike plants and 20 percent forbs.

2. Plant Community Composition by Weight and Percentage

Grasses and Grasslike, %

Common Name	National Symbol	Group	Pounds per Acre		% by Weight of Total Composition	
			Low	High	Low	High
Tufted hairgrass	DECE		750	1200	25	40
Alpine timothy	PHAL2		150	300	5	10
Smallwing sedge	CAMI7		150	300	5	10
Columbia needlegrass	ACNE9		150	300	5	10
Slimstem reedgrass	CAST36		90	150	3	5
Timber oat grass	DAIN		90	150	3	5
Other perennial grasses	PPGG	1	90	150	3	5
Other annual grasses	AAGG	1	90	150	3	5

Forbs, %

Common Name	National Symbol	Group	Pounds per Acre		% by Weight of Total Composition	
			Low	High	Low	High
White cranesbill	GERI		150	300	5	10
Longstalk clover	TRLO		90	150	3	5
Common yarrow	ACMI2	2	30	90	1	3
Rocky mountain groundsel	SEST3	2	30	90	1	3
Other perennial forbs	PPFF	2	90	150	3	5
Other annual forbs	AAFF	2	90	150	3	5

3. Plant Community Annual Production

At the highest potential similarity index, this site will produce approximately the following amount of air-dry herbage, expressed as pounds/acre:

	Low	High
Favorable Year	3400	3500
Average Year	2900	3000
Unfavorable Year	2400	2500

4. Ground Cover and Structure

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a. Vegetative

Vegetation Type	Percent Canopy Cover	Height Range (ft.)	Percent Basal Area Cover
Grasses & Grass-like (perennial)	70	2	60
Forbs (perennial)	10	1	5
Shrubs			
Trees			
Cryptogams			

b. Other

Litter	
Coarse Fragments	
Bare Ground	

5. Ecological Dynamics of the Site

As this site deteriorates due to grazing pressure, alpine timothy decreases while yarrow and groundsel increase. Fire will temporarily allow the forbs to increase but the grass will soon regain control of the site.

Plant Communities & Transitional Pathways

(Show a steady state diagram with influences to move from one steady state to another)

6. Plant Growth Curves

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Percent Growth	0	0	0	0	10	30	40	20	5	0	0	0
Name	PNC											
ID Number	UT6201											
Description	Excellent Condition											

7. Aspect Differences Near MLRA Boundaries

(Give related range sites in MLRA's above and below)

8. Associated Sites Within MLRA

047AY660UT

Subalpine Wet Meadow (Sedge)

047AY610UT

Subalpine Gravelly Loam (Subalpine fir)

9. Correlated Sites in Other States

(Give site name and number)

D. MAJOR USES OF THIS SITE

1. Livestock

a. Site Factors Influencing Management

This site provides grazing for cattle and sheep during the summer and fall.

b. Guide to Forage Quality (Plant preference by season)

Species	Oct-Nov	Dec-Feb	Mar-May	Jun-Sep

VG = Very Good G = Good F = Fair P = Poor

2. Wildlife

a. Site Factors Influencing Management

Water, Food, and Cover

b. List of Potential Species Present

Wildlife using this site include moose, elk, mule deer, vole, rabbit, hawk, eagle, and weasel.

This is a short list of the more common species found. Many other species are present as well and migratory birds are present at times.

c. Guide to Forage Preference of Managed Wildlife Species

Wildlife Species →				
Plant Species ↓	Use	Season	Use	Season

Use - A = preferred or desirable
 B = some use, but less important
 C = little use or used occasionally

Season - F = Fall (Oct-Nov)
 W = Winter (Dec-Feb)
 Sp. = Spring (Mar-May)
 Su. = Summer (Jun-Sep)

3. Recreational Uses

Hiking and hunting

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4. Wood Products

None

5. Other Uses

E. THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

1. Plants

2. Animals

F. MODAL LOCATION AND DOCUMENTATION

State: Utah

County:

Latitude:

Longitude:

Modal Soil: Furniss Family CL 0-3% — fine-loamy, mixed Typic Cryoborolls

Type Location: NW ¼, NE ¼, SE ¼; Section 20, Township 3N, Range 11E

General Legal Description:

Field Office Site Location

Logan

Murray

Provo

Price

Richfield

Data Collected and References

Sampling Source	Number of Records	Range Similarity Index			
		> 76%	51-75%	26-50%	0-25%
NRCS - ECS - 417					
UTAH - RANGE - 2					
Permanent Transect Location					

Other References