

Condition description tables for Range analysis.

Cameron C&H.

EXISTING CONDITION	DESIRED CONDITION
<p>Range Management: 14 pasture “rest-rotational” system. On date June 1, off date October 31. 291 cow/calf pairs permitted</p>	<p>Range Management: Keep dates, numbers and AUMs the same. Rotate grazing schedule on the pastures. Develop water and pipe to tanks in the uplands. Manage for better distribution of the cattle and utilization of the upland forage.</p>
<p>Vegetation:</p> <p>Turret Pasture: Mixed native grass and forb communities provide with a variety of vegetative structures. Diverse mix of native upland and riparian graminoids and forbs present in proportion to moisture availability. Self-perpetuation riparian plant communities including sedges, rushes, wetland grasses, shrubby cinquefoil, willow and alder. 2004 grassland enclosure CF inside data shows double the species diversity, increase in litter, decrease in bare soil and significant decrease in plant density from historic data. Outside data shows 3 times the plant diversity, decrease in bare soil, increase in litter and a decrease in plant density. The decrease in plant density inside and out can be explained by a desirable species shift from blue grama dominance to preferred bunchgrasses.</p> <p>Spring Gulch Pasture: Mixed native grass and forb communities provide with a variety of vegetative structures. Diverse mix of native upland and riparian graminoids and forbs present in proportion to moisture availability. Self-perpetuation riparian plant communities including sedges, rushes, wetland grasses, shrubby cinquefoil, willow and alder.</p> <p>Aspen Pasture: Multiple age class stands of aspen with vigorous and diverse native grass and forb understories. Mixed native grass and forb communities provide with a variety of vegetative structures. Diverse mix of native upland and riparian graminoids and forbs present in proportion to moisture availability.</p> <p>Green Mountain Pasture: Mixed native grass and forb communities provide with a variety of vegetative structures. Multiple age class stands of aspen with vigorous and diverse native grass and forb understories. 2005 CF data shows good species diversity but lacking in warm season grasses. Amounts of litter and fringed sage are a little high probably resulting from drought conditions.</p> <p>Manoa Pasture: Diverse mix of native upland and riparian graminoids and forbs present in proportion to moisture availability. Mixed native grass and forb communities provide with a variety of vegetative structures.</p> <p>Pocket Pasture: Mixed native grass and forb</p>	<p>Vegetation:</p> <p>Turret Pasture: Maintain, continue to move toward, or start moving toward community type desired conditions that are outlined in Table 1. Pasture is moving toward DC.</p> <p>Spring Gulch Pasture: Maintain, continue to move toward, or start moving toward community type desired conditions that are outlined in Table 1. Pasture is moving toward or meeting DC.</p> <p>Aspen Pasture: Maintain, continue to move toward, or start moving toward community type desired conditions that are outlined in Table 1. Pasture is meeting DC.</p> <p>Green Mountain Pasture: Maintain, continue to move toward, or start moving toward community type desired conditions that are outlined in Table 1. Pasture is moving toward or meeting DC.</p> <p>Manoa Pasture: Maintain, continue to move toward, or start moving toward community type desired conditions that are outlined in Table 1. Moving toward or meeting DC.</p> <p>Pocket Pasture: Maintain, continue to move toward, or start moving toward community type desired conditions that are outlined in Table 1. Pasture is moving toward</p>

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<p>communities provide a mosaic of plants with species diversity and a variety of vegetative structure including Arizona fescue, Thurber fescue, needleandthread, muhly, prairie junegrass, and squirreltail. 2004 CF and photo point data shows good species diversity, good to higher litter, bare ground good with one site having a higher bare soil % and lacking warm season grasses. Grass component has been increasing with improved moisture regime over the last two growing seasons.</p> <p>Antelope Pasture: Mixed native grass and forb communities provide a mosaic of plants with species diversity and a variety of vegetative structure including Arizona fescue, Thurber fescue, needleandthread, muhly, prairie junegrass, and squirreltail. 2004 grassland exclosure CF data inside shows a large increase in species diversity, litter amounts about the same, an increase in bare soil and a decrease in plant density from historic amounts. Outside shows a large increase in species diversity an increase in bare soil, litter remained about the same and basal veg decreased from historic amounts.</p> <p>Ankele Pasture: Mosaic of shrub age classes and species including sagebrush and rabbitbrush interspersed with a variety of native grasses and forbs. Mixed native grass and forb communities with a variety of vegetative structures. Diverse mix of native upland and riparian graminoids and forbs present in proportion to moisture availability. 2004 shrubland CF data shows good species diversity across all classes, mix of warm season and cool season grasses and good bare soil and litter amounts. 2004 grassland photo point shows good species diversity and variety of vegetative structure. All plants appear to have reached maturity and produced seed.</p> <p>Ferren Pasture: Mixed native grass and forb communities with a variety of vegetative structures. Diverse mix of native upland and riparian graminoids and forbs present in proportion to moisture availability</p> <p>Upper Willow Pasture: Diverse mix of native upland and riparian graminoids and forbs present in proportion to moisture availability. Mixed native grass and forb communities with a variety of vegetative structures. Multiple age class stands of aspen with diverse and vigorous native grass and forb understories in including Thurber fescue and Parry oatgrass.</p> <p>Willow Pasture: Mixed native grass and forb communities with a variety of vegetative structures. Diverse mix of native upland and riparian graminoids and forbs present in proportion to moisture availability. 2004 CF data shows high species diversity and litter, low bare ground and good mix of grasses including Parry oatgrass, fescue and muhly.</p> <p>Ute Trail Pasture: Diverse mix of native upland and</p>	<p>DC.</p> <p>Antelope Pasture: Maintain, continue to move toward, or start moving toward community type desired conditions that are outlined in Table 1. Pasture is moving toward DC.</p> <p>Ankele Pasture: Maintain, continue to move toward, or start moving toward community type desired conditions that are outlined in Table 1. Pasture is moving toward DC.</p> <p>Ferren Pasture: Maintain, continue to move toward, or start moving toward community type desired conditions that are outlined in Table 1. Pasture is moving toward or moving DC.</p> <p>Upper Willow Pasture: Maintain, continue to move toward, or start moving toward community type desired conditions that are outlined in Table 1. Pasture is moving toward or meeting DC.</p> <p>Willow Pasture: Maintain, continue to move toward, or start moving toward community type desired conditions that are outlined in Table 1. Pasture is slowly moving toward DC.</p> <p>Ute Trail Pasture: Maintain, continue to move toward, or start moving toward community type desired conditions that are outlined in Table 1. Pasture is moving toward or meeting DC.</p>

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<p>riparian graminoids and forbs present in proportion to moisture availability. Mixed native grass and forb communities with a variety of vegetative structures. Multiple age class stands of aspen with diverse and vigorous native grass and forb understories including Thurber fescue and Parry oatgrass.</p> <p>Big Baldy Pasture: Mixed native grass and forb communities with a variety of vegetative structures. Diverse mix of native upland and riparian graminoids and forbs present in proportion to moisture availability. Self-perpetuating riparian plant communities including sedges, rushes, wetland grasses, shrubby cinquefoil, willow and alder.</p> <p>Midway Pasture: Mixed native grass and forb communities with a variety of vegetative structures. Diverse mix of native upland and riparian graminoids and forbs present in proportion to moisture availability. 2004 grassland exclosure data inside shows an increase in species diversity, decrease in litter and bare soil remaining about the same from historic amounts. Outside species diversity has increased 3 times the historic amounts, bare soil has decreased, litter has increased and plant density has increased from historic amounts.</p>	<p>Big Baldy Pasture: Maintain, continue to move toward, or start moving toward community type desired conditions that are outlined in Table 1. Pasture is moving toward DC.</p> <p>Midway Pasture: Maintain, continue to move toward, or start moving toward community type desired conditions that are outlined in Table 1. Pasture is moving toward DC.</p>
<p>Wildlife: Habitats – Upland Grassland/Shrubland, Riparian, and Forest Habitats</p> <p>T&E Species – MSO and Gunnison prairie dog</p> <p>FSS Species – Brewer’s sparrow, loggerhead shrike, Gunnison prairie dog, bighorn sheep, northern leopard frog, bald eagle, northern harrier, peregrine falcon, olive-sided flycatcher, Lewis’ woodpecker, three-toed woodpecker, flammulated owl, northern goshawk, fringed myotis, Townsend’s big-eared bat, hog-nosed skunk, and spotted bat</p> <p>Terrestrial MIS – Abert’s squirrel and elk</p> <p>Overall – Unlike other permits considered in this analysis, this permit/allotment is an “on-off permit” and has a considerable amount of private inholdings which in many cases receives heavy livestock use – especially in riparian areas and somewhat in closely adjacent/associated habitats (aspen and other forested areas, upland grasslands/shrublands). Livestock distribution and use is generally very concentrated and limited to a small portion of the allotment (approximately 15-25%). In general, water sources are limited in many areas and most are located riparian areas.</p>	<p>Wildlife: T&E Species</p> <p>MSO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Attain good to excellent range/habitat conditions within potential nesting, roosting, and forage areas, and provide for their recruitment. <p>Gunnison Prairie Dog:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protect and maintain suitable habitat conditions. <p>FSS Species</p> <p>Bighorn Sheep:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protect lambing areas during the spring (May 15 to June 30) from disturbance. ▪ Maintain in perpetuity temporal and spatial separation between domestic sheep/goats and native bighorn sheep. <p>MIS Terrestrial MIS</p> <p>Abert’s Squirrel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage mature widely dispersed and interconnected ponderosa pine stands which sustain Abert’s squirrel populations where potential exists.

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<p>Many other areas of the allotment receive very little or no livestock use. Plant species composition shifts from desirable (for wildlife) to less desirable species have been observed in many areas. Extensive watershed restoration projects (impoundments, plantings, seeding, terracing, etc) were completed within many areas of the allotment (in the 1940's-70's) have generally improved historically severely degraded habitat conditions. Precipitation is very low, (ranging from 10-18 inches annually, depending on elevation and location), which affects wildlife habitats and the capability of the allotment to support livestock grazing. Existing range developments (fences, stock tanks, pit, ponds, etc.) on the allotment generally lack wildlife escapement ramps/structures, and have not been constructed to be compatible with/for wildlife use. Poor to fair habitat conditions in some areas, good condition in others depending on livestock use and concentrations. Breeding/reproductive, cover/shelter, forage/prey, and dispersal/movement habitats for the below wildlife species/habitats have all been adversely impacted/degraded to varying degrees, primarily in riparian and associated forested and upland habitats.</p> <p>T&E Species – MSO (see Upland Grassland/Shrubland, Riparian, and Forest Habitats) and Gunnison prairie dog (see Upland Grassland/Shrubland) below.</p> <p>Upland Grassland/Shrubland Habitat – Approximately 20% of this allotment. Very little to no livestock use of much of these area. Good species diversity present in grasses and forbs, with a mosaic of vegetative structure in some areas and very poor in many others. Decadent grasses increase with distance from riparian. Bunchgrass species are generally decreasing throughout allotment and are absent in some areas. Species composition shifts from desirable native species (for wildlife) to less desirable species in many areas. High incidence of fringed sage in many areas. High incidence of bare ground in many areas. Low levels of litter in many areas. Some meadows are drying and decreasing in extent. Noxious weeds present in limited areas (Canada thistle). Past seeding (in 40's and 50's) with non-natives (crested wheat, smooth brome, and yellow clover) still present today. Good growth and regeneration of mid-late seral shrub species. Native grasses and forbs interspersed. Overall poor to fair habitat condition depending on location</p>	<p>Elk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintain or improve habitat conditions for elk. ▪ Maintain adequate forage and security cover year-round to allow CDOW to meet management objectives. ▪ Maintain and provide for movement corridors for elk that do not act as barriers/restrict movement or cause mortalities from range developments. ▪ Protect calving and other concentration areas. <p>All Habitats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce/eliminate the presence of noxious weeds to the extent possible. <p>Forest Habitat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintain/create forests with diverse age structure, late successional communities, openings, snags and down woody debris across forested areas; vigorous understory of native grasses (e.g., grama, needle and thread, junegrass, Arizona fescue, mountain muhly, mutton grass) and forbs where light allows. ▪ Perpetuate aspen communities with diverse age structure. Aspen areas shall include late successional communities, regeneration, openings, snags and down woody debris; vigorous and diverse native grass and forb understories shall be present. Protect aspen and other hardwood regeneration. <p>Upland Grassland/Shrubland Habitat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protect and maintain healthy upland grassland and shrubland plant communities that provides and maintains and/or enhances suitable habitat conditions for these species. <p>Riparian Habitat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protect and maintain healthy riparian and wetland plant communities that provides and maintains and/or enhances suitable habitat conditions for riparian dependant species. Provide habitats for viable populations of wildlife species.

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<p>and use.</p> <p>Riparian Habitat – Approximately 2% of this allotment (not including other ownerships). Most of livestock use and impacts are within these areas, and most of the riparian habitats occur on private lands. Poor-fair vegetation cover in some areas with concentrated use. Trampling of vegetation by livestock has been documented in some areas. Willow communities present and diverse in some areas, although many are heavily browsed/mushroomed and trampled with little regeneration present in many areas. Mid and late seral woody species lacking in many areas as well. Pedestaling is present in some areas. Severe downcutting present in some streams. Riparian and upland graminoids present, but with a high percentage of forbs. Riparian areas are drying and decreasing in extent in some areas. Riparian and adjacent upland graminoids present, but decreasing with a high incidence of forbs and Kentucky bluegrass. Some streambank trampling, pedestaling, areas of headcutting, and eroding banks caused by concentrated livestock use within narrow riparian corridors in some areas – some within private inholdings. Noxious weeds (cheat grass, Canada thistle) present in some areas. Several watershed improvements (impoundments) present. Benchmark in Willow Unit rated at functioning at risk. Poor to fair habitat conditions depending on location and use.</p> <p>Forested Habitat – Approximately 75% of this allotment. Very little to no livestock use of much of these areas except where adjacent to riparian areas where regeneration of aspen and hardwoods is being impacted in some areas. Mature stands of piñon/juniper forests in places. Diverse mix of native grass, forb, and shrub communities in the understory. Encroachment of piñon/juniper in meadows and grasslands. Aspen stands have a good understory of down logs, forbs and grasses present, a mosaic of understory grasses vary from vigorous to decadent. Ponderosa pine is infested by MPB in some areas. Bunchgrass understory is increasing as tree canopy cover is reduced due to insect infestations, timber harvesting, and prescribed burning. Tree density fairly high in some areas. Many areas are dead or dying resulting in higher numbers of snags/logs. Mixed conifer stands are mature, some evidence of mortality. Understory of down logs, forbs and grasses present, a mosaic of understory grasses vary from vigorous to decadent. Browse of aspen/hardwood saplings evident adjacent to</p>	

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<p>riparian areas. Overall fair to good habitat condition depending on use and location.</p>	
<p>Fisheries: In Badger Creek, multiple year-classes were captured at four survey sites in 2004, three within the allotment and one below the allotment, demonstrating a naturally reproducing, self-sustaining brown trout fish population. The Badger Creek watershed is characterized by highly erosive soils, making Badger Creek very sensitive to <i>any</i> natural or anthropogenic disturbance. Fine sediment, soil instability and low pool/riffle ratios have limited the fish population. A large flood in 2004 seriously degraded many sections of the stream. The stream is now establishing a stable, permanent channel in most reaches and producing extensive vegetation in the upper reaches.</p> <p>Mollusks: Presence of Rocky Mountain capshell snail or suitable habitat on the allotment is unknown.</p> <p>Aquatic invertebrates: Suitable habitat for <i>O. susanae</i> (large springs) does not exist on the allotment.</p>	<p>All aquatic species: Riparian ecosystems meet or move towards at least an upper mid-seral stage. Riparian plant communities are healthy and self-perpetuating. State and Federal water quality standards met. Stream channels and still water-body shorelines are stable and well vegetated with appropriate species. Suitable riparian habitat exists for viable populations of wildlife, fish and terrestrial and aquatic invertebrates.</p>
<p>Hydrology: Willow Pasture:</p> <p>Willow benchmark: Site visited July 19, 2005. Benchmark is located in Banning Cabin Gulch. At this location, the channel is entrenched and has two large headcuts that appear to be somewhat stable (based on photo observation). This is indicative of past disturbances and response to rainfall events. Large amounts of upland grasses were observed, and fairly good coverage in the channel and the gully side slopes can be seen in the photos. Older age class of willows present. Bedrock is near surface. Spring development 327 is located in the center of the benchmark; some moisture was observed by the crew near the spring area. A pump will be required to deliver water to the upland tanks if developed. While the crew reported this as non-functional, the ID team changed the rating to functional-at-risk, trend not apparent. Hydrologist concurs with this, and after further study of photos may even believe the trend to be upward.</p> <p>Water Developments:</p> <p>Existing: 6 pits 16 tanks 2 springs 1 quarry-pipe-tank (not in imp83.dbf)</p>	<p>Hydrology: Willow Pasture:</p> <p>Important to maintain the uplands and riparian vegetation in good condition in order to improve infiltration, and control the rate of overland flow into the gulch. Prevent the headcuts from migrating to the extent possible and practical; even consider a watershed improvement project to stabilize them if priorities, time and funding allow. Continue to manage to see an upward trend. Also consider other benchmark locations that may be more responsive to cattle impacts for this allotment.</p> <p>Water Developments:</p> <p>Existing unchanged: 4 pits 7 tanks</p> <p>Existing redeveloped:</p> <p>4 tanks each with pipeline to one tank One, 3-tank system with one additional tank piped into system 1 tank piped to 3 tanks 1 tank piped to 1 tank on private 2 pits each with pipeline to one tank 1 spring piped to 1 tank 1 spring piped to 2 tanks</p>

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<p>also another 15 existing developments on private land, yet in imp83.dbf. Two of these will pipe water to two, new tanks on NFS lands.</p>	<p>1 quarry-pipe-tank</p> <p>2 pits on private each with pipeline to one tank on NFS lands</p> <p>Proposed:</p> <p>1 well piped to 1 tank 3 springs each piped to 1 tank 1 spring piped to 1 tank (entire system on private)</p> <p>Summary:</p> <p>45 developed watering sites on NFS (if redeveloped sites are fenced (except for tank 336 system), then cattle would have access to 34 developed watering sites). 9.4 miles of pipeline constructed (NFS and private not separated).</p>
<p>Soils:</p> <p>Spring Gulch Pasture Key area CASGK1: associated soil type 122F, Cumulic Haploborolls, found on lower montane, dry and lower montane, valleys and have an effective rooting depth of greater than 40 inches.</p> <p>Green Mountain Pasture Key area CAGMK1: associated soil type 425M, Parkview - Bushvalley families complex, is located on montane, south facing upland plains, fans, pediments, and hills. The effective rooting depth of Bushvalley is less than 20 inches while the effective rooting depth of Parkview is greater than 20 inches.</p> <p>Turret Pasture Benchmark: associated soil type 122F, Cumulic Haploborolls, found on lower montane, dry and lower montane, valleys and have an effective rooting depth of greater than 40 inches</p> <p>Manoa Pasture Key area CAMAK1: associated soil type 110F, Cryoborolls Cryaquolls association soils are found in valley bottoms and have an effective rooting depth greater than 60 inches.</p> <p>Upper Willow Pasture Key area CAUWK1: associated soil type 110F, see above.</p>	<p>Soils:</p> <p>Continue to maintain vegetation cover on pastures with good ground cover, improve vegetation cover and reduce percentage of bare ground present in pastures with sparse or decadent vegetative cover. Continue to promote gully stabilization and healing, decrease amount of pedestaling, soil compaction, and soil trampling. Maintain and improve water table level. Maintain vegetation buffer zones adjacent to riparian areas.</p> <p>More specific direction includes:</p> <p>soil type 110F, Cryoborolls Cryaquolls association, Adjacent management activities can impact these wetland areas and require special considerations. Revegetating these soils with riparian vegetation requires maintaining a high water table. Buffer zones are required on adjacent map units to minimize impacts to wetlands.</p> <p>soil type 122F, Cumulic Haploborolls, Revegetating this soil with riparian vegetation requires maintaining a high water table. Lower montane and subalpine valleys have a high degree of biodiversity compared to adjacent areas. Management activities can impact these wetland areas and require special considerations. Trampling by cattle can cause soil surface compaction and rutting in wet areas.</p> <p>soil type 155F, Quander family, Mulch or similar</p>

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<p>Ute Trail West Pasture Key area CAUTWK1: associated soil type 110F, Cryoborolls Cryaquolls association soils are found in valley bottoms and have an effective rooting depth greater than 60 inches. Adjacent</p> <p>Midway Pasture Benchmark Key area CAMWK1: associated soil type 122F, Cumulic Haploborolls, found on lower montane, dry and lower montane, valleys and have an effective rooting depth of greater than 40 inches.</p> <p>Ankele Pasture Key area CAANK1: associated soil type 233M, Ess - Bushvalley families complex, found on mountains, mesas, and pediments. Ess soils have an effective rooting depth greater than 20 inches. Bushvalley soils have an effective rooting depth less than 20 inches.</p> <p>Big Baldy Pasture Key area CABBK1: associated soil type 110F, Cryoborolls Cryaquolls association soils are found in valley bottoms and have an effective rooting depth greater than 60 inches</p> <p>Key area CABBK2: associated soil type 122F, Cumulic Haploborolls, found on lower montane, dry and lower montane, valleys and have an effective rooting depth of greater than 40 inches.</p> <p>Willow Pasture Key area CAWIK1: associated soil type 122F, Cumulic Haploborolls, found on lower montane, dry and lower montane, valleys and have an effective rooting depth of greater than 40 inches.</p> <p>Key area CAWIK2 and benchmark: Immediately above and adjacent to riparian areas, there are areas of bare ground and trampling with possible soil compaction. In dry stream channel there is stream bank undercutting, channel entrenchment, and lack of bank vegetation. associated soil type 233M, Ess - Bushvalley families complex, found on mountains, mesas, and pediments. Ess soils have an effective rooting depth greater than 20 inches. Bushvalley soils have an effective rooting depth less than 20 inches.</p>	<p>treatment will protect the soil from erosion, help conserve soil moisture, and protect emerging plant seedlings.</p> <p>soil type 232S, Granile family, dry, Management activities are limited by steep slopes and erosion hazard. Trees are slow to return after a disturbance. Planting grasses and forbs have the best chance of success. Mulch or similar treatment will protect the soil from erosion, help conserve soil moisture, and protect emerging plant seedlings.</p> <p>soil type 233M, Ess - Bushvalley families complex, Mulch or similar treatment will protect the soil from erosion, help conserve soil moisture, and protect emerging plant seedlings.</p> <p>soil type 256M, Granile family, Mulch or similar treatment will protect the soil from erosion, help conserve soil moisture, and protect emerging plant seedlings.</p> <p>soil type 425M, Parkview - Bushvalley families complex, A generally dry site that may require Mulch or similar treatment to protect the soil from erosion, help conserve soil moisture, and protect emerging plant seedlings.</p>

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<p>associated soil type 232S, Granile family, dry, found on mountains and mesas, has an effective rooting depth greater than 20 inches.</p> <p>Ferren Pasture Key area CAFEK1: associated soil type 425M, Parkview - Bushvalley families complex, found on upland plains, fans, pediments, and hills with an effective rooting depth greater than 20 inches for both Parkview and Bushvalley soils.</p> <p>Antelope Pasture Key area CAANTK1: associated soil type 155F, Quander family, found on dry valleys, upland plains, and alluvial fans with an effective rooting depth of greater than 40 inches. Present vegetation is dominated by plants of the respective potential natural communities and introduced grasses and forbs.</p> <p>Pocket Pasture Key area CAPOK1: associated soil type 256M, Granile family, found on upland plains, pediments, and alluvial fans with an effective rooting depth of greater than 20 inches.</p>	
<p>Recreation: Recreation use is low to moderate with the major activities including driving/sightseeing, big game hunting, and disperse camping. There are no developed recreation facilities or system trails in this allotment. The Spring Gulch pasture is within the Browns Canyon Wilderness Proposal. Most of this allotment is interspersed with private inholdings. Old pasture fences that should follow private/forest service boundaries have actually followed terrain features making landownership confusing to hunters and other recreationist.</p>	<p>Recreation: Maintain compatible use with campers and cattle where campers are minimally affected by cattle’s waste and trampling, and campers are not blocking cattle paths. Recreationist are well informed they are sharing the land with cattle, and when to keep gates closed and open, depending on whether cattle are in the pastures. Range improvements do not conflict with recreation use, i.e. placing water improvements in highly desirable campsites and trails. As fences need major repairs or are approaching their life expectancy, should be rebuilt on the actual property boundary. Range management practices remain consistent with proposed wilderness values.</p>
<p>Forestry: Majority of the ponderosa pine forests has been infected with the mountain pine beetles, and the Douglas-fir forest have been affected by defoliation from the spruce budworm resulting in heavy mortality of both ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir trees throughout the allotment. Aspen forests are mature and most aspen stands are being encroached with a dense, sub-alpine fir understory. Lodgepole pine forests are mature and currently are only showing isolated infestations of the mountain pine beetles. Upland bunch grasses have increased in quantity and quality due to the decrease of overstory trees. Salvage timber sales,</p>	<p>Forestry: Maintain a healthy, mixed-conifer forest community of ponderosa pine, lodgepole pine, Douglas-fir and aspen with a dispersed age structure, openings, snags and down woody debris across these forested areas. Improve forest health conditions throughout. Perpetuate aspen communities with diverse age structures including late successional communities, regeneration, and openings. Maintain a vigorous understory of native grasses (grama, needle and thread, junegrass, Arizona fescue, mountain muhly, mutton grass) and forbs throughout these forest communities. Minimize the encroachment of conifers onto the</p>

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<p>firewood gathering and thinnings have occurred on some of the operable forests in the allotment reducing stand stocking levels, reducing the fuel loadings, and removing slash barriers that are affecting cattle movements in these upland forest grasslands. Understory forage conditions are expanding from the openness of the forest and are in good condition. Several prescribed burning projects have occurred and others are planned (+5years) throughout the allotment that will benefit the quality of the understory vegetation while also reducing the fuel loadings.</p>	<p>grassland types.</p>