Lower City Creek Pasture

Sept 1, 2010

(80 cow/calf pair 6/11-7/21 authorized in 2010)

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The forage within Lower City Creek Pasture is extremely sparse and bare ground predominates. Blue grama and other grasses were grazed very close to the ground, viscid rabbitbrush as well as bitterbrush were closely browsed, and Gambel oak <6' were heavily browsed. It is of interest whether any recent forage production estimates are available for Lower City Creek Pasture, given the closeness of browse of viscid rabbitbrush and bitterbrush; the grazing of blue grama to its base, and the browsing of Gambel oak. Forb seedheads were almost nonexistent except for lupine (avoided by cattle) or forbs sheltered within shrubs. The photographs below are representative of the pasture.

Fig. 1 Blue grama grazed to less than 1.5" (black line on 4" tab)

Fig. 2 Blue grama, bare ground

Fig. 3 Blue grama, bare ground, yucca

Fig. 4 *Eriogonum umbellatum* being able to flower inside yucca protection; arrow on browsed *E. umbellatu*

Fig. 5 six-inch bitterbrush closely browsed

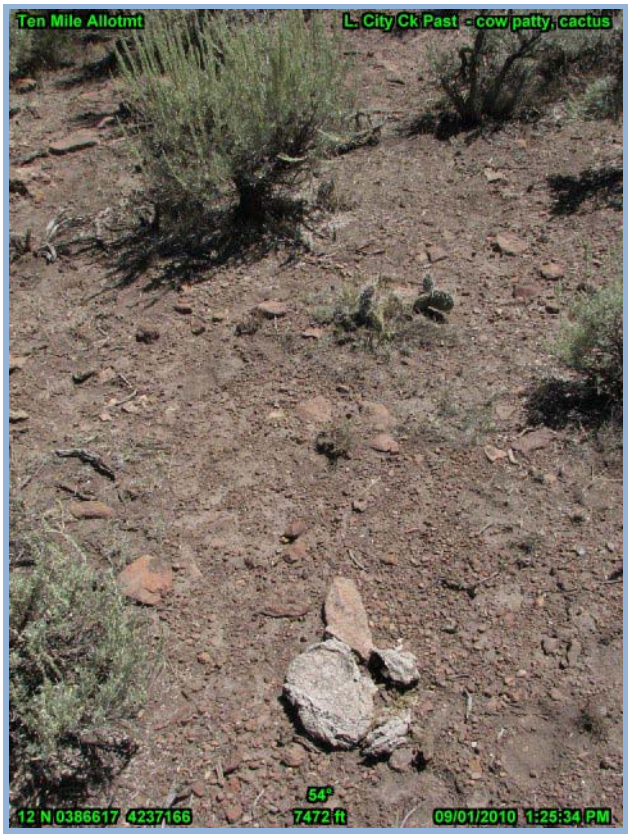

Fig. 6 Cow patty, cactus, bare groudn

Fig. 7 Closely-browsed blue grama

Fig. 8 Heavily-browsed *Chrysothamnus* (rabbitbrush)

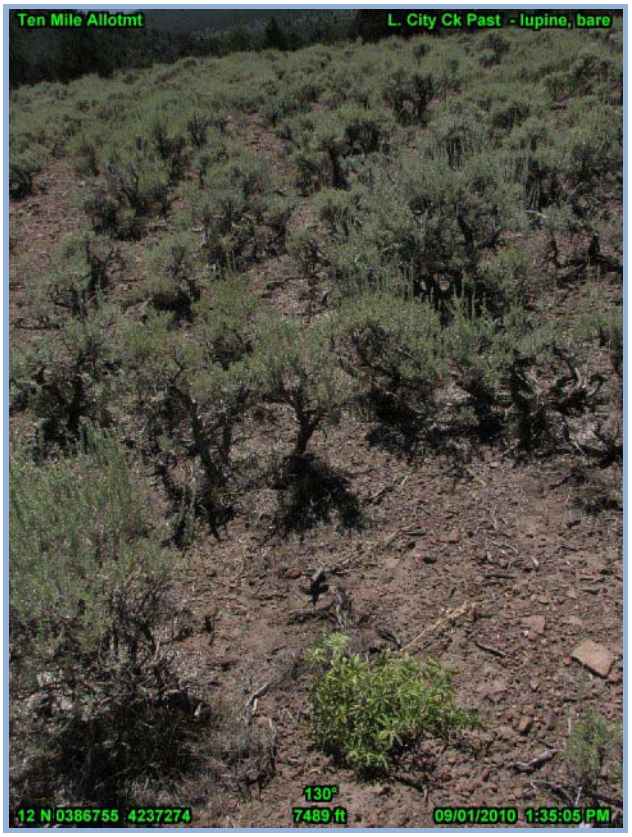

Fig. 9 Lupine, bare ground.

Fig. 10 Three-inch tall grasses under sagebrush

Fig. 11 Browsed bitterbrush

Fig. 12 Grazed blue grama, browsed bitterbrush

Fig. 13 Rabbitbrush with only two flowers

Fig. 14 Utilization cage; crested wheatgrass, one blue grama

Fig. 15 Utilization cage; bare ground outside

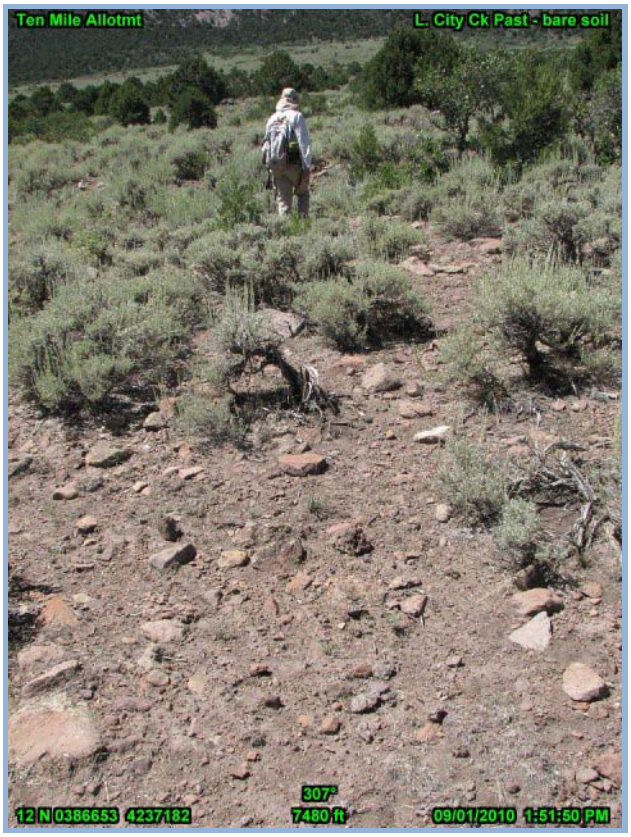

Fig. 16 Bare soil predominates

Fig. 17 Browsed viscid rabbitbrush
386311E 4237110N (UTM NAD 83)

Fig. 18 severely browsed viscid rabbitbrush
386502 E 4237241N (UTM NAD 83)

Fig. 19 Bare ground predominates

Fig. 20 Browsed viscid rabbitbrush
386500E 4237239N (UTM NAD 83)

Fig. 21 Bare ground with small patch of grass

Fig. 22 Browsed rabbitbrush about 1.5” tall.

Fig. 23 Mostly bare ground between shrubs

Fig. 24 Browsed Gambel oak

Fig. 25 Browsed scrub oak

Fig. 26 Mostly bare ground between sagebrush