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Range Appraisal

**SAMPLE**

**RANGE APPRAISAL VEGETATIVE TYPES**

**EAST OF THE CASCADE MOUNTAINS**

**IN**

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON**

District 6, U.S.F.S.  
Dec. 15, 1921

### VEGETATIVE TYPES

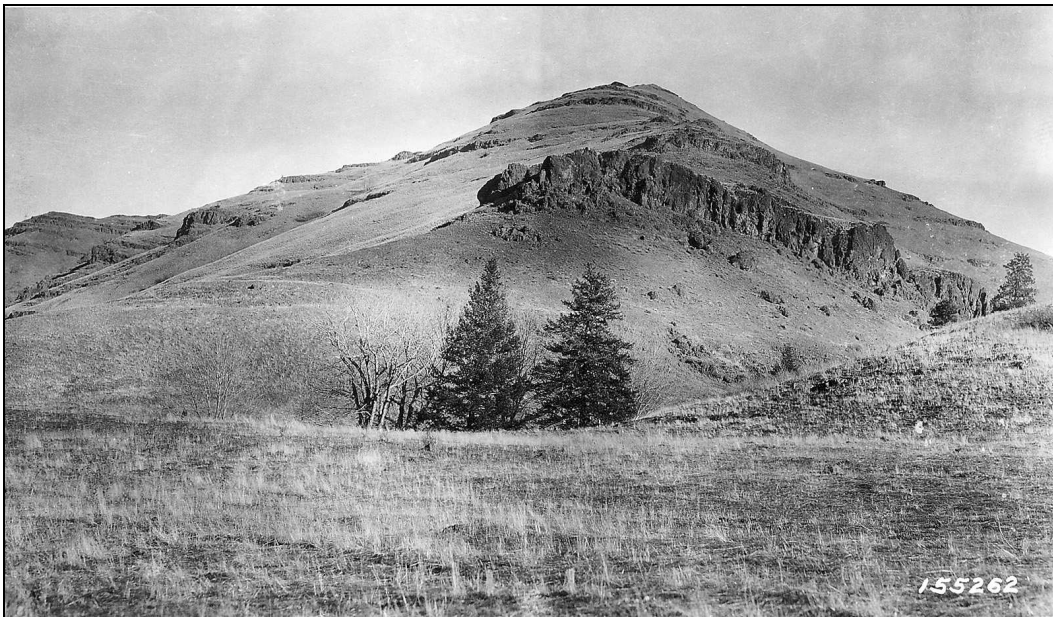
Ten main types and twenty-three sub-types for eastern Oregon and Washington are discussed and illustrated in the following pages.

The types and sub-types are as follows:

| Type No.<br>& Names                | Type Nos. and<br>Sub-Types    | Type Discussion*  |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| 1<br>(Grass)                       | 1Gr., 1Wd., 1Br.              | Untimbered areas consisting entirely of grasses or with minor amounts of weeds or brush in combination or alone.  |
| 2<br>(Meadow)                      | 2D., and 2W.                  | Dry meadow or wet meadow areas.   |
| 3<br>(Weed)                        | 3Gr., and 3Br.                | Untimbered weed areas with minor amounts of grasses and brush in combination or alone.  |
| 4<br>(Sagebrush)                   | 4Gr., 4Wd., and<br>4Br.       | Sagebrush areas supporting grasses or weeds or both in minor amount.  |
| 5<br>(Browse)                      | 5Gr. & 5Wd.                   | Browse areas supporting mainly brush species used for browse.   |
| 6<br>(Conifer)                     | 6Gr., 6Pg., 6Wd.,<br>and 6Br. | Conifer areas supporting grass browse and weeds singly or in combination. When grass predominates browse & weeds the type is 6Gr. in addition, when weeds or browse predominate 6Wd. & 6Gr. If Pine grass ( <i>Calamagrostis rudescens</i> ) predominates it is called 6Pg. |
| 7<br>(Waste range)                 | 7B., 7R., 7T., and<br>7BT     | Waste range among dense timber 7T (standing or fallen) brush 7B, rocky areas including cliffs & steep slopes inaccessible to range stock 7R. Waste range among a combination of dense brush and timber 7BT.   |
| 8<br>(Barren)                      | No subtypes                   | Areas barren of vegetation or practically so, such as talus slopes and lava beds; includes permanent lakes.   |
| 9<br>(Woodland)                    | 9Gr., 9Wd., & 9Br.            | Includes areas supporting typical stands of juniper & mountain mahogany or either species alone.  |
| An unnumbered<br>type (Overgrazed) |                               | Overgrazed areas. These may occur on any of the above types except 7 and 8.   |

For more detailed description see page 20 to 25 of standard F.S. Grazing Reconnaissance Outline of April 12, 1913, a copy of which should be in every Supervisor's Office.

Untimbered grass areas (1Wd. 1Br. types)



Grass Weed Type (1Wd.)

Photo No. 155262

Although there are some rimrock outcrops in the above grass type, they are not of great enough extent to justify recognition. If rimrocks were numerous and the area was accessible for grazing use, the type should be designated as a grass weed type with rimrocks (1Wd.R. R. type).



Detailed view of grass weed type. See page 3 for discussion.

Photo No. 155634

Untimbered grass area (1Wd. Type) Cont'd.

The detailed view of the grass-weed type on the preceding page shows the principal plant species in the type by number, which designate the following species: No. 1. Cous (*Cogswellia* sp?) 2. Squirrel tail (grass) (*Sitanion* sp?); 3. Little bluegrass (*Poa sandbergii*); 4. Western wheatgrass (*Agropyron spicatum*); 5. Rattle weed (*Astragalus* sp?); 6. Sagebrush (*Artemesia tri-dentata*); 7. Senecio sp?; 8. Cogswellia sp?; 9. Small larkspur (*Delphinium menziesii*). The foregoing is a representative type write-up for grass weed type. Grass types will vary in composition by species, depending on the location of the type and the proportions of grasses, weeds, and shrubs. It would be impossible in this text, due to necessity for brevity, to show photographs representing even the principal kinds of grass types.

Meadow areas ( 2D and 2W types)



Dry Meadow Type (2D)

Photo No. 155698

Dry meadow types consist of meadow like areas producing mainly true grasses with none, or but few, sedges or rushes. The areas are dry during most of the summer period.

Meadow Areas (2D & 2W types) Cont'd



Wet Meadow Types (2W)

Photo No. 155202

The vegetation on the wet meadow type consists mainly of sedges, rushes, and other semi-water loving plants. The areas are wet during the most of the growing season.

Untimbered Weed Areas (3Gr. & 3Br. Types)



Weed Types (3Gr.)

Photo No. 155702

Weed types frequently consist of overgrazed and "scab rock" areas.

Sagebrush Areas (4Gr. or 4Wd types)



Sagebrush Type (4Gr.)

Photo No. 155601

The principal plants in the above sagebrush type are sagebrush, the grasses consisting of Fescues, Poas, and Koeleria; the weeds of Potentilla, Lupine, Yarrow, Mallow, Small Sunflower, Tarweed, and Daisy. Where sagebrush is the main vegetation on an area, the type becomes distinctive and is classed as a sagebrush type, (4). When mixed in minor amounts with other brush species the area affected becomes a browse (5) type.

Browse Areas (5Gr. or 5 Wd. type)



Browse type in foreground (5Gr.)

Photo No. 155803

The above browse consists of bitter brush (*Purshia tridentata*), sagebrush (*Artemesia tridentata*), and grasses and weeds.

Conifer areas (6Pr. 6Pg. and 6Br. types)



Conifer grass type (6Gr.)

Photo No. 155276

Where grass predominates over weeds and shrubs among conifers the unit should be classed as a conifer grass type (6Gr).



Conifer Pine Grass Type (6Pg.)

Photo No. 155209

Where Pine grass (*Calamagrostis rubescens*) is the principal vegetation among conifers the unit should be classed as a conifer pine grass type (6Pg).

Conifer Areas (6Pg. 6Wd. And 6Br. types) Cont'd



Conifer Pine Grass type (6Pg.)

Photo No. 155244

The foregoing detailed pine grass type view shows the representative species which frequently make up this type. The main species in the photograph are No. 4 Lupine sp., 5 Snow-berry (*Symphoricarpus*); 6 Columbine (*Aquilega formosa*); 7. Pine grass (*Calamagrostia rubescens*); and 8. Yarrow (*Achillea lanulosa*).



Conifer weed type (6Wd)

Photo No. 155227

Conifer areas (6Gr. 6Pg. 6Wd. and 6Br. types) Cont'd



Another conifer weed type (6Wd.)

Photo No. 155210

Where weeds are the predomination vegetation among conifers the unit considered should be classed as a conifer weed type (6Wd.).



Conifer browse type (6Br.)

Photo No. 155161

There are several main varieties of conifer browse types. The one illustrated shows browse consisting of Bitter brush (*Purshia tridentata*) and sagebrush (*Artemesia tridentata*). Other types may have browse consisting mainly of huckleberry (*Vaccinum* sp.) or a combination of various other brush species.

Waste Range Areas (7BT and 7R types)



Waste range among dense brush and trees.

Photo No. 155759

Waste range also includes various areas such as those with dense fallen timber, large areas producing but little forage, and steep inaccessible slopes supporting vegetation.



Waste range on steep rocky slopes.

Photo No. 155278

Although the steep rocky slopes on the upper half of the picture produce vegetation, the vegetation is inaccessible to any class of range stock.

Barren areas (8 type)



Barren type (8)

Photo No. 155256

Talus slopes, rock outcrops barren of vegetation, and permanent lakes are classed as barren type. The permanent lakes need not be colored 8-type color, but should be figured in securing the area of barren type on any unit.

Woodland Type (9)



Woodland type (9)

Photo No. 155175

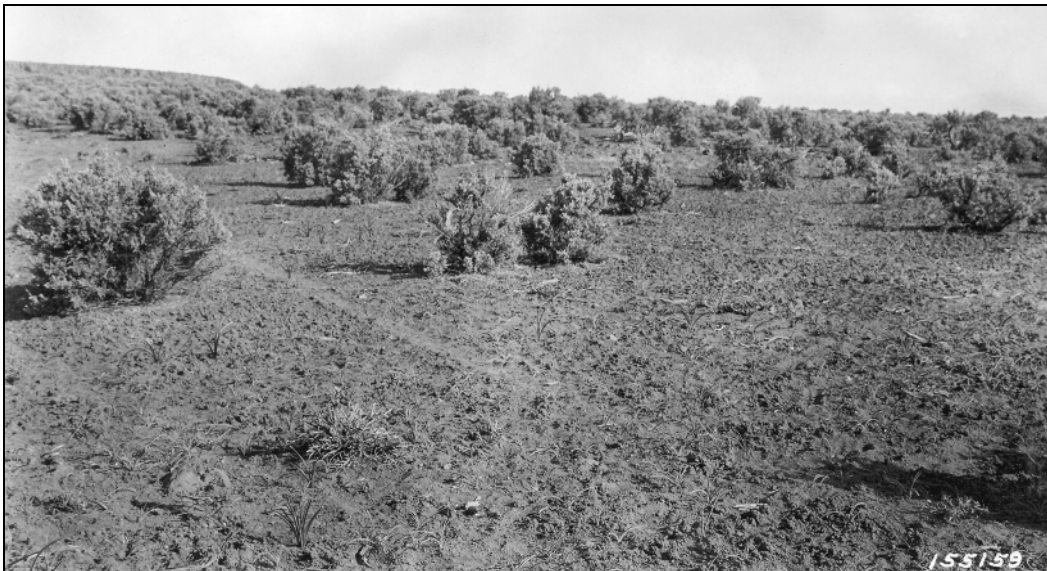
Consists of typical Juniper and Mountain Mahogany areas.

Overgrazed areas\*



Overgrazed grass types (1Wd)

Photo No. 155633



Overgrazed sagebrush type (4Wd)

Photo 155159

Abundance of annual weeds on an area act as excellent plant indicators of overgrazing.

\*May be indicated on any type except Nos. 7 and 8 by horizontal cross-hatching in the type color.

Overgrazed Areas Cont'd



Overgrazed (alpine) Mountain Bunch Grass.

Photo No. 155447.

(*Festuca viridula*) type. Absence of perennial grasses and presence of weeds indicates serious overgrazing.



Overgrazed Dry Meadow type (2D Overgrazed)

Photo No. 155246

Weed indicators of overgrazing are very evident.

Views illustrating field classification of vegetative types (Cont'd)



A grass type with scattering conifers (1Wd. S.C.)

Photo No. 155267

The type shown in the central foreground of this picture although it has a number of conifers on it, should be classed as a grass type (1Wd. S.C.) and not a conifer grass type (6Gr.).

Views illustrating field classification of the vegetative types (Cont'd)



Wet meadow (2W)  
Grass weed (1Wd)  
Waste range (7R) and  
Barren (8)

Photo No. 155261

In successive belts from the foreground just beyond the snow, the types occur as follows: Wet meadow (2W), grass weed (1Wd) from the meadow to a slight distance up the steep slope; waste range (7R) on the part of the slope inaccessible to range stock yet supporting some vegetation; and barren (8) along the summit of the ridge and on the talus slopes on each side of the summit.

Views illustrating field classification of vegetative types.



Conifer (6Gr.)  
Grass weeds (1Wd)  
Waste range (7R) and  
Barren areas (8) types

Photo No. 155187

The types represented in the above photograph should be classified in range appraisal as follows: The timbered area accessible to range stock is a conifer grass or a conifer browse type (6Gr. or 6Br.); the untimbered open area in the near foreground is a mountain bunchgrass (*Festuca viridula*) type (1Wd); the steep talus slope in the left background where the rocky dyke outcrops on the mountain top is a barren type (8); while the portion of the high basin area in the left background, which due to its ruggedness and steepness is inaccessible to range stock, is a waste range type (7R).