UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

ECOLOGICAL SITE DESCRIPTION

ECOLOGICAL SITE CHARACTERISTICS

Site Type: Forest
Site ID: F042XA001NM
Site Name: *Pinus edulis – Juniperus scopulorum*
Major Land Resource Area and Common Resource Area MLRA 42 / CRA NM-3
Precipitation or Climate Zone: Sandia/Manzano Montains 12-16"ppt
Phase:

ORIGINAL SITE DESCRIPTION APPROVAL:

Site Date: July 30, 2002
Site Author: Steve Lacy
Site Approval:
Approval Date:

REVISIONS:

Revision Date:
Revisor:
Revision Approval:
Approval Date:
Revision Notes:

PHYSIOGRAPHIC FEATURES

Narrative:

The pinyon-juniper woodlands are found from elevation 4,500 – 6,500 feet. The woodlands are somewhat open, moderately spaced pinyon and various species of juniper. Juniper trees are predominate on the lower and dryer slopes while pinyon prefer higher elevations.

LAND FORM:

1. foothills
2.
3.

ASPECT:

1.
2.
3.

	Minimum	Maximum
Elevation (feet)	4,500ft.	6,500ft.
Slope (percent)		
Water Table Depth (inches)		

Flooding:	Minimum	Maximum
Frequency		
Duration		

Ponding:	Minimum	Maximum
Depth (inches)		
Frequency		
Duration		

Runoff Class:

CLIMATIC FEATURES

Narrative:

This region of mountain foothills and lower slopes receive less rain and snow than the mountains. The majority of the annual moisture occurs during the summer monsoon season. Additional significant moisture is received during winter and early spring snows.

	Minimum	Maximum
Frost-free period (days):	80	145
Freeze-free period (days):		
Mean annual precipitation (inches):	12”	16”

Monthly moisture (inches) and temperature (^{0}F) distribution:

	Precip. Min. In.	Avg. Snowfall Total	Temp. Min.	Temp. Max.
January	0.63	2.8	15.3	44.8
February	0.98	1.5	18.8	48.4
March	1.07	2.8	24.6	56.9
April	0.90	1.6	29.8	65.6
May	0.78	-	38.4	76.5
June	0.89	-	45.5	85.0
July	2.47	-	54.2	88.1
August	2.45	-	51.5	84.4
September	1.59	-	44.3	78.1
October	1.56	-	32.5	68.6
November	0.81	0.5	24.0	55.0
December	1.19	4.6	16.4	45.0

Climate Stations:

			Lat	**Long**		**Period**		
Station ID	Tijeras Ranger Station	Location	3504	10623	From:	1962	To:	1975
Station ID		Location			From:		To:	
Station ID		Location			From:		To:	
Station ID		Location			From:		To:	
Station ID		Location			From:		To:	

INFLUENCING WATER FEATURES

Narrative:

Wetland description:

System	Subsystem	Class

If Riverine Wetland System enter Rosgen Stream Type:

REPRESENTATIVE SOIL FEATURES

Narrative:

Parent Material Kind: _____

Parent Material Origin: _____

Surface Texture:

1.
2.
3.

Surface Texture Modifier:

1.
2.
3.

Subsurface Texture Group: _____

Surface Fragments <=3" (% Cover): _____

Surface Fragments >3" (% Cover): _____

Subsurface Fragments <=3" (%Volume): _____

Subsurface Fragments >=3" (%Volume): _____

	Minimum	Maximum
Drainage Class:		
Permeability Class:		
Depth (inches):		
Electrical Conductivity (mmhos/cm):		
Sodium Absorption Ratio:		
Soil Reaction (1:1 Water):		
Soil Reaction (0.1M CaCl2):		
Available Water Capacity (inches):		
Calcium Carbonate Equivalent (percent):		

Soil survey associations:

This ecological site is associated with the map units and soil components in the following soil surveys. Future updates to this soil survey may affect these associations. For up-to-date associations between soil components and this ecological site, refer to NASIS. Associations between ecological sites and soil components are maintained in NASIS via the ecological site ID.

MAP UNIT NAME

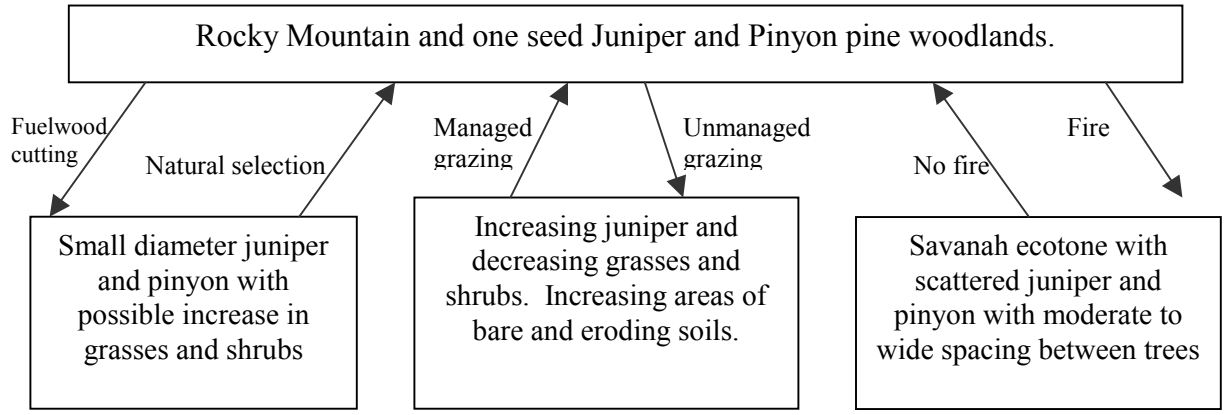
Soil survey	Map unit symbol	Soil components

PLANT COMMUNITIES

Ecological Dynamics of the Site:

Woodland vegetation is distinguished from forest vegetation by having smaller trees with canopies that do not overlap. Grasses are more prevalent since the trees are moderately to widely spaced. The terrain is dry and rocky and characterized by limited moisture.

Plant Communities and Transitional Pathways (diagram)



Interpretive Plant Community: Naturalized Plant Community

Ground Cover and Structure:

Cover Type	Percent Ground Cover by Height Class (feet)								
	<.5	.5-1	>1-2	>2-4.5	>4.5-13	>13-40	>40-80	>80-120	>120
Grass/Grass Like									
Forb									
Shrub/Vine									
Tree									
Lichen									
Moss									
Litter									
Course Fragment									
Bare Ground									

Forest Overstory Composition:

The typical forest overstory composition of the historic climax community.

Common Name	**Scientific Name**	**Percent Composition (percent by frequency)**
Rocky Mountain juniper	*Juniperus scopulorum*	
Pinyon pine	*Pinus edulis*	
One seed juniper	*Juniperus monosperma*	

Forest Understory Composition:

The typical annual production of understory species to a height of 4.5 feet (excluding boles of trees) under low, high, and representative canopy covers.

		Annual Production Per Acre Percent and Pounds (air-dry weight)					
		Canopy Cover Percent					
		80		**90**		**100**	
Common Name	**Scientific Name**	%	lbs	%	lbs	%	lbs
Gambel oak	*Quercus gambelii*						
Plains prickleypear	*Optunia polyacantha*						

Typical Climax Community:

The pinyon pine – juniper woodland consist of small to medium height trees with canopies that do not generally overlap. The woodland is found on semi-arid soils and has prickleypear and cholla cactus growing between the trees in some areas. Grasses are common unless the woodland becomes too dense.
In areas where the trees become too dense, groundcover is sheded out, leaving bare soil areas.

Plant Community: (as it exists today)

Moderately dense woodlands of pinyon pine and juniper (sp.). Grasses and cactus are common. Some Gambel oak present at higher elevations. Prickley pear cactus found between trees on bare ground.

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	Percent Ground Cover by Height Class (feet)								
Cover Type	<.5	.5-1	>1-2	>2-4.5	>4.5-13	>13-40	>40-80	>80-120	>120
Grass/Grass Like									
Forb									
Shrub/Vine									
Tree									
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Forest Understory Composition:

The typical annual production of understory species to a height of 4.5 (excluding boles of trees) under low, high, and representative canopy covers.

		Annual Production Per Acre Percent and Pounds (air-dry weight)					
		Canopy Cover Percent					
		75		85		95	
Common Name	Scientific Name	%	lbs	%	lbs	%	lbs
Gambel oak	*Quercus gambelii*						
Plains prickleypear	*Opuntia polyacantha*						
Total Annual Production							

Plant Community: (as it exists today)

ECOLOGICAL SITE INTERPRETATIONS

Forest Site Productivity

Common Name	Scientific Name	Annual Productivity (per acre per year)						
		Site Index		Cubic Feet (CMAI)		Other Units		
		Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Unit
Pinyon pine	*Pinus edulis*							
Rocky Mountain juniper	*Juniperus scoopulorum*							
One seed juniper	*Juniperus monosperma*							

Soil Survey Associations:

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Soil Survey	Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name / Soil Components

ECOLOGICAL SITE INTERPRETATIONS

Animal Community:

Mule deer, coyote, bobcat, fox, rabbit, ground squirrels, songbirds.

Plant Preference by Animal Kind:

Animal Kind: _____

Animal Type: _____

Common Name	Scientific Name	Plant Part	Forage Preferences											
			J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Animal Kind: _____

Animal Type: _____

Common Name	Scientific Name	Plant Part	Forage Preferences											
			J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Hydrology Functions:

Most rainfall runs off rapidly from the bare slopes. In areas where liter covers the soil, grasses grow better and thicker.

Recreational Uses:

1. Camping
2. Hunting
3. Hiking

Wood Products:

Firewood

Other Products:

Other Information:

Supporting Information

Associated Sites:

Site Name	Site ID	Site Narrative

Similar Sites:

Site Name	Site ID	Site Narrative

Inventory Data References (narrative):

Inventory Data References:

Data Source	Number of Records	Sample Period	State	County

State Correlation:
This site has been correlated with the following sites: _____

Type Locality:
State: NM
County: Bernalillo
Latitude:
Longitude: UTM S 03-71-848
Township: E 39-04-175
Range:
Section:

Is the type locality sensitive? Yes ☐ No ☐

General Legal Description: _____

Relationship to Other Established Classifications:

Other References: