

Major Land Resource Area 042B

Southern Rio Grande Rift

Accessed: 05/10/2025

Ecological site keys

LRU 42BF - Desert Foothills

I. LRU 42BF Desert Foothills. This LRU occurs in mountains footslope and foothills with elevation an elevation range of 5400 - 7100 ft. Annual precipitation ranges from 13-15 inches. Vegetation includes both Tree savanna, mixed shrublands, and mixed P-J Veg. Zone

A. Limestone Hills - Site gravelly to channery, soils high in carbonates derived from parent material such as limestone and dolomite.

1 Site typically shallow to deep gravelly alluvium soils. Vegetation is sparse shrubs of little leaf sumac or winterfat, and is dominated by grass understory of black grama, bluegram, tridens. Limestone Shrub Savannah ... R042BF801NM – Limestone Shrub Savannah, Desert Foothills

2 Site dominated by shallow gravelly alluvium, occurs at higher elevations or northern aspects. Vegetation is a mix of juniper and pinyon trees, mountain mahogany, with blue grama and Wolf tail dominating the grass understory. Limestone Hills ... R042BF020NM – Limestone Hill, Desert Foothills

B. Igneous Hills- Site cobbly to very cobbly derived from both intrusive and extrusive material.

1 Site typically shallow to deep alluvial cobbly to very cobbly. Gravels. Typically, the site has scattered juniper or oak shrubs with grass understory of blue and side oats grama, curly mesquite, tobosa and black grama. Igneous Shrub Savannah ... R042BF902NM – Igneous Shrub Savannah, Desert Foothills

2 Site dominated by shallow alluvium, occurs at higher elevations or northern aspects. Vegetation is a mix of juniper and pinyon trees, mountain mahogany, buckbrush shrubs and wolftail, bluegrama, and deer muhly grass understory. Igneous Hills ESD

C. Site very shallow to mod. deep soils of sandstone parent material. Sand Stone Hills ESD ... R042BF903NM – Sandstone Hill, Desert Foothills