

Map Unit Description

Douglas-Plateau Area, Colorado, Parts of Garfield and Mesa Counties

39 Fughes-Hesperus complex, 3 to 12 percent slopes

Setting

Elevation: 7400 to 7800 feet
Mean annual precipitation: 20 to 22 inches
Frost-free period: 75 to 85 days

Composition

Fughes and similar soils: 60 percent
Hesperus and similar soils: 25 percent

Description of Fughes

Setting

Landform: Terraces
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Parent material: Alluvium derived from shale and/or localized mudflow deposits derived from shale

Properties and Qualities

Slope: 3 to 12 percent
Drainage class: Well drained
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately low or moderately high (0.06 to 0.20 in/hr)
Frequency of flooding: None
Frequency of ponding: None
Calcium carbonate maximum: 0 percent
Gypsum maximum: 0 percent
Available water capacity: High (about 11.4 inches)

Interpretive Groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): 4e
Land capability (non irrigated): 4c
Ecological site: Brushy Loam (R048AY238CO)

Typical Profile

0 to 7 inches: clay loam
7 to 18 inches: clay loam
18 to 50 inches: silty clay loam, clay loam
50 to 60 inches: silty clay loam

Description of Hesperus

Setting

Landform: Alluvial fans
Down-slope shape: Concave
Across-slope shape: Linear
Parent material: Alluvium derived from shale and/or colluvium derived from shale

Properties and Qualities

Slope: 3 to 12 percent
Drainage class: Well drained
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high (0.20 to 0.60 in/hr)
Frequency of flooding: None
Frequency of ponding: None
Calcium carbonate maximum: 0 percent
Gypsum maximum: 0 percent
Available water capacity: High (about 11.2 inches)

Interpretive Groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): 4e
Land capability (non irrigated): 4c
Ecological site: Brushy Loam (R048AY238CO)

Typical Profile

0 to 7 inches: loam
7 to 60 inches: clay loam, loam

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Rangeland Productivity and Plant Composition

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Map symbol and soil name	Ecological site	Total dry-weight production			Characteristic vegetation	Rangeland composition
		Favorable year	Normal year	Unfavorable year		
		<i>Lb/Ac</i>	<i>Lb/Ac</i>	<i>Lb/Ac</i>		<i>Pct</i>
39:						
Fughes	Brushy Loam	3,000	2,000	1,500	Gambel oak	15
					Elk sedge	10
					Mountain snowberry	5
					Saskatoon serviceberry	5
					Slender wheatgrass	5
					True mountain mahogany	5
					Western wheatgrass	5
Hesperus	Brushy Loam	3,000	2,000	1,500	Gambel oak	25
					Big bluegrass	10
					Elk sedge	10
					Nodding brome	10
					Arizona fescue	5
					Mountain snowberry	5
					Needleandthread	5
					Saskatoon serviceberry	5
					Western wheatgrass	5