



FREEPORT-McMoRAN

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July 1, 2026

Certified Mail #70221670000184298836

Mr. Jonas Armstrong, Director
New Mexico Environmental Department
Water Protection Division
P.O. Box 5469
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

Re: Smelter Tailings Soils Investigation Unit (STSIU) – Chino AOC
Vegetation Monitoring Report, B Ranch Interim Remedial Action

Freeport-McMoRan Chino Mines Company (Chino) submits under separate cover the 5-year *Vegetation Monitoring Report* for the B-Ranch Interim Remedial Action (IRA), Smelter Tailings Soils Investigation Unit (STSIU) under the Chino Administrative Order on Consent (AOC). This report was submitted today to Mr. David Mercer, AOC Project Manager for the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED).

Please contact Ms. Pam Pinson at (575) 912-5213 if you have any questions regarding this quantitative vegetation survey report.

Sincerely,

Sherry Burt-Kested, Manager
NMO Environmental Services

SBK:wk
Enclosures
20260626-002

cc: David Mercer, NMED
Joseph Fox, NMED
Michael Boulay, NMED
Erica Almance, US EPA
Mike Steward, FCX
Pamela Pinson, Chino



REPORT

2025 Quantitative Vegetation Monitoring

B Ranch Interim Remedial Action (IRA)

Submitted to:

Freeport-McMoRan Chino Mines Company

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Submitted by:

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June 15, 2026



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Freeport-McMoRan Chino Mines Company (Chino) conducted an interim remedial action (IRA) at the B Ranch within the Smelter/Tailing Soils Investigation Unit (STSIU) under the Administrative Order on Consent (AOC). Chino entered into the AOC voluntary agreement with the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) in 1994. The STSIU is one of several investigation units established under the AOC to address potential risks to human health and the environment associated with historical smelting, tailings management, and related operational activities. The B Ranch site is located northeast of the Town of Hurley, New Mexico, and is bounded by and adjacent to the 2008 Golf Course IRA and the reclaimed Lake One and Slag Pile under NMED's Discharge Permit 1340 (DP 1340) (Figure 1).

Historical smelting and tailings-related activities at the Chino Mine resulted in windblown deposition of copper-bearing materials across portions of the STSIU, including the B Ranch site. These windblown concentrates and associated fine-grained materials contributed to elevated copper concentrations in surface soils, with potential exposure risks to human and ecological receptors and the potential for redistribution through wind and stormwater processes. Although the B Ranch site was previously considered part of the Hurley Operational Area and excluded from earlier removal actions, it was later determined that the area was no longer required for active operations and therefore became subject to remediation under the AOC.

Investigations conducted under the STSIU identified the B Ranch site as warranting focused remedial action due to surface soil copper concentrations exceeding established remedial action criteria. Chino initiated the B Ranch IRA in 2019 to address impacted soils consisting of targeted excavation and removal of copper-impacted surface soils, followed by grading, erosion control, and site restoration to reestablish stable landforms and reduce the potential for future dust generation and erosion.

The scope of work, construction activities, confirmation sampling, and restoration measures associated with the B Ranch IRA are documented in the B Ranch Interim Remedial Action Completion Report (Arcadis, 2021). To fulfill the vegetation monitoring requirements described in the Completion Report, Chino retained WSP USA Inc. (WSP) to conduct a quantitative vegetation survey of the B Ranch site to document the status of the revegetated area five years after seeding. The primary objective for revegetation of the B Ranch site is to limit erosion and provide dust control for remediated areas through the re-establishment of a native plant community. A secondary benefit of the reclamation is to establish grazing wildlife habitat. This report documents post-reclamation site conditions and evaluates vegetation establishment and overall reclamation performance five years after seeding at the B Ranch IRA.

1.1 Background

The B Ranch IRA was implemented in accordance with the STSIU Interim Remedial Action Work Plan (Arcadis 2007) with NMED approval and was authorized to begin construction under the existing work plan in May 2019. Construction activities were conducted between June and July 2019. The remedial action focused on the identification and removal of windblown concentrate-impacted surface soils where copper concentrations exceeded the applicable remedial action criteria, primarily 5,000 parts per million (ppm) for protection of human health, with a secondary ecological screening value of 1,600 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg) used as a vertical removal guide where practicable.

Soil removal was guided by field screening using x-ray fluorescence (XRF), with excavation conducted in successive passes until target criteria were achieved or until physical constraints such as bedrock or caliche were encountered. Excavated materials were transported to the Chino Mine West Stockpile or designated temporary

stockpile areas in accordance with NMED approvals. Removal depths varied across the site due to heterogeneity in soil profiles, historical material placement, and topographic constraints.

The final soil removal area was approximately 22 acres. Post-removal confirmation soil sampling was conducted across the B Ranch site using a grid-based sampling design to document residual copper concentrations and to verify attainment of the interim remedial action objectives.

Following excavation, disturbed areas were graded to promote positive drainage, maintain slope stability, and minimize erosion potential. Reclamation measures included placement of clean backfill where necessary, installation of erosion and sediment control best management practices (BMPs) such as straw wattles, erosion control mats, and drainage controls, and revegetation using native seed mix consistent with Chino's Closure/Closeout Plan. Seeding was accomplished with a rangeland drill using a combined drill/broadcast process. The site was then mulched with straw at a rate of 2 tons per acre and crimped to protect the soil surface from erosion during the establishment phase. Insufficient information is available in the Completion Report (Arcadis 2021) to determine the actual seeding rate but the native seed mix was comprised of six warm-season grasses, one cool-season grass, four perennial forbs, and six shrubs. Revegetation was completed in 2019 following the conclusion of IRA construction activities.

Since completion of the IRA, quarterly inspections have been performed by Chino to assess erosion control performance, drainage stability, and overall site condition. The inspections confirmed that vegetation was sufficiently established for erosion control.

1.2 Objectives

The primary objective for revegetation of the B Ranch IRA is to limit erosion and provide dust control for remediated areas through the re-establishment of a native plant community. A secondary benefit of the reclamation is to establish grazing and wildlife habitat.

Per the Completion Report (Arcadis 2021), Chino is required to conduct a quantitative survey of revegetated areas and submit a report evaluating the site relative to Chino's Vegetation Success Standards (Appendix C, Mining and Minerals Division's [MMD] Revision 01-1 to Permit GR009RE). The post-mining land use (PMLU) for Chino Mine is wildlife habitat. Additionally, under the AOC, livestock grazing habitat is also the objective since HWWCIU remediated sites can be located in grazing pastures that surround Chino operations. Under MMD's guidance for a wildlife PMLU, total canopy cover, shrub density, and plant diversity are evaluated to determine vegetation success (Section 2).

Consistent with the AOC/IRA monitoring objective, the purpose of this survey is to document revegetation progress and to evaluate whether vegetation is sufficiently established to support erosion control and long-term site stability. This document details the methods and results of the 2025 quantitative vegetation monitoring at the B Ranch site, five growing seasons since the completion of the IRA.

2.0 SUCCESS CRITERIA

Revegetation of the B Ranch IRA was intended primarily to limit erosion and provide dust control for disturbed areas through re-establishment of a native plant community (Arcadis 2021). Reclamation success at AOC sites at Chino is evaluated by a reference area approach as described in the *Interim Technical Standards* (ITS, DBS&A 1999) and the *Closure/Closeout Plan* (CCP, Chino 2007). The reclamation success criteria were developed for reclaimed tailing areas and are based on analysis of vegetation data collected in the Tailing Reference Area (Figure 1). Vegetation monitoring and data analysis procedures are described in Section 3.0.

Revegetation efforts are considered successful when total canopy cover on the reclaimed facility is at least 70% of the reference area's total canopy cover. Shrub density is considered adequate if it is at least 60% of the reference area. Diversity is evaluated by the numerical diversity guidelines for different structural components of the plant community (Table 1) as well as by evidence of colonization of the reclaimed site by native species. In summary, the diversity guideline would be met if there are at least three warm season grasses and two shrubs, each having a minimum cover of 1%. In addition, two non-weedy forb species with minimum of 0.1% absolute cover is required to meet the diversity guideline. Diversity is also demonstrated by evidence of colonization or recruitment of native plants from adjacent undisturbed areas (i.e., species that were not in the seed mix). Recruitment of native plant species is indicative of ecological succession and the capacity of the site to support a self-sustaining ecosystem. Recruitment is evaluated by inventorying the total number plant species that occur in the reclamation in comparison to the original seed mix.

Under the reference area approach, revegetation success criteria are established for the reclamation in proportion to a mature, native reference area. Reclaimed areas over mine waste are typically eligible for bond release 12 years after seeding. In such cases, both the reclaimed and reference areas are monitored to allow formal hypotheses testing to determine whether the success standards are met. The B Ranch IRA technically is not a formal reclamation site as only disturbed native ground was revegetated, nor is the revegetation expected to fully progress in five years to reclamation standards, although erosion objectives are being met as well as establishment of a natural habitat.

3.0 VEGETATION MONITORING METHODS

Vegetation attributes at the B Ranch IRA were quantified using the same methods on the reclaimed lands and the Chino Reference Area. Fieldwork was conducted at the end of the growing season, but prior to the first killing frost, from September 17-18, 2025. The vegetation monitoring methods described below are consistent with those applied at other Chino AOC/IRA sites and are intended to document revegetation conditions and progress following reclamation activities.

3.1 Sampling Design

Vegetation attributes were quantified using sampling methods approved by the MMD. A systematic random sampling procedure employing a transect/quadrat system was used to select sample sites within the reference and reclaimed areas. A 50-square foot grid was imposed over the sampling areas to delineate vegetation sample plots, and random coordinates were used to select plots for vegetation sampling. Transects originated from the southeastern corner of the selected vegetation plot placed along the perimeter and measured 30 meters (m) long in a dog leg pattern (Figure 3). Four 1 m² quadrats were located at pre-determined intervals along the transect for quantitative vegetation measurements. Shrub density was determined from a 2-meter wide belt transect situated along the perimeter of the dog-legged transect (Figure 3). To reduce the variability commonly associated with shrub belt transect data, additional randomly located belt transects were surveyed. The locations of the randomly selected vegetation plots are shown in Figure 4. For sampling in conjunction with the drone-based surveys, the reference area was masked to exclude the areas with trees and transects that intersected the mask were removed.

In September 2025, 5 belt transects and 20 quadrats were sampled at B Ranch and 20 belt transects and 40 quads were sampled in the reference area. For each quadrat, ocular estimates were made of total canopy, species canopy cover, basal cover, surface litter, surface rock fragments, and bare soil. Not all plant species are

expected to occur in the sampling quadrats. Prior to and during formal sampling, each site was traversed on foot to inventory plant species growing within the plots and across the sampling area.

3.1.1 Vegetation and Ground Cover

Field scientists determined species canopy cover, total canopy cover, surface litter, surface rock fragments, and bare soil in each quadrat. Plant frequency was determined on a species-basis by counting the number of individual plants rooted in each quadrat. Percent area cards with a minimum resolution of 0.05 percent were used to increase accuracy and consistency of measurements. Cover estimates less than 0.05 percent were entered as trace amounts.

Canopy cover is the percentage of quadrat area included in the vertical projection of the canopy (Daubenmire 1968). Canopy cover estimates made on the species basis may exceed 100 percent in individual quadrats where the vegetation overlaps (multi-layered canopies). In contrast, the sum of total canopy cover, surface litter, rock fragments, and bare soil does not exceed 100 percent. Relative canopy cover is presented to assess contributions of individual plant species cover and is calculated by dividing the percent canopy cover of a plant species by the mean total species canopy cover of the sampling unit.

Basal cover is the proportion of ground occupied by the crowns of grasses and rooting stems of forbs and shrubs. Like the total cover estimates, basal cover estimates do not exceed 100 percent. Basal cover is measured to understand decadal trends in plant community development but not used in the evaluation of reclamation success. Photographs of each transect and quadrat were taken to preserve a record of the conditions at the time of sampling.

3.1.2 Shrub Density

Shrub density is presented as the number of plants per square meter (stems/m²). Shrub density was determined using a belt transect method (Bonham 1989), a 2-meter wide, 30-meter-long transect situated along the perimeter of the dog-legged transect (Figure 4). Shrub density was calculated from the belt transect data by dividing the total number of individual plants rooted in the belt transect by the belt transect area (60 m²).

3.1.3 Plant Diversity

Plant diversity is assessed by comparing the number and occurrence of perennial species by life form found in the remediated sites to the technical standard developed for Chino (Section 2). The number of perennial grass (warm and cool seasons), perennial forb, and shrub species observed within the quadrats and their associated cover levels were compared to the technical standard (Table 3).

3.1.4 Data Analysis and Sample Adequacy

Formal statistical hypothesis testing is typically not required for an evaluation of recently seeded area because reclaimed, semi-arid plant communities may take 8 to 10 years before they are well established. At this early stage, our analysis is limited to a comparison of means and 90% confidence intervals (CI) to evaluate overall performance of the IRA vegetation relative to the reference area performance standards. More robust statistical analyses are reserved in vegetation studies to determine revegetation success for financial assurance release in 2 of the last 4 years of the 12-year liability period after seeding per MMD's guidance (MMD 1999).

The number of samples required to characterize a particular vegetation attribute depends on the uniformity of the vegetation and the desired degree of certainty required for the analysis. Sample adequacy is the minimum number of samples required to estimate a parameter within a given level of precision (Cochran 1977) and must be

met for classical null hypothesis testing for bond release comparisons (MMD 1999). Often it is impractical to achieve sample adequacy in vegetation monitoring studies, particularly in semi-arid ecosystems, and since formal hypotheses testing is not used in our analysis, a minimum sample number approach is taken to reduce the variance around the mean.

In the context of this study, the number of samples necessary to meet sample adequacy (N_{min}) was calculated assuming the data were normally distributed using Snedecor and Cochran (1967).

$$N_{min} = \frac{t^2 s^2}{(\bar{x}D)^2}$$

Where N_{min} is the minimum number of samples required such that the sample mean is within 90% of the population mean, t is the two-tailed t-distribution value based on a 90% level of confidence with $n-1$ degrees of freedom, s is the standard deviation of the sample data, $\bar{x}$ is the mean, and D is the desired level of accuracy, which is 10 percent of the mean.

Again, the vegetation monitoring at this early phase of the B Ranch site does not require nor did not attempt to meet sample adequacy but the number of samples necessary to meet sample adequacy is reported. This information provides a general indication as to the uniformity and character of the sample data relative to the overall population.

4.0 RESULTS

This section provides a summary of the precipitation regime since the B Ranch site was seeded and the results of the 2025 monitoring event. The field data for canopy and basal cover, frequency, and shrub density by the belt transect are included in Appendix A and photographs of the quadrats are included in Appendix B.

4.1 Precipitation

B Ranch is located in a semi-arid region of southwestern New Mexico where the amount and distribution of precipitation are important determinants for the progression of vegetation particularly during the establishment phases of reclamation. Once established, the precipitation dynamics affect the vegetation cover levels on a year-to-year basis, with grasses and forbs showing the most immediate effects. Precipitation records from Fort Bayard, New Mexico (1897 to 2006) provide an average long-term precipitation for the Chino area (WRCC 2025). Comparing annual and growing season precipitation patterns at Chino to long-term normals at Fort Bayard provides context and understanding to the establishment and progression of vegetation in reclaimed areas.

Precipitation has been monitored at the North Hurley station since 2019 and at Whitewater Creek since 2023 (Table 2). The prevailing precipitation during the period of revegetation for B Ranch can be categorized as dry from a regional perspective. Cumulative annual precipitation in 2024 and 2025 was 8.79 and 11.70 inches respectively, well below the long-term average of 15.80 inches. No years exceeded the historic annual total for Fort Bayard.

The regional normal growing season precipitation (May through September) at Fort Bayard is 9.97 inches (Figure 2). Since 2019, B Ranch has experienced near or above normal growing season precipitation in only 1 year (2022) but on average it has been 32% below normal for the past 6 years. The growing season precipitation in 2025 was 8.90 inches, around 90% of the long-term average of 9.97 inches. From a growing season perspective, precipitation since seeding B Ranch has been slightly to well below average for 1 of the last 6 years, with only 2022 above average (Table 2).

4.2 Canopy Cover

Mean total canopy cover for the B Ranch reclamation was 33.2% ($\pm 8.8\%$) while the Chino Tailing reference area was 25.2% $\pm 4.9\%$. Canopy cover for the reclamation in 2025 is well above the performance standard at 130% of the reference area's canopy cover (Table 3, Figure 5a). The minimum sample size required to meet $N_{\min}$ for canopy cover was 155 samples for B Ranch and 157 for the reference area. Representative photographs of the reference area and the reclaimed vegetation is shown in Figures 6 and 7 respectively.

Plant cover by species at the B Ranch site is provided in Table 4. Forbs had the highest canopy at B Ranch, representing 44.9% relative cover. Many small, annual species dominated the community including warty caltrop (*Kallstromia parviflora*) and various spurges (*Euphorbia* and *Chamaesyce* spp.). Numerous biennial and perennial forbs, including Hartweg's sundrops (*Calylophus hartwegii*) New Mexico fanpetals (*Sida neomexicana*), Fort Bowie prairie clover (*Dalea brachystachya*), and twinleaf senna (*Senna bauhinoides*), have colonized the reclamation. Grasses compose 39.3% of the relative cover. All grass cover was warm-season grasses with James' galleta (*Pleuraphis jamesii*) dominant with sideoats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*) and blue grama (*B. gracilis*) providing significant cover. Shrubs' relative cover was 15.7%. Fourwing saltbush (*Atriplex canescens*) had the highest cover with winterfat (*Kraschninnikova lanata*) and bird-of-paradise (*Caesalpinia gilliesii*) subdominant (Table 4).

4.3 Shrub Density

The shrub density at the B Ranch was lower compared to the reference area by belt transect measurements (Table 3, Figure 5b). Shrub density on the B Ranch reclamation was 934 stems/acre and is 37% of the reference area shrub density (2,555 stems/acre). Despite having a lower density, it is considered satisfactory at this early stage of the reclamation. Seven shrub species were encountered in the belt transects with fourwing saltbush being the most frequently measured species (Appendix A, Table A-4). The minimum sample size needed to meet $N_{\min}$ for shrub density is 13 samples. Winterfat and fourwing saltbush are the most common species in the belt transects in the reclamation (Appendix A, Table A-4).

4.4 Diversity

The vegetation on B Ranch met the diversity requirements for forbs, warm-season grasses, and shrubs (Table 4). Three warm-season perennial grasses meet the 1.0% cover diversity standard, including sideoats grama (4.1%), blue grama (3.6%), and James' galleta (6.4%). Three shrubs met the 1.0% cover diversity standard, fourwing saltbush (1.6%), winterfat (1.5%), and bird-of-paradise (1.1%). Fifteen forbs met the 0.1% cover diversity standard; thymeleaf sandmat (2.4%, *Chamaesyce serpyllifolia*), warty caltrop (7.7%), carellessweed (1.1%, *Amaranthus palmeri*) were the top species. Importantly, the reclaimed community also includes native biennial and perennial forbs which were not seeded that meet the forb diversity standard and indicate a developing vegetation trajectory. These species include Fort Bowie prairie clover (*Dalea brachystachya*, 2.0%), Hartweg's sundrops (*Calylophus hartwegii*, 0.4%), Texas bindweed (*Convolvulus equitans*, 0.3%), and New Mexico fanpetals (*Sida neomexicana*, 0.2%) (Table 4). Notably, the reference area did not meet the diversity standards for both shrubs (only winterfat met the requirement) and warm-season grasses with only black grama and tabosagrass above the threshold cover value of 1% (Table 5).

A total of 33 species were identified on the B Ranch site in 2025 of which 28 species were not in the reclamation seed mix and were recruited from native sources indicating that plant diversity is increasing in response to colonization (Table 4). Additionally, no noxious weeds were observed on the reclamation during the 2025 monitoring program.

5.0 SUMMARY

The primary objective for revegetation of the B Ranch IRA site is to limit wind and water erosion for remediated areas through the re-establishment of a native plant community, leading to the final objective of grazing and wildlife habitat.. WSP conducted a quantitative vegetation survey of the site to document the progress of revegetation five years after completion of the IRA. Canopy cover, shrub density and diversity were measured and compared to the tailing reference area for Chino South Mine. This guidance is typically applied in 2 of the last 4 years of the 12-year liability period after seeding as part of demonstrating reclamation success.

The revegetation efforts associated with the IRA at the B Ranch site are considered successful. An early-seral stage mixed grama-shrub community is well established across the remediation. Based on the 2025 sampling, mean total canopy cover in the fifth growing season is 33.2%, which is 130% of the canopy cover measured at the reference area. Given the less than favorable precipitation during the vegetation establishment period and the condition of the plant community in 2025, the strong canopy cover demonstrates that the remediated site is resilient and self-sustaining. Shrub density was considered satisfactory at about 934 stems/acre as measured by the belt transect method but was lower than the average shrub density for the Reference Area.

The reclamation meets the diversity standards for grasses, forbs and shrubs. Twenty-eight plant species that were not included in the reclamation seed mix were identified at the B Ranch site. Recruitment of native plant species into the reclaimed plant community demonstrates the process of ecological succession and the gradual establishment of self-sustaining ecosystem. Vegetation on the remediated site meets the diversity requirements for forbs, grasses and shrubs.

No significant erosion issues were documented during the 5-year monitoring period, and the currently established plant community meets the overall objective as a best management practice for erosion control. The reclaimed plant community provides significant canopy cover, while also providing both ecological and rangeland values to the area.

Results from the 2025 vegetation survey of the B Ranch IRA indicate that revegetation efforts were successful, and the remediated area can support a self-sustaining ecosystem. The survey data demonstrate that the vegetation on the reclaimed site is performing well for this early stage of the reclamation. The site supports a viable self-sustaining vegetated cover that exceeds Chino's vegetation success standards for total canopy cover and diversity and progressing toward the IRA objective of returning the area to a grazing and wildlife PMLU. Vegetation performance suggests that the plant community established at the site are adapting to regional climatic conditions and are capable of continuing to develop without intervention. No additional vegetation monitoring is recommended as the B Ranch IRA site will remain under the oversight of the Chino AOC and will be addressed and released under the STSIU's Record of Decision.

6.0 REFERENCES

- Arcadis. 2021. B Ranch Interim Remedial Action Completion Report (STSIU), Chino Administrative Order on Consent. Prepared for Freeport-McMoRan Chino Mines Company. Bayard, New Mexico. April 2021.
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Tables

Table 1: North Hurley and Whitewater Creek Monthly and Annual Precipitation, 2019-2025

Station	Year	Precipitation (inches)													
		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual Total	Growing Season Total
North Hurley	2019	0.70	0.33	0.52	0.19	0.14	0.50	1.14	1.79	1.92	0.85	4.23	1.15	13.46	5.49
	2020	0.31	1.70	1.46	0.01	0.02	0.36	2.08	0.60	0.42	0.61	0.30	0.49	8.36	3.48
	2021	0.39	0.20	0.13	0.11	0.00	0.20	2.09	2.71	1.15	0.43	0.05	0.65	8.11	6.15
	2022	0.48	0.11	0.21	0.00	0.00	2.19	2.31	4.39	1.16	0.01*	--	--	10.85*	10.05
	2023	0.71	0.42	0.26	0.00	1.28	0.00	1.31	1.71	2.91	0.78	0.33	1.17	10.88	7.21
	2024	1.16	1.25	0.38	0.28	0.00	2.11	0.70	1.90	0.01	0.13	0.87	0.00	8.79	4.72
Whitewater Creek	2025	0.06	0.29	0.15	0.01	0.00	1.72	3.63	0.91	2.64	1.05	1.14	0.10	11.70	8.90
	2023	0.91	0.42	0.21	0.00	1.40	0.00	2.49	1.65	3.20	0.67	0.29	1.16	12.40	8.74
	2024	1.13	1.43	0.52	0.24	0.00	2.21	2.03	1.33	0.02	0.08	0.74	0.00	9.73	5.59
Fort Bayard**	2025	0.11	0.31	0.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.15	1.45	3.26	0.83	1.21	0.10	9.70	6.86
	Historic	0.88	0.85	0.68	0.38	0.47	0.82	3.32	3.30	2.06	1.24	0.75	1.05	15.80	9.97

Notes:

* Partial data for month

** Long-term average (WRCC 2025)

Data incomplete

Growing season precipitation is between May and September

Table 2: Revegetation Success Standards for the Chino Mine

Vegetative Parameter	Success Standard
Total Canopy Cover (%)	≥ 70% of the Reference Area
Shrub Density (stems/ac)	≥ 60% of the Reference Area
Diversity	2 shrub or subshrub species with a minimum of 1% canopy cover
	3 perennial warm-season grasses with a minimum of 1% canopy cover
	2 non-weedy forb species with a minimum of 0.1% canopy cover

Notes:

stems/ac = stems per acre

Indicates success standard was met in 2025 at the B Ranch IRA site

Table 3: Summary Statistics for the B Ranch IRA Reclamation and the Reference Area, 2025

Vegetation Metric	2025	
	B Ranch	Reference Area
Total Canopy (%)		
Mean	33.2	25.2
Standard Deviation	23.9	18.7
90% Confidence Interval	8.8	4.9
Nmin ¹	155	157
Shrub Density from Belt Transect (stems/ac)		
Mean (stems/ac)	935	2,555
Standard Deviation	191	1065
90% Confidence Interval	84	267
Nmin ¹	13	49

Notes:

¹ Minimum number of samples required to obtain 90% probability that the sample mean is within 10% of the population mean

Indicates success standard was met in 2025 at the B Ranch IRA site

Table 5: Plant Canopy and Density for the B Ranch IRA Site, 2025

Scientific Name	Common Name	Code	Mean Canopy Cover (%)	Mean Basal Cover (%)	Relative Cover (%) ^a	Mean Density (#/m ²)
Grasses (4)						
Warm-Season Perennials (4)						
<i>Aristida purpurea</i>	Purple threeawn	ARPU9	<0.1	<0.1	0.1	0.1
<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i> *	Sideoats grama	BOCU	4.1	2.0	11.5	3.3
<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i> *	Blue grama	BOGR2	3.6	0.8	10.0	4.3
<i>Pleuraphis jamesii</i> *	James' galleta	PLJA	6.4	2.7	17.6	3.9
Forbs (22)						
<i>Amaranthus palmeri</i>	Carelessweed	AMPA	1.1	<0.1	3.2	16.7
<i>Ambrosia artemisiifolia</i>	Annual ragweed	AMAR2	0.2	<0.1	0.6	2.4
<i>Calylophus hartwegii</i>	Hartweg's sundrops	CAHA14	0.4	<0.1	1.0	0.4
<i>Chamaesyce prostrata</i>	Prostrate sandmat	CHPR6	0.3	<0.1	0.7	0.7
<i>Chamaesyce serpyllifolia</i>	Thymeleaf sandmat	CHSE6	2.4	0.1	6.6	2.6
<i>Convolvulus equitans</i>	Texas bindweed	COEQ	0.3	<0.1	0.9	0.6
<i>Dalea brachystachya</i>	Fort Bowie prairie clover	DABR	2.0	<0.1	5.5	2.9
<i>Dalea lachnostachys</i>	Glandleaf prairie clover	DALA	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.2
<i>Dalea neomexicana</i>	Downy prairie clover	DANE	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.1
<i>Dyssodia papposa</i>	Fetid marigold	DYPA	0.1	<0.1	0.1	0.2
<i>Euphorbia dentata</i>	Toothed spurge	EUDE4	0.5	<0.1	1.3	2.1
<i>Euphorbia exstipulata</i>	Squareseed spurge	EUEX	0.4	<0.1	1.1	1.0
<i>Kallstroemia parviflora</i>	Warty caltrop	KAPA	7.7	0.1	21.3	7.3
<i>Machaeranthera gracilis</i>	Slender goldenweed	MAGR10	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.1
<i>Melilotus officinalis</i>	Sweetclover	MEOF	0.1	<0.1	0.2	0.2
<i>Portulaca oleracea</i>	Little hogweed	POOL	0.1	<0.1	0.2	0.1
<i>Rhynchosia senna</i>	Texas snoutbean	RHSE4	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.1
<i>Salsola tragus</i>	Prickly Russian thistle	SATR12	0.4	<0.1	1.0	0.7
<i>Sanvitalia abertii</i>	Abert's creeping zinnia	SAAB	<0.1	<0.1	0.1	0.7
<i>Senna bauhinoides</i>	Twinleaf senna	SEBA3	0.1	<0.1	0.3	0.3
<i>Sida neomexicana</i>	New Mexico fanpetals	SINE	0.2	<0.1	0.5	2.1
<i>Verbesina encelioides</i>	Golden crownbeard	VEEN	0.1	<0.1	0.3	0.5
Unknown (1)						
<i>Unknown Plant</i>	Unknown Plant	UNK	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.1
Shrubs, Trees, and Cacti (6)						
<i>Artemisia ludoviciana</i>	White sagebrush	ARLU	0.1	<0.1	0.1	0.1
<i>Atriplex canescens</i> *	Fourwing saltbush	ATCA2	2.9	0.1	8.1	0.4
<i>Caesalpinia gilliesii</i>	Bird-of-paradise	CAGI	1.2	<0.1	3.3	0.2
<i>Desmanthus cooleyi</i>	Cooley's bundleflower	DECO2	0.0	T	0.1	0.2
<i>Krascheninnikovia lanata</i> *	Winterfat	KRLA2	1.5	<0.1	4.0	0.4
<i>Yucca elata</i>	Soaptree yucca	YUEL	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.1

Notes:

* = species in the seed mix

^a = relative cover is the average percent cover of each species divided by the total average cover in the area#/m² = number of plants per square meter

Indicates success standard was met in 2025 at the B Ranch IRA site

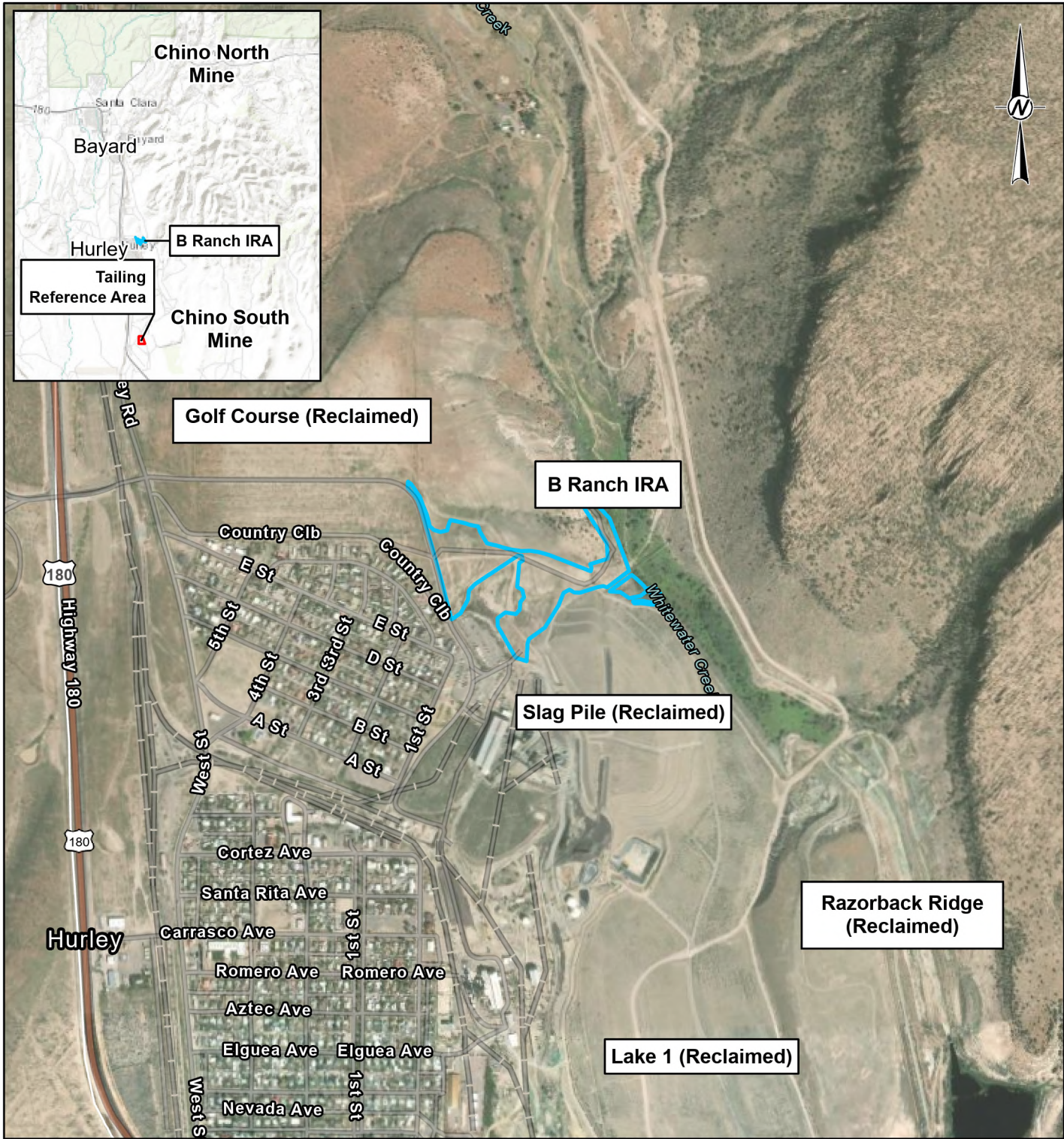
Table 5: Plant Cover and Density for the Chino Reference Area, 2025

Scientific Name	Common Name	Code	Mean Canopy Cover (%)	Mean Basal Cover (%)	Relative Cover ^a	Mean Density (#/m ²)
Grasses (11)						
Cool-Season Perennials (1)						
<i>Elymus elymoides</i>	Bottlebrush squirreltail	ELEL5	0.2	0.1	0.9	0.1
Warm-Season Annuals (1)						
<i>Bouteloua aristoides</i>	Needle grama	BOAR	0.7	0.4	2.6	0.4
Warm-Season Perennials (9)						
<i>Aristida purpurea</i>	Purple threeawn	ARPU9	0.1	<0.1	0.3	0.1
<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	Sideoats grama	BOCU	0.4	0.2	1.4	0.3
<i>Bouteloua eriopoda</i>	Black grama	BOER4	4.5	2.3	17.7	2.8
<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i>	Blue grama	BOGR2	0.4	0.2	1.5	0.2
<i>Muhlenbergia porteri</i>	Bush muhly	MUPO2	0.3	0.1	1.3	0.5
<i>Panicum hallii</i>	Hall's panicgrass	PAHA	0.1	<0.1	0.5	0.1
<i>Pleuraphis mutica</i>	Tabosagrass	PLMU3	2.3	1.1	9.2	0.3
<i>Scleropogon brevifolius</i>	Burrograss	SCBR2	0.7	0.4	2.8	0.8
<i>Sporobolus contractus</i>	Spike dropseed	SPCO4	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.1
Forbs (15)						
<i>Bahia absinthoides</i>	Hairyseed bahia	BAAB	0.1	<0.1	0.2	<0.1
<i>Chaetopappa ericoides</i>	Rose heath	CHER2	<0.1	T	0.0	0.1
<i>Chamaesaracha sordida</i>	Hairy five eyes	CHSO	<0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
<i>Chamaesyce prostrata</i>	Prostrate sandmat	CHPR6	0.4	0.0	1.6	1.0
<i>Chamaesyce serpyllifolia</i>	Thymeleaf sandmat	CHSE6	0.4	0.1	1.5	0.9
<i>Dalea brachystachya</i>	Fort Bowie prairie clover	DABR	0.2	0.1	1.0	1.2
<i>Dalea sp.</i>	Prairie clover	DALEA	<0.1	<0.1	0.1	1.0
<i>Dyssodia papposa</i>	Fetid marigold	DYPA	0.1	<0.1	0.2	0.1
<i>Euphorbia exstipulata</i>	Squareseed spurge	EUEX4	2.0	0.2	7.7	4.7
<i>Euphorbia dentata</i>	Toothed spurge	EUDE4	2.3	0.1	9.2	13.9
<i>Kallstroemia parviflora</i>	Warty caltrop	KAPA	0.8	0.2	3.3	0.9
<i>Salvia reflexa</i>	Lanceleaf sage	SARE3	0.2	0.1	0.9	0.4
<i>Sanvitalia abertii</i>	Abert's creeping zinnia	SAAB	2.2	0.2	8.7	7.7
<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>	Silverleaf nightshade	SOEL	0.1	<0.1	0.4	0.2
<i>Sphaeralcea leptophylla</i>	Scaly globemallow	SPLE	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
Shrubs, Trees, and Cacti (3)						
<i>Calliandra humilis</i>	Dwarf stickpea	CAHU	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.2
<i>Krascheninnikovia lanata</i>	Winterfat	KRLA2	6.5	1.1	25.9	1.0
<i>Zinnia grandiflora</i>	Rocky Mountain zinnia	ZIGR	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1

Notes:

^a relative cover is the average percent cover of each species divided by the total average cover in the area#/m² = number of plants per square meter

Figures



LEGEND

- B RANCH IRA
- TAILING REFERENCE AREA



REFERENCE(S)

BASE MAP: BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, ESRI, HERE, GARMIN, USGS, NGA, EPA, USDA, NPS, VANTOR, SOURCES: ESRI, TOMTOM, GARMIN, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OPENSTREETMAP CONTRIBUTORS, AND THE GIS USER COMMUNITY

COORDINATE SYSTEM: NAD 1983 STATEPLANE NEW MEXICO WEST FIPS 3003 FEET

CLIENT

FREEPORT-MCMORAN CHINO MINES COMPANY
GRANT COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

PROJECT

CHINO MINE 2025 AOC VEGETATION MONITORING

TITLE

GENERAL LOCATION OF THE B RANCH IRA

CONSULTANT



YYYY-MM-DD 2026-03-24

DESIGNED GFD

PREPARED GFD

REVIEWED MT

APPROVED DR

PROJECT NO.

US-WSP-31406439.1045

CONTROL

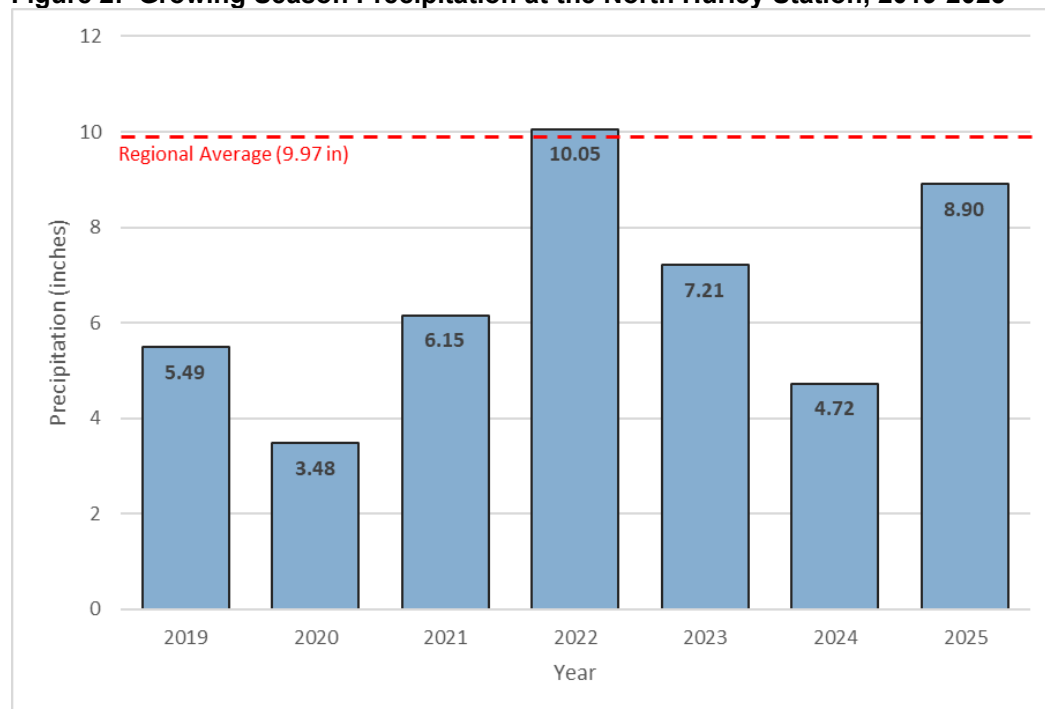
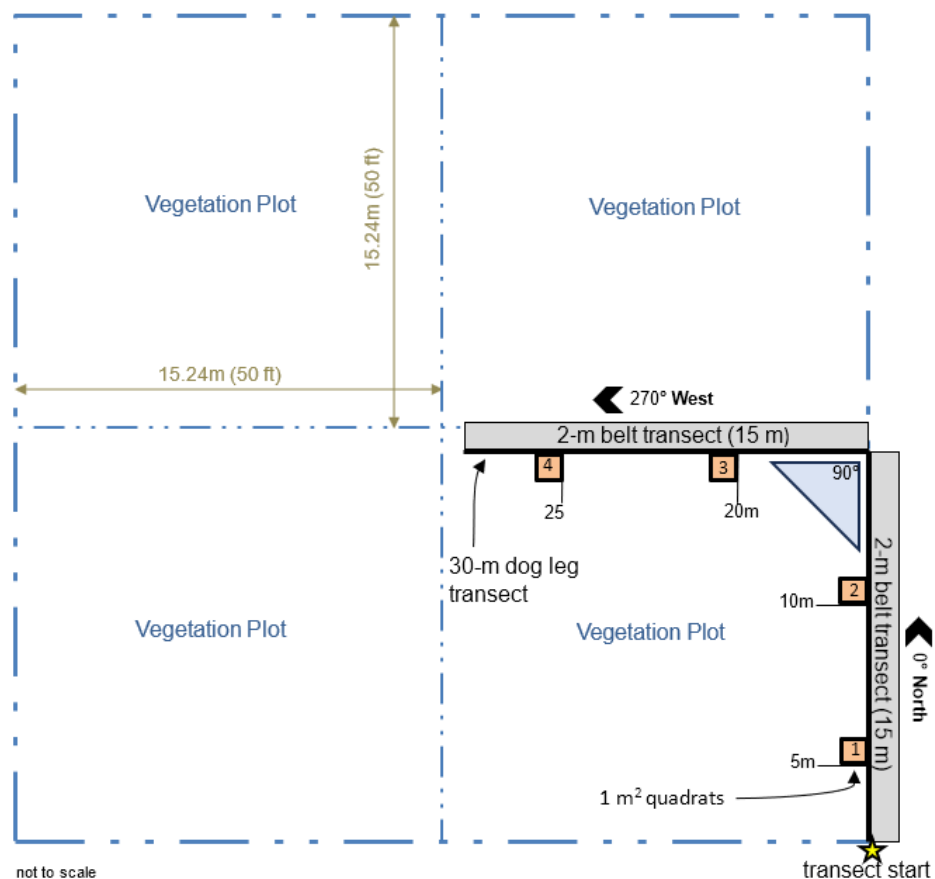
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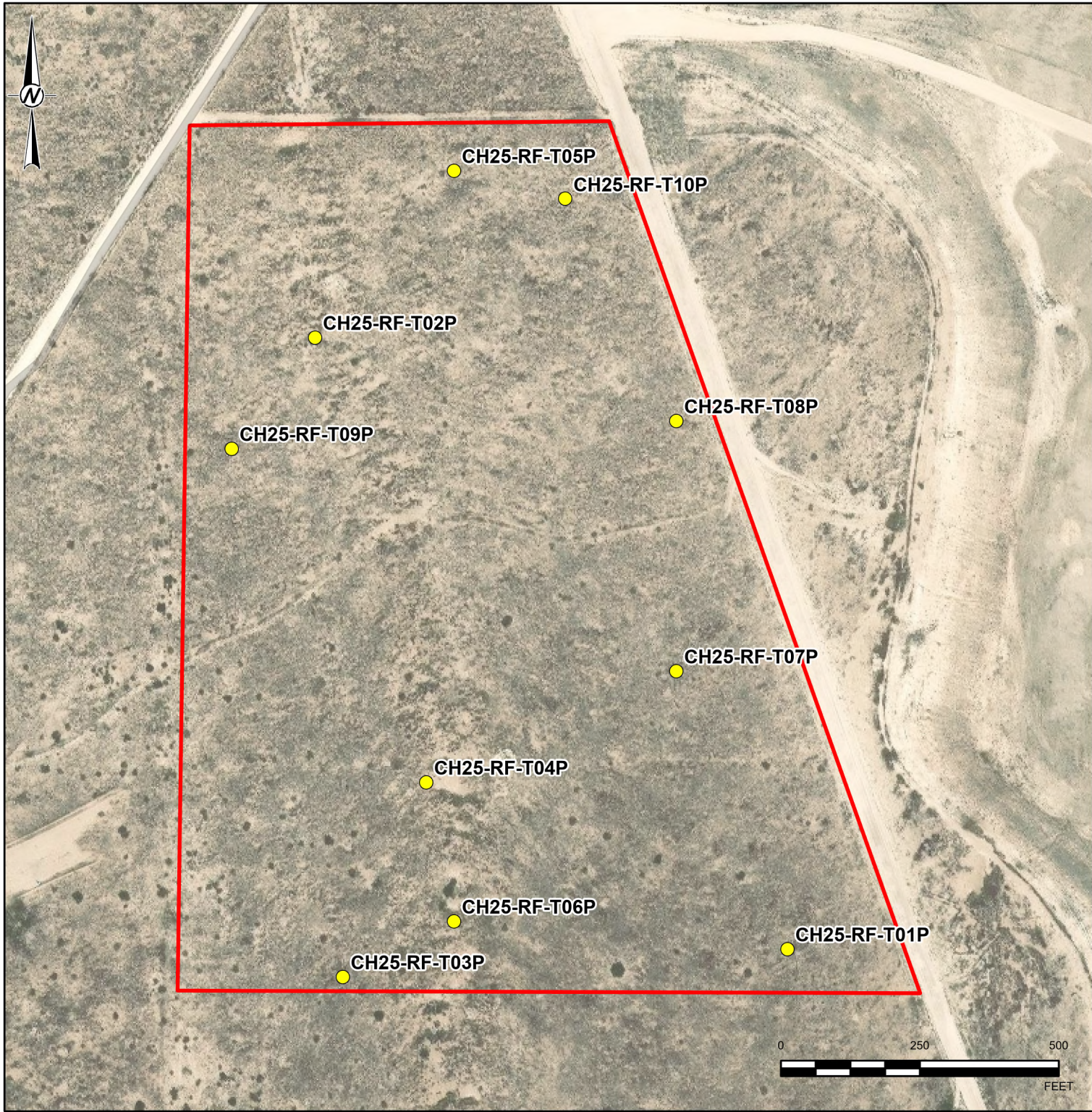
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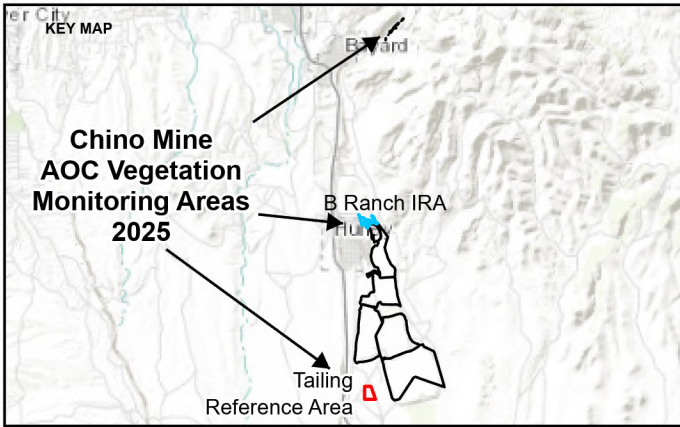
FIGURE

1

Figure 2: Growing Season Precipitation at the North Hurley Station, 2019-2025**Figure 3: Vegetation Plot, Transect, and Quadrat Layout**



- LEGEND**
- 2025 Sampled Vegetation Monitoring Transects
 - ▭ B Ranch IRA
 - ▭ Tailing Reference Area



REFERENCE(S)
1. SERVICE LAYER CREDITS: WORLD IMAGERY: VANTOR
WORLD TOPOGRAPHIC MAP: BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, ESRI, HERE, GARMIN, USGS, NGA, EPA, USDA, NPS
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HYBRID REFERENCE LAYER: SOURCES: ESRI, TOMTOM, GARMIN, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OPENSTREETMAP CONTRIBUTORS, AND THE GIS USER COMMUNITY

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PROJECTION: TRANSVERSE MERCATOR
DATUM: NORTH AMERICAN 1983

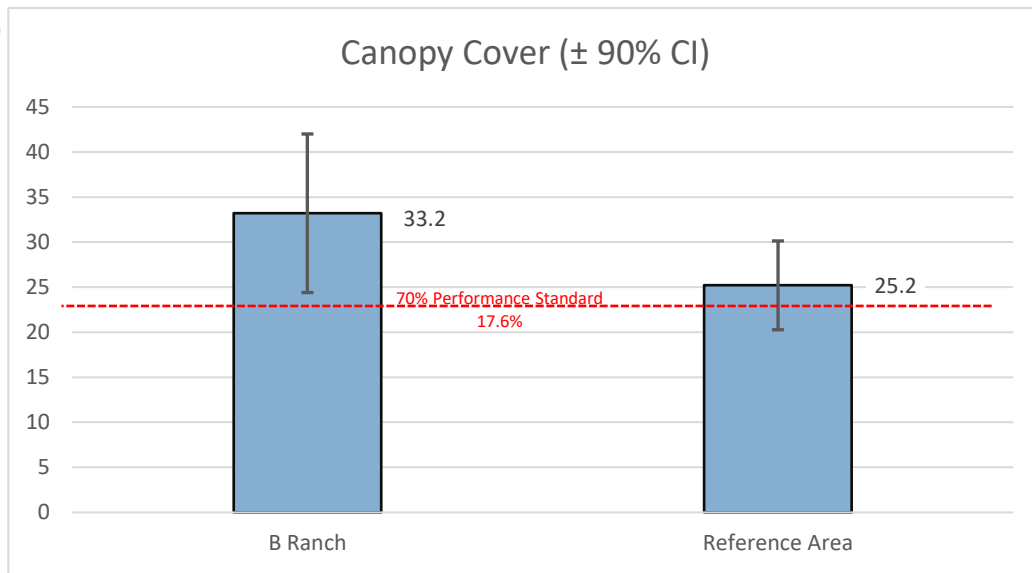
CLIENT
FREEPORT-MCMORAN CHINO MINES COMPANY
GRANT COUNTY, NEW MEXICO



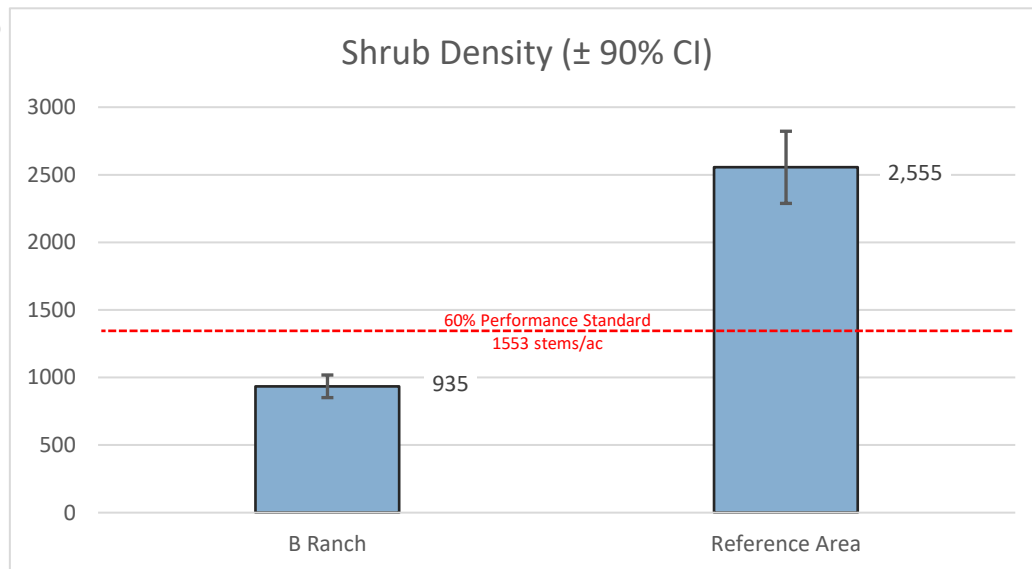
YYYY-MM-DD	2026-03-24
DESIGNED	GFD
PREPARED	GFD
REVIEWED	YC
APPROVED	DR

PROJECT CHINO MINE 2025 AOC VEGETATION MONITORING			
TITLE B RANCH IRA AND TAILING REFERENCE AREA SAMPLED VEGETATION TRANSECT LOCATIONS, 2025			
PROJECT NO. US-WSP-31406439.1045	CONTROL A004	REV. 0	FIGURE 4

5a)



5b)



Title			FIGURE 5
B Ranch IRA Canopy Cover and Shrub Density Data Evaluation			
Project Name	Project No.		
Chino Mine 2025 AOC Vegetation Monitoring	31406439.1045		
Client Name	Date		
Chino Mines Company	6/11/2026		

Figure 6: Typical Grass-Shrubland Vegetation at the Chino Reference Area, September 2025



Figure 7: Typical Reclaimed Vegetation at B Ranch, September 2025



APPENDIX A

Vegetation Data Summaries

Table A-1: B Ranch Canopy Cover (%), 2025

Species Code	Transect/Quadrat																			
	CH25-BR-T01P				CH25-BR-T02P				CH25-BR-T03P				CH25-BR-T04P				CH25-BR-T05P			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Grasses																				
ARPU9	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.75	--	--
BOCU	1.5	--	--	5.5	1	--	6	--	--	1.5	--	--	--	48	3	--	--	10.25	--	6
BOGR2	1	6	27	--	0.25	--	2	2	--	4	8	5	--	--	6	--	--	--	11	--
PLJA	--	8	6	1	1	11	--	--	4	--	20	--	22	--	10	--	7	--	25	12
Forbs																				
AMAR2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
AMPA	--	1	1.75	0.75	--	--	--	--	3	0.05	--	--	6	--	5	3	0.5	0.05	1.75	--
CAHA14	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	7	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
CHPR6	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.75	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3.25	--
CHSE6	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.25	5	10	30	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
COEQ	--	--	--	--	--	4	0.2	--	--	--	1.25	--	0.01	--	1.25	--	--	0.01	--	--
DABR	--	--	0.6	0.05	0.1	37	1	0.05	0.05	--	0.35	0.05	0.005	--	--	--	--	--	0.15	0.05
DALA	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.25	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
DANE	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.05	0.003	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
DYPA	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
EUDE4	--	--	--	--	0.1	1	0.75	5	1.5	0.5	--	--	0.02	0.1	--	0.1	--	--	--	--
EUEX	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.5	--	--	--	1.25	4.75	--	--	0.025	--	--	--	0.65	1
KAPA	0.5	2.5	2	3	2	--	25	--	78	6	0.15	--	0.01	--	1.5	2	--	0.8	--	30
MAGR10	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.15	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
MEOF	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
POOL	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.5	--	--	--	--	--	--
RHSE4	--	--	--	--	--	0.1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
SAAB	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.5	--	--
SATR12	--	--	--	--	0.5	--	0.3	4	--	0.15	0.85	--	--	--	--	--	1.5	--	--	--
SEBA3	--	--	--	--	--	0.75	1.5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
SINE	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.1	--	0.5	--	--	0.003	--	--	--	--	0.75	1.5	0.15	0.75
UNKF	--	--	--	--	0.25	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
VEEN	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	0.2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Shrubs, Trees, and Cacti																				
ARLU	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
ATCA2	--	--	5.5	--	--	11	--	--	5	10	--	--	6	--	--	--	--	21	--	--
CAGI	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	19	5	--	--	--	--	--
DECO2	--	--	--	--	0.5	--	0.3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
KRLA2	--	--	1	--	--	5	0.75	20	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.5	--	0.5	--	0.25	--
YUEL	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Totals																				
Vegetation	2.5	17.5	42.0	10.2	4.5	67.0	37.0	35.0	95.1	49.5	28.0	18.8	32.0	68.6	31.0	5.0	10.0	29.0	37.0	45.0
Rock	96.3	62.0	48.0	28.0	94.0	7.0	23.0	14.0	2.0	18.5	43.0	40.0	12.0	6.5	30.0	25.0	43.0	12.0	34.0	20.0
Litter	0.3	8.0	3.0	15.0	0.5	3.0	1.0	26.0	2.0	7.5	1.0	5.0	38.0	19.9	7.0	1.3	3.0	19.5	6.0	15.0
Bare Soil	1.0	12.5	7.0	46.8	1.0	23.0	39.0	25.0	1.0	24.5	28.0	36.2	18.0	5.0	32.0	68.8	44.0	39.5	23.0	20.0

Note:

Species codes defined in Table 4

Table A-2: B Ranch Basal Cover (%), 2025

Species Code	Transect/Quadrat																			
	CH25-BR-T01P				CH25-BR-T02P				CH25-BR-T03P				CH25-BR-T04P				CH25-BR-T05P			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Grasses																				
ARPU9	0.5	--	--	0.5	0.5	--	0.6	--	--	1	--	--	--	27	0.5	--	--	7	--	3
BOCU	0.5	3	4	--	0.05	--	0.75	0.05	--	2	1	1.25	--	--	1	--	--	--	2	--
BOGR2	--	5	1	0.25	0.5	6	--	--	2	--	4	--	18	--	2	--	3	--	4	8
PLJA	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.05	--	--
Forbs																				
AMAR2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.05	--	--	--	--	--	--
AMPA	--	0.003	0.003	0.003	--	--	--	--	0.3	0.005	--	--	0.01	--	0.005	0.05	0.003	0.01	0.005	--
CAHA14	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.005	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
CHPR6	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.003	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.003	--
CHSE6	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.003	0.005	0.01	1.5	--	0.003	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
COEQ	--	--	--	--	--	0.005	0.003	--	--	--	0.003	--	0.001	--	0.003	--	--	0.005	--	--
DABR	--	--	0.003	0.003	0.005	0.5	0.003	0.003	0.003	--	0.003	0.003	0.003	--	--	--	--	--	0.003	0.003
DALA	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.003	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
DANE	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.003	0.003	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
DYPA	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.05	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
EUDE4	--	--	--	--	0.003	0.05	0.003	0.003	0.05	0.005	--	--	0.005	0.003	--	0.003	--	--	--	--
EUEX	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.003	--	--	--	0.003	0.006	--	--	0.003	--	--	--	0.003	0.003
KAPA	0.005	0.01	0.003	0.05	0.005	--	0.25	--	0.78	0.75	0.003	--	0.003	--	0.003	0.05	--	0.005	--	0.05
MAGR10	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.003	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
MEOF	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.005	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
POOL	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.005	--	--	--	--	--	--
RHSE4	--	--	--	--	--	0.003	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
SAAB	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.005	--	--
SATR12	--	--	--	--	0.003	--	0.003	0.003	--	0.005	0.003	--	--	--	--	--	0.05	--	--	--
SEBA3	--	--	--	--	--	0.01	0.05	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
SINE	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.003	--	0.003	--	--	0.003	--	--	--	--	0.003	0.05	0.003	0.003
UNK	--	--	--	--	0.01	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
VEEN	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.25	0.005	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Shrubs, Trees, and Cacti																				
ARLU	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.05	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
ATCA2	--	--	0.05	--	--	0.5	--	--	0.1	0.1	--	--	0.1	--	--	--	--	1	--	--
CAGI	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.75	0.1	--	--	--	--	--
DECO2	--	--	--	--	0.003	--	0.003	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
KRLA2	--	--	0.004	--	--	0.05	0.05	0.005	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.4	--	0.01	--	0.05	--
YUEL	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.005	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Totals																				
Vegetation	1.0	8.0	5.1	0.8	1.1	7.1	1.7	0.1	3.5	5.4	5.0	1.3	18.1	27.8	4.0	0.1	3.1	8.1	6.1	11.1
Rock	96.5	71.0	82.5	28.3	1.3	8.3	40.0	21.0	91.0	26.0	55.0	42.0	13.0	7.0	43.0	25.5	46.0	13.0	52.0	20.0
Litter	1.5	10.0	5.0	15.5	1.0	4.0	4.0	31.0	3.0	8.0	9.0	15.0	47.9	29.0	5.0	1.5	4.0	21.0	8.5	22.0
Bare Soil	1.0	11.0	7.4	55.4	96.7	80.6	54.3	47.9	2.5	60.6	31.0	41.7	21.0	36.2	48.0	72.9	46.9	57.9	33.4	46.9

Note:

Species codes defined in Table 4

Table A-3: B Ranch Frequency (#/m2), 2025

Species Code	Transect/Quadrat																			
	CH25-BR-T01P				CH25-BR-T02P				CH25-BR-T03P				CH25-BR-T04P				CH25-BR-T05P			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Grasses																				
ARPU9	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--
BOCU	1	--	--	6	3	--	9	--	--	1	--	--	--	29	6	--	--	9	--	1
BOGR2	1	3	28	--	1	--	4	1	--	5	8	16	--	--	5	--	--	--	13	--
PLJA	--	3	5	2	1	8	--	--	3	--	12	--	9	--	4	--	8	--	20	3
Forbs																				
AMAR2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	47	--	--	--	--	--	--
AMPA	--	8	28	35	--	--	--	--	27	4	--	--	92	--	44	44	20	6	25	--
CAHA14	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	7	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
CHPR6	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	11	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	--
CHSE6	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	26	18	--	6	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
COEQ	--	--	--	--	--	3	1	--	--	--	2	--	1	--	2	--	--	2	--	--
DABR	--	--	7	3	7	11	11	3	3	--	4	6	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	1
DALA	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
DANE	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
DYP A	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
EUDE4	--	--	--	--	2	6	6	1	12	8	--	--	1	1	--	4	--	--	--	--
EUEX	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	5	7	--	--	1	--	--	--	2	3
KAPA	6	6	12	14	4	--	9	--	69	6	1	--	1	--	4	6	--	2	--	6
MAGR10	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
MEOF	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
POOL	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--
RHSE4	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
SAAB	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	13	--	--
SATR12	--	--	--	--	1	--	1	2	--	3	1	--	--	--	--	--	6	--	--	--
SEBA3	--	--	--	--	--	4	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
SINE	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	2	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	20	10	1	6
UNK	--	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
VEEN	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	6	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Shrubs, Trees, and Cacti																				
ARLU	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
ATCA2	--	--	1	--	--	1	--	--	1	3	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	1	--	--
CAGI	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	1	--	--	--	--	--
DECO2	--	--	--	--	2	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
KRLA2	--	--	1	--	--	1	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	1	--	1	--
YUEL	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Note:

Species codes defined in Table 4

Table A-4: B Ranch Shrub Belt Transect

Species Code	Transect				
	T01P	T02P	T03P	T04P	T05P
Shrubs, Trees, and Cacti					
ATCA2	7	11	11	--	7
KRLA2	6	6	--	--	4
YUEL	--	2	--	--	2
PRGL2	--	--	1	2	--
GUSA2	--	--	--	1	--
ULPU	--	--	--	2	--
UNK	--	--	--	7	--

Note:

Species codes defined in Table 4

Table A-5: Reference Area Canopy Cover (%), 2025

Species Code	Transect/Quadrat																																															
	CH25-RF-T01P				CH25-RF-T02P				CH25-RF-T03P				CH25-RF-T04P				CH25-RF-T05P				CH25-RF-T06P				CH25-RF-T07P				CH25-RF-T08P				CH25-RF-T09P				CH25-RF-T10P											
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4												
Grasses																																																
ARPU9	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.75	--	--	--	--	--	--	--										
ARPUP6	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--									
BOAR	5.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3.00	--	3.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	10.00	--	--	--							
BOCU	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.50	--	--	--	--	--	8.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--							
BOER4	--	3.00	21.00	15.00	--	--	0.10	10.00	5.00	2.75	6.50	--	--	--	--	3.50	1.00	--	10.25	--	--	--	--	4.00	15.00	5.50	--	24.00	--	5.00	11.00	20.00	--	3.50	5.00	2.00	--	3.50	2.00	--	--							
BOGR2	--	--	3.00	--	6.00	6.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.05	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--						
ELEL5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	9.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--						
MUPO2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.90	--	--	--	--	10.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2.00	--	0.01	--	--	--						
PAHA	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--						
PLMU3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	50.00	--	--	13.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	30.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--				
SCBR2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.10	--	3.00	8.00	3.25	10.00	--	--	1.75	--	--	--	2.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.02	--	--	--	--					
SPCO4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--				
Forbs																																																
CHER2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.50	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.75	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--					
CHPR6	2.00	4.00	7.25	2.50	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.75	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--					
CHSE6	--	--	--	0.10	--	--	--	0.02	--	0.01	0.10	--	--	--	--	--	4.00	0.25	0.50	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.50	1.00	0.75	1.25	3.00	--	0.10	1.50	1.00	--	0.03	0.50	--	--	--	--	--	--	--				
CHSO	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--				
DABR	2.00	0.05	--	0.01	0.00	--	--	0.02	--	--	0.25	--	--	--	0.10	0.75	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.25	--	--	2.00	0.05	1.00	0.05	0.05	--	--	0.10	--	0.05	3.00	--	0.01	--	--	--	--					
DALEA	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.75	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
DYPA	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
EUDE4	--	--	12.50	8.00	--	--	--	2.00	--	1.75	13.00	--	--	--	0.10	5.25	--	--	1.00	3.00	5.00	--	--	--	13.00	--	3.75	--	--	--	3.00	4.25	--	--	2.00	6.00	--	--	7.75	1.50	--	--	--	--				
EUEX	3.00	6.00	--	--	6.05	5.00	--	--	--	--	--	4.00	--	--	--	--	6.00	4.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	16.00	--	--	8.00	2.00	--	--	10.00	2.00	--	--	3.00	3.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
KAPA	--	--	--	--	--	2.00	--	1.75	--	--	--	--	--	12.00	6.50	1.60	--	--	--	--	10.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
SAAB	--	--	--	--	15.00	1.00	--	1.50	--	--	--	--	--	3.00	--	57.00	--	--	--	--	10.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		
SARE3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.75	--	--	--	--	--	8.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
SOEL	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.10	--	--	--	--	1.00	--	0.20	--	1.75	--	1.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.50	--	--		
SPLE	0.01	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		
Shrubs, Trees, and Cacti																																																
ARLU	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		
CAHU	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		
KRLA2	4.00	--	--	--	6.00	10.00	--	3.00	8.00	0.80	24.00	--	4.00	45.00	5.00	--	19.00	6.00	10.00	20.00	35.00	--	--	--	--	0.05	35.00	6.00	--	--	--	--	--	5.00	10.50	0.50	--	5.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		
ZIGR	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Totals																																																
Vegetation	20.00	13.00	41.75	25.00	33.00	20.00	0.20	23.00	60.00	5.20	38.00	21.00	4.00	60.00	11.70	64.00	29.00	29.00	24.00	35.00	89.00	0.00	1.75	30.00	17.25	31.00	39.00	15.00	33.00	7.00	9.00	25.10	33.00	16.00	15.90	11.00	13.00	23.00	11.30	4.50	--	--	--	--				
Rock	15.00	40.00	52.50	15.00	0.00	8.00	7.00	2.00	10.00	45.00	6.50	9.00	1.00	10.00	9.00	7.00	30.00	15.00	36.00	4.00	1.00	50.00	11.00	0.50	19.75	30.00	6.00	25.00	8.00	12.00	12.00	9.00	6.00	20.00	8.00	50.00	5.00	8.00	18.00	5.00	--	--	--	--				
Litter	7.00	10.00	1.50	49.00	40.00	8.00	7.50	6.00	20.00	12.00	3.00	20.00	6.00	10.00	8.00	11.00	30.00	10.00	8.00	1.00	5.00	0.05	12.00	30.00	52.00	30.00	36.00	15.00	15.00	20.00	6.00	11.00	40.00	8.00	7.00	0.50	30.00	10.00	12.00	1.00	--	--	--	--				
Bare Soil	58.00	37.00	4.25	11.00	27.00	64.00	85.30	69.00	10.00	37.80	52.50	50.00	89.00	20.00	71.30	18.00	11.00	46.00	32.00	60.00	5.00	49.95	75.25	39.50	11.00	9.00	19.00	45.00	44.00	61.00	73.00	54.90	21.00	56.00	69.10	38.50	52.00	59.00	58.70	89.50	--	--	--	--				

Notes:
Species codes defined in Table 5

Table A-7: Reference Area Plant Frequency (#/m²), 2025

Species Code	Transect/Quadrat																																							
	CH25-RF-T01P				CH25-RF-T02P				CH25-RF-T03P				CH25-RF-T04P				CH25-RF-T05P				CH25-RF-T06P				CH25-RF-T07P				CH25-RF-T08P				CH25-RF-T09P				CH25-RF-T10P			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4				
Grasses																																								
ARPU9	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
ARPUP6	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
BOAR	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	--	--			
BOCU	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	8	--	--	--	--	3	--	--	--	--	--			
BOER4	--	2	6	10	--	--	1	3	2	3	8	--	--	--	--	11	2	--	3	--	--	--	--	10	6	8	--	9	--	3	4	4	--	3	3	2	--	3	4	
BOGR2	--	--	1	--	2	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		
ELEL5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		
MUPO2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	10	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4	--	4	--		
PAHA	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--			
PLMU3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	6	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		
SCBR2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	2	5	7	12	--	--	2	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--		
SPCO4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		
Forbs																																								
CHER2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		
CHPR6	2	3	13	22	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		
CHSE6	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	1	--	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4	2	2	3	2	--	5	6	1	--	1	1		
CHSO	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		
DABR	1	1	--	1	1	--	--	1	--	--	4	--	--	--	1	8	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	--	13	1	5	1	1	--	--	2	--	3	2	--	1	
DALEA	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	40	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		
DYPA	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		
EUDE4	--	--	52	59	--	--	--	9	--	16	50	--	--	--	1	23	--	--	9	14	9	--	--	40	--	62	--	--	--	19	23	--	--	16	32	--	--	113	7	
EUEX	9	13	--	--	9	10	--	--	--	--	--	9	--	--	--	3	15	--	--	--	--	--	--	20	--	--	--	15	22	--	--	30	4	--	--	16	12	--	--	
KAPA	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	2	--	--	--	--	2	18	2	--	--	--	--	12	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		
SAAB	--	--	--	--	21	1	--	1	--	--	--	--	23	--	235	--	--	--	--	24	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		
SARE3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	15	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		
SOEL	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	--	--	--	--	1	--	1	--	2	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	
SPLE	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		
Shrubs, Trees, and Cacti																																								
ARLU	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		
CAHU	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	8	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		
KRLA2	1	--	--	--	2	1	--	1	1	1	3	--	2	1	3	--	3	2	2	3	5	--	--	1	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	1	4	1	--	1	--	--		
ZIGR	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		

Table A-8: Reference Area Shrub Belt Transect (#), 2025

Species Code	Transect																			
	T01B	T01P	T02B	T02P	T03B	T03P	T04B	T04P	T05B	T05P	T06B	T06P	T07B	T07P	T08B	T08P	T09B	T09P	T10B	T10P
Shrubs, Trees, and Cacti																				
ATCA2	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2
KRLA2	45	6	44	35	56	14	30	45	14	42	10	32	67	11	42	20	22	43	84	39
PRGL2	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	5	--	--	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
ESVI2	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
ECFE	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--
DEIL	--	--	--	--	--	--	16	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
CAHU	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	11	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
OPPO	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	--	--	1	--	--	1	--	--
ZIGR	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	--	--	--	--	1	1	--	--	--
OPMA2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--
OPPH	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--
ARDR4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--

Notes:

The shrub belt transect is 60m² (see Figure 3); shrubs rooted in the belt transect counted on an individual basis

Species codes defined in Table 5

APPENDIX B

Quadrat Photos

CH25-BR-T01P



Q1



Q2

Photo Corrupted

Q3

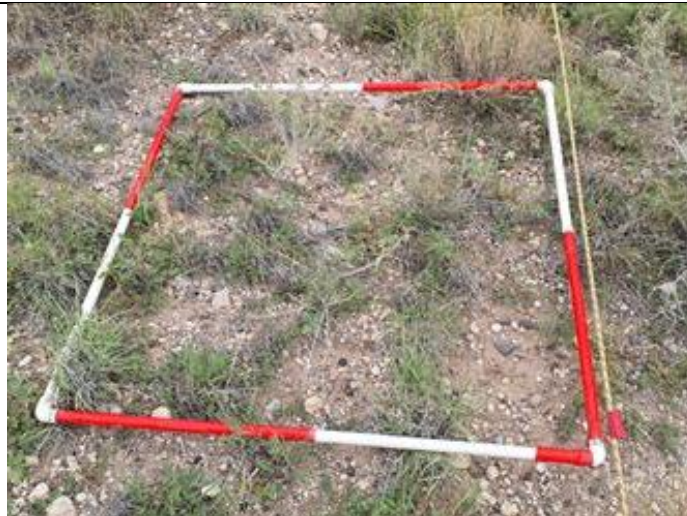


Q4

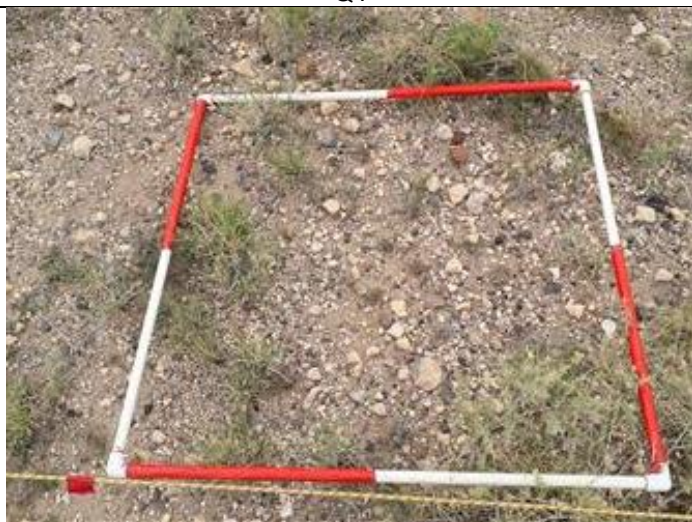
CH25-BR-T02P	
Photo Corrupted	
Q1	Q2
Photo Corrupted	
Q3	Q4

CH25-BR-T03P

Q1



Q2



Q3



Q4

CH25-BR-T04P



Q1



Q2



Q3



Q4

CH25-BR-T05P



Q1



Q2



Q3



Q4

Belt Transect Photos			
			
CH25-BR-T01P		CH25-BR-T02P	
			
CH25-BR-T03P		CH25-BR-T04P	

Belt Transect Photos

CH25-BR-T05P

CH25-RF-T01P



Q1



Q2



Q3



Q4

CH25-RF-T02P



Q1



Q2



Q3



Q4

CH25-RF-T03P



Q1



Q2



Q3



Q4

CH25-RF-T04P



Q1



Q2



Q3



Q4

CH25-RF-T05P



Q1



Q2



Q3



Q4

CH25-RF-T06P



Q1



Q2



Q3



Q4

CH25-RF-T07P



Q1



Q2



Q3



Q4

CH25-RF-T08P



Q1



Q2



Q3



Q4

CH25-RF-T09P



Q1



Q2



Q3



Q4

CH25-RF-T10P



Q1



Q2



Q3



Q4

Belt Transect Photos			
			
CH25-RF-T01B			CH25-RF-T01P
			
CH25-RF-T02B			CH25-RF-T02P

Belt Transect Photos

CH25-RF-T03B



CH25-RF-T03P



CH25-RF-T04B



CH25-RF-T04P

Belt Transect Photos

CH25-RF-T05B



CH25-RF-T05P



CH25-RF-T06B



CH25-RF-T06P

Belt Transect Photos

CH25-RF-T07B



CH25-RF-T07P



CH25-RF-T08B



CH25-RF-T08P

Belt Transect Photos			
			
CH25-RF-T09B			CH25-RF-T09P
			
CH25-RF-T10B			CH25-RF-T10P

