

KILGALIA POINT II - TREND STUDY NO. 14-37-09

Vegetation Type: Logged Ponderosa

Range Type: Crucial Deer Summer, Crucial Elk Summer

NRCS Ecological Site Description: Not Available

Land Ownership: USFS

Elevation: 8,400 ft (2,560 m)

Aspect: Northeast

Slope: 3%

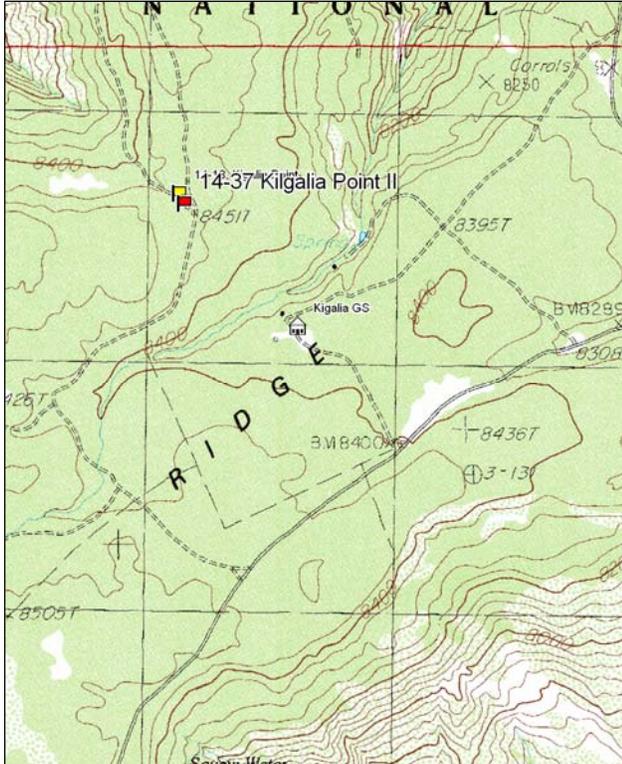
Transect bearing: 175 degrees magnetic

Belt placement: line 1(11 ft), line 2(34 ft), line 3(59 ft), line 4(71 ft), line 5(95 ft)

Directions:

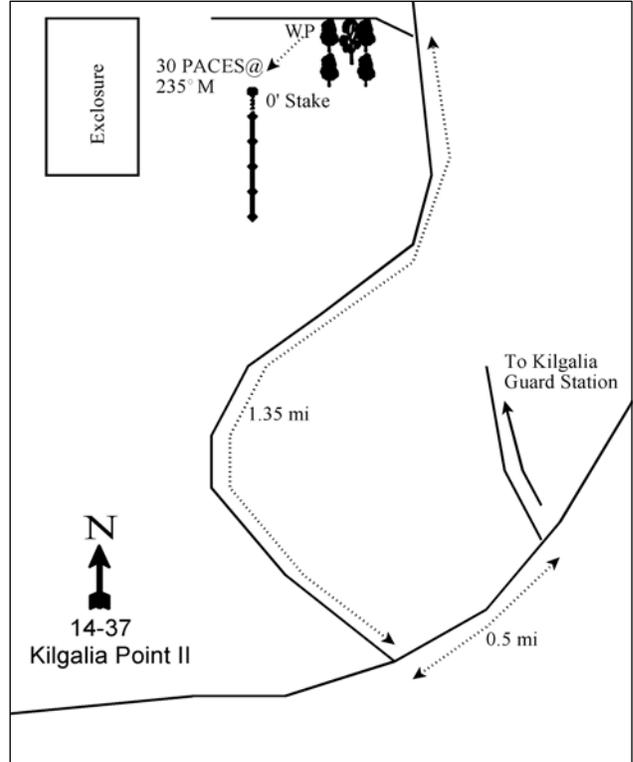
From the turnoff to the Kigalia Guard Station on the main Elk Ridge-Bears Ears Road, proceed southwest for 0.50 miles to the Kigalia Point Road. Turn right on this road and travel north for 1.35 miles to a small clearing in the ponderosa pine-aspen forest with a faint road turning off to the left. Park here and walk 0.05 miles down the faint road (just past the west end of the clearing) to where four clustered ponderosa with a large aspen growing in the middle of them are located on the left side of the road. The witness post is located near these on the left (south) side of the road. The 0 foot stake is about 30 paces away at a bearing of 235°M and is marked by browse tag # 9178.

Map name:



Township: Range: Section:

Diagrammatic Sketch:



GPS: NAD 83, UTM 12S 603043 E 4170826 N

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Site Information

Site Description: The study is located on Kigalia Point on the same site as the original Kigalia Point (14-18) study. The original study was suspended because a wildlife enclosure was constructed between the 2004 and 2009 sample years around the quaking aspen (*Populus tremuloides*) stand that the study transect sampled. The enclosure fence divided the study transect surrounding several of the sample belts, but leaving several outside of the enclosure. The new study samples a ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) flat that is representative of the area. Kigalia point is a narrow, two mile long ridge which extends to the north off the southern end of Elk Ridge. The point drops sharply on all sides to the east, west and north and is managed by the Forest Service as part of the Twin Springs allotment. The level terrain on top of this extension of the plateau is dominated by ponderosa pine with areas of quaking aspen. In the early 1960's, part of this area was logged to harvest old growth timber as part of an accelerated harvest to minimize beetle damage. In 1964, a small part of the section was thinned. A ground fire occurred on the site some time between 1992 and 1999, but probably in 1998, that did not affect large, mature trees. Resting cover is good, but the openness of the forest above 3 to 4 feet does not hide a moving animal. Pellet group data from the original study transect showed the average use from 1999 and 2004 to be 10 deer days use/acre (24 ddu/ha), 8 elk days use/acre (19 edu/ha), and 8 cattle days use/acre (19 cdu/ha). Pellet group data along the new transect also indicated light use by deer, elk, and cattle in 2009 (Table - Pellet Group Data). Other uses of the forest include mining claims, uranium exploration, and recreation. The area has an extensive network of roads allowing easy access to most of the remote areas.

Browse: Browse is not an important component of this summer range. The only understory browse of any note on the site is snowberry (*Symphoricarpos oreophilus*). There is a fairly dense stand of mostly mature ponderosa pine on the site (Table - Point-Quarter Tree Data). There are a few mature aspen trees scattered over the site as well as quite a few aspen seedlings sampled with the point-quarter method.

Herbaceous Understory: Grasses are diverse and abundant, but are dominated by the introduced species. Smooth brome (*Bromus inermis*) and Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*) are the dominant grass species and combined provided nearly 90% of the grass cover in 2009. Another introduced species, intermediate wheatgrass (*Agropyron cristatum*), is also common and provides the majority of the remaining grass cover. Forbs are fairly diverse and abundant. Tuber starwort (*Stellaria jamesiana*) and clover (*Trifolium sp.*) are the most common species and provide the majority of forb cover on the site (Table - Herbaceous Trends).

Soil: The soil is a loam with a moderately acidic pH (Table - Soil Analysis Data). Bare ground cover is low on the site with protective cover provided primarily by litter cover (Table - Basic Cover). The soil erosion condition was classified as stable in 2009.

Trend Summary

HERBACEOUS TRENDS--
Management unit 14, Study no: 37

T y p e	Species	Nested Frequency	Average Cover %
		'09	'09
G	Agropyron intermedium	107	1.80
G	Bromus inermis	276	18.70
G	Carex sp.	7	.18
G	Dactylis glomerata	8	.15
G	Phleum pratense	27	.28
G	Poa bulbosa	3	.41
G	Poa pratensis	326	11.56

Type	Species	Nested	Average
		Frequency	Cover %
		'09	'09
G	Stipa columbiana	10	.44
G	Stipa lettermani	7	.24
Total for Annual Grasses		0	0
Total for Perennial Grasses		771	33.79
Total for Grasses		771	33.79
F	Achillea millefolium	31	.52
F	Agoseris glauca	13	.16
F	Arenaria sp.	8	.09
F	Collinsia parviflora (a)	6	.01
F	Erigeron flagellaris	11	.22
F	Lathyrus brachycalyx	9	.36
F	Senecio multilobatus	5	.03
F	Stellaria jamesiana	121	1.62
F	Taraxacum officinale	31	.51
F	Thermopsis montana	8	.59
F	Trifolium sp.	148	3.52
F	Vicia americana	13	.48
Total for Annual Forbs		6	0.01
Total for Perennial Forbs		398	8.12
Total for Forbs		404	8.14

Values with different subscript letters are significantly different at alpha = 0.10

BROWSE TRENDS--

Management unit 14, Study no: 37

Type	Species	Strip	Average
		Frequency	Cover %
		'09	'09
B	Mahonia repens	12	.48
B	Pinus ponderosa	7	1.77
B	Symphoricarpos oreophilus	57	2.94
Total for Browse		76	5.20

CANOPY COVER, LINE INTERCEPT--

Management unit 14, Study no: 37

Species	Percent
	Cover
	'09
Mahonia repens	.36
Pinus ponderosa	40.04
Populus tremuloides	4.19
Quercus gambelii	.96
Symphoricarpos oreophilus	3.01

POINT-QUARTER TREE DATA--
Management unit 14, Study no: 37

Species	Trees per Acre	Average diameter (in)
	'09	'09
Pinus ponderosa	86	15.1
Populus tremuloides	29	6.6

BASIC COVER--
Management unit 14, Study no: 37

Cover Type	Average Cover % '09
Vegetation	45.53
Rock	1.89
Litter	85.45
Bare Ground	1.05

PELLET GROUP DATA--
Management unit 14, Study no: 37

Type	Quadrat Frequency	Days use per acre (ha) '09
	'09	
Elk	-	12 (30)
Deer	1	8 (20)
Cattle	2	15 (36)

BROWSE CHARACTERISTICS--
Management unit 14, Study no: 37

Year	Plants per Acre (excluding seedlings)	Age class distribution			Seedling (plants/acre)	Utilization			Average Height Crown (in)
		% Young	% Mature	% Decadent		% moderate	% heavy	% poor vigor	
Mahonia repens									
09	1720	12	88	-	-	0	0	0	4/7
Pinus ponderosa									
09	160	0	100	-	-	0	0	0	-/-
Populus tremuloides									
09	0	0	0	-	-	0	0	0	-/-
Quercus gambelii									
09	0	0	0	-	20	0	0	0	-/-
Rosa woodsii									
09	0	0	0	-	-	0	0	0	12/10
Symphoricarpos oreophilus									
09	5660	45	55	-	40	0	1	1	13/17