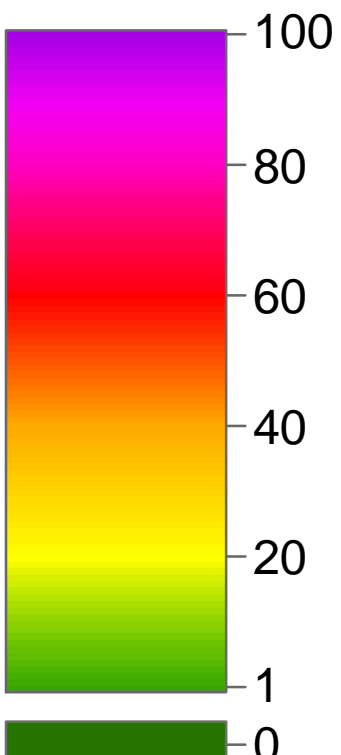


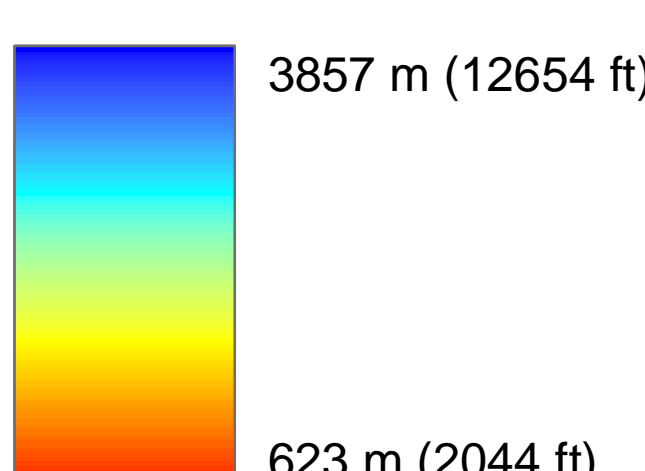
Annual Grass Index

Based on percent ground-cover. Sites with zero (dark green) have no detectable annual grass cover while sites with 100 appear to be completely covered with annual grasses to the point that little, if any, soil can be seen through the grasses.



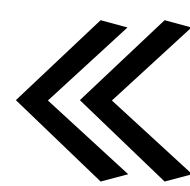
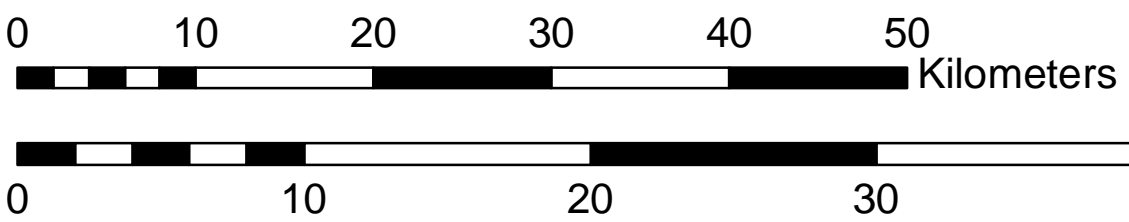
Elevation

(outside of study area)



- Field Plots (412)
- Owyhee Uplands Boundary
- State Boundaries
- County Boundaries
- Major Roads and Highways

Scale 1:425,000



Annual Grass Index for the Owyhee Uplands, 2006

This map displays an Annual Grass Index for the Owyhee Uplands, providing a detailed landscape-level analysis of ground-cover by annual grasses as detectable in satellite imagery. Few annual grasses are native to the region and most of the annual grass cover detected here is composed of exotic and invasive cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*) and medusahead (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*). The index was derived from a statistical model utilizing 412 field plots, 2006 satellite imagery (Landsat 5 TM and MODIS at two time periods), and accessory climate data. The study area focused on the Owyhee Uplands and a 25 km (15.5 mi) buffer was retained around the Owyhee Uplands to extend ecological gradients and provide additional landscape context. Cultivated fields and urban landscaping are not masked on this map; early season growth in those situations may appear as 'false positives'.

Eric Peterson, Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Nevada Natural Heritage Program.
Funding: Bureau of Land Management and the Nevada Biodiversity Initiative. Report and GIS data online at: <http://heritage.nv.gov/reports.htm>

