

Aztec Ruins National Monument Vegetation and Land Cover

Southern Colorado Plateau Network
National Park Service
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Participating Agencies, Universities, and Private Entities



This project was directed by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's (BOR) Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Group based in Denver, Colorado. The goals of this project were to describe the current vegetation and to provide a digital vegetation map.

To classify the vegetation, 18 representative plots were located throughout the approximately 130 ha (322 acres) project area. These plots were sampled during the summer and fall of 2006. Analysis of the plot data showed 14 distinct National Vegetation Classification (NVC) plant associations. The fourteen plant association descriptions are included in the report.

A total of 28 map units were used to describe the project area. Fourteen map units represent the NVC associations. Of the remaining 14 map units, 4 are vegetated but represent either the park picnic area, agricultural or weedy map units / land cover types that do not fit into the NVC. The remaining 10 are non-vegetated land cover types such as industrial, commercial or urban areas.

To produce the digital map, we used existing 2003 0.3 m (1 ft.) pixel imagery (color, color infrared, and panchromatic). This imagery did not cover the entire project area, therefore we filled in the missing area with a 1998 USGS 1 m (3.3 ft.) pixel digital orthophoto quad. These images in addition to ground truthing were used to interpret the patterns of vegetation and land-use. All of the interpreted and remotely sensed data were converted to geodatabases using ESRI ARCGIS® software. Draft maps were printed, field verified, reviewed, and revised as necessary. The map was verified by visiting every polygon within the administrative boundary.

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, under contract with USGS and NPS generated these data. Although these data have been processed successfully on computers at BOR and USGS, no warranty, expressed or implied, is made regarding the accuracy or utility of the data on any other system or for general or scientific purposes. Any person using the information presented here should fully understand the data collection and compilation procedures, as described in the metadata, before beginning analysis. The burden for determining fitness for use lies entirely with the user.

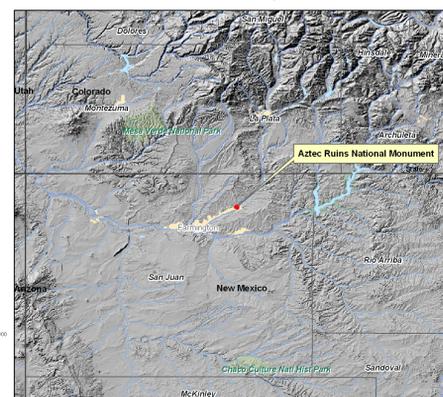
Additional details can be found in Salas, D. E., D. Wegner, and L. Floyd-Hanna. 2009. Vegetation Mapping and Classification Report: Aztec Ruins National Monument. Natural Resource Technical Report NPS/SCPN/NRTR-2009. National Park Service, Fort Collins, Colorado.



Legend

Map Unit No., Map Unit Name
10. Fremont Cottonwood / Coyote Willow Forest
11. Fremont Cottonwood Seasonally Flooded Woodland Alliance
12. Utah Juniper - One-seed Juniper / Sparse Understory Woodland
13. Two-needle Pinon - Juniper species / Wyoming Big Sagebrush, Mountain Big Sagebrush Woodland
14. Russian Olive Semi-natural Woodland Alliance
15. Siberian Elm - Cheatgrass Semi-natural Woodland Alliance
20. Willow (Coyote, Sandbar) Temporarily Flooded Shrubland Alliance
21. Basin Big Sagebrush / James' Galleta Shrubland
22. Greasewood Shrubland
24. Fourwing Saltbush / Indian Ricegrass Shrubland
25. Pale Wolfberry Sparse Vegetation
30. Snakeweed / Alkali Sacaton - James' Galleta Shrub Herbaceous Vegetation
40. James' Galleta Herbaceous Vegetation
41. Cattail (Broadleaf, Narrowleaf) Western Herbaceous Vegetation
51. Abandoned Field / Other Weedy areas
52. Irrigated Field / Pasture
58. Sand Bar
64. Arroyo
65. River
67. Ponds
61. West Ruin
63. Picnic Area
62. Gas Pads
53. Orchards
60. Industrial / Commercial
55. Non-Residential / Developed
54. Residential
59. Transportation Corridors
Monument Boundary

Index Map



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Report:
Salas, D. E., D. Wegner, and L. Floyd-Hanna. 2009.
Vegetation Mapping and Classification Report:
Aztec Ruins National Monument. Natural Resource
Technical Report NPS/SCPN/NRTR-2009/244. National
Park Service, Fort Collins, Colorado.

0 100 200 400 Meters

Projection UTM
Datum NAD 83
Zone 13
Imagery - 13 Imagery Prime World 2D