

South Ruby Mountain (IRON, domain 15)

Location: **South Ruby Mountain** (IRON, domain 15), RUBY_NV_IRON

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Webpage: <http://neon-iron.org>, <http://sagestep.org>

Location within domain:

Latitude: 40.62

Longitude: -115.48

Ownership: USFS

Access: open

Aquatic features: none

Contributions to national gradient:
drought, land cover, invasives,
infectious disease

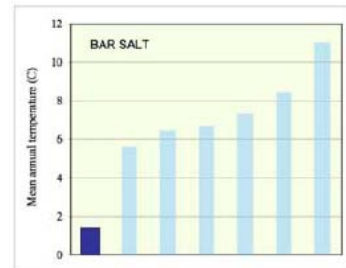
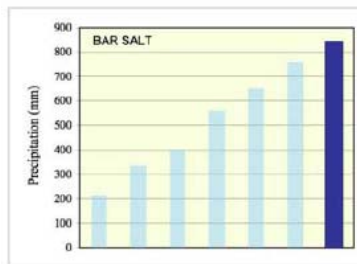


History: The South Ruby Mountain site was established as part of the Joint Fire Science Project to understand the ways to restore sagebrush ecosystems as a result of both juniper expansion and invasive species; each resulting in increased fire frequencies and the conversion of sagebrush shrublands to annual grasslands (<http://sagebrushstep.org>). In addition to control plots, the site consists of several long-term treatment plots: burned, herbicide application, and physical juniper removal). Treatment and control plots at this site range from areas ranging from 81 to 405 ha, where cheatgrass ranges from being a minor component to being a co-dominant with sagebrush in the plant community. Treatments will be applied in 2007 and follow-up measurements of soils, plants and animals will be made by members of the Joint Fire Science Project team.

Key characteristics: This site is dominated by the three dominant vegetation associations that characterize the basin portion of the basin and range of the Great Basin: sagebrush steppe, invasive annual grassland, and sagebrush juniper steppe.

Climatic location of South Ruby Mountain within the BAR SALT gradient are shown in blue.

Contributions to national gradients:
drought, land cover, invasives,
infectious disease



Existing infrastructure: There are meteorological stations on site that have been operational for a limited period of time.

Facilities: There are no established onsite facilities.