



BG = bareground, a boolean model where 1=true, bareground exists at >50% exposure; 0=false, bareground is <50% exposure.

SLOPE was calculated using SRTM DEM data in ArcGIS 9.0

SHRUB, GRASS, AND LITTER are boolean models where 1= true, the feature (shrub, grass, or litter) exists at >15% cover.

SOIL MODEL is derived from STATSGO soils data and specifically the K-factor of soils in the study area.

RATIO uses the predicted SHRUB AND GRASS models. If both features are predicted to exist within a pixel, then the vegetation component segment of the model has been satisfied.

SOILS and vegetation structure (RATIO) are only included where bareground is low. This is because bareground is a critical driver of rangeland health, specifically effective water cycling. Without sufficient ground cover the ecosystem is predicted to function differently with erosional processes dominating the apparent effects.