

## **WESTERN GREAT PLAINS SAND PRAIRIE**

**Nature Serve ID:** CES303.670

**Geology:** Aeolian sands.

**Landform:** Rolling dunes and level sandy plains.

**Soils:** Deep sand, sand hills, and adjacent sandy soils.

**Description:** This represents far southern outliers of this system which is best developed in Nebraska and South Dakota, and may in fact be a different system. These grasslands occupy deep sands and sandhills and are dominated by species such as *Sporobolus giganteus* (giant dropseed), *Sporobolus cryptandrus* (sand dropseed), *Andropogon hallii* (sand bluestem), *Andropogon gerardii* (big bluestem), *Schizachyrium scoparium* (little bluestem), *Paspalum setaceum* (thin paspalum), *Calamovilfa gigantea* (big sandreed), and *Cenchrus spinifex* (common sandbur). Some woody species may be present, including *Artemisia filifolia* (sand sage) and *Quercus havardii* (Havard's shin oak).

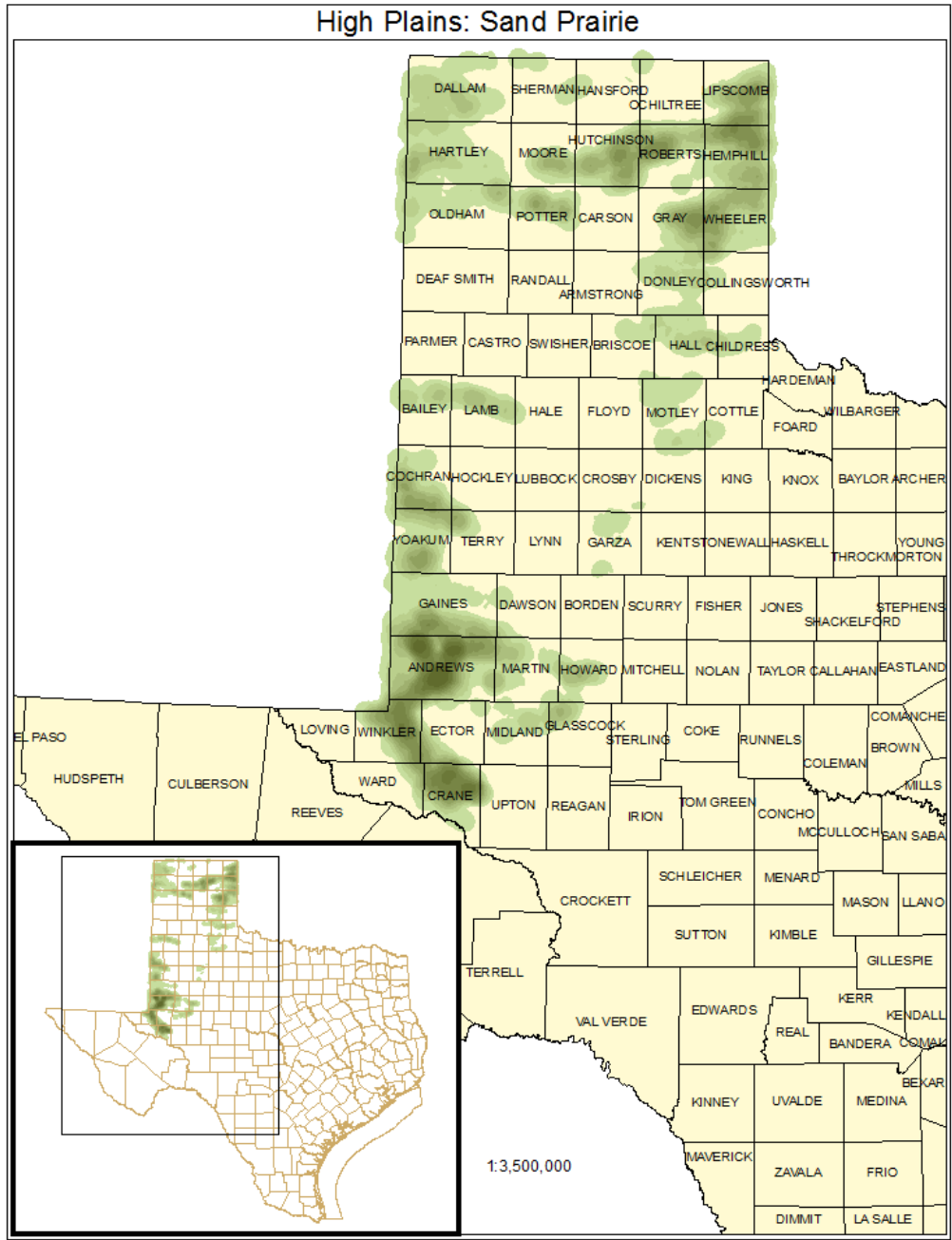
**ECOLOGICAL MAPPING SYSTEMS:**

**HIGH PLAINS: SAND PRAIRIE**

**Mapping System ID:** 8007

**EMS Description:** As described for system.

**Distribution Map:**



**Example:**



**Public Land Occurrence:**

Matador Wildlife Management Area: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

Monahans Sandhills State Park: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department