### S008 Western Great Plains Cliff and Outcrop

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NLCD Class</th>
<th>Barren Lands</th>
<th>Spatial Scale / Pattern</th>
<th>Small patch</th>
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</table>

**Concept Summary**
This system includes cliffs and outcrops throughout the Western Great Plains Division. Substrate can range from sandstone and limestone, which can often form bands in the examples of this system. Vegetation is restricted to shelves, cracks and crevices in the rock. However, this system differs from Western Great Plains Badlands (CES303.663) in that often the soil is slightly developed and less erodible, and some grass and shrub species can occur at greater than 10%. Common species in this system include short shrubs such as Rhus trilobata and Artemisia longifolia and mixedgrass species such as Bouteloua curtipendula and Bouteloua gracilis and Calamovilfa longifolia. Drought and wind erosion are the most common natural dynamics affecting this system.

**Range**
This system ranges throughout the Western Great Plains Division from northern Texas to southern Canada.

### Additional Information
- Southwest ReGAP Analysis Project Land Cover Datasets: http://earth.gis.usu.edu/swgap/
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Plants Database: http://plants.usda.gov/
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This distribution map represents the Ecological System as it was mapped by the Southwest ReGAP Analysis Project for the 5-state region. The boundaries represent hydrologic units used for delineating Wildlife Habitat Relationships. Ecological Systems that are rare or have very limited distributions may not be visible on this map. Refer to the list below to identify where this system was mapped.

States where System was mapped by SWReGAP: CO, NM