

# NEON Intermountain Region Observatory Network (IRON)

## Basin and Range, Steppe and Land Transition (BAR SALT)

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### Onaqui-Ault, Candidate Core Site for Domain 15

Location: Onaqui-Ault sagebrush steppe

Contact person: Jim Ehleringer, 801-581-7623, ehleringer@biology.utah.edu

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

Location within domain:  
Latitude: 40.20  
Longitude: -112.45  
Elevation: 1670  
Ownership: Onaqui - BLM & Ault - USFS  
Access: Public  
Aquatic features: N/A  
Contributions to national gradients:

Climate change, dust, water, and  
invasive species



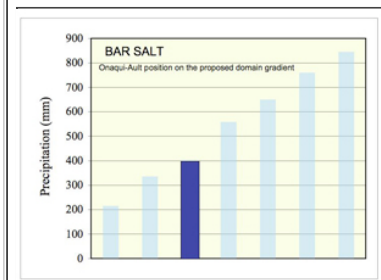
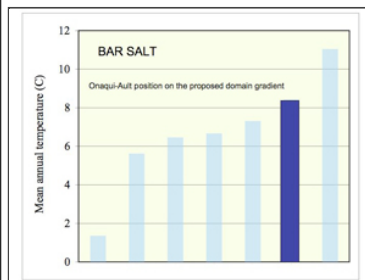
**History:** The "basin" of the IRON basin and range is the Onaqui-Ault site, lands currently managed by the BLM (Onaqui Hills) and USFS (Ault, a section within the Benmore location). Both site are dominated by big basin sagebrush steppe; the landscape transitions into juniper woodlands where fires have been excluded and into annual grassland dominated by invasive species, where fire has been a factor

**Key characteristics:** The vegetation at this steppe site is typical of the lower elevation "basins" of the basin and range vegetation of the Intermountain West (domain 15). The dominant species include *Artemisia tridentata*, *Juniperus osteosperma*, and *Bromus tectorum*.

Climatic location within the gradient is in dark blue.

Contributions to national gradients:

Climate: dust, water, invasives



**Existing infrastructure relevant to NEON:** This site is currently a primary observation and experiment site for SageStep.

**Facilities:** None, but a BLM Fire Station is located nearby in Vernon, Utah.