Aridlands Ecology Lab Protocol Modified: 2009.08.31, S.Castle

Repeat Photo Points

Materials:

- Compass or GPS Unit
- Photo point ID whiteboard (whiteboards tend to work better than chalkboards outdoors)
- Thick dry-erase marking pen
- Camera (We use a Nikon Coolpix 12MP, 7xzoom 37-260mm)
- PVC pipe (1m length)

For transects, photo points are most easily taken when the transect tape line is set-up and compliment other transect based data such as line-point intercept and gap intercept data.

If taking photo when the transect line is not set up, use compass to direct the direction of the picture.

Taking the photo:

- 1. Set PVC on transect "0m" pin or stake.
- 2. Photo board information should include the following:
 - a. Transect ID
 - b. Date in the form: yyyy/mm/dd (in the past we have done it mm/dd/yy, but have changed the protocol since then)
 - c. Cardinal direction (N, S, W, E)
- 3. Camera should be zoomed all the way OUT, aimed directly toward the transect "35m" end point, and level on top of the PVC pole. Have another person hold or prop up the white board so that it is visible in the photo, but does not obstruct the view of the transect line. If white board is unavailable, write down photo number in a field book.
- 4. Take photo. Record photo number on data sheet.

Downloading and managing photos:

- 1. After downloading, photos should be labeled with date and then transect ID. For example, a photo taken on July 15, 2009 for Shay Mesa, Bull hog, Unseeded, transect 01, at "0m" point should be labeled as: SM-B-U-01-0_2009.07.15
- 2. Photos should be placed in a folder by both date and treatment.

^{**}If there are more than one photos for a single transect point, then use a letter to designate this. **Example**: SM-B-U-01-0_2009.07.15a, SM-B-U-01-0_2009.07.15b, etc.**