This data package was produced by researchers working on the Shortgrass Steppe Long Term Ecological Research Project. This project was supported by National Science Foundation from 1982-2014. This data package includes one or more tab-delimited data tables, tab-delimited files (named _var) that denote header definitions and data types for each column, and detailed metadata within an Ecological Metadata Language document (i.e. XML).   Example image files of plots, digital datasheets, or schematics of the experimental design may also be included when applicable.

Background information on the SGS-LTER project is contained in related series of objects within the Digital Collections of Colorado and the Colorado State University archives. Together data packages and other background information, including items such as images, proposals, and reports contribute to a comprehensive SGS-LTER collection.

The data tables and associated EML documents represent components of a PASTA (Provenance Aware Synthesis and Tracking Architecture) congruent LTER data package, which may be discovered and accessed through secondary repositories serving specific ecosystem science domains (e.g. LTER Network Information System, DataONE, or The Knowledge Network for BioComplexity).

More details on how these data were produced and contributed to the study can be found in the following article:

Coffin, D. P., Laycock, W. A., & Lauenroth, W. K. (1998). Disturbance intensity and above-and belowground herbivory effects on long-term (14 y) recovery of a semiarid grassland. *Plant Ecology*, *139*(2), 221-233.