

15. (*Prosopis velutina*) / *Aloysia wrightii* Shrubland Association (P)

(Velvet mesquite) / Wright's beebrush Shrubland Association (P)

This shrubland association is characterized by a sparse (<10% cover) canopy (>2 m) of velvet mesquite (*Prosopis velutina*) and a subcanopy layer (0.5–2 m) dominated by Wright's beebrush (*Aloysia wrightii*) with a diverse mix of associate species. Velvet mesquite (*P. velutina*) is typically present as a short (2–3 m) tree that provides consistent (1.0) cover of around 4%. Wright's beebrush (*Aloysia wrightii*) accounts for the majority of cover within this community, ranging from 15 to 30%. As this species is strongly associated with sheltered northern slopes, cover tends to decrease as aspects become more exposed. Other documented species include staghorn cholla (*Cylindropuntia versicolor*), Berlandier's wolfberry (*Lycium berlandieri*), climbing wartclub (*Boerhavia scandens*), black grama (*Bouteloua eriopoda*), sideoats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*), bush muhly (*Muhlenbergia porteri*), and slender janusia (*Cottisia gracilis*).

This community covers 0.6% (175 ha/432 ac) of the Rincon Mountain District and is widespread throughout the low slopes of Tanque Verde Ridge and northeast of the Madrona ranger station. It is typically found on very steep (50+%), exclusively north-facing backslopes from 900 to 1,200 meters (2,950–3,900 ft). In general, the surface cover is dominated by coarse gravel and rock with considerable outcrops of exposed bedrock.

Common species

- *Prosopis velutina*
- *Aloysia wrightii*



