

### 32. *Parkinsonia microphylla* / *Tiquilia canescens* (*Zinnia acerosa*) Shrubland Association (P)

Yellow paloverde / Woody crinklemat (Desert zinnia) Shrubland Association (P)

This shrubland community is characterized by a sparse (<10% cover) canopy (>2 m) dominated by yellow paloverde (*Parkinsonia microphylla*) and a moderately dense (15–30% cover) field layer (<0.5 m) dominated by woody crinklemat (*Tiquilia canescens*), with a diverse mix of associate shrubs. Yellow paloverde (*P. microphylla*) is typically present as small (3–5 m), tree-like individuals or low (<2 m) shrubs with consistent (1.0) cover of around 5%. Velvet mesquite (*Prosopis velutina*) is an uncommon (0.33) component of this community, generally with low (<3%) cover. The subcanopy (0.5–2 m) is characterized by a low-cover (5 [20]%) mix of shrubs and succulents without any consistent dominants or common associates. Creosote (*Larrea tridentata*) is the most consistent (1.0) subcanopy species, with an average of 3% cover across the community with occasional, dense (15–20% cover) areas of dominance. The field layer is characterized by the consistent (0.92) dominance of woody crinklemat (*T. canescens*) with one common associate, desert zinnia (*Zinnia acerosa*). Across the community, woody crinklemat (*T. canescens*) provides cover of 10–20%, with occasional areas of low (<5%) cover, often associated with the summits of small hills. Desert zinnia (*Z. acerosa*) is a less-consistent (0.81) species that, when present, provides around 5% cover.

#### Common species

- *Parkinsonia microphylla*
- *Larrea tridentata*
- *Tiquilia canescens*
- *Zinnia acerosa*

This uncommon community covers 0.4% (109 ha/269 ac) of the Rincon Mountain District and is found near the Loma Alta trailhead, southwest of the Javelina Picnic Area, and in the northwest corner of the park, just west of the Shantz Trail. It is found on low-angle (1–10 [20]%) slopes of varying aspect at elevations around 950 meters (3,117 ft). The surface cover is defined by shallow, well-drained soils underlying a layer of coarse (5–10 cm) gravel and small rocks that are part of the Bisbee geologic group that includes sandstone, shale, and limestone. Within the park, this community is restricted to this geologic group.



