

#15 *Quercus gambelii* (*Quercus rugosa*) Shrubland Association (P)

Gambel oak (Netleaf oak) Shrubland Association

This shrubland community is characterized by a dense (40%) subcanopy stratum (0.5–2 m) dominated by Gambel oak (*Quercus gambelii*) and netleaf oak (*Quercus rugosa*). These species are present as large, regenerating shrubs (2 m) providing a consistent 30% and patchy 7% cover, respectively. Common hoptree (*Ptelea trifoliata*) is the next most-common shrub, providing around 2% cover. The field stratum (<0.5 m) is generally sparse (<5%), with no clear dominant species or common associates. Documented components of this stratum include white sagebrush (*Artemisia ludoviciana*), muttongrass (*Poa fendleriana*), longtongue muhly (*Muhlenbergia longiligula*), Fendler's meadow rue (*Thalictrum fendleri*), and fragrant snake-root (*Ageratina herbacea*).

Common species

Quercus gambelii

Quercus rugosa

Ptelea trifoliata

Overall, this community covers 0.01% (0.2 ha, 0.6 ac) of the park, exclusively on steep (50+%), north-facing mountain backslopes at 2,210 meters (7,250 ft). The only example of this community is on upper slopes on the northeast side of Montezuma Peak.

