

## #20 [*Aloysia wrightii* - *Eysenhardtia orthocarpa*] / Mixed Perennial Grass Shrub Savanna and Shrubland Association (P)

[Wright's beebrush - Tahitian kidneywood] / Mixed Perennial Grass Shrub Savanna and Shrubland Association

This shrub savanna community is characterized by a moderately dense (<20%) subcanopy stratum (0.5–2 m) co-dominated by Wright's beebrush (*Aloysia wrightii*) and Tahitian kidneywood (*Eysenhardtia orthocarpa*), with a field stratum (<0.5) dominated by a variable mix of perennial grasses. Overall, Wright's beebrush (*A. wrightii*) is the most dominant, with an average cover of 7% that typically presents as scattered patches, with the densest areas often associated with minor drainages. Tahitian kidneywood (*E. orthocarpa*) ranges from scattered small individuals contributing a few percent cover to shrubland variations with 10–20%. Common sotol (*D. wheeleri*) and Palmer's agave (*Agave palmeri*) are the most consistent associate succulents, with low cover (2–3%) throughout. In areas with significant bedrock outcrops, evergreen sumac (*Rhus virens*) can become a subdominant shrub. The field stratum is characterized by a moderately dense (35%) mix of native and non-native perennial grasses. The non-native grasses are solely composed of Lehmann lovegrass (*Eragrostis lehmanniana*), with the greatest cover (up to 30%) occurring near the highly disturbed alluvial fan in the park's southeast corner. Sideoats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*) and cane bluestem (*Bothriochloa barbino-dis*) provide the highest and most consistent cover of native grasses, with an average of 6 and 4%, respectively.

### Common species

*Aloysia wrightii*  
*Eysenhardtia orthocarpa*  
*Rhus virens*  
*Eragrostis lehmanniana*  
*Bouteloua curtipendula*

Overall, this community covers 5.8% (112 ha, 277 ac) of the park, predominately on low- (<6%) to medium- (<50%) gradient, south-facing foot and toeslopes at 1,490–1,800 meters (4,888–5,905 ft). The largest occurrences of this community are located along the southern boundary and in the low hills just north of the park's eastern entrance.

