

#5 *Quercus arizonica* - *Quercus emoryi* / Mixed Perennial Grass Woodland Association (P)

Arizona white oak - Emory oak / Mixed Perennial Grass Woodland Association

This woodland community is characterized by a moderately dense (25%) tree canopy co-dominated by Arizona white oak (*Quercus arizonica*) and Emory oak (*Quercus emoryi*), with a diverse matrix (35%) of perennial grasses in the field stratum (<0.5 m). Arizona white oak (*Q. arizonica*) is typically present as a small tree with heights ranging from 3 to 5 meters, often increasing when growing in small drainages (up to 6 m) or on more sheltered, northern aspects. Overall, this species provides consistent cover around 14%, but may reach 21% within some examples. The second dominant, Emory oak (*Quercus emoryi*), is typically present as a large shrub to small tree with an inconsistent cover of 10% across the community. The subcanopy stratum (0.5–2 m) is characterized by an inconsistent, low-cover (5%) mix of shrubs and succulents with no clear dominant species or common associates, including common sotol (*Dasyliirion wheeleri*), California brickellbush (*Brickellia californica*), beargrass (*Nolina microcarpa*), yucca (*Yucca madrensis*), and pointleaf manzanita (*Arctostaphylos pungens*). The field stratum (<0.5 m) is characterized by a moderately dense (35%) and diverse matrix of native perennial grasses dominated by single threeawn (*Aristida schiedeana*), sideoats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*), and Texas bluestem (*Schizachyrium cirratum*).

Common species

Quercus arizonica

Quercus emoryi

Dasyliirion wheeleri

Nolina microcarpa

Arctostaphylos pungens

Overall, this community covers 3.1% (60 ha, 148 ac) of the park, predominately on low-angle (<15%) toeslopes to steep (>50%) backslopes with a generally north-facing aspect at 1,610–1,810 meters (5,282–5,938 ft). The primary example of this community spans the north-facing slopes of Montezuma Canyon toward the eastern end of Joe's Canyon Trail.

