

## #7 *Quercus emoryi* / *Bouteloua curtipendula* Scrub Woodland Association

### Emory oak / Sideoats grama Scrub Woodland Association

This woodland community is characterized by a moderately dense (30%) tree canopy (>2 m) dominated by Emory oak (*Quercus emoryi*) with a diverse matrix of perennial grasses (35%) in the field stratum (<0.5 m). Emory oak (*Q. emoryi*) is typically present as a small tree or large, tree-like shrub with heights ranging from 3 to 4 meters. Emory oak provides an average of 22% cover across the community, with values ranging up to 42% in some locations. Mexican blue oak (*Quercus oblongifolia*) is an occasional component of this community, with average cover around 2.5% and rarely up to 8%. The subcanopy stratum (0.5–2 m) is characterized by an inconsistent, low-cover (<10%) mix of shrubs and succulents with no species clearly dominant, nor common associates. Pointleaf manzanita (*Arctostaphylos pungens*) and common sotol (*Dasyliirion wheeleri*) are widespread but sparse components that provide 0.5–3% cover throughout. The field stratum (<0.5 m) is characterized by a moderately dense (35%) and diverse matrix of native and non-native perennial grasses dominated by single threeawn (*Aristida schiedeana*), Texas bluestem (*Schizachyrium cirratum*), Lehmann lovegrass (*Eragrostis lehmanniana*), and tanglehead (*Heteropogon contortus*).

This woodland community spans predominately south- to southeast-facing backslopes of varying gradient, from near flat to more than 50%. At times, examples of this community may occupy a more northeastern aspect and reach down to the toe and footslopes as they transition into an alluvial fan. Within the park, this community is present across an elevational range of 1,540–2,050 meters (5,025–6,725 ft) and occupies 223 hectares (551 ac).

#### Common species

*Quercus emoryi*  
*Quercus oblongifolia*  
*Arctostaphylos pungens*  
*Dasyliirion wheeleri*  
*Mimosa aculeaticarpa*

