

#12 (*Prosopis velutina*) / *Hordeum murinum* - *Bromus rubens* - *Bromus diandrus* Ruderal Shrub Savanna Association (PS)

(Velvet mesquite) / Mouse barley - Red brome - Ripgut brome Ruderal Shrub Savanna Association (PS)

This shrub savanna community is characterized by patchy, low-cover velvet mesquite (*Prosopis velutina*) in the canopy (2–5 m) and field (<0.5 m) strata, dominated by a mix of exotic annual grasses. Velvet mesquite (*P. velutina*) is generally patchy, with variable cover averaging 11% across the community, small patches ranging up to 21%, and areas completely devoid of this species. In general, this species has a tree-like growth-form, with heights up to 4 meters. The field stratum is characterized by a diverse matrix of non-native grasses and forbs, dominated by mouse barley (*Hordeum murinum*), red brome (*Bromus rubens*), ripgut brome (*Bromus diandrus*), and Russian thistle (*Salsola* sp.). Cover of these species combined is variable throughout, ranging from 10% and up to 60%, with mouse barley (*Hordeum murinum*) providing the highest and most consistent cover. In the less-disturbed sections of this community, native grasses, including silver bluestem (*Bothriochloa saccharoides*), spidergrass (*Aristida ternipes*), green sprangletop (*Leptochloa dubia*), and sand dropseed (*Sporobolus cryptandrus*), provide low cover. Other noteworthy non-native species include horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*) and Johnsongrass (*Sorghum halepense*).

Common species

- *Hordeum murinum*
- *Bromus rubens*
- *Bromus diandrus*
- *Salsola* sp.
- *Prosopis velutina*

This shrub savanna community occurs on the low-angle, heavily disturbed floodplain immediately adjacent to Beaver Creek. The main occurrence spans a large, fallow pasture that was grazed by cattle until 1993 (Rowlands 1999).

