

11. (*Parkinsonia microphylla*) / *Aloysia wrightii* Shrubland Association (P)

(Yellow paloverde) / Wright's beebrush Shrubland Association (P)

This shrubland community is characterized by a sparse (<10% cover) canopy (>2 m) of yellow paloverde (*Parkinsonia microphylla*) and a moderately dense (15–25% cover) subcanopy (0.5–2 m) dominated by Wright's beebrush (*Aloysia wrightii*). Yellow paloverde (*P. microphylla*) is typically present as small (3 m), tree-like individuals or small, shrubby individuals (<2 m), with consistent cover of around 3%. The subcanopy is characterized by the sole dominance of Wright's beebrush (*A. wrightii*) 1–1.5 meters tall, with consistent (1.0) cover ranging from 10% to 20%.

Cactus apple (*Opuntia engelmannii*), whitethorn acacia (*Vachellia constricta*), and catclaw acacia (*Senegalia greggii*) are the most common associates, with an average of 1–3% cover each. The relatively sparse (<10% cover) field layer is characterized by the consistent presence (1.0) of mariola (*Parthenium incanum*), with 4–8% cover throughout. At times, in areas of high Wright's beebrush (*A. wrightii*) cover, mariola (*P. incanum*) may not be present. Brittlebush (*Encelia farinosa*) is an incidental component with sparse cover that predominately occurs at the margins of the community or on minor aspect shifts where the exposure trends more south.

This community is contained within a two-association map class that covers 0.4% (113 ha/279 ac) and is present on the hills east of the Camino Loma Alta trailhead in the Rincon Mountain District. It is found exclusively on steep (30–50%), north-facing backslopes from 925 to 1,045 meters (3,030–3,428 ft). The surface cover is defined by shallow and well-drained soils underlying a layer of coarse (5–10 cm) gravel and small rocks that are part of the Bisbee geologic group that includes sandstone, shale, and limestone.

Common species

- *Parkinsonia microphylla*
- *Aloysia wrightii*
- *Parthenium incanum*



