

26. *Parkinsonia microphylla* / *Ambrosia deltoidea* Shrubland Association (P)

Yellow paloverde / Triangle bur ragweed Shrubland Association (P)

This shrubland community is characterized by a very sparse (<5% cover) canopy (2–5 m) of yellow paloverde (*Parkinsonia microphylla*) and a moderately dense (20–40% cover) field layer (<0.5 m) solely dominated by triangle bur ragweed (*Ambrosia deltoidea*). Yellow paloverde (*P. microphylla*) is consistently (1.0) present as scattered, small (3–4 m), tree-like individuals with average cover of around 3%. The subcanopy composition is conspicuously different between the two districts. At the Rincon Mountain District (RMD), this species provides cover of around 5 [10]%. At the Tucson Mountain District (TMD), the subcanopy is a sparse (2–4% cover) mix of whitethorn acacia (*Vachellia constricta*), Berlandier's wolfberry (*Lycium berlandieri*), and buckhorn cholla (*Cylindropuntia acanthocarpa*). The field layer (<0.5 m) is consistently dominated (1.0) by the low subshrub, triangle bur ragweed (*A. deltoidea*). Throughout this association, this species provides cover of typically less than 10%.

Common species

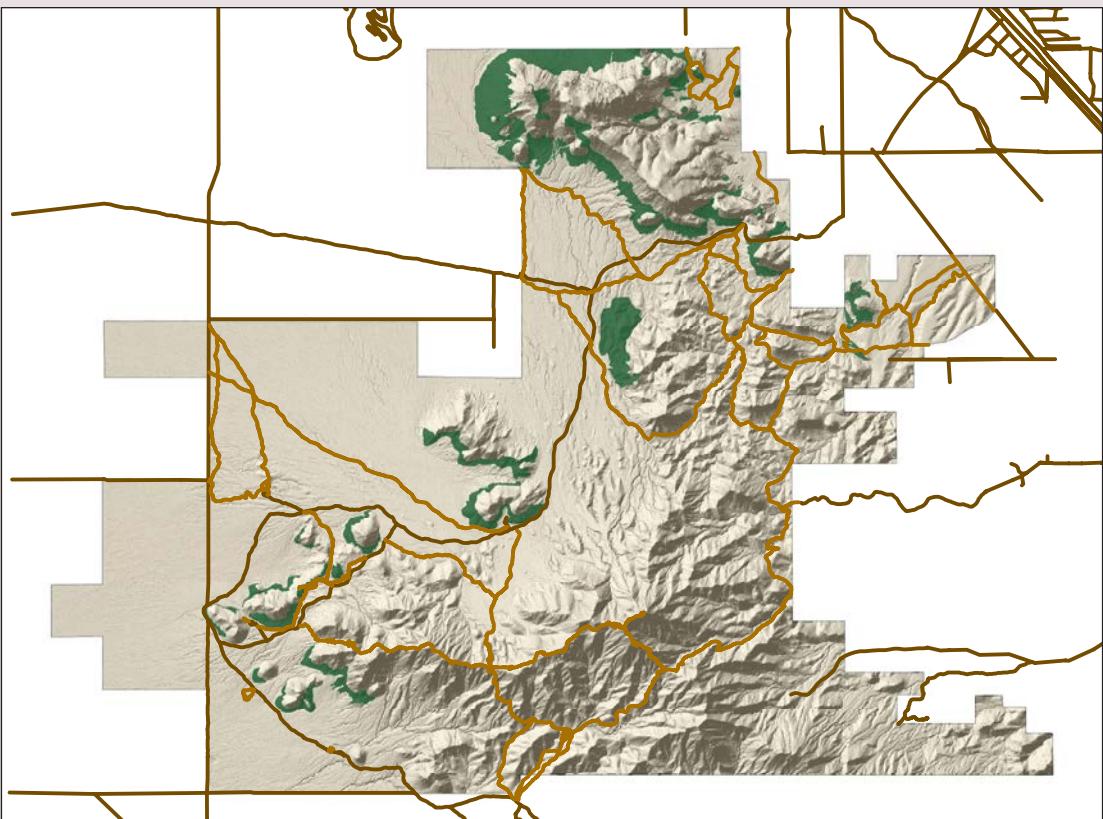
- *Parkinsonia microphylla*
- *Ambrosia deltoidea*

This community covers 5% (493 ha/1,218 ac) of the TMD. It is spread throughout the northern and eastern portions of the district. It is found on small, low-angle (<25%), rolling hills of variable aspects from 820 to 945 meters (2,609–3,100 ft). In general, the surface cover is characterized by shallow, well-drained skeletal loam and clay underlying a layer of coarse (5–10 cm) gravel with scattered rocks. Typically, the rock and gravel are composed of a fine-grained metaquartzite with occasional areas of rhyolitic tuff.

This association is one of five found in both the TMD and the Rincon Mountain District.



Tucson Mountain District, Saguaro National Park



26. *Parkinsonia microphylla* / *Ambrosia deltoidea* Shrubland Association (P)

Yellow paloverde / Triangle bur ragweed Shrubland Association (P)

This shrubland community is characterized by a very sparse (<5% cover) canopy (2–5 m) of yellow paloverde (*Parkinsonia microphylla*) and a moderately dense (20–40% cover) field layer (<0.5 m) solely dominated by triangle bur ragweed (*Ambrosia deltoidea*). Yellow paloverde (*P. microphylla*) is consistently (1.0) present as scattered, small (3–4 m), tree-like individuals with average cover of around 3%. The subcanopy (0.5–2 m) composition is conspicuously different between the two districts. At the Rincon Mountain District (RMD), the subcanopy is characterized by the presence and typical dominance of creosote (*Larrea tridentata*), with no other noteworthy associates. This species provides around 5 [10]% cover. The field layer (<0.5 m) is consistently dominated (1.0) by the low subshrub, triangle bur ragweed (*A. deltoidea*). Throughout this association, this species typically provides <10% cover.

Common species

- *Parkinsonia microphylla*
- *Ambrosia deltoidea*

This community covers 0.01% (3.5 ha/6.5 ac) of the RMD, where it is limited to one hill toward the northern end of the Cactus Forest Loop Road. It is found on small, low-angle (<25%), rolling hills of variable aspects from 820 to 945 meters (2,609–3,100 ft). In general, the surface cover is characterized by shallow, well-drained skeletal loam and clay underlying a layer of coarse (5–10 cm) gravel with scattered rocks. Typically, the rock and gravel are composed of a fine-grained metaquartzite with occasional areas of rhyolitic tuff.

This association is one of five found in both the RMD and the Tucson Mountain District.



