38. *Yucca baccata - Dasylirion wheeleri* (*Quercus turbinella*) / *Muhlenbergia porteri* Shrubland Association (P)

Banana yucca - Common sotol - (Sonoran scrub oak) / Bush muhly Shrubland Association (P)

This shrubland community is characterized by a sparse (<5% cover) to absent canopy (>2 m); a subcanopy (0.5–2 m) of mixed shrubs and succulents, most commonly dominated by banana yucca (*Yucca baccata*) and common sotol (*Dasylirion wheeleri*); and a field stratum (<0.5 m) dominated by bush muhly (*Muhlenbergia porteri*). Overall vegetative cover is estimated at 20–30%, with roughly equal contributions from shrubs, succulents, subshrubs, and perennial grasses. Banana yucca (*Y. baccata*) and common sotol (*D. wheeleri*) are consistent (1.0) dominants, with cover for each rarely exceeding 5%. In one example of this community, Sonoran scrub oak (*Quercus turbinella*) co-dominated as a short, shrubby tree. This occurrence was on the northwest slope of Amole Peak. Wright's beebrush (*Aloysia wrightii*) is a consistent (1.0) associate that, at times, can present as a co-dominant with banana yucca (*Y. baccata*) and common sotol (*D. wheeleri*). Other common shrubs and succulents in the subcanopy include buckhorn cholla (*Cylindropuntia acanthocarpa*), cactus apple (*Opuntia engelmannii*), and catclaw acacia (*Senegalia greggii*). Bush muhly (*M. porteri*) is a consistent (1.0) dominant, with cover of 2–5%. Combined, sideoats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*) and Arizona cottontop (*Digitaria californica*) contribute an additional 3–5% cover.

Common species
- *Yucca baccata*
- *Dasylirion wheeleri*
- *Aloysia wrightii*
- *Quercus turbinella*
- *Muhlenbergia porteri*

This community covers 1.5% (148 ha/366 ac) of the Tucson Mountain District, mainly in the vicinity of Wasson and Amole peaks. It occurs on steep (35–50%), north-trending mountain shoulders and backslopes from 1,100 to 1,310 m (3,600–4,300 ft). The surface cover is characterized by loose and coarse gravel with large embedded boulders composed of extrusive igneous rock.