

61. [*Quercus oblongifolia* - *Prosopis velutina* - *Vauquelinia californica*] / Mixed Perennial Grass - *Agave schottii* Wooded Shrub Savanna Association (P)

[Mexican blue oak - Velvet mesquite - California rosewood] / Mixed Perennial Grass - Schott's century plant Wooded Shrub Savanna Association (P)

This community is characterized by a sparse (5–10 [15]% cover) lower-canopy stratum (2–5 m) dominated by California rosewood (*Vauquelinia californica*), Mexican blue oak (*Quercus oblongifolia*), and velvet mesquite (*Prosopis velutina*), a subcanopy (0.5–2 m) of mixed shrubs and succulents (5–20% cover), and a variable (5–40% cover) field stratum (<0.5 m) dominated by perennial grasses and Schott's century plant (*Agave schottii*). Mexican blue oak (*Q. oblongifolia*), velvet mesquite (*P. velutina*), and California rosewood (*V. californica*) are consistently present (0.70, 0.85, 0.75) as co-dominants or with any of them becoming the sole dominant. Sideoats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*) and bullgrass (*Muhlenbergia emersleyi*) are by far the most consistent (1.0) native grasses, with variable of cover less than 5% each. Other documented species include beargrass (*Nolina microcarpa*), turpentine bush (*Ericameria laricifolia*), cactus apple (*Opuntia engelmannii*), Staghorn cholla (*Cylindropuntia versicolor*), common sotol (*Dasylirion wheeleri*), Thurber's cotton (*Gossypium thurberi*), and pointleaf manzanita (*Arctostaphylos pungens*).

Common species

- *Quercus oblongifolia*
- *Prosopis velutina*
- *Vauquelinia californica*
- *Agave schottii*
- *Bouteloua curtipendula*

This community is contained within a two-association map class that covers 8.7% (2,361 ha/5,834 ac) of the Rincon Mountain District and is widespread throughout mid-elevation regions of the park, mainly on the southern side of the range. It is typically found on backslopes of varying grade (15–60%) from 1,320 to 1,635 meters (4,330–5,364 ft). Slopes are typically south-trending, but examples of this community were documented in all of the cardinal directions. The surface cover is characterized by shallow and well-drained, gravelly to skeletal loamy soils with occasional areas of clay.



