

85. (*Symphoricarpos oreophilus*) / *Ageratina herbacea* Shrubland Association (P)

(Mountain snowberry) / Fragrant snakeroot Shrubland Association (P)

This shrubland community is characterized by a canopy (>5 m) of snags and a variable (10–30% cover) field stratum (<0.5 m) of mixed shrubs and grasses most commonly dominated by fragrant snakeroot (*Ageratina herbacea*), with mountain snowberry (*Symphoricarpos oreophilus*) as a common associate. The subcanopy stratum (0.5–2 m) is characterized by a low-cover (5–10% cover) mix of shrubs most commonly dominated by mountain snowberry (*S. oreophilus*). The field stratum is characterized by a moderately low-cover (<20%) diverse mix of forbs, subshrubs, and graminoids, with fragrant snake-root (*A. herbacea*) providing the most consistent dominance. Typically, cover of this species ranges from 10% to 20%, with lower-cover (<5%) examples occurring along the margins of the community, where perennial grasses begin to dominate.

Common species

- *Symphoricarpos oreophilus*
- *Ageratina herbacea*

This community covers 0.08% (24 ha/59 ac) of the Rincon Mountain District and is present in areas of historic fire disturbance around the Mica Mountain summit. It is restricted to variably steep (23–70%), north-facing backslopes above 2,482 meters (8,149 ft). This community is a result of historic fire disturbance, specifically, the Helen's 2 fire that occurred in June 2003. The surface cover is predominantly bare soil and gravel with consistent downed wood throughout.



Rincon Mountain District, Saguaro National Park

