

#25 *Baccharis sarothroides* / *Bothriochloa barbinodis* (*Eragrostis lehmanniana*) Shrub Savanna Association (PS)

Desertbroom / Cane bluestem (Lehmann lovegrass) Shrub Savanna Association

This community is described as a “park special,” meaning it is recognized as a unique suite of plants directly due to the recent history of anthropogenic disturbance. This shrub savanna community is characterized by a moderately sparse (<15%) subcanopy stratum (0.5–2 m) dominated by desertbroom (*Baccharis sarothroides*) and a dense (36%) field stratum (<0.5) dominated by cane bluestem (*Bothriochloa barbinodis*) with one common associate, Lehmann lovegrass (*Eragrostis lehmanniana*). Desertbroom (*B. sarothroides*) provides a consistent 13% cover throughout. Velvet mesquite (*Prosopis velutina*) provides less than 1% cover and is the only other species recorded within this stratum. The grasses are dominated by a consistent 17% cover of cane bluestem (*B. barbinodis*) and a patchy 8% cover of Lehmann lovegrass (*E. lehmanniana*), mainly along a dirt road and in the ecotone with the adjacent non-native grasslands.

Common species

Baccharis sarothroides
Bothriochloa barbinodis
Eragrostis lehmanniana
Prosopis velutina

Overall, this community covers 0.2% (4 ha, 10 ac) of the park, exclusively on a low-angle (<6%), southeast-facing, lower alluvial fan at 1,510 meters (4,954 ft). The only example of this community spans a heavily disturbed site used as a staging area for the building of the border fence.

