North American Warm Desert Wash

Intermittently flooded washes or arroyos that occur as linear or braided strips within desert scrub- or desert grassland-dominated landscapes. Vegetation ranges from sparse and patchy to moderately dense and typically occurs along the banks, but may occur within the channel. Intermittent to open woody layer may be dominated by shrubs and small trees such as Acacia greggii, Brickellia laciniata, Baccharis sarothroides, Chilopsis linearis, Fallugia paradoxa, Hymenoclea salsola, Hymenoclea monogyra, Juglans microcarpa, Prosopis spp, Psorothamnus spinosus, Prunus fasciculata, Rhus microphylla, Salazaria mexicana, or Sarcobatus vermiculatus.

Poor = <10% shrub cover, low forb diversity, few natives, high invasives Fair = 10-20% shrub cover, moderate native forb/grass mix, few invasives Good = >20% shrub cover, diverse native forbs, few or no invasives