

## **Inter-Mountain Basins Semi-Desert Shrub Steppe**

Typically open patchy herbaceous vegetation dominated by graminoids (>25% cover) with an open shrub layer. The most widespread (but not dominant) species is *Pseudoroegneria spicata*. Characteristic grasses include *Achnatherum hymenoides*, *Bouteloua gracilis*, *Distichlis spicata*, *Poa* spp, *Sporobolus airoides*, *Hesperostipa comata*, *Pleuraphis jamesii*, and *Leymus salinus*. The woody layer is often a mixture of shrubs and dwarf-shrubs. Characteristic species include *Atriplex canescens*, *Artemisia tridentata*, *Chrysothamnus* spp, *Ephedra* spp, *Ericameria nauseosa*, *Gutierrezia sarothrae*, and *Krascheninnikovia lanata*.

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