

## **NORTH AMERICAN WARM DESERT RIPARIAN WOODLAND AND SHRUBLAND**

**Nature Serve ID:** CES302.753

**Geology:** This system occupies Quaternary Alluvium as well as nearby Cretaceous limestones through which drainages flow.

**Landform:** Relatively level floodplains and low landscape positions along drainages. Upper portions of these drainages are often flashy, and many are only infrequently and briefly inundated.

**Soils:** Loamy Bottomland, Salty Bottomland, and Draw are the most frequent Ecological Sites to be occupied by this system.

**Description:** This system occurs along drainages and floodplains of the larger rivers and drainages of the Trans-Pecos. In addition to the woodland and shrubland expression of this system, sparsely vegetated areas also commonly occur. Sparsely vegetated sites may be mapped on gravel bars, mud flats, or exposed rock within drainages, but may also have sparse woody or herbaceous vegetation including species such as *Brickellia* spp. (brickellbush), *Chilopsis linearis* (desert willow), *Baccharis* spp. (baccharis), *Prosopis glandulosa* (honey mesquite), and *Salvia farinacea* (mealycup sage). The native streamside vegetation along the large drainages is frequently displaced by extensive areas of *Tamarix* spp. (saltcedar) and/or *Arundo donax* (giant reed). Overstory canopy is often not well-developed but contain species such as *Celtis laevigata* var. *reticulata* (netleaf hackberry), *Salix amygdaloides* (peachleaf willow), *Salix gooddingii* (Southwestern black willow), *Prosopis glandulosa* (honey mesquite), *Populus fremontii* (Arizona cottonwood), *Populus deltoides* var. *wislizeni* (Rio Grande cottonwood), *Fraxinus velutina* (velvet ash), and *Sapindus saponaria* var. *drummondii* (western soapberry). Low woodlands and shrublands with species such as *Salix exigua* (Texas sandbar willow), *Baccharis salicifolia* (seepwillow), *Brickellia laciniata* (splitleaf brickellbush), *Chilopsis linearis* (desert willow), *Juglans microcarpa* (little walnut), *Fallugia paradoxa* (Apache plume), and *Celtis ehrenbergiana* (granjeno) are present and sometimes patchy. Flooding and scouring are the dynamic processes most influential in this system.

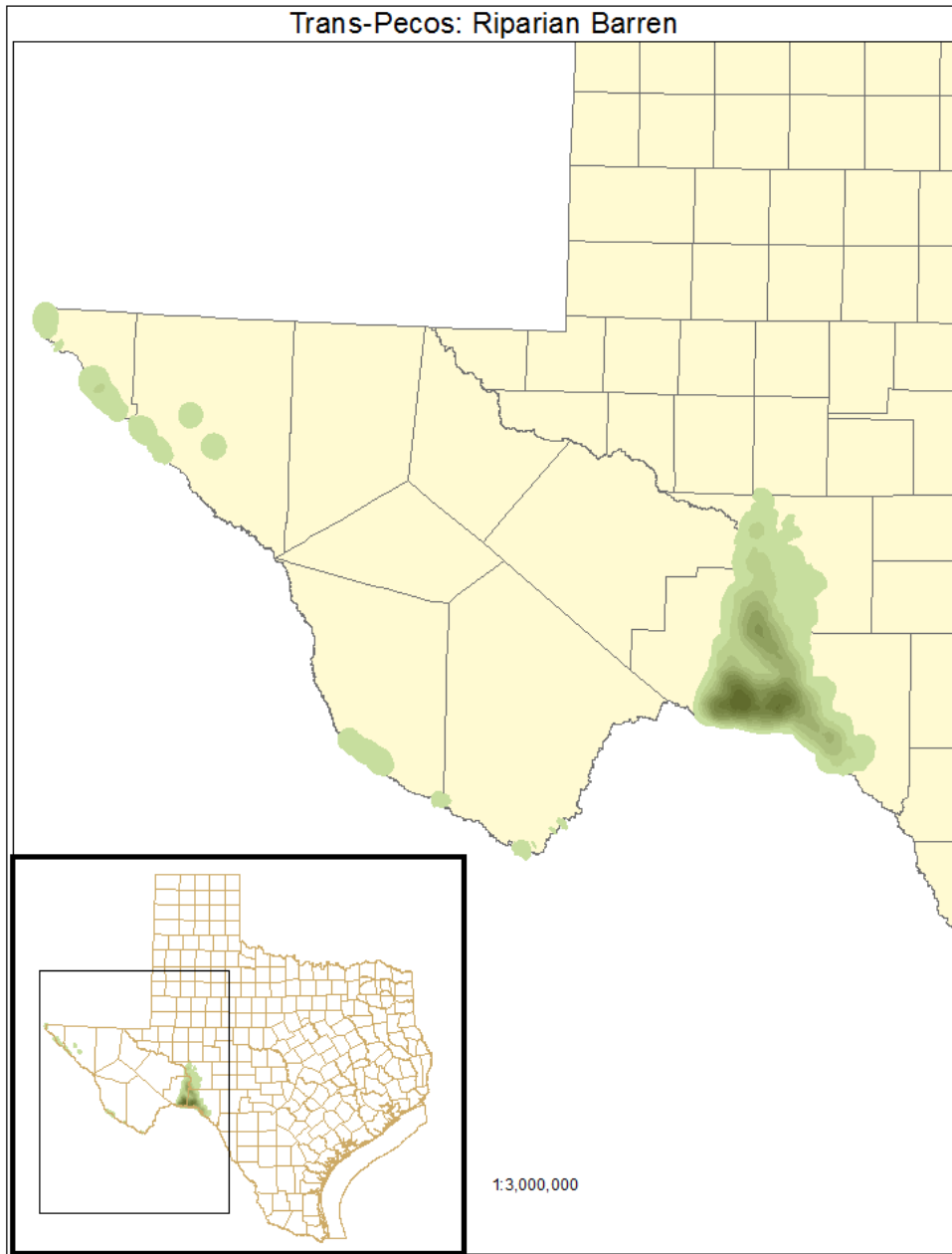
**ECOLOGICAL MAPPING SYSTEMS:**

**TRANS-PECOS: RIPARIAN BARREN**

**Mapping System ID:** 8700

**EMS Description:** Sparsely vegetated gravel bars, sand bars, or bare rock with scattered individuals or small areas of *Juglans microcarpa* (little walnut), *Chilopsis linearis* (desert willow), *Baccharis spp.* (baccharis), *Brickellia spp.* (brickellbush), or other species.

**Distribution Map:**



**Example:**



**Public Land Occurrence:**

Amistad National Recreation Area: US National Park Service

Big Bend National Park: US National Park Service

Big Bend Ranch State Park: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

Guadalupe Mountains National Park: US National Park Service

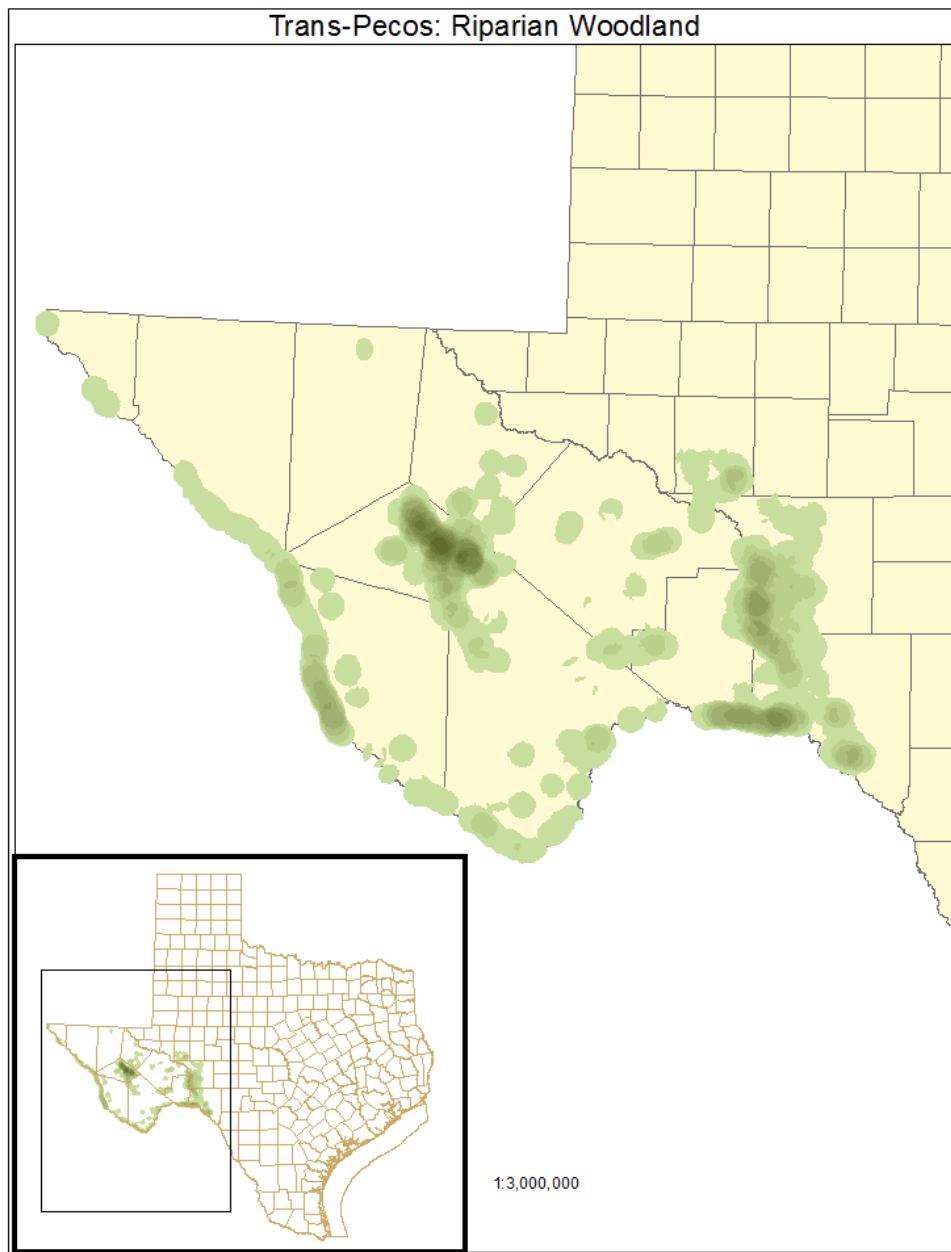
Sierra Diablo Wildlife Management Area: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

## TRANS-PECOS: RIPARIAN WOODLAND

**Mapping System ID:** 8704

**EMS Description:** Woodlands along drainages where the overstory may be composed of species such as *Salix* spp. (willows), *Populus* spp. (cottonwoods), *Sapindus saponaria* var. *drummondii* (western soapberry), *Celtis laevigata* var. *reticulata* (netleaf hackberry), and/or *Prosopis glandulosa* (honey mesquite). Some occurrences mapped as these woodlands may be dominated by *Tamarix* spp. (saltcedar).

**Distribution Map:**



**Example:**



**Public Land Occurrence:**

Amistad National Recreation Area: US National Park Service

Big Bend National Park: US National Park Service

Big Bend Ranch State Park: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

Black Gap Wildlife Management Area: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

Davis Mountains State Park: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

Fort Davis National Historic Site: US National Park Service

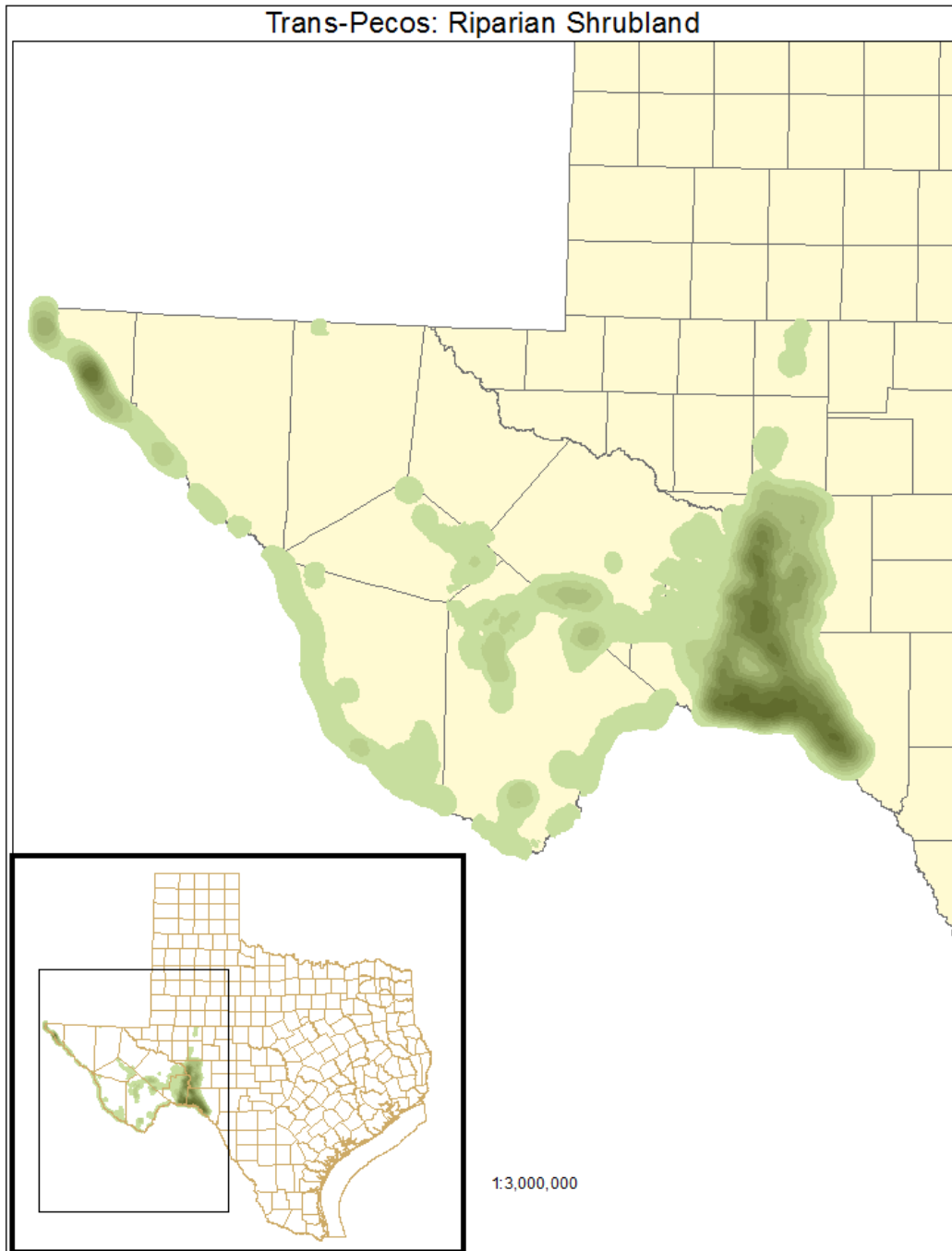
Las Palomas Wildlife Management Area: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

## TRANS-PECOS: RIPARIAN SHRUBLAND

**Mapping System ID:** 8706

**EMS Description:** Shrublands along drainages with species such as *Baccharis* spp. (baccharis), *Brickellia* spp. (brickellbush), *Salix exigua* (desert willow), and *Chilopsis linearis* (desert willow).

**Distribution Map:**



**Example:**



**Public Land Occurrence:**

Amistad National Recreation Area: US National Park Service

Big Bend National Park: US National Park Service

Big Bend Ranch State Park: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

Black Gap Wildlife Management Area: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

Elephant Mountain Wildlife Management Area: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

Fort Leaton State Historical Site: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

Guadalupe Mountains National Park: US National Park Service

Independence Creek Preserve: The Nature Conservancy

Las Palomas Wildlife Management Area: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

Seminole Canyon State Park/State Historic Site: US National Park Service

Sierra Diablo Wildlife Management Area: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department