

NORTH AMERICAN WARM DESERT WASH

Nature Serve ID: CES302.755

Geology: Small drainages through various substrates.

Landform: Small drainages.

Soils: Various soil types transected by small drainages.

Description: This system occurs on flashy, intermittently flooded, often dry washes and arroyos on lower mountain slopes, plains, and basins. These drainages are often embedded within a matrix of desert shrublands and/or grasslands. Washes may be sparsely vegetated, rocky, gravelly, or sandy drainageways, to patchy shrublands to almost continuous shrublands along the drainages. Woody species found in and adjacent to these washes include *Acacia greggii* (catclaw), *Brickellia laciniata* (splitleaf brickellbush), *Baccharis salicifolia* (seepwillow), *Chilopsis linearis* (desert willow), *Fallugia paradoxa* (Apache plume), *Rhus microphylla* (littleleaf sumac), *Juglans microcarpa* (little walnut), *Fraxinus greggii* (littleleaf ash), *Leucaena retusa* (littleleaf leadtree), *Dasyllirion leiophyllum* (smooth sotol), and *Prosopis glandulosa* (honey mesquite). Scattered individuals of *Celtis laevigata* var. *reticulata* (netleaf hackberry), *Chilopsis linearis* (desert willow), *Salix gooddingii* (southwestern black willow), *Juglans microcarpa* (little walnut), or other species may form a very sparse overstory. Shrubs from the surrounding upland shrubland, such as *Larrea tridentata* (creosotebush), *Viguiera stenoloba* (skeleton-leaf golden eye), *Flourensia cernua* (tarbush) and *Juniperus pinchotii* (redberry juniper) may be commonly encountered.

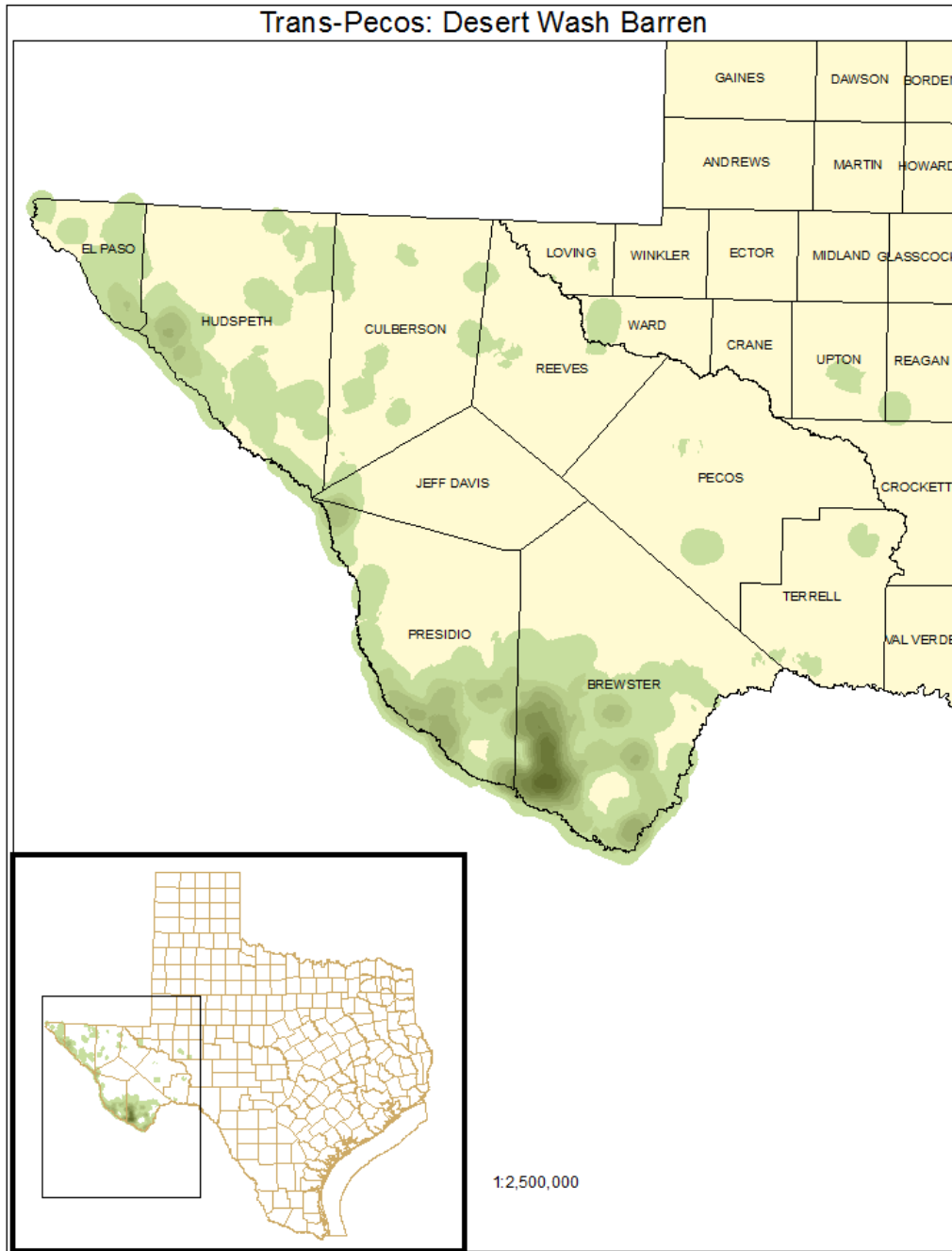
ECOLOGICAL MAPPING SYSTEMS:

TRANS-PECOS: DESERT WASH BARREN

Mapping System ID: 8600

EMS Description: Sparsely vegetated sandy, gravelly, rocky stretches of desert drainages.

Distribution Map:



Example:



Public Land Occurrence:

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

Guadalupe Mountains National Park: US National Park Service

Independence Creek Preserve: The Nature Conservancy

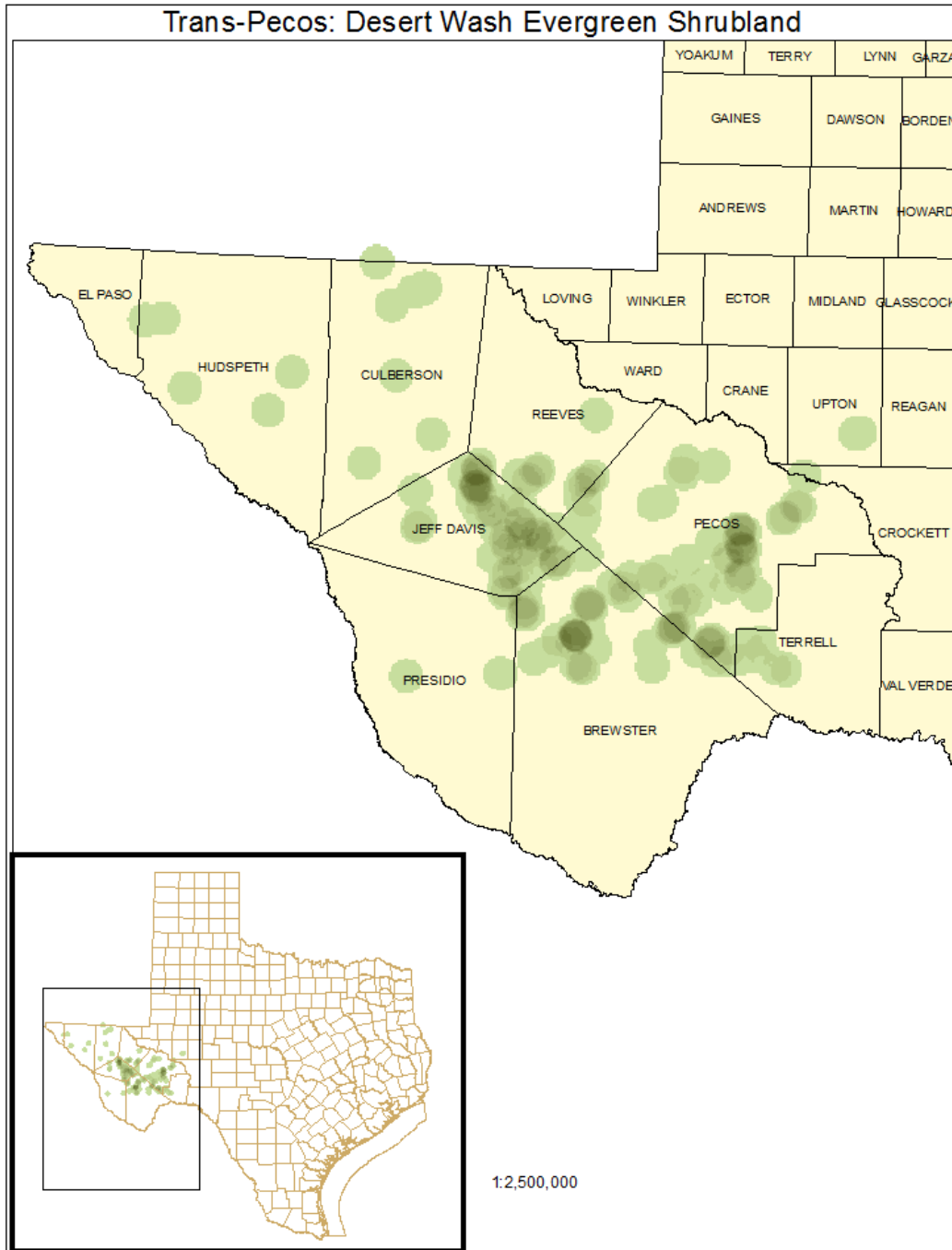
Sierra Diablo Wildlife Management Area: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

TRANS-PECOS: DESERT WASH EVERGREEN SHRUBLAND

Mapping System ID: 8605

EMS Description: Desert drainages with evergreen shrub cover, with species such as *Juniperus pinchotii* (redberry juniper).

Distribution Map:



Example:



Public Land Occurrence:

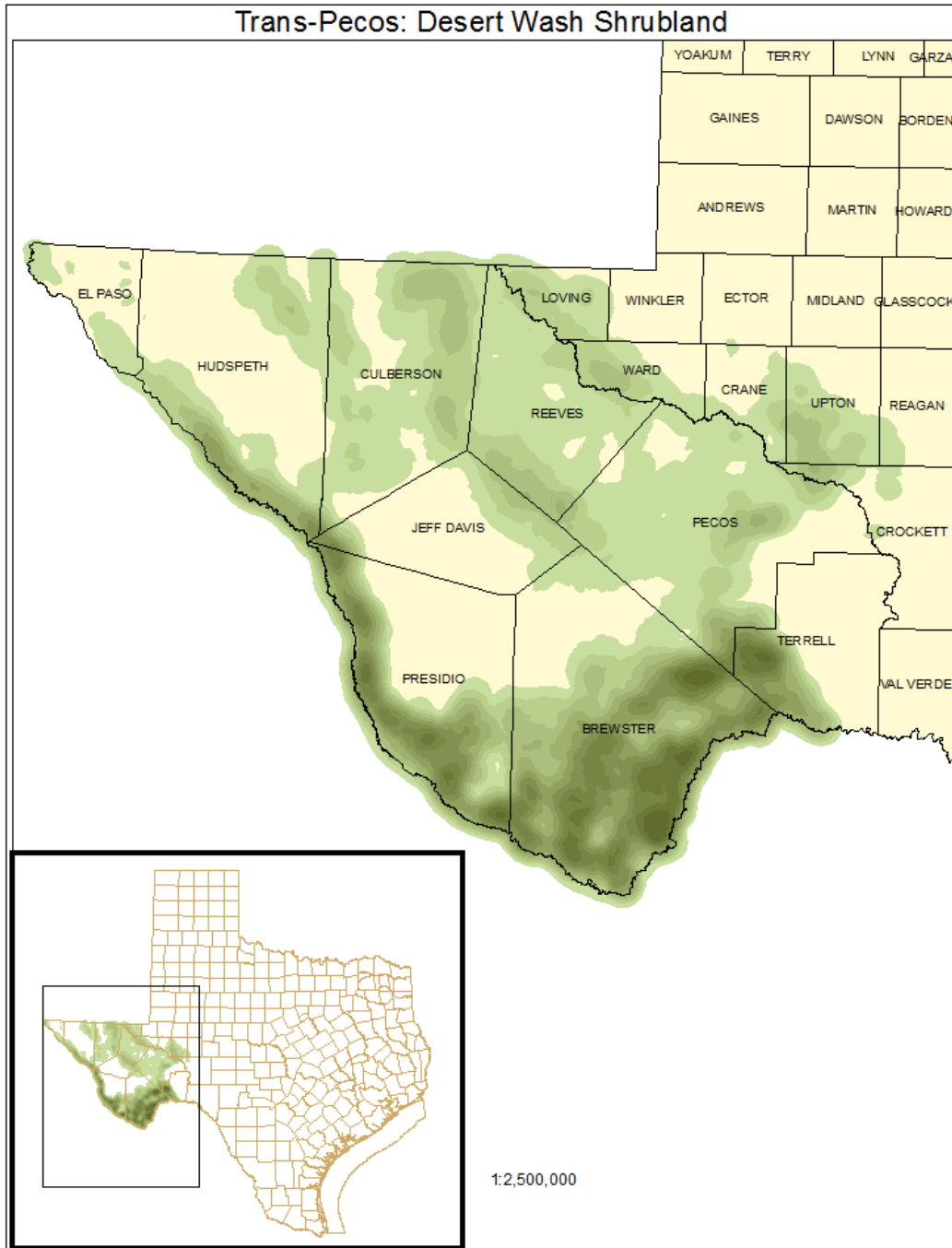
Davis Mountains State Park: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

TRANS-PECOS: DESERT WASH SHRUBLAND

Mapping System ID: 8606

EMS Description: Shrub dominated desert drainages sometimes with a sporadic emergent overstory of scattered trees.

Distribution Map:



Example:**Public Land Occurrence:**

Balmorhea State Park: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

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

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

Hueco Tanks State Park & Historic Site: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

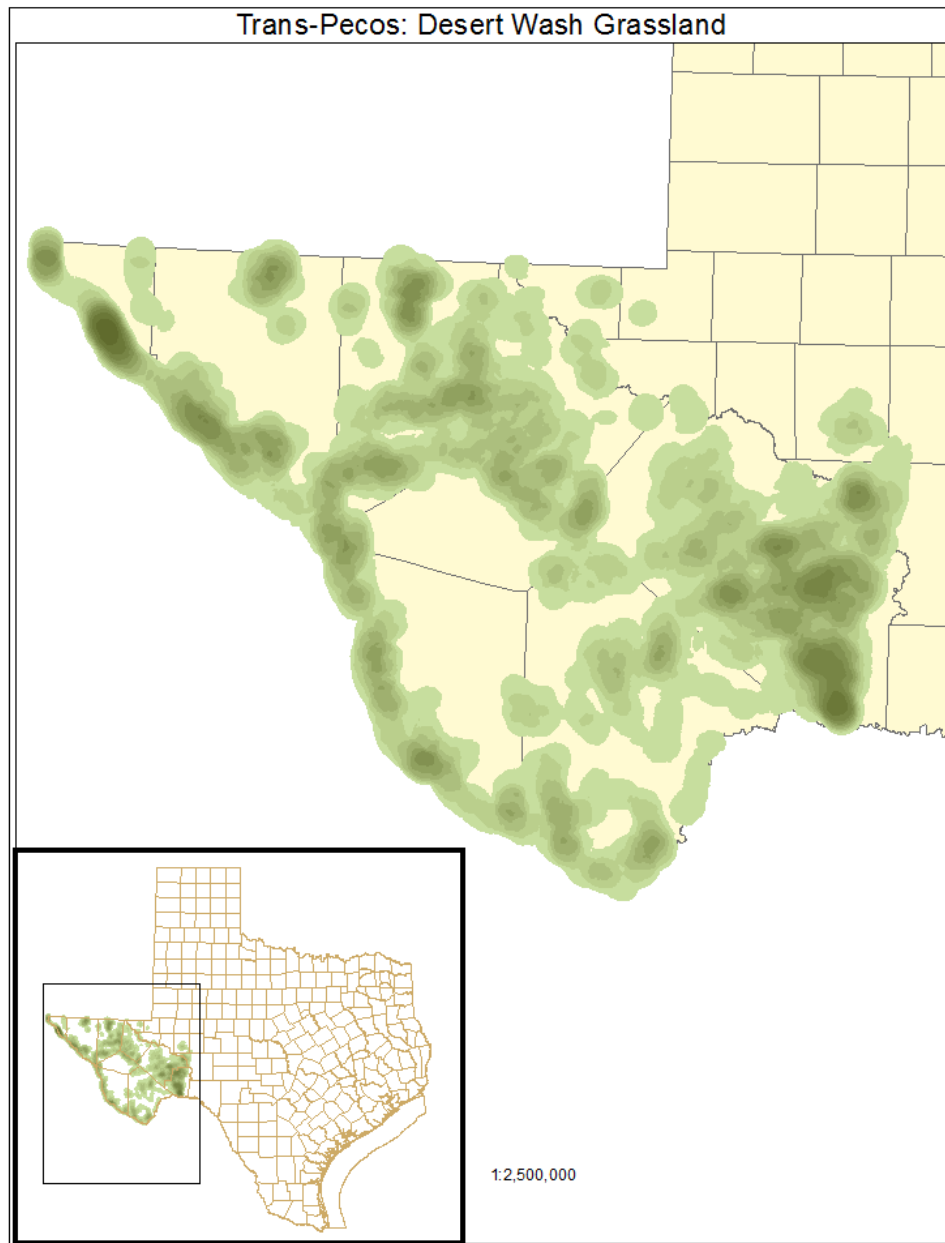
Las Palomas Wildlife Management Area: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

TRANS-PECOS: DESERT WASH GRASSLAND

Mapping System ID: 8607

EMS Description: Grass dominated desert drainages, though grass cover is typically not continuous and gravel, rock, or sand is usually visible. Species present may include *Bouteloua curtipendula* (sideoats grama), *Bothriochloa laguroides* ssp. *torreyana* (silver bluestem), *Sporobolus airoides* (alkali sacaton), *Muhlenbergia porteri* (bush muhly), *Muhlenbergia rigens* (deergrass), *Pleuraphis mutica* (tobosa), and/or *Bouteloua eriopoda* (black grama).

Distribution Map:



Example:



Public Land Occurrence:

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

Elephant Mountain Wildlife Management Area: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

Fort Leaton State Historical Site: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

Independence Creek Preserve: The Nature Conservancy

Las Palomas Wildlife Management Area: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department