

Grassland Resilience Workshop Series  
Brush Management and Soil Health  
Las Cienegas National Conservation Area

January 19, 2024

Workshop Agenda	Pg 2
Workshop Handout Brush Management at LCNCA	Pg 4

**Grassland Resilience Workshop Series: Soil health and Brush Management**  
**Las Cienegas National Conservation Area**  
**January 19th 2024 9:00am-3:00pm**

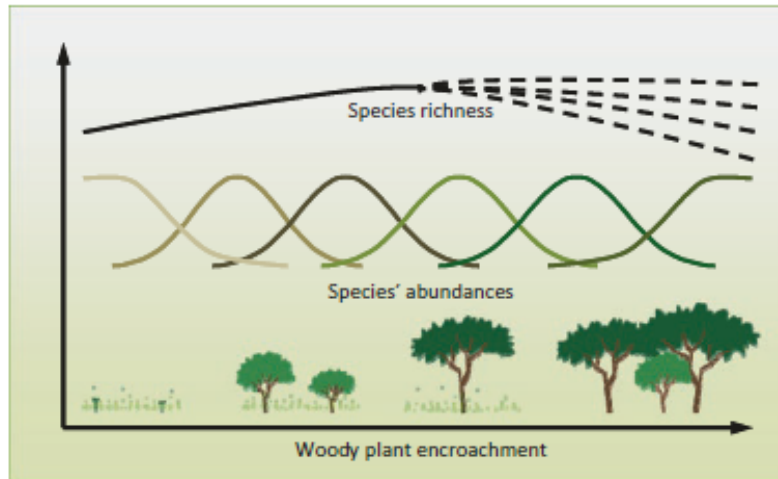
Location: [Las Cienegas National Conservation Area - Empire Ranch Headquarters](#)

<b>Stop 1: Empire Ranch Headquarters</b>	
8:30-9:00 am - Empire Ranch HQ	<b>Coffee, Bagels &amp; Sign-in</b>
9:00 9:50 am  Orientation and introductions to the day	1) Introduction to Las Cienegas and Welcome from BLM - Joan Briner (BLM)  2) Agenda Overview and Workshop Goals - Ariel Léger (CART/UA)  3) Mesquite Dynamics at Las Cienegas - Austin Rutherford (ARS) and Scott Jones (UA)  4) Soil Maps and Soil Types at LCNCA - Samantha Carillo (NRCS)
<b>Drive to Stop 2: Cieneguita</b>	
10:00-11:15 am  Mesquite removal, prairie dogs, priority bird species	1) Prairie Dogs - Jennifer Presler (AZGFD)  2) Priority Grassland Bird Species habitat - Steven Prager (AWRR)  3) Mesquite Removal and Wood Harvesting Permits - Joan Breiner (BLM)
<b>11:15-11:30 Drive to stop 3: Vera Earl Ranch</b>	
11:30-12:30 am  Vera Earl Mesquite treatments, BLM initial treatment, Antelope Habitat	1) Mesquite Management and re-treatment at the Vera Earl - Ian Tomlinson (Vera Earl)  2) Mesquite Management for Pronghorn - John Millican (AAF)  3) New Vegetation Environmental Assessment - Joan Briner and Dan Quintana (BLM)
<b>Drive to Stop 4: Airstrip</b>	
1:00-3:00 pm  Lunch, Brush Management, rx fire, maintenance treatments, soil health, discussion	1) Brush management, Rx Fire,& Future re-grubbing Dan Quintana and Theresa Condo (BLM)  2) Hands on Soils Assessment - Samantha Carillo (NRCS)  3) Wrap up discussion



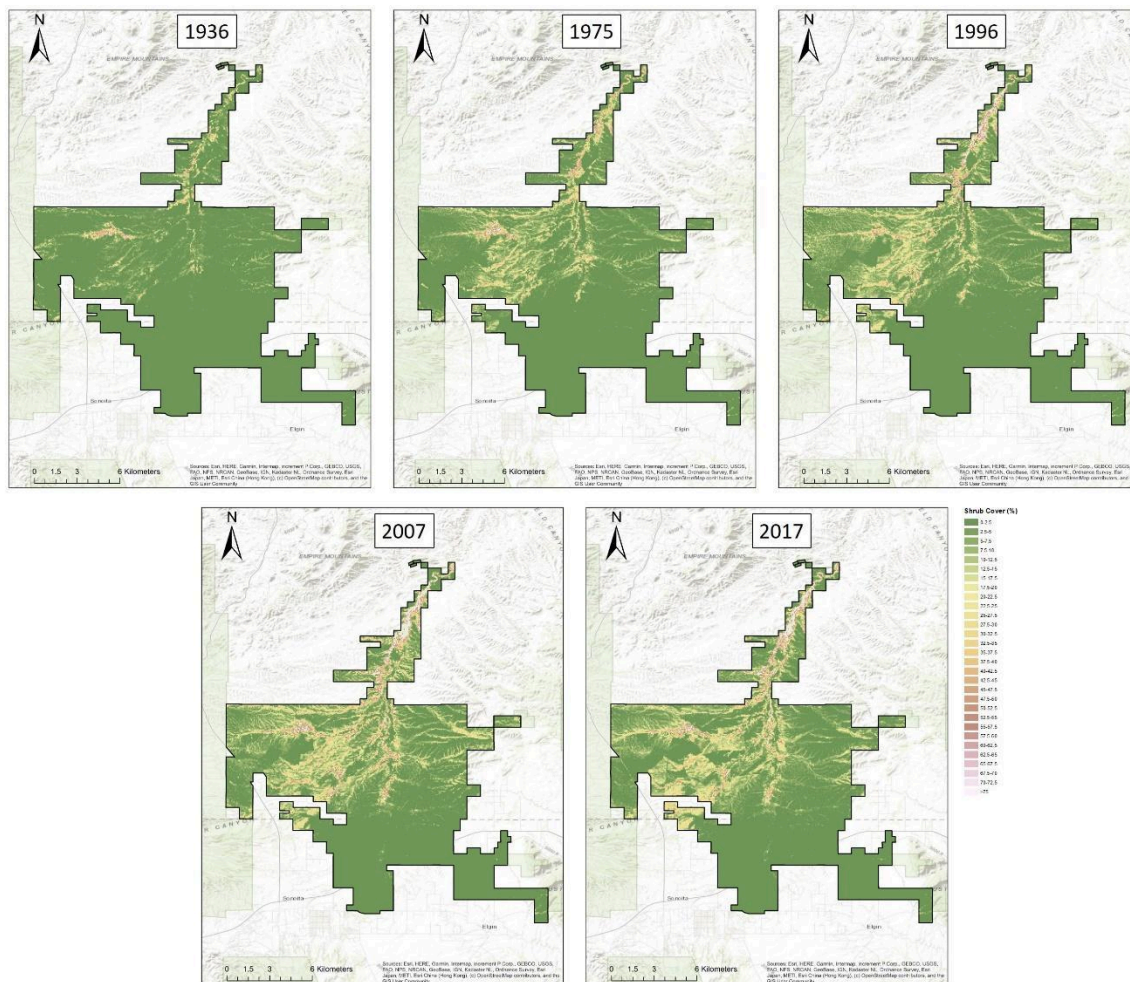
# Workshop Handout

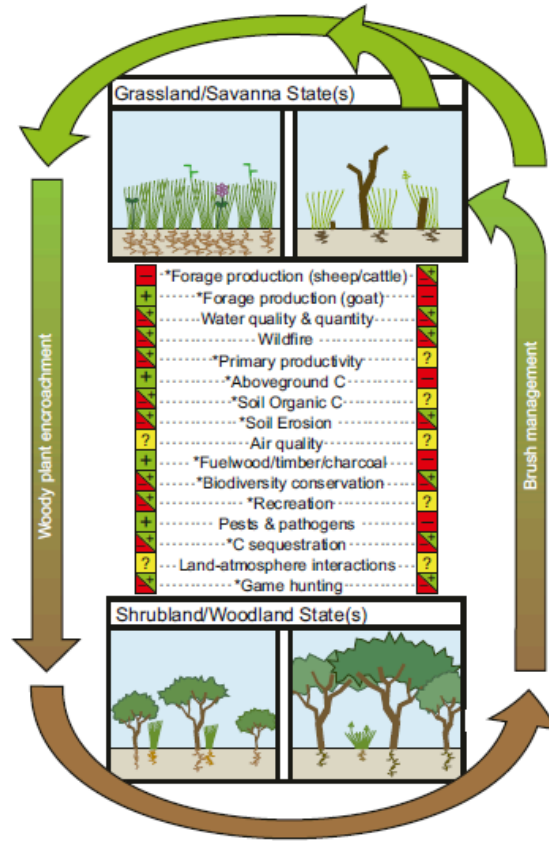
## Brush Management at LCNCA



**Fig. 2.11** Conceptual model of community changes in species abundances and richness with woody plant encroachment. Species richness is likely to be highest where both shrub-associated and grassland-associated species co-occur, with the endpoints varied, depending on the encroaching species







**Fig. 2.15** Potential outcomes of woody plant encroachment and associated “brush management” activities. Symbols in boxes denote potential decreases (–), increases or improvements (+), mixed, context-dependent results (–/+), or insufficient information (?). From Archer and Predick (2014)

Brush management conducted on the LCNCA (2007-2023)

Vegetation Treatment Type	Acres
Prescribed fire	10,585
Chemical treatment	1,615
Mechanical treatment	8655
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,609</b>

Planned 2024

Vegetation Treatment Type	Acres
Prescribed fire	0
Chemical treatment	0
Mechanical treatment	1,664

