

42. *Platanus wrightii* - *Fraxinus velutina* Intermittently Flooded Woodland Association (P)

Arizona sycamore - Velvet ash Intermittently Flooded Woodland Association (P)

This community is characterized by a moderately dense (20–30% cover) upper canopy (>5 m) dominated by Arizona sycamore (*Platanus wrightii*) and velvet ash (*Fraxinus velutina*), with a variable understory of obligate and facultative wetland species. Arizona sycamore (*P. wrightii*) is a consistent (1.0) dominant with cover of 5–15%. This cover is often supplied by a few tall (7–9 m) individuals with broad canopies, but shorter (<5 m) individuals may also be present. Velvet ash (*F. velutina*) is a less-consistent (0.80) dominant that, when present, provides highly variable cover of 5–30%. Other documented species include Goodding's willow (*Salix gooddingii*), Fremont cottonwood (*Populus fremontii*), common buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*), Thurber's cotton (*Gossypium thurberi*), mule-fat (*Baccharis salicifolia*), Thurber's desert honeysuckle (*Anisacanthus thurberi*), catclaw mimosa (*Mimosa aculeaticarpa*), deergrass (*Muhlenbergia rigens*), and crimson fountaingrass (*Cenchrus setaceus*).

This community covers 0.08% (23 ha/47 ac) of the Rincon Mountain District and is restricted to the major ephemeral drainages throughout the park, specifically, the lower reaches of Rincon and Deer creeks. It is typically found in low-angle drainages with intermittent water flow where geologic and hydrologic features, such as tinajas, springs, and seeps allow for high water retention and/or availability throughout the drier seasons. The surface cover is typically dominated by slabs of exposed bedrock with underlying pockets of variable, deep sand and gravel that shift with each flood event.

Common species

- *Platanus wrightii*
- *Fraxinus velutina*
- *Salix gooddingii*
- *Muhlenbergia rigens*



