

## 69. *Pinus discolor* / *Piptochaetium fimbriatum* Woodland Association

### Border pinyon / Pinyon ricegrass Woodland Association

This woodland community is characterized by a dense (40–70% cover) canopy (>2 m) dominated by border pinyon (*Pinus discolor*), alligator juniper (*Juniperus deppeana*), and oak (*Quercus* sp.), with an understory dominated (10–20% cover) by pinyon ricegrass (*Piptochaetium fimbriatum*). All three of the listed canopy trees provide consistent (1.0) presence across the community, with each typically contributing 15–30% cover. Local dominance can vary, with any of these species providing sole dominance or with similar dominance across all three. Pinyon ricegrass (*P. fimbriatum*) provides cover ranging from [5%] 10% to 20%, often in dense patches surrounded by an area without any field components. Other documented species include yucca (*Yucca madrensis*), pointleaf manzanita (*Arctostaphylos pungens*), beargrass (*Nolina microcarpa*), longtongue muhly (*Muhlenbergia longiligula*), and bullgrass (*Muhlenbergia emersleyi*).

This community is contained within a two-association map class that covers 5.7% (1,544 ha/3,815 ac) of the Rincon Mountain District and is distributed throughout the unburned areas surrounding the Juniper Basin Campground. It is typically found on low-angle (<15%) slopes and includes drainages within sheltered basins around 1,850 meters (6,069 ft). The surface cover is characterized by moderately deep, well-drained, and flaggy sandy loam underlying a dominant layer of decomposing pine litter and duff.

#### Common species

- *Pinus discolor*
- *Quercus arizonica*
- *Juniperus deppeana*
- *Quercus emoryi*
- *Piptochaetium fimbriatum*



