## 74. Pinus (arizonica - ponderosa) Regenerating Woodland Association (P)

Pine (Arizona - ponderosa) Regenerating Woodland Association (P)

This regenerating woodland community is characterized by a variably dense (20–50+% cover) lower canopy (>2–5 m) and subcanopy (0.5–2 m) dominated by regenerating Arizona pine (*Pinus arizonica*) and/or ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*). This type is a result of historic fire disturbance. Pre-fire, it was likely a mature woodland/forest with a similar species composition. Currently, the upper canopy (>5 m) is absent, represented by scattered snags or just a few mature trees. The dominant layer of pines ranges from saplings (1–2 m) to tall poles (2–4 m) that

## **Common species**

- Pinus arizonica
- Pinus ponderosa
- Quercus hypoleucoides

are typically of the same age class within each mapped area. Arizona pine (*P. arizonica*) tends to dominate at the lower elevational range of this community and/or on steeper, more exposed slopes, while ponderosa pine (*P. ponderosa*) occupies the higher-elevation, more-sheltered slopes. In addition to the listed dominants, the low/subcanopies contain a number of associate trees and shrubs. The sparse (<5% cover) field stratum (<0.5 m) is characterized by a mix of low-cover associates, including longtongue muhly (*Muhlenbergia longiligula*), western brackenfern (*Pteridium aquilinum*), White Mountain sedge (*Carex geophila*), and screwleaf muhly (*Muhlenbergia virescens*).

This community covers 0.03% (7 ha/17 ac) of the Rincon Mountain District and is present throughout the trail system that surrounds Manning Camp. It is typically found on mountain backslopes of variable grade (10-50+%) with a southern or eastern aspect from 2,140 to 2,480 meters (7,000-8,140 ft). The surface cover is characterized by moderately deep and well-drained loam underlying a thick layer of pine-needle litter and duff with patchy boulders and bedrock outcrops. The parent material is a mix of quartz monzonite and mica schist. All examples of this community show conspicuous signs of high-severity fire disturbance.



