## 80. [Quercus arizonica - Quercus hypoleucoides] Intermittently Flooded Woodland Association (P)

[Arizona white oak - Silverleaf oak] Intermittently Flooded Woodland Association (P)

This woodland community is characterized by a variably dense (50–70% cover) upper canopy (>5 m) co-dominated by Arizona white oak (*Quercus arizonica*) and silverleaf oak (*Quercus hypoleucoides*), with a variable subcanopy (0.5–2 m) often containing Wright's silktassel (*Garrya wrightii*). These species follow a distinct elevational/exposure gradient in which Arizona white oak (*Q. arizonica*) is most dominant in the low-elevation/more exposed examples, while silverleaf oak (*Q. hypoleucoides*) prefers the higher-elevation/more sheltered locations. These species can present as co-dominants, or with either one becoming the sole dominant

## **Common species**

- Quercus arizonica
- Quercus hypoleucoides
- Garrya wrightii

and the other a common associate. Border pinyon (*Pinus discolor*) and alligator juniper (*Juniperus deppeana*) are less consistent (0.55, 0.88) associates that, when present, typically provide cover of less than 5%, with uncommon inclusions of co-dominance up to 20%. At the higher elevational end of this community, Arizona pine (*Pinus arizonica*), ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*), and Chihuahuan pine (*Pinus leiophylla*) may be present (0.25) as associates in the upper canopy (>5 m), with cover usually not surpassing 5%. These species should not compete for dominance with the characteristic oaks. Other associates include Wright's silktassel (*Garrya wrightii*), black cherry (*Prunus serotina*), velvet ash (*Fraxinus velutina*), Arizona madrone (*Arbutus arizonica*), Arizona sycamore (*Platanus wrightii*), and Arizona walnut (*Juglans major*).

This community is contained within a two-association map class that covers 1.5% (410 ha/1,013 ac) of the Rincon Mountain District. This woodland is typically found in mid-elevation drainages and sheltered gullies throughout the pinyon/oak woodland communities and up to the large conifer/oak forests ranging from 1,350 to 2,200 meters (4,429–7,217 ft) in elevation. The surface cover is characterized by a mix of large boulders interspersed with fine gravel, often covered with a dense layer of oakleaf litter.



