

71. *Pinus discolor* / *Quercus toumeyi* Woodland Association

Border pinyon / Toumey oak Woodland Association

This community is characterized by a generally sparse ([5] 10–15% cover) canopy stratum (>2 m) solely dominated by border pinyon (*Pinus discolor*) and a slightly more dense (10–20% cover) subcanopy stratum (0.5–2 m) dominated by Toumey oak (*Quercus toumeyi*) and manzanita (*Arctostaphylos* sp.). Due to the high percentage of exposed bedrock found throughout this community, species composition and abundance are tied to the availability of soil. Border pinyon (*P. discolor*) is a very consistent canopy dominant (1.0), with relatively short (4 m) individuals providing cover from [5%] 10% to 20%. On average, this species provides 14% cover across the community. Emory oak (*Quercus emoryi*), alligator juniper (*Juniperus deppeana*), and silverleaf oak (*Quercus hypoleucooides*) are patchy associates that contribute little to the overall cover. Toumey oak (*Q. toumeyi*) is consistently present (1.0) and typically dominant (0.83), with cover of 5–10% in most examples. This species ranges from shrubby individuals with heights around 1.5 meters to taller, more tree-like ones with heights reaching above 2 meters. Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos* sp.) provides dominance in most (0.66) examples of this community, with pointleaf manzanita (*Arctostaphylos pungens*) commonly found at the lower elevational range and Pringle's manzanita (*Arctostaphylos pringlei*) at the upper.

Common species

- *Pinus discolor*
- *Quercus toumeyi*
- *Arctostaphylos pungens*
- *Arctostaphylos pringlei*

This community covers 1.8% (499 ha/1,233 ac) of the Rincon Mountain District and is distributed across the low, eastern slopes of Rincon Peak. It is typically found on very steep (50+%) backslopes and lower-angle (15–30%) shoulders and summits of variable aspect, from 1,676 to 1,889 meters (5,500–6,200 ft). The surface cover is characterized by shallow to very shallow, well-drained skeletal loam with dominant expanses of exposed bedrock throughout. The parent material is typically composed of gneissic quartz monzonite.



Rincon Mountain District, Saguaro National Park

