

Hummocks, Moderately Wet (M135S_364)

Ecoregion Classification

Section: South Central Mountains (M135S)

Subsection(s): Alpine Mountains (M135S.M5)

Physiographic Features

Elevation (meters): *RV* 707 *Range* 425 to 1,116

Slope Gradient (percent): 3 2 to 10

Aspect (clockwise direction): non-influencing

Landform: earth hummocks on till plains

Frequency

Flooding: None

Ponding: None

Climatic Features

Annual Precipitation (millimeters): *RV* 1,568 *Range* 509 to 3,285

Annual Air Temperature (°C): -5.9 -11.4 to -1.7

Frost Free Days: 60 50 to 70

Soil Features

Parent Materials: silty cryoturbate over gravelly till

Rooting Depth (cm): *RV:* 39 *Range:* 11 to 56

Soil Layers and Properties within Representative Rooting Depth:

Layers are described from the surface downward. If more than one texture is listed, the predominant texture is listed first. AWC = available water capacity. CEC = cation exchange capacity.

Thickness (cm)	Texture	Permeability	AWC (cm/cm)	pH	Effective CEC (me/100g)	CEC (me/100g)
13	slightly decomposed plant material	moderately rapid	.34	3.1	30	
21	silt loam	moderate	.34	4.9	12	
5	cobbly loam	moderately rapid	.10	5.4	3	

Restrictive Features: strongly contrasting textural stratification at 34 cm

Water Table (May to September): 50 to 80 cm

Drainage Class: somewhat poorly drained

Vegetation Features

Common Vegetation Types:

Vegetation Type

Shrub birch-willow/crowberry scrub

Ecological Status

Climax plant community

Ecological Status-Transition Description:

A single plant community with shrub birch-willow/crowberry scrub is identified on this site. No transitional pathways to other communities have been identified for this site.

Vascular Plant Species Richness:

Vascular plant species richness is based on 1999-2002 field season data only. Data from 1997 and 1998 were not used in the calculations.

Vegetation Type	Total	Min.	Avg.	Max.	Number of Stands
Shrub birch-willow/crowberry scrub	59	16	26	32	5

Characteristics of Shrub birch-willow/crowberry scrub

Ecological Status: Climax plant community

Plant Species Cover, Constancy, and Importance:

Cover, constancy, and importance are based on 1997-2002 field season data. Number of stands sampled = 5. Only those vascular, lichen, and bryophyte species with average cover >=5% and constancy >=15% are listed.

Stratum	Symbol	Scientific Name	Percent Canopy Cover			Percent Constancy	Importance Value
			Min.	Avg.	Max.		
SL-SM	SAPU15	Salix pulchra	0.1	13	55	100	36
SD-SL	B EGL	Betula glandulosa	10.0	49	80	80	63
SD-SL	VAUL	Vaccinium uliginosum	10.0	21	35	80	41
SD-SL	LEPAD	Ledum palustre ssp. decumbens	0.1	10	20	80	28
SD	EMNI	Empetrum nigrum	10.0	35	55	100	59
FD	COSU4	Cornus suecica	20.0	20	20	20	20
L	LICHEN	total lichens	0.1	11	35	100	33
L1	STERE2	Stereocaulon	0.1	6	20	80	22
L1	CLMI61	Cladina mitis group	10.0	10	10	20	14
M	MOSS	total bryophytes-mosses and liverworts	40.0	63	90	100	79
M1	PLSC70	Pleurozium schreberi	15.0	36	70	100	60

Stratum	Symbol	Scientific Name	Percent Canopy Cover			Percent Constancy	Importance Value
			Min.	Avg.	Max.		
M1	ZZMOSS	unknown-mosses	5.0	8	10	100	28
M1	HYSP70	Hylocomium splendens	15.0	18	20	40	27
M1	POCO38	Polytrichum commune	3.0	6	10	60	19
M1	POLYT5	Polytrichum	0.1	5	10	40	14
M1	SPHAG2	Sphagnum	5.0	5	5	20	10
M1	THRE7	Thuidium recognitum	5.0	5	5	20	10
B	LITTER	litter-herbaceous, mulch, and woody debris <2.5 cm	15.0	33	50	100	57
B	LITTER2	litter-woody debris >2.5 cm	0.0	0	0	100	0
B	SOIL	mineral-bare soil	0.0	0	0	100	0
B	ROCK	mineral-surface rock fragments	0.0	0	0	100	0
B	WATER	water	0.0	0	0	100	0

Stratum Height:

Stratum height is based on 1997-2002 field season data. All plant species and ground layer records from all stands are included in the calculations.

Stratum Name	Included Strata	Height			Units	Number of Records
		Min.	Avg.	Max.		
Medium shrubs	SM	1.3	1.3	1.3	m	1
Low shrubs	SL	25.0	76.2	100.0	cm	4
Dwarf shrubs	SD	4.0	10.7	20.0	cm	3
Tall and medium grasses and grass-likes	GT, GM	12.0	46.0	80.0	cm	2
Dwarf herbs, lichens, and bryophytes	GD, FD, L, M	2.0	3.2	5.0	cm	12

Mapunit Components

Common Name (Soils Name):

Alpine-scrub gravelly till hummocks (Aquandic Haplocryods, loamy-skeletal)

Soil Map Units

This landtype is a minor component in the map units listed. It does not occur as a major component in any map units.

Symbol: Common Name (Soils Name):

9TP Alpine Till Plains and Hills
(Andic Dystrocryepts, loamy-skeletal-Andic Humicryods, medial over loamy-skeletal-Typic Cryaquands, medial over loamy-skeletal Association, 0 to 30 percent slopes)

Geographically Associated Landtypes

M135S_310—Gravelly Mountains:

This site occurs on hill summits and shoulders and soils are drier. The climax plant community is "Lichen/mixed ericaceous shrub dwarf alpine scrub."

M135S_421—Gravelly Colluvial Slopes:

This site occurs on hills and soils are drier. The climax plant community is "Barclay willow/mixed forb scrub mosaic."

M135S_536—Organic Depressions:

This site occurs in depressions and soils are wetter and have a thick organic surface layer. The climax plant community is "Water sedge-tufted bulrush-forb wet meadow."