

<b>Ecological Site Description ID:</b>	R222XY356AK		
<b>Ecological Dynamics of the Site:</b>			
<p>This ecological site is on mountainous slopes in the alpine life zone. The soils consist of shallow, gravelly, well drained colluvium over residuum.</p> <p>The ecological dynamics of this high-elevation ecological site are driven by long-term exposure to cold temperatures, wind, and a short growing season. The harsh climatic conditions and shallow, gravelly soils limit tree growth. The plant community is characterized by a steady state herbaceous and dwarf scrub community. One plant community phase of this site was observed.</p>			
<b>State and Transition Model:</b>			
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Alpine Herbaceous Gravelly Slopes, Convex F222XY356AK</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px auto; width: 60%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">1. Reference State</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px auto; width: 40%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Reference Community Phase 1.1 (RCP) Dwarf Scrub/ Herbaceous</p> </div> </div> </div>			
<b>State ID Number:</b>	1	<b>State Name:</b>	Reference state
<b>State Narrative:</b>	The reference state has one plant community phase. No observed at-risk community phases or alternative states were observed.		

<p><b>Phase 1.1</b></p>			
<p><b>Community Phase Number:</b></p>	<p>1.1</p>	<p><b>Community Phase Name:</b></p>	<p>Dwarf Scrub/Herbaceous</p>
<p><b>Community Phase Narrative:</b></p>			
<p>This is the reference plant community. This ecological site is characterized by a herbaceous-dwarf scrub community interspersed with exposed bedrock and surface rock fragments. Bedrock cover is 10 to 70 percent, and surface rock fragment cover is as much as 50 percent. The plant community is dominantly dwarf scrub species such as <i>Vaccinium uliginosum</i>, <i>Empetrum nigrum</i>, <i>Phyllodoce glanduliflora</i>, <i>Cassiope mertensiana</i>, <i>Loiseleuria procumbens</i>, <i>Vaccinium vitis-idaea</i>, and <i>Salix arctica</i>. Dwarf shrub cover generally is 35 to 45 percent. Lichen cover is 5 to 60 percent. Common lichens include <i>Cladina stellaris</i>, <i>Cladina rangiferina</i>, <i>Stereocaulon</i>, <i>Cladina arbuscula</i>, <i>Cladonia squamosa</i>, <i>Cladonia gracilis</i>, and <i>Peltigera</i>. Forb cover generally is less than 10 percent with species such as <i>Saxifraga lyallii</i>, dwarf fireweed (<i>Chamerion latifolium</i>), <i>Saxifraga ferruginea</i>, <i>Luetkea pectinata</i>, <i>Ranunculus eschscholtzii</i>, <i>Lycopodium complanatum</i>, <i>Lycopodium annotinum</i>, <i>Gymnocarpium dryopteris</i>, <i>Trientalis europaea</i>, and <i>Petasites frigidus</i>. Moss cover is minimal, but it may be as much as 30 percent in areas where lichen cover is minimal. Moss species include <i>Sphagnum capillifolium</i>, <i>Hylocomium splendens</i>, <i>Pleurozium schreberi</i>, <i>Rhytidiadelphus</i>, <i>Dicranum scoparium</i>, and <i>Polytrichum commune</i>.</p>			
<p><b>Community Pathways</b></p>			
<p><b>Pathway Number</b></p>	<p><b>Pathway Name &amp; Description</b></p>		
<p>Not applicable</p>	<p>There were no observed community pathways.</p>		