

DOUGLAS-FIR/SALAL-DWARF OREGONGRAPE

*Pseudotsuga menziesii*/*Gaultheria shallon*-*Berberis nervosa*

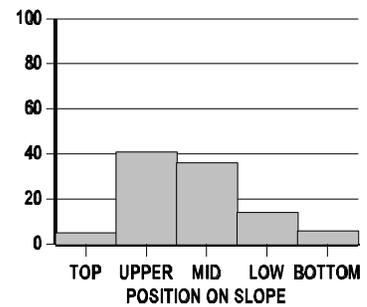
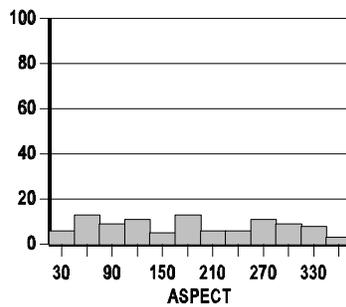
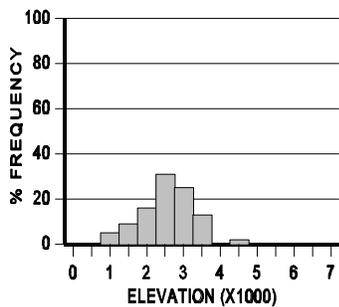
PSME/GASH-BENE2 (N=64; BLM=47, FS=17)



Distribution. This Association occurs on all districts of the Umpqua National Forest, and all Resource Areas, Medford and Roseburg Districts, Bureau of Land Management.

Distinguishing Characteristics. This Association is one of the drier, cooler plant associations of the Douglas-fir Series. Pacific rhododendron is rarely present. Salal is frequently found, with high covers.

Soils. Parent material is variable, with occurrences of mudstone, sandstone, andesite, diorite, basalt, granite, rhyolite, tephra, and ash. Average surface rock cover is 6 percent, with 16 percent gravel. Based on 47 plots sampled, soil textures are mostly loam and sandy loam, with some silt loam, sandy clay loam, silty clay loam, and silty clay. Average rock fragment content is 35 percent, most of which is gravel (average 30 percent).



Environment. Elevation averages 2550 feet. Aspects vary. Slope averages 43 percent and ranges from 2 to 80 percent. This Association may be found on all slope positions.

Vegetation Composition and Structure. Total species richness is low for the Series, averaging 33 species. The overstory is dominated by Douglas-fir, with incense-cedar and sugar pine commonly occurring. The understory is dominated by Douglas-fir. Incense-cedar, golden chinquapin, and Pacific madrone are common, while white fir, Pacific dogwood, bigleaf-maple, and sugar pine are occasionally found. Salal, dwarf Oregongrape, and baldhip rose are frequently found in the shrub layer. Salal and dwarf Oregongrape may have high covers, salal averaging 43 percent, while dwarf Oregongrape averages 7 percent. Creambush ocean-spray, Pacific blackberry, and creeping snowberry are common. In the herb/grass layer, whipplevine, western sword-fern, and western starflower are frequent, while pathfinder, vanillaleaf, and western twinflower are common. All have relatively low covers. Moss cover averages 12 percent.

On Forest Service sites, upper layer tree cover is high for the Series, averaging 71 percent. Mid-layer tree cover is intermediate for the Series, averaging 40 percent, while lower layer tree cover is low, averaging 16 percent. High shrub cover is low, averaging 21 percent, and low shrub cover is intermediate, averaging 47 percent. Herb/grass cover is also intermediate for the Series, averaging 32 percent.

On Bureau of Land Management sites, cover for trees greater than 10 feet tall (3 meters) averages 73 percent, while cover for trees less than 10 feet tall averages 5 percent. Cover for shrubs greater than 20 inches tall (50 centimeters) averages 16 percent, and cover averages 58 percent for shrubs less than 20 inches tall. Herb/grass cover averages 12 percent.

Common name	Code	Constancy	Cover	Avg. Richness
<u>Overstory trees</u>				2
Douglas-fir	PSME	97	58	
<u>Understory trees</u>				5
Douglas-fir	PSME	100	24	
Incense-cedar	CADE27	56	6	
Golden chinquapin	CACH6	53	5	
Pacific madrone	ARME	50	4	
White fir	ABCO	42	5	
Pacific dogwood	CONU4	41	4	
<u>Shrubs</u>				10
Salal	GASH	97	43	
Dwarf Oregongrape	BENE2	95	7	
Baldhip rose	ROGY	80	2	
Creambush ocean-spray	HODI	72	7	
<u>Herbs</u>				16
Whipplevine	WHMO	84	4	
Western sword-fern	POMU	80	7	
Western starflower	TRLA6	80	1	
Pathfinder	ADBI	73	2	
Western twinflower	LIBOL	66	3	