

## TSME 8

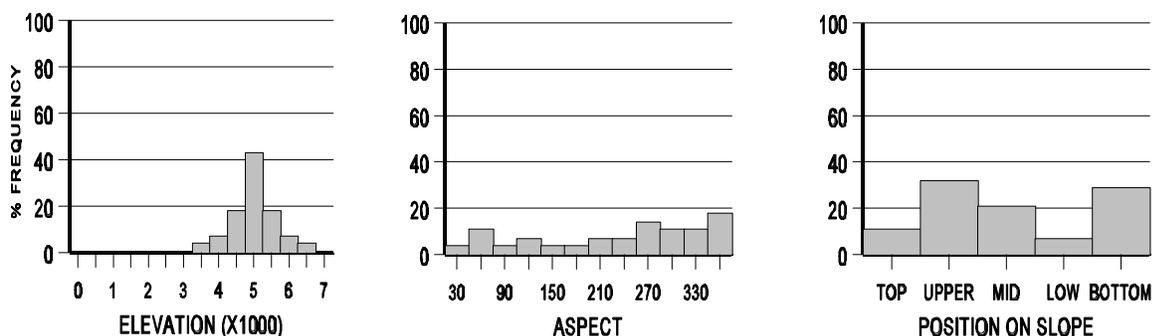
MOUNTAIN HEMLOCK-SHASTA RED FIR/THIN-LEAVED HUCKLEBERRY/COMMON PRINCE'S-PINE  
*Tsuga mertensiana-Abies magnifica shastensis/Vaccinium membranaceum/Chimaphila umbellata*  
TSME-ABMAS/VAME/CHUM (N=28; FS=25, Sky Lakes=3)



**Distribution.** Mountain Hemlock-Shasta Red Fir/Thin-leaved Huckleberry/Common Prince's-pine occurs mostly in the southern Oregon Cascades, but occasionally in the Siskiyou. It is found on all Ranger Districts of the Rogue River National Forest, the Diamond Lake Ranger District of the Umpqua National Forest, and in the Sky Lakes Wilderness.

**Distinguishing Characteristics.** Mountain Hemlock-Shasta Red Fir/Thin-leaved Huckleberry/Common Prince's-pine is found at low elevations with warm temperatures and moderate precipitation relative to the other plant associations in the Series. The presence of Douglas-fir, white fir, and western hemlock are all indicative of the warmer conditions.

**Soils.** Parent material is mostly pumice, andesite, and basalt. Soils are deep to moderately deep, with an average depth of greater than 41 inches. Average surface rock cover is 7 percent, with 2 percent gravel. Based on six plots sampled, surface



textures are sandy loam, loam, or clay loam, with 0 to 30 percent gravel and up to 40 percent cobbles. Subsurface textures are sandy loam, clay loam, or loam, with 10 to 95 percent cobbles.

Environment. Elevation averages 5260 feet. Mountain Hemlock-Shasta Red Fir/Thin-leaved Huckleberry/Common Prince's-pine occurs on all aspects. Slope averages 21 percent and ranges from 3 to 60 percent. Upper, middle one-third, and valley bottom slope positions predominate.

Vegetation Composition and Structure. Total species richness is very high for the Series, averaging 28 species. Overstory tree layer is dominated by Shasta red fir, with mountain hemlock and Douglas-fir frequent, western white pine common, and white fir occasional. Understory tree layer is dominated by mountain hemlock, with Shasta red fir and western white pine frequent, white fir and Douglas-fir common, and golden chinquapin and lodgepole pine occasional. Shrub richness is very high for the Series, with thin-leaved huckleberry occurring frequently, occasionally with high covers. Oregon boxwood and dwarf bramble occur commonly. In the herb/grass layer, common prince's-pine and one-sided pyrola occur frequently, and queen's cup, threeleaf anemone, western twayblade, and rattlesnake-plantain commonly. Moss cover averages 3 percent.

Upper layer tree cover is high for the Series, averaging 59 percent. Mid-layer tree cover is low, averaging 30 percent, and lower layer tree cover is high, averaging 28 percent. High shrub cover is low, averaging 4 percent, and low shrub cover is high, averaging 28 percent. Herb/grass cover is intermediate, ranging from 0 to 90 percent, with an average of 18 percent.

Common name	Code	Constancy	Cover	Richness
<u>Overstory trees</u>				4
Shasta red fir	ABMAS	86	24	
Mountain hemlock	TSME	79	15	
Douglas-fir	PSME	79	11	
Western white pine	PIMO3	71	6	
<u>Understory trees</u>				5
Mountain hemlock	TSME	100	26	
Shasta red fir	ABMAS	89	9	
Western white pine	PIMO3	75	3	
White fir	ABCO	57	7	
Douglas-fir	PSME	54	7	
<u>Shrubs</u>				7
Thin-leaved huckleberry	VAME	79	34	
Oregon boxwood	PAMY	68	3	
Dwarf bramble	RULA2	54	2	
<u>Herbs</u>				13
Common prince's-pine	CHUM	86	5	
One-sided pyrola	PYSE	82	1	
Queen's cup	CLUN2	61	3	
Threeleaf anemone	ANDE3	54	1	
Western twayblade	LICA10	54	1	
Rattlesnake-plantain	GOOB2	50	1	
White trillium	TROV2	46	1	