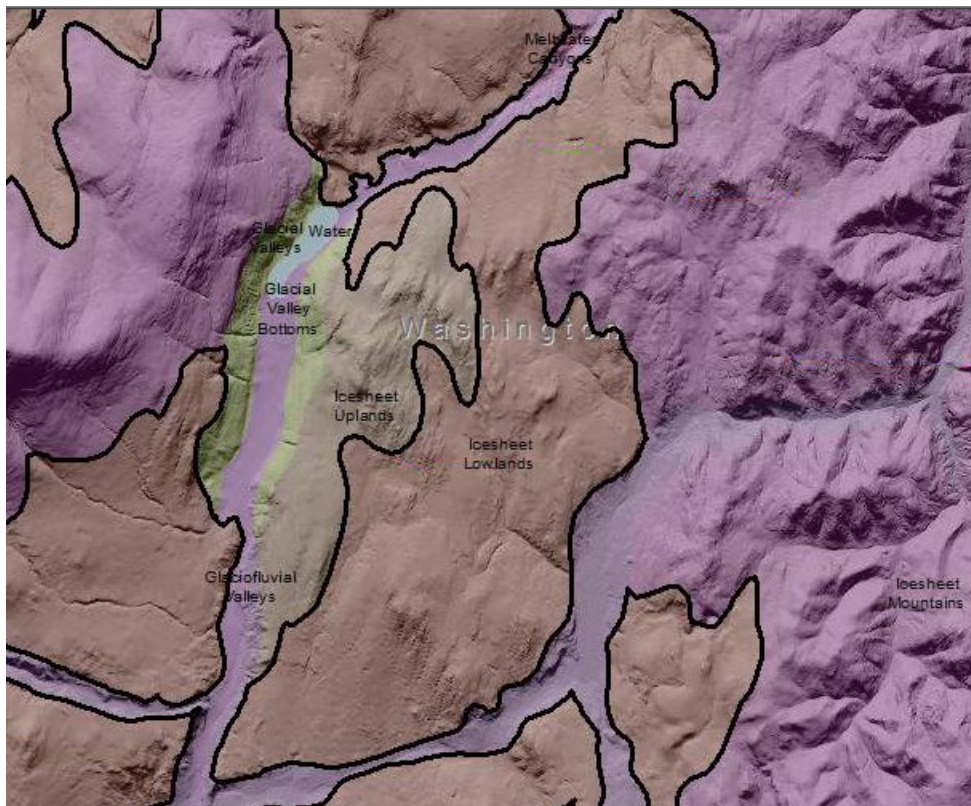


Columbia Plateau Icesheet Lowlands

Lowland [Common Landform and Landscape Term] (a) A general term for low-lying land or an extensive region of low land, esp. near the coast and including the extended plains or country lying not far above tide level. (b) The low and relatively level ground of a region, in contrast with the adjacent, higher country; e.g. a vale between two cuestas. (c) A low or level tract of land along a watercourse; a bottom. (Bates and Jackson, 1995)

Landform Association:

Icesheet Lowlands



Icesheet Lowlands are low lying landscapes that have been overrun by the Cordilleran Continental Icesheet. Lowlands do not have glacial valleys mapped in them. They tend to be lower than Icesheet Uplands and Icesheet Mountains. They represent old Piedmonts that fronts the icesheet mountains that were then overrun by the continental icesheet. Low relief and undulating terrain dominate. They have quite a bit of compacted bottom till in places from the icesheet. Water will stay on landscape due to low slope angles. The drainage networks may not be fully integrated; as a result, some areas will be moist. In pockets there may be lakes and ponds, soils may not be so drought prone. There may be drainages with no outlets that are filled with till deposition.

This Landform Association has a limited spatial extent on National Forest System Lands.

Landtype Associations: Landtype Associations are formed by intersecting vegetation series or groups of vegetation series with Landform Associations.

Topography:

The following tables represent the average conditions for the Landform Association. Only lands within and adjacent to National Forest System Lands were mapped by this project. The entire EPA Level III Ecoregion is not covered by this mapping.

The percent of Landform Association (% of LfA) in bold in the table below refers to the percent of the Ecoregion represented by that Landform Association. The (% of LfA) numbers not in bold in the table below refer to the percent of each Landtype Association within the Landform Association.

Landform Association/Landtype Association	% of LfA	Mean % Slope	Minimum Elevation (m)	Maximum Elevation (m)	Mean Elevation (m)	% Northerly Aspect (226° - 134°)	% Southerly Aspect (135° - 225°)
Icesheet Lowlands	8.1%	22	551	877	690	78%	22%
Icesheet Lowlands, Douglas-Fir	33.9%	20	633	913	763	90%	10%
Icesheet Lowlands, Douglas-Fir - Ponderosa Pine	1.3%	36	530	729	593	81%	19%
Icesheet Lowlands, Ponderosa Pine	56.7%	21	528	935	696	70%	30%
Icesheet Lowlands, Ponderosa Pine - Douglas-Fir	1.2%	31	417	600	509	68%	32%
Icesheet Lowlands, Ponderosa Pine - Shrub-Steppe	6.8%	28	461	722	569	83%	17%

Climate:

Landform Association/Landtype Association	Mean Annual Precipitation (mm)	Mean Annual Temperature °C	AET/PET Ratio July, Aug, Sept
Icesheet Lowlands	407	8	0.14
Icesheet Lowlands, Douglas-Fir	422	7	0.15
Icesheet Lowlands, Douglas-Fir - Ponderosa Pine	413	8	0.13
Icesheet Lowlands, Ponderosa Pine	404	8	0.13
Icesheet Lowlands, Ponderosa Pine - Douglas-Fir	364	8	0.18
Icesheet Lowlands, Ponderosa Pine - Shrub-Steppe	382	8	0.15

The ratio of Actual Evapotranspiration to Potential Evapotranspiration (AET/PET) is used as a broad-scale indicator of potential drought stress. We obtained modeled actual and potential evapotranspiration datasets from the Numerical Terradynamic Simulation Group at the University of Montana (<http://www.ntsug.umt.edu/project/mod16>) for a 30 year climate average. AET/PET ratio in the table above is based on a scale of zero to one. A value closer to 1 means the vegetation is transpiring close to its potential. A value farther from 1 means that the Actual Evapotranspiration is below potential based on this climatic zone (Ringo, et. al. 2016 in draft).