**Blue Mountain Verrucated Plateaus**

**Plateaus** in the Pacific Northwest are predominantly underlain by stacked flows of the Columbia River Basalts and form extensive elevated plains bounded on one or more sides by steep slopes hundreds of feet above adjoining areas. Plateaus are differentiated from each other by the most-evident surficial processes of alteration.

**Landform Association:**

**Verrucated Plateaus:**



**Verrucated Plateaus** have a hummocky, warty morphology, including common hillocks and poorly organized to tortuous drainages, but cannot be definitely ascribed to mass failure as the dominant surface process. Origins for this type of LfA include ancient landslides that have been eroded, such as exhumed deep-marine landslides incorporated in a bedrock formation, or exhumed ancient volcanic flows in bedrock strata. As such, the hummocky terrain is associated with eroded portions of the landscape. Verrucated plateaus include portions of incised or angulate plateaus where the underlying strata (typically sedimentary formations) have been exposed but not reactivated towards failure. In this map unit, drainages are poorly integrated, leading to variable routing of surface water through this type of landscape. Seeps and springs occur as a result. Because of irregular slopes and aspects, as well as varied surface water availability, this LfA has a diverse upland habit.

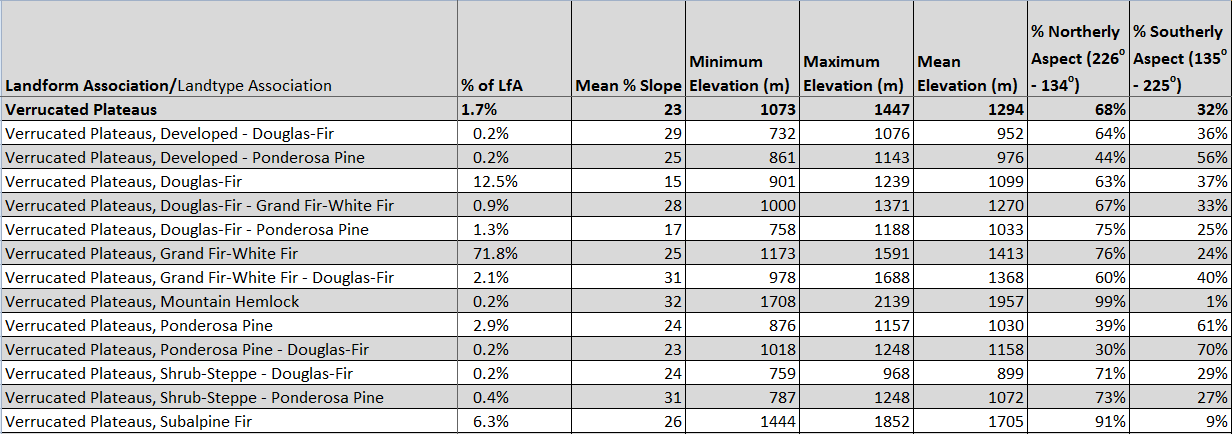
This Landform Association has a limited spatial extent on National Forest System Lands.

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

**Topography**:

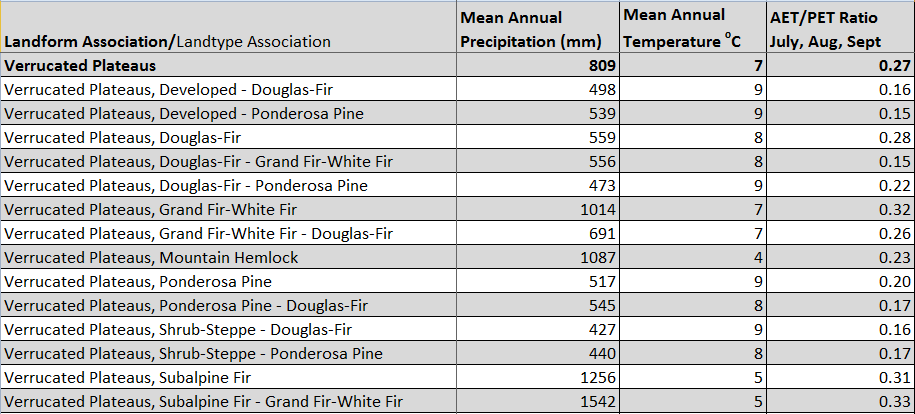
The following tables represent the average conditions for the Landform Association. Only lands within and adjacent to National Forest System Lands were mapped by this project. The entire EPA Level III Ecoregion is not covered by this mapping.

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.





**Climate:**



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.ntsg.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 1means that the Actual Evapotranspiration is below potential based on this climatic zone (Ringo, et. al. 2016 in draft).