

DOUGLAS-FIR-CANYON LIVE OAK/POISON OAK

*Pseudotsuga menziesii-Quercus chrysolepis/Rhus diversiloba*

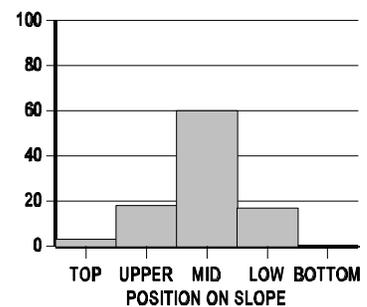
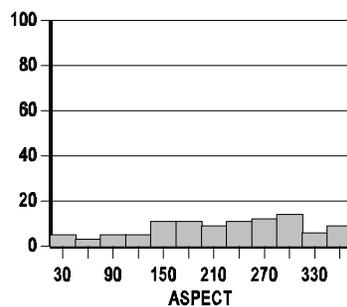
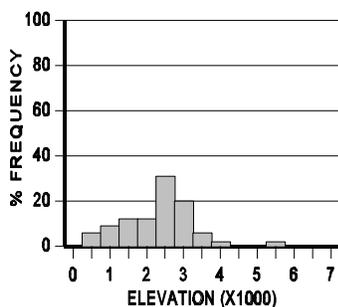
PSME-QUCH2/RHDI6 (N=65; BLM=39, FS=26)



Distribution. This Association occurs on the Applegate Ranger District, Rogue River National Forest and the Galice, Gold Beach, and Illinois Valley Ranger Districts, and possibly the Chetco Ranger District, Siskiyou National Forest. It also occurs on all Resource Areas, Medford District and the South River Resource Area, Roseburg District, Bureau of Land Management.

Distinguishing Characteristics. This is one of the warmer, drier associations of the Douglas-fir Series. Canyon live oak and poison oak are frequently present, with high covers. Both indicate rocky, dry conditions.

Soils. Parent material is highly variable. Plots occur on sandstone, andesite, mudstone, schist, granite, and gabbro, with some plots underlain by metavolcanics, mixed sedimentary, or ultramafic materials. Based on 39 plots sampled, soil textures are mostly sandy loam, with some silt loam, loam, silty clay loam, or loamy sand.



Average rock fragment content is 69 percent, most of which is gravel (average 50 percent).

Environment. Elevation averages 2280 feet. Aspects vary. Slope averages 62 percent and ranges between 10 and 110 percent. This Association may occur on all slope positions, but most frequently occurs mid-slope. Average annual precipitation is 57 inches and average annual temperature is 49 degrees F.

Vegetation Composition and Structure. Total species richness is very low for the Series, averaging 26 species. The overstory is dominated by Douglas-fir. The understory is dominated by Douglas-fir and canyon live oak, with Pacific madrone commonly occurring. Frequently occurring shrubs include poison oak and hairy honeysuckle; poison oak with high covers and hairy honeysuckle with low covers. Baldhip rose is common. White-flowered hawkweed, western sword-fern, and western starflower are commonly occurring herbs. Moss cover averages 23 percent.

On Forest Service sites, upper layer tree cover is low for the Series, averaging 49 percent, while mid-layer tree cover is high, averaging 52 percent. Lower layer tree cover is intermediate, averaging 31 percent. High shrub cover is low for the Series, averaging 10 percent, and low shrub cover is intermediate, averaging 31 percent. Herb/grass cover is low for the Series, averaging 27 percent.

On Bureau of Land Management sites, cover for trees greater than 10 feet tall (3 meters) averages 74 percent, while cover for trees less than 10 feet tall averages 26 percent. Cover for shrubs greater than 20 inches tall (50 centimeters) averages 12 percent and cover for shrubs less than 20 inches tall averages 14 percent. Herb/grass cover averages 12 percent.

| Common name             | Code  | Constancy | Cover | Avg. Richness |
|-------------------------|-------|-----------|-------|---------------|
| <u>Overstory trees</u>  |       |           |       | 2             |
| Douglas-fir             | PSME  | 91        | 44    |               |
| <u>Understory trees</u> |       |           |       | 5             |
| Douglas-fir             | PSME  | 100       | 20    |               |
| Canyon live oak         | QUCH2 | 99        | 37    |               |
| Pacific madrone         | ARME  | 71        | 13    |               |
| California black oak    | QUKE  | 42        | 6     |               |
| Tanoak                  | LIDE3 | 40        | 7     |               |
| Sugar pine              | PILA  | 40        | 3     |               |
| <u>Shrubs</u>           |       |           |       | 7             |
| Poison oak              | RHDI6 | 89        | 15    |               |
| Hairy honeysuckle       | LOHI2 | 75        | 4     |               |
| Baldhip rose            | ROGY  | 63        | 2     |               |
| California hazel        | COCOC | 45        | 5     |               |
| Creeping snowberry      | SYMO  | 42        | 2     |               |
| <u>Herbs</u>            |       |           |       | 12            |
| White-flowered hawkweed | HIAL  | 71        | 1     |               |
| Western sword-fern      | POMU  | 60        | 4     |               |
| Western starflower      | TRLA6 | 52        | 1     |               |
| Oregon fairybell        | DIHOO | 45        | 1     |               |
| Mountain sweet-root     | OSCH  | 25        | 2     |               |