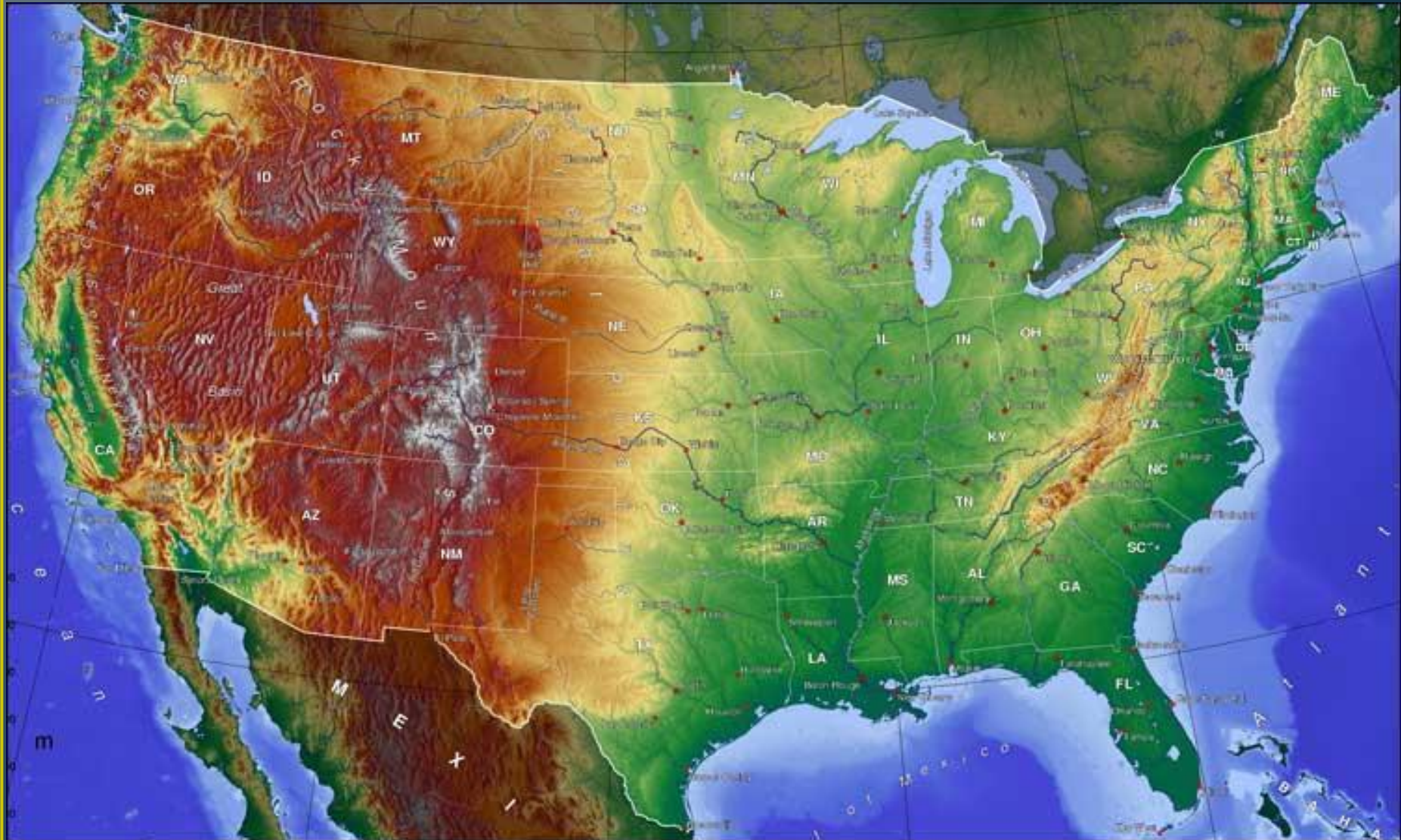


Mountains

About half of the US territory is covered by plateaus and mountains



The Eastern part of the country is occupied the Appalachian Mountains, which is in the North come close to the Atlantic coast and in the South are separated from it by the Atlantic lowland.



West to the Appalachians stretch to the Central plains in the West and the Mexican Lowland in the South. This region is situated in the central part of the USA and considered to be the heart of the USA having good soil.



The Western part of the country is made up of High Mountain Ranges, tablelands and plateaus of the Cordilleras system, which accounts for 1/3 of the USA.

West of the Rockies lies vast plateaus and tablelands:

- **The Colombia plateau**
- **The Colorado plateau**
- **The Great Basin**
- **A Dessert tablelands**

Vegetation and wild life

In the North East of the country and the region Great Plateaus there are mixed forests of pine, lime, ash. Further south they are replaced by broadleaf forests of oak and maple; still further south there appear magnolia, laurel. In the Central Plains the tall-grass prairie vegetation can be found in the East, while in the West the soil is rather dry.



CENTRAL AND EASTERN GRASSLANDS

GRASSLAND	GRASSLAND COMBINATIONS	GRASSLAND AND FOREST COMBINATIONS
18. Koeleria prairie (Agropyron-Festuca-Sitka)	19. Wheatgrass-bluestem steppes (Agropyron-Andropogon-Sitka)	20. Oak savanna (Quercus-Andropogon)
19. Grama-needlegrass-wheatgrass (Bouteloua-Sida-Agropyron)	20. Wheatgrass-grama-buffalo grass (Agropyron-Bouteloua-Sitka)	21. Mosaic of numbers 66 and 91
20. Grama-buffalo grass (Bouteloua-Sitka)	21. Bluestem prairie (Andropogon-Sitka)	22. Cedar glades (Quercus-Simpsonia-Spondylia)
21. Wheatgrass-needlegrass (Agropyron-Sitka)	22. Bluestem-grama prairie (Andropogon-Sitka)	23. Live oak-sage oak (Quercus-Sitka)
	23. Shinnery (Quercus-Andropogon)	24. Mesquite-buffalo grass (Prosopis-Bouteloua-Prosopis)
	24. Northern cordgrass prairie (Distichlis-Spartina)	25. Juniper-oak savanna (Andropogon-Quercus-Juniperus)
		26. Juniper-oak savanna (Andropogon-Quercus-Juniperus)
		27. Mesquite-oak savanna (Andropogon-Prosopis-Quercus)
		28. Prairie prairie (Andropogon-Bouteloua)
		29. Cedar glades (Quercus-Simpsonia-Spondylia)
		30. Live oak-sage oak (Quercus-Sitka)
		31. Open savanna (Prosopis-Mesquite)
		32. Mesquite and Magnolia Period

EASTERN FORESTS

NEEDLELEAF FORESTS

- 33. Great Lakes spruce-fir forest (Picea-Abies)
- 34. Coastal bog (Picea-Larix-Thuja)
- 35. Great Lakes pine forest (Pinus)
- 36. Northeastern spruce-fir forest (Picea-Abies)
- 37. Southeastern spruce-fir forest (Picea-Abies)

BROADLEAF FORESTS

- 38. Northern hardwood forest (Fagus-Salic-Liriodendron)
- 39. Maple-hickory forest (Acer-Fagus)
- 40. Oak-hickory forest (Quercus-Carya)
- 41. Elm-ash forest (Ulmus-Fraxinus)
- 42. Beech-maple forest (Fagus-Acer)
- 43. Mixed mesophytic forest (Quercus-Fagus-Liriodendron-Quercus-Tilia)
- 44. Appalachian oak forest (Quercus)
- 45. Magnolia (Magnolia-Elm-Thuja)

BROADLEAF AND NEEDLELEAF FORESTS

- 46. Northern hardwoods (Acer-Betula-Fagus-Thuja)
- 47. Northern hardwood-fir forest (Acer-Betula-Abies-Thuja)
- 48. Northern hardwoods-spruce forest (Acer-Betula-Fagus-Picea-Thuja)
- 49. Northeastern oak-pine forest (Quercus-Pinus)
- 50. Oak-hickory-pine forest (Quercus-Carya-Pinus)
- 51. Southern mixed forest (Fagus-Quercus-Liriodendron-Picea-Quercus)
- 52. Southern hardwood forest (Quercus-Nyssa-Taxodium)
- 53. Pecan (Pecan)
- 54. Sand pine scrub (Pinus-Scaevola)
- 55. Sub-tropical pine forest (Pinus)

WESTERN FORESTS

NEEDLELEAF FORESTS

- 56. Spruce-fir hemlock forest (Picea-Thus-Tsuga)
- 57. Cedar-hemlock Douglas fir forest (Thuja-Tsuga-Pseudotsuga)
- 58. Silver fir-Douglas fir forest (Abies-Pseudotsuga)
- 59. Fir-hemlock forest (Abies-Tsuga)
- 60. Mixed conifer forest (Abies-Picea-Pseudotsuga)
- 61. Redwood forest (Sequoia-Sequoia)
- 62. Red fir forest (Abies)
- 63. Lodgepole pine-sitka spruce forest (Pinus-Tsuga)
- 64. Pine-spruce forest (Pinus-Cedrus)
- 65. Western ponderosa forest (Pinus)
- 66. Douglas fir forest (Pseudotsuga)
- 67. Cedar-hemlock-pine forest (Thuja-Tsuga-Pinus)
- 68. Conifer fir-Douglas fir forest (Abies-Pseudotsuga)
- 69. Western spruce fir forest (Picea-Abies)
- 70. Eastern ponderosa forest (Pinus)

BROADLEAF AND NEEDLELEAF FORESTS

- 71. California mixed evergreen forest (Quercus-Abies-Pseudotsuga)
- 72. California suboak forest (Quercus)
- 73. Oak-juniper woodland (Quercus-Juniperus)
- 74. Transition between 27 and 31

WESTERN SHRUB AND GRASSLAND

SHRUB

- 75. Chaparral (Quercus-Azadirachta-Ceanothus)
- 76. Oregon suboak forest (Quercus)
- 77. Mesquite bosques (Prosopis)
- 78. Creosote bush (Larrea)
- 79. Creosote bush-bar sage (Larrea-Ferula)
- 80. Palo verde-cotton shrub (Cercocarpus-Quercus)
- 81. Ceanoth shrub (Aescylopus-Ferns-Prosopis)
- 82. Desert vegetation largely absent

GRASSLAND

- 83. Coastal sagebrush (Purshia-Danthonia)
- 84. Mountain water-sagebrush scrub (Cercocarpus-Quercus)
- 85. Great Basin sagebrush (Artemisia)
- 86. Salt-tolerant grassland (Spartina-Sarcobatus)
- 87. Creosote bush (Larrea)
- 88. Alpine meadows and baren (Larrea-Cercocarpus-Ferula)
- 89. Pecos-mountain mahogany prairie (Prosopis-Mulberry)
- 90. Grama-grass steppe (Bouteloua-Hilaria)
- 91. Mesquite-buffalo grass (Prosopis-Bouteloua)
- 92. Grama-tobacco prairie (Bouteloua-Hilaria)

SHRUB AND GRASSLAND COMBINATIONS

- 93. Sagebrush steppe (Artemisia-Agropyron)
- 94. Wheatgrass-needlegrass shrubsteppe (Agropyron-Sida-Artemisia)
- 95. Salt-tolerant grassland (Spartina-Sarcobatus)
- 96. Grama-tobacco shrubsteppe (Bouteloua-Hilaria-Larrea)
- 97. Pecos-ironwood savanna (Prosopis-Artemisia)
- 98. Grama-tobacco shrub savanna (Bouteloua-Hilaria-Larrea)
- 99. Mesquite-buffalo grass (Prosopis-Bouteloua)
- 100. Mesquite-buffalo grass (Prosopis-Bouteloua)

POTENTIAL NATURAL VEGETATION
 A. W. Kuchler
 University of Kansas, 1966
 SCALE 1:7,500,000
 ALBERS EQUAL AREA PROJECTION
 0 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 800 900 1000 KILOMETERS

For information on Alaska and Hawaii see page 92

In the Great Basin there are desserts and semi desserts. The vegetation in the Cordilleras is represented by coniferous forests and at the height meters are alpine meadows.

In the North-West Coast there are forests of huge sequoia.

The mixed forest zone is the home of the brown bear, lynx, glutton, marten. In the forests of the Appalachians various Virginia deer, chipmunk, mole, bats.

The South-East is represented by alligator, turtle, opossum, coyote and many kinds of gopher and badgers.

The semi dessert zones are inhabited by different rodents and reptiles. In the Cordillera region there is Rocky Mountain goat, Rocky Mountain Sheep, grizzly bear and further south jaguar and armadillo.

