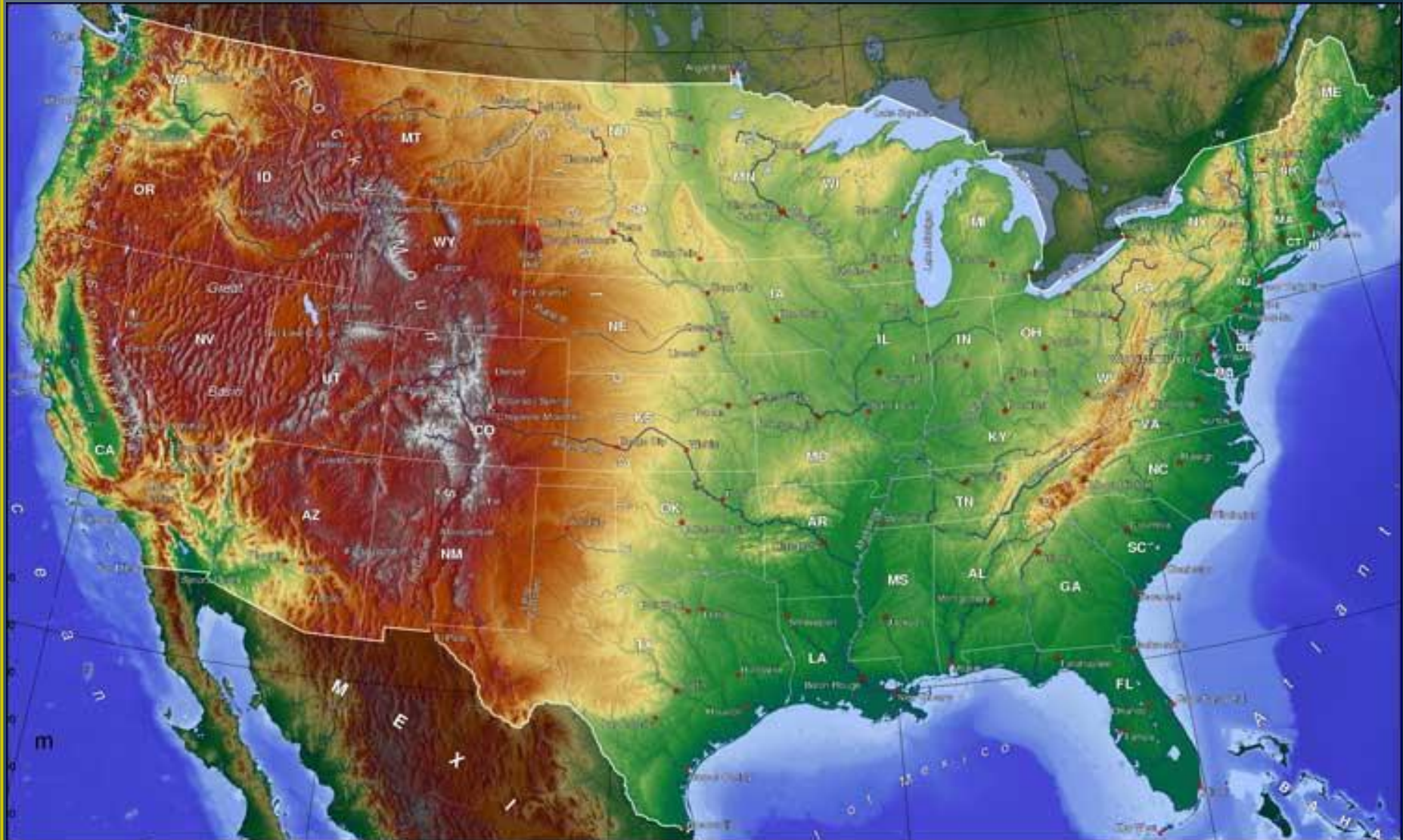


Mountains

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.



CANADA

UNITED STATES

MEXICO

ATLANTIC OCEAN

Gulf of Mexico

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Tropic of Cancer

BRITISH COLUMBIA

ALBERTA

WASHINGTON

OREGON

NEVADA

CALIFORNIA

BAJA CALIFORNIA

BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR

MANITOBA

SASKATCHEWAN

MONTANA

IDAHO

UTAH

ARIZONA

NEW MEXICO

SONORA

CHIHUAHUA

ONTARIO

QUEBEC

NORTH DAKOTA

SOUTH DAKOTA

KANSAS

COLORADO

NEBRASKA

OKLAHOMA

DURANGO

MINNESOTA

WISCONSIN

ILLINOIS

INDIANA

MICHIGAN

OHIO

KENTUCKY

MISSISSIPPI

MISSOURI

NEW BRUNSWICK

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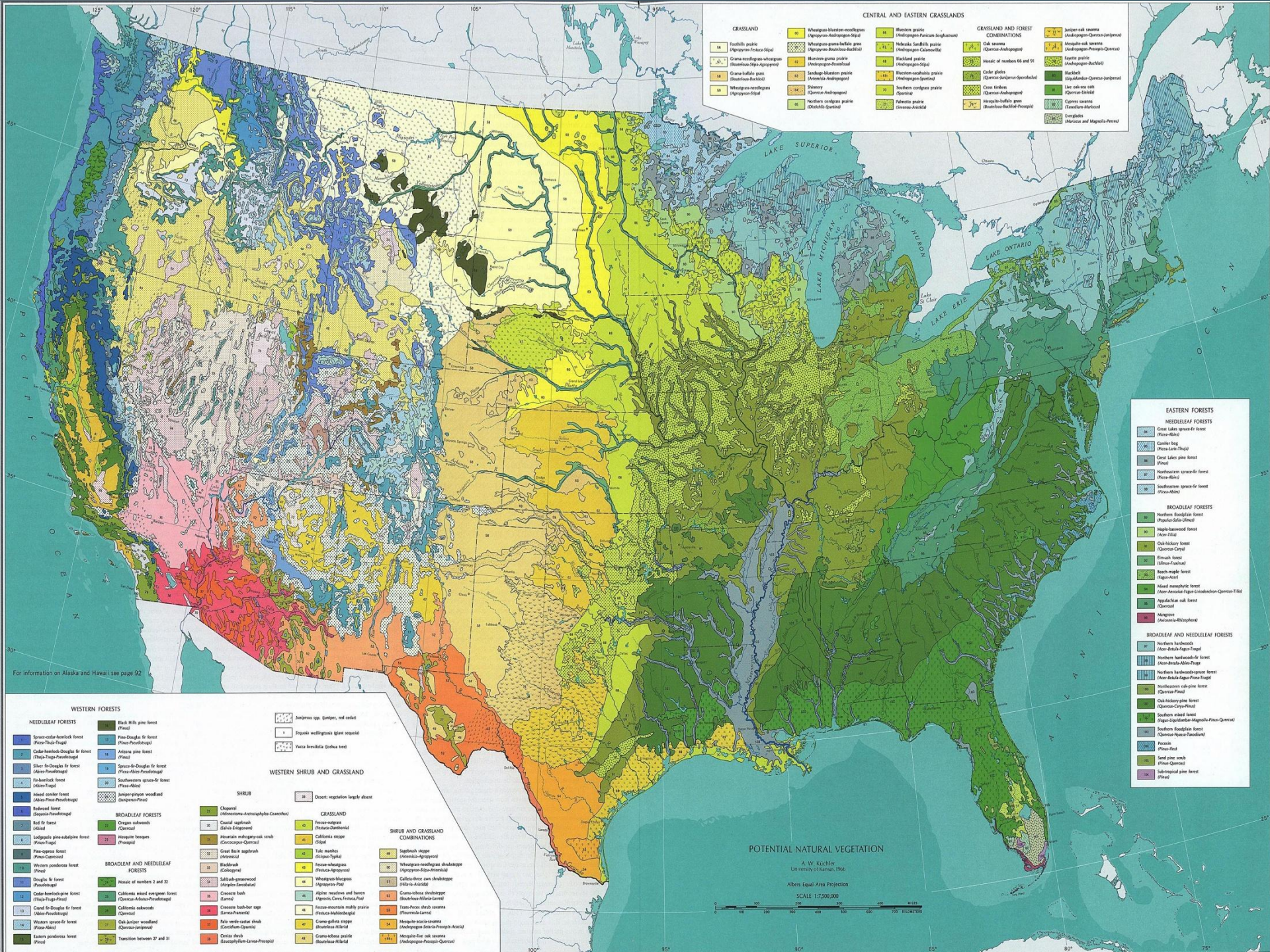
The Western part of the country is made up of High Mountain Ranges, tablelands and plateaus of the Cordilleras system, which accounts for 1/3 of the USA.

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	Grassland	Grassland and Forest COMBINATIONS
10. Roughly prairie (<i>Agropyron-Festuca-Stipa</i>)	11. Wheatgrass-bluestem steppes (<i>Agropyron-Andropogon-Stipa</i>)	12. Bluestem prairie (<i>Andropogon-Festuca-Sorghastrum</i>)	13. Oak savanna (<i>Quercus-Andropogon</i>)
14. Grass-rodent-grass-wheatgrass (<i>Stenotaphrum-Sida-Agrostis</i>)	15. Wheatgrass-grass-buffalo grass (<i>Agropyron-Bouteloua-Festuca</i>)	16. Nebraska, Sandhill prairie (<i>Andropogon-Calamagrostis</i>)	17. Mosaic of numbers 6, 6 and 9
18. Grass-buffalo grass (<i>Bouteloua-Festuca</i>)	19. Bluestem-grass prairie (<i>Andropogon-Bouteloua</i>)	18. Blackland prairie (<i>Andropogon-Spartina</i>)	19. Cedar glades (<i>Quercus-Juncus-Sporobolus</i>)
20. Wheatgrass-rodent-grass (<i>Stenotaphrum-Festuca</i>)	21. Bluestem-grass prairie (<i>Andropogon-Spartina</i>)	22. Bluestem-rodent-grass prairie (<i>Andropogon-Spartina</i>)	23. Live oak-oak oak (<i>Quercus-Quercus</i>)
21. Wheatgrass-rodent-grass (<i>Stenotaphrum-Festuca</i>)	22. Shivery (<i>Quercus-Andropogon</i>)	23. Southern cordgrass prairie (<i>Spartina</i>)	24. Cane timbers (<i>Quercus-Andropogon</i>)
22. Wheatgrass-rodent-grass (<i>Stenotaphrum-Festuca</i>)	24. Northern cordgrass prairie (<i>Spartina</i>)	25. Prairie prairie (<i>Quercus-Aristida</i>)	25. Mesquite-buffalo grass (<i>Bouteloua-Baccharis-Prostria</i>)
			26. Juniper-oak savanna (<i>Andropogon-Quercus-Juniperus</i>)
			27. Mesquite-oak savanna (<i>Andropogon-Prostria-Quercus</i>)
			28. Prairie prairie (<i>Andropogon-Baccharis</i>)
			29. Hardhick (<i>Liquidambar-Quercus-Juniperus</i>)
			30. Live oak-oak oak (<i>Quercus-Quercus</i>)
			31. Cypress savanna (<i>Fraxinus-Melicope</i>)
			32. Mesquite (<i>Prosopis-Azizophora</i>)
			33. Mesquite and Magnolia Period

EASTERN FORESTS	
34. Great Lakes spruce-fir forest (<i>Picea-Abies</i>)	NEEDLELEAF FORESTS
35. Cedar-hickory forest (<i>Picea-Larix-Thuja</i>)	
36. Great Lakes pine forest (<i>Pinus</i>)	
37. Northeastern spruce-fir forest (<i>Picea-Abies</i>)	
38. Southeastern spruce-fir forest (<i>Picea-Abies</i>)	BROADLEAF FORESTS
39. Northern hardwood forest (<i>Fagus-Salis-Ulmus</i>)	
40. Maple-hemlock forest (<i>Acer-Fagus</i>)	
41. Oak-hickory forest (<i>Quercus-Carya</i>)	
42. Elm-ash forest (<i>Ulmus-Fraxinus</i>)	
43. Beech-maple forest (<i>Fagus-Acer</i>)	
44. Mixed mesophytic forest (<i>Quercus-Carya-Fagus</i>)	
45. Appalachian oak forest (<i>Quercus</i>)	
46. Magnolia (<i>Asimina-Albizia</i>)	
47. Northern hardwood forest (<i>Fagus-Salis-Ulmus</i>)	
48. Northern hardwood forest (<i>Fagus-Abies-Tsuga</i>)	
49. Northern hardwood-spruce forest (<i>Fagus-Abies-Picea-Tsuga</i>)	
50. Northeastern oak-pine forest (<i>Quercus-Pinus</i>)	
51. Oak-hickory pine forest (<i>Quercus-Carya-Pinus</i>)	
52. Southern mixed forest (<i>Fagus-Quercus-Picea-Tsuga</i>)	
53. Southern hardwood forest (<i>Quercus-Nyssa-Taxodium</i>)	
54. Pecan (<i>Picea</i>)	
55. Sand pine scrub (<i>Pinus-Scaevola</i>)	
56. Sub-tropical pine forest (<i>Pinus</i>)	

For information on Alaska and Hawaii see page 92

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

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.

