

Summary Table: Characteristics of the Ecoregions of Alabama and Georgia

| 45. PIEDMONT | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Level IV Ecoregion | Area (sq. miles) | Physiography | Geology | | Soil | | Climate | | | Potential Natural Vegetation | Land Use and Land Cover | |
| | | | Surficial material and bedrock | Order (Great Group) | Common Soil Series | Temperature / Moisture Regimes | Precipitation (Mean annual (inches)) | First Frost (Mean annual (days)) | Mean Temperature (January minimum, July maximum, °F) | | | |
| 45a. Southern Inner Piedmont | 6540 | Dissected irregular plains, subhlands of moderate relief; open hills; low to moderate gradient streams with mostly cobbles, gravel, and sandy substrates. | 150-2000 / 200-400 | Quaternary to Tertiary micaceous clay; sandy clay, and sandy siltstone; low to moderate gradient streams with mostly cobbles, gravel, and sandy substrates. | Ulihois (Kanhapahulds, Hapludols) on floodplains Inceptisols (Dystrudepts) | Madison, Louisa, Tann, Badin, Tallapoosa, Cecil, Grover, Davidson, Paoliot, and Etowah (Chewachs, Cartoxy, Toccoa, Etowee | Thermic / Udic | 52-60 | 185-220 | 3052; 6790 | Oak-hickory-pine forest. | Deciduous forest, mixed forest, pine plantations, pasture; hay, cattle, and poultry production. |
| 45b. Southern Outer Piedmont | 13585 | Dissected irregular plains; low to moderate gradient streams with mostly cobbles, gravel, and sandy substrates. | 180-1683 / 100-300 | Quaternary to Tertiary argillaceous siltstone, quartzitic siltstone, micaceous siltstone; Precambrian to Paleozoic schist, gneiss, granite, and amphibolite. | Ulihois (Kanhapahulds, Hapludols) on floodplains Inceptisols (Dystrudepts) | Cecil, Madison, Packer, Lloyd, Appleby, Davidson, Wilkes, Gwynett, Ashlar, on floodplains Chewach, Toccoa, Etowee, Cartoxy | Thermic / Udic, some | 46-56 | 190-230 | 3154; 6790 | Oak-hickory-pine forest. | Pine plantations, deciduous forest, mixed forest, pasture; hay, cattle, dairy, hog, and orchard production. |
| 45c. Carolina Slate Belt | 592 | Dissected irregular plains; low to moderate gradient streams with mostly cobbles, gravel, and sandy substrates. | 330-620 / 100-200 | Quaternary to Tertiary siltstone to clayey siltstone, some micaceous siltstone; Precambrian to Cambrian metasediments, meta-argillite, sericite, phyllite, and meta-siltstone. | Ulihois (Kanhapahulds) | Georgewille, Herndon | Thermic / Udic | 47-49 | 190-215 | 3053; 6790 | Oak-hickory-pine forest. | Pine plantations, mixed forest, pasture. |
| 45d. Talladega Upland | 979 | Open high hills, some northeast-trending linear ridges, rolling plateau; moderate to high gradient streams with bedrock, boulder, cobbles, gravel, and sand substrates. | 500-2407 / 250-1000 | Quaternary to Tertiary micaceous siltstone and silty, clayey, or sandy siltstone; Precambrian to Paleozoic phyllite, quartzite, slate, metacarbonate, and metaconglomerate. | Ulihois (Hapludols) | Tatum, Tallapoosa, Badin, Fruitland, Madison, Grover, Cheala | Thermic / Udic | 54-64 | 185-210 | 2851; 6589 | Oak-hickory-pine forest. | Mixed forest, pine plantations, deciduous forest; in AL, large areas of public land (Talladega National Forest), recreation, forestry. |
| 45h. Pine Mountain Ridges | 306 | Open hills and linear ridges, some irregular plains; moderate to high gradient streams with bedrock, boulder, cobbles, gravel, and sand substrates. | 590-1395 / 200-500 | Quaternary to Tertiary quartz-rich siltstone and micaceous siltstone; Precambrian to Paleozoic-quartzite, schist, gneiss, granite. | Ulihois (Kanhapahulds, Hapludols) | Mountaingap, Cecil, Paoliot, Madison | Thermic / Udic | 50-54 | 205-215 | 3255; 6890 | Oak-hickory-pine forest. | Deciduous forest, pine plantations, mixed forest, pasture. |

| 67. RIDGE AND VALLEY | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|---|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|---|
| Level IV Ecoregion | Area (sq. miles) | Physiography | Geology | | Soil | | Climate | | | Potential Natural Vegetation | Land Use and Land Cover | |
| | | | Surficial material and bedrock | Order (Great Group) | Common Soil Series | Temperature / Moisture Regimes | Precipitation (Mean annual (inches)) | First Frost (Mean annual (days)) | Mean Temperature (January minimum, July maximum, °F) | | | |
| 67a. Southern Limestone Dolomite Valleys and Low Rolling Hills | 4905 | Undulating to rolling valleys with rounded hills, some steep ridges; caves and springs; moderate to low gradient streams with bedrock, cobbles, gravel, and sandy substrates. | 300-1100 / 100-500 | Quaternary to Tertiary cherty clay and cherty silty clay siltstone residuum; Ordovician cherty dolomite and sandstone. | Ulihois (Palaudols); Inceptisols (Dystrudepts) | Fulham, Shack, Bedou, Dewey, Deacon, Minville; Chewach on floodplains. | Thermic / Udic | 50-59 | 190-225 | 29,314; 6954 | Mixed oak forest, oak-hickory-pine forest, bottomland oak forest, some cedar glades. | Mixed and deciduous forest; pasture and cropland with hay, corn, soybeans, cotton, beef, poultry, and hog; rural residential, urban and industrial. |
| 67b. Southern Shale Valleys | 2060 | Undulating to rolling valleys, some low, rounded hills, and cobbles; moderate to low gradient streams with bedrock, cobbles, gravel, and sandy substrates. | 400-1100 / 100-400 | Quaternary to Tertiary clay, clay loam, sandy clay, and sand siltstone residuum, sandy loam to clay loam; Ordovician siltstone, Cambrian to Mississippian shale, sandstone, dolomite, limestone, and mudstone. | Ulihois (Hapludols, Palaudols); Alfisols (Hapludols); Inceptisols (Dystrudepts) | Towley, Montevello, Holston, Cunningham, Conasauga, Friesstone, Allen | Thermic / Udic | 52-58 | 190-215 | 28,314; 6954 | Mixed oak forest, oak-hickory-pine forest, bottomland oak forest. | Mixed and deciduous forest; pasture and cropland with hay, corn, soybeans, cotton, beef, poultry, and hog; rural residential, urban and industrial. |
| 67h. Southern Sandstone Ridges | 1182 | High, steep ridges, some broader ridges to the south, some narrow intervening valleys; high to moderate gradient streams with mostly rock substrates. | 400-2030 / 400-1100 | Quaternary to Tertiary sandy and silty clay decomposition residuum; Cambrian to Pennsylvanian sandstone, shale, siltstone, and conglomerate. | Ulihois (Palaudols, Hapludols); Inceptisols (Dystrudepts) | Nella, Montevello, Gargas, Hartwell, Navaroo, Towley, Cheaha, Leaning | Thermic / Udic | 52-60 | 180-225 | 27,308-52 | Mixed oak forest, oak-hickory-pine forest. | Mixed and deciduous forest. |
| 67i. Southern Dissected Ridges and Knobs | 73 | Dissected ridges, hills, and knobby, rocky and more dissected than 67h; small, moderate to high gradient streams with mostly rock and gravel substrates. | 500-1300 / 300-700 | Quaternary to Tertiary cherty clay siltstone residuum, clay, silty clay, or sandy decomposition residuum; Cambrian to Pennsylvanian sandstone, shale, siltstone, and conglomerate. | Ulihois (Hapludols, Palaudols); Inceptisols (Dystrudepts) | Montevallo, Bodine, Nella, Gargas, Towley, Shack, Allen, Cheaha, Tallapoosa | Thermic / Udic | 52-59 | 190-225 | 2851; 6689 | Mixed oak forest, oak-hickory-pine forest. | Mixed and deciduous forest, some small areas of pasture. |

| 65. SOUTHEASTERN PLAINS | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|---|
| Level IV Ecoregion | Area (sq. miles) | Physiography | Geology | | Soil | | Climate | | | Potential Natural Vegetation | Land Use and Land Cover | |
| | | | Surficial material and bedrock | Order (Great Group) | Common Soil Series | Temperature / Moisture Regimes | Precipitation (Mean annual (inches)) | First Frost (Mean annual (days)) | Mean Temperature (January minimum, July maximum, °F) | | | |
| 65a. Backland Prairie | 2102 | Undulating irregular plains, nearly level to strongly sloping; low gradient streams with chalk, clay, sand, and silt substrates. | 120-360 / 50-150 | Quaternary to Tertiary dark gray to reddish clay siltstone residuum; Cretaceous-age chalk, marl, and calcareous clay. | Vertisols (Dystrudepts, Hapludols, Epiaquepts), Vertisols (Entrochids), Entisols (Aridisols), Entisols (Udorthents) | Sumner, Vaden, Okobee, Hootch, Cawthon, Hoochee, Houston, Wilcox, Okefenokee | Thermic / Udic, some Aquic | 52-56 | 220-240 | 3456; 6991 | Blackbell forest of sweetgum, hickory, oak, cypress, and loblolly pine. | Pasture and cropland with soybeans, cotton, and pond-raised catfish; commercial, small patches of mixed hardwoods, cedar, and pine, and several springs. |
| 65b. Flatwoods / Backland Prairie Margins | 1952 | Smooth lowland plains and undulating irregular plains; sluggish, low gradient, clay and sand bottomed streams. | 100-520 / 50-150 | Quaternary to Tertiary massive clay decomposition residuum, silty, medium to fine sand, and sandy clay decomposition residuum; Tertiary massive, plastic clay, calcareous clay sand, and Cretaceous micaceous fine sand, chalk, and marl. | Ulihois (Hapludols, Hapludols); Alfisols (Palaudols); Ulihois (Hapludols) | Waxton, Okefenokee, Sumner, Kipling, Corns, Sarrac, Cawthon, Okobee, Conocochee | Thermic / Udic, some Aquic | 52-56 | 220-240 | 3456; 6991 | Oak-hickory-pine forest. | Mixed forest, pine plantations, pasture, hay, and some cropland. |
| 65c. Sand Hills | 2887 | Dissected irregular plains, some open low hills; low to moderate gradient sandy bottomed streams. | 100-780 / 100-300 | Quaternary medium to coarse sand decomposition residuum; loamy sand, sandy loam, and sandy clay decomposition residuum; Cretaceous and some Eocene sands and clays. | Entisols (Quartzipammens), Ulihois (Kandiudols, Kandiudols) | Lakeland, Lucy, Paquay, Troop, Orangeburg, Vanclose, Dothan, Alley, Gargis | Thermic / Udic | 46-50 | 220-240 | 3456; 6991 | Oak-hickory-pine; longleaf-pine-turkey oak on excessively drained soils. | Mixed pine plantations, mixed forest, some pasture and cropland. |
| 65d. Southern Hills Gulf Coastal Plain | 8548 | Dissected irregular plains, northward facing cuestas, low hills with broad tops; some wide floodplains and broad, level to undulating terraces; low to moderate gradient mostly sandy bottomed streams. | 70-700 / 100-300 | Quaternary fine to coarse sand, sandy clay, and ferruginous clayey coarse sand decomposition residuum; Tertiary sand, clay, silt, limestone, and lignite; Cretaceous sand, clay, lignite. | Ulihois (Hapludols, Kandiudols, Palaudols, Fragulids, Kandiudols); Ulihois (Hapludols); Entisols (Endoaquepts) | Lucy, Bonifay, Dothan, Fuquay, Alley, Nankin, Esto, Orangeburg, Springhill, Troy, Saffell, and Wagram in the east; Bama, Lavrene, Saffell, Savannah, Conocochee, and Lucedale in the east; Iuka, Biko, Kinston, Mantachie on floodplains. | Thermic / Udic, some Aquic | 48-59 | 220-245 | 3558; 6991 | Oak-hickory-pine forest, southern mixed forest, some southern floodplain forest. | Mostly mixed forest and pine plantations, some small intermixed areas of pasture and fields of hay, cotton, peanuts, corn, and soybeans; some poultry. |
| 65e. Southern Pine Plains and Hills | 5994 | Southward sloping, dissected irregular plains, some open low hills, mostly forest gently sloping ridges with steeper side slopes near drainage; low to moderate gradient sand and clay bottomed streams; some sinkholes in eastern area. | 40-520 / 100-250 | Quaternary sandy clay decomposition residuum, calcareous sandy clay siltstone residuum, clayey sand siltstone residuum with chert blocks; alluvial gravel and sand; Tertiary (Miocene) fine to coarse sand, gravelly sand, and clay, with some limestone to east. | Ulihois (Palaudols, Kandiudols, Hapludols, Fragulids, Kandiudols); Entisols (Pisqaquepts) | Troy, Hedde, Smithdale, Bonifay, Dothan, Orangeburg, Wadley, Saffell, Bama, Saffell, Malbis, on floodplains Saffell, Iuka, Mantachie | Thermic / Udic, some Aquic | 58-68 | 230-270 | 3659; 7092 | Southern mixed forest, oak-hickory-pine forest, some southern floodplain forest. | Mixed forest, pine plantations, some agriculture on flatter uplands with soybeans, wheat, peanuts, cotton, corn, pecans, sweet potatoes, and tomatoes. |
| 65g. Dougherty Plain | 6113 | Irregular plains, some flat plains, lightly dissected; mostly low gradient with some moderate gradient sandy bottomed streams. | 80-490 / 80-200 | Quaternary and Tertiary clayey sand siltstone residuum with chert blocks; Tertiary (Eocene and Oligocene) limestone. | Ulihois (Kandiudols, Kandiudols, Palaudols), Entisols (Quartzipammens) | Orangeburg, Tifton, Dothan, Norfolk, Wagram, Troy, Lucy, Rowson, Blanton, Red Bay, Alap, Paquay, Bonifay | Thermic / Udic | 48-58 | 235-255 | 3760; 7092 | Southern mixed forest. | Cropland and pasture with corn, peanuts, cotton, pecans, soybeans, poultry; some mixed forest mostly near streams; some pine plantations. |
| 65h. Tifton Upland | 3882 | Dissected irregular plains, broad interstream divides and gently sloping side slopes; low to moderate gradient sandy bottomed streams. | 85-460 / 100-300 | Quaternary sand and clay decomposition residuum; Miocene and some Pliocene sand, clay, and gravel. | Ulihois (Kandiudols, Palaudols) | Tifton, Dothan, Norfolk, Alapaha, Pelham | Thermic / Udic | 47-56 | 240-260 | 3760; 7092 | Southern mixed forest. | Cropland and pasture with corn, cotton, peanuts, bog, cabbage, melons, tobacco, and soybeans. |
| 65i. Fall Line Hills | 6559 | Dissected open hills with rounded tops; gently sloping to strongly sloping side slopes; low to moderate gradient streams with sandy and gravelly substrates. | 200-1000 / 200-400 | Quaternary medium to coarse sand and gravel decomposition residuum; Cretaceous quartzite sand, gravelly sand, micaceous clay. | Ulihois (Hapludols, Fragulids, Kandiudols, Hapludols); Entisols (Pisqaquepts) | Cowarts, Uchee, Marvin, Orangeburg, Springhill, Lucy, and Nankin in the east; Smithdale, Lavrene, Savannah, Bama, Malbis, and Saffell in the west; Biko, Kinston, Iuka, Mantachie on floodplains. | Thermic / Udic, some Aquic | 53-59 | 210-240 | 3051; 6891 | Oak-hickory-pine forest. | Mixed forest and pine plantations, with areas of pasture and hay; minor areas of cropland; cropland of corn, soybeans, and cotton. |
| 65j. Transition Hills | 678 | Dissected open hills, broad to rounded tops and steep slopes; low to moderate gradient streams with sandy and gravelly substrates. | 420-980 / 200-400 | Quaternary gravel and sand decomposition residuum; chert fragments; Paleozoic sandstone, clayey to sandy siltstone residuum; Cretaceous fine grained sand, chert gravel in silt and sand. | Ulihois (Hapludols, Fragulids, Palaudols), Entisols (Pisqaquepts, Udorthents) | Saffell, Smithdale, Lavrene, Savannah, small areas of Dickson and Bodine, some cropland; Bibb, Iuka, and Nogot on floodplains. | Thermic / Udic | 56 | 205 | 2847; 6789 | Oak-hickory-pine forest. | Mostly mixed forest with some pine plantations; some cropland; calcareous limestone and shaly limestone; Mississippi chert and cherty limestone on higher hills and knobs; some Devonian (Chattanooga) shale. |
| 65k. Coastal Plain Red Uplands | 3234 | Dissected irregular plains, mostly broad, gently sloping ridges and interstream divides, some more dissected with steeper slopes; low to moderate gradient sandy bottomed streams. | 180-580 / 100-300 | Quaternary loamy sand, sandy loam, and sandy clay decomposition residuum, some clayey sand siltstone residuum; Eocene and Oligocene sand, clay, and limestone. | Ulihois (Kandiudols) | Orangeburg, Faceville, Lucy, Greenville, Dothan, Tifton, Red Bay | Thermic / Udic | 46-52 | 230-245 | 3457; 6991 | Southern mixed forest, oak-hickory-pine forest. | Cropland and pasture with peanuts, soybeans, wheat, cotton, corn, rice; some mixed forest on more steeply sloping land. |
| 65l. Atlantic Southern Loam Plains | 8626 | Dissected irregular plains, some smooth plains; broad interstream divides and mostly gentle slopes; low gradient streams with sandy and silty substrates; moderate gradient sandy bottomed streams. | 80-525 / 100-200 | Quaternary sand and clay decomposition residuum; Miocene sand, clay, and gravel. | Ulihois (Kandiudols, Kandiudols, Palaudols) | Tifton, Paquay, Cowarts, Nankin, Pelham, Blanton, Groop, Bonifay, Dothan, Troy | Thermic / Udic | 44-48 | 230-250 | 3558; 7092 | Southern mixed forest. | Cropland and pasture with corn, soybeans, onions, rice, wheat, tobacco, and hog; pine plantations and mixed forest. |
| 65m. Talladega Hills / Valdosta Limesink | 541 | Dissected irregular plains, more hilly to the west; more sinkholes and ponds to the east; low to moderate gradient sandy bottomed streams. | 85-295 / 100-200 | Quaternary sand and clay decomposition residuum; Miocene sand, clay, gravel, and limestone. | Ulihois (Kandiudols, Palaudols) | Orangeburg, Faceville, Lucy, and Red Bay in the west; Tifton, Fuquay, Dothan, Valdosta, and Troy in the east. | Thermic / Udic | 53-56 | 250-260 | 3662; 7092 | Southern mixed forest. | Mixed forest, pasture, and cropland of corn, peanuts, cotton, and tobacco. |
| 65n. Southeastern Floodplains and Low Terraces | 3090 | Major river floodplains and associated low gradient streams with sandy and silty substrates; oxbow lakes, ponds, swamps. | 10-130 / 5-50 | Quaternary alluvial gravelly sand, quartz gravel and sand, silt, and clays. | Inceptisols (Epiaquepts, Dystrudepts, Udorthents), Ulihois (Hapludols, Palaudols) | Urbn, Usa, Cahaba, Mooreville, Langston, Riverbank, and Wetumpka; Chrysler, and Anzenette in AL; Chewach, Chattahoochee, and Tallapoosa in GA. | Thermic / Aquic | 45-64 | 225-270 | 32,364-58; 6891 | Southern floodplain forest. | Deciduous forest, forested wetlands, pine plantations on floodplains, cropland and pine plantations on terraces. |
| 65o. Hubstone/Line Hills | 1534 | Rolling to strongly dissected open hills and open low hills, cuestas with a north-facing steep slope; moderate to higher gradient streams with sand, gravel, cobbles, and bedrock substrates. | 65-550 / 200-400 | Quaternary siltstone clay decomposition residuum, limonitic sandy decomposition residuum; Tertiary (Eocene and Oligocene) claystone, siltstone, clay, sandy clay, sandstone, limestone, and marl. | Ulihois (Hapludols), Entisols (Udorthents), Alfisols (Hapludols), Inceptisols (Dystrudepts), Vertisols (Hapludols) | Annold, Camanche, Braslety, Okelada, Smithdale, Landelside, Sumner, Maytag | Thermic / Udic | 58-62 | 220-235 | 3558; 6992 | Oak-hickory-pine forest, southern mixed forest. | Mixed forest and pine plantations. |

| 68. SOUTHWESTERN APPALACHIANS | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|---|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|---|
| Level IV Ecoregion | Area (sq. miles) | Physiography | Geology | | Soil | | Climate | | | Potential Natural Vegetation | Land Use and Land Cover | |
| | | | Surficial material and bedrock | Order (Great Group) | Common Soil Series | Temperature / Moisture Regimes | Precipitation (Mean annual (inches)) | First Frost (Mean annual (days)) | Mean Temperature (January minimum, July maximum, °F) | | | |
| 68a. Cumberland Plateau | 104 | Undulating and rolling subhland, weakly dissected; low to moderate gradient streams with bedrock and boulder substrates. | 1000-1770 / 100-300 | Quaternary to Tertiary sandy decomposition residuum; Pennsylvanian quartzite sandstone, conglomerate, siltstone, and shale. | Ulihois (Hapludols) | Hartsell, Towley, Gargas, Linker | Thermic / Udic, some Mesic | 56-62 | 200 | 2546; 6588 | Mixed oak forest on uplands; mixed mesophytic forest (maple, hickory, beech, tulip poplar, oak) in ravines. | Mostly forested; timber activities; some cropland and pasture. |
| 68b. Sequatchie Valley | 503 | Undulating to hilly 4 to 6 miles wide linear valley, some nearly level floodplains and low terraces; moderate to high gradient streams with bedrock and boulder substrates. | 600-1000 / 100-300 | Quaternary to Tertiary cherty clay, siltstone residuum with colluvial chert; Ordovician limestone and dolomite, Mississippian and Ordovician cherty limestone and shale. | Ulihois (Palaudols); Inceptisols (Dystrudepts) | Minvale, Bodine, Fullerton, Etoah, Loblolly on floodplains | Thermic / Udic | 52-58 | 200-215 | 2648; 6689 | Mixed mesophytic forest (oak, elm, hickory, ash, maple, blackgum, pine, sweetgum, basswood, hickory, locust). | Cropland and pasture, with soybeans, corn, hay, and wheat; more mixed forest to the south on central ridge, knobs, and hills. |
| 68c. Plateau Escarpment | 1188 | Long, steep mountaintops, some nearly vertical cliffs near top of escarpment; ravines and gorges; high velocity, high gradient streams, waterfalls; bedrock and boulder substrates. | 600-2200 / 500-1200 | Quaternary plastic clay siltstone residuum with colluvial chert, colluvium with huge blocks; Ordovician sandstone, shale; Pennsylvanian sandstone, siltstone, shale, and conglomerate. | Ulihois (Palaudols, Hapludols); Inceptisols (Dystrudepts) | Nella, Gargas, Hartwell, Bonifay, Hector, Towley, Navaroo, Enders, Navaroo, Montevello | Thermic / Udic | 55-64 | 190-210 | 2647; 6588 | Mixed oak-hickory on upper slopes; mixed mesophytic forest (oak, elm, hickory, ash, maple, blackgum, pine, sweetgum, basswood, hickory) on lower slopes. | Forested; steep slopes limit road building and forestry; minor cropland and pasture in lower stream escarpment. |
| 68d. Southern Table Plateaus | 2421 | Undulating and rolling subhlands, weakly to moderately dissected; low to moderate gradient streams with bedrock and boulder substrates. | 700-2300 / 100-400 | Quaternary to Tertiary sandy decomposition residuum; Pennsylvanian quartzite sandstone, conglomerate, siltstone, shale, and coal. | Ulihois (Hapludols, Fragulids); Inceptisols (Dystrudepts) | Hartsell, Towley, Gargas, Montevello, Enders, Navaroo, Montevello | Thermic / Udic | 55-67 | 190-215 | 25,294; 6788 | Oak-hickory forest; mixed mesophytic forest (oak, elm, hickory, ash, maple, blackgum, pine, sweetgum, basswood, hickory) in ravines and gorges. | In GA, mostly forested; to the southwest, cropland and pasture with corn, soybeans, potatoes, tomatoes, and hay; a major poultry production region in AL; small areas of oak masting. |
| 68e. Dissected Plateau | 1407 | Rugged, hilly, moderately to strongly dissected plateau; some steep-sided gorge-like valleys; moderate to high gradient streams with bedrock and boulder substrates. | 500-1000 / 300-700 | Quaternary sandy decomposition residuum; Pennsylvanian quartzite sandstone, shale, siltstone, and coal. | Ulihois (Hapludols); Inceptisols (Dystrudepts) | Gargas, Sipsy, Bankhead, Montevello, Navaroo, Sunlight, Towley | Thermic / Udic | 56-62 | 200-210 | 2750; 6689 | Oak-hickory forest and oak-hickory-pine forest. | Mostly forested; public land (Bankhead National Forest) recreation and forestry; some pasture and minor cropland; some dairy cows, poultry and egg production. |
| 68f. Shale Hills | 2188 | Moderately dissected plateaus and open to rugged hills; moderate gradient streams with bedrock, cobbles, and gravel substrates. | 300-400 / 200-400 | Quaternary sandy decomposition residuum; Pennsylvanian shale, siltstone, sandstone, and coal. | Ulihois (Hapludols); Inceptisols (Dystrudepts); Entisols (Udorthents) | Sunlight, Towley, Enders, Montevello, Brilliant and Pattenham on reclaimed coal mine areas. | Thermic / Udic | 56-60 | 210-220 | 2851; 6790 | Oak-hickory forest and oak-hickory-pine forest. | Mostly forested; coal mining; some hay, poultry (dove) and egg production. |

| 66. BLUE RIDGE | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|---|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|---|
| Level IV Ecoregion | Area (sq. miles) | Physiography | Geology | | Soil | | Climate | | | Potential Natural Vegetation | Land Use and Land Cover | |
| | | | Surficial material and bedrock | Order (Great Group) | Common Soil Series | Temperature / Moisture Regimes | Precipitation (Mean annual (inches)) | First Frost (Mean annual (days)) | Mean Temperature (January minimum, July maximum, °F) | | | |
| 66a. Southern Crystalline Ridges and Mountains | 811 | Low to high mountains, gently rounded to steep slopes, narrow valleys; high gradient, bedrock and boulder-bottomed, cool, clear streams. | 800-1784 / 1500-3000 | Quaternary to Tertiary bedrock; colluvium, micaceous siltstone, clay and sandy clay siltstone; Precambrian schist, quartzite, metagraywacke, and amphibolite. | Inceptisols (Dystrudepts); Ulihois (Hapludols) | Chemung, Pottery, Sumner, Ash, Etoah, Talladega, Solida, Coosa, Edneyville, Edneytown | Mesic / Udic | 68-88 | 160-195 | 2648; 6285 | Appalachian oak forest (mixed oaks, hickory, pine, tulip poplar, birch, maple); mixed mesophytic (becky, basswood, tulip poplar, beech); shrub-habit on highest peaks. | Forested; large areas of public land (Chattahoochee National Forest); tourism, recreation, hunting, rural residential, some small clearings for pasture or orchards on less steep land. |
| 66b. Southern Metasedimentary Mountains | 1468 | Low to high mountains, gently rounded to steep slopes, narrow valleys; high gradient, bedrock and boulder-bottomed, cool, clear streams. | 800-1100 / 1200-2800 | Quaternary to Tertiary bedrock; colluvium, some micaceous siltstone and clay and sandy clay siltstone; Precambrian metasediments, metagraywacke, quartzite, metacarbonate, metaconglomerate, phyllite, schist, and gneiss. | Inceptisols (Dystrudepts); Ulihois (Hapludols) | Ash, Saluda, Talladega, Edneyville, Tusculum, Jarrinks | Mesic / Udic | 58-76 | 170-205 | 2748; 6586 | Appalachian oak forest (mixed oaks, hickory, pine, tulip poplar, birch, maple); tulip poplar, beech. | Forested; large areas of public land (Chattahoochee National Forest); tourism, recreation, hunting, rural residential, some small clearings for pasture or orchards on less steep land. |
| 66c. Broad Basins | 369 | Intermontane areas of open low mountains, rolling foothills, and moderately broad mountain valleys; moderate gradient streams with cobbles and boulders. | 1600-2000 / 300-600 | Quaternary to Tertiary quartz-rich siltstone, silty clay to sandy clay siltstone; micaceous siltstone, schist, gneiss, phyllite, and metacarbonate. | Ulihois (Hapludols, Kandiudols); Inceptisols (Dystrudepts) | Fruitt, Clifton, Covee, Haysville, Brasdon, Jemashka, Canyons | Mesic / Udic | 56-63 | 160-190 | 2447; 6285 | Appalachian oak forest (mixed oaks, hickory, pine, tulip poplar, birch, maple); mixed mesophytic (becky, basswood, tulip poplar, beech). | Mostly forested, also pasture and some row crops. |

| 71. INTERIOR PLATEAU | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|--|--|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------|---|---|
| Level IV Ecoregion | Area (sq. miles) | Physiography | Geology | | Soil | | Climate | | | Potential Natural Vegetation | Land Use and Land Cover | |
| | | | Surficial material and bedrock | Order (Great Group) | Common Soil Series | Temperature / Moisture Regimes | Precipitation (Mean annual (inches)) | First Frost (Mean annual (days)) | Mean Temperature (January minimum, July maximum, °F) | | | |
| 71a. Western Highland Rim | 504 | Moderately dissected irregular plains and open hills, gently rolling to moderately steep; low to moderate gradient streams with gravel, sand, and bedrock substrates. | 300-850 / 100-200 | Quaternary clay siltstone residuum with chert fragments; Mississippian cherty limestone, some siltstone and shale; some Devonian (Chattanooga) shale. | Ulihois (Palaudols, Fragulids, Hapludols) | Dickson, Fullerton, Bedou, Branson, Dewey, Deacon | Thermic / Udic | 54-56 | 210 | 2948; 6789 | Oak-hickory forest; somewhat transitional between the moreeric oak-hickory forest to the west and the more mesic mixed mesophytic forest to the east. | Mixed and deciduous forest; pasture and some cropland with hay, cattle, cotton, soybeans, wheat, and corn. |
| 71b. Eastern Highland Rim | 2303 | Weakly dissected plateaus and irregular plains, nearly level to gently rolling; some sinkholes and depressions; low to moderate gradient gravel- and bedrock-bottomed streams; springs. | 450-950 / 50-100 | Quaternary clay siltstone residuum with chert fragments, clay, clay loam, sandy clay, and sand siltstone gravel- and bedrock-bottomed streams; springs. | Ulihois (Palaudols, Fragulids); Alfisols (Hapludols); Entisols (Dystrudepts) | Decatur, Dewey, Fullerton, Dickson, Colbert, Ketona, Emory | Thermic / Udic | 54-58 | 210-215 | 2748; 6789 | Mostly oak-hickory, but transitional between the moreeric oak-hickory forest to the west and the more mesic mixed mesophytic forest to the east; some areas of cedar glades and bottomland hardwoods. | Cropland and pasture with cotton, soybeans, hay, corn, wheat, and cattle; some woodlots and deciduous forest. |
| 71c. Outer Nashville Basin | 110 | Dissected escarpment; open hills, gently rolling to moderately steep; low to moderate gradient streams with sandy and gravelly substrates. | 60 | | | | | | | | | |