

# Rock and Ice, Nonvegetated (M135A\_ROC)

## Ecoregion Classification

**Section:** Alaska Mountains (M135A)

**Subsection(s):** Alpine Mountains (M135A.M2)

Alpine Outer Range & Kantishna Hills (M135A.M1)

Glaciated Lowlands (M135A.G1L)

Nonvegetated Alpine Mountains (M135A.B1)

## Physiographic Features

**Elevation (meters):** *RV* 1,096 *Range* 417 to 6,125

**Slope Gradient (percent):** 70 20 to 150

**Aspect (clockwise direction):** non-influencing

**Landform:**

**Flooding:** *Frequency* None

**Ponding:** None

## Climatic Features

**Annual Precipitation (millimeters):** *RV* 996 *Range* 446 to 2,939

**Annual Air Temperature (°C):** -5.3 -21.6 to -2.4

**Frost Free Days:** 59 20 to 80

## Soil Features

**Parent Materials:** rockfall deposits and/or scree and/or talus

**Rooting Depth (cm):** not applicable

**Water Table (May to September):** none

**Drainage Class:** not applicable

## Vegetation Features

**Common Vegetation Types:**

**Vegetation Type**

Sparsely vegetated mountain slopes, Interior

**Ecological Status**

Climax plant community

**Ecological Status-Transition Description:**

This site consists of nonvegetated slopes. No transitional pathways to other communities have been identified for this type.

**Vascular Plant Species Richness:**

Vascular plant species richness is based on 1999-2002 field season data only. Data from 1997 and 1998 were not used in the calculations.

Vegetation Type	Total	Per Stand			Number of Stands
		Min.	Avg.	Max.	
Sparsely vegetated mountain slopes, Interior	137	20	33	52	13

**Notable Plants:**

Notable plants include rare plants, range extensions, and plants little known from Denali National Park and Preserve.

**Vegetation Type**

Sparsely vegetated mountain slopes, Interior

**Symbol**

DOAL2

DOGO

DRLO

DRLOL

**Scientific Name**

Douglasia alaskana

Douglasia gormanii

Draba lonchocarpa

Draba lonchocarpa var. lonchocarpa

**Vegetation Type**

Symbol	Scientific Name
DRRU	Draba ruaxes
DRST3	Draba stenopetala
FEBA	Festuca baffinensis
FEBR2	Festuca brevissima
OXHU	Oxytropis huddelsonii
STAL3	Stellaria alaskana
STDI4	Stellaria dicranoides
THAR4	Thlaspi arcticum

**Characteristics of Sparsely vegetated mountain slopes, Interior****Ecological Status:** Climax plant community**Plant Species Cover, Constancy, and Importance:**

Cover, constancy, and importance are based on 1997-2002 field season data. Number of stands sampled = 13. Only those vascular, lichen, and bryophyte species with average cover  $\geq 5\%$  and constancy  $\geq 15\%$  are listed.

Stratum	Symbol	Scientific Name	Percent Canopy Cover			Percent Constancy	Importance Value
			Min.	Avg.	Max.		
L	LICHEN	total lichens	0.0	2	20	100	14
M	MOSS	total bryophytes-mosses and liverworts	0.0	2	20	100	14
M1	ZZMOSS	unknown-mosses	0.1	7	20	23	13
B	ROCK	mineral-surface rock fragments	80.0	92	100	100	96
B	SOIL	mineral-bare soil	0.0	7	20	100	26
B	LITTER	litter-herbaceous, mulch, and woody debris <2.5 cm	0.0	0	0	100	0
B	LITTER2	litter-woody debris >2.5 cm	0.0	0	0	100	0
B	WATER	water	0.0	0	0	100	0

**Stratum Height:**

Stratum height is based on 1997-2002 field season data. All plant species and ground layer records from all stands are included in the calculations.

Stratum Name	Included Strata	Height			Units	Number of Records
		Min.	Avg.	Max.		
Dwarf herbs, lichens, and bryophytes	GD, FD, L, M	1.0	1.5	2.0	cm	4

**Mapunit Components****Common Name (Soils Name):**

Interior-nonvegetated rock outcrop, ice, talus, and/or drift (Nonvegetated rock outcrop, ice, talus, and/or drift)

**Soil Map Units**

Only those map units in which the landtype is a major component are listed. The landtype also may occur as a minor component in other map units.

**Symbol: Common Name (Soils Name):**

5SA1	Alpine Schist Mountains (Typic Dystrogelepts, loamy-skeletal-Rock Outcrop Association, 12 to 55 percent slopes)
7CE	Alpine Recent Moraines (Typic Gelorthents, loamy-skeletal-Nonvegetated Drift Association 10 to 45 percent slopes)
7CEF	Alpine Recent Moraines, Diorite (Typic Gelorthents, sandy-skeletal-Nonvegetated Drift Association, 0 to 45 percent slopes)
7ES	Boreal and Alpine Escarpments (Typic Eutrocryepts, coarse-loamy-Typic Haplogelods, loamy-skeletal-Nonvegetated Talus Complex, 30 to 70 percent slopes)
7MS1D	Alpine Dark Sedimentary Mountains (Typic Haplogelolls, loamy-skeletal-Rock Outcrop-Typic Eutrogelepts, loamy skeletal Association, 25 to 70 percent slopes)
7MS1L	Alpine Mixed Lithology Mountains (Rock Outcrop-Typic Eutrogelepts, loamy skeletal Association, 25 to 70 percent slopes)
7MSA	Alpine Diorite Mountains, Interior (Typic Dystrogelepts, loamy-skeletal-Rock Outcrop Association, 20 to 150 percent slopes)
7MSHD	Alpine Dark Sedimentary Mountains, High Elevation (Rock Outcrop-Typic Haplogelolls, loamy-skeletal Association, 25 to 150 percent slopes)
7MSHL	Alpine Mixed Lithology Mountains, High Elevation (Rock Outcrop-Typic Eutrogelepts, loamy-skeletal Association, 25 to 70 percent slopes)

- 7MSHS Alpine Schist Mountains, High Elevation  
(Rock Outcrop-Typic Dystrogelepts, loamy-skeletal Association, 0 to 150 percent slopes)
- 7SA1 Alpine and Subalpine Mountains  
(Rock Outcrop-Typic Haplogelolls, loamy-skeletal-Typic Eutrogelepts, loamy-skeletal Association, 25 to 85 percent slopes)
- 8MS Alpine Schist Mountain Ridges with Discontinuous Permafrost  
(Typic Dystrogelepts, loamy-skeletal-Rock Outcrop-Typic Aquiturbels, loamy-skeletal Association, 8 to 45 percent slopes)
- NV1 Nonvegetated Mountains-Alaska Range-Interior  
(Nonvegetated Mountains)