Summary Table: Characteristics of the Ecoregions of Alabama and Georgia

45. PIEDMONT

Level IV Ecoregion	Area (square miles)	Physiography	Elevation / Local Relief (feet)	Geology	Soil	Climate	Potential Natural Vegetation	Land Use and Land Cover
				Surficial material and bedrock	Order (Great Groups)	Common Soil Series	Temperature / Moisture Regimes	Precipitation (Mean annual inches)	Frost-Free Period (Mean annual days)	Mean Temperature (January minimum / July maximum, °F)		
45a. Southern Inner Piedmont	8,540	Dissected irregular plains, tablelands of moderate relief, open hills, low to moderate gradient streams with mostly convex gravel- and sand- substrates.	250–[illegible] / 800–[illegible]	Quaternary to Tertiary saprolite, residuum, and colluvium derived from felsic and mafic crystalline rocks of the Piedmont Province, Precambrian to Paleozoic schist, gneiss, granite, amphibolite, and phyllite.	Ultisols: Kanhapludults, Hapludults; to Inceptisols: Dystrochrepts and Eutrochrepts; Entisols: Udorthents, Udipsamments.	Madison, Lenoir, Tatum, Iredell, Tallapoosa, Cecil, Gaston, Davidson, Bowdre, to Randolph, Chewacla, Cartecay, Toccoa, Ennis.	Thermic / Udic	52–60	185–230	30/92 (Ga); 32/94 (Al)	Oak-hickory-pine forest.	Deciduous forest, mixed forest, pine plantations, pasture, hay, cattle, and poultry production.
45b. Southern Outer Piedmont	[illegible]	Dissected irregular plains, low to moderate gradient streams with mostly cobble, gravel, and sandy substrates.	450–[illegible] / 1000–1500	Quaternary to Tertiary saprolite, residuum, and colluvium derived from felsic and mafic crystalline rocks of the Piedmont Province, Precambrian to Paleozoic schist, gneiss, granite, amphibolite, and phyllite.	Ultisols: Kanhapludults, Hapludults; to Inceptisols: Dystrochrepts and Eutrochrepts; Entisols: Udifluvents, Fluvaquentic.	Cecil, Madison, Pacolet, Lloyd, Appling, Davidson, Wilkes, Goldston, Ashlar; to Hapludults: Chewacla, Toccoa, Ennis, Cartecay.	Thermic / Udic	46–54	190–230	31/94, 41/96	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 cobble, gravel, and sandy substrates.	350–620 / 100–200	Quaternary to Tertiary silty to clayey saprolite, some micaceous saprolite, but Precambrian to Cambrian metavolcanics, meta-argillite, meta-tuff, phyllite, and metadacite.	Ultisols: Kanhapludults	Georgeville, Herndon	Thermic / Udic	47–49	190–215	39/93, 43/96	Oak-hickory-pine forest.	Pine plantations, mixed forest, pasture.
45d. Talladega Upland	970	Open high hills, some northeast-trending linear ridges, rolling plateau remnants in high gradient streams with bedrock, boulder, cobble, gravel, and sand substrates.	500–2,407 / 250–1000	Quaternary to Tertiary micaceous saprolite and silty, clayey, or sandy saprolite, Precambrian to Paleozoic phyllite, quartzite, slate, metasiltstone, and metaconglomerate.	Ultisols: Hapludults	Talassi, Tallapoosa, Hahn, Fruithurst, Madison, Dover, Cleator.	Thermic / Udic	54–64	195–210	28/91, 41/95	Oak-hickory-pine forest.	Mixed forest, pine plantations, deciduous forest in the large areas of public land (Talladega National Forest), recreation, forestry.
45h. Pine Mountain Ridge	306	Open hills and linear ridges, some irregular plains, moderate to high gradient streams with bedrock, boulder, cobble, gravel, and sand substrates.	599–1,595 / 200–500	Quaternary to Tertiary quartz-rich saprolite and micaceous saprolite, Precambrian to Paleozoic quartzite, schist, gneiss, granite.	Ultisols: Kanhapludults, Hapludults	Musculonbelung, Cecil, Pacolet, Madison	Thermic / Udic	50–54	205–215	32/93, 41/96	Oak-hickory-pine forest.	Deciduous forest, pine plantations, mixed forest, pasture.

65. SOUTHEASTERN PLAINS

Level IV Ecoregion	Area (square miles)	Physiography	Elevation / Local Relief (feet)	Geology	Soil	Climate	Potential Natural Vegetation	Land Use and Land Cover
				Surficial material and bedrock	Order (Great Groups)	Common Soil Series	Temperature / Moisture Regimes	Precipitation (Mean annual inches)	Frost-Free Period (Mean annual days)	Mean Temperature (January minimum / July maximum, °F)		
65a. Blackland Prairie	2,102	Undulating irregular plains, nearly level to strongly sloping; low gradient streams with chalk, clay, sand, and silt substrates.	120–360 / 30–150	Quaternary to Tertiary fatty gray to brown clay interior deposits over Cretaceous chalk, marl, and calcareous clay.	Vertisols: Dystrusterts, Haplusterts, Epiaquerts; Inceptisols: Haplaquepts; Alfisols: Paleudalfs; Entisols: Udorthents.	Houston, Sumter, Okolona, Eutaw, Oktibbeha, Kipling, Demopolis, Sumterville, Houston, Houston, Oktibbeha.	Thermic / Udic, some Aquic	51–58	220–240	34/90, 80/91	Blackland forest of evergreen, hackberry, oak, cedar, patches of tallgrass prairie.	Pasture and cropland with hay, cattle, corn, cotton, and mixed-mixed conifer& production; small patches of mixed hardwood, cedar, and pine.
65b. Flatwoods / Blackland Prairie Margin	1,911	Smooth lowland plains and undulating irregular plains; sluggishly low gradient, clay and sand formation streams.	100–550 / 30–170	Quaternary to Tertiary massive clay decomposition residuum, silty residuum to fine sand and sandy clay decomposition residuum, Tertiary massive, plastic clay, calcareous clayey; sand. Cretaceous micaceous fine sand, chalk, and marl.	Vertisols (Dystrusterts, Dystraquerts, Epiaquerts); Inceptisols (Fluvaquents); Alfisols (Paleudalfs); Entisols (Hapludults).	Wilcox, Arkabutla, Sweden, Sumter, Kipling, Catoosa, Tuscumbia, Okolona, Conecuh	Thermic / Udic, some Aquic	52–56	220–240	35/90, 80/91	Oak-hickory-pine forest.	Mixed forest, pine plantations, pasture, hay, and some cropland.
65c. Sand Hills	2,017	Dissected irregular plains, some open low hills, low to moderate gradient sandy bedrock-dominated streams.	100–700 / 100–300	Quaternary to Tertiary sandy to clayey unconsolidated sediments, loamy sand, sandy loam, and sandy clay deposits. Cretaceous and some Eocene sands and clays.	Ultisols: Quarzipsamments); Ultisols: Kanhapludults, Kandiudults.	Lakeland, Lucy, Fuquay, Troup, Orangeburg, Wagram, Dothan, Ailey, Cowarts	Thermic / Udic	46–56	220–240	36/90, 80/91	Oak-hickory-pine mixed forest, some longleaf-pine forest, some southern hardwood forest.	Mostly pine plantations, mixed forest, some pasture and cropland.
65d. Southern Hilly Gulf Coastal Plain	10,140	Dissected irregular plains, northward-facing escarpments, low hills with broad tops; some wide floodplains and broad, slow to undulating terraces; low to moderate gradient mostly sandy bedrock streams.	70–700 / 100–300	Quaternary to Tertiary clay, sandy clay, and homogenous clayey coarse sand decomposition residuum, Tertiary sand to clay, silt, limestone, and lignite. Cretaceous sand, clay, lignite.	Ultisols: Hapludults, Kandiudults, Paleudults, Plinthudults, Kanhapludults; on floodplains Entisols (Fluvaquents, Udifluvents) and Inceptisols (Endoaquepts).	Lucy, Bonifay, Dothan, Fuquay, Ailey, Stanton, Esto, Orangeburg, Springhill, Troup, Norfolk, and Wagram; to the east, Bama, Lucedale, Smithdale, Savannah, Cowarts, and Lucedale; to the east, Esto, Bibb, Kinston, Muckalee on floodplains.	Thermic / Udic, some Aquic	56–58	230–240	39/90, 81/91	Southern mixed forest, oak-hickory-pine forest, some southern floodplain forest.	Mixed forest, pine plantations, some agriculture on former uplands with soybeans, wheat, peanuts, cotton, corn, pecans, sweet potatoes, and tomatoes.
65e. Dougherty Plain	10,321	Irregular plains, some flat plains, lightly dissected, mostly low gradient with some moderate gradient sandy bedrock streams.	80–450 / 80–300	Quaternary and Tertiary clayey sand solution residuum with chert blocks; Tertiary (Eocene and Oligocene) limestone.	Ultisols: Kandiudults, Kanhapludults, Paleudults); Entisols (Quartzipsamments).	Orangeburg, Tifton, Ivanhoe, Norfolk, Wagram, Troup, Lucy, Bonneau, Ruston, Red Bay, Ocilla, Pelham, Bonifay.	Thermic / Udic	48–50	235–255	37/92, 78/92	Southern mixed forest.	Cropland and pasture with corn, peanuts, cotton, pecans, soybeans, sorghum, poultry; some mixed forest; mostly rural; some pine plantations.
65h. Tifton Upland	3,952	Dissected irregular plains, broad interstream divides and mostly gently sloping side slopes; low to moderate gradient sandy bedrock streams.	85–485 / 100–260	Quaternary sand and clay decomposition residuum, Miocene and some Pliocene clay, clay, and gravel.	Ultisols: Kandiudults, Paleudults;	Tifton, Dothan, Norfolk, Grapela, Pelham	Thermic / Udic	47–50	240–260	37/92, 78/92	Southern mixed forest.	Cropland and pasture with corn, cotton, peanuts, hogs, cabbage, melons, tobacco.
65i. Fall Line Hills	4,939	Dissected open hills with rounded tops; gently sloping to strongly sloping side slopes; low to moderate gradient streams with sandy and gravelly substrates.	400–1000 / 200–400	Quaternary sandbeds to coarse sand and gravel deposits over Cretaceous, Cretaceous quartz sand, gravelly sand, micaceous clay.	Ultisols: Hapludults, Kanhapludults, Kandiudults); Entisols (Fluvaquents, Udifluvents); Inceptisols (Endoaquepts).	Cowarts, Esto, Marvyn, Orangeburg, Ruston, Lucedale, Smithdale, and Nankin in the east; Savannah, Lucedale, Savannah, Bama, Shubuta, and Sofkahatchee on floodplains.	Thermic / Udic, some Aquic	52–56	210–240	36/91, 80/91	Oak-hickory-pine forest.	Mixed forest and pine plantations, with some of cultivated cropland of corn, soybeans, and cotton.
65j. Brandon Hills	470	Dissected open hills, broad to rounded tops and steep side slopes; low to moderate gradient streams with sandy and gravelly substrates.	420–560 / 260–400	Quaternary gravel and sand decomposition residuum, chert-fragment solution residuum; Miocene sand, clay, gravel, and limestone.	Ultisols: Hapludults, Paleudults); Entisols (Fluvaquents, Udifluvents).	Ruston, Savannah, small areas of Jackson and Bonneau, some rock outcrops; Bibb, Iuka, and Tuscaloosa on floodplains.	Thermic / Udic	56	205	39/87, 81/89	Oak-hickory-pine forest.	Mostly mixed forest with some pine plantations, some cropland and pasture in narrow valley bottoms and so gently sloping uplands.
65k. Coastal Plain Red Uplands	1,129	Dissected irregular plains, mostly broad gently sloping ridges and interstream divides, some more dissected with steeper slopes; low to moderate gradient sandy bedrock streams.	100–300 / 100–300	Quaternary loamy sand; sandy loam, and sandy clay decomposition residuum, some micaceous saprolite, but Precambrian to Paleozoic phyllite, quartzite, slate, metasiltstone, and metaconglomerate.	Ultisols: Hapludults	Orangeburg, Faceville, Lucy, Greenville, Dothan, Ailey, Red Bay	Thermic / Udic	48–52	210–240	36/91, 80/91	Southern mixed forest, oak-hickory-pine forest.	Cropland and pasture with peanuts, soybeans, wheat, cotton, corn, sweet potatoes, and tomatoes; some mixed forest in more steeply sloping land.
65l. Atlantic Southern Loam Plains	3,628	Dissected irregular plains; some smooth plains, broad interstream divides and mostly gentle side slopes; low to moderate gradient streams with mostly gentle bedrock-dominated streams.	40–125 / 100–200	Quaternary sand and clay decomposition residuum, Miocene sand, clay, and gravel.	Ultisols: Kandiudults, Kanhapludults, Paleudults);	Tifton, Dothan, Norfolk, Grapela, Pelham	Thermic / Udic	48–48	230–250	37/92, 78/92	Southern mixed forest.	Cropland and pasture with corn, soybeans, peanuts, hogs, cabbage, melons, tobacco.
65m. Tuskahoma Hills / Ventress Limestone	341	Dissected irregular plains, more hilly to the west, short stretches and ponds to the east; low to moderate gradient streams with sandy and gravelly substrates.	40–200 / 100–200	Quaternary sand and clay decomposition residuum, Miocene sand, clay, gravel, and limestone.	Ultisols: Kandiudults, Paleudults);	Orangeburg, Faceville, Lucy, and Red Bay in the west; Tifton, Pelham, Ocilla, Lucedale, Savannah, Bama, Shubuta, and Sofkahatchee on floodplains in the east. Bibb, Iuka, and Tuscaloosa on floodplains.	Thermic / Udic, some Aquic	53–56	230–260	39/92, 79/92	Southern mixed forest.	Mixed forest pastures, and cropland of corn, peanuts, cotton, and tobacco.
65p. Southeastern Floodplains and Low Terraces	3,192	Major river floodplains and associated low terraces; low gradient streams with sandy and silty substrates, cobble lakes, ponds, swamps.	10–150 / 5–50	Quaternary alluvial generally sand, quartz gravel and sand, silt, and clay.	Inceptisols (Fluvaquents, Dystrudepts, Humaquepts, Endoaquepts); Ultisols (Hapludults, Paleudults);	Coosa, Toxaway, Cahaba, Mooreville, Augusta, Kinston, Kalmia, Ochlockonee, Dothan, Tawcaw, and Tomotley in the east.	Thermic / Aquic	45–64	225–270	32–36/94–98, 60/94	Southern floodplain forest.	Deciduous forest, forested wetlands, pine plantations on floodplains, cropland and pine plantations in terraces.
65q. Bottomland Loess Hills	1,034	Rolling to strongly dissected open hills and open low hills, similar with a north-facing steep slope; moderate to higher gradient streams with sand, gravel, cobble, and bedrock substrates.	60–330 / 200–400	Quaternary alluvium, clay decomposition residuum, Tertiary (Eocene-Oligocene) claystone, siltstone, clay, sandy clay, sandstone, limestone, and marl.	Ultisols: Hapludults, Alfisols: Fragiudalfs, Hapludalfs); Entisols (Fluvaquents, Udifluvents); Alfisols (Hapludalfs, Inceptisols (Endoaquepts); Vertisols (Hapluderts).	Amagon, Cantuche, Bonkley, Cherokee, Smithton, Lauderdale, Saucier, Maytag	Thermic / Udic	50–62	220–235	35/94, 60/92	Oak-hickory-pine forest, southern mixed forest.	Mixed forest and pine plantations.

66. BLUE RIDGE

Level IV Ecoregion	Area (square miles)	Physiography	Elevation / Local Relief (feet)	Geology	Soil	Climate	Potential Natural Vegetation	Land Use and Land Cover
				Surficial material and structure	Order (Great Groups)	Common Soil Series	Temperature / Moisture Regimes	Precipitation (Mean annual inches)	Frost-Free Period (Mean annual days)	Mean Temperature (January minimum / July maximum, °F)		
66A. Southern Crystalline Ridges and Mountains	311	Low to high mountains, gently rounded to steep slopes, narrow valleys; High gradient, bedrock and boulder-bottomed, cool, clear streams.	800–4,700 / 1,500–3000	Quaternary to Tertiary boulder; colluvium, stream terraces; saprolite and clay and sandy clay saprolite. Precambrian gneiss, schist, granulite, metagraywacke, and amphibolite.	Inceptisols (Dystrochrepts); Ultisols (Hapludults)	Chestnut, Porters, Tusquitee, Nantahala, Tuckasegee, Ashe, Evard, Edneyville, Edneyville	Mesic / Udic	60–80	160–195	28/80, 62/83	Appalachian oak forest (mixed oaks, hickory, pine, tulip poplar, birch, maple), mixed mesophytic (hemlock, basswood, tulip poplar, birch, maple), mixed mesophytic (hemlock, basswood, tulip poplar, beech), shrub-heath on higher peaks.	Forested; large areas of public land (Chattahoochee National Forest); tourism, recreation, hunting, forest products.
66g. Southern Metasedimentary Mountains	1468	Low to high mountains, gently-rounded to steep slopes, narrow valleys; High gradient, bedrock and boulder-bottomed, cool, clear streams.	800–4100 / 1500–2800	Quaternary to Tertiary boulder; colluvium, some micaceous saprolite and clay and sandy clay saprolite. Precambrian metasiltstone, metagraywacke, gneiss, metaconglomerate, metasiltstone, phyllite, slate, schist and gneiss.	Inceptisols (Dystrochrepts); Ultisols (Hapludults)	Nolan, Saluda, Hayesville, Edneyville, Tusquitee, Ashe, Tuckasegee, Chestnut	Mesic / Udic	58–76	170–205	27/80, 62/83	Appalachian oak forest (mixed oaks, hickory, pine, tulip poplar, birch, maple), mixed mesophytic (hemlock, basswood, tulip poplar, beech, maples), mixed mesophytic (hemlock, basswood, tulip poplar, beech, maples), mixed mesophytic (hemlock, basswood, tulip poplar, beech, maples).	Forested; large areas of public land (Chattahoochee National Forest); tourism, recreation, hunting, forest products.
66j. Broad Basins	555	Intermontane basins of open low mountains, rolling foothills, and moderately broad mountain valleys. Moderate gradient streams with cobble and boulders.	1400–3600 / 300–600	Quaternary to Tertiary, quartz-rich saprolite, silty clay to sandy clay saprolite, micaceous saprolite; Precambrian schist, gneiss, phyllite, and metasedimentary.	Ultisols (Hapludults, Kanhapludults); Inceptisols (Dystrochrepts)	Evard, Cullen, Cowee, Hayesville, Bradson, Saunooka, Cowee	Mesic / Udic	59–61	160–195	28/87, 62/83	Appalachian oak forest (mixed oaks, hickory, pine, tulip poplar, beech, maples), mixed mesophytic (hemlock, basswood, tulip poplar, beech, maples), mixed mesophytic (hemlock, basswood, tulip poplar, beech, maples).	Mostly forested, also pasture and some row crops.

67. RIDGE AND VALLEY

Level IV Ecoregion	Area (square miles)	Physiography	Elevation / Local Relief (feet)	Geology	Soil	Climate	Potential Natural Vegetation	Land Use and Land Cover
				Surficial material and bedrock	Order (Great Groups)	Common Soil Series	Temperature / Moisture Regimes	Precipitation (Mean annual inches)	Frost-Free Period (Mean annual days)	Mean Temperature (January minimum / July maximum, °F)		
67f. Southern Limestone / Dolomite Valleys and Low Rolling Hills	4,010	Undulating to rolling valleys with rounded hills, some deep ridges; caves and springs; moderate to low gradient streams with bedrock, cobble, gravel, and sandy substrates.	500–1,000 / 100–300	Quaternary to Tertiary clayey clay and clayey silty clay solution residuum, Ordovician-Cambrian limestone and dolostone.	Ultisols (Paleudults); Inceptisols (Dystrochrepts)	Fullerton, Hawk, Bodine, Emory, Decatur, Mimosa, Allegheny, Clarkrange, Hermitage	Thermic / Udic	50–56	190–225	29–31/89–91; 65–67/88–91	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 hogs; rural residential, urban and industrial.
67g. Southern Shale Valleys	1,900	Undulating to rolling valleys, some low, rounded hills and ridges, moderate or low gradient streams with bedrock, cobble, gravel, and sandy substrates.	400–1,100 / 100–400	Quaternary to Tertiary clay, clay loam, some clay and sand solution residuum, sandy loam to clay loam decomposition residuum. Cambrian to Mississippian shale, sandstone, dolomite, limestone, and sandstone.	Ultisols (Hapludults, Paleudults); Alfisols (Hapludalfs); Inceptisols (Dystrochrepts)	Emory, Minvervville, Holston, Cunningham, Chattanooga, Emerson, Allen	Thermic / Udic	50–58	190–219	29–31/89–91; 65–67/88–91	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 hogs; rural residential, urban and industrial.
67h. Southern Sandstone Ridges	1,182	High, steep ridges, some broader ridges to the south; some narrow intervening valleys; high to moderate gradient streams with mostly rocky substrates.	400–2000 / 400–1,000	Quaternary to Tertiary sandy and silty clay decomposition residuum Cambrian to Pennsylvanian sandstone, shale, siltstone, and conglomerate.	Ultisols (Dystrudults, Hapludults); Inceptisols (Dystrochrepts)	Gilpin, Montevallo, Grogan, Rarbuffo, Hanover, Township, Cheaha, Lemsing	Thermic / Udic	50–60	180–205	27–30/88–92; 65–67/88–90	Mixed oak forest, oak-hickory-pine forest.	Mixed and deciduous forest.
67i. Southern Dissected Ridges and Knobs	73	Dissected ridges, hills, and mesas, forms and more dissected than 67h; small, moderate to high gradient streams with rock, cobble, and gravel substrates.	800–1,900 / 300–700	Quaternary to Tertiary clayey clay solution residuum, clay, silty clay, or sandy decomposition residuum Cambrian, Ordovician and Silurian shale, siltstone, sandstone, sand, quartzose limestone; some Mississippian chert.	Ultisols (Dystrudults, Paleudults); Inceptisols (Dystrudepts)	Montevallo, Bodine, Nella, Grogan, Sevenfox, Watts, Allen, Cheaha, Tallapoosa	Thermic / Udic	50–59	180–220	28/81, 66/89	Mixed oak forest, oak-hickory-pine forest.	Mixed and deciduous forest, some small areas of pasture.

68. SOUTHWESTERN APPALACHIANS

Level IV Ecoregion	Area (square miles)	Physiography	Elevation / Local Relief (feet)	Geology	Soil	Climate	Potential Natural Vegetation	Land Use and Land Cover
				Surficial material and bedrock	Order (Great Groups)	Common Soil Series	Temperature / Moisture Regimes	Precipitation (Mean annual inches)	Frost-Free Period (Mean annual days)	Mean Temperature (January minimum / July maximum, °F)		
68a. Cumberland Plateau	980	Undulating and rolling tableland, weakly dissected; low to moderate gradient streams with bedrock and boulder substrates.	1000–1,970 / 100–500	Quaternary to Tertiary sandy decomposition residuum Pennsylvanian sandstone, conglomerate, siltstone, and shale.	Ultisols (Hapludults)	Rarbuffo, Townley, Gilpin, Lidell	Thermic, some Mesic / Udic	58–62	200	35/88, 65/88	Mixed oak forest on uplands, mixed mesophytic forest (maple, beech, tulip poplar, oak) in ravines.	Mostly forested; timber activities; some cropland and pasture.
68b. Sequatchie Valley	393	Undulating to hilly if wide with some valley; some nearly level floodplains and low terraces; small alluvial fans; moderate to low gradient streams with bedrock, cobble, gravel and sandy substrates, and several springs.	600–1000 / 100–300	Quaternary to Tertiary clayey clay solution residuum and alluvial clay; Tertiary limestone and dolostone. Ordovician-Silurian limestone and dolostone. Pennsylvanian sandstone, siltstone, shale, and conglomerate.	Ultisols (Paleudults); Inceptisols (Dystrudepts)	Minvale, Bodine, Fullerton, Bermuda, Lobdell, Philo	Thermic / Udic	52–58	240–255	36/88, 66/89	Mixed mesophytic forest (oak, pine, hickory, ash, maple, blackgum, pine, sweetgum, basswood, beech); in low-gradient streams.	Cropland and pasture, some soybeans, corn, hay, and wheat; some minor forest to the south on central ridges, knobs, and hills.
68c. Plateau Escarpment	1,106	Long, steep mountainsides; some nearly vertical cliffs; steep top of escarpment; terraces and gorges; high velocity high gradient streams; waterfalls; bedrock and boulder substrates.	1000–2,000 / 500–1,500	Quaternary to Tertiary clayey clay solution residuum and clayey clay solution residuum with large blocky Mississippian limestone, sandstone, shale, Pennsylvanian sandstone, siltstone, shale, and conglomerate.	Ultisols (Paleudults); Inceptisols (Dystrudepts)	Pella, Gorgas, Hartsells, Rarbuffo Mission, Township, Ramona, Enders	Thermic / Udic	55–66	190–200	28/87, 65/88	Mixed oak forest on upper slopes; mixed mesophytic forest (oak, elm, hickory, ash, maple, blackgum, pine, sweetgum, basswood, beech); in lower slopes.	Forested; steep slopes limit road building and forestry; scenic cropland and pasture in lower stream bottoms.
68d. Southern Table Plateau	2,621	Undulating and rolling tableland, weakly to moderately dissected; low to moderate gradient streams with bedrock and boulder substrates.	900–1,400 / 100–400	Quaternary to Tertiary sandy decomposition residuum, Pennsylvanian sandstone, conglomerate, siltstone, shale, and coal.	Ultisols (Hapludults); Inceptisols (Dystrudepts)	Lonsdale, Townley, Gorgas, Montevallo, Bodine, Ramona, Wynnville	Thermic / Udic	54–62	190–215	33–35/88–89; 65–67/88–90	Oak-hickory forest, mixed mesophytic forest, some longleaf-pine forest, some southern hardwood forest, some southern floodplain forest.	In GA, mostly forested; to the southwest, cropland and pasture with corn, soybeans, peanuts, cotton, and hays; a major poultry production region in AL; small areas of coal mining.
68h. Dissected Plateau	1,027	Rugged, hilly, moderately to strongly dissected plateau; some steep-sided gorges like valleys; moderate to high gradient streams with bedrock and boulder substrates.	900–1,090 / 300–400	Quaternary sandy decomposition residuum, Pennsylvanian sandstone, siltstone, shale, and coal.	Ultisols (Hapludults); Inceptisols (Dystrudepts)	Gorgas, Sipsey, Rarbuffo, Montevallo, Hartsells, Wynnville	Thermic / Udic	56–62	200–210	33–34/88–89; 65–67/88–90	Oak-hickory forest and oak-hickory-pine forest.	Mostly forested; pasture land; thunderstorm National Forest); recreation and forestry; some cropland and pasture in lower stream bottoms; some dairy cows, poultry and egg production.
68i. Shale Hills	2,108	Moderately dissected plateau and open to rugged hills; moderately gradient streams with bedrock, cobble, and gravel substrates.	500–750 / 200–400	Quaternary sandy decomposition residuum, Pennsylvanian sandstone, siltstone, shale, and coal.	Ultisols (Hapludults); Inceptisols (Dystrudepts); Entisols (Udorthents); on reclaimed coal mine areas.	Sweetlight, Townley, Enders, Montevallo, Artillan and Townsville on reclaimed coal mine areas.	Thermic / Udic	54–60	210–220	29/81, 67/90	Oak-hickory forest and oak-hickory-pine forest.	Mostly forested; coal mining; some hay, poultry (broiler and egg) production.

71. INTERIOR PLATEAU

Level IV Ecoregion	Area (square miles)	Physiography	Elevation / Local Relief (feet)	Geology	Soil	Climate	Potential Natural Vegetation	Land Use and Land Cover
				Surficial material and bedrock	Order (Great Groups)	Common Soil Series	Temperature / Moisture Regimes	Precipitation (Mean annual inches)	Frost-Free Period (Mean annual days)	Mean Temperature (January minimum / July maximum, °F)		
71f. Western Highland Rim	366	Moderately dissected irregular plains and open hills, gently rolling to moderately steep; low to moderate gradient streams with gravel, sand, and bedrock substrates.	400–1,000 / 100–200	Quaternary clay residuum weathered from chert fragments; Mississippian cherty limestone, chert, shale, and siltstone.	Ultisols (Paleudults, Hapludults);	Dickson, Talbott, Bodine, Bruindon, Dewey, Decatur	Thermic / Udic	50–56	210	35/88, 66/89	Oak-hickory forest, somewhat transitional between the more xeric oak-hickory forest to the west and the more mesic mixed mesophytic forest to the east; some areas of cedar glades and bottomland hardwoods.	Mixed and deciduous forest, pasture and some cropland with hay, cattle, cotton, soybeans, wheat, and corn.
71g. Eastern Highland Rim	1,919	Weakly dissected plateau and irregular plains, mostly level to gently rolling; some escarpments and hills; moderate gradient streams; springs.	850–950 / 50–100	Quaternary clay residuum weathered from chert fragments, clay, clay loam, sandy clay, and sand solution residuum; Mississippian limestone, chert, shale, and siltstone.	Ultisols (Paleudults, Hapludults); Alfisols (Hapludalfs, Ochraqualfs); Inceptisols (Dystrudepts)	Decatur, Dewey, Fullerton, Bodine, Colbert, Sullivan, Emory	Thermic / Udic	54–56	210–215	37/88, 67/89	Mostly oak-hickory, but transitional between the more xeric 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.
71h. Outer Nashville Basin	330	Dissected escarpments, open hills, gently rolling to moderately steep, some irregular plains; low to moderate gradient streams with bedrock, gravel, and cobble substrates.	600–900 / 100–300	Quaternary clayey silty clay, locally [illegible] residuum; solution residuum Ordovician limestone and shale; limestone, Mississippian chert and cherty limestone on higher hills and knobs, some Devonian [illegible] limestone.	Ultisols (Paleudults, Hapludults); Inceptisols (Dystrudepts)	Bodine, Bellshire, Dickson, Clermont, and Emory on foothills.	Thermic / Udic	57	218	37/87, 67/89	Mostly oak-hickory, but transitional between the more xeric oak-hickory forest to the west and the more mesic mixed mesophytic forest to the east.	Mixed and deciduous forest, pasture and some cropland primarily, deciduous forest on ridge-tops; pasture and rail cedar on hillsides; small farms of corn, hay, and garden crops on low slopes and bottom land.
71i. Little Mountain	918	Dissected homoclinal ridge; open hills; gently rolling to moderately steep, some irregular plains; low to moderate gradient bedrock- and gravel-bottomed streams.	800–900 / 100–300	Quaternary sandy clay decomposition residuum, clay, clay loam, sandy clay, and sand solution residuum; Mississippian [illegible] limestone and shale, some Devonian [illegible] limestone.	Ultisols (Paleudults, Hapludults Paleudults)	Wynnville, Linker, Allen, Grogan, Fullerton, Pamplin	Thermic / Udic	54–56	218	38/88, 68/89	Oak-hickory forest, oak-hickory forest.	Mixed and deciduous forest, pasture, some cropland primarily, deciduous forest on ridge-tops; pasture and rail cedar on hillsides; small farms of corn, hay, and garden crops on low slopes and bottom land.

75. SOUTHERN COASTAL PLAIN

Level IV Ecoregion	Area (square miles)	Physiography	Elevation / Local Relief (feet)	Geology	Soil	Climate	Potential Natural Vegetation	Land Use and Land Cover
				Surficial material and bedrock	Order (Great Groups)	Common Soil Series	Temperature / Moisture Regimes	Precipitation (Mean annual inches)	Frost-Free Period (Mean annual days)	Mean Temperature (January minimum / July maximum, °F)		
75a. Gulf Coast Flatwoods	324	Flat to gently undulating plain; low gradient streams with sandy and silty substrates.	0–90 / 5–30	Quaternary quartz sand, shell fragments, silt, clay, marl, peat, some Pliocene gravel.	Ultisols (Paleudults, Paleudalfs); Histosols (Sulfihemists); Spodosols (Haplaquods); Inceptisols (Dystrudepts); Entisols (Psammaquents)	Bayvia, Escambia, Smithton, Harleston, Lynn, Dawson, Levy	Thermic / Aquic	60–64	270–285	40/90, 72/90	Southern mixed forest.	Mixed forest, urban, forested wetland, some pasture and cropland in better drained areas.
75c. Okefenokee Plains	2,885	Flat plains on lightly dissected marine terraces; swamps and bays; low gradient streams with sandy and silty substrates.	85–270 / 10–75	Pleistocene and Pliocene sand and gravel.	Spodosols (Alaquods, Aquihumods); Ultisols (Paleaquults, Paleudults); Histosols	Mascotte, Pamlico, Leon, Pelham, Surrency, Ludowici, Meadowbay	Thermic / Aquic, some Udic	49–51	240–255	50/92, 69/92	Southern mixed forest.	Evergreen forest / pine plantations, forested wetland.
75f. Sea Island Flatwoods	302a	Flat plains on lightly dissected marine terraces, swamps; low gradient streams with sandy and silty substrates.	10–220 / 5–75	Pleistocene and Pliocene marine sand, silt, and clay.	Ultisols (Paleaquults, Paleudults, Albaquults); Alfisols (Ochraqualfs, Albaqualfs); Histosols (Alaquods, Aquihumods)	Mascotte, Pamlico, Pelham, Bladen, Rosedale, Lynchburg, Meadowbay, Ludowici, Leon	Thermic / Aquic, some Udic	48–51	240–260	50/92, 70/92	Southern mixed forest.	Evergreen forest / pine plantations, forested wetland.
75g. Okefenokee Swamp	893	Flat plain with swamps, islands, and lakes.	110–125 / 5–30	Holocene swamp deposits of muck, peat, fine sand, and silt; Pleistocene sand and clay.	Histosols (Sulfihemists, Haplohemists); Spodosols (Alaquods, Aquihumods)	Dorovan, Croatan, Lynn, Lynn Haven, Pamlico, Meadowbay, Mascotte, Pamlico	Thermic / Aquic	50–51	240–255	50/92, 69/92	Southern floodplain forest.	Forested wetland; non-forested wetland; wildlife habitat, mostly public land (Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge).
75h. Barrier Terraces	1,042	Flat plains on dissected marine terraces; low gradient streams with sandy and silty substrates.	80–260 / 20–100	Pleistocene and Pliocene sand and gravel, some Miocene sand, clay, and gravel near major streams.	Ultisols (Paleudults, Kandiudults, Paleaquults); Spodosols (Alaquods); Entisols (Psammaquents)	Ludowici, Pelham, Bladen, Surrency, Tifton, Carnegie, Duplin, Pamlico, Pamlico	Thermic / Udic, Aquic	46–50	230–260	37/90, 69/92	Southern mixed forest.	Cropland with corn, cotton, soybeans, tobacco, blueberries; pine plantations, forested wetland.
75i. Floodplains and Low Terraces	938	Major river floodplains and associated low terraces; low gradient streams with sandy and silty substrates, cobble lakes, ponds, swamps.	5–80 / 0–10	Quaternary quartz sand, silt, clay, muck, peat, some Pliocene gravel.	Ultisols (Alluaquults); Inceptisols (Fluvaquents, Dystrudepts, Humaquepts, Endoaquepts); Histosols (Sulfihemists, Medisaprists)	In GA: Mascotte, Clarkton, Surrency, Chastain, Tawcaw, Chewacla, Augusta, Kinston, Dorovan, Levy	Thermic / Aquic	48–52 (GA); 60–66 (AL)	240–260 (GA); 220–245 (AL)	36/92, 70/91	Southern floodplain forest.	Forested wetland; deciduous forest; wildlife habitat.
75j. Sea Islands / Coastal Marsh	1,241	Barrier islands, dunes, beaches, lagoons, estuaries, tidal marshes.	0–30 / 0–20	Holocene saline marsh deposits of silt, sand, peat, and clay; Holocene beach and dune sand; Pleistocene beach and near-shore marine sand.	Inceptisols (Medisaprists); Sp