

Vegetation Types on the MLSNF



The **Abert Squirrel** is a Utah State high interest species found only in the Monticello District in Utah. Optimum Abert squirrel habitat is characterized by Ponderosa pine stands. The Abert squirrel habitat may become threatened dependent on how timber management activities manipulate its habitat.



Pika are unique to the alpine and sub alpine types.



Food production for **wild turkey** is highest on oak brush vegetation types.

Alpine—Alpine vegetation occupies less than 1% of the Forest and grows above native tree elevation limits. Wildlife habitat provided by this type supports elk and mule deer.

Douglas-Fir—Douglas Fir generally occurs with ponderosa pine or aspen and occupies about 2% of the Forest.

Sub-alpine Forb and Grassland—Grass and forb occur on 17% of the Forest and are interspersed with other vegetation types.

Engleman Spruce/Sub alpine Fir—Engleman spruce and sub alpine occupies 8% of the Forest and is valued for wildlife habitat, watershed protection and production of wood products. The MLSNF ranks 1st of the 6 National Forests in Utah in projected potential to produce big game.

Aspen— The aspen vegetation type occupies 13% of the Forest. Aspen forests are prime elk calving and deer fawning habitat. Aspen provides food, nest sites and cover for blue grouse and a variety of other birds and small mammals.

Ponderosa Pine—Ponderosa Pine occupies 6% of the Forest and occurs throughout the Forest. Ponderosa pine is important for wildlife habitat. Elk calving occurs in this type at lower elevations.

Mountain Brush-This vegetation type occupies 65% of the Forest. The primary value of the type is for wildlife habitat and domestic sheep range.

Pinyon-Juniper—PJ occupies 21% of the Forest. It is a widespread scrub woodland type generally occupying the lower elevations of the Forest. It is important cover on big-game winter range.

Sagebrush—Sagebrush occupies 10% of the total Forest and normally occurs on relatively dry sites at all elevations. It provides a scenic desert-like landscape and forage for big game.

Oak Brush-The oak brush vegetation type, principally Gambel oak, occupies 16% of the Forest. The type provides watershed protection, retards snowmelt, and provides browse for wildlife.

Riparian -The riparian ecosystem occupies 5% of the forest and occurs in the areas with year round high water tables. While this ecosystem is small in area, it represents delicate, very important, habitat for wildlife and fish.

