

Chapter 6 – Ecosystem Classification: The ecological foundation for sustainable forest management.

- 1) What are the four classification types?
- 2) Which of the four classification types did we use in lab with the Olympic National Forest Plant Association Guide?
- 3) What does this mean exactly? What aspects of the plant community and the environment are you using to classify your sites?
- 4) What are the essential characteristics used to classify forests for each of the four classification approaches mentioned by Kimmins (mentioned above)?
- 5) Explain briefly why classification systems are important in forest management. How do classification systems help people better understand ecosystems?
- 6) Examine Daubenmire's forest habitat type of classification (Fig. 6.8 a, b). If you were in a stand of *Larix lyallii* (Alpine larch) just below timberline in northwestern Montana, what would you expect the climax stand to be? How about for a lower elevation stand of *Pinus monticola* (western white pine)? How do the figures 6.8a and 6.8b combined demonstrate the application of classification systems to forest management and society as a whole?
- 7) What are the measures of relative moisture availability? Define the differences among them.