

APPENDIX D – NRCS SOILS DATA



United States
Department of
Agriculture

NRCS

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

A product of the National
Cooperative Soil Survey,
a joint effort of the United
States Department of
Agriculture and other
Federal agencies, State
agencies including the
Agricultural Experiment
Stations, and local
participants

Custom Soil Resource Report for **Rensselaer County, New York**



March 16, 2021

Preface

Soil surveys contain information that affects land use planning in survey areas. They highlight soil limitations that affect various land uses and provide information about the properties of the soils in the survey areas. Soil surveys are designed for many different users, including farmers, ranchers, foresters, agronomists, urban planners, community officials, engineers, developers, builders, and home buyers. Also, conservationists, teachers, students, and specialists in recreation, waste disposal, and pollution control can use the surveys to help them understand, protect, or enhance the environment.

Various land use regulations of Federal, State, and local governments may impose special restrictions on land use or land treatment. Soil surveys identify soil properties that are used in making various land use or land treatment decisions. The information is intended to help the land users identify and reduce the effects of soil limitations on various land uses. The landowner or user is responsible for identifying and complying with existing laws and regulations.

Although soil survey information can be used for general farm, local, and wider area planning, onsite investigation is needed to supplement this information in some cases. Examples include soil quality assessments (<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/soils/health/>) and certain conservation and engineering applications. For more detailed information, contact your local USDA Service Center (<https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?agency=nrcs>) or your NRCS State Soil Scientist (http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/soils/contactus/?cid=nrcs142p2_053951).

Great differences in soil properties can occur within short distances. Some soils are seasonally wet or subject to flooding. Some are too unstable to be used as a foundation for buildings or roads. Clayey or wet soils are poorly suited to use as septic tank absorption fields. A high water table makes a soil poorly suited to basements or underground installations.

The National Cooperative Soil Survey is a joint effort of the United States Department of Agriculture and other Federal agencies, State agencies including the Agricultural Experiment Stations, and local agencies. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has leadership for the Federal part of the National Cooperative Soil Survey.

Information about soils is updated periodically. Updated information is available through the NRCS Web Soil Survey, the site for official soil survey information.

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Soil Map

The soil map section includes the soil map for the defined area of interest, a list of soil map units on the map and extent of each map unit, and cartographic symbols displayed on the map. Also presented are various metadata about data used to produce the map, and a description of each soil map unit.

Custom Soil Resource Report Soil Map



Custom Soil Resource Report

MAP LEGEND

Area of Interest (AOI)

 Area of Interest (AOI)

Soils

 Soil Map Unit Polygons


 Soil Map Unit Lines


 Soil Map Unit Points

Special Point Features

 Blowout

 Borrow Pit


 Clay Spot

 Closed Depression

 Gravel Pit

 Gravelly Spot

 Landfill

 Lava Flow

 Marsh or swamp

 Mine or Quarry

 Miscellaneous Water

 Perennial Water

 Rock Outcrop


 Saline Spot

 Sandy Spot

 Severely Eroded Spot

 Sinkhole

 Slide or Slip

 Sodic Spot

 Spoil Area

 Stony Spot

 Very Stony Spot

 Wet Spot

 Other

 Special Line Features

Water Features

 Streams and Canals

Transportation

 Rails

 Interstate Highways

 US Routes

 Major Roads

 Local Roads

Background

 Aerial Photography

MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:15,800.

Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed scale.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service
Web Soil Survey URL:
Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Rensselaer County, New York
Survey Area Data: Version 17, Jun 11, 2020

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Mar 18, 2016—Oct 16, 2017

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

Map Unit Legend

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
CbA	Castile gravelly silt loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes	4.0	7.2%
FIA	Fluvaquents-Udifulvents complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes	0.4	0.7%
HoB	Hoosic gravelly sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	11.9	21.4%
HoC	Hoosic gravelly sandy loam, rolling	7.6	13.5%
HoE	Hoosic gravelly sandy loam, steep	4.6	8.2%
Pg	Pits, gravel	27.5	49.1%
Totals for Area of Interest		55.9	100.0%

Map Unit Descriptions

The map units delineated on the detailed soil maps in a soil survey represent the soils or miscellaneous areas in the survey area. The map unit descriptions, along with the maps, can be used to determine the composition and properties of a unit.

A map unit delineation on a soil map represents an area dominated by one or more major kinds of soil or miscellaneous areas. A map unit is identified and named according to the taxonomic classification of the dominant soils. Within a taxonomic class there are precisely defined limits for the properties of the soils. On the landscape, however, the soils are natural phenomena, and they have the characteristic variability of all natural phenomena. Thus, the range of some observed properties may extend beyond the limits defined for a taxonomic class. Areas of soils of a single taxonomic class rarely, if ever, can be mapped without including areas of other taxonomic classes. Consequently, every map unit is made up of the soils or miscellaneous areas for which it is named and some minor components that belong to taxonomic classes other than those of the major soils.

Most minor soils have properties similar to those of the dominant soil or soils in the map unit, and thus they do not affect use and management. These are called noncontrasting, or similar, components. They may or may not be mentioned in a particular map unit description. Other minor components, however, have properties and behavioral characteristics divergent enough to affect use or to require different management. These are called contrasting, or dissimilar, components. They generally are in small areas and could not be mapped separately because of the scale used. Some small areas of strongly contrasting soils or miscellaneous areas are identified by a special symbol on the maps. If included in the database for a given area, the contrasting minor components are identified in the map unit descriptions along with some characteristics of each. A few areas of minor components may not have been observed, and consequently they are not mentioned in the descriptions, especially where the pattern was so complex that it

was impractical to make enough observations to identify all the soils and miscellaneous areas on the landscape.

The presence of minor components in a map unit in no way diminishes the usefulness or accuracy of the data. The objective of mapping is not to delineate pure taxonomic classes but rather to separate the landscape into landforms or landform segments that have similar use and management requirements. The delineation of such segments on the map provides sufficient information for the development of resource plans. If intensive use of small areas is planned, however, onsite investigation is needed to define and locate the soils and miscellaneous areas.

An identifying symbol precedes the map unit name in the map unit descriptions. Each description includes general facts about the unit and gives important soil properties and qualities.

Soils that have profiles that are almost alike make up a *soil series*. Except for differences in texture of the surface layer, all the soils of a series have major horizons that are similar in composition, thickness, and arrangement.

Soils of one series can differ in texture of the surface layer, slope, stoniness, salinity, degree of erosion, and other characteristics that affect their use. On the basis of such differences, a soil series is divided into *soil phases*. Most of the areas shown on the detailed soil maps are phases of soil series. The name of a soil phase commonly indicates a feature that affects use or management. For example, Alpha silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, is a phase of the Alpha series.

Some map units are made up of two or more major soils or miscellaneous areas. These map units are complexes, associations, or undifferentiated groups.

A *complex* consists of two or more soils or miscellaneous areas in such an intricate pattern or in such small areas that they cannot be shown separately on the maps. The pattern and proportion of the soils or miscellaneous areas are somewhat similar in all areas. Alpha-Beta complex, 0 to 6 percent slopes, is an example.

An *association* is made up of two or more geographically associated soils or miscellaneous areas that are shown as one unit on the maps. Because of present or anticipated uses of the map units in the survey area, it was not considered practical or necessary to map the soils or miscellaneous areas separately. The pattern and relative proportion of the soils or miscellaneous areas are somewhat similar. Alpha-Beta association, 0 to 2 percent slopes, is an example.

An *undifferentiated group* is made up of two or more soils or miscellaneous areas that could be mapped individually but are mapped as one unit because similar interpretations can be made for use and management. The pattern and proportion of the soils or miscellaneous areas in a mapped area are not uniform. An area can be made up of only one of the major soils or miscellaneous areas, or it can be made up of all of them. Alpha and Beta soils, 0 to 2 percent slopes, is an example.

Some surveys include *miscellaneous areas*. Such areas have little or no soil material and support little or no vegetation. Rock outcrop is an example.

Rensselaer County, New York

CbA—Castile gravelly silt loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: 9v1m
Elevation: 100 to 970 feet
Mean annual precipitation: 36 to 44 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 45 to 48 degrees F
Frost-free period: 115 to 195 days
Farmland classification: All areas are prime farmland

Map Unit Composition

Castile and similar soils: 85 percent
Minor components: 15 percent
Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Castile

Setting

Landform: Valley trains, terraces
Landform position (two-dimensional): Summit
Landform position (three-dimensional): Tread
Down-slope shape: Concave
Across-slope shape: Convex
Parent material: Gravelly loamy glaciofluvial deposits over sandy and gravelly glaciofluvial deposits, derived mainly from sandstone, shale, and siltstone

Typical profile

H1 - 0 to 10 inches: gravelly silt loam
H2 - 10 to 32 inches: very gravelly sandy loam
H3 - 32 to 60 inches: very gravelly sand

Properties and qualities

Slope: 0 to 3 percent
Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches
Drainage class: Moderately well drained
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high to high
(0.57 to 5.95 in/hr)
Depth to water table: About 18 to 24 inches
Frequency of flooding: None
Frequency of ponding: None
Available water capacity: Low (about 3.8 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified
Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 2w
Hydrologic Soil Group: A/D
Ecological site: F144AY027MA - Moist Sandy Outwash
Hydric soil rating: No

Minor Components

Fredon

Percent of map unit: 5 percent
Hydric soil rating: No

Chenango

Percent of map unit: 5 percent

Hydric soil rating: No

Hoosic

Percent of map unit: 5 percent

Hydric soil rating: No

FIA—Fluvaquents-Udifuvents complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: 9v1t

Elevation: 0 to 3,000 feet

Mean annual precipitation: 36 to 44 inches

Mean annual air temperature: 45 to 48 degrees F

Frost-free period: 115 to 195 days

Farmland classification: Not prime farmland

Map Unit Composition

Fluvaquents and similar soils: 45 percent

Udifuvents and similar soils: 35 percent

Minor components: 20 percent

Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Fluvaquents

Setting

Landform: Flood plains

Landform position (two-dimensional): Toeslope

Landform position (three-dimensional): Dip

Down-slope shape: Concave

Across-slope shape: Concave

Parent material: Alluvium with highly variable texture

Typical profile

H1 - 0 to 6 inches: silt loam

H2 - 6 to 60 inches: gravelly silt loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 0 to 3 percent

Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches

Drainage class: Poorly drained

*Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately low to high
(0.06 to 5.95 in/hr)*

Depth to water table: About 0 inches

Frequency of flooding: FrequentNone

Frequency of ponding: Frequent

Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 5 percent

Available water capacity: Moderate (about 6.6 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified
Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 5w
Hydrologic Soil Group: A/D
Hydric soil rating: Yes

Description of Udifluvents

Setting

Landform: Flood plains
Landform position (two-dimensional): Summit
Landform position (three-dimensional): Talf
Down-slope shape: Concave
Across-slope shape: Convex
Parent material: Alluvium with a wide range of texture

Typical profile

H1 - 0 to 9 inches: gravelly fine sandy loam
H2 - 9 to 60 inches: gravelly sandy loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 0 to 3 percent
Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches
Drainage class: Moderately well drained
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately low to very high (0.06 to 19.98 in/hr)
Depth to water table: About 36 to 72 inches
Frequency of flooding: None
Frequency of ponding: None
Available water capacity: Low (about 5.9 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified
Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 5w
Hydrologic Soil Group: A
Hydric soil rating: No

Minor Components

Teel

Percent of map unit: 5 percent
Hydric soil rating: No

Saprists

Percent of map unit: 5 percent
Landform: Marshes, swamps
Hydric soil rating: Yes

Limerick

Percent of map unit: 5 percent
Landform: Flood plains
Hydric soil rating: Yes

Fredon

Percent of map unit: 3 percent
Hydric soil rating: No

Unnamed soils, moderately deep

Percent of map unit: 2 percent

Hydric soil rating: Unranked

HoB—Hoosic gravelly sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: 9v23

Elevation: 100 to 1,100 feet

Mean annual precipitation: 36 to 44 inches

Mean annual air temperature: 45 to 48 degrees F

Frost-free period: 115 to 195 days

Farmland classification: Farmland of statewide importance

Map Unit Composition

Hoosic and similar soils: 85 percent

Minor components: 15 percent

Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Hoosic

Setting

Landform: Deltas, outwash plains, terraces

Landform position (two-dimensional): Summit

Landform position (three-dimensional): Tread

Down-slope shape: Convex

Across-slope shape: Convex

Parent material: Sandy and gravelly glaciofluvial deposits

Typical profile

H1 - 0 to 9 inches: gravelly sandy loam

H2 - 9 to 23 inches: very gravelly sandy loam

H3 - 23 to 60 inches: very gravelly sand

Properties and qualities

Slope: 3 to 8 percent

Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches

Drainage class: Somewhat excessively drained

Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): High to very high (1.98 to 19.98 in/hr)

Depth to water table: More than 80 inches

Frequency of flooding: None

Frequency of ponding: None

Available water capacity: Low (about 3.0 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified

Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 3s

Hydrologic Soil Group: A

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Ecological site: F144AY022MA - Dry Outwash

Hydric soil rating: No

Minor Components

Chenango

Percent of map unit: 5 percent

Hydric soil rating: No

Castile

Percent of map unit: 5 percent

Hydric soil rating: No

Fredon

Percent of map unit: 3 percent

Hydric soil rating: No

Unnamed soils, sandy surface

Percent of map unit: 2 percent

Hydric soil rating: No

HoC—Hoosic gravelly sandy loam, rolling

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: 9v24

Elevation: 100 to 1,100 feet

Mean annual precipitation: 36 to 44 inches

Mean annual air temperature: 45 to 48 degrees F

Frost-free period: 115 to 195 days

Farmland classification: Farmland of statewide importance

Map Unit Composition

Hoosic and similar soils: 85 percent

Minor components: 15 percent

Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Hoosic

Setting

Landform: Outwash plains, terraces, deltas

Landform position (two-dimensional): Shoulder

Landform position (three-dimensional): Tread

Down-slope shape: Convex

Across-slope shape: Convex

Parent material: Sandy and gravelly glaciofluvial deposits

Typical profile

H1 - 0 to 9 inches: gravelly sandy loam

H2 - 9 to 23 inches: very gravelly sandy loam

H3 - 23 to 60 inches: very gravelly sand

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Properties and qualities

Slope: 8 to 15 percent

Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches

Drainage class: Somewhat excessively drained

Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): High to very high (1.98 to 19.98 in/hr)

Depth to water table: More than 80 inches

Frequency of flooding: None

Frequency of ponding: None

Available water capacity: Low (about 3.0 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified

Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 3e

Hydrologic Soil Group: A

Ecological site: F144AY022MA - Dry Outwash

Hydric soil rating: No

Minor Components

Riverhead

Percent of map unit: 5 percent

Hydric soil rating: No

Windsor

Percent of map unit: 5 percent

Hydric soil rating: No

Unnamed soils, silty surface

Percent of map unit: 5 percent

Hydric soil rating: No

HoE—Hoosic gravelly sandy loam, steep

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: 9v26

Elevation: 100 to 1,100 feet

Mean annual precipitation: 36 to 44 inches

Mean annual air temperature: 45 to 48 degrees F

Frost-free period: 115 to 195 days

Farmland classification: Not prime farmland

Map Unit Composition

Hoosic and similar soils: 75 percent

Minor components: 25 percent

Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Hoosic

Setting

Landform: Outwash plains, terraces, deltas

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Landform position (two-dimensional): Backslope

Landform position (three-dimensional): Riser

Down-slope shape: Convex

Across-slope shape: Convex

Parent material: Sandy and gravelly glaciofluvial deposits

Typical profile

H1 - 0 to 9 inches: gravelly sandy loam

H2 - 9 to 23 inches: very gravelly sandy loam

H3 - 23 to 60 inches: very gravelly sand

Properties and qualities

Slope: 25 to 35 percent

Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches

Drainage class: Somewhat excessively drained

Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): High to very high (1.98 to 19.98 in/hr)

Depth to water table: More than 80 inches

Frequency of flooding: None

Frequency of ponding: None

Available water capacity: Low (about 3.0 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified

Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 6e

Hydrologic Soil Group: A

Ecological site: F144AY022MA - Dry Outwash

Hydric soil rating: No

Minor Components

Riverhead

Percent of map unit: 5 percent

Hydric soil rating: No

Hoosic, very steep

Percent of map unit: 5 percent

Hydric soil rating: No

Unnamed soils, sandy surface

Percent of map unit: 5 percent

Hydric soil rating: No

Windsor

Percent of map unit: 5 percent

Hydric soil rating: No

Hoosic, severely eroded

Percent of map unit: 5 percent

Hydric soil rating: No

Pg—Pits, gravel

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: 9v2r

Mean annual precipitation: 36 to 44 inches

Mean annual air temperature: 45 to 48 degrees F

Frost-free period: 115 to 195 days

Farmland classification: Not prime farmland

Map Unit Composition

Pits, gravel: 90 percent

Minor components: 10 percent

Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Pits, Gravel

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified

Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 8s

Hydric soil rating: No

Minor Components

Udorthents, loamy and clayey

Percent of map unit: 10 percent

Hydric soil rating: No

Soil Information for All Uses

Soil Properties and Qualities

The Soil Properties and Qualities section includes various soil properties and qualities displayed as thematic maps with a summary table for the soil map units in the selected area of interest. A single value or rating for each map unit is generated by aggregating the interpretive ratings of individual map unit components. This aggregation process is defined for each property or quality.

Soil Qualities and Features

Soil qualities are behavior and performance attributes that are not directly measured, but are inferred from observations of dynamic conditions and from soil properties. Example soil qualities include natural drainage, and frost action. Soil features are attributes that are not directly part of the soil. Example soil features include slope and depth to restrictive layer. These features can greatly impact the use and management of the soil.

Hydrologic Soil Group

Hydrologic soil groups are based on estimates of runoff potential. Soils are assigned to one of four groups according to the rate of water infiltration when the soils are not protected by vegetation, are thoroughly wet, and receive precipitation from long-duration storms.

The soils in the United States are assigned to four groups (A, B, C, and D) and three dual classes (A/D, B/D, and C/D). The groups are defined as follows:

Group A. Soils having a high infiltration rate (low runoff potential) when thoroughly wet. These consist mainly of deep, well drained to excessively drained sands or gravelly sands. These soils have a high rate of water transmission.

Group B. Soils having a moderate infiltration rate when thoroughly wet. These consist chiefly of moderately deep or deep, moderately well drained or well drained soils that have moderately fine texture to moderately coarse texture. These soils have a moderate rate of water transmission.

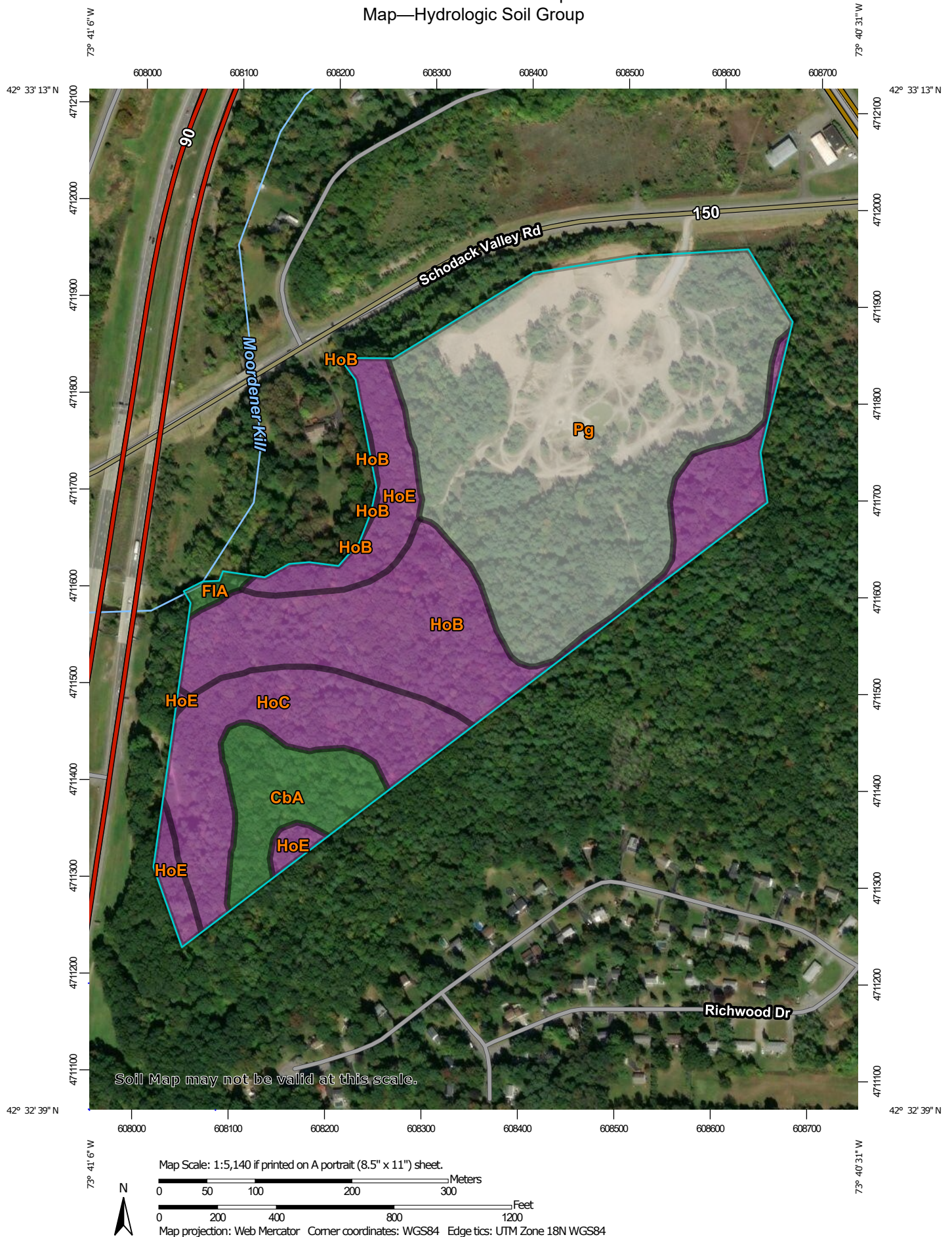
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Group C. Soils having a slow infiltration rate when thoroughly wet. These consist chiefly of soils having a layer that impedes the downward movement of water or soils of moderately fine texture or fine texture. These soils have a slow rate of water transmission.

Group D. Soils having a very slow infiltration rate (high runoff potential) when thoroughly wet. These consist chiefly of clays that have a high shrink-swell potential, soils that have a high water table, soils that have a claypan or clay layer at or near the surface, and soils that are shallow over nearly impervious material. These soils have a very slow rate of water transmission.

If a soil is assigned to a dual hydrologic group (A/D, B/D, or C/D), the first letter is for drained areas and the second is for undrained areas. Only the soils that in their natural condition are in group D are assigned to dual classes.

Custom Soil Resource Report Map—Hydrologic Soil Group



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MAP LEGEND

Area of Interest (AOI)









 Area of Interest (AOI)

Soils

Soil Rating Polygons





 A
 A/D
 B
 B/D
 C
 C/D
 D
 Not rated or not available

Soil Rating Lines


 A
 A/D
 B
 B/D
 C
 C/D
 D
 Not rated or not available

Soil Rating Points






 A
 A/D
 B
 B/D

 C
 C/D
 D
 Not rated or not available


Water Features

 Streams and Canals

Transportation

 Rails
 Interstate Highways
 US Routes
 Major Roads
 Local Roads

Background

 Aerial Photography

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The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:15,800.

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Survey Area Data: Version 17, Jun 11, 2020

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Table—Hydrologic Soil Group

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
CbA	Castile gravelly silt loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes	A/D	4.0	7.2%
FIA	Fluvaquents-Udifuvents complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes	A/D	0.4	0.7%
HoB	Hoosic gravelly sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	A	11.9	21.4%
HoC	Hoosic gravelly sandy loam, rolling	A	7.6	13.5%
HoE	Hoosic gravelly sandy loam, steep	A	4.6	8.2%
Pg	Pits, gravel		27.5	49.1%
Totals for Area of Interest			55.9	100.0%

Rating Options—Hydrologic Soil Group*Aggregation Method: Dominant Condition**Component Percent Cutoff: None Specified**Tie-break Rule: Higher*