Major Land Resource Area 144B
New England and Eastern New York Upland, Northern Part

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Ecological site keys

PES KEY MLRA 144B

1a. Site occurs immediately adjacent to an ocean or estuary (ESG 0—Coastal)

2a. Soils are sand dunes, never inundated by ocean tides ... F144BY010ME – Coastal Dune (reserved)

2b. Soils inundated periodically by ocean tides, site nearly flat (non dunes)

3a. Soils are sandy with very little vegetation ... F144BY009ME – Sandy Beach (reserved)

3b. Soils are silty, loamy, or sandy, covered in vegetation ... F144BY020ME – Tidal Marsh Complex (reserved)

1b. Site occurs inland, not immediately adjacent to an ocean or estuary

4a. Site occurs along major rivers and streams and experiences regular flooding, or would in the absence of dams and other water control structures (ESG 1—Floodplains)

5a. Broad floodplain of large river system. Includes channel banks, stream terraces, and/or natural levies and associated oxbow ponds and marshes ... F144BY110ME – Broad Floodplain Riparian Complex

5b. Floodplain of small river system. Includes channel banks, stream terraces, and sometimes small marshes and oxbow ponds if flooded regularly ... F144BY120ME – Small Floodplain Riparian Complex (reserved)

4b. Site does not occur along major rivers and streams, or if it does occur near major rivers and streams it is not influenced by regular flooding events (even in the absence of dams)

6a. Soils poorly- and/or very poorly-drained throughout site

7a. Wetland area consisting of multiple associated plant communities, most of which are too wet to support greater than 20% tree cover (ESG 2—Open Wetlands)

8a. Soils mostly muck ... F144BY210ME – Marsh Wetland Complex

8b. Soils mostly peat or mucky peat

9a. Soil pH mostly greater than 4.5 throughout site ... F144BY220ME – Semi-acidic Peat Wetland Complex

9b. Soil pH mostly less than 4.5 throughout site ... F144BY230ME – Acidic Peat Wetland Complex

7b. Wetland area consisting of multiple associated plant communities, most of which support greater than 20% tree cover (ESG 3—Wooded Wetlands)

10a. All soils are very poorly-drained with greater than 16 inches (40 cm) of organic mucky peat deposits on the surface ... F144BY302ME – Mucky Swamp

10b. Most soils on the site have less than 16 inches (40 cm) organic deposits on surface

11a. Soils are clay or silty clay in texture ... F144BY304ME – Wet Clay Flat

11b. Soil texture coarser than silty clay (silty to sandy)

12a. Soils sandy in texture (often intermixed with organic soils) ... F144BY303ME – Acidic Swamp

12b. Soil textures coarse-silty to coarse-loamy often with a densely compacted horizon within 43 inches (108 cm) of the soil surface

13a. All soils are poorly-drained and water table within 18 inches of soil surface. Red

and/or black spruce dominate with low northern white cedar cover ... F144BY305ME – Wet Loamy Flat

13b. Soils are a complex of both poorly- and very poorly-drained, with water table less than 12 inches below soil surface. High northern white cedar cover ... F144BY301ME – Loamy Till Swamp

6b. Soils somewhat poorly-drained or drier, or, a combination of poorly-drained soils with drier soils in a complex throughout site

14a. Site occurs in exposed areas high in rock outcrop with little soil available for plants, too harsh to support greater than 20% tree cover (ESG 8—Rockland) ... F144BY801ME – Rockland (reserved)

14b. Site capable of producing greater than 20% persistent tree cover

15a. Shallow soils less than 20 inches (50 cm) deep, or a combination of shallow and moderately deep soils 20-40 inches (100 cm) deep, over bedrock

16a. Shallow organic soils (less than 20 inches [50 cm] deep) with pH less than 4.5 and large areas of sparse canopy with exposed bedrock ... F144BY704ME – Shallow Organic Rock Pocket

16b. Mineral soils, or a combination of organic and mineral soils together

17a. Soils formed over bedrock with calcareous members (northern white cedar is a typical indicator species on shallow calcareous sites) ... F144BY705ME – Shallow and Mod-deep Semi-rich Till

17b. Soils formed over bedrock lacking any calcareous members

18a. All soils less than 12 inches (30 cm) deep over bedrock ... F144BY706ME – Very Shallow Till

18b. Soils deeper than 12 inches (30 cm) over bedrock, or a combination of shallow and moderately-deep soils 1-40 inches (2.5-100 cm) in depth over bedrock

19a. All soils 10 to 24 inches (25-60 cm) deep over bedrock ... F144BY701ME – Shallow Till

19b. Combination of shallow and moderately-deep soils 10-40 inches (25-100 cm) in depth over bedrock

20a. Soils with very high organic matter content, very dark brown and/or maroon in color below the E horizon ... F144BY703ME – Shallow and Moderately-deep Humic Till

20b. Soils lacking very dark colors associated with high organic matter content ... F144BY702ME – Shallow and Moderately-deep Till

15b. All soil components greater than 20 inches deep (50 cm)

21a. Predominant soil texture is sandy or sandy-skeletal (ESG 6—Sandy Forests)

22a. Soil well-drained or drier ... F144BY601ME – Dry Sand

22b. Soil moderately well-drained or somewhat poorly-drained ... F144BY602ME – Sandy Toeslope

21b. Predominant soil texture is finer than sandy

23a. Predominant soil texture is clay (fine or fine-silty) (ESG 4—Clay Forests)

24a. Soils are poorly- to somewhat-poorly drained ... F144BY401ME – Clay Flat

24b. Soils are moderately well- to well-drained ... F144BY402ME – Clay Hills

23b. Predominant soil texture is coarser than clay (ESG 5—Loamy Forests)

25a. Soil parent material includes some calcareous members, with predominant pH over 6.0

26a. Site occurs on poorly- to somewhat poorly-drained toeslope of a large watershed where nutrients and water accumulate ... F144BY507ME – Semi-rich Till Toeslope

26b. Site occurs on moderately well- to well-drained backslopes ... F144BY506ME – Semi-rich Till Slope

25b. Soil parent material lacks calcareous members, with pH mostly below 6.0

27a. Loamy surface soils underlain by sandy or sandy-skeletal strata ... F144BY505ME – Loamy over Sandy

27b. Loamy surface soils underlain by loamy subsoils

28a. Soils somewhat-poorly drained, including poorly-drained soils that are mapped with somewhat poorly-drained components

29a. Site occurs on poorly- to somewhat poorly-drained toeslope of a large watershed where nutrients and water accumulate ... F144BY502ME – Loamy Till Toeslope

29b. Site occurs on relatively flat expanses with less than 5% slope, rather than the toeslope of a large watershed ... F144BY503ME – Loamy Flat

28b. Soils moderately well- to well-drained, including somewhat poorly-drained components mapped with drier components

30a. Site occurs in protected coves and drainageways with very thick, dark surface A horizon greater than 12 inches (30 cm), very high in organic matter ... F144BY504ME – Enriched Loamy Cove

30b. Site occurs on gentle to steep slopes (greater than 5%) lacking significant organic matter accumulation ... F144BY501ME – Loamy Slope (Northern Hardwoods)