

Section II - Soil and Site Information

Hydric Soil Interpretations For Kennebec County, Maine

Definition of Hydric Soil

A hydric soil is a soil that is saturated, flooded, or ponded long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part. The following criteria reflect those soils that meet this definition.

Wetlands represent the collection of aquatic or semi aquatic habitats commonly referred to as marshes, swamps, and bogs. The U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency define wetlands by the presence of wetland vegetation (hydrophytes) and hydrology (degree of flooding and/or soil saturation) and by reference to wet soils (hydric soils). The prevalence of hydrophytes and the presence of wet soil reflect the long-term hydrology and therefore, are useful indicators of wetland. Some of the benefits of wetlands include, waterfowl breeding, habitat for waterfowl and other birds, flood control, water quality, shoreline stabilization and others.

If wetlands are identified as a critical resource, then a good first step would be to inventory the extent of hydric soils that were mapped in a soil survey.

It is important to remember that because of map scale very small areas of hydric soils are often not shown on the soil survey. The soil survey provides a general location of hydric soils; however, it is necessary that the exact wetland boundary be located in the field. When the boundary is not clear, consult with technical experts. The publications Hydric soils of New England and Federal Manual for Identifying and Delineating Jurisdictional Wetlands provide a more detailed discussion on hydric soils as well as on-site identification of wetland boundaries. Other sources of wetland information are the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wetland Inventory Maps and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection Inland Wetland Maps.

Hydric Soil List

Hydric soils are developed under conditions sufficiently wet to support the growth and regeneration of hydrophytic vegetation. The listing available below includes phases of soil series that may or may not have been drained. Some soil series, designated as hydric, have phases that are not hydric depending on water table, flooding, and ponding characteristics.

The list will have a number of agricultural and nonagricultural applications. These include assistance in land-use planning, conservation planning, and assessment of potential wildlife habitat. An area that meets the hydric soil criteria must also meet the hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology criteria in order for it to be classified as a jurisdictional wetland (See the "Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual", 1987).

Hydric Soils List

Kennebec County, Maine

The information in this table indicates the dominant soil condition but does not eliminate the need for onsite investigation.

Map Symbol and Map Unit Name	Component	Hydric	Local Landform	Hydric Criteria Code	Hydric Soils Criteria		
					Meets Saturation	Meets Flooding Criteria	Meets Ponding Criteria
BhB: Berkshire fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Berkshire	No	---	---	---	---	---
BkB: Berkshire very stony fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Berkshire	No	---	---	---	---	---
BkC: Berkshire very stony fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Berkshire	No	---	---	---	---	---
BkD: Berkshire very stony fine sandy loam, 15 to 30 percent slopes	Berkshire	No	---	---	---	---	---
Bo: Biddeford mucky peat	Biddeford	Yes	Marine Terrace	2B3,3	Yes	No	Yes
BuB2: Buxton silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, eroded	Buxton	No	---	---	---	---	---
BuC2: Buxton silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Buxton	No	---	---	---	---	---
C.F.: Cut and fill land	Cut And Fill Land	No	---	---	---	---	---
D.L.: Dune land	Dune Land	No	---	---	---	---	---
DeB: Deerfield loamy fine sand, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Deerfield	No	---	---	---	---	---
G.P.: Gravel pits	Gravel Pits	No	---	---	---	---	---
Ha: Hadley silt loam	Hadley	No	---	---	---	---	---
HfC: Hartland very fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Hartland	No	---	---	---	---	---
HfD: Hartland very fine sandy loam, 15 to 25 percent	Hartland	No	---	---	---	---	---
HkB: Hinckley gravelly sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Hinckley	No	---	---	---	---	---

Hydric Soils List - Continued

Kennebec County, Maine

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Map Symbol and Map Unit Name	Component	Hydric	Local Landform	Hydric Criteria Code	Hydric Soils Criteria		
					Meets Saturation	Meets Flooding Criteria	Meets Ponding Criteria
HkC: Hinckley gravelly sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Hinckley	No	---	---	---	---	---
HkD: Hinckley gravelly sandy loam, 15 to 30 percent	Hinckley	No	---	---	---	---	---
HrB: Hollis fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Hollis	No	---	---	---	---	---
HrC: Hollis fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Hollis	No	---	---	---	---	---
HrD: Hollis fine sandy loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Hollis	No	---	---	---	---	---
HtB: Hollis-rock outcrop complex, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Hollis	No	---	---	---	---	---
HtC: Hollis-rock outcrop complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Hollis	No	---	---	---	---	---
	Rock Outcrop	No	---	---	---	---	---
HtD: Hollis-rock outcrop complex, 15 to 30 percent slopes	Hollis	No	---	---	---	---	---
	Rock Outcrop	No	---	---	---	---	---
Lk: Limerick silt loam	Limerick	Yes	Flood Plain	2B3	Yes	No	No
LyB: Lyman loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Lyman	No	---	---	---	---	---
LyC: Lyman loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Lyman	No	---	---	---	---	---
LyD: Lyman loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Lyman	No	---	---	---	---	---
LzC: Lyman-rock outcrop complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Lyman	No	---	---	---	---	---
	Rock Outcrop	No	---	---	---	---	---

Hydric Soils List - Continued

Kennebec County, Maine

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Map Symbol and Map Unit Name	Component	Hydric	Local Landform	Hydric Criteria Code	Hydric Soils Criteria		
					Meets Saturation	Meets Flooding Criteria	Meets Ponding Criteria
M.L.: Made land	Made Land	No	---	---	---	---	---
MoA: Monarda silt loam	Monarda	Yes	Ground Moraine	2B3	Yes	No	No
MrA: Monarda very stony silt	Monarda	Yes	Ground Moraine	2B3	Yes	No	No
PbB: Paxton fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Paxton	No	---	---	---	---	---
PbC: Paxton fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Paxton	No	---	---	---	---	---
PcB: Paxton very stony fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent	Paxton	No	---	---	---	---	---
PcC: Paxton very stony fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent	Paxton	No	---	---	---	---	---
PcD: Paxton very stony fine sandy loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	Paxton	No	---	---	---	---	---
PdB: Paxton-charlton fine sandy loams, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Paxton	No	---	---	---	---	---
	Charlton	No	---	---	---	---	---
PdC2: Paxton-charlton fine sandy loams, 8 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Paxton	No	---	---	---	---	---
	Charlton	No	---	---	---	---	---
PdD2: Paxton-charlton fine sandy loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Paxton	No	---	---	---	---	---
	Charlton	No	---	---	---	---	---
PeB: Paxton-charlton very stony fine sandy loams, 3 to 8 per cent slopes	Paxton	No	---	---	---	---	---
	Charlton	No	---	---	---	---	---

Hydric Soils List - Continued

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Map Symbol and Map Unit Name	Component	Hydric	Local Landform	Hydric Criteria Code	Hydric Soils Criteria		
					Meets Saturation	Meets Flooding Criteria	Meets Ponding Criteria
PeC: Paxton-charlton very stony fine sandy loams, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Paxton	No	---	---	---	---	---
	Charlton	No	---	---	---	---	---
PeD: Paxton-charlton very stony fine sandy loams, 15 to 30 percent slopes	Paxton	No	---	---	---	---	---
	Charlton	No	---	---	---	---	---
PfB: Peru fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Peru	No	---	---	---	---	---
PkB: Peru very stony fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Peru	No	---	---	---	---	---
PkC: Peru very stony fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent	Peru	No	---	---	---	---	---
RcA: Ridgebury fine sandy loam	Ridgebury	Yes	Ground Moraine	2B3	Yes	No	No
RdA: Ridgebury very stony fine sandy loam	Ridgebury	Yes	Ground Moraine	2B3	Yes	No	No
Rf: Rifle mucky peat	Rifle	Yes	Swamp	1,3	No	No	Yes
SA: Saco soils	Saco	Yes	Flood Plain	2B3,3,4	Yes	Yes	Yes
ScA: Scantic silt loam	Scantic	Yes	Marine Terrace	2B3	Yes	No	No
Sd: Scarboro mucky peat	Scarboro	Yes	Outwash Plain	2B3,3	Yes	No	Yes
SkB: Scio very fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Scio	No	---	---	---	---	---
SkC2: Scio very fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, erod	Scio	No	---	---	---	---	---
SuC2: Suffield silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, eroded	Suffield	No	---	---	---	---	---

Hydric Soils List - Continued

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Map Symbol and Map Unit Name	Component	Hydric	Local Landform	Hydric Criteria Code	Hydric Soils Criteria		
					Meets Saturation	Meets Flooding Criteria	Meets Ponding Criteria
SuD2: Suffield silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, eroded	Suffield	No	---	---	---	---	---
SuE2: Suffield silt loam, 25 to 45 percent slopes, eroded	Suffield	No	---	---	---	---	---
To: Togus fibrous peat	Togus	Yes	Bog	1,3	No	No	Yes
Va: Vassalboro fibrous peat	Vassalboro	Yes	Bog	1,3	No	No	Yes
W: Water bodies	Water	Yes	Lake	---	---	---	---
WmB: Windsor loamy sand, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Windsor	No	---	---	---	---	---
WmC: Windsor loamy sand, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Windsor	No	---	---	---	---	---
WmD: Windsor loamy sand, 15 to 30 percent slopes	Windsor	No	---	---	---	---	---
Wn: Winooski silt loam	Winooski	No	---	---	---	---	---
WrB: Woodbridge fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Woodbridge	No	---	---	---	---	---
WrC: Woodbridge fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Woodbridge	No	---	---	---	---	---
WsB: Woodbridge very stony fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent s slopes	Woodbridge	No	---	---	---	---	---
WsC: Woodbridge very stony fine sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Woodbridge	No	---	---	---	---	---