

Soil Survey of the Delta River Area, Alaska

Ecological Site Description

Depressions, Frequently Flooded (R228XY501AK)

Ecological Site Characteristics

Site Type: Rangeland

Site Name: Depressions, Frequently Flooded

Site ID: R228XY501AK (Old: R173XY501AK)

Major Land Resource 228 - Interior Alaska Mountains

Ecoregion Classification

Section: Alaska Mountains (M135A)

Subsection(s): Lowland Flood Plains, Terraces, and Fans (M135A.V1L)

Physiographic Features

Elevation (feet): 2,549 to 3,113

Slope Gradient (percent): 0 to 1

Aspect (clockwise direction): non-influencing

Landform: depressions on flood plains

	Frequency	Duration	Beginning Month	Ending Month	Depth (inches)
Flooding:	Frequent	Long	May	Sep	
Ponding:	Frequent	Very long	May	Sep	9.8

Climatic Features

Annual Precipitation 22 to 35

Annual Air Temperature (°F): 24 to 25

Frost Free Days: 50 to 80

Soil Features

Parent Materials: sandy and silty alluvium over sandy and gravelly alluvium

Rooting Depth (inches): RV: 50 Range: 29 to 60

Soil Layers and Properties within Representative Rooting Depth:

Layers are described from the surface downward. If more than one texture is listed, the predominant texture is listed first. AWC = available water capacity. pH = hydrogen ion activity in the soil using the 1:1 soil-water ratio method. CEC = cation exchange capacity.

Thickness (inches)	Texture	Permeability	AWC (inches/inch)	pH	Effective CEC (me/100g)	CEC (me/100g)
5	slightly decomposed plant material	moderately rapid	.34	5.8		80
10	silt loam	moderate	.19	5.8		20
14 to 20	stratified sand to silt; extremely gravelly coarse sand	moderate to rapid	.03 to .13	6.2		2 to 16

Restrictive Features: strongly contrasting textural stratification at 28 inches

Drainage Class: very poorly drained

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Vegetation Features

Common Vegetation Types:

Vegetation Type
Sedge wet meadow 2

Ecological Status
Climax plant community

Vascular Plant Species Richness:

Vegetation Type
Sedge wet meadow 2

Total	Per Stand			Number of Stands
	Min.	Avg.	Max.	
5	2	4	5	2

Characteristics of Sedge wet meadow 2

Ecological Status: Climax plant community

Plant Species Cover, Constancy, and Importance:

Number of stands sampled = 3. Only those vascular, lichen, and bryophyte species with average cover $\geq 5\%$ and constancy $\geq 15\%$ are listed. Importance value equals the square root of Percent Constancy times Average Cover.

Stratum	Symbol	Scientific Name	Percent Canopy Cover			Percent Constancy	Importance Value
			Min.	Avg.	Max.		
GM	CAAQ	Carex aquatilis	80.0	80	80	67	73
GM	CACA4	Calamagrostis canadensis	5.0	5	5	33	13
L	LICHEN	total lichens	0.0	0	0	67	0
M	MOSS	total bryophytes-mosses and liverworts	5.0	25	45	67	41
B	LITTER	litter-herbaceous, mulch, and woody debris <2.5 cm	30.0	38	45	67	50
B	WATER	water	5.0	13	20	67	30
B	LITTER2	litter-woody debris >2.5 cm	0.0	8	15	67	23
B	SOIL	mineral-bare soil	0.0	0	0	67	0
B	ROCK	mineral-surface rock fragments	0.0	0	0	67	0

Map Unit Components

Component Name (Classification):

Swedna, very wet

(Coarse-loamy over sandy or sandy-skeletal, mixed, superactive, nonacid Typic Cryaquents)

Soil Map Units

This landtype is a minor component in the map units listed. It does not occur as a major component in any map units.

Symbol: Map Unit Name:

FPB Dackey-Tangoe-Riverwash complex
FPC Dackey-Tangoe-Riverwash, high elevation, complex
FPD Dackey-Swedna-Tangoe complex
W Water

Ecological Site Descriptions
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M135A.V1L.1—Boreal Flood Plains and Alluvial Fans Landtype Association



Sedge Wet Meadow 2