

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING ECOLOGICAL SITE INVENTORY SYSTEM (ESIS) FOR OBTAINING APPROVED ECOLOGICAL SITE DESCRIPTIONS

Ecological Site Inventory System (ESIS) database (<https://esis.sc.egov.usda.gov/>) provides the most up to date access to approved ecological site descriptions (ESDs). The intent of this document is to provide step by step instruction on how to locate and retrieve an approved ESD. Permissions are not necessary to view, download and print approved ESDs.

For issues regarding the uses, question specific information pertaining to the individual data or status of ESD's please contact the NRCS State Rangeland Management Specialist for that state.

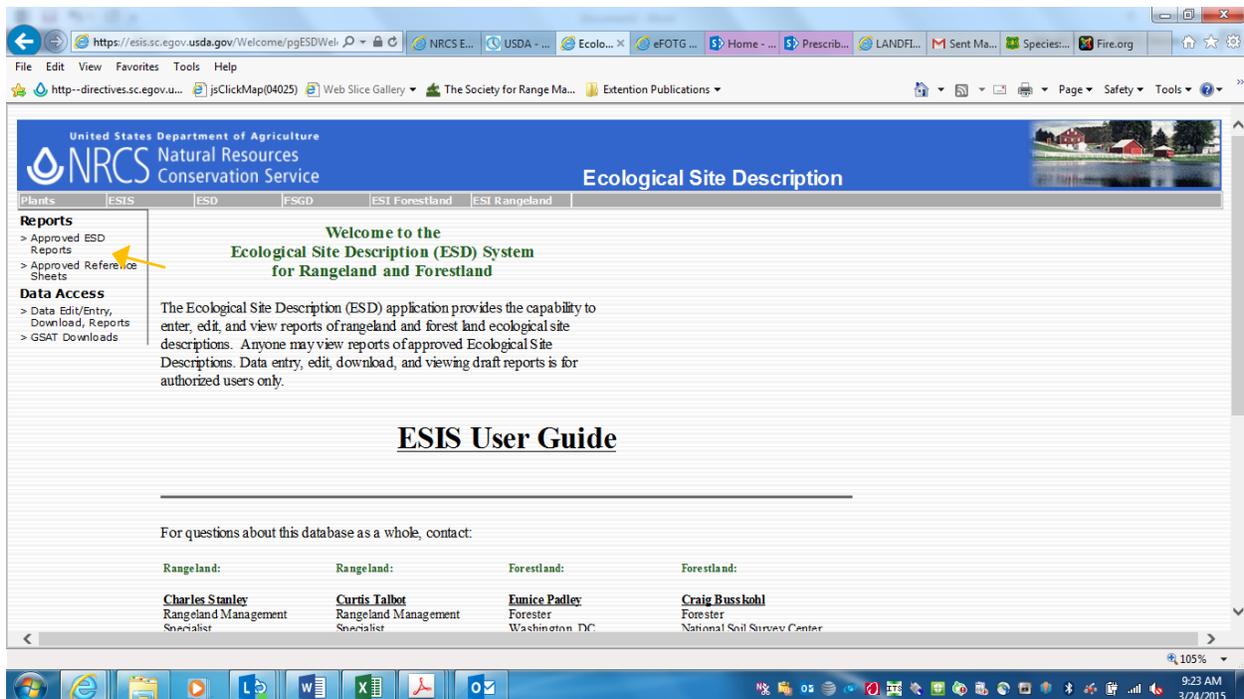
For Colorado please contact:

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Colorado State Rangeland Management Specialist
Rachel.murph@co.usda.gov
Phone: (720)544-2866

Step 1: Determine the correct Major Land Resource Area (MLRA). Use the follow link for a map of MLRAs in Colorado ((http://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/references/public/CO/CO_MLRAs.pdf)).

Step 2: Access the ESD data base (<https://esis.sc.egov.usda.gov/Welcome/pgESDWelcome.aspx>) from the ESIS Home Page.

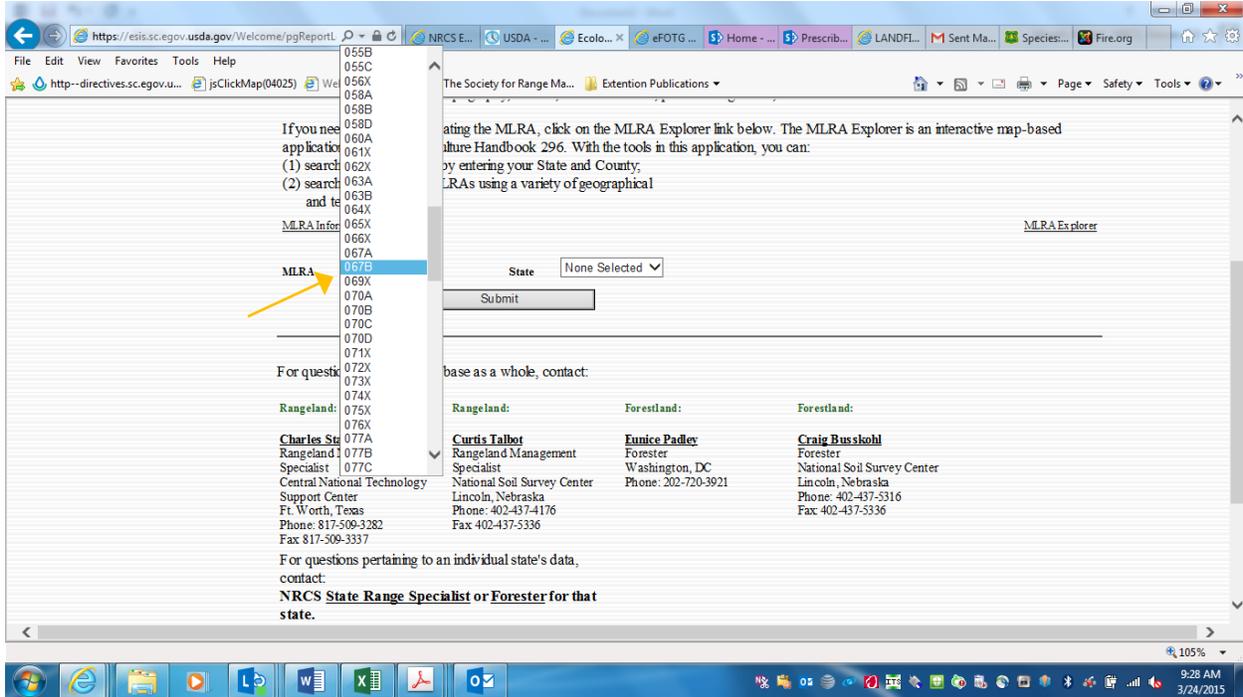
Step 3: From the Welcome Page, Select "Approved ESD Reports" from the top left hand of the page.



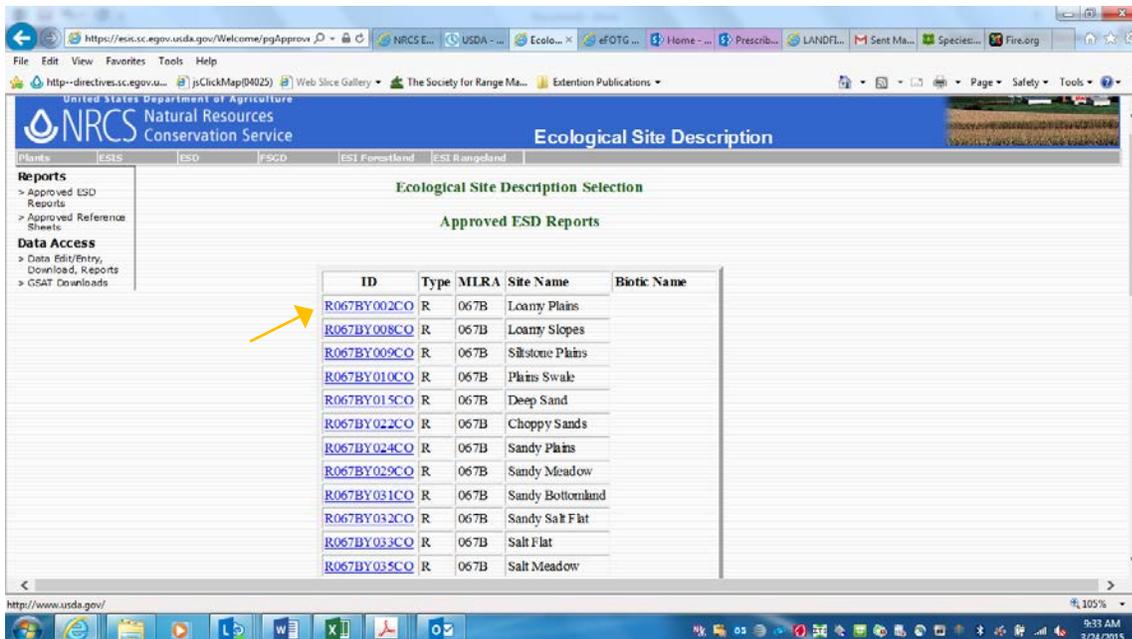
The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the ESIS Welcome page. The browser's address bar shows the URL <https://esis.sc.egov.usda.gov/Welcome/pgESDWelcome.aspx>. The page header includes the USDA NRCS logo and the title "Ecological Site Description". A navigation menu at the top lists "Plants", "ESIS", "ESD", "FSGD", "ESI Forestland", and "ESI Rangeland". The left sidebar menu has "Reports" expanded, with "Approved ESD Reports" highlighted by a yellow arrow. The main content area features a welcome message: "Welcome to the Ecological Site Description (ESD) System for Rangeland and Forestland". Below this, there is a paragraph explaining the ESD application's capabilities. A section titled "ESIS User Guide" provides contact information for specialists in Rangeland and Forestland management.

Rangeland:	Rangeland:	Forestland:	Forestland:
Charles Stanley Rangeland Management Specialist	Curtis Talbot Rangeland Management Specialist	Emice Padley Forester Washington, DC	Craig Busskohl Forester National Soil Survey Center

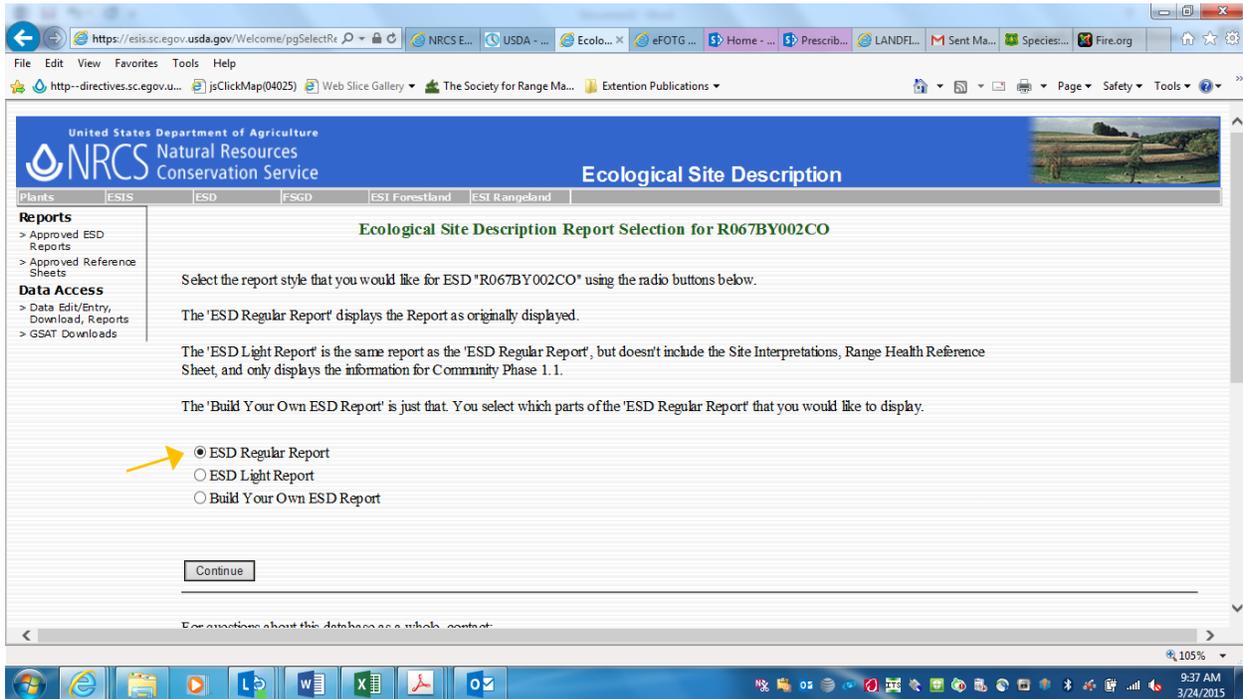
Step 4: Select the desired MLRA and/or the desired state. MLRAs do not follow state boundaries, if you want a list of approved ESDs for the entire MLRA – only select the appropriate MRLA. After selection press the submit button.



Step 5: Select the appropriate MLRA and this will provide you a list of ESDs for that MLRA for the selected MLRA and/or State. Scroll down to see the complete list. If there are no approved sites for the MLRA then the last approved reference is a Range Site. Select the Hyper link for the ESD that you want to review.



Step 6: The next screen allows the selection of a regular report (full), light report, or a build your own ESD report.



ESD Regular Report Includes the following:

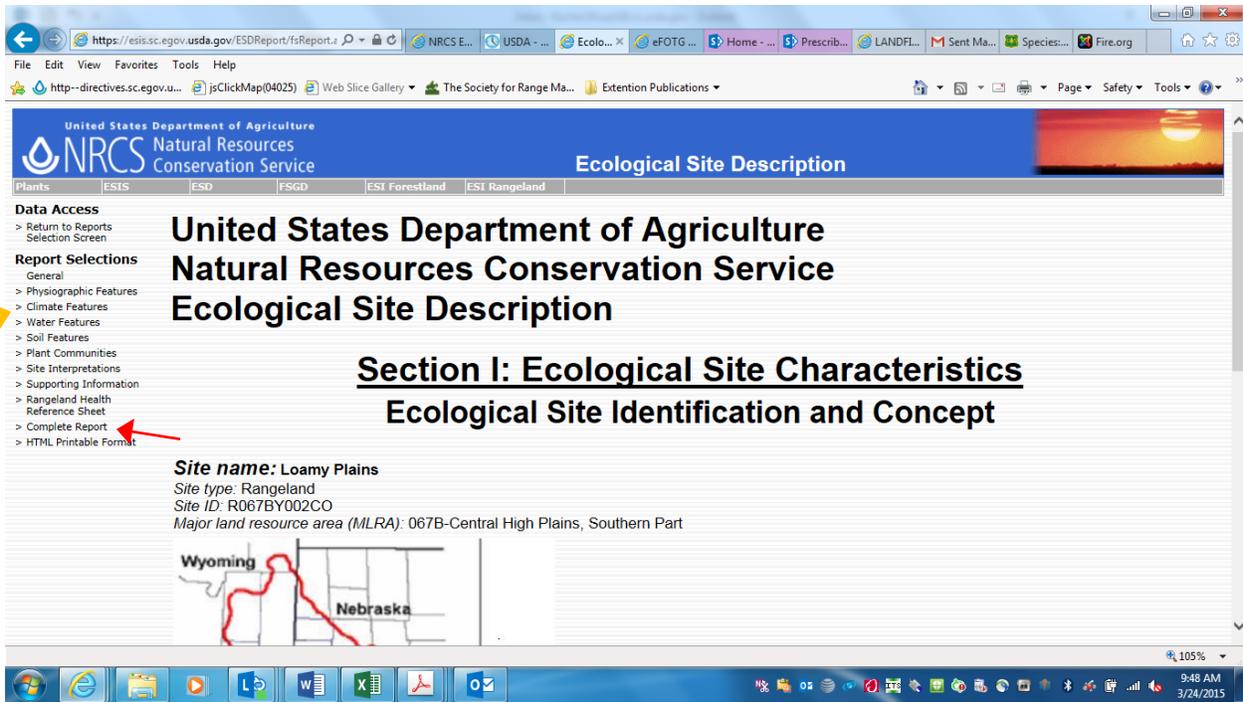
- General Information
- Physiographic Information
- Climate Features
- Water Features
- Soil Features
- Plant Community
- Site Interpretation
- Supporting Information
- Rangeland Health Reference Worksheet

ESD Light Report Includes the following:

- Physiographic Information
- Climate Features
- Water Features
- Soil Features
- Plant Community
- Supporting Information

The build your own report allows you to select one or more features. You may also select all plant communities or individual states.

Step 7: Once you have pulled your report there are many ways to view the report. You can either individually select the feature from the right hand side, and it will load a new screen for each feature or you can select > *Complete Report* and it will pull the entire report and you may scroll through the whole report. For printing the report, make sure you select the complete report, otherwise it will only print the section you are currently viewing.



Step 8: After selecting complete report, you may view the ESD report online or you may print it by selecting *>HTML Printable Format*. It will pull up a new tab with the ESD report ready to print. Now you can select *File >Print* for your use.

