

NSSH Part 622

622.04 Highly Erodible Land – Highly Erodible Soil Map Unit List

a. Definition. Highly erodible land is defined by the Sodbuster, Conservation Reserve, and Conservation Compliance parts of the Food Security Act of 1985 and the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990. Determinations for highly erodible land are based on an erodibility index as defined in the National Food Security Act Manual.

b. Policy. Lists of highly erodible and potential highly erodible map units are maintained in the field office technical guide (available online at [http://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/efotg\\_locator.aspx?map](http://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/efotg_locator.aspx?map)). Policy and procedures for developing and maintaining the lists are given in Part 511 of the National Food Security Act Manual, 5th edition, November 2010 (available at <http://directives.sc.egov.usda.gov/RollupViewer.aspx?hid=29362>).

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**511.1 Highly Erodible Soil Map Unit List**

A. Highly Erodible Soil Map Unit List

The Highly Erodible Soil Map Unit List is a list of all soil map units (names and symbols) in an area. [7 CFR Section 12.20(b)] These soil map units are specifically categorized as being—

- (i) Highly Erodible (HEL) from wind erosion
- (ii) HEL or Potentially Highly Erodible (PHEL) from sheet and rill erosion.

**Note:** When a field determination includes PHEL soil map units, the HEL determination shall be verified through a field review to determine the correct LS factor value for that specific field in order to finalize the field HEL determination. [7 CFR Section 12.21(c)] If necessary, a new determination shall be issued when the field verification changes the original office HEL determination label.

B. HEL Soil Map Unit List Area

- (1) The HEL Soil Map Unit List developed as of January 1, 1990, will be used for all HEL determinations.
- (2) The HEL Soil Map Unit List shall be developed and maintained for any of the following:
  - (i) Each soil survey area
  - (ii) Each FOTG area
  - (iii) Other geographic areas as determined by the STC.

C. HEL Soil Map Units and Soil Map Unit Components

The percentage of HEL soil map unit components that are required to achieve predominance of a soil map unit will be established by the STC. Determine whether a soil map unit is considered highly erodible according to the following table.

IF the soil map unit...	AND...	THEN...
Is named for either— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A single type of soil or</li> <li>• A single miscellaneous area,</li> </ul>	Either the named— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soil is identified as highly erodible, or</li> <li>• Miscellaneous area is identified as highly erodible,</li> </ul>	The entire soil map unit is considered highly erodible.
Is named for two or more—	A predominance of the named components are all highly erodible,	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Types of soils or</li> <li>• Miscellaneous areas,</li> </ul>	<p>Less than a predominance of the named components are highly erodible,</p>	<p>The soil map unit is not considered highly erodible.</p>
<p>Contains highly erodible soils only as inclusions.</p>		<p>The soil map unit is not considered highly erodible.</p>

D. Filing HEL Soil Map Unit Lists

The HEL Soil Map Unit List shall be a part of Section II of the FOTG.

E. Tenure of HEL Soil Map Unit List

The HEL Soil Map Unit List that was in effect January 1, 1990, will remain unchanged for HEL determinations.

F. Areas with More Than One "R" or "C" Value

(1) A separate HEL soil map unit list will be developed for soil survey areas or counties having more than one "R" or "C" factor value.

(2) A map showing the boundaries of each individual C or R factor value area will be placed in Section I of the FOTG.