

National Coordinated Common Resource Area (CRA) Geographic Database Legend

Version 1.2 (913 records)

1/16/2004

USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service

National CRA	National CRA Name	National CRA PDC
134.2	Mississippi Valley Western Loess Plains	This CRA consists of nearly level to gently sloping loess plains west of the Mississippi River. The deep, highly erosive soils in this area developed from thick Pleistocene loess. Most of this area has been cleared of forest and is used for crop land and pasture. Major cultivated crops are cotton, soybeans and rice. Soil erosion is a major resource concern in this CRA.
134.5	Mississippi Valley Loess Rolling Plains	This CRA consists of gently sloping to rolling loess plains west of the Mississippi River. The deep, highly erosive soils in this area developed from loess that thins to the east. This CRA has more irregular and dissected topography than the adjacent Eastern Loess Plains CRA. Most of the area is in forest. Soil erosion is a major resource concern on areas used for pasture and on cropland.
134.6	Mississippi Valley Subtropical Loess Plains	This CRA consists of nearly level to gently sloping loess plains west of the Mississippi River. The deep, highly erosive soils in this area developed from thick Pleistocene loess. Most of this area has been cleared of forest and is used for crop land and pasture. Major cultivated crops are sugarcane, soybeans and sweet potatoes. Soil erosion is a major resource concern in this CRA.
151.1	Gulf Coast Marsh	This unit is a highly productive spawning ground for fish and crustaceans along the coastal estuarine system. The area is uninhabited, mostly treeless, and consists of alluvial and marine sediments bordered by beaches and dissected by rivers, lakes, bayous, natural levees, and canal spoil banks. Soils are stratified organic and fluid mineral materials. Marsh vegetation is dominant. Major land use is wildlife habitat for fur-bearing animals and alligators and wintering ground for migratory waterfowl.
131A.1	Southern Mississippi River Meander Belts	This CRA is dominantly level to nearly level flood plains of the Mississippi River. Soils are deep, fertile, and most are well suited to crop production. Most of the area has been cleared of forest and is used mainly for growing cotton, soybeans, rice and wheat. Some areas require surface drainage for crop production. Some areas of converted wetlands are being restored.
131A.2	Subtropical Mississippi River Alluvium	This CRA is dominantly level to nearly level flood plains of the Lower Mississippi River Valley. Soils are deep, fertile, and most are well suited to crop production. Much of the area has been cleared of forest and is used mainly for growing sugarcane, soybeans, rice and corn. Some areas require surface drainage for crop production. Some areas of converted wetlands are being restored. A portion of this CRA is a designated spillway of the Mississippi River.
131B.1	Arkansas River Alluvium	This CRA consists of level to nearly level floodplains of the Arkansas River. The deep, fertile soils in this areas are well suited for crop production. Most of the area has been cleared of forest and used mainly for growing cotton, soybeans and rice. Surface drainage is required on some areas for crop production. Wetland hydrology and vegetation is being restored on some converted wetlands.

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131C.1	Red River Alluvium	This CRA consists of level to nearly level floodplains of the Red River. The deep, fertile soils in this area are well suited for crop production. Most of the area has been cleared of forest and is used mainly for growing cotton, soybeans and rice. Surface drainage is required on some areas for crop production. Wetland hydrology and vegetation is being restored on some converted wetlands.
131D.1	Southern Mississippi River Terraces	This CRA consists of level to gently sloping terraces of the Mississippi River. Soils are mainly deep, moderately fertile, with fragipans. Most of this area is not well suited for crop production. Most of the area remains in forest land, and cleared areas are mainly used for forage production. Erosion is a resource concern on areas that are used for cropland.
133A.2	Southern Pine Plains and Hills	This CRA consists of southward-sloping, dissected irregular plains, some open low hills, mostly broad gently sloping ridgetops with steeper side slopes near drainages; low to moderate gradient sandy, clayey, and gravelly bottomed streams; some sinkholes in eastern area. Southern mixed forest, oak-hickory-pine forest, some southern floodplain forest Mixed forest, pine plantations, pecan orchards and significant cropland on flatter uplands with soybeans, wheat, peanuts, cotton, corn, sweet potatoes, and tomatoes; some tobacco, cabbage, onions, and melons in the eastern area.
133B.1	Western Coastal Plain	This CRA consists of nearly level to moderately sloping uplands, and level to nearly level low terraces and floodplains in the Western Coastal Plain. Deep soils, low in natural fertility are poorly suited for crop production. Most of the area remains in forest land, and large tracts are owned and managed by commercial timber companies. Cleared areas are mainly used for forage production.
150A.1	Gulf Coast Prairies	This unit is characterized by level, broad flats that are dissected by numerous small drainageways. Mounded areas are common. Deep, clayey and loamy soils consist of a thin veneer of Pleistocene deposits overlying older terrace materials. Pre-settlement vegetation was tall-grass prairie. Most of the area is used for cropland and pastureland. Major cultivated crops are rice and soybeans to the north and grain sorghum and cotton to the south. Small wooded areas border rivers and streams.
152A.1	Gulf Coast Flatwoods	This CRA consists of flat to gently undulating marine terraces, tidal marshes, bays, lagoons, barrier islands, dunes, and beaches; low gradient streams with sandy and silty substrates. Southern mixed forest, urban, forested wetland, marsh, recreation, fish and shellfish production; some pasture and cropland on better drained areas.
152B.1	Western Gulf Coast Flatwoods	This unit consists of nearly level to gently sloping broad stream terraces or marine terraces. The landscape consists of broad flats, low ridges and numerous small drainageways. Vegetation is primarily woodland and mostly pine and pine hardwood. Small areas are in pastureland, cropland and urban uses. High water tables and flooding are common in this area.