



United States Department of Agriculture

# National Forestry Soil Interpretations



UPDATE- March 2018

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Forester



Natural  
Resources  
Conservation  
Service

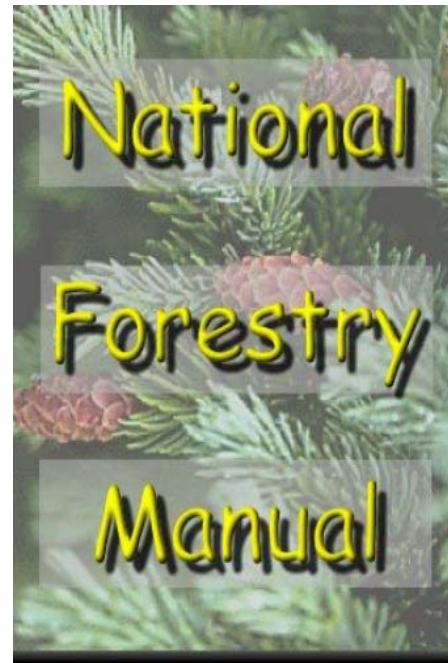
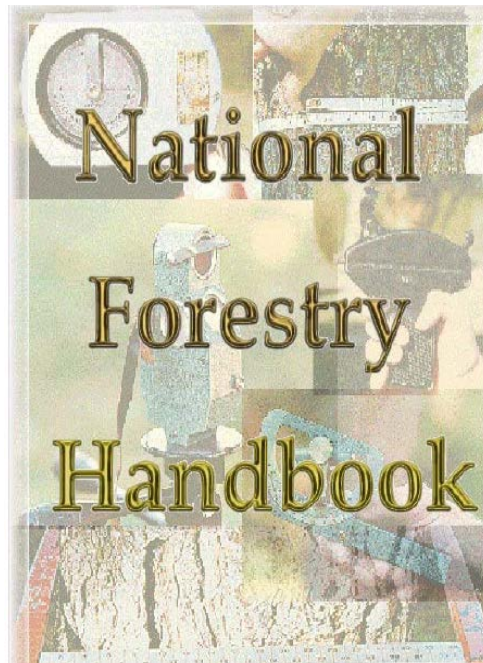
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# Summary of National Forestry Interpretations

- Forestry Interpretations (16 National being revised; 161 including state/regional interps)
- Forestry Conservation Planning & Policy
- National Register of Curve Numbers
- Tree and Shrub Groups (CTSG)
- Forestland Ecological Site Descriptions (ESDs - 2,033)





# National NCSS Database Interpretations—Action Stages



## Stage 1

- **Modification of existing interpretations**
  - How are they used?
  - Do they need to be fixed?
  - Increasing the number of classes for suitability/limitation ?
- **Identification and repair of data population issues**

## Stage 2

- **Development of new interpretations**
- **Development of new GIS models**





# Creating a Soil Interpretation



**Step 1. Define the Activity**

**Step 2. Separate Aspects**

**Step 3. Identify Site Features**

**Step 4. List Soil Properties**

**Step 5. Select the Number of Separations**

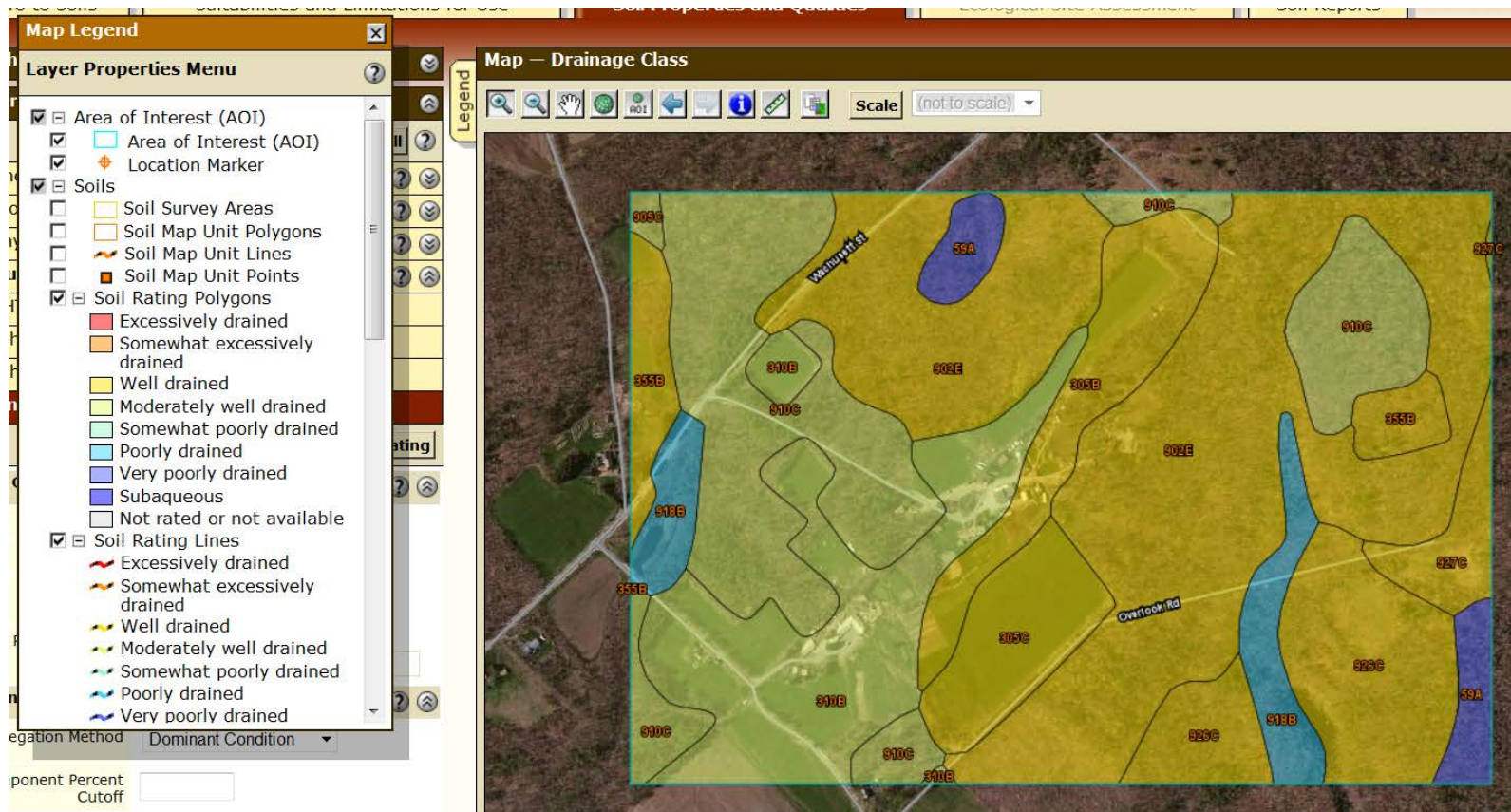
**Step 6. Document Assumptions**

**Step 7. Develop the Criteria Table**

**Step 8. Application, Presentation, and Testing**



# Soils Reports and Interpretations



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| <b>Interpretations Rotation</b>                                 | <b>Complete<br/>June 2018</b> | <b>Complete<br/>June 2019</b> | <b>Complete<br/>June 2020</b> |
|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Construction Limitations for Haul Roads and Log Landings</b> |                               |                               | X                             |
| <b>Hand Planting Suitability</b>                                |                               | X                             |                               |
| <b>Harvest Equipment Operability</b>                            |                               |                               | X                             |
| <b>Log Landing Suitability</b>                                  |                               | X                             |                               |
| <b>Mechanical Planting Suitability</b>                          | X                             |                               |                               |
| <b>Mechanical Site Preparation (Deep)</b>                       | X                             |                               |                               |
| <b>Mechanical Site Preparation (Surface)</b>                    | X                             |                               |                               |
| <b>Potential Damage to Soil by Fire</b>                         |                               |                               | X                             |
| <b>Potential Erosion Hazard (Off-Road/Off-Trail)</b>            | X                             |                               |                               |
| <b>Potential Erosion Hazard (Road/Trail)</b>                    |                               | X                             |                               |
| <b>Potential Seedling Mortality</b>                             |                               |                               | X                             |
| <b>Road Suitability (Natural Surface)</b>                       |                               | X                             |                               |
| <b>Soil Rutting Hazard</b>                                      |                               | X                             |                               |
| <b>Windthrow Hazard</b>   | X                             |                               |                               |
| <b>Ballast Requirement</b>                                      |                               | X                             |                               |
| <b>Compaction Hazard</b>  | X                             |                               |                               |
| <b>Displacement Hazard</b>                                      | X                             |                               |                               |
| <b>Puddling Hazard</b>  | X                             |                               |                               |
| <b>Mechanical Fuels Treatment Damage Hazard</b>                 |                               | X                             |                               |



# Science of Interpretations



## National Soil Survey Center training (NRCS-NEDC-000288)

- 12 hrs over 4 days
- Regularly held distance learning
- Participants create their own interpretations

**Another session to be held in May of 2018  
focus on catastrophic interpretations  
i.e. Soil Hydrophobicity**



# QUESTIONS



# THANK YOU

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