

Appendix D

Identifying Sites Limited under Guidelines 3.B, 4.B, and 5.B

Harvest of fine woody material is limited or partially limited on three categories of soils: 1) shallow soils (lithic bedrock within 20 inches of the surface), 2) dry nutrient-poor sandy soils, and, 3) soils classified as dysic Histosols. Lists of soil map unit components that fall into these categories are presented in this appendix, organized by county. Soil map unit lists will be updated periodically due to updates of the NRCS soil inventory; the most recent updates will appear on Web Soil Survey at <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>.

Dry nutrient-poor sandy soils are components of soil map units that meet the following criteria in the NRCS database:

- a) Low percent clay (generally 3% or less, but some soils have a range of characteristics that includes 4-5%)
- b) Low CEC (3-4 meq/liter)
- c) Drainage classes of well-drained and drier (excludes moderately well-drained and wetter)
- d) No lamellae, or loam or heavier textural layers below 100 cm
- e) No carbonates or water tables described within the profile
- f) Not classified as Alfisols or Mollisols by Soil Taxonomy

Screening by Habitat Type Group

When a harvest of fine woody material is being considered, users can first check the Forest Habitat Type Group to screen for sites that may be dry nutrient-poor sands limited by Guideline 4.B. Consult the appropriate Field Guide to determine the Forest Habitat Type Group. If the site's Forest Habitat Type Group is one of the following, see a soil map to determine whether the site is actually considered a dry nutrient-poor sandy soil:

- ✓ Southern Dry
- ✓ Northern Very Dry-to-Dry
- ✓ Northern Dry-to-Dry Mesic

On other habitat type groups, harvests of fine woody material are not limited by Guideline 4.B.

Forest Habitat Type Groups can be identified by using the following field guides:



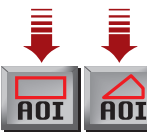
Kotar, J. and T.L. Burger. 1996. A guide to forest communities and habitat types of central and southern Wisconsin. Univ. Wisc., Madison.

Kotar, J., J.A. Kovach, and T.L. Burger. 2002. A guide to forest communities and habitat types of northern Wisconsin. Second edition. Univ. Wisc., Madison.


Using Soil Maps

For sites that may be dry nutrient-poor sands, dysic Histosols, or shallow to bedrock, users will need to cross-reference a soil survey map with the list of soil map units that appears in this Appendix.

For many counties, printed copies of Soil Survey Reports are available, and many users are familiar with them. The NRCS Web Soil Survey can be used to access the most current soil survey maps, using the following procedure.

- 1) Go to <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>
- 2) Click on the large green “Start WSS” button  at the top of the page:
- 3) Using zoom and pan tools  on the “Area of Interest Interactive Map”, navigate to an area that includes your site. Alternatively, use the Quick Navigation menu on the left side of the screen to locate an area such as a county, or Town-Range-Section.
- 4) After locating the general area, use the “Area of Interest” (AOI) buttons at the top of the interactive map to define a specific area of interest up to 10,000 acres in size. 



- 5) Click the “Soil Map” tab at the top of the screen to view the soil map for your AOI.
- 6) Determine where on the map your site is located. Make a note of the map unit codes for your site. (A map unit key on the left side of the screen will provide more information, if needed, about the soils displayed on the map.)
- 7) For a printed copy of your results, click  the “Printable Version” button on the right side of the screen.

When the map unit codes for the site have been obtained, compare them with the ones listed in Appendix D. If the site does not have map units listed in Appendix D, harvest of fine woody material is not limited. If the map units are among the ones listed, do not harvest fine woody material unless it is from a jack pine stand on dry nutrient-poor sandy soils.

Soil Complexes and Inclusions

Sometimes, a map unit is a “soil complex” which includes two or more soils mapped together because they are so mixed or of so small an area that they cannot be mapped separately. If one or more of the soils in a complex are limited by the guidelines but the other(s) are not, there are two possible approaches.

- 1) The user may decide to forego harvest of fine woody material on the whole soil map unit. This may be the best approach if the soils are similar in appearance, because in this case it would be difficult to identify which soil is limited and which is not. This may also be the best approach if the complex includes wetlands or sensitive features that would be difficult to avoid operationally.
- 2) The user may identify (by mapping, or with the use of field markers such as flagging) parts of the soil map unit that are suitable for harvest of fine woody debris, and proceed with the harvest on that portion of the map unit. This approach would be most feasible for soils that are different enough in appearance to be readily identified in the field.

Most soil map units contain “inclusions” of different soils that can make up as much as 25% of the unit. A user may harvest fine woody material on a soil inclusion if there is evidence that it is a suitable soil.