Using the Web Soil Survey to Evaluate New Breaking Acreage

To start Web Soil Survey navigate to the following Site.

http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/



You will see the following



There are multiple ways to locate your interested area.

- The most common used is by PLSS (Section Township Range)
 - You can also use: Address, State and County, Latitude and Longitude as well as a few other methods.

Navigate by PLSS		
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	Navigate By	۲
	Address	
	State and County	
N	Soil Survey Area	
	Latitude and Longitude	
	PLSS (Section, Township, Range)	
	Bureau of Land Management	
	Department of Defense	
	Forest Service	
	National Park Service	
	Hydrologic Unit	

- 1. Select your State
 - This example also requires you to select your Principal Meridian. You can click the
 View Meridian Map to find the correct Meridian.
- 2. Enter your Section, Township and Range then click view

Latitude and Longi	tude	
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You will get the following Image

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You can click on these buttons to toggle back between the current screen and full screen.

From here you will use the toolbar to perform various functions.

-	Area of Interest Interactive Map	0				
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These two tools are used to draw the Area of Interest

- The one on the left creates a box
- The one on the right is more useful since it can be used to draw an abstract shape as seen in the two following examples. Double click to finish the drawing.





In order to get the entire area you must draw the area of interest in one polygon. One way to do this is by drawing your area of interest like the example below. The lines can overlap.



After you draw your area of interest you will want to check the total acres to help verify your accuracy. The acres are listed to the left.

The next step is to determine the Capability Class. To do this you first must navigate from the Area of Interest tab to the Soil Data Explorer Tab.

Contact Us	Download Soils Data	Archived Soil Surveys	Soil Survey Status Glossary Preferences Logout H
Area of	Interest (AOI)	Soil Map Soil	Data Explorer Shopping Cart (Free)
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Click on Land Classifications

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Land Management	3 3		
Military Operations	00		
Recreational Development	00		
Sanitary Facilities	00		
Vegetative Productivity	? (
Waste Management	? (3)		
Water Management	30		

Choose the applicable Capability Class (either Irrigated or Nonirrigated). If there is no data available under Irrigated Capability Class, use Nonirrigated Capability Class.

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Irrigated Capability Class	
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Nonirrigated Capability Class	
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View Description View Rating View Options (*) Map Table Description of Rating Rating Options Detailed Description Advanced Options (*)

Click on View Rating



You will get the something similar to the below image.

The following pages are an example of a Printed/PDF Nonirrigated Capability Class. In order to understand the map legend it must be printed in color.

Nonirrigated Capability Class-Douglas County, South Dakota



Nonirrigated Capability Class-Douglas County, South Dakota

	MAP LE	GEND		м		ION
Area of int	erest (AOI)	\sim	Local Roads	Map Scale: 1:5,280	if printed on A size (8.5"	'× 11") sheet.
	Area of Interest (AOI)			The soil surveys that	t comprise your AOI wer	e mapped at 1:20,000.
Solla	Soll Map Units			Please rely on the b measurements.	ar scale on each map sł	neet for accurate map
Soll Rati	nga			Source of Map: N	atural Resources Conse	rvation Service
	Capability Class - I			Web Soil Survey UF	L: http://websoilsurve	y.nrcs.usda.gov
	Capability Class - II			Coordinate System:	UTM Zone 14N NAD	83
	Capability Class - III			This product is gene the version date(s) I	rated from the USDA-NF isted below.	RCS certified data as of
	Capability Class - IV Capability Class - V			Soil Survey Area: Survey Area Data:	Douglas County, South Version 13 Feb 8 201	Dakota 0
	Capability Class - VI			Date(s) aerial image	s were photographed:	7/15/2004: 8/8/2004
	Capability Class - VII			The orthophoto or o	ther base map on which	the soil lines were
	Capability Class - VIII			compiled and digitiz	ed probably differs from	the background
	Not rated or not available			of map unit boundar	n these maps. As a rest ies may be evident.	lit, some minor snitting
Political Fe	atures					
٥	Cities					
	PLSS Township and Range					
	PLSS Section					
Water Feat	ures					
	Oceans					
~	Streams and Canals					
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~	US Routes					
	Major Roads					

Nonirrigated Capability Class

Noningated capability class- autimaty by map onit - bouglas county, adult baketa							
Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI			
CnA	Clarno-Ethan-Prosper loams, 0 to 3 percent slopes	2	44.1	48.4%			
CnB	Clarno-Ethan-Prosper loams, 1 to 6 percent slopes	2	2.0	2.2%			
СрА	Clarno-Prosper loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	2	25.2	27.7%			
Pt	Prosper-Tetonka complex	2	0.9	0.9%			
Te	Tetonka silt loam	4	18.9	20.8%			
Totals for Area of Inte	rest	91.1	100.0%				

Description

Land capability classification shows, in a general way, the suitability of soils for most kinds of field crops. Crops that require special management are excluded. The soils are grouped according to their limitations for field crops, the risk of damage if they are used for crops, and the way they respond to management. The criteria used in grouping the soils do not include major and generally expensive landforming that would change slope, depth, or other characteristics of the soils, nor do they include possible but unlikely major reclamation projects. Capability classification is not a substitute for interpretations that show suitability and limitations of groups of soils for rangeland, for woodland, or for engineering purposes.

In the capability system, soils are generally grouped at three levels-capability class, subclass, and unit. Only class and subclass are included in this data set.

Capability classes, the broadest groups, are designated by the numbers 1 through 8. The numbers indicate progressively greater limitations and narrower choices for practical use. The classes are defined as follows:

Class 1 soils have few limitations that restrict their use.

Class 2 soils have moderate limitations that reduce the choice of plants or that require moderate conservation practices.

Class 3 soils have severe limitations that reduce the choice of plants or that require special conservation practices, or both.

Class 4 soils have very severe limitations that reduce the choice of plants or that require very careful management, or both.

Class 5 soils are subject to little or no erosion but have other limitations, impractical to remove, that restrict their use mainly to pasture, rangeland, forestland, or wildlife habitat.

Class 6 soils have severe limitations that make them generally unsuitable for cultivation and that restrict their use mainly to pasture, rangeland, forestland, or wildlife habitat.

Class 7 soils have very severe limitations that make them unsuitable for cultivation and that restrict their use mainly to grazing, forestland, or wildlife habitat.

Class 8 soils and miscellaneous areas have limitations that preclude commercial plant production and that restrict their use to recreational purposes, wildlife habitat, watershed, or esthetic purposes.

Rating Options

Aggregation Method: Dominant Condition Component Percent Cutoff: None Specified Tie-break Rule: Higher