

Major Land Resource Area 110X

Northern Illinois and Indiana Heavy Till Plain

Accessed: 06/17/2026

Ecological site keys

MLRA 110 Key to Ecological Sites

I. Uplands and high stream terraces (non-flooded)

A. Summits, shoulders, and backslopes

1 Bedrock <1.5m (60")

i. Bedrock is limestone

a. Dark surface (mollic epipedon) >25cm (10")

1) Depth to seasonal high-water table >30cm (12") ... R110XY001IL – Dry Limestone Prairie

2) Depth to seasonal high-water table <30cm (12") ... R110XY002IL – Wet Limestone Prairie

b. Light surface (ochric epipedon) or dark surface <15cm (6") ... F110XY003IL – Limestone Woodland

ii. Bedrock is sandstone

a. Dark surface (mollic epipedon) >25cm (10") ... R110XY004IL – Sandstone Prairie

b. Light surface (ochric epipedon) or dark surface <25cm (10") ... F110XY005IL – Sandstone Woodland

2 Bedrock >1.5m (60")

i. Loess (or other silty or loamy material), loamy glaciofluvial deposits, loamy outwash, glacial till, lacustrine sediments

a. Dark surface (mollis epipedon) >25cm (10")

1) Depth to seasonal high-water table >183cm (72") ... R110XY006IL – Dry Glacial Drift Upland Prairie

2) Depth to seasonal high-water table 30-183cm (12-72") ... R110XY007IL – Moist Glacial Drift Upland Prairie

3) Depth to seasonal high-water table <30cm (12") ... R110XY008IL – Wet Glacial Drift Upland Prairie

b. Dark surface (mollic intergrade) 15-25cm (6-10") or Inceptisols

1) Depth to seasonal high-water table >183cm (72") ... R110XY009IL – Dry Glacial Drift Upland Savanna

2) Depth to seasonal high-water table 30-183cm (12-72") ... R110XY010IL – Moist Glacial Drift Upland Savanna

c. Light surface (ochric epipedon) or dark surface <15cm (6")

1) **Depth to seasonal high-water table >76cm (30")** ... F110XY011IL – Dry Glacial Drift Upland Forest

2) **Depth to seasonal high-water table 45-76cm (18-30")** ... F110XY012IL – Moist Glacial Drift Upland Forest

3 Sands or coarse-textured outwash

i. Dark surface (mollic epipedon) >25cm (10")

a. Depth to seasonal high-water table >130cm (51") ... R110XY013IL – Dry Sand Prairie

b. Depth to seasonal high-water table 38-130cm (15-51") ... R110XY014IL – Moist Sand Prairie

c. Depth to seasonal high-water table <30cm (12") ... R110XY015IL – Wet Sand Prairie

ii. Light surface (ochric epipedon) or dark surface <15cm (6") ... F110XY016IL – Sand Woodland

4 Gravelly glaciofluvial deposits

i. Slopes <12 percent ... R110XY017IL – Gravel Prairie

ii. Slopes 12-20 percent ... R110XY018IL – Steep Gravel Prairie

iii. Slopes >20 percent ... R110XY019IL – Very Steep Gravel Prairie

B. Depressions

1 Organic soils, pH <4.5, restricted to Cook and Lake counties (IL) and Wisconsin ... R110XY020IL – Ponded Organic Acidic Peatland

2 Organic soils, pH 6.6+, restricted to Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, and McHenry counties (IL) and Wisconsin ... R110XY021IL – Ponded Organic Alkaline Peatland

3 Organic material over sandy outwash, restricted to Kankakee Sand area ... R110XY022IL – Organic Sand Seep

4 Organic material over sandy outwash, restricted to Lake Michigan Dune area ... R110XY023IL – Organic Interdunal Fen

5 Organic and mineral soils, circumneutral, recharge wetland ... R110XY024IL – Ponded Depressional Sedge Meadow

6 Mineral soils, calcareous surface, discharge wetland ... R110XY025IL – Ponded Calcareous Sedge Meadow

7 Lacustrine deposits, P-drained, restricted to Wisconsin ... F110XY026IL – Lacustrine Swamp Forest

II. River Valleys

A. Flooded and ponded ... R110XY027IL – Ponded Floodplain Marsh

B. Flooded only

1 Alluvium, depth to seasonal high-water table >45cm (18") ... F110XY028IL – Silty-Loamy Floodplain Forest

2 Alluvium, depth to seasonal high-water table <15cm (6") ... R110XY029IL – Wet Floodplain Sedge Meadow