

# Major Land Resource Area 141X Tug Hill Plateau

Accessed: 05/11/2026

## Ecological site keys

### Dichotomous key to MLRA 141 Ecological Sites

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- 1a. Site occurs along major rivers and streams and experiences regular flooding, or would in the absence of dams and other water control structures ES 110 Floodplain Riparian Complex (ESG 1—Floodplains) ... RX141X110 – Floodplain Riparian Complex**
- 1b. Site does not occur along major rivers and streams, or if it does occur near major rivers and streams it is not influenced by regular flooding events (even in the absence of dams)**
- 2a. Soils poorly- and/or very poorly-drained throughout site**
- 3a. Wetland area consisting of multiple associated plant communities, most of which are too wet to support greater than 20% tree cover --- (ESG 2—Open Wetlands)**
- 4a. Soils mostly muck --- ES 210—Marsh Wetland Complex ... RX141X210 – Marsh Wetland Complex**
- 4b. Soils mostly peat or mucky peat**
- 5a. Soil pH mostly greater than 4.5 throughout site --- ES 220—Semi-acidic Peat Wetland Complex ... RX141X220 – Semi-acidic Peat Wetland Complex**
- 5b. Soil pH mostly less than 4.5 throughout site --- ES 230—Acidic Peat Wetland Complex ... RX141X230 – Acidic Peat Wetland Complex**
- 3b. Wetland area consisting of multiple associated plant communities, most of which support greater than 20% tree cover --- (ESG 3—Wooded Wetlands)**
- 6a. All soils are very poorly-drained with greater than 16 inches (40 cm) of organic mucky peat deposits on the surface --- ES 302—Mucky Peat Swamp ... RX141X302 – Mucky Swamp**
- 6b. Most soils on the site have less than 16 inches (40 cm) organic deposits on surface**
- 7a. Soils are clay or silty clay in texture --- ES 304—Wet Clay Flat ... RX141X304 – Wet Clay Flat**
- 7b. Soil texture coarser than silty clay (silty to sandy)**
- 8a. Soils sandy in texture (often intermixed with organic soils) --- ES 303—Acidic Swamp ... RX141X303 – Acidic Swamp**
- 8b. Soil textures coarse-silty to coarse-loamy often with a densely compacted horizon within 43 inches (108 cm) of the soil surface**
- 9a. All soils are poorly-drained and water table within 18 inches of soil surface. Red and/or black spruce dominate with low northern white cedar cover --- ES 305—Wet Loamy Flat ... RX141X305 – Wet Loamy Flat**
- 9b. Soils are a complex of both poorly- and very poorly-drained, with water table less than 12 inches below soil surface. High northern white cedar cover --- ES 301—Loamy Till Swamp ... RX141X301 – Semi-rich Loamy Swamp**

- 2b. Soils somewhat poorly-drained or drier, or, a combination of poorly-drained soils with drier soils in a complex throughout site**
- 10a. Site occurs in exposed areas high in rock outcrop with little soil available for plants, too harsh to support greater than 20% tree cover --- ES 801—Rockland, (ESG 8—Rockland) ... RX141X801 – Rockland**
- 10b. Site capable of producing greater than 20% persistent tree cover**
- 11a. Shallow soils less than 20 inches (50 cm) deep, or a combination of shallow and moderately deep soils 20-40 inches (100 cm) deep, over bedrock --- ES 701—Shallow Till, (ESG 7—Shallow Forests) ... RX141X701 – Shallow Till**
- 11b. All soil components greater than 20 inches deep (50 cm)**
- 12a. Predominant soil texture is sandy or sandy-skeletal --- (ESG 6—Sandy Forests)**
- 13a. Soil well-drained or drier --- ES 601—Dry Sand ... RX141X601 – Dry Sand**
- 13b. Soil moderately well-drained or somewhat poorly-drained --- ES 602—Sandy Toeslope ... RX141X602 – Sandy Toeslope**
- 12b. Predominant soil texture is finer than sandy**
- 14a. Predominant soil texture is clay (fine or fine-silty) --- ES 401—Clay, (ESG 4—Clay Forests) ... RX141X401 – Clay**
- 14b. Predominant soil texture is coarser than clay --- 15 (ESG 5—Loamy Forests)**
- 15a. Soil parent material includes some calcareous members, with predominant pH over 6.0**
- 16a. Site occurs on poorly- to somewhat poorly-drained toeslope of a large watershed where nutrients and water accumulate --- ES 507—Calcareous Till Toeslope ... RX141X507 – Calcareous Till Toeslope**
- 16b. Site occurs on moderately well- to well-drained backslopes --- ES 506—Loamy Calcareous Slope ... RX141X506 – Calcareous Till Slope**
- 15b. Soil parent material lacks calcareous members, with pH mostly below 6.0**
- 17a. Loamy surface soils underlain by sandy or sandy-skeletal strata --- ES 505—Loamy over Sandy ... RX141X505 – Loamy over Sandy**
- 17b. Loamy surface soils underlain by loamy subsoils**
- 18a. Soils somewhat-poorly drained, including poorly-drained soils that are mapped with somewhat poorly-drained components**
- 19a. Site occurs on poorly- to somewhat poorly-drained toeslope of a large watershed where nutrients and water accumulate --- ES 502—Loamy Till Toeslope ... RX141X502 – Loamy Till Toeslope**
- 19b. Site occurs on relatively flat expanses with less than 5% slope, rather than the toeslope of a large watershed --- ES 503—Loamy Flat ... RX141X503 – Loamy Flat**
- 18b. Soils moderately well- to well-drained, including somewhat poorly-drained components mapped with drier components**
- 20a. Site occurs in protected coves and drainageways with very thick, dark surface A horizon greater than 12 inches (30 cm), very high in organic matter --- ES 504—Enriched Loamy Cove ... RX141X504 – Enriched Loamy Cove**

**20b. Site occurs on gentle to steep slopes (greater than 5%) lacking significant organic matter accumulation --- ES 501—Loamy Slope ... RX141X501 – Loamy Slopes**