

# Major Land Resource Area 229X Interior Alaska Lowlands

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## Ecological site keys

### Interior Alaska Lowlands MLRA - Provisional Ecological Site Key

**I. Wetland soils. These include soils that flood, pond, and/or have a water table at very shallow to shallow depth during the growing season (0 to 10 inches).**

**A. Depressions, soils pond during the growing season and at times flood**

**1 organic-soils, >7" of peat**

**i. fens and other throughflow systems lacking permafrost; non-acidic to alkaline soils ... R229XY001AK – Boreal Herbaceous Peat Depressions**

**ii. closed depressions with permafrost, tussock vegetation, acidic soils ... R229XY002AK – Boreal Tussock Peat Frozen Depressions**

**2 thin to no organic caps, loamy soils ... R229XY003AK – Boreal Grass Loamy Depressions**

**B. Not as above**

**1 Riparian, or channel driven, hydrology**

**i. Drainageways and similar low-energy stream system ... R229XY010AK – Boreal Scrub Loamy Frozen Drainageways**

**ii. Flood plain (flooding frequent to rare); floods at least one time in 100 years.**

**a. Lowest levels of the flood plain step (proximal to river and floods frequently to occasionally), soils tend to be moist to dry. Includes willow vegetation and productive balsam poplar/white spruce forests ... F229XY011AK – Boreal Loamy Floodplain Complex**

**b. Highest levels of the floodplain steps (distal to river and floods rarely); soils are wet with a water table between 0 and 10 inches. Includes mixed stands of white and black spruce forest and/or swampland**

**1) groundwater connectivity prevents permafrost ... F229XY012AK – Boreal Woodland Loamy High Floodplain**

**2) disconnected groundwater allows for permafrost in the soil profile ... F229XY013AK – Boreal Forest Loamy Frozen High Floodplain**

**2 Organic Flats and Slope Wetlands**

**i. soils do not pond during the growing season and have <15" of peat; associated with poorly drained soils on terraces and slopes of hills and plains ... F229XY020AK – Boreal Woodland Loamy Frozen Slopes**

ii. soils pond during the growing season and/or have >15" of peat; associated with terraces, slopes of hills and plains, peat plateau and thermokarst pits ... F229XY021AK – Boreal Peat Terraces and Slopes Complex

**II. Not as above. Dry to mesic, non-wetland soils.**

**A. Moist soils; water table between 10 and 40 inches depth during all or portions of the growing season; somewhat poorly to moderately well drained soils. ... F229XY031AK – Boreal Forest Loamy Flats and Slopes Moist**

**B. Water table >40 inches depth in the soil profile; well to excessively drained soils**

**1 silty loess surface layer is <10" thick; sands and/or gravels at very shallow depths resulting in excessive to somewhat excessively drained soils ... F229XY032AK – Boreal Woodland Sandy Slopes**

**2 silty loess surface is >10" thick; when present, sands and gravels much deeper depths, well drained soils ... F229XY033AK – Boreal Forest Loamy Slopes**