

Major Land Resource Area 004B

Coastal Redwood Belt

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Ecological site group keys

MLRA 4B-Coast Redwood Belt

I. Hydrologic processes dominate the landscape – LRU A

A. Beaches and dunelands

- 1 Beach sands and gravels, sparsely vegetated ... R004BA200CA – Beaches
- 2 Actively moving to stabilized beach dunelands ... F004BA100CA – Beach Dunes
- 3 Deflation basins ... R004BA206CA – Deflation Basins

B. Riverine ... R004BA203CA – Riparian

C. Year-round surface water ... R004BA205CA – Marshes

II. Heavy coastal fog dominates the landscapes below 1500 ft.

A. Soil moisture is udic – LRU I

- 1 Hydrologically-influenced, flood-dominated riverine ... R004BI200CA – Riparian
- 2 Soils supporting rangelands
 - i. Soils supporting predominantly coastal scrub shrublands ... R004BI204CA – Coastal Scrub Shrublands
 - ii. Soils supporting predominantly perennial and annual grasslands
 - a. Soil surface textures predominantly clayey or silty ... R004BI201CA – Fine-loamy Uplands
 - b. Soil surface textures predominantly loamy, non-skeletal ... R004BI202CA – Loamy Uplands
 - c. Soil surface textures predominantly loamy, with skeletal control section ... R004BI203CA – Loamy-skeletal Uplands
- 3 Under 500 ft elevation and within sea spray zone
 - i. Rarely flooded, fluventic alluvial floodplains ... F004BI100CA – Fluventic, Salt-Affected, Marine Terraces and Floodplains
 - ii. Marine terraces and non-flooded floodplain terraces ... F004BI101CA – Low Elevation Marine and Floodplain Terraces
- 4 Rarely flooded, fluventic alluvial floodplains ... F004BI102CA – Fluventic, Rarely Flooded, Marine Terraces and Floodplains
- 5 Fog-influenced mountain slopes

i. Fog influences the site most of the year, typically under 2000 ft elevation ... F004BI103CA – Fog-influenced, Cool, Wet, Low Elevation Mountain Slopes and Terraces

ii. Fog influences the site less often, typically between 1800 ft – 3000 ft elevation ... F004BI104CA – Fog-influenced, Upper Elevation Mountain Slopes

6 Serpentine parent material ... F004BI105CA – Magnesian Mountain Slopes

7 All other mountain slopes ... F004BI106CA – High precipitation mountain slopes

B. Soil moisture is ustic – LRU J

1 Hydrologically-influenced, flood-dominated riverine ... R004BJ200CA – Riparian

2 Fog-influenced, low elevation slopes and footslopes ... F004BJ101CA – Fog-influenced, low elevation slopes and footslopes

3 All other mountain slopes ... F004BJ102CA – Dry, steep mountain slopes

III. Elevated coastal plains

A. Dissected coastal plateaus with high acidity – LRU L

1 Soils that support upland perennial rangelands ... R004BL200CA – Windy coastal perennial grassland terraces and bluffs

2 Sea spray has a dominant influence on the soils and vegetation

i. Soils with an E horizon present and strongly acidic (pH <5)

a. Wet layer depth <6" ... F004BL100CA – Poorly drained, very acidic marine terraces

b. Not with a wet layer depth <6" ... F004BL101CA – Very acidic marine terraces

ii. Soils without an E horizon present or strongly acidic.

a. Eolian sands derived from sandstone parent materials ... F004BL102CA – Salt-affected marine terraces with eolian sand parent materials

b. Not as above, go to LRU K

3 Sea spray does not have a dominant influence on soils and vegetation. ... F004BL103CA – Fog-influenced, low elevation mountain slopes

B. Not dissected coastal plateaus with high acidity -LRU O

1 Protected, narrow, low elevation slopes ... F004BO100CA – Coastal Redwood Slopes

2 Other than protected, narrow, low elevation slopes. ... R004BO200CA – Windy coastal plains

IV. West of the San Andreas fault line on the Pacific Plate – LRU M

A. Hydrologically-influenced, flood-dominated riverine ... R004BM200CA – Marshes

B. Soils that support upland rangeland vegetation ... R004BM201CA(15489) – Windy coastal beaches and dunelands

C. Coastal, wind-affected slopes ... F004BM100CA – Windy coastal stabilized dunelands and mountain slopes

D. Protected ravines and footslopes ... F004BM101CA – Protected ravines slopes and stream terraces

E. Other mountain slopes ... F004BM102CA – Inland Coastal Mountain Slopes

V. Santa Cruz Mountains – LRU N

A. Hydrologically-influenced, flood-dominated riverine ... R004BN200CA – Riparian

B. Soils supporting rangelands ... R004BN201CA – Windy coastal perennial grassland terraces and bluffs

C. Fog-influenced, low elevation mountain slopes ... F004BN100CA – Fog-influenced, low elevation mountain slopes

D. Strongly dissected mountain slopes, deep ‘V’ shaped drainages and narrow ridges ... F004BN102CA – Strongly dissected mountain slopes

E. Other mountain slopes ... F004BN103CA – Upper elevation mountain slopes

VI. Not like the previous LRUs – LRU K

A. Hydrologically-influenced, flood-dominated riverine

1 Riverine, flooding occasional to frequent ... R004BK200CA – Riparian

2 Riverine, flooding is either rare or not occurring ... F004BK101CA – Fog-influenced, stream terraces

B. Soils support perennial rangelands ... R004BK201CA – Coastal Mountain perennial grasslands

C. Fog-influenced, low elevation mountain slopes ... F004BK102CA – Fog-influenced, lower elevation mountain slopes

D. Upper slopes and higher elevation mountains ... F004BK103CA – Upper slopes and higher elevation mountains

E. Not in LRU K, go to MLRA 5