

NORTHEAST COAL STUDY CORE AREA

BIOPHYSICAL GROUPS
AND
GENERALIZED LAND USE INTERPRETATIONS

Biophysical Groups	Vegetation Zone	Parent Materials (Surficial Materials)	Capability ratings for			Recreation Physical Carrying Capacity	Visual Absorption Capability	Engineering Suitability
			Agriculture	Forestry	Ungulate			
1	Boreal	Moraine, fine-textured	Low to Moderate	Moderate	Moderate to High	Moderate	Moderate	Low to Moderate
2	Boreal	Moraine, medium-textured	Low	Moderate	Moderate to High	Moderate	High	Moderate to Low
3	Boreal	Poorly drained materials	Low	Low	Moderate to High	Low	Moderate	Low
4	Boreal	Lacustrine	Moderate to High	Low	High	Moderate	Moderate	Low to Moderate
5	Boreal	Colluvial	Low to N11	Low	Moderate to High	Low	Moderate to Low	Low
6	Boreal	Fluvial, Active (Floodplain)	Moderate to Low	High	High	Low	High	Low
7	Boreal	Fluvial, Inactive	Low	Moderate	Low to Moderate	High	High	High
8	All Zones	Organic	Low to N11	Low to N11	Low to Moderate	Low	Moderate	Low
9	Subboreal	Moraine ¹	Low	Moderate	Low to Moderate	Moderate	High	Moderate to Low
10	Subboreal	Lacustrine ¹	Moderate to Low	Low	Low to Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Low to Moderate
11	Subboreal	Colluvial ¹	Low to N11	Low	Low	Low	Moderate to Low	Low
12	Subboreal	Fluvial, Active (Floodplain) ¹	Low to Moderate	Moderate	Moderate to High	Low	High	Low
13	Subboreal	Fluvial, Inactive	Low	Moderate	Low to Moderate	High	High	High
14	Subboreal	Moraine ²	Low	High	Low to Moderate	High to Moderate	High	Moderate to Low
15	Subboreal	Lacustrine ²	Moderate to Low	High	Low to Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Low to Moderate
16	Subboreal	Colluvial ²	Low to N11	Moderate	Low	Low	Low	Low
17	Subboreal	Fluvial, Active (Floodplain)	Low to Moderate	High	Moderate to High	Low	High	Low
18	Subalpine, Forested Subzone	Moraine ¹	N11	Low	Low to Moderate	Moderate to High	Moderate	Low to Moderate
19	Subalpine, Forested Subzone	Lacustrine	N11	Low	Low to Moderate	Moderate	Low	Low to Moderate
20	Subalpine, Forested Subzone	Colluvial	N11	Low	Low to Moderate	Low	Low	Low
21	Subalpine, Forested Subzone	Fluvial, Active (Floodplain)	N11	Low	Low to Moderate	Low	Moderate	Low
22	Subalpine, Forested Subzone	Fluvial, Inactive	N11	Low	Low to Moderate	High	Moderate	High
23	Subalpine, Krummholz Subzone	Colluvial and Moraine	N11	N11	Low to Moderate	Low	Low	Low
24	Alpine	Colluvial	N11	N11	Low to Moderate	Low	Low	Low
25	Alpine and Subalpine	Colluvial (Talus)	N11	N11	Low	Low	Low	Low

Footnotes:

¹ Rocky Mountain Foothills to Rocky Mountains (east side of Continental Divide)

² Rocky Mountain Trench to Rocky Mountains (west side of Continental Divide)

