

ALLUVIAL LANDS

Alluvial Land, Clayey (Ao) - Alluvial land, clayey is a miscellaneous land type consisting of narrow areas of alluvial material deposited along small stream channels and drainage ways. This moderately well drained to poorly drained material formed in fine-textured alluvium derived dominantly from metabasic and granitic rock. This land type is nearly level to strongly sloping. Slopes are 0 to 15 percent. Elevation ranges from 300 to 3,500 feet.

The surface layer is mostly dark-gray to dark grayish-brown clay loam to clay overlain in places by 3 to 10 inches of sandy loam or loam. Depth is mostly 30 to 45 inches. The vegetation is annual grasses and forbs, including soft chess, ripgut brome, filaree, wild oats, lupine, annual clover, and yellow starthistle.

Permeability is moderately slow to very slow in this land type. Runoff is slow. This land is sometimes flooded during the rainy season.

This land type is used for winter and spring pasture and for range. A very small acreage is irrigated. Capability unit is Illw-5.

Because of wetness, these soils generally are a good source of water for wildlife. They provide ideal locations for fish ponds.

Alluvial Land, Loamy (Am) - Alluvial land, loamy is a miscellaneous land type consisting of narrow areas of recent alluvial material that has been deposited along stream channels and drainage ways. These well-drained areas formed in loamy material from different rock sources. They are nearly level to strongly sloping. Slopes range from 0 to 15 percent. Elevation ranges from 300 to 4,000 feet.

This land is generally from 30 to 45 inches deep to gravel, cobblestones, or underlying bedrock. It is stratified coarse sandy loam to loam and contains some gravel-size fragments in places. Vegetation is annual grasses and forbs, including soft chess, ripgut brome, filaree, wild oats, lupine, and annual clover.

Runoff is slow in this land type. Permeability is moderate. Flooding occurs as overflow from streams during or after heavy rain.

This land type is used mostly for winter and spring pasture or range. Some small areas could be irrigated, but this is generally not economical. Capability unit is Illw-8.

Because of wetness, these soils generally are a good source of water for wildlife. They provide ideal locations for fish ponds.