

SOIL SERIES DESCRIPTION

Orcas Peat

Mapping Symbols: Or

The Orcas series consists of very poorly drained organic soils that formed primarily in sphagnum moss in basins on the rolling, undulating glaciated uplands at elevations ranging from 100 to 500 feet. Slopes are 0 to 1%. The annual precipitation is 35 to 60 inches. The frost-free season is about 160 to 180 days.

Typical Profile:

Depth from Surface:

0 to 60 Inches: Sphagnum peat, dark reddish-brown to yellowish-red

Permeability:

Very rapid

Rooting Depth:

60 inches +

Depth to Seasonal High Water Table:

0 to 1 foot

Available Water Holding Capacity:

High

Runoff Potential:

Ponded

Erosion and Slippage Hazard:

None

Use and Management:

The best use of this soil is for wildlife habitats. It has severe limitations for agricultural use, forestry, engineering, and recreational purposes because of the organic content and high water table.