
Appendix I – Farmland

Dave Clawson

From: Rosek, Martin - FPAC-NRCS, MI <martin.rosek@usda.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2024 11:50 AM
To: Dave Clawson
Cc: William Ballard
Subject: RE: [External Email]Oakland Southwest Airport - Environmental Assessment for Tree Removals

Dave,

Because this project converting land that has previously been converted to non-farmland, an AD-1006 form is not necessary.

Marty

Martin J. Rosek, Ph.D.
State Soil Scientist
USDA NRCS
3001 Coolidge Road
East Lansing, MI 48823

517-324-5241

From: Dave Clawson <Dave.Clawson@meadhunt.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2024 10:40 AM
To: Rosek, Martin - FPAC-NRCS, MI <martin.rosek@usda.gov>
Cc: William Ballard <william.ballard@meadhunt.com>
Subject: RE: [External Email]Oakland Southwest Airport - Environmental Assessment for Tree Removals

Good morning Marty,

I am circling back with you on the project referenced in the emails below. Mead & Hunt is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for Oakland Southwest Airport in New Hudson, Michigan. Initially when you and I coordinated on this EA, the EA was only analyzing tree removals in the approaches at both ends of the runway at the airport. You advised me at that time that tree removal does not permanently remove farmland from production and there was no need to complete an AD-1006.

The scope of the EA has since changed. The EA now also includes reconstruction of the runway and removal of the parallel taxiway. The runway will be reduced in length from 3,128 feet to 2,300 feet. The runway will also be widened from 40 feet to 60 feet. Also, the parallel taxiway will be removed and replaced with a taxiway turnaround at the Runway 8 end and a bypass taxiway at the Runway 26 end. Lastly, a new taxiway connector will connect the runway to a taxiway serving an executive hangar.

I've attached the following maps for your review:

1. Project Area Map – This map shows areas off both ends of the runway where tree removals will be conducted and the area around the runway and taxiway where pavement removal and construction will occur.
2. Preferred Alternative – This diagram shows the details of the proposed project, including where pavement will be removed, pavement will be constructed, and where tree removals will occur.
3. NRCS Farmland Classification Map – As shown on this map, areas of prime farmland if drained and farmland of local importance surround the runway and taxiway where the runway will be widened and the bypass taxiway, taxiway connector, and taxiway turnaround will be constructed.

It is important to note that due to the reduction in the length of the runway and removal of the parallel taxiway, there will be a net decrease of approximately 1.1 acres of pavement as a result of the proposed project.

Please advise if a Form AD-1006 needs to be completed for this EA due to the change in scope.

Thanks,
Dave Clawson

Dave Clawson

Direct: 614-607-5219 | Transfer Files
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From: Rosek, Martin - NRCS, East Lansing, MI <martin.rosek@usda.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 2, 2022 10:00 AM
To: Dave Clawson <Dave.Clawson@meadhunt.com>
Cc: William Ballard <william.ballard@meadhunt.com>
Subject: RE: [External Email]Oakland Southwest Airport - Environmental Assessment for Tree Removals

Dave,

You are correct. Tree removal does not permanently remove farmland from production. Therefore, the Oakland Southwest Airport - Environmental Assessment for Tree Removals project is exempt from the Farmland Protection Policy Act there is no need to complete an AD-1006. Should the scope of the project change, please resubmit the proposal for our review.

Thanks,

Marty

Martin J. Rosek, Ph.D.
State Soil Scientist
USDA NRCS
3001 Coolidge Road
East Lansing, MI 48823

517-324-5241

From: Dave Clawson <Dave.Clawson@meadhunt.com>

Sent: Wednesday, June 1, 2022 4:53 PM

To: Rosek, Martin - NRCS, East Lansing, MI <martin.rosek@usda.gov>

Cc: William Ballard <william.ballard@meadhunt.com>

Subject: [External Email]Oakland Southwest Airport - Environmental Assessment for Tree Removals

[External Email]

If this message comes from an **unexpected sender** or references a **vague/unexpected topic**;

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Marty:

Thank you for speaking with me this afternoon regarding an Environmental Assessment (EA) that Mead & Hunt is preparing for Oakland Southwest Airport in New Hudson, Michigan. As I explained, this project involves tree removals at both ends of the airport's single runway to enhance safety of the airport. The proposed tree removals would involve clearing and grubbing and potentially grading. No drain tiles would be installed. I've attached a copy of an Early Agency Coordination letter that was sent to the USDA, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Portage Service Center in March 2022 to request comments on the proposed project. This letter provides further background on the project as well as maps and figures that illustrate the site location and approximate project area limits.

Also as discussed during our call, the Web Soil Survey database shows areas of Prime Farmland if Drained and Farmland of Local Importance in the areas where tree removals are proposed. My understanding during the call is that because the proposed project only involves tree removals and does not permanently remove farmland from agricultural use, the Farmland Protection Policy Act does not apply and there is no need to complete an AD-1006 form for the EA.

Please let me know if my understanding of our conversation is correct.

I appreciate your assistance.

Thanks,
Dave Clawson

DAVE CLAWSON

SENIOR AVIATION PLANNER, AVIATION

Mead & Hunt

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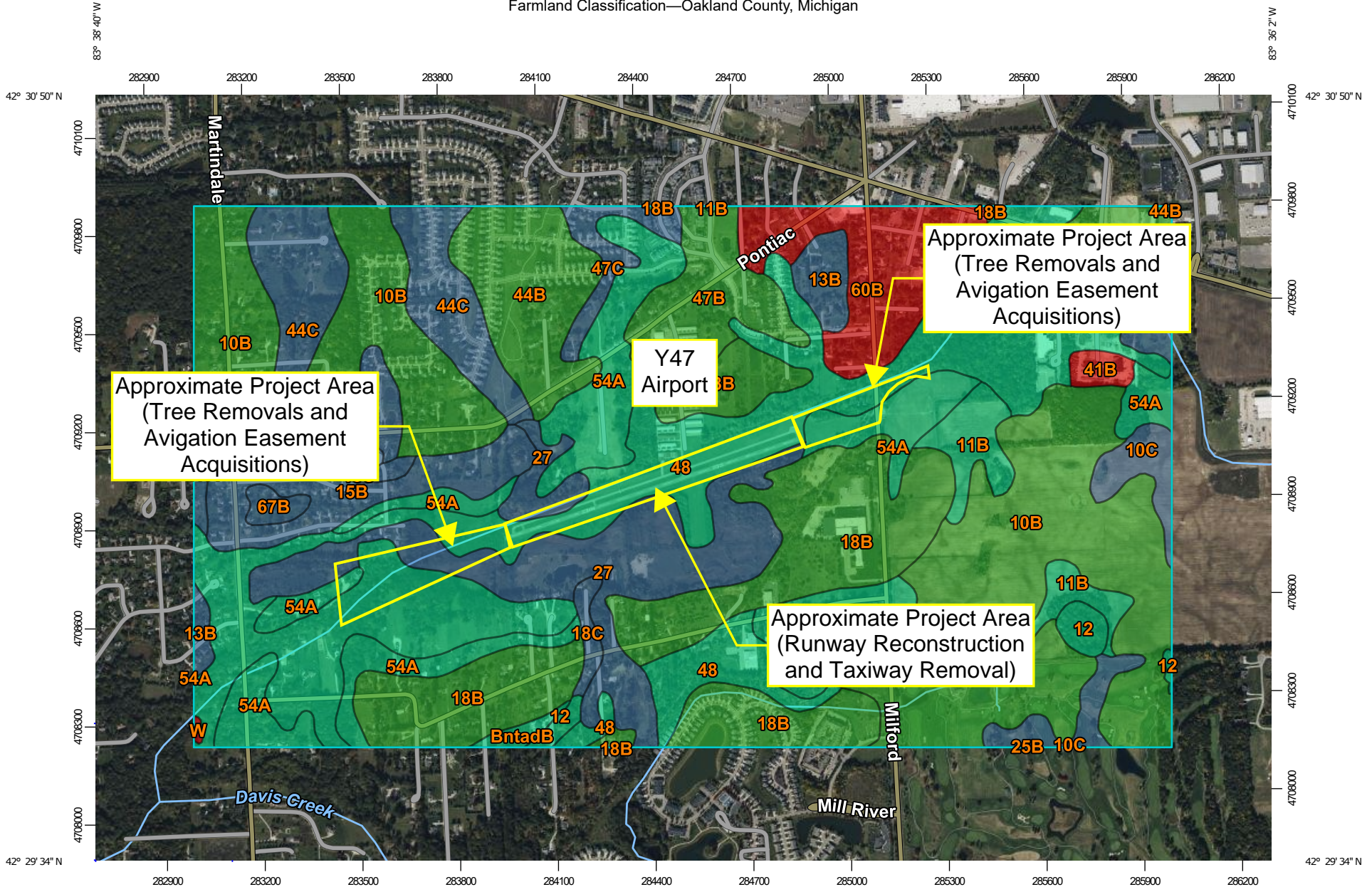
 120 YEARS OF SHAPING THE FUTURE

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Farmland Classification—Oakland County, Michigan



Map Scale: 1:16,500 if printed on A landscape (11" x 8.5") sheet.




Map projection: Web Mercator Corner coordinates: WGS84 Edge tics: UTM Zone 17N WGS84











MAP LEGEND








Area of Interest (AOI)






 Area of Interest (AOI)








Soils



Soil Rating Polygons

-  Not prime farmland
-  All areas are prime farmland
-  Prime farmland if drained
-  Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated
-  Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season









-  Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
-  Farmland of statewide importance
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if drained
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated

-  Farmland of statewide importance, if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and drained
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60

































-  Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough, and either drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough
-  Farmland of statewide importance, if thawed
-  Farmland of local importance
-  Farmland of local importance, if irrigated

-  Farmland of unique importance
-  Not rated or not available

Soil Rating Lines

-  Not prime farmland
-  All areas are prime farmland
-  Prime farmland if drained
-  Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated
-  Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season

Farmland Classification—Oakland County, Michigan

	Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer		Farmland of statewide importance, if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium		Farmland of unique importance		Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer	
	Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and drained		Farmland of statewide importance, if drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season	Soil Rating Points		Not prime farmland		Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60
	Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough, and either drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Prime farmland if drained		Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium	
	Farmland of statewide importance		Farmland of statewide importance, if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer		Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough		Prime farmland if irrigated		Farmland of statewide importance	
	Farmland of statewide importance, if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60		Farmland of statewide importance, if thawed		Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance, if drained	
	Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated				Farmland of local importance		Prime farmland if irrigated and drained		Farmland of statewide importance, if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season	
					Farmland of local importance, if irrigated		Prime farmland if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season		Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated	

Farmland Classification—Oakland County, Michigan

<p> Farmland of statewide importance, if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season</p> <p> Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and drained</p> <p> Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season</p> <p> Farmland of statewide importance, if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer</p> <p> Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60</p>	<p> Farmland of statewide importance, if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium</p> <p> Farmland of statewide importance, if drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season</p> <p> Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough, and either drained or either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season</p> <p> Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough</p> <p> Farmland of statewide importance, if thawed</p> <p> Farmland of local importance</p> <p> Farmland of local importance, if irrigated</p>	<p> Farmland of unique importance</p> <p> Not rated or not available</p> <p>Water Features</p> <p> Streams and Canals</p> <p>Transportation</p> <p> Rails</p> <p> Interstate Highways</p> <p> US Routes</p> <p> Major Roads</p> <p> Local Roads</p> <p>Background</p> <p> Aerial Photography</p>	<p>The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:15,800.</p> <p>Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.</p> <p>Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey URL: Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)</p> <p>Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.</p> <p>This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.</p> <p>Soil Survey Area: Oakland County, Michigan Survey Area Data: Version 22, Aug 25, 2023</p> <p>Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.</p> <p>Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Oct 9, 2022—Oct 21, 2022</p> <p>The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.</p>
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Farmland Classification

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
10B	Marlette sandy loam, 1 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	261.0	21.2%
10C	Marlette sandy loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance	21.5	1.7%
11B	Capac sandy loam, 0 to 4 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained	22.8	1.9%
12	Brookston and Colwood loams	Prime farmland if drained	8.1	0.7%
13B	Oshtemo-Boyer loamy sands, 0 to 6 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance	13.0	1.1%
13C	Oshtemo-Boyer loamy sands, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance	4.4	0.4%
15B	Spinks loamy sand, 0 to 6 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance	35.1	2.8%
17A	Wasepi sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance	4.3	0.3%
18B	Fox sandy loam, till plain, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	170.5	13.8%
18C	Fox sandy loam, Huron Lobe, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance	4.5	0.4%
25B	Owosso sandy loam, 1 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	0.1	0.0%
27	Houghton and Adrian mucks	Farmland of local importance	101.9	8.3%
34B	Kibbie fine sandy loam, 0 to 4 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained	22.6	1.8%
41B	Aquents, sandy, loamy, undulating	Not prime farmland	5.0	0.4%
44B	Riddles sandy loam, 1 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	47.1	3.8%
44C	Riddles sandy loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance	70.6	5.7%
45B	Arkport loamy fine sand, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	1.5	0.1%
47B	Fox-Riddles sandy loams, 1 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	35.3	2.9%
47C	Fox-Riddles sandy loams, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance	12.2	1.0%

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
48	Gilford sandy loam, till plain, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained	237.3	19.3%
54A	Matherton sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained	97.1	7.9%
60B	Urban land-Marlette complex, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland	48.6	3.9%
67B	Ormas loamy sand, 0 to 6 percent slopes	Farmland of local importance	4.3	0.3%
BntadB	Blount loam, 0 to 4 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained	3.2	0.3%
W	Water	Not prime farmland	0.5	0.0%
Totals for Area of Interest			1,232.6	100.0%

Description

Farmland classification identifies map units as prime farmland, farmland of statewide importance, farmland of local importance, or unique farmland. It identifies the location and extent of the soils that are best suited to food, feed, fiber, forage, and oilseed crops. NRCS policy and procedures on prime and unique farmlands are published in the "Federal Register," Vol. 43, No. 21, January 31, 1978.

Rating Options

Aggregation Method: No Aggregation Necessary

Aggregation is the process by which a set of component attribute values is reduced to a single value that represents the map unit as a whole.

A map unit is typically composed of one or more "components". A component is either some type of soil or some nonsoil entity, e.g., rock outcrop. For the attribute being aggregated, the first step of the aggregation process is to derive one attribute value for each of a map unit's components. From this set of component attributes, the next step of the aggregation process derives a single value that represents the map unit as a whole. Once a single value for each map unit is derived, a thematic map for soil map units can be rendered. Aggregation must be done because, on any soil map, map units are delineated but components are not.

For each of a map unit's components, a corresponding percent composition is recorded. A percent composition of 60 indicates that the corresponding component typically makes up approximately 60% of the map unit. Percent composition is a critical factor in some, but not all, aggregation methods.

The majority of soil attributes are associated with a component of a map unit, and such an attribute has to be aggregated to the map unit level before a thematic map can be rendered. Map units, however, also have their own attributes. An attribute of a map unit does not have to be aggregated in order to render a corresponding thematic map. Therefore, the "aggregation method" for any attribute of a map unit is referred to as "No Aggregation Necessary".

Tie-break Rule: Lower

The tie-break rule indicates which value should be selected from a set of multiple candidate values, or which value should be selected in the event of a percent composition tie.