

## New Breaking Request Soil Survey Requirements

The 2013 Written Agreement Handbook, Subparagraph 22A provides a list of requirements for all new WA requests. Requirement seven of this subparagraph states, "NRCS soil surveys, if required by the RO [see footnote (1) of Exhibit 5]." Footnote (1) of Exhibit 5 states "an RO may not need soil survey maps submitted. Check the applicable RO web site at <http://www.rma.usda.gov/aboutrma/fields/rsos.html> for requirements when soil surveys needs to be submitted with the request."

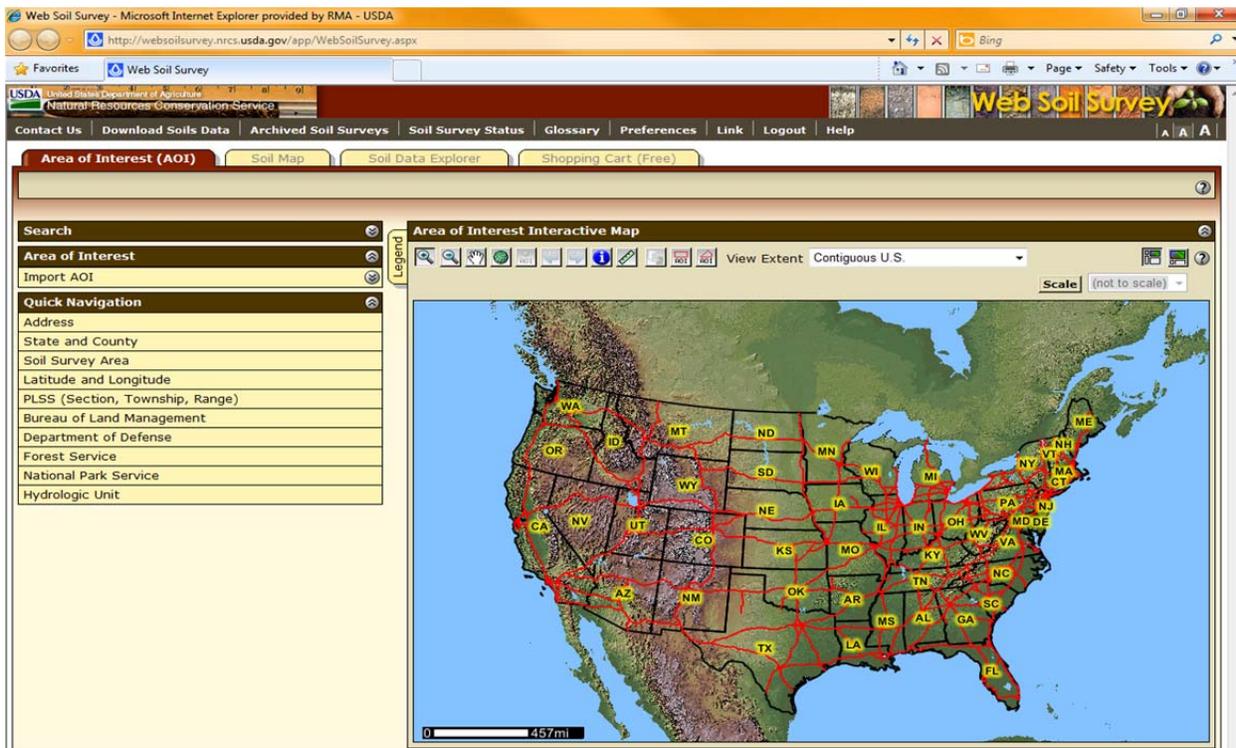
Soil Surveys are a submission requirement for all New Breaking requests submitted to the Raleigh RO. To start the Web Soil Survey, navigate to the following site:

<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>

Click on the "START WSS" icon:



The following screen will appear:



There are multiple navigational methods that can be used to locate your Area of Interest.

- The most common navigation methods used in the Raleigh RO region are 'Address,' 'State and County,' and 'Latitude and Longitude'.

Click on the preferred link above in the 'Quick Navigation' field to locate the requested field(s). A separate report must be run to identify the soils and capability class in each separate field.

For this example we will be locating a field, based on the latitude and longitude.

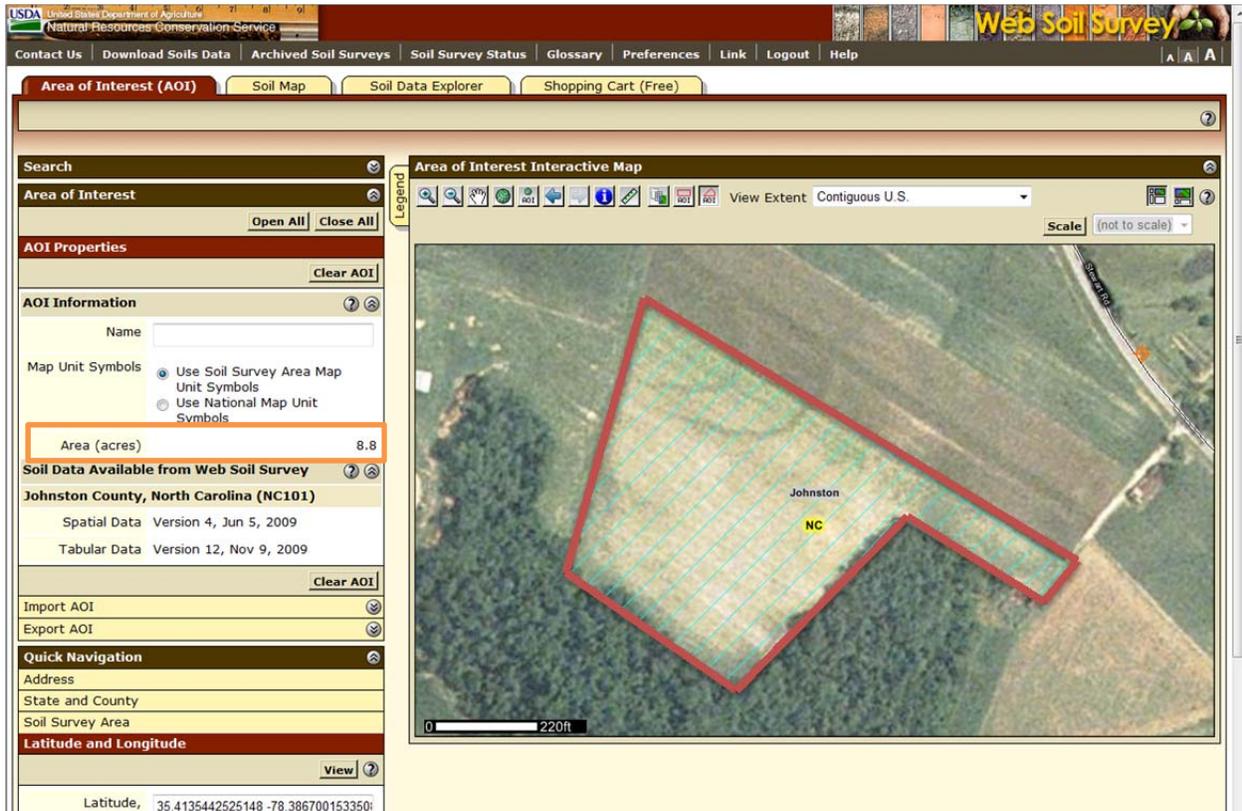
The screenshot shows the USDA Web Soil Survey interface. The top navigation bar includes links for Contact Us, Download Soils Data, Archived Soil Surveys, Soil Survey Status, Glossary, Preferences, Link, Logout, and Help. The main content area is titled 'Area of Interest (AOI)' and features a search bar and a 'Quick Navigation' section. The 'Quick Navigation' section has several options: Address, State and County, Soil Survey Area, Latitude and Longitude (selected), PLS (Section, Township, Range), Bureau of Land Management, Department of Defense, Forest Service, National Park Service, and Hydrologic Unit. The 'Latitude and Longitude' section shows the coordinates 35.4135442525148 -78.3867001533501 and a 'View' button. The map displays a field in Johnston, NC, with a red arrow pointing to the 'View' button. The map also shows a scale bar (0 to 656ft) and a legend.

Enter the needed criteria above and click view.

You should now be able to determine the location of the specific field requested and create an Area of Interest (AOI).

Use the  tools to zoom in, zoom out, or move the area shown on the map.

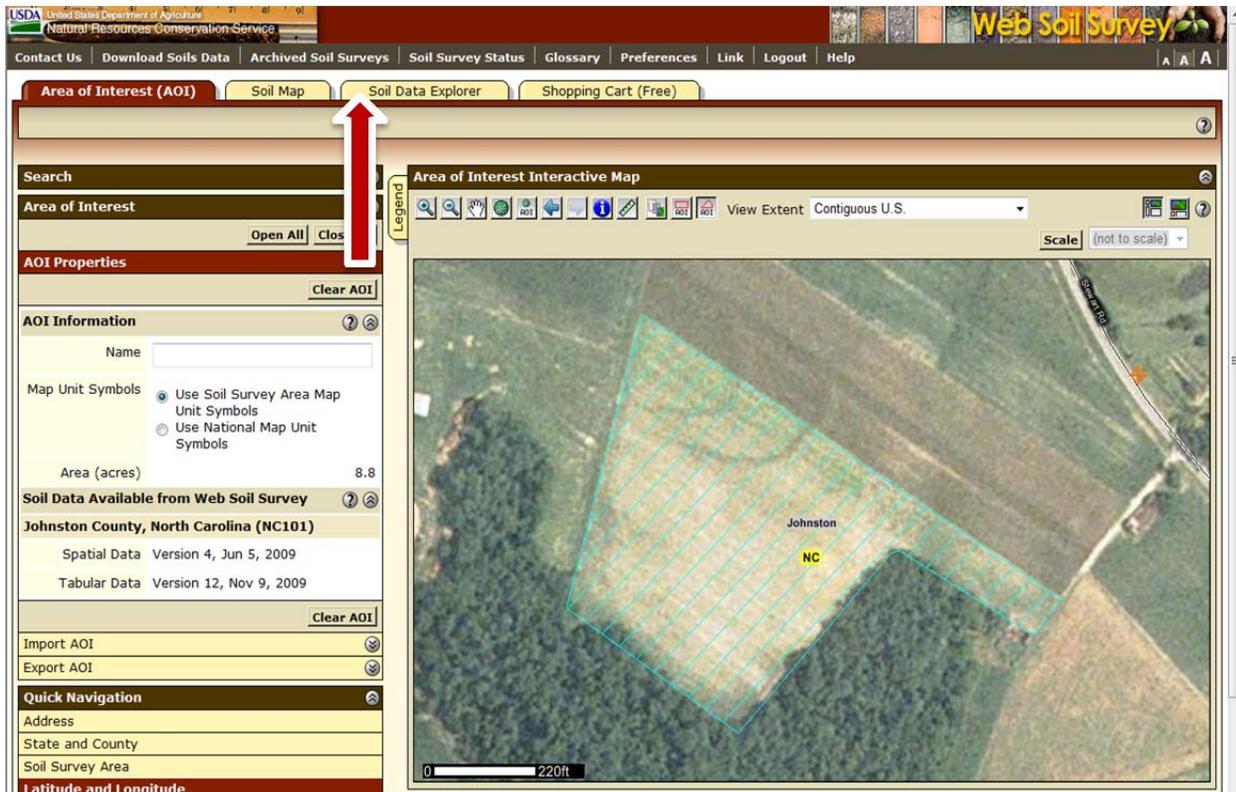
Once you have the map set at an acceptable scale use the  AOI Tool to trace the outline of the requested field:



As you trace the field a red line will appear on the field boundaries. While tracing the field boundary a red line will appear, to create a turn or corner click once. When the entire field has been traced, double click to set the AOI.

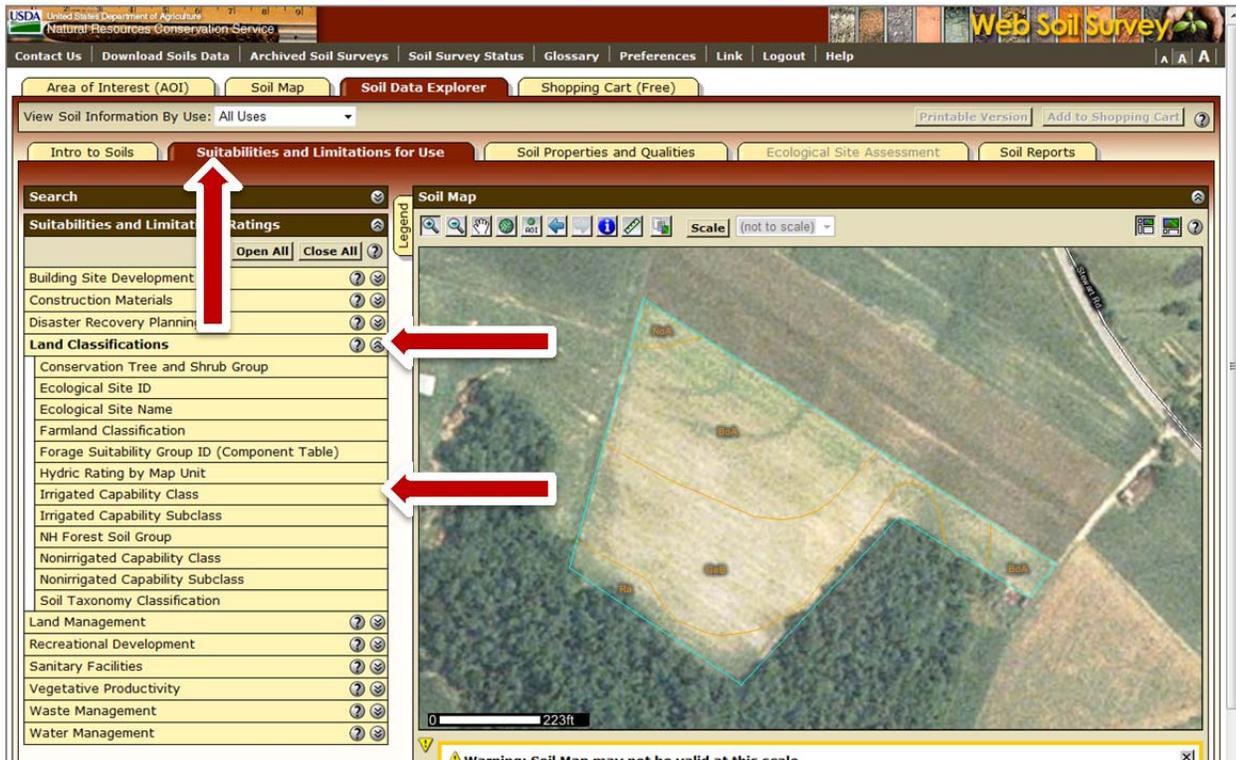
The AOI will be highlighted in a teal design and the acreage should be provided in the left side menu. It is very important that the acreage on the Web Soil Survey application be as close as possible to the acreage provided on FSA maps.

You are now ready to evaluate the soil in the requested field.

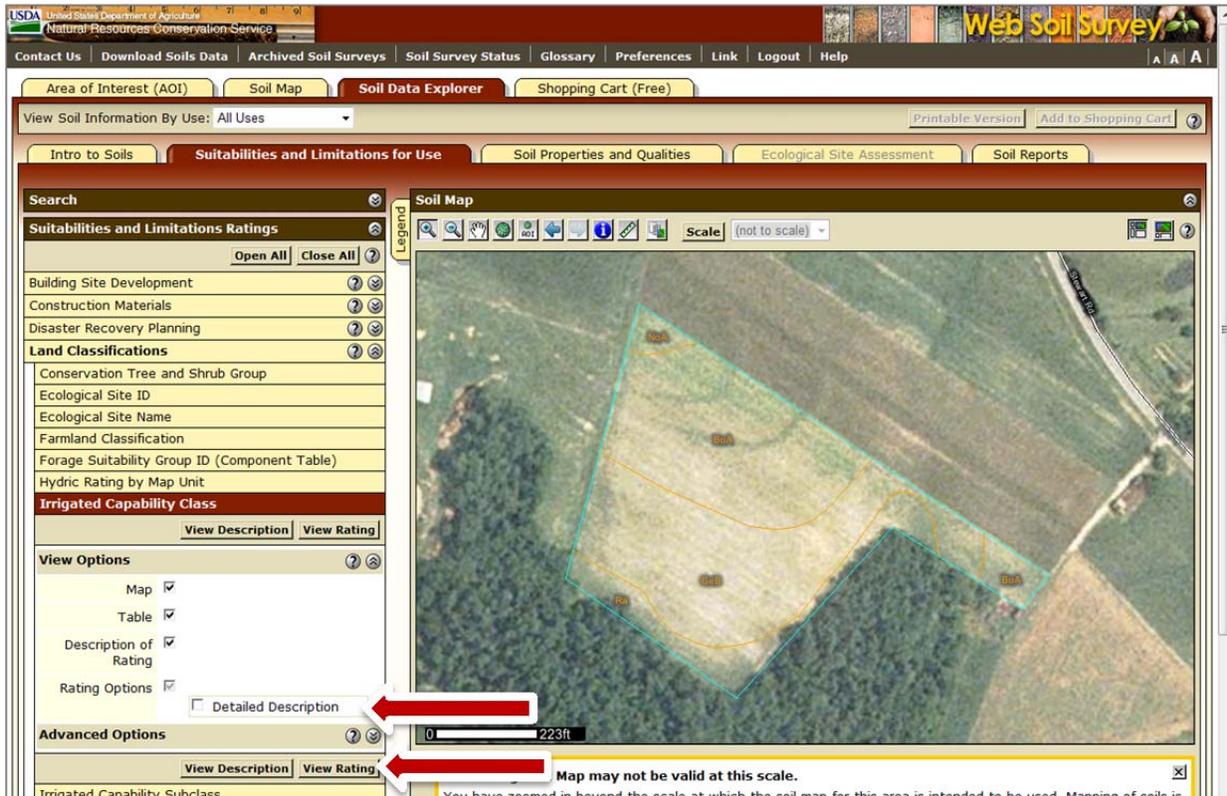


Click on the "Soil Data Explorer" tab to locate soil information.

The following screen will appear:

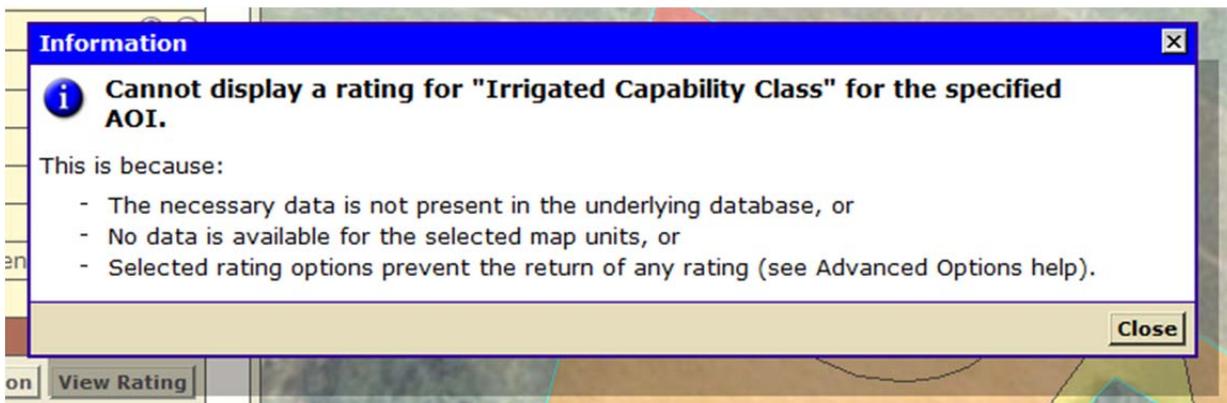


The application will load the “Suitabilities and Limitations for Use” tab. Click on the “Land Classifications” drop down arrow  and choose either “Irrigated Capability Class” or “Nonirrigated Capability Class” depending on the practice requested. You must gather the soil classification data based on the requested practice, if the report contradicts the request, the RO will consider the request incomplete.



Make sure all checkboxes are checked, except “Detailed Description” (this is not necessary), and click “View Rating.”

If you receive the following error message, choose the opposite irrigation practice to retrieve the capability class information. ONLY when this error is received should you note on the Actuarial Request that the requested practice information was not available through the Web Soil Survey.



The following screen will appear:

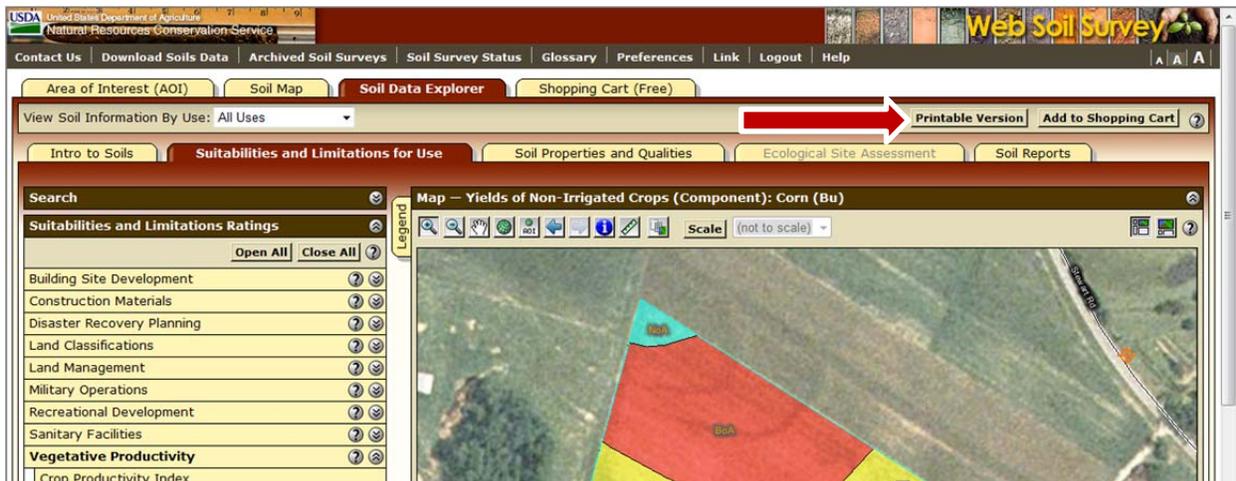
The screenshot displays the 'Web Soil Survey' interface. On the left is a navigation menu with categories like Ecological Site ID, Farmland Classification, and Nonirrigated Capability Class. The main area shows an aerial map of a field with colored overlays representing different soil capability classes: BoA (orange), GeB (yellow), and Ra (green). A scale bar indicates 321 feet. A warning message states: 'Warning: Soil Ratings Map may not be valid at this scale. You have zoomed in beyond the scale at which the soil map for this area is intended to be used. Mapping of soils is done at a particular scale. The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:24,000. The design of map units and the level of detail shown in the resulting soil map are dependent on that map scale. Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed scale.'

Below the map is a table titled 'Summary by Map Unit — Johnston County, North Carolina (NC101)'. The table provides the following data:

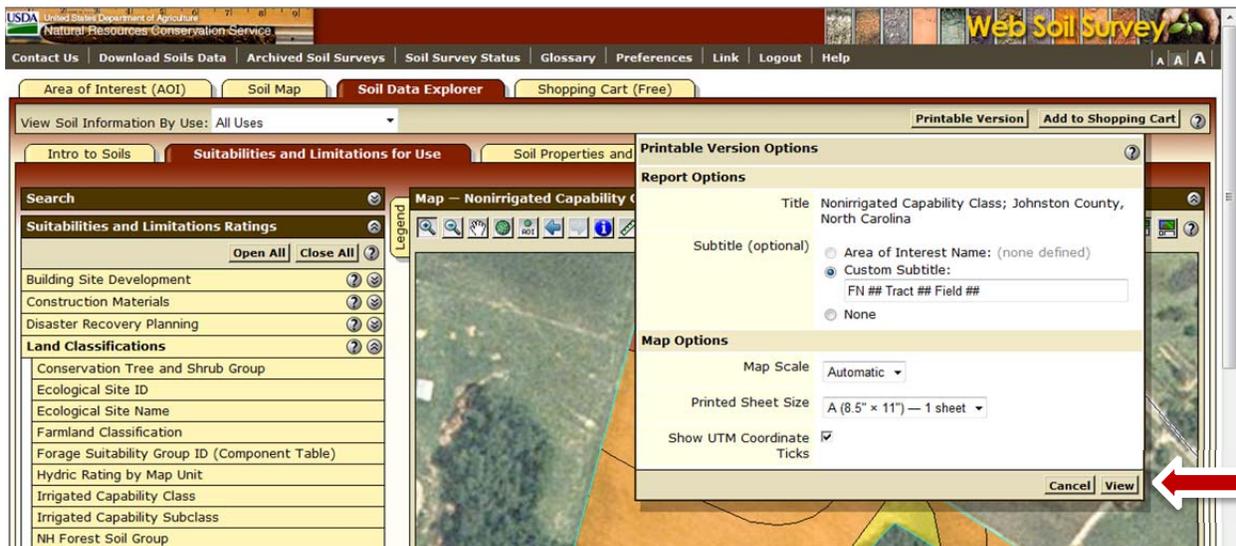
Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
BoA	Bonneau sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes	2	3.6	40.9%
GeB	Gilead sandy loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes	2	3.7	42.7%
NoA	Norfolk loamy sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	1	0.2	2.3%
Ra	Rains sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	3	1.2	14.1%
<b>Totals for Area of Interest</b>			<b>8.7</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

This will provide the Raleigh RO with a visual description of the requested field, as well as a rating and acreage for all capability classes in the field.

You will now need to save or print a color copy of the information to submit with the New Breaking request.



Click on the “Printable Version” button at the top of the Soil Survey Explorer tab.



In the “Printable Version Options” popup box you must include in the “Subtitle” field the FSA Farm Number, Tract Number, and Field number of the requested field. Click View.

The following PDF will appear and ALL PAGES of the file may either be uploaded with an electronically submitted New Breaking request, or ALL PAGES must be printed (IN COLOR) and included in hardcopy New Breaking requests:

