

SNAKELUM SERIES



Snakelum soils occur in the area in the foreground



SNAKELUM SERIES

Land Resource Region A

Parent material: Wind-blown sands and compacted glacial till.

Extent: Small extent

Climate: Average annual precipitation is about 18 to 25 inches, and average annual soil temperature is about 50 to 52 degrees F. The climate is characterized by a marine climate with cool, dry summers and mild, moist winters.

Depth: 60 or more inches

Drainage: Somewhat excessively drained

Average frost-free period: 200 to 240 days

Elevation: 0 (sea level) to 300 feet

Soil order: Mollisols - grassland soils with dark-colored surfaces and high natural fertility

Family classification: Sandy, isotic, mesic Ultic Haploxerolls

Snakelum soils are on glacial outwash plains in San Juan and Island Counties, Washington and likely occur in other areas around the Puget Sound.

Uses: Homesites, food and forage crop production, wildlife habitat and livestock grazing.

Cultivated areas are used to produce hay and small grain crops. Natural vegetation includes widely spaced Oregon white oak, Pacific madrone, and Douglas-fir but it is mainly prairie vegetation of grasses, shrubs like roses, snowberry, and oceanspray.

Management considerations: Snakelum soils have few limitations for most uses. However, Snakelum soils have low water holding capacity because of the sandy texture.

The official soil series description is online at:

https://soilseries.sc.egov.usda.gov/OSD_Docs/S/SNAKELUM.html