

# Map Unit Description

Cortez Area, Colorado, Parts of Dolores and Montezuma Counties

144 Wetherill loam, 3 to 6 percent slopes

## Setting

Elevation: 6200 to 7400 feet  
Mean annual precipitation: 13 to 16 inches  
Mean annual air temperature: 46 to 50 degrees F  
Frost-free period: 100 to 120 days

## Composition

Wetherill and similar soils: 85 percent  
Minor components: 3 percent

## Description of Wetherill

### Setting

Landform: Hills, mesas  
Down-slope shape: Linear  
Across-slope shape: Linear  
Parent material: Eolian deposits derived from sandstone

### Properties and Qualities

Slope: 3 to 6 percent  
Drainage class: Well drained  
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high (0.20 to 0.60 in/hr)  
Frequency of flooding: None  
Frequency of ponding: None  
Calcium carbonate maximum: 30 percent  
Gypsum maximum: 0 percent  
Sodium adsorption ratio maximum: 4.0  
Available water capacity: High (about 11.0 inches)

### Interpretive Groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): 3e  
Land capability (non irrigated): 3e  
Ecological site: Loamy Foothills (R036XY284CO)

### Typical Profile

0 to 3 inches: loam  
3 to 7 inches: loam  
7 to 48 inches: clay loam  
48 to 60 inches: loam

## Minor Components

### Aquents

Percent of map unit: 3 percent  
Landform: Drainageways