ACID SULFATE SOILS (ASS) ON RELATIVELY UNDISTURBED LAND

The depth codes above imply that a predominance of profiles in the map unit fall within the nominated depth range.

The subscript DL refers to disturbed/developed land where treatment may or may not have occurred.

1. Acid sulfate soil is the generic term used to define soils derived from estuarine sediments containing iron sulfides (pyrite) or containing the acidic products of the oxidation of sulfides. The term includes actual and potential acid sulfate soils.

2. An "S" preceding the soil depth code eg. S2 indicates the probable depth to a Potential Acid Sulfate Soil (PASS) layer or horizon. PASS are soils where the oxidisable sulfur percentage exceeds the prescribed 'action criteria' at which treatment is required if disturbed. Testing for Oxidisable sulfur is conducted by a range of methods which commonly include - Chromium Reducible Sulfur (SCR), and Suspension Peroxide Oxidation Combined Acidity and Sulfur (SPOCAS).

3. An 'a' preceding the soil depth code eg. a0S2 indicates a strongly acid soil layer with field pH ranging from >4.0 to <5.0. Whilst the 'a' code is shown on the map label, the map unit is coloured according to the 'S' code.

Limited field assessment but occurs in a landscape position where there is a reasonable probability of ASS occurrence. This is usually land where the present use precludes any disturbance eg. National Parks, Reserves etc., or land where accessibility is severely restricted.

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