

Process for updating National Soil Survey Laboratory Data (SOI-8)

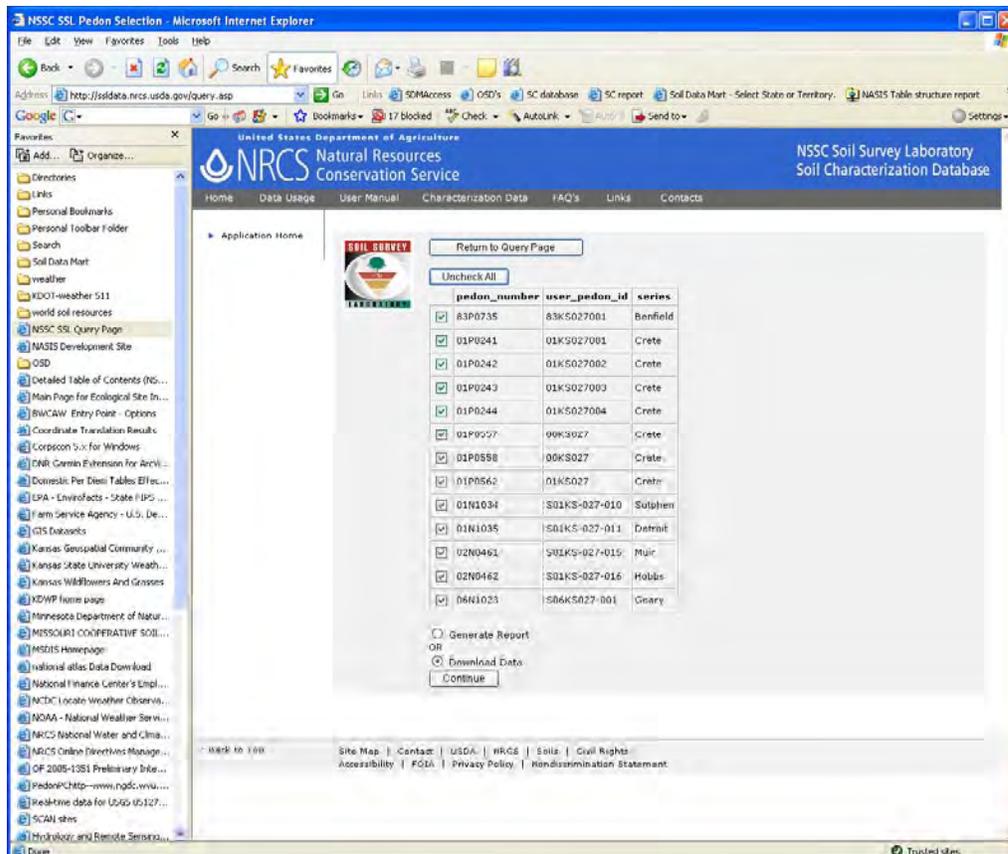
Purpose

The purpose of this guidance is to provide the current procedure for updating pedon and classification information for pedons in the National Soil Survey Center (NSSC) National Soil Survey Laboratory (NSSL) Soil Characterization Database. Guidance in the National Soil Survey Handbook (NSSH) for updating the [Index of Laboratory Data](#), formerly known as the SOI-8, is out of date and until it is updated, the process outlined in this guidance will be used.

All soil survey update projects should have as part of the work plan development, a review of existing soil survey investigations data. Review the location, control section depths, major land resource area (MLRA), county, and soil survey area (SSA) information and revise if it is in error. As Soil Taxonomy evolves and is revised, the classification of some pedons may also need to be revised; i.e., most former Camborthids are now Haplocamids.

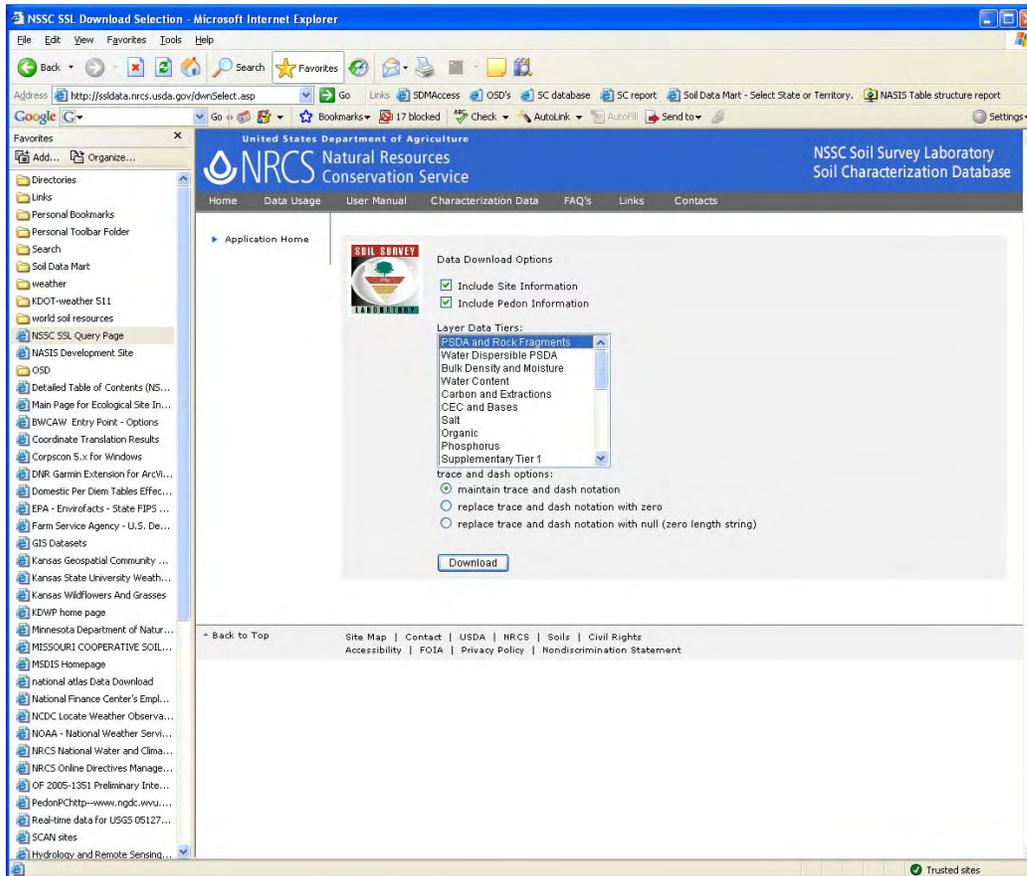
Begin by selecting the pedons for review using the Soil Characterization Database (Figure 1). After selecting the pedons, choose the Download Data option button.

Figure 1. Selection page for selecting pedons and download



On the Data Download Options page (Figure 2) make sure the Include Site Information and Include Pedon Information boxes are marked. One other Layer Data Tiers should be selected. When the Download button is selected, save the file to your computer. A file named **download.tar** will be created in the location you specify.

Figure 2. Data download options page



Use Winzip to unzip the file. The files site.csv and pedon.csv are the files that should be reviewed and edited. For values in either pedon.csv or site.csv that need editing, open a row below and show the proposed changes in **red**.

Add a column named comments to the right and enter documentation to explain why the changes are being suggested and the methodology used to arrive at the revised data.

Figure 3 is an example of a pedon that has the control section depths and the correlated soil name and correlated classification changed. Review the data and pedon description and only change the classification to what is supported by the data. If there is not enough data or the description is not complete, leave the classification as is and make a note as to the problems encountered. Do not

