

# The Coastal Plainer

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## Message from the MO–Leader’s Desk

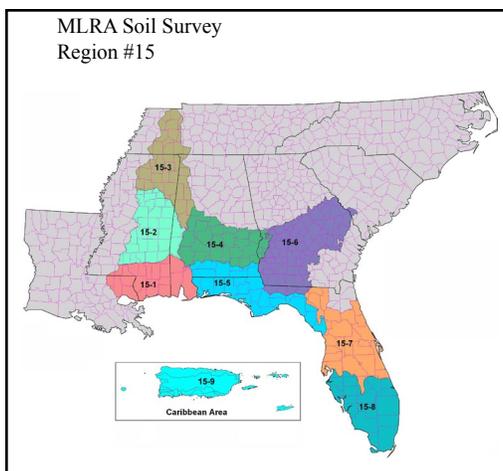
By Charles Love, MO–15 Team Leader

Again, greetings everyone!

I want to give you a brief update regarding the reorganization of the National Soil Survey Program.

On January 9, 2012, Secretary of Agriculture Vilsack rolled out the USDA “Blueprint for Stronger Services” based on a department-wide review of operations. He announced broad cuts within USDA, including the closing of 259 offices. Twenty-four of those were soil survey offices, 6 were MLRA regional offices (MOs), and 18 were MLRA soil survey offices (MLRA SSOs). We plan to emerge leaner, more efficient, and better organized.

In the future, NRCS will maintain 12 MLRA regional offices. These offices will continue the strong quality-assurance processes of the National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS) and will lead the correlation of ecological sites and soil map units. The areas formerly covered by the 18 MLRA soil survey offices that are closing will be consolidated into the remaining 124 MLRA SSOs. The MLRA SSOs will continue the work of the NCSS, including the last of the initial soil survey inventory and the harmonization of soil survey information collected over the last 100-plus years. We will be correcting the soil databases to make them more consistent.



According to the National Soil Survey improvement plan and the implementation plan, the MO–15 region will soon gain three MLRA SSOs from MO–16 and will lose one to MO–14. We are gaining the MLRA SSOs at Jackson, Tennessee (formerly 16–7); Greenville, Mississippi (formerly 16–8); and Denham Springs, Louisiana (formerly 16–9).

These offices support portions of MLRAs 131 and 134. We will lose the MLRA SSO at Mayagüez, Puerto Rico (formerly 15–9). The Mayagüez office will be aligned with MO–14 at Raleigh, North Carolina. It has been a great pleasure to work with State Soil Scientist Carmen Santiago and her MLRA team over the years. Working with the Caribbean area, we have had the

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opportunity to provide soil survey quality assurance and correlation activities for one the most exciting areas in the country. Thank you Carmen for all your support over the years!

The MO leaders affected by the reorganization have started communicating about the transition of responsibilities to the new structure. We have been brainstorming for ideas to smooth the consolidation and to meet the demands of this new regionalization effort by September.

In his decision memo, the Chief specified that all states, including those states that host an MO, would have a state soil scientist on their state leadership team. The state soil scientist will continue to be supervised by the State Conservationist.

The state soil scientists build bridges between members of the National Cooperative Soil Survey and soil survey inventory activities. The state soil scientists will be critical in deciding what work is needed in the states. They will continue to be the lead contact with our partners in the states (universities, agencies, other NRCS technical staff, and others).

We will need our NCSS cooperators and partners more than ever as we address the following two major areas:

- **Soil ecology:** Soil quality and soil ecosystem sustainability are national priorities. Our programs related to dynamic soil properties and soil carbon assessment will lead the way to a better understanding of environmental issues.
- **Database completeness:** We will focus on improving our baseline soil property data and spatial data while developing new soil interpretations and validations. We will focus more on conservation, homeland security, and emergency preparedness.

I encourage our state soil scientists, MLRA leaders, cooperators, and partners to submit to me any questions or concerns regarding the implementation of the National Soil Survey improvement plan. We need help to maintain a good flow of communication at all levels to

assist in the full implementation of the plan by September 2012.

As always, thank you for your support. ■

—*Charles*

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## A Schematic Map

By Sherlynette Castro, Soil Scientist, Fort Myers, Florida, MLRA Soil Survey Office

A common quote states, “We learn 10 percent of what we read, 20 percent of what we hear, 30 percent of what we see, 50 percent of what we see and hear, 70 percent of what we discuss with others, 80 percent of what we experience, and 95 percent of what we teach to someone” (attributed to William Glasser, psychiatrist). When it comes to soil taxonomy, we have a known “Bible.” According to the quote, we would learn around 90 pages of “Soil Taxonomy” if we only read it. I am not criticizing the hard work of the Soil Survey Staff who created this masterpiece, but some of us need a little extra help—not only to make our life easier, but to help our limited brain understand concepts that can be a little bit overwhelming without a picture, graph, or schematic map. I am not sure if these learning considerations led my supervisor to encourage me to create a schematic map of the Key to the Control Section for Particle-Size Classes and Their Substitutes in Mineral Soils. Maybe he was just being melancholy about what we used to do. He actually shared with me “old-school schematic maps” that helped me to understand how soil taxonomy is being changed with time. After creating a schematic map and receiving compliments from other states, I decided to share it with everyone in the hope it will be as useful for you as it is for me. I tried to create a faithful reproduction that does not alter what can be found on page 301 of the “Keys to Soil Taxonomy,” eleventh edition, 2010. The schematic map is on the MO-15 Web site at <http://www.mo15.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/control-section-key.html>. Enjoy. ■



*NRDI “meet and greet” at the University of Florida student union. The event attracted students interested in careers in natural resources.*

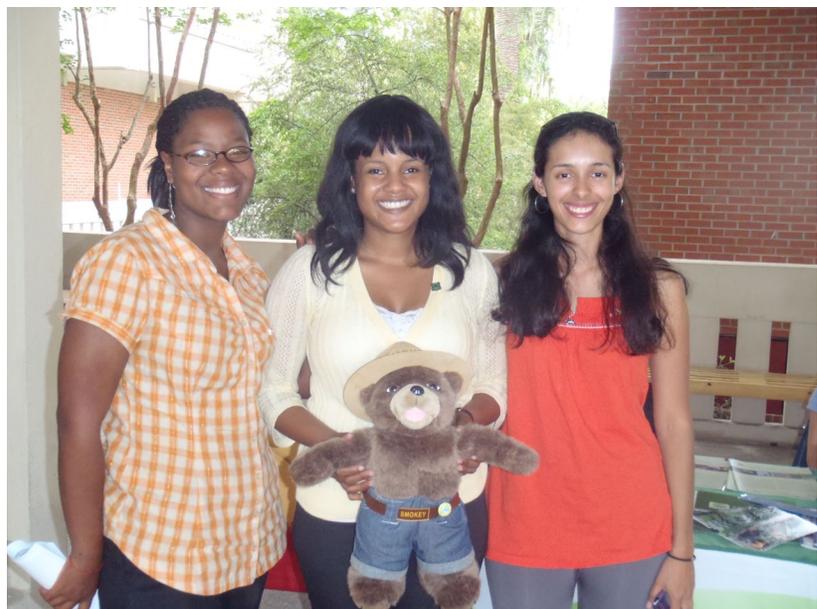
With that barrier in mind, Morgan, Haynes, and Bailey organized a “meet and greet” at the UF student union. Federal, State, and local natural resource agencies met with dozens of students on a balmy March evening and provided information about careers and internships. NRCS was able to directly connect with students who are interested in interviewing for 2013 summer internships and with students who are preparing to graduate. Furthermore, NRCS should find that partnering with NRDI and UF professors will provide an excellent platform for promoting diversity in recruitment efforts.

## Natural Resource Diversity Initiative at the University of Florida—March 29th, 2012

By Donna Hopwood, USDA NRCS, Florida Civil Rights Advisory Committee Chair

Tabitha Morgan, master’s student in wildlife ecology and conservation at the University of Florida and Student Career Experience Program (SCEP) intern with the USDA Forest Service, along with fellow master’s students Nia Haynes and Karen Bailey, initiated a program at UF called the Natural Resource Diversity Initiative (NRDI). The goal of NRDI is to introduce students, especially those of minority backgrounds, to the field of natural resources. One of the main barriers to minority interest in natural resource fields is the uncertainty of what the many agencies do.

For more information about the Natural Resource Diversity Initiative, contact Tabitha Morgan at [tcmorgan@fs.fed.us](mailto:tcmorgan@fs.fed.us). For information on recruitment activities in Florida, contact Donna Hopwood at [donna.hopwood@fl.usda.gov](mailto:donna.hopwood@fl.usda.gov). ■



*Organizers of the NRDI (left to right): Nia Haynes, Tabitha Morgan, and Karen Bailey.*

## MLRA Connection: Soil Data Join Recorrelation (SDJR) Soil Survey Projects

By Scott Anderson, Senior Regional Soil Scientist, MO-15

The official name for the next phase of the soil survey is "Soil Data Join Recorrelation" (SDJR). You will still hear the term "harmonization" used in reference to our NASIS work, but SDJR projects involve much more than just harmonization of the database.

The SDJR is a national initiative that will begin in the 4th quarter of FY-2012 and continue for 3 full years. This initiative supports the development of seamless soils data for use with the Conservation Division Streamline Initiative (CDSI), USDA farm bill programs, and added-value SSURGO products. The agency CDSI is a primary driver along with the Chief's K-and-T bulletin, which states that the properties will be harmonized in the next 3 years for implementation of calculated Ts and Ks.

The four main goals of SDJR (in this author's opinion) are:

**1) Collapse the number of duplicate map units in NASIS and "harmonize" the database.** Data harmonization is a process resulting in the correlation of similar data map units, taking into account existing legacy data, laboratory data, and tacit knowledge. The process focuses on reducing the number of data map units (DMU) for similarly named soil map units (MU). We will focus on the tabular database (NASIS).

A NASIS MU/DMU is defined as harmonized if it has:

- Same map unit name,
- Same map unit composition,
- Same horizon/layer depths,
- Same data attributes,
- Documentation of correlation or technical problems for future project needs, and
- Updated or otherwise current official series description (OSD).

A harmonized NASIS MU/DMU will be developed from:

- Existing manuscripts and correlation documents reviewed for map unit composition, minor components, and map unit concept;
- Lab data reviewed, properly classified, and linked to the component they represent;
- OSD and history of edits reviewed; and
- Map unit certified through quality assurance process at the MO.

Some MUs may not be suitable for harmonizing. In the Coastal Plain MLRA (133A), for example, we have some identically named MUs that we may not be able to harmonize into a single MLRA MU because of variations in climate, crop yields, and woodland yields across several states. Such situations will be handled on a case-by-case basis. We will probably need to attach a "phase" to some MU names.

**2) Conduct and document a detailed evaluation of each MU.** Another benefit to this initiative will be getting folks to analyze and document data (such as map unit concepts, components, and properties), correlation problems, and other issues. The evaluation notes will serve as the basis for future, more focused, field-based MLRA projects.

**3) Eliminate as many join problems in the tabular data as possible.** This goes hand-in-hand with number one above. This process will not fix all join problems. Remember, we are only working on the tabular data (NASIS). No spatial editing is planned for this initiative. This initiative is a rapid evaluation and consolidation of same- or similar-named MUs. Spatial data will be dealt with in the next initiative. Any remapping will be in future projects, including the correction of problems with spatial joins between surveys of different intensities.

**4) Populate NASIS as needed with future field projects involving each MU.** The SDJR work should generate future field projects. At the completion of the SDJR project, each soil survey office leader should have populated NASIS as needed with projects requiring fieldwork, spatial work, or both.

SDJR projects will require a coordinated effort throughout the MO region. The goal is for all MLRA soil survey offices and technical teams having ownership of a same-named MU to work together. A good example of a set of map units that need to be harmonized is “Savannah fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes.” The set, which is shared by four MLRA soil survey offices, is outlined in the table below.

Additional information regarding the SDJR initiative is available online. The national instruction is available from the NSSC Data Join Recorrelation SharePoint site at <https://nrsc.sc.egov.usda.gov/ssra/nssc/datajoin/default.aspx>. Click on the link to shared documents. A webinar by the NSSC regarding the SDJR is available at <ftp://ftp-fc.sc.egov.usda.gov/NSSC/training/Webinars/>. ■

### Location and Acreage of Savannah Fine Sandy Loam, 2 to 5 Percent Slopes, within MO–15

Area Symbol	Local MU Symbol	MU Name	MU Acres	SIR #	Comp Name	RV %
AL063 (15-1)	SaB	Savannah fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	6,268	MS0083	Savannah	85
MS081 (15-1)	SaB	Savannah fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	1,329	MS0083	Savannah	90
Total =			7,597			
MS023 (15-2)	SfB	Savannah fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	1,225	MS0083	Savannah	90
MS061 (15-2)	SaB	Savannah fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	12,191	MS0083	Savannah	90
MS069 (15-2)	SaB	Savannah fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	10,362	MS0083	Savannah	90
MS075 (15-2)	SaB	Savannah fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	8,084	MS0083	Savannah	90
MS079 (15-2)	SaB	Savannah fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	6,664	MS0083	Savannah	90
MS103 (15-2)	SaB	Savannah fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	8,583	MS0083	Savannah	90
MS123 (15-2)	SaB	Savannah fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	27,816	MS0083	Savannah	100
MS129 (15-2)	SaB	Savannah fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	41,817	MS0083	Savannah	90
MS153 (15-2)	SaB	Savannah fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	17,210	MS0083	Savannah	85
Total =			133,952			
MS091 (15-3)	ShB	Savannah fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	25,156	MS0083	Savannah	90
MS111 (15-3)	SaB	Savannah fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	5,383	MS0083	Savannah	90
Total =			30,539			
AL047 (15-4)	52	Savannah fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	23,259	MS0083	Savannah	80
AL085 (15-4)	SbB	Savannah fine sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	641	MS0083	Savannah	85
Total =			23,900			
Grand Total =			195,988			

## You Found WHAT in My County?

By Craig Harris, MLRA Subset Leader, Milan, Tennessee

I used to be one of those folks who, once becoming engrossed in a new novel, peeked at the end to find out how things turned out. Doing this on many occasions, I discovered that most stories fell into two categories with regard to their endings. They either tied up all the loose ends or pitched a wild hair that led to another novel. If I look at the extensive revision to the soil survey of Henry and Benton Counties, Tennessee, as a novel (albeit a long, complex one that could surely be a cure for insomnia), I can—being at the end of it now—see that it falls into the latter group.

We were in the last few thousand acres of the aforementioned 620K-acre project when Steve Monteith, former MLRA leader for area 16–7, came to me with an interesting question. Steve had been helping us map a few field sheets and ran across an interesting find. He asked, “Have you ever seen any Histosols in this county?” I gave him the what-have-you-been-drinking look and said, “Umm, no. Why?” To which he replied, “I think we might want to look at something on my sheet.”

So began the wild hair at the end of this extensive revision. We investigated Steve’s find, which was in a typical position of a typical wide flood plain in a typical geological formation for the

extreme northern tip of the MO–15 area. It was actually a good thing that luck of the draw (or some divine intervention) had Steve doing that map. David Thomas and I have seen so many sites like this one, we might not have gone so far into the flood plain to investigate it; we probably would have (accurately) assigned it to one of our other frequently flooded map units. As it turns out, Steve was right. What we had, after describing and sampling, was a Terric Haplosaprist; and it was a good one. The organic layer ranged well up in the 35-inch range (we did find one that was typical, being greater than 51 inches), and the lab work ran by Mississippi State (thank you Steve Depew) lined up perfectly for the Scuppernong series, which I had previously seen in North Carolina. The outstanding question was “WHY WAS IT HERE?” It took several thinking-out-loud sessions with many different people to come up with our current theory. We’re still not entirely sure we’re right; but until we hear otherwise, the following is it.



*Red Maple tree throw shows the large, shallow root mat indicative of the trees in the Histosol site. The canopy openings allow herbaceous wetland forbs to thrive. The plant growing at the base of the tree throw is *Polygonum arifolium*, Halberdleaf Tearthumb, a State-listed threatened species in Tennessee.*

This site is a freak combination of several crucial components, all of which are necessary to create the Histosol. First and foremost, the hydrology had to be right. The hydrology was then dependent on the landscape position and the geology. The McNairy formation overlies the Coon Creek formation in the area, but the position (flood plain) allows springs from the McNairy aquifer to keep the area pretty much saturated even in the driest weather. The plant community is also important. Most of the canopy trees are species that are generally intolerant of saturated conditions. These species include white oak, yellow poplar, and American beech. The intolerance of water forced the trees to put out wide, shallow root systems that formed a mat just above the saturated layer. It is our contention that, as the trees grew, the larger roots became inundated and died, but that the roots died at a slow enough rate that the trees could replace them by forming a new mat over the old one. Another critical factor is that the position afforded the site protection from sedimentation. We did find a similar soil in another part of the county. The similar soil is in an area of active sedimentation that is buried by more than 3 feet of silty sediment and is now more like the Arkabutla series. So these Histosols existed in a previous era but are now a rare find. Finally, we think that the site being protected from harvest over the past 70 years or more has helped preserve the conditions. In areas where tree throws have opened the canopy, many hydrophytic species, such as sphagnum moss, are thriving. If the canopy were entirely open, the organic matter would likely oxidize and disappear.

I often reflect on events and try to make sense of them by stepping back and looking at the “big picture.” I like to compare (or contrast) things to life in general. Some things don’t make sense and never will. But this wild hair does make sense. In all its complexity, it is a simple thing. It is there because all of the components that are required to make it are still there. Like a house of cards, remove one of the structural components and the whole thing collapses. The good news is that much

of the land on which this Histosol sits is owned by the Tennessee Valley Authority, and they are very interested in investigating and preserving it. The MLRA soil survey office at Milan plans to assist the TVA and MO-15 (of which we are now a part) in whatever way we can to see that this rare treasure is documented. ■

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## Cool and Easy

By Aaron Achen, Editor, MO-15

The world of GIS has finally become sophisticated enough to be simple. Using Google documents, you can now convert spreadsheet data to a map and make it available online. You don’t need to be a GIS expert, you don’t need special software, and you don’t need your own Web site. You just need a spreadsheet and an internet connection. Specifics are available at <http://www.google.com/fusiontables/Home/>.

I started with an Excel spreadsheet that had 4 columns and 850 rows; I ended with a map on the Soil Science Division’s Web site at [http://soils.usda.gov/education/training/block\\_diagrams\\_map.html](http://soils.usda.gov/education/training/block_diagrams_map.html). (The map can also be viewed directly at <https://www.google.com/fusiontables/DataSource?snapid=S4790980u98>.) The map shows the locations of soil surveys for which we have online block diagrams.

The basic steps are:

1. Prepare the spreadsheet.
2. Upload the spreadsheet.
3. Convert the spreadsheet to a table.
4. Convert the table to a map.
5. Share the map.

**1) Prepare the spreadsheet.** I started with a large Excel spreadsheet that I reduced to four columns. One of the columns included location data, such as “Chambers County, Alabama” and “Jacksonville, Florida.” Any location that can be located by Google maps can be used. Types of location data that can be used include

counties, cities, street addresses, latitude and longitude, zip codes, and names of National parks. Other columns can contain numbers, text, or hyperlinks.

**2) Upload the spreadsheet to Google documents.** You need a Google account. There are no IT prohibitions against using Google documents at work. When you upload the spreadsheet, it will be converted from Excel format to Google format.

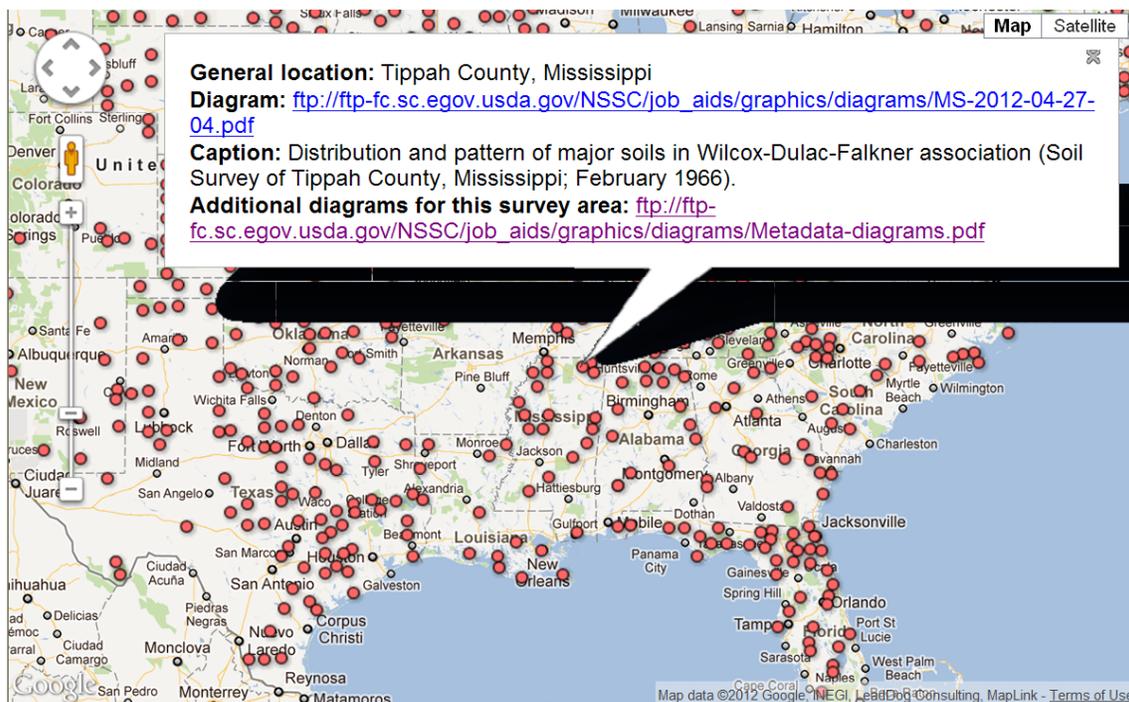
**3) Convert the spreadsheet to a table.** The Create button gives you an option to create a “Fusion” table. (“Fusion” is a brand name.) Once the table is created, open it up and use Edit > Modify columns to control the column properties. After you have the properties set correctly, locations will be highlighted in yellow and hyperlinks will be blue and underlined.

**4) Convert the table to a map.** The command to convert the table to a map is Visualize > Map. When you use this command, the location data will begin to geocode (change your locations to points on the map). To return to a table, use

Visualize > Table. As locations are geocoded, they cease to be highlighted yellow in the table. Any locations that remain yellow need to be manually geocoded (click on the Earth icon by the location name and follow the directions).

**5) Share the map.** Once your map is ready, click on the Share button to allow other people to view your map. You will be given a number of options for sharing. After you have shared the map, you can choose from two types of links to the map. The first type is a direct link. Click on “Get link,” copy the link that pops up, and distribute the link as you like. The second type is an embedded link. “Embedded” means “embedded in a Web page that you have access to.” Click on “Get embedded link,” copy the html code, and place it in an existing Web page. In all cases, if you change the table, the map will also change.

Additional details about the process used to make the block-diagram map are available from the MO-15 SharePoint site in the “Guidance Docs” folder of the Open Documents library (<http://go.usa.gov/V2A>). ■



*A screenshot of a portion of a map that shows the locations of soil surveys for which we have online block diagrams. The map was made using Google documents. Clicking on a red dot on the map brings up a block diagram from the archive of the Soil Science Division.*



*Attendees at the celebration of Alabama's first generation soil survey (left to right): Sylvia Long, Lawrence McGhee, Milton Tuck, Larry Spratling, Darnae Hopkins, John Burns, Charles Love, Robert Beaty, Herbert Ross, Cooper Nichols, David Gray, Sanderson Page, Dr. Ramble Ankumah, Dr. Joey Shaw, Greg Brannon, Dr. Richard Guthrie, Dr. Monday Mbila, David Smith, George Martin, Art Goddard, Joshua Reed, John Clements, Earl Norton, Ben Malone, Jerome Langlinais, Zachery Hayes, Sarah Walker, Steve Cauthen, Dr. Bill Puckett, Alden Harris, and Eddie Davis.*

## Celebration of Alabama's First Generation Soil Survey

By Charles Love, Alabama State Soil Scientist

On April 3rd, the Alabama Natural Resources Conservation Service and cooperators celebrated the completion of the "First Generation Soil Survey." Alabama now has a soil survey for all private, American Indian, and federal lands. This is truly a great milestone for Alabama, and I want to personally thank the cooperators and partners who contributed to this effort over the years. The State could not have achieved this milestone without the strong commitment of our cooperators and many others. The completion of the first generation soil survey is a great accomplishment we can all be proud of.

The completion of the first generation is quite naturally the beginning of the next generation. The need to maintain soils information and to provide that information to the public is even stronger than it was 25, 50, or 100 years ago. My challenge to you is to improve on the initial survey and to build our understanding of soil ecosystems as we make the "Next Generation Soil Survey" to last another 100-plus years. ■

## NSSL to become KSSL

By Linda Greene, ACES Enrollee, Natural Resources Conservation Service, National Soil Survey Center, Lincoln, Nebraska

On June 4th, the National Soil Survey Center will formally dedicate its soil survey laboratory in honor of Dr. Charles E. Kellogg. The dedication ceremony will take place in the Denney Federal Building in Lincoln, Nebraska, and anyone with an interest in the event is welcome to attend. Dr. Kellogg's grandson, Steven Kellogg, is scheduled to participate along with agency leadership and locally elected officials. Following the ceremonial unveiling of the plaque, the lab will be known as Charles E. Kellogg Soil Survey Laboratory.

Dr. Kellogg achieved one of the most distinguished careers in the history of soil science, a career marked by a dedication to assist land users through the knowledge of soils. To accomplish that objective, he redirected and refined the soil survey program of the Department of Agriculture, which he supervised from 1934 to 1971. His legacy continues in the work of soil scientists around the world. ■

## Civil Rights Compliance in Program Delivery

By Johanna Pate, Civil Rights Chairperson, Louisiana NRCS

Louisiana NRCS hosted three sessions of “Civil Rights Compliance in Program Delivery” this year. The sessions were held in Lafayette, Monroe, and Alexandria. Sixty-nine NRCS employees learned about their responsibilities regarding civil rights while working for NRCS and administering NRCS programs. The trainers were Johanna Pate and Corby Moore.

Johanna Pate is a rangeland management specialist and chair of the Louisiana NRCS Civil Rights Advisory Committee. She instructed the classes on Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as the legal backdrop for the NRCS civil rights implementation plan. She also discussed Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex when programs and services are provided. She then covered Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which requires access for all employees or members of

the public with disabilities to electronic and information technology provided by the federal government. Next, she covered the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age when programs and services are provided. Johanna also discussed diversity and the relationship of cultural values to diversity.

Corby Moore is the district conservationist at Deridder and the special emphasis program manager for veterans. He instructed the classes on helpful methods for indentifying racial-ethnic and special groups within the Louisiana work area and discussed components of effective outreach programs. Corby also taught the classes how to use NRCS management tools to incorporate civil rights responsibilities into all programs, operations, and other management functions. He discussed the role of the local soil and water conservation district board and ways to encourage diverse representation on the board. The participants learned how to apply the program evaluation process used in civil rights compliance reviews and how to handle program discrimination complaints. ■



*NRCS employees at a session of “Civil Rights Compliance in Program Delivery” (left to right): Jerry Shows, acting assistant state conservationist for operations; Holly Martien, state public affairs specialist; and Clyde Irvin, district conservationist.*

## Simplifying SharePoint

By Aaron Achen, MO-15 SharePoint Administrator

SharePoint can be baffling. In hopes of making our site easier to use, I offer five observations.

**1) Not everyone can see and do the same things.** In many ways, the SharePoint site is just a shared network drive with elaborate controls over who can see and change various files. On the MO-15 site, the MO leader can see and change any file. The field soil scientists can see files in the Internal Documents and Open Documents libraries but can only change files in the Internal Documents library. USDA visitors can see the Open Documents library but can't change any files. The general public cannot see anything (<http://go.usa.gov/pCD>). If you need permission to see or change additional files, contact the site administrator.

**2) If you check out a document, no one else can change it.** SharePoint gives you the choice to copy a file to your computer or to open the file directly. If you open the file directly, SharePoint gives you the choice to open a "read-only" copy or to "check out" the file and make changes to the file. The checked out file cannot be changed by anyone else and, in some cases, is invisible to everyone else. Please check the file back in when you are done! For more details, see <http://go.usa.gov/pCB>.

**3) Select the library before selecting a file.** Perhaps the least obvious aspect of SharePoint is that it gives you different options for file management depending on how you get to the files. On the MO-15 site, for example, members see the Internal Documents library when they first enter the site. If they click directly on a file in the library, they are not given the option to change the file. If they click on the words "Internal Documents" first, however, they are given this option.

**4) The "Windows Explorer view" lets you move multiple files simultaneously.** By default, SharePoint looks and operates like a Web page. The actions menu, however, provides the option to "Open with Windows

Explorer." In this view, you can click-and-drag or copy-and-paste multiple files. This ability is especially useful for moving files within the site. For more details, see <http://go.usa.gov/pCZ>. Note that if you move files into our SharePoint using the Windows Explorer view, the files will automatically be checked out to you.

**5) The author is responsible for backups.** The people that have permission to change files on the MO-15 SharePoint site are competent professionals. Even so, accidents happen. If you post a file to the site, you need to be aware that your file could be damaged or deleted. Keep your own backup. Remember, you want to share your files, not give them away. When the author keeps a backup, everyone is relieved of some of the fear of an accidentally deleted file. ■

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## Last Acre Celebration in Mississippi

By Delaney Johnson, Mississippi State Soil Scientist

The soil scientists of Mississippi would like to express our deepest appreciation to all of those who attended and participated at the “Last Acre Celebration to Usher in the Next Generation of the Mississippi Soil Survey Program.” The celebration was held on Tuesday, May 8, 2012, in Jackson, Mississippi. It was made possible by the help of many people from different backgrounds over many years.

We also are very appreciative of the support shown at the unveiling of the historical monument at Leakesville, Mississippi, the following Friday. Our special thanks to the Hattiesburg Area 3 staff and Public Affairs staff.

All of the continued support of the Soil Survey Program is most appreciated.

Following is a list of soil scientists who worked in Mississippi over the years.

### Soil Scientists of Mississippi

Addison Wynn, Jr.\*  
 A.E. Thomas\*  
 Alan Peer  
 Allen C. Milbrandt  
 Allen Curry  
 Anthony Wallace\*  
 Bill Morris\*  
 Brooks Hale\*  
 Charles Stemmans  
 Charlie Breland  
 Cheryl Mclaurin  
 Christopher Hatcher  
 Curtis Godfrey  
 David Jones  
 Delaney Johnson  
 Delmer Stamps  
 Dwain Daniels  
 E.D. Matthews\*  
 E.J. McNutt\*  
 Floyd Brent\*  
 F.T. Scotts\*  
 Grant Martin  
 Herbert Ross  
 H.S. Galberry\*  
 Huel Neal\*

James Curtis  
 Jarrel Austin (USFS)  
 Jerome Langlinais  
 Jerry Huddleston  
 H.C. Williams\*  
 Karl Miller  
 Kenneth Byers  
 Kenneth Murphy  
 Kevin Lee (USFS)  
 L.B. Walton\*  
 L.C. Murphree\*  
 Lewis Watts\*  
 Lynn Weeks (USFS)  
 Mac Robards  
 Margaret Rice  
 Mary Spann  
 M.C. Tyer\*  
 Melvin Lee\*  
 Michael Lilly  
 Michael Williams  
 Morris Shaffer  
 Paul Brass\*  
 Paul Finnell



*Historical monument commemorating the mapping of Mississippi's 30,020,454 acres, with the last acre mapped in Greene County in 2011.*

Paul Leggett\*  
 Paul Barlow\*  
 Paul Nichols\*  
 Rachel Stout-Evans  
 Ralph Thornton  
 R.B. Kahrein\*  
 Richard Cox  
 Rex Chandler  
 Rex Davis  
 Robert Fulgham\*  
 Robert Hinton\*  
 Robert Wimbish  
 Roger Smith\*  
 Steve Depew  
 Steve Fisher  
 Steve Monteith  
 Tom Arnold (USFS)  
 Tom Kilpatrick  
 Tony Lee (USFS)  
 T.W. Green\*

Velton Algood\*  
 William Carter  
 W.I. Smith  
 William Bright  
 William Cole  
 William Koos  
 Willie Green  
 Willie Terry  
 Walter Kinnan\*

#### Soil Survey Liaisons

Dr. David Pettry  
 Dr. H.B Vanderford\*  
 Dr. William (Billy) Kingery

#### Cartographic Section

Paulette Grantham  
 Sue Nations  
 Tina Adams

\* Deceased ■



*Participants at the Mississippi last-acre celebration (left to right): William (Billy) Kingery, soil survey liaison; David Jones, state soil scientist, retired; Charles Love, acting director Soil Survey Division/MO-15 team leader; Willie Terry, soil scientist; Curtis Godfrey, area resource soil scientist; Michael Williams, soil scientist; Delmer Stamps, state resource conservationist; Steve Depew, MLRA soil survey office leader; Rachel Stout-Evans, MLRA soil survey office leader; James Curtis, assistant state soil scientist; Ralph Thornton, area resource soil scientist; Delaney Johnson, state soil scientist; Jerome Langlinais, MLRA soil survey office leader; Cheryl McLaurin, soil scientist, resigned; Rex Davis, area resource soil scientist, retired; Michael Lilly, state soil scientist, retired; Al Garner, acting state conservationist; and Christopher Hatcher, MLRA soil survey office leader.*