

# Future Directions of the Soil Survey

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# Charge of Committee

- identify future uses and needs for soil survey;
- identify how the authorities and principles on which the soil survey program was established relate to the future and what the NCSS needs to do;
- clarify what the role of the NCSS partnership should be during the next 10 years; and
- define the roles and responsibilities of NCSS partners, including NRCS and Universities.

# Charge 1: Identify future uses and needs for the soil survey

- Identified Current Users – Many
- Future Users – weren't much different, but methods of delivery and utilization will be different

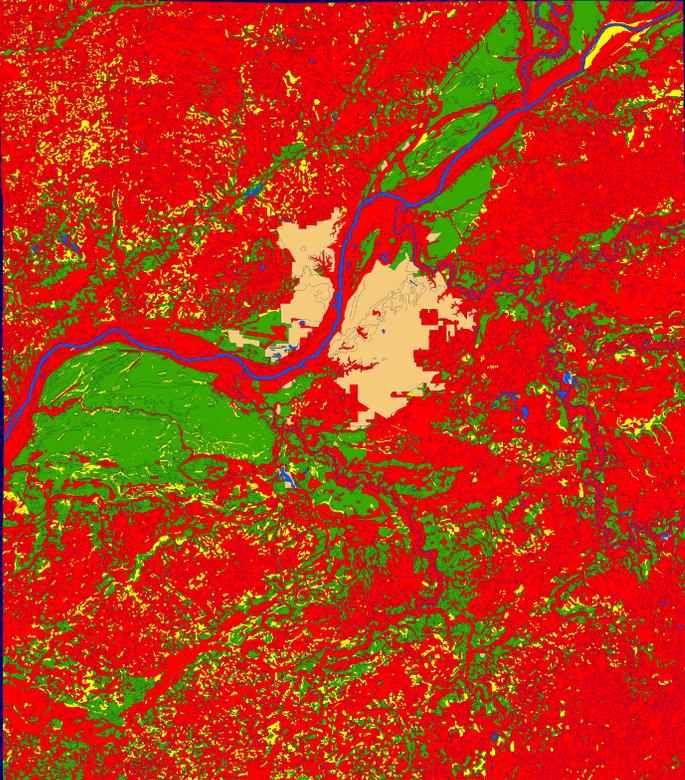
# Charge 2: Relate Soil Survey Program to future needs

- Improved tabular data is going to be a significant need to address new users.
- Get University data georeferenced and on-line
- Environmental uses of soils data are increasing for modeling and urban uses

# Charge 2: Relate Soil Survey Program to future needs

- Incorporation of new technology – GPS, GIS, Remote Sensing, and Models
- Marketing – Look at better ways to gain visibility
- Try to think about societal problems and focus delivery to gain visibility

# Septic System Suitability Using ISDH Code Tippecanoe County



### ISDH Code

- Unsuitable
- Alternate System
- Standard System
- Urban Land/Pits
- Water



# Charge 3: Clarify what the role of the NCSS partnership should be during the next 10 years

- Requires NRCS leadership
- Include Cooperators when updating interpretations
- Spend time to identify top priorities and goals
- What happens when the last acre is mapped?

## Charge 4: Define the roles and responsibilities of NCSS partners, including NRCS and Universities

- Many comments regarding “eroded Mollisol” and NRCS disregarding problem
- Increase dialog regarding problems in the field to get University Cooperators involved
- Improve student trainee experience – utilize intern requirements from University

# Future of Future Directions Committee?

- Publish report in NCSS newsletter.
- Publish report in Soil Survey Horizons.
- Ask for feedback nationally to establish dialog and discussion regarding the futures.