National Cooperative Soil Survey Activities

North Central Region NCSS Conference
June 23, 2008

Soil Survey Division Priorities

- Continue MLRA Restructure Plans
  - Establish Remaining Offices
  - Fully Staffed
- Continue Technology Development
  - Enhance Web Soil Survey 2.2
  - Enhance NASIS 6.x
- Accelerate Initial Soil Surveys

MLRA Soil Survey Staffing

Stability

146 MLRA SS Offices

(113 Offices in Place)

- Current = 77%
- Sept 2008 (+9) = 84%
- Sept 2009 (+20) = 98%
- > FY09 (+ 4) =100%

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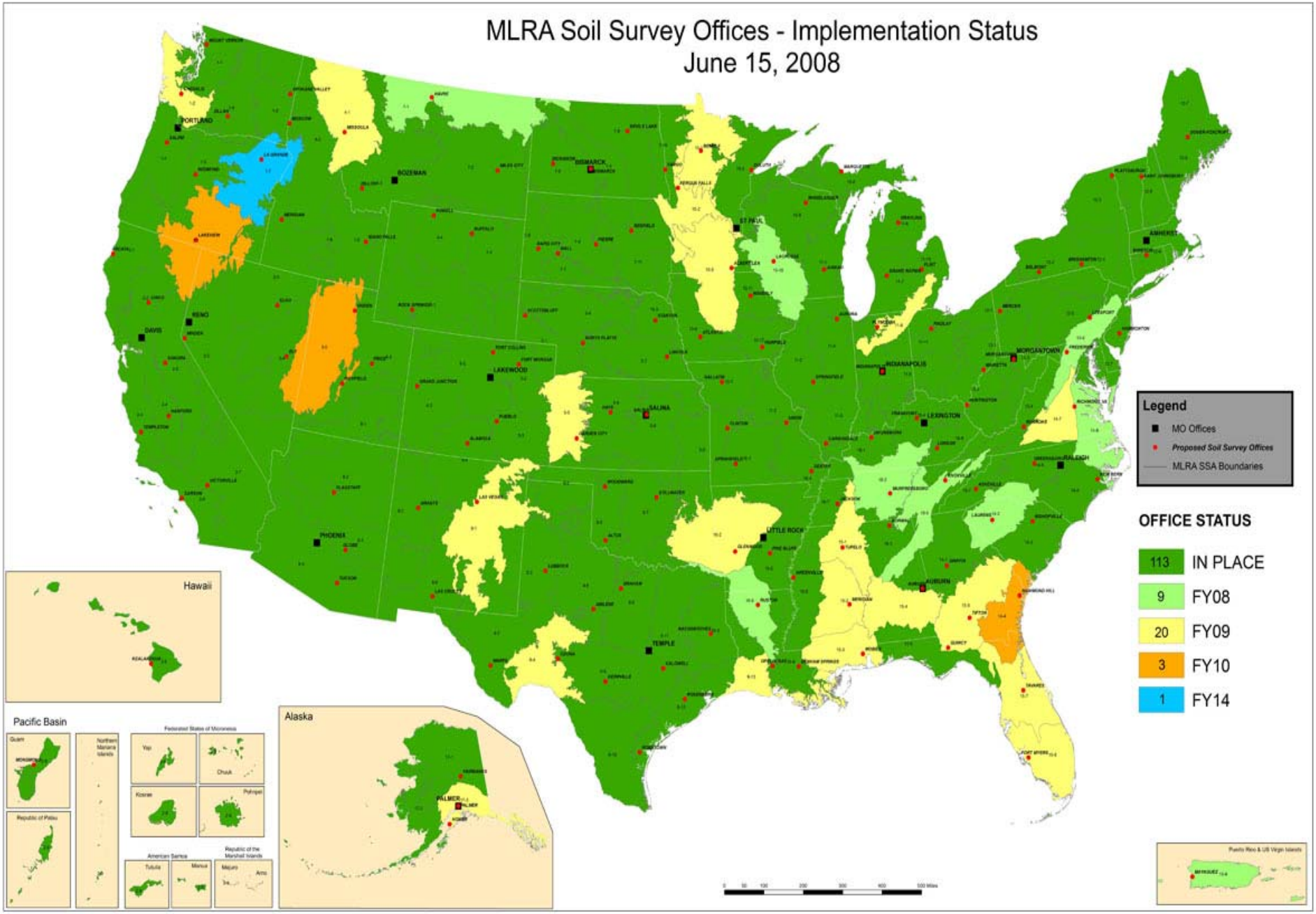
MLRA Soil Survey Offices - Implementation Status
June 15, 2008



USDA NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service
Soil Survey Division
Washington, D.C.

June 2008

NCSS Support

- Agricultural Experiment Stations
- State Land Grant Universities
- 1890 Colleges and Universities
- Tribal Colleges and Universities
- Hispanic Serving Institutions
- State and Federal Gov’t
- Private Sector

Examples NCSS Cooperation

- West Region w/NSSC
  - Benchmark Soilscapes
    - Predict Effects of Climate Change
- South and West Regions w/NSSC
  - Gypsiferous Soils
    - Describe, Classify & Interpret
- Northeast Region w/NSSC
  - Subaqueous Soils
    - Describe, Classify & Interpret

NCSS University Advisory Group

- Toby O'Geen
- Mary Collins
- Joey Shaw
- Mickey Ransom
- Jim Thompson
- Curtis Monger
- Dick Arnold
- Larry Wilding

"We ***Must*** Prepare for Soil Quality, and things that are <u>Green</u> due to Climate Change".

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NCSS
Federal Lands Advisory Group

- USFS
- BLM
- FWS
- NPS
- DoD-Army
- NRCS

NCSS Federal Partner Needs

- USFS
  - Initial 37 M Acres
  - Update 23 M Acres
- BLM
  - Initial 24 M Acres
  - Update 33 M Acres
- FWS
  - Initial 5 M Acres
  - Update 90 M Acres (Mostly AK)
- NPS
  - Initial 60 M Acres

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NCSS Partnership

- Working Together To:
  - Increase capacity to complete Ecological Site Inventories
  - Collect Dynamic Soil Properties to Support State & Transition Models
  - Support Smithsonian Soil Exhibit Opens July 18th

NCSS Partnership

- Working Together To:
  - Draft Amendment 2 for MOU w/FS
  - Full Time Liaison – NPS (Southard)
  - Part Time Liaison – FS (Tummons)
  - Possible More Liaisons in Future

NCSS Partnership

- Working Together To:
  - Develop New Soil Interps w/BLM
  - Expand NASIS - House FS Soil Data

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New Focus Areas

- Promote Technical Soil Services
  - Resource Soil Scientists
  - Regional Technology Centers

    Central - Ed Griffin

    West - Terry Aho

    East - Leander Brown
- Use of Benchmark Landscape Catenas

Future

- Content Manager
  - Author Text
  - Historical Soil Surveys
  - Historical Papers
  - Research Projects
- Making All Laboratory Data Available

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Thank You!