

Research Needs

Chair: David Brown, WSU

Presenter: Carrie-Ann Houdeshell, NRCS

Review from previous meeting

- No minutes are available, so we reconstructed major focus areas from memory.
- Monitoring changes for selected pedons, over time and regionally using standard measurements. Toby O'Geen led this project and research meeting, but no minutes or notes were posted. Project didn't really take off because of a lack of funding.
- How do we deal with declining support at universities?
- Academics might need to work more closely with NRCS for staff and analysis assistance.
- Competitive grants out of National Soil Survey center, last year and again this year
- US fish and wildlife has \$20 million

Western Region research priorities

- 1) Construct an atlas or geospatial database of land use history. How would this be constructed? Over what time frame?
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- 2) Is fractured bedrock or tubular bedrock (limestone), a C horizon? The focus should be on hard bedrock that transmits water as opposed to saprolite which is no longer hard. Is this material lithic? How does this effect classification and hydrologic soil groups? Ecosystem classification?
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- 3) Can diffuse reflectance spectroscopy (VisNIR and MIR) be used to characterize andic soil materials? Can we characterize ultra-mafic soils using diffuse reflectance spectroscopy (VisNIR and MIR).
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Western Region research priorities (cont.)

- 4) More work needs to be done on the use of remote sensing techniques for digital soil mapping.
- 5) Differences in properties of playas.
- 6) Rock mulch. A more comprehensive way to describe it, sample it.