

# Re-Structuring for the Next Generation of Soil Surveys

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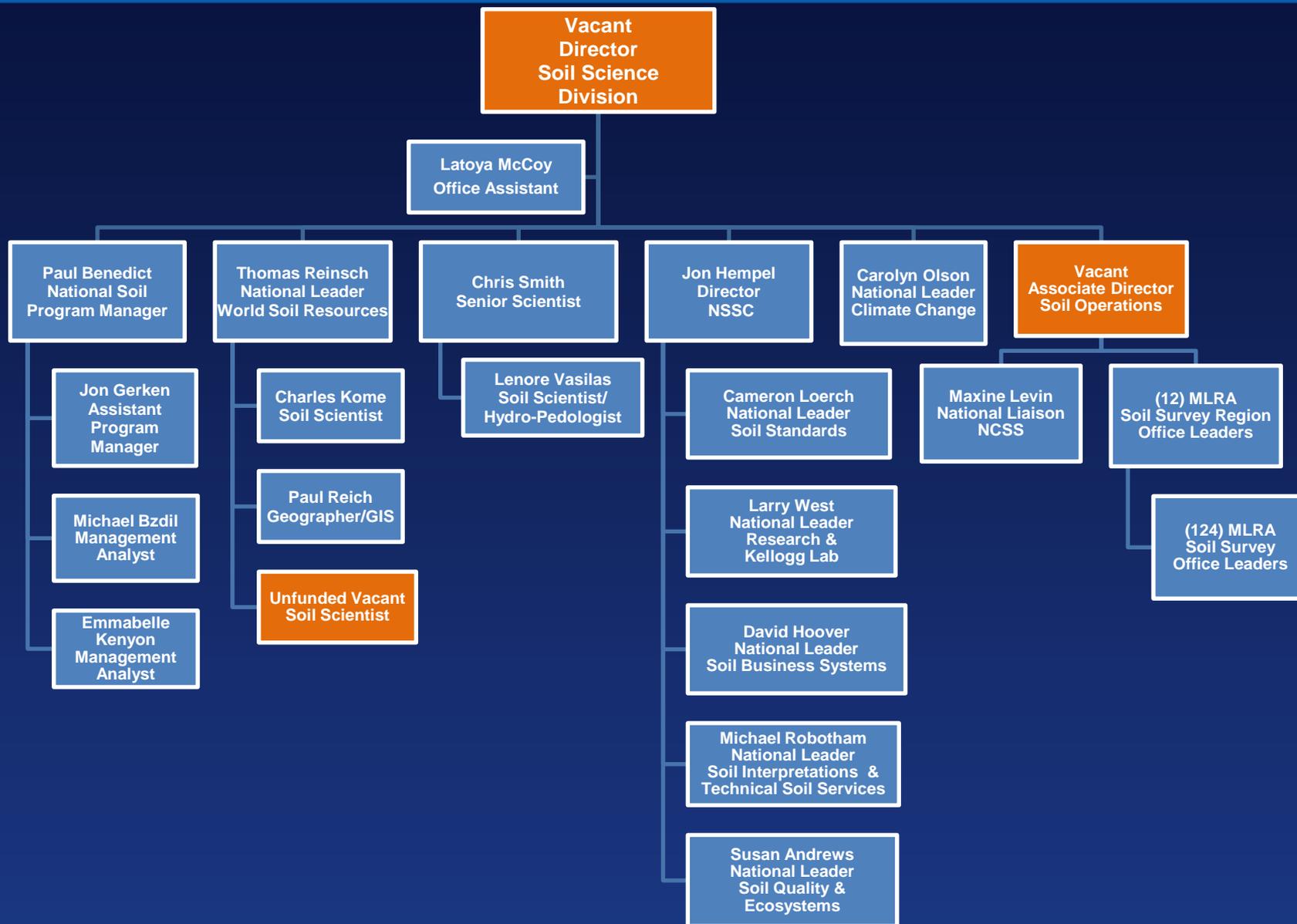
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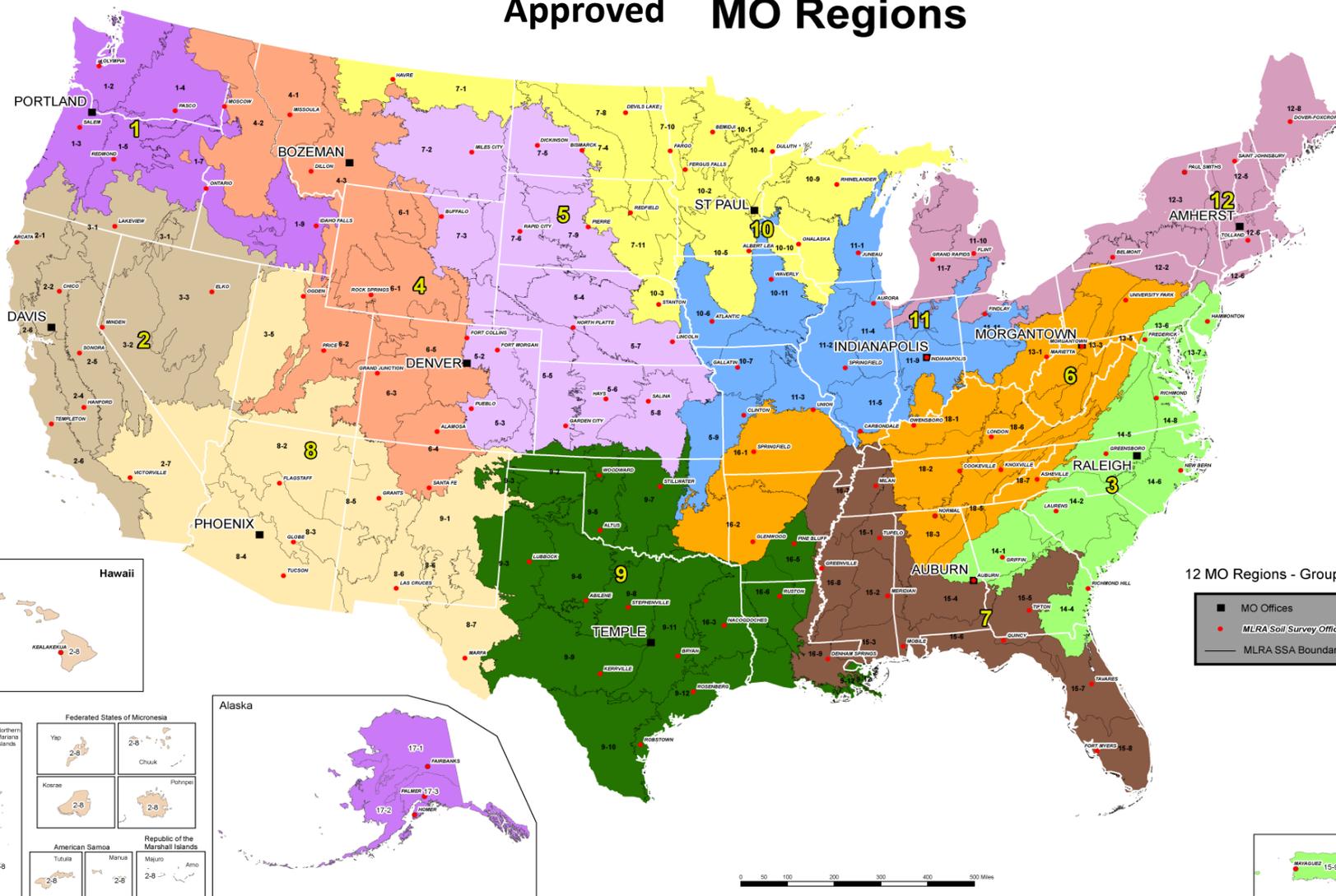
## Topics

- **The recent Soil Survey Restructure**
- **Where we are headed**
- **Congressional Mission**
- **New Opportunities**





## Approved MO Regions



12 MO Regions - Grouped by color

- MO Offices
- MLRA Soil Survey Offices
- MLRA SSA Boundaries



## Where NRCS Soil Scientists are Located

(not counting recent retirements)

- 428 MLRA Soil Survey Offices
  - 94 State offices
  - 59 MLRA Region Offices
  - 140 Area or other field offices
  - 48 NSSC, NHQ or other National Centers
- 769 Total



## State Soil Scientist

- ✓ ALL States including MO States funded for State Soil Scientist
- ✓ Continue to be supervised by the State Conservationist
- ✓ Serve on the state leadership team
- ✓ Bridge builders between the cooperators of the NCSS and soil survey inventory activities
- ✓ State Leadership & contact with NCSS local, state and federal agencies as well as with universities, private consultants, and other technical disciplines
- ✓ Provides State Leadership for ALL Technical Soil Services

Congress charged the Secretary of Agriculture & the Soil Science Division with Authority to make soil surveys in 4 Mission areas:

- **Make an Inventory** of the Soil Resources of United States, Territories and Commonwealths – Make the Initial
- **Keep the Soil Survey Relevant** to Ever Changing Needs – Keep it Current, Maintain it, or Enhance it
- **Interpret the Information** and Make it Available in Useful form - Interpretations
- **Promote the Soil Survey** and Provide Technical Assistance for a wide Range of Community Planning and Resource Development Issues Related to Non-Farm and Farm

## Global Soil Partnership (GSP)

- ✓ Sponsored by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the European Union (EU)
- ✓ Modeled after the Global Water Partnership founded in 1996
- ✓ Secretary of State Clinton launched the U.S. Water Partnership on March 22, 2012 (USDA to join)
- ✓ GSP Launched in September 2011, FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy
- ✓ Vision - is for a Sustainable and Productive Use of the Soil Resources for Food Security and Climate Change Adaptation
- ✓ Included in the Rio+20 zero draft
- ✓ Strong possibility to link Global Water and Global Soil Partnership

## In Summary

### Soil Survey

- ✓ Congress reduced funding
- ✓ Opportunity to Restructure and be more efficient
- ✓ Build on 1995 & 2005 MLRA efforts
- ✓ Strong Mission for future
- ✓ Days of Being a Soil Scientist is not over
- ✓ Build “Soil Ecosystems”
- ✓ Harmonize existing Soil Data
- ✓ Prepare for Next Generation of Soil Surveys



**Thank**

**YOU**

**for**

**Your**

**“Attention”**