

NE Subaqueous Soil Committee

2006 NE NCSS Work Planning
Conference Minutes

1. Glossary of terms was distributed to committee. Our understanding was that the terms had been accepted for the NSSH section 629. We could not find the terms in the draft of under proposed terms. Plans are to contact Craig Ditzler and check on the status of the terms.

2 Amendments to Soil Taxonomy to accommodate subaqueous soils were distributed among committee members and to those on the Standards Committee. Changes were suggested and the changes agreed upon by all will be incorporated into the draft document. The draft document will be forwarded to the NRCS National Office for distribution and comment.

3. The draft document of Standard Methods for Mapping Subaqueous Soils was distributed among committee members. Any comments or suggestions on the document should be sent to Mark Stolt.

4. A short discussion was held on identifying and recognizing habitat types on SAS landscapes. The committee agreed that as much as possible in the field habitat types (i.e. eelgrass meadows) would be described along with soil descriptions to begin to generate habitat maps and for interpretative purposes.

5. A lengthy discussion on SAS interpretations was held. Mark Stolt indicated he would circulate a laundry list of interps, and obtain from Mike Bradley criteria used for the interpretations on the MapCoast web based soil survey of Ninigret Pond.

6. A short discussion on bathymetric methods was held. Methods for collecting bathymetric data are included in the methods document and should be consulted.

7. Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, New York and Connecticut gave a brief summary of SAS work being done or planned. Jim Turenne demonstrated some of the MapCoast work in Rhode Island. Marty Rabenhorst reported that the work in Chincoteague Bay was nearing completion.

8. A recommendation was developed encourage the national NRCS to support a Center of Excellence for SAS in the NE for training of soil scientists in the area.

9. A recommendation was developed to encourage the national NRCS to suggest that other regions begin establishing committees to discuss subaqueous soils in areas other than the NE.