RWA Considerations

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Helping People Help the Land

USDA NRCS
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Getting Started

Organization
- People
- Data
- Resources

Process
- Scale
- Challenges
## Organization

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1. **People**
   - Staff
   - Equipment Needs
   - Timeframes

2. **Data**
   - Scale
   - Soils
   - Consistency
   - Links

3. **Resources**
   - Funds/TA
   - Partners
Staff Considerations

• Multi-disciplinary team
  – GIS Team
  – Visual Information Specialist
  – Soil Scientists
  – Resource Conservationists
  – Program Manager
  – Project Coordinator

Important to set project management objectives and timelines.
GIS and Desktop Publishing

• Perfect combination to produce RWA’s
• Templates can be designed
• GIS maps are resized pdf files at a resolution for web viewing
• Adobe InDesign and Photoshop utilized in the design process
• Online pdf documents-try to keep under 6MB
Data Considerations

• Multiple sources
  – primary concern – good soil data
  – Current NRCS PRS info
  – Ag statistics and demographics
  – Matrix considerations
  – Partners research
  – Local resource concerns
  – 303d assessment-EPA
Process

• Entire State / Area of Interest
• Internal Watershed / Best Data
• Partner Inputs Data & Funding
• Multi State Coordination
Challenges

• Timelines
• Distribution-Outreach
• Data Quality & Updating
NRCS – Helping People Help the Land

A Vision of
Productive Lands and a
Healthy Environment

USDA is an equal opportunity employer and program provider.
Questions?