

## Digital Soil Mapping Field Week Application

DSM Field Weeks are an applied training opportunity to help soil scientists successfully initiate and complete DSM-supported projects. Offices must be able to demonstrate the availability of covariate and pedon observation data, clearly outline expectations of the DSM Focus Team participants, identify expected deliverables and timelines, and explain how participation in the field week will support the goals of Soils2026.

The objectives for conducting the DSM Field Weeks are to:

- 1) Develop a nationwide network of soil scientists informed by DSM techniques
- 2) Cross-train local soil scientists and DSM experts while helping deliver soil survey products
- 3) Develop knowledge and expertise of soil scientists embarking on their first DSM efforts
- 4) Target sparsely investigated project areas or modeling problems
- 5) Increase the network of point observations across the USA and Territories
- 6) Advance the Soils2026 effort

### Please provide information for each of the following items

**Summary:** Include project name, location, specific objectives of the project and the role of digital soil mapping to achieve objectives. (Less than 250 words)

**Dates:** Select several preferred weeks during the field season (travel Sunday and Saturday)

**Purpose:** Explain how participation in the field week will support the goals of Soils2026.

### **Background:**

- Provide background of the project area
- Identify local/regional personnel that will be involved, knowledge and skills of local/regional personnel (please note all participants are expected to have the Introduction to Digital Soil Mapping training course or equivalent background)
- List spatial data available for the project area, including georeferenced soil descriptions and laboratory data in digital form
- Describe the existing knowledge of the soil-landscape relationships and the land use concerns for the project area and any opportunities for expanding new knowledge to existing mapped areas adjacent to the project area

### **Expectations/Deliverables:**

- What does the field crew expect to achieve from the field week?
- What does the field crew expect from the DSM Focus Team participants?
- What are the anticipated product(s) that will be derived from this effort, including specified timelines?

**Accommodations:** What type of lodging, meeting space, and dining options are available, including nearest airport?

**Cost:** Travel estimate on a per member basis (per diem, lodging)

**Topics/Schedule for the week:** This will be fully developed at a later date with input from the DSM Focus Team; however, a tentative agenda for the week is requested. This agenda should reflect the anticipated data gathering, modeling, and/or training needs associated with the designated project. The following agenda can be used as an example:

- 1) Introduction to project area, soil landform relationships

- 2) Project objectives, opportunities for cooperators, process for sharing resources and knowledge
- 3) Overview of DSM techniques
- 4) Data collection, team assignment and goals
- 5) Evening discussions
- 6) Post-field week deliverables to include:
  - Soil class layer and selected suite of soil properties at defined depths
  - Support to soil survey office staff to meet their objectives
- 7) Provide input for conducting future DSM Field Weeks:
  - Planning, research and training needs
  - Travel requirements

**Questions?** Feel free to contact Suzann Kienast-Brown ([suzann.kienast@mt.usda.gov](mailto:suzann.kienast@mt.usda.gov)) or Jessica Philippe ([jessica.philippe@usda.gov](mailto:jessica.philippe@usda.gov))

**Submit completed application to Suzann Kienast-Brown ([suzann.kienast@mt.usda.gov](mailto:suzann.kienast@mt.usda.gov))**