Findlay, Ohio, Soil Survey Office

Completing Off-Site Highly Erodible Land Determinations

Purpose
A significant workload of Highly Erodible Land (HEL) determinations in northwest Ohio was reduced with the help of the soil science staff at the Findlay, Ohio, soil survey office. The help emphasized the commitment of the office to remain customer focused.

Background Information
Cartographer Jennifer Callaway at the Findlay soil survey office was assigned the task of completing a workload of off-site HEL determinations. Northwest Ohio has a high number of HEL determinations, some over a year old. In conjunction with State office soil scientist Jeff Glanville, 312 instances of HEL determinations were completed in just a few months. The determinations served 185 people and benefited 22,315 acres.

Key Outcomes
The goal of the project was to provide unbiased, efficient, and consistent determinations on a large scale in a short period of time from off-site. These determinations were critical for the eligibility for USDA program benefits for many producers.

Future Goals
These determinations identified necessary on-site fieldwork. This work is projected to be done in the early weeks of May 2020 by multiple NRCS soil scientists.

Figure 1.—A Highly Erodible Land Report Summary (upper left) and map (lower right).