South Region Cooperative Soil Survey

National Soil Survey Center Research Branch – Vision for the Future

Skye Wills
National Leader for Soil Science Research
National Soil Survey Center
USDA-NRCS

The National Soil Survey Center has recently restructured to create a separate branch devoted to soil research. The new branch includes existing research soil scientists and ongoing research efforts including soil chemistry, digital soil mapping, and dynamic soil properties. The research branch supports the division priority effort into the development of Dynamic Soil Survey and the agency Science of Soil Health Initiative. We are soliciting research needs, ideas, and topics through the Soil and Plant Science Division Research Focus Team and NCSS regional conferences. In the future, we intend to maintain our focus on soil survey investigation and expand into areas of soil biology, hydrology, quantitative pedology and data science.