Soil Science Division Training

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SSD Courses & Sessions

- 21 NEDC Courses
  - Prerequisites

- 20-24 Sessions
  - Instructor Cadres
SSD Training Schedule

- Training Needs Inventory

- Schedules & Course Description
  - NSSC Page
  - AgLearn
  - NEDC Course Catalog
SSD Training Resources Beyond NEDC Coursework

- Videos & Webinars
- ENTSC Library
- ESRI Virtual Campus
- Training Plans
- Job Aids & OJT Modules
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ESRI Virtual Campus Training

Overview

The ESRI Virtual Campus training provides a high-quality learning experience using interactive exercises, examples, and instructional resources to create a rich learning environment.

Web courses teach a variety of topics related to ESRI software, the theory underlying GIS technology, and the application of GIS tools in particular fields. Some Web courses include downloadable trial editions of ESRI software.

Are you new to online self-paced courses on our Virtual Campus? The course orientation [Flash] [non-Flash version] provides a tutorial on how to navigate a Virtual Campus course.
SSD Training Resources Beyond NEDC Coursework

- Videos & Webinars
- ENTSC Library
- ESRI Virtual Campus
- Training Plans
- Job Aids & OJT Modules
New SSD Training Resources

- Coming Soon
  - Expanded Introduction to Digital Soil Mapping Workshop
  - Statistics in Soil Survey
  - Soil Property Module Series
  - How to Measure and Record Rock Fragments Video
  - National Seminars Webinar Access
New SSD Training Resources

Available Now

- NRCS Photo Gallery
  - (http://photogallery.nrcs.usda.gov/res/sites/photogallery/)

- Guide to Pronouncing Taxonomic Terms
  - (http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/soils/home/?cid=NRCSEPRD376616)

- Illustrated Guide to Soil Taxonomy
  - (http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/soils/survey/class/taxonomy/?cid=nrcs142p2_053580#illustrated)

- Ecological Site Inventory
  - OJT Modules
National Ecological Site Training Team
OJT Modules & Other Training Opportunities

Johanna Pate
Rangeland Management Specialist
National Grazing Lands Team
National Ecological Site Training Team consists of:

- Executive Committee
- Curriculum Managers
- Lesson Plan Developers
Developed a comprehensive catalogue of existing training materials

- Training materials consist of webinars, power point presentations, workshops, NEDC courses, You Tube videos and On-the-job training modules

- Material is broken down into 11 categories
Categories

- Overview
- Conservation Planning
- Soils
- Ecology
- Inventory
Classification and Concepts
Development
State and Transition Model
Writing
Interpretations
Data Bases
 Developed a spreadsheet listing all knowledge, skills and abilities needed in order to write Forestland and Rangeland Ecological Site Descriptions

 Matched catalog of existing training resources with KSA(s)

 Started with OJT Modules
701 How to access and use the Ecological Site Information System (PDF; 55 KB)
702 How to find, access, and use the Web Soil Survey website (PDF; 104 KB)
703 How to access ecological site information within Web Soil Survey (PDF; 47 KB)
704 How to access and use the PLANTS database (PDF; 50 KB)
705 How to conduct a belt transect (PDF; 49 KB)
706 How to conduct a gap intercept (PDF; 50 KB)
707 How to conduct a line point intercept (PDF; 50 KB)
711 How to conduct the dry weight rank method (PDF; 49 KB)
712 How to conduct the point-intercept method (PDF; 53 KB)
713 How to conduct the step-point method (PDF; 51 KB)
717 How to determine tree density (PDF; 46 KB)
718 How to gather background information for an ecological site (PDF; 53 KB)
719 How to locate, access, and use local flora information (PDF; 48 KB)
720 How to measure plant production with the comparative yield method (PDF; 53 KB)
727 How to set up for photo points (PDF; 49 KB)
## OJT Training Module Cover Sheet

**Title:** 713 How to conduct the step-point method

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type:</th>
<th>X Skill</th>
<th>□ Knowledge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Performance Objective:** Trainee will be able to:
- Use the step-point method to estimate soil cover, including vegetation, litter, rocks, and biotic crusts.

**Target Proficiency:**
- □ Awareness  
- □ Understanding  
- □ Perform w/ supervision  
- X Apply independently  
- □ Proficiency, can teach others

**Trainer Preparation:**
- Review the assigned reading material in the lesson plan that follows.

**Special Requirements:**
None

**Prerequisite Modules:**
- 707 How to conduct a line-point intercept
- 726 How to set up a vegetation transect

**Notes:**
The procedure is the same as the line-point intercept method except that step points are used instead of a measuring tape.

**Authors:**
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AgLearn Registration & Withdrawals

Presenter: Lisa Visokey, NEDC Registrar
NRCS National Employee Development Center
AgLearn – Supervisor Verification

LISA M VISKEY
NRCS-Operations-HR-NEDC

To-Do List

No due date

- Books24x7 Referenceware
  In progress
- Developing Strategic Peer Relationships in Your Organization
  Available
- The Importance of Flexibility in the Workplace
  Available

Easy Links

- Approvals
- Ask AgLearn Now
- Books24x7
- Contact Us
- Getting Started Guide

FAQ
- News
- Options and Settings
- Record Learning
- Reports
- SF-192a

Show Less
AgLearn – Supervisor Verification

- If your supervisor is correct in the “Employee Information” section, no action is needed. Otherwise, click the edit icon.

- Delete any text in the supervisor field and click the magnifying glass.
AgLearn – Supervisor Verification

- Enter your supervisor’s first and last name, then click Search.
- Select your supervisor from the list.
- Click Save on the next window.
- Verify that your supervisor is listed correctly in your profile.
AgLearn – Individual Development Plan (IDP)

- Complete the competency assessment in AgLearn
  - Foundational and leadership competencies
  - Series-specific competencies

- Complete the IDP in AgLearn
  - The employee and supervisor work together
  - Create an IDP that identifies training to fill any competency gaps that were identified in the assessment
AgLearn – Registration

- Two registration methods:
  1. AgLearn Catalog Request
     - AgLearn Users requests their own training
     - Requests are routed per a two-step approval process to the first-level supervisor and training officer
  2. Direct enrollment
     - Training Officer enrolls AgLearn Users directly
     - No further approval is required in AgLearn, although Training Officers may have external processes that they follow

- The following slides will demonstrate the AgLearn Catalog Request
Enter the course title or keyword, then click “Browse.”
AgLearn – Catalog Registration Request

- Find the course in the results listing.
  - Click the title to read a course description and target audience.
  - Click “View Course Dates” for a list of offerings.
AgLearn – Catalog Registration Request

- Identify a class with the date and location that meets your needs.

Click “Waitlist” or “Register” to request approval to attend one of these courses.
AgLearn – Catalog Registration Request

- Click “Yes” on the AgLearn warning to submit your request.

**Warning Details:**
- The scheduled offering (39873) requires approval for you to register. If you continue, you will be registered with a pending status until the approvers approve your registration request.

Do you wish to proceed?

[Yes] [No]
AgLearn – Catalog Registration Request

- Click “Confirm” on the next screen.

- Click “Show All” to see your supervisor and training officer.

- The comments field is optional.

Click confirm.
Who can register for NEDC training?

- NRCS Employees
- NRCS Partners
- USDA Employees
- Other Federal Employees
- Those identified in the Target Audience description

NOTE: Priority for registration is given to NRCS employees.
Withdraw Registration

- To withdraw your registration:
  - Get permission from your supervisor.
  - Notify your training officer.
  - Withdraw your registration in AgLearn.

- The exact procedure may vary from state to state, or division, or center, etc. Follow your organizational unit’s protocol.

- If you withdraw after receiving the participant letter, you **MUST** notify the point-of-contact listed in the letter.
AgLearn – Withdraw Registration

- Find the course in your To-Do list.
- Hover your mouse over the course title, then click “Withdraw.”

Click “Yes” on the confirmation window.
Training Officers

- A list of Training Officers has been provided in the Adobe Connect file pod.
- Each of these units has its own designated Training Officer:
  - Soil Science Division (Regions and NHQ)
  - States
  - Centers
  - NHQ
- This list is also available on the AgLearn “Contact Us” page at:
Points of Contact

- For assistance with registration in NEDC courses, contact:
  1. Your supervisor or Training Officer
  2. Lisa Visokey, NEDC Registrar
     NRCS National Employee Development Center
     Cell: 817-471-5735
     Office: 480-988-1078 x102
     Lisa.Visokey@ftw.usda.gov
     NRCS.AgLearn@ftw.usda.gov