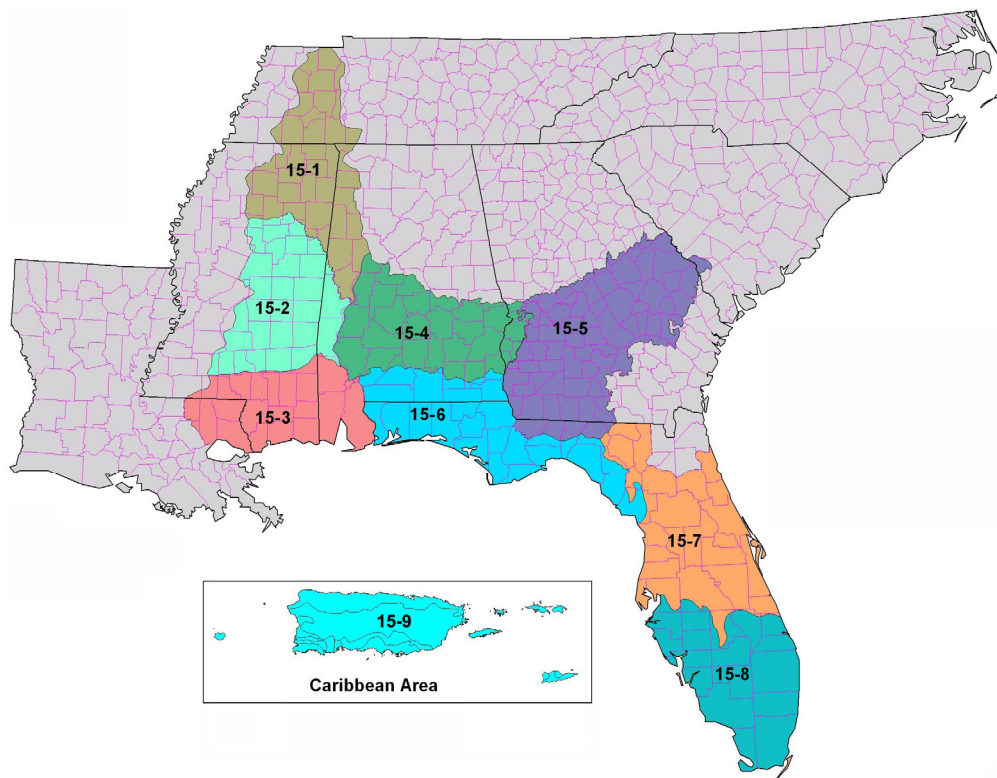


Southeast Coastal Plain and Caribbean MLRA Soil Survey Region #15

Fiscal Year 2009 Business Plan



**Submitted by:
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Auburn, AL**

November 2008

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this business plan is to provide information regarding program application for fiscal year (FY) 2009 to managers, staff, and customers of the National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS). Major Land Resource Area Office 15 (MO-15) shall endeavor to work closely with stakeholders of the Major Land Resource Area Soil Survey Region 15 (MLRA-SSR 15) to maintain common understanding and to provide a cooperative working knowledge of the FY-2009 business plan objectives and directives. This business plan identifies objectives, goals, and actions to facilitate production, development, operation, and distribution of a quality soil survey program throughout the region.

BUSINESS PHILOSOPHY

Vision

Maintain a state-of-the-art soil survey that meets customer expectations.

Mission

Provide technical leadership and support in the production, quality assurance, and delivery of scientifically based soil survey information in MLRA Soil Survey Region 15.

Partnership Quality Policy

We are committed to providing our customers with quality service through effective communication, professional integrity, and mutual respect.

Partnership Guiding Principles

- Customers
- Leadership
- Partnership
- Soil resources
- Integrity
- Cost-effectiveness
- Quality
- Communication
- Teamwork
- Creativity
- Accountability

BUSINESS PHILOSOPHY

(Continued)

We Shall:

- Build trust by treating MLRA–SSR 15 clients, members, and colleagues with integrity, honesty, fairness, and respect.
- Provide a work environment that encourages all employees to develop professionally and to apply their discipline skills, talents, and creativity.
- Coordinate MLRA–SSR 15 work with all the people who have an interest in the outcome.
- Explore opportunities that add value to achievement of MLRA–SSR 15 partnership goals.
- Continuously improve MLRA–SSR 15 workload processes to increase efficiency, enhance customer satisfaction, and promote teamwork.
- Apply science-based technology for continued enhancement of the technical quality of MLRA–SSR 15 products and services.
- Maintain excellence in professional ethics and responsibility for MLRA–SSR 15 program actions.
- Implement programs that are responsive, measurable, and accountable to the public trust.
- Focus on adult and youth soil education and information programs that support the 2009 business plan strategies.
- Provide educational methodology training for all staff and members of the Regional Soil Survey Partnership.
- Provide outreach assistance through soil survey efforts.

COORDINATION and QUALITY ASSURANCE

Objective I

Coordinate all soil survey activities within the MO-15 region.

Goal 1

Complete the initial soil survey within the MO-15 region.

Action Items	Who
Work with Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi to develop strategies to complete initial soil survey mapping by 2011.	Love, State Soil Scientists

Goal 2

Conduct field reviews and field assistance visits.

Progress Reviews	Who	When
Henry & Benton Counties, TN	Anderson	6–10 Oct. 2008
Screven County, GA	Brannon/Sowell/Perez	27 Apr.–1 May 2009
Greene County, MS	Brannon/ Langlinais	8–12 Jun. 2009
Washington County, AL	Brannon/ Langlinais	14–18 Sept. 2009
Final Field Review	Who	When
Lamar County, AL	Anderson/Depew	10–14 Aug. 2009
Lowndes County, AL	Anderson/McGhee	14–18 Sept. 2009
Final Correlations	Who	When
Stewart County, GA	Brannon/Monroe	27–31 Oct. 2008
Webster County, GA	Brannon/Moore	27–31 Oct. 2008
Washington County, FL	Brannon/Monroe	12–16 Jan. 2009
Scott County, MS	Brannon/TBD	26–30 Jan. 2009
Concept Orientation & Implementation	Who	When
MLRA Office 15-9	Brannon/Lugo	9–13 Feb. 2009
MLRA Office 15-8	Brannon/Yamataki	30 Mar.–3 Apr. 2009
MLRA Office 15-7	Brannon/Deniger	11–15 May 2009
MLRA Office 15-6	Brannon/Martinez	17–21 Aug. 2009
MLRA Office 15-4	Anderson/McGhee	TBD
MLRA Office 15-2	Anderson/Hatcher	TBD
MLRA Office 15-1	Anderson/Depew	TBD

COORDINATION and QUALITY ASSURANCE

(Continued)

Goal 3

Implement MLRA Soil Survey structure as cited in National Bulletin 430.7.2.

Action Items	Who	Dates
Develop a “ <i>Soil Survey Update Implementation Guide</i> ” for the MLRA Soil Survey Region 15.	Love, State Soil Scientists	Dec. 1, 2009
Complete the establishment of MLRA Soil Survey Area Offices (SSAOs) in the MO–15 region.	Love, State Soil Scientists, State Conservationists	FY–2009
Assist MLRA Soil Survey Leaders (SSLs) with a general evaluation of the MLRA Soil Survey Areas (SSAs).	Love, Anderson, Brannon	FY–2009
Assist MLRA SSLs in developing evaluation worksheets for the MLRA SSAs.	Anderson, Brannon	FY–2009
Work with MLRA SSLs to develop long range, project, & annual plans for the MLRA SSAOs.	Love, State Soil Scientists, Anderson, Brannon	FY–2009
Participate in meetings of the MLRA soil survey technical teams.	Love, Anderson, Brannon	FY–2009
Coordinate peer reviews of official soil series descriptions throughout the region.	Anderson, Brannon	FY–2009
Assist with the collection and scanning of historical data for the MLRA SSAOs.	Anderson, Brannon	FY–2009
Start the transfer of files & data from the MO to the MLRA SSAOs.	Love, Anderson, Brannon	FY–2009

Goal 4

Implement new technologies within the MO–15 region.

Action Items	Who	Dates
Refresh the core geospatial data layers for all nine MLRA SSAOs based on guidance from NCGC.	Norris, Spratling	Jan. 2009
Ensure that geospatial workstations and tablet PCs are deployed to the MLRA SSAOs.	Love, Norris	FY–2009
Assist in developing a guidance document for setting up geospatial data layers, geospatial workstations, and tablet PCs for each MLRA SSAO.	Norris	FY–2009
Participate in testing of workflow functions for the prototype of the National Soil Geospatial Database (in conjunction with MO–18).	Love, Norris, Gardinski, Spratling	FY–2009

PUBLICATION ACTIVITIES

Objective II

Produce quality soil survey products with a high level of technical accuracy that meet the needs of MO–15 clients.

Goal 1

Provide a quality assurance review of manuscripts.

Action Items	Who
Washington County, FL	Brannon
Stewart County, GA	Brannon
Webster County, GA	Brannon
Scott County, MS	Brannon
Wayne County, MS	Brannon

Goal 2

Provide English editing and typesetting of soil survey manuscripts for the Web Soil Survey.

Action Items	Who	Dates
Finish Bibb County, AL	Achen	1 st quarter, FY–2009
Finish San German, PR	Achen	1 st quarter, FY–2009
Finish Gadsden County, FL	Achen	1 st quarter, FY–2009
Leake County, MS	Achen	2 nd quarter, FY–2009
Washington County, FL	Achen	As received
Stewart County, GA	Achen	As received
Webster County, GA	Achen	As received
Scott County, MS	Achen	As received
Wayne County, MS	Achen	As received

Goal 3

Provide review (10% check) of digital map finishing for detailed soil maps to be posted on the Web Soil Survey.

Action Items	Who	Dates
Washington County, FL	Spratling	4 th quarter, FY–2009
Gadsden County, FL (1 quad)	Spratling	4 th quarter, FY–2009

Goal 4

Prepare historical replica CDs for published soil surveys.

Action Items	Who
In conjunction with the National program at Morgantown, WV, assist in the development and production of historical replica surveys for the MO–15 region.	Achen and Walker

PUBLICATION ACTIVITIES

(Continued)

Goal 5

Develop a plan for distributing text for MLRA soil surveys.

Action Items	Who	Dates
Contact MLRA SSLs to determine what information gathered during the update process is not being made available by the Web Soil Survey.	Achen	2 nd quarter, FY–2009
Write a draft plan for managing and distributing additional information gathered during the update process.	Achen	3 rd quarter, FY–2009

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIVITIES

Objective III

Effectively distribute information about the soil survey program to internal and external customers.

Goal 1

Create awareness of the soils program and gain support from a diversity of current and potential users of soil data.

Action Items	Who	Dates
Assist in development and production of biannual newsletter.	Achen and MLRA Staff	Fall and spring

SOIL SURVEY DATABASE

Objective IV

Assist states in the MO–15 region with maintenance and training for NASIS and Pedon and with maintenance of Official Series Descriptions (OSDs) and the Soil Classification (SC) file.

Goal 1

Maintain NASIS to meet national standards.

Action Items	Who
Maintain MO–15 NASIS user groups, reports, & queries.	Anderson
Provide QA of MO–15 SSURGO tabular data as requested.	Anderson
Provide QA of MO–15 STATSGO tabular data as requested.	Anderson
Transition NASIS to version 6.0.	Love, State Soil Scientists, Anderson, Brannon
Start assigning NASIS MUs & DMUs to MLRA SSAOs.	Anderson, Brannon
Assist MLRA SSAOs with analysis of NASIS data as requested.	Anderson, Brannon

Goal 2

Maintain Pedon program to meet national standards.

Action Items	Who
Maintain MO–15 Pedon user groups in NASIS.	Anderson
Assist MLRA SSAOs with Pedon data input as requested.	Anderson, Brannon
Assist MLRA SSAOs with analysis of Pedon data as requested.	Anderson, Brannon

Goal 3

Assist in the maintenance of OSDs and the SC file.

Action Items	Who
Start assigning OSDs to MLRA SSAOs.	Anderson, Brannon
Assist with and provide training on maintenance of OSDs and the SC file as requested.	Anderson, Brannon

SOIL SURVEY DIGITIZING

Objective V

Provide digital soil surveys for distribution within MLRA Soil Survey Region 15.

Goal 1

Perform soil business activities as part of the Soil Survey Digitizing Initiative and in support of other MO-15 projects.

Survey Area

Greene County, MS

Goal 2

Conduct a 10% quality assurance review of soil survey map compilation sheets and SSURGO review from projects within the MO region.

Survey Area

Osceola County, FL
Washington County, FL
Stewart County, GA
Webster County, GA
Attala County, MS
Leake County, MS
Scott County, MS
Wayne County, MS
Winston County, AL

Goal 3

Conduct a 10% SSURGO maintenance of MLRA digital soil survey mapping and updating activities.

Survey Area

Who

Greene County, MS	Spratling/Norris
Lamar County, AL	Spratling/Norris
Lowndes County, AL	Spratling/Norris
Washington County, AL	Spratling/Norris
Winston County, AL	Spratling/Norris

Goal 4

Conduct a 10% QA review for soil surveys being refitted to current SSURGO data digital orthoimagery.

Survey Area

Who

Elmore County, AL	Spratling/Norris
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COOPERATIVE SOIL SURVEY OPERATIONS and RESEARCH

Objective VI

Involve cooperators within the National Cooperative Soil Survey Program in all soil survey activities.

Goal 1

Initiate MLRA region-wide research and training.

Action Items	Who
Coordinate regional benchmark soils project.	Brannon
Sampling benchmark soils in Alabama.	Brannon

Objective VII

Improve external and internal customer service, including timely delivery of information and products in the region.

Goal 1

Assist MO–15 Board of Directors in deploying new technology to help facilitate all soil survey activities.

Action Items	Who	Dates
Attend MO leader's winter meeting in Phoenix, AZ.	Love	Jan. 2009
Attend MO leader's summer meeting in Massachusetts.	Love	Aug. 2009
Participate in Work Planning Conferences in MO–15 Region.	Love, Brannon, Anderson	TBD
Attend joint Board of Director's meeting for MOs 9, 15, 16, and 18.	Board members	TBD
Attend National State Soil Scientist Conference.	Love	TBD
Assist National Web Soil Survey Publication team.	Achen	FY–2009
Serve on National Content Management System team.	Achen	FY–2009
Serve as primary administrator for MO–15 SharePoint site.	Achen	FY–2009
Serve as backup administrator for MO–15 SharePoint site.	Anderson, Love	FY–2009
Serve as administrator for MO–15 SharePoint subsite.	MLRA SSLs	FY–2009

COOPERATIVE SOIL SURVEY OPERATIONS and RESEARCH
(continued)

Objective VIII

Effectively carry out civil rights and outreach programs in soil survey.

Goal 1

Assist State leadership management teams in the development and implementation of civil rights plans that deal with key issues in the region and work as a team to solve them.

Action Items	Who
Assist in the identification of under-served communities, and assist the communities to obtain needed information provided by the outreach efforts in individual states in the region.	Love
Work closely with field staff to make sure that the civil rights statement is used in our overall soil survey program when soils information is provided to our customers.	Love
Assist State leadership teams in developing a staffing plan that meets the needs and makeup for the soil survey project offices in the region.	Love

APPENDIX

MO-15 Board of Directors

NRCS State and Area Leadership

Gary Kobylski	State Conservationist, Chair	Alabama
Juan A. Martinez	Director	Caribbean Area
Carlos Suarez	State Conservationist	Florida
James Tillman	State Conservationist	Georgia
Kevin Norton	State Conservationist	Louisiana
Homer Wilkes	State Conservationist	Mississippi
Kevin Brown	State Conservationist	Tennessee

NRCS State and Area Technical Leadership

Charles L. Love	MO Leader/State Soil Scientist	Alabama
Carmen Santiago	Staff Soil Scientist	Caribbean Area
Milton Cortes	Acting State Soil Scientist	Florida
Edward Ealy	State Soil Scientist	Georgia
Jerry Daigle	State Soil Scientist	Louisiana
Kim Harris	Acting State Soil Scientist	Mississippi
Doug Slabaugh	State Soil Scientist	Tennessee

University Experiment Station Board Representatives

Monday Mbila, Ph.D.	Associate Professor	Alabama A&M University
Joey Shaw, Ph.D.	Professor	Auburn University
Joe Kpombrekou, Ph.D.	Associate Professor	Tuskegee University
William Kingery, Ph.D.	Associate Professor	Mississippi State University
Sabine Grunwald, Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	University of Florida
Vacant	Associate Professor	University of Georgia
Miguel A. Munoz, Ph.D.	Professor	University of Puerto Rico
Tom Ammons, Ph.D.	Professor	University of Tennessee

**APPENDIX
(Continued)**

MO-15 Field Soil Scientists

Alabama

Auburn, AL: MLRA Soil Survey Area 15-4

Lawrence McGhee	MLRA SSL	Lamar County Soil Survey
Sylvia Long	SS	Lowndes County Soil Survey
James Mason	SS	Lowndes County Soil Survey
John Burns	SS	Lowndes County Soil Survey

Mobile, AL: MLRA Soil Survey Area 15-3

Jerome Langlinais	MLRA SSL	Lamar County Soil Survey
Sandy Page	SS	Washington County Soil Survey
Vacant	SS	Washington County Soil Survey

Caribbean Area

Mayagüez, PR: MLRA Soil Survey Area 15-9

Jorge Lugo	MLRA SSL	MLRA Soil Survey Update
Samuel Rios	SS	MLRA Soil Survey Update

Florida

Quincy, FL: MLRA Soil Survey Area 15-6

Milton Martinez	MLRA SSL	Washington County Soil Survey
Martin Figueroa	SS	Washington County Soil Survey
Victoria Gardner	SS	Washington County Soil Survey
Willie Nelson	SS	Washington County Soil Survey

Tavares, FL: MLRA Soil Survey Area 15-7

Jeffery Deniger	MLRA SSL	MLRA Soil Survey Update
Kenneth J. Liudahl	SS	MLRA Soil Survey Update
Vacant	SS	MLRA Soil Survey Update

Fort Myers, FL: MLRA Soil Survey Area 15-8

Howard Yamataki	MLRA SSL	MLRA Soil Survey Update
Doug Lewis	SS	MLRA Soil Survey Update
Vacant	SS	MLRA Soil Survey Update

Georgia

Tifton, GA: MLRA Soil Survey Area 15–6

Alvin Perez-Torres	MLRA SSL	Stewart County Soil Survey
Ken Monroe	SS	Stewart County Soil Survey
Scott Moore	SS	Webster County Soil Survey
Alfred Green	SS	Stewart & Webster Counties Soil Survey

Statesboro, GA: MLRA Soil Survey Area 14–4

Casey Sowell	MLRA SSL	Screven County Soil Survey
Gary Hankins	SS	Screven County Soil Survey

Mississippi

Tupelo, MS: MLRA Soil Survey Area 15–1

Steve Depew	MLRA SSL	Lamar County, AL, Soil Survey
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Meridian, MS: MLRA Soil Survey Area 15–2

Chris Hatcher	MLRA SSL	Greene County Soil Survey
Paul Brass	SS	Greene County Soil Survey
Cheryl McLaurin	SS	Greene County Soil Survey

Tennessee

Jackson, TN: MLRA Soil Survey Area 16–7

Dr. Steve Monteith	MLRA SSL	Jackson, TN
Craig Harris	SS	Henry & Benton Counties Soil Survey
David Hargis	SS	Henry & Benton Counties Soil Survey
David Thomas	SS	Henry & Benton Counties Soil Survey

SS—Soil Scientist

MLRA SSL—Major Land Resource Area Soil Survey Leader