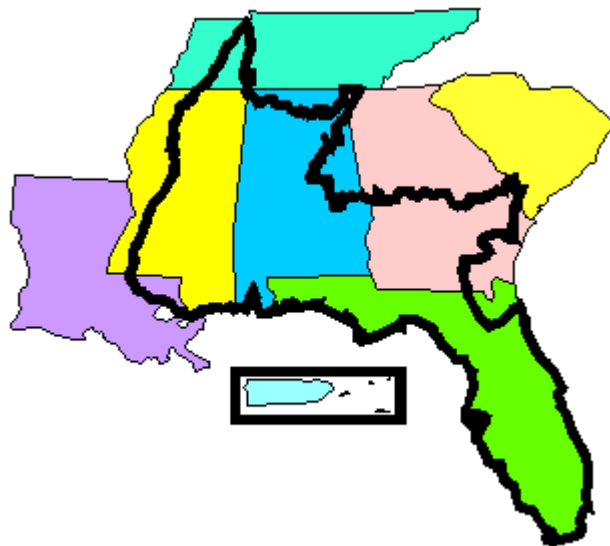


Southeast Coastal Plain and Caribbean MLRA Soil Survey Region #15

**Fiscal Year 2008
Business Plan**



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PURPOSE

The purpose of this business plan is to provide program application information for fiscal year (FY) 2008 to managers, staff, and National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS) customers. We shall endeavor to work closely with stakeholders of the Major Land Resource Area (MLRA) Soil Survey Region (SSR) 15 to maintain common understanding and to provide a cooperative working knowledge of the FY-2008 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 MLRA-SSR 15.

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 2008 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.

QUALITY ASSURANCE and PUBLICATION ACTIVITIES

Objective I

Effectively conduct soil surveys for assigned geographic areas using new technologies.

Goal 1

Implement the MLRA structure as cited in National bulletin 430.7.2.

Action Items	Who	Dates
Work with Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi to develop strategies to complete initial soil survey mapping by 2011.	Love	FY-2008

Goal 2

Develop comprehensive Soil Survey Area Office (SSAO) project work plans that meet National Soil Survey Handbook standards.

Action Items	Who	Dates
Work with states to establish four MLRA SSAOs in the MO-15 region.	Love/State Soil Scientists	FY-2008
Start working with states to develop long range project plans for the MLRA SSAOs.	Love/State Soil Scientists	FY-2008

Goal 3

Implement new technologies within the MO-15 Region.

Action Items	Who	Dates
Ensure that geospatial workstations and tablet PCs are deployed to the MLRA SSAOs.	Love/Norris	FY-2008
Assist in developing a guidance document for setting up geospatial data layers and geospatial workstations for each MLRA SSAO.	Norris	FY-2008

QUALITY ASSURANCE and PUBLICATION ACTIVITIES

(continued)

Objective II

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

Goal 1

Conduct field reviews and field assistance visits.

Progress Reviews	Who	When
Screven County, GA	Brannon/Casey	7–11 Jan. 2008
Lowndes County, AL	Anderson	June 2008
Greene County, MS	Brannon/TBD	18–22 Aug. 2008
Lamar County, AL	Anderson	August 2008
Washington County, AL	Brannon/Page	22–26 Sept. 2008
Washington County, FL	Brannon/Martinez	TBD
Field Assistance	Who	When
Washington County, FL	Brannon/Martinez	22–26 Oct. 2007
Deseret Ranch, FL	Brannon/Lewis	22–25 Jan. 2008
Washington County, AL	Brannon/Page	14–18 Apr. 2008
Greene County, MS	Brannon/TBD	14–18 Apr. 2008
Big Cypress Preserve, FL	Brannon/TBD	TBD
Mayaguez, PR	Brannon/Lugo	TBD
WCA Project, FL	Brannon/TBD	TBD
Winston County, AL	Anderson	TBD
Final Field Review	Who	When
Wayne County, MS	Brannon/TBD	26–29 Nov. 2007
Leake County, MS	Brannon/Brass	4–8 Feb. 2008
Stewart County, GA	Brannon/Monroe	25–29 Feb. 2008
Webster County, GA	Brannon/Moore	28–29 Mar. 2008
Scott County, MS	Brannon/Brass	14–18 Jul. 2008
Deseret Ranch, FL	Brannon /Lewis	8–12 Sept. 2008
Final Correlations	Who	When
Wayne County, MS	Brannon/TBD	12–16 May. 2008
Stewart County, GA	Brannon/Monroe	2–6 Jun. 2008
Leake County, MS	Brannon/TBD	16–20 Jun. 2008
Webster County, GA	Brannon/Moore	30 Jun.–3 Jul. 2008

QUALITY ASSURANCE and PUBLICATION ACTIVITIES

(continued)

Goal 2

Provide a quality assurance review of manuscripts.

Action Items	Who	Dates
Manuscripts for Quality Assurance Review		
Bibb County, AL	Anderson	July 2008
Gadsden County, FL	Brannon	TBD
Manuscript-in-State 10% Check		
Bibb County, AL	Anderson	Sept. 2008
Gadsden County, FL	Brannon	TBD

Goal 3

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

Action Items	Who	Dates
Stone County, MS	Achen	Nov. 2008
Bibb County, AL	Achen	As received
Gadsden County, FL	Achen	As received
Leake County, MS	Achen	As received
San German, PR	Achen	As received
Washington County, FL	Achen	As received

Goal 4

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

Action Items	Who	Dates
Coosa County, AL	Spratling	Feb. 2008
Bibb County, AL	Spratling	Jul. 2008

Goal 5

Prepare historical replica CDs for published soil surveys.

Action Items	Who	Dates
In conjunction with the National program at Morgantown, WV, assist in the development and production of historical replica surveys in the MO area.	Achen and Walker	FY-2008

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 MAINTENANCE

Objective IV

Maintain a complete soils database for MLRA–SSR 15 and a workforce trained in the use of NASIS.

Goal 1

Utilize NASIS soil database in MLRA–SSR 15 for ongoing projects.

Action Items	Who	Dates
Maintain MO–15 NASIS user groups, reports, & queries.	Anderson	FY–2008
Provide QA of MO–15 SSURGO tabular data as requested.	Anderson	FY–2008
Provide QA of MO–15 STATSGO tabular data as requested.	Anderson	FY–2008

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	Funding Year
Bibb County, AL	2008
Dallas County, AL	2008
Lamar County, AL	2009
Hardin County, TN	2008
Decatur County, TN	2008
Wayne County, MS	2008
Leake County, MS	2008
Winston County, MS	2008
Attala County, MS	2008

Notes:

Conecuh (funding year 2005) removed from list. Status: At MO-DU.

Marion (funding year 2004) removed from list. Status: Being digitally compiled at AL A&M.

San German, PR: Compilation completed, at MO digitizing center.

Sumter (funding year 2005) removed from list. Status: Compilation not started.

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	Funding Year
Dallas County, AL	2006
Liberty County, FL	2006
Marion County Area, FL	2006
Martin County, FL	2006
Bulloch County, GA	2007
Twiggs County, GA	2007
Washington Parish, LA	2007
St. Helena Parish, LA	2006
Washington Parish, LA	2006
Perry County, MS	2003
Smith County, MS	2003
Winston County, MS	2003
Carroll County, TN	2006
Chester County, TN	2006
Decatur County, TN	2007
Hardin County, TN	2006

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	Dates
Sampling benchmark soils in Florida.	Brannon	October 2007
Coordinate regional benchmark soils project.	Brannon	FY-2008
Initial soil mapping: Osceola, Martin, and St. Lucie Counties.	Brannon/TBD	FY-2008
Sampling benchmark soils in Alabama.	Brannon	TBD
Soil temperature study in Puerto Rico.	Lugo, Munoz, Beinroth, Bolivar, Brannon	TBD

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 leaders' winter meeting in Auburn.	Love	Feb. 2008
Attend National State Soil Scientist Conference.	Love	March 2008
Attend MO leaders' summer meeting.	Love	July 2008
Serve on National Soil Survey Schedule Analysis and Design team.	Love	FY-2008
Participate in Work Planning Conferences in MO-15 Region.	Love/SDQS	FY-2008
Assist National Web Soil Survey Publication team.	Achen	FY-2008
Serve on National Content Management System team.	Achen	FY-2008
Attend joint Board of Directors' meeting for MOs 13, 14, 15, 16, and 18.	Board members	TBD

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	Dates
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	FY-2008
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	FY-2008
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	FY-2008

APPENDIX

MO-15 Board of Directors

NRCS State and Area Leadership

Gary Kobylski	State Conservationist, Chair	Alabama
Juan A. Martinez	Director	Caribbean Area
Niles Glasgow	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
Deanna Anderson	State Soil Scientist	Florida
Edward Ealy	State Soil Scientist	Georgia
Jerry Daigle	State Soil Scientist	Louisiana
Vacant	State Soil Scientist	Mississippi
Doug Slabaugh	State Soil Scientist	Tennessee

University Experiment Station Board Representatives

Monday Mbila, Ph.D.	Associate Professor	AAMU
Joey Shaw, Ph.D.	Professor	AU
Joe Kpomblekou, Ph.D.	Associate Professor	TU
William Kingery, Ph.D.	Associate Professor	MSU
Sabine Grunwald, Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	UF
Larry T. West, Ph.D.	Associate Professor	UGA
Miguel A. Munoz, Ph.D.	Professor	UPR
Tom Ammons, Ph.D.	Professor	UT

AU—Auburn University
 AAMU—Alabama A&M University
 TU—Tuskegee University
 UPR—University of Puerto Rico
 UF—University of Florida
 UGA—University of Georgia
 LSU—Louisiana State University
 MSU—Mississippi State University
 UT—University of Tennessee

APPENDIX

MO-15 Field Soil Scientists

Alabama

Lawrence McGhee	SSPL	Bibb County Soil Survey
Angela Warden	SS	Bibb County Soil Survey
Sylvia Long	SS	Bibb County Soil Survey
James Mason	SSPL	Lowndes County Soil Survey
John Burns	SS	Lowndes County Soil Survey
Jerome Langlinais	MLRA PL	Tuscaloosa MLRA Project
Sandy Page	SSPL	Washington County Soil Survey
Joey Koptis	SS	Washington County Soil Survey

Caribbean Area

Jorge Lugo	SSPL	San German Soil Survey, Puerto Rico
Samuel Rios	SS	San German Soil Survey, Puerto Rico

Florida

Milton Martinez	SSPL	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

Georgia

Casey Sowell	SSPL	Screven County Soil Survey
Gary Hankins	SS	Screven County Soil Survey
Ken Monroe	SSPL	Stewart County Soil Survey
Scott Moore	SSPL	Webster County Soil Survey

Mississippi

Paul Brass	SSPL	Leake-Scott Counties Soil Survey
Vacant	SSPL	Greene-Wayne Counties Soil Survey

Tennessee

Craig Harris	SSPL	Henry-Benton Counties Soil Survey Update
David Hargis	SS	Henry-Benton Counties Soil Survey Update
David Thomas	SS	Henry-Benton Counties Soil Survey Update

SS—Soil Scientist

SSPL—Soil Survey Project Leader

MLRA PL—Major Land Resource Area Project Leader