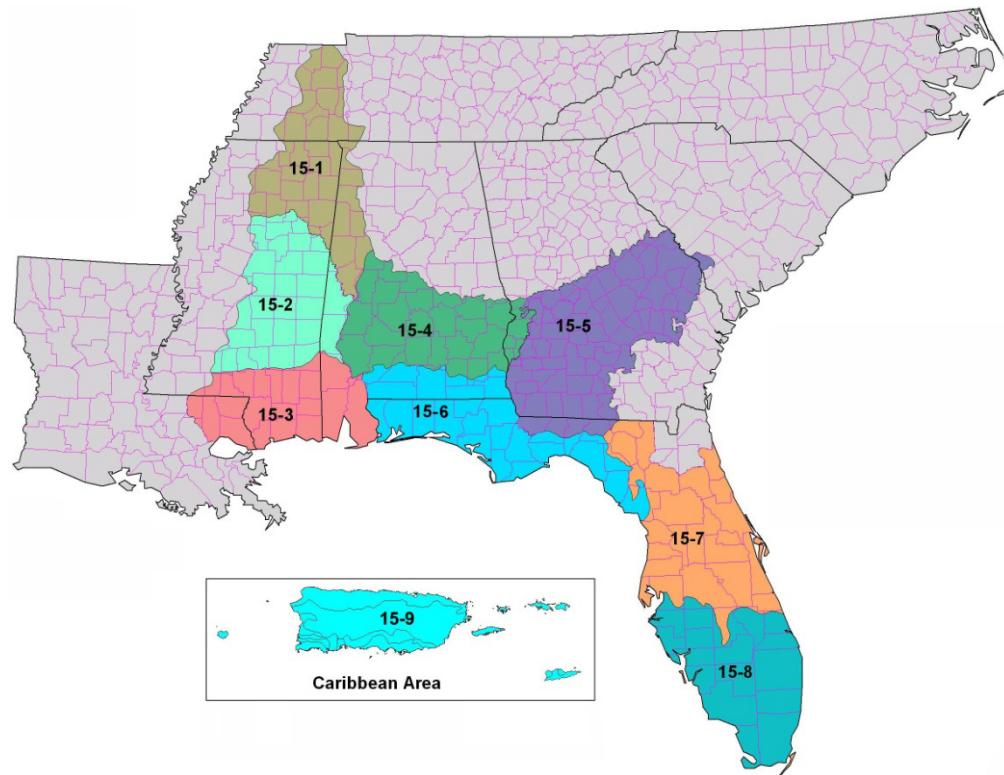


Southeast Coastal Plain and Caribbean Area MLRA Soil Survey Region 15

Fiscal Year 2012 Business Plan



**Submitted by:
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Auburn, AL**

November 2012

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this business plan is to provide information regarding program application for fiscal year (FY) 2012 to managers, staff, and customers of the National Cooperative Soil Survey. 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 to maintain common understanding and to provide a cooperative working knowledge of the FY-2012 business plan objectives and directives. This business plan identifies objectives, goals, and actions to facilitate production, development, operation, maintenance, 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

We Shall:

- Build trust by treating our 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 our work with all the people who have an interest in the outcome.
- Explore opportunities that add value to achievement of our partnership goals.
- Continuously improve our workload processes to increase efficiency, enhance customer satisfaction, and promote teamwork.
- Apply science-based technology for continued enhancement of the technical quality of our products and services.
- Maintain excellence in professional ethics and responsibility for our 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 2012 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.

SOIL SURVEY PROGRAM PRIORITIES

- Harmonization of NASIS databases (tabular data).
- Complete phase II of rapid carbon assessment project.
- Complete soil survey evaluations across the region.
- Update SSURGO data using MLRA project plan approach.
- Implement MLRA approach to ecological site inventory and development of ecological site descriptions (ESDs) in conjunction with soil survey on all lands.
- Initial soil survey mapping on federal lands.
- Coordinate data collection for National Resource Inventory.

COORDINATION and QUALITY ASSURANCE

Objective I

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

Goal 1

Conduct quality assurance reviews for long range plans and project plans within the MO–15 region.

Action Items	Who
Review LRP s & PP s as submitted.	Anderson
Edit LRP s prior to posting to NSSC SharePoint site.	Achen
Post LRP s to NSSC SharePoint site.	Anderson

Goal 2

Conduct field reviews and field assistance visits.

Final Field Reviews	Who
Washington County, AL	Brannon, Langlinais, Page
Greene County, MS	Brannon, Langlinais, Hatcher
Final Correlations	Who
Washington County, AL	Brannon, Anderson, Langlinais,
Greene County, MS	Brannon, Langlinais, Hatcher, Anderson

Goal 3

Assist MLRA soil survey offices (SSOs) with soil survey evaluations and technical-team oversight.

MLRA Updates	Who	When
MLRA SSO 1 (Tupelo)	Anderson, Brannon	5/30/12
MLRA SSO 2 (Meridian)	Anderson, Brannon	5/30/12
MLRA SSO 3 (Mobile)	Anderson, Brannon	5/30/12
MLRA SSO 4 (Auburn)	Anderson, Brannon	5/30/12
MLRA SSO 5 (Tifton)	Anderson, Brannon	5/30/12
MLRA SSO 6 (Quincy)	Anderson, Brannon	5/30/12
MLRA SSO 7 (Tavares)	Brannon, Anderson	5/30/12
MLRA SSO 8 (Ft. Myers)	Brannon, Anderson	5/30/12
MLRA SSO 9 (Mayagüez)	Anderson, Brannon	5/30/12

Goal 4

Assist MLRA SSOs with recorrelation of joins in soil survey data to facilitate information matches across the MO region (using the do-no-harm approach).

MLRA Updates	Who
MLRA SSO 1 (Tupelo)	Anderson, Brannon
MLRA SSO 2 (Meridian)	Anderson, Brannon
MLRA SSO 3 (Mobile)	Anderson, Brannon
MLRA SSO 4 (Auburn)	Anderson, Brannon
MLRA SSO 5 (Tifton)	Anderson, Brannon
MLRA SSO 6 (Quincy)	Anderson, Brannon
MLRA SSO 7 (Tavares)	Brannon, Anderson
MLRA SSO 8 (Ft. Myers)	Brannon, Anderson
MLRA SSO 9 (Mayagüez)	Anderson, Brannon

Goal 5

Implement new technologies within the MO–15 region.

Action Items	Who
Use Lidar flown in Jackson, DeKalb, Marshall, and Blount Counties (MLRA SSOs 15–3 and 15–4) to assess improvement of soil line placement in conjunction with new technologies, such as the LESS model and ArcSIE.	Norris

Goal 6

Assist MLRA SSOs to revise and update official series descriptions.

Action item	Who
MLRA SSO 1 (Tupelo)	Anderson
MLRA SSO 2 (Meridian)	Anderson
MLRA SSO 3 (Mobile)	Anderson
MLRA SSO 4 (Auburn)	Anderson
MLRA SSO 5 (Tifton)	Anderson
MLRA SSO 6 (Quincy)	Anderson
MLRA SSO 7 (Tavares)	Anderson
MLRA SSO 8 (Ft. Myers)	Anderson
MLRA SSO 9 (Mayagüez)	Anderson

Goal 7

Complete phase II of “Rapid Assessment of America’s Soil Carbon Status for Climate Change and Conservation Planning” by March 30, 2012.

Action Items	Who	When
Complete sieving, weighing, and drying for 9,000 soil samples.	Long, MLRA SSLs, Cooperators	12/31/11
Complete VNIR scanning analysis for 9,000 soil samples.	Long	3/30/12
Populate and upload 398 central pedons from RaCA sites to NASIS.	MLRA SSLs	3/30/12
Complete QC reviews for all RaCA-related NASIS data population.	Long	3/30/12
Complete updated RaCA workbooks on MO–15 SharePoint site.	MLRA SSLs	3/30/12

Goal 8

Provide NASIS quality assurance reviews to ensure soil properties are consistent and meet harmonization standards.

Action Items	Who
Review as projects are completed.	Anderson

Goal 9

Review the completed general evaluations from the MLRA SSOs.

Action Items	Who
Review as submitted to MO.	Anderson

Goal 10

Maintain the MO-15 SharePoint site.

Action Items	Who
Provide administration for MO-15 SharePoint site.	Achen
Provide administration for MO-15 SharePoint subsites.	MLRA SSLs
Develop training materials to promote use of the site.	Achen

Objective II

Provide training to MLRA SSOs and to states in the MO-15 region for NASIS, Pedon, and maintenance of official series descriptions.

Goal 1

Provide NASIS training to meet national standards.

Action Items	Who	When
NASIS training for 23 at Gainesville, FL, or Athens, GA.	Anderson	Jan. 23–27, 2012

Goal 2

Provide training on spatial aspects of project plans.

Action Items	Who
Offer technical assistance, support, guidance, and training as requested or needed for all MLRA SSOs.	Norris

Goal 3

Assist MLRA SSOs with development and execution of project plans, including writing milestones, assigning acres, and reporting progress.

State	Office	Project Name	Project Acres	Who	When
AL	15-3	MLRA 133A: Data Integrity Project to Support Calculated Ts & Ks	—	Langlinais	2012
AL	15-3	MLRA 133A: Evaluation of Existing Soil Surveys	None	Anderson, Norris, Benham, SSL	2012

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State	Office	Project Name	Project Acres	Who	When
AL	15-3	MLRA 152A: Evaluation of Existing Soil Surveys	None	Anderson, Norris, Benham, SSL	2012
AL	15-4	MLRA 133A: Evaluation of Existing Soil Surveys	None	Anderson, Norris, Benham, SSL	2012
AL	15-4	MLRA 152A: Evaluation of Existing Soil Surveys	None	Anderson, Norris, Benham, SSL	2012
AL	15-4	MLRA 135A: Problem Soils Study	303,342	John Burns	April 2012
AL	15-4	MLRA 135A: Recorrelation of West Point Series	19,238	John Burns	June 2012
AL	15-4	MLRA 135A: Recorrelation of Bowie Series	32,373	John Burns	July 2012
AL	15-4	MLRA 133A: Database Integrity Project in Support of Calculated Ts & Ks	110,703	John Burns	July 2012
FL	15-6	MLRA 133A, 152A: Florida 15-6 SSO Spatial Evaluations	None	Anderson, Norris, Benham, SSL	2012
FL	15-7	MLRA 154: Evaluation of Astatula Sand in the South Central FL Ridge	278,605	Matos	2012
FL	15-7	MLRA 154, 155, 138: Florida 15-7 SSO Spatial Evaluations	None	Anderson, Norris, Benham, SSL	2012
FL	15-8	MLRA 156A: Initial Mapping of Water Conservation Area 2A and 3A (North)	—	Yamataki	2012
FL	15-8	MLRA 155, 156A, 156B, 154: Florida 15-8 SSO Spatial Evaluations	None	Anderson, Norris, Benham, SSL	2012
GA	15-5	MLRA 133A: Georgia 15-5 SSO MLRA Evaluations	None	Torres	2012
MS	15-1	MLRA 133A: Caledonia Series Study 15-1	12,823	Depew	2012
MS	15-1	MLRA 135A: Recorrelation of West Point Series Monroe County, MS, 15-1	13,046	Depew	2012
MS	15-1	MLRA 133A: Recorrelation of Fall Line Hills MS095 15-1	—	Depew	2012
MS	15-2	MLRA 15: Silt Content and Analysis of Sweatman and Luverne Soil Series	254,539	Hatcher	2012
PR	15-9	MLRA 270: El Yunque National Forest SSURGO certification	55,694	Rios	2012
PR	15-9	MLRA 272: Coloso Series Evaluation	29,198	Rios	2013

State	Office	Project Name	Project Acres	Who	When
PR	15–9	MLRA 270 to 273: Soil Temperature Study in the Caribbean Area MLRA SS Update	—	Rios	2013

Goal 4

Assist with training on the Ecological Site Inventory for the State Resource Conservationist, MO staff, MLRA SSO leaders, and local staff.

Action Items	Who
Develop training materials related to ESI and distribute materials to MLRA SSOs and others.	MO–15 ESI QC Specialists
Review ecological site descriptions.	Michelle Clendenin

PUBLICATION ACTIVITIES

Objective III

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

Goal 1

Provide English editing and typesetting of soil survey manuscripts in streamlined format.

Action Items	Who	When
Lowndes County, AL	Achen	November, 2011
Lamar County, AL	Achen	When received
Winston County, AL	Achen	When received
Washington County, AL	Achen	When received

Goal 2

Prepare historical replicas of published soil surveys.

Action Items	Who
Produce historical replicas of surveys for the MO–15 region, including Cobb County, GA; Dougherty County, GA; Houston and Peach Counties, GA; Oglethorpe County, GA; McNairy County, TN; Sequatchie County, TN; Smith County, TN; Sumner County, TN; Wilson County, TN; Union Parish, LA; Webster Parish, LA; and Winn Parish, LA.	Achen
In conjunction with the National program, produce historical replicas for other surveys.	Achen

Goal 3

Edit updated soil survey information prior to delivery to the public.

Action Items	Who
Edit OSDs.	Achen
Edit nontechnical descriptions.	Achen, Assistant State Soil Scientists, Resource Soil Scientists
Edit ecological site descriptions.	Achen

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIVITIES

Objective IV

Effectively communicate information about the MO–15 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	When
Provide information about Soil Survey Division priorities to customers and cooperators.	MLRA Staff	FY–2012
Produce biannual newsletter.	Achen, MLRA Staff	November and May
Maintain and improve MO–15 public Web site.	Achen	FY–2012
Coordinate transfer of MO–15 public Web site to NRCS content management system.	Achen	FY–2012

SOIL SURVEY DIGITIZING

Objective V

Provide digital soil surveys for distribution within the MO–15 region.

Goal 1

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

Survey Area	Who
Winston County, AL	Long, Norris, Spratling
Washington County, AL	Long, Norris, Spratling
Greene County, MS	Long, Norris, Spratling

Goal 2

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

100 Percent Review	Who
Washington County, AL	Long, Norris, Spratling
Winston County, AL	Long, Norris, Spratling
10 Percent Review	Who
Screven County, GA	Long, Norris, Spratling
Greene County, MS	Long, Norris, Spratling
Henry-Benton, TN	Long, Norris, Spratling

Goal 3

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

Survey Area	Who
Screven County, GA	Long, Norris, Spratling
Henry-Benton, TN	Long, Norris, Spratling
Winston County, AL	Long, Norris, Spratling
Washington County, AL	Long, Norris, Spratling
Greene County, MS	Long, Norris, Spratling

Goal 4

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

Survey Area	Who
Elmore County, AL	Long, Spratling, Norris

Goal 5

Conduct digital map finishing.

Survey Area	Who
Lowndes County, AL	Long, Spratling, Norris
Winston County, AL	Long, Spratling, Norris
Washington County, AL	Long, Spratling, Norris

Goal 6

Provide assistance with digital map finishing to MLRA SSOs.

MLRA SSO	Who
MLRA SSO 1 (Tupelo)	Long, Norris, Spratling
MLRA SSO 2 (Meridian)	Long, Norris, Spratling
MLRA SSO 3 (Mobile)	Long, Norris, Spratling
MLRA SSO 4 (Auburn)	Long, Norris, Spratling
MLRA SSO 5 (Tifton)	Long, Norris, Spratling
MLRA SSO 6 (Quincy)	Long, Norris, Spratling
MLRA SSO 7 (Tavares)	Long, Norris, Spratling
MLRA SSO 8 (Ft. Myers)	Long, Norris, Spratling
MLRA SSO 9 (Mayagüez)	Long, Norris, Spratling

COOPERATIVE SOIL SURVEY OPERATIONS and RESEARCH

Objective VI

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

Goal 1

Assist the MO-15 Board of Directors in ensuring that the MLRA soil survey update and maintenance concept is fully implemented throughout the region in accordance with the priorities of the National Cooperative Soil Survey.

Action Items	Who
Attend MO leaders' meeting.	Love
Attend senior region soil scientists' meeting.	Anderson
Participate in work planning conferences in MO-15 region.	Love, Anderson, Brannon
Attend meetings of Ecological Site Inventory Committee.	ESI QC Specialists, Love, Anderson, Brannon
Participate in meetings of MLRA SSO technical teams.	Love, Anderson, Brannon
Interview experts in the Ecological Sciences Communities.	MO-15 ESI QC Specialists
Draft list of correlated soil components, conduct a sort or grouping, review current soil maps, and verify in the field.	MO-15 ESI QC Specialists
Collaborate with other State Resource Inventory Specialists in the region.	Long

Goal 2

Assist the MO-15 management team in ensuring that the MLRA soil survey update and maintenance concept is fully implemented throughout the region in accordance with the priorities of the National Cooperative Soil Survey.

Action Items	Who
Host teleconferences for MO-15 management team.	Love
Participate in meetings of MLRA SSO technical teams.	Love, Anderson, Brannon

Goal 3

Promote consistency in development and execution of project plans among the MLRA soil survey offices.

Action Items	Who	When
Host quarterly SSO teleconferences.	Anderson	4 times/year

Goal 4

Initiate MLRA region-wide research and training.

Action Items	Who	When
Conduct geomorphic evaluation of Caribbean limestone and karst.	Schoeneberger, Rios	FY-2012
Conduct soil temperature study in Caribbean.	Rios	1 st half FY-12
Conduct VNIR analysis for all RaCA SSO sites.	Long	Oct.-Mar.
Provide GPR training for MLRA SSO in Tifton, GA.	NSSC	Feb. 6-10
Maintain list of sampling projects for benchmark soils.	Anderson, Brannon	FY-2012
Conduct quality assurance reviews for all research proposals.	Anderson, Brannon, Love	FY-2012

Objective VII

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 ensure 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
Develop recruitment and mentoring strategies that promote a diverse workforce.	Love, State Soil Scientists
Contact chairs of state civil-rights committees to request civil-rights related articles for the MO newsletter.	Achen
Perform seminars to promote the Web Soil Survey to under-served communities.	Love, MLRA staff

APPENDIX

MO-15 Board of Directors

Bill Puckett	State Conservationist, Chair	Alabama
Edwin Almodóvar	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

MO-15 Management Team

Charles L. Love	MO Leader/State Soil Scientist	Alabama
Carmen Santiago	Staff Soil Scientist	Caribbean Area
Tom Weber	State Soil Scientist	Florida
Edward Ealy	State Soil Scientist	Georgia
Charles Guillory	State Soil Scientist	Louisiana
Delaney Johnson	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
Ramble Ankumah, Ph.D.	Professor	Tuskegee University
William Kingery, Ph.D.	Associate Professor	Mississippi State University
Sabine Grunwald, Ph.D.	Assistant Professor	University of Florida
Vacant	---	University of Georgia
Miguel A. Munoz, Ph.D.	Professor	University of Puerto Rico
Tom Ammons, Ph.D.	Professor	University of Tennessee

MO-15 Technical Team Leaders

Steve Depew	MLRA SSL	Tupelo, MS
Caleb Gulley	MLRA SSL	Milan, TN
Chris Hatcher	MLRA SSL	Meridian, MS
Jerome Langlinais	MLRA SSL	Mobile, AL; pending
Vacant	MLRA SSL	Mayagüez, PR
Milton Martinez	MLRA SSL	Quincy, FL
Manuel Matos	MLRA SSL	Tavares, FL
Lawrence McGhee	MLRA SSL	Auburn, AL
Alvin Perez-Torres	MLRA SSL	Tifton, GA
Howard Yamataki	MLRA SSL	Fort Myers, FL

Ecological Site Inventory Specialists

Dee Pederson	Athens, Georgia
Susan Carr	Tavares, Florida
Karrie Pennington	Jackson, Mississippi
Vacant	Aubun, Alabama (MO-15 staff)

MO-15 Field Soil Scientists

Alabama

Auburn, AL: MLRA Soil Survey Area 15-4

John Burns	MLRA SSL	MLRA Soil Survey Update
Cooper Nichols	SS, SCEP	MLRA Soil Survey Update
Vacant	SS	MLRA Soil Survey Update

Mobile, AL: MLRA Soil Survey Area 15-3

Jerome Langlinais	MLRA SSL	Washington County Soil Survey
Sandy Page	SS	Washington County Soil Survey
Joshua Reed	SS	Washington County Soil Survey

Caribbean Area

Mayagüez, PR: MLRA Soil Survey Area 15-9

Vacant	MLRA SSL	MLRA Soil Survey Update
Samuel Rios (Acting)	SS	MLRA Soil Survey Update

Florida

Quincy, FL: MLRA Soil Survey Area 15-6

Milton Martinez	MLRA SSL	MLRA Soil Survey Update
Willie Nelson	SS	MLRA Soil Survey Update
Vacant	SS	MLRA Soil Survey Update

Tavares, FL: MLRA Soil Survey Area 15-7

Manuel Matos	MLRA SSL	MLRA Soil Survey Update
Julie Ruh	SS	MLRA Soil Survey Update
Allison Steglich, Senior	SS	MLRA Soil Survey Update

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

Howard Yamataki	MLRA SSL	MLRA Soil Survey Update
Martin Figueroa	Senior SS	MLRA Soil Survey Update
Sherlynnette Perez-Castro	SS	MLRA Soil Survey Update

Georgia

Tifton, GA: MLRA Soil Survey Area 15–6

Alvin Perez-Torres	MLRA SSL	MLRA Soil Survey Update
Ken Monroe	SS	MLRA Soil Survey Update
Scott Moore	SS	MLRA Soil Survey Update
Alfred Green	SS	MLRA Soil Survey Update

Statesboro, GA: MLRA Soil Survey Area 14–4

Vacant	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
Michael Williams	SS	Lamar County, AL, Soil Survey
Vacant	SS	

Meridian, MS: MLRA Soil Survey Area 15–2

Chris Hatcher	MLRA SSL	Greene County Soil Survey
Vacant	SS	Greene County Soil Survey
Vacant	SS	Greene County Soil Survey

Tennessee

Milan, TN: MLRA Soil Survey Area 16–7

Caleb Gulley	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

SCEP: Student Career Experience Program

SS: Soil Scientist

MLRA SSL: Major Land Resource Area Soil Survey Office Leader