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Meeting Minutes

2023-09-26 Minutes

action item --- pedon/site observations need digitized within a timeframe of collection --- define in handbook ---
may need to coordinate with smart sheets?
need to clarify milestone completion criteria, Invite Tiffany Allen to speak at a meeting?
ISO standards are on the way next week
Waiting for a new DBE for NASIS data model deployment
flooding inundation -- clarifying specifications
ASR went well
populate soil order for all mapunits -- CART may want to use it as a query parameter
interpretations and STATSGO? cannot be run
order 5 SSURGO can have interps run
Stephen will check on language about providing interps and order of mapping
38% of mapunits in NASIS do not have order specified

2023-07-25 Minutes

NSSC Update Aaron Friend
Subteam updates
Site table and flooding frequency

1. make obsolete, and add new boolean field
2. 5 were in favor, 3 opposed

2023-04-28 Minutes

NGDA work S. Roecker
Q reports and weekly update J. Hammerly
Team Updates Team Leads

2023-03-28 Minutes

Team Updates Team Leads
Inter Focus Team Communications D. Wing

2023-02-28 Minutes

SRSS Items W. Gabriel
Quick Wins L. Morton
Sub-Team Updates Team Leads
Team Improvements J. Hammerly

Membership
Roles
Meetings
Action

2023-01-24 Minutes

Aggregate Stability Tables K. Godsey
Sub-Team Updates Team Leads
FLAG meeting takeaways S. Roecker

2022-11-22 Minutes

Sub-Team Updates Team Leads
Associated User Project ID K. Godsey
Team Planning Update L. Morton

2022-10-25 Minutes

Sub-Team Updates Team Leads
Focus Team Annual Report J. Hammerly
Miro Board Survey L. Morton

2022-09-27 Minutes

Sub-Team Updates Team Leads
Notes from Leadership Team Meeting L. Morton
Rayshader Visualizations J. Hammerly

2022-08-31 Minutes

Approval of the format for the OSD and the plans for the design and implementation of the OSD database W. Gabriel

2022-7-26 Minutes

Erosion Terms follow-up
 Adding mechanical erosion is a NO
 Adding wave erosion is a YES
Team updates
 The Data Integrity subteams is shifting their focus to point data transfer process. They will coordinate with the Point Data QC/QA subteam.
 The Mobile subteam has the upload forms working, will develop a DSP-pit training.
 The OSD subteam has a new draft of the OSD using a semi-tabular format.
 Discusses one of the DSS objectives to integrate other soil datasets (also required by the GDA).
Integrate Data Sub-team
Team Goals -- short term, long term -- discuss 2026 presentation

2021-09-28 Minutes

Point Data Certification J. Hammerly
 Stephen Roecker has offered to lead the point data certification team

NASIS Training Development J. Hammerly

Joe Anderson and John Hammerly will be meeting with Jennifer Mason to discuss the Basic NASIS training course

Team Updates Team

OSD team held the first meeting. MVP and phases to the updates were discussed.

2021-08-24 Minutes

Ad-Hoc Symbols in Web Soil Survey D. Kinney

The ad-hoc symbols used across the US are not standardized and have unique definitions which makes it difficult to manage and deliver: [Symbols](#)

Basic NASIS training course development J. Hammerly

Working with the training focus team to update basic NASIS training and offer the course nationally again in the future

2021-07-27 Minutes

Point Data

Investigate setting up a team to address needs for QC and QA of point data for public release

Mobile Data Upload Progress

Developers are looking at example JSON

OSD team

2021-06-22 Minutes

Training Updates S. McVey

1. QA/QC plan to evaluate existing training materials
2. Review new training items in development
3. Training needs from DBFT team members

Team Updates J. Hammerly

[NCSS DBFT Poster](#)

[NCSS DBFT Presentation](#)

https://usda.shinyapps.io/soilspec_app/
[Poster](#)

RD Minimum Standard Letter

OSD Team

2021-05-25 Minutes

Team Updates Team

NCSS Presentation and Poster

<https://youtu.be/6kPXzCfJyR8>

https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/PA_NRCSCconsumption/download?cid=nrcseprd1787846&ext=pdf

Focus team website has been updated

PI 14 planning

Handbook Update - minimum data

<https://directives.sc.egov.usda.gov/OpenNonWebContent.aspx?content=46752.wba>

OSD team formed

Wayne Gabriel and Dylan Beaudette are co-leads

National Point Data Maps S. Roecker



2021-04-27 Minutes

Replacement for SSURGO template S. Peaslee

SSURGO template replacement with an SQLite format is being explored. DB browser application is available for install by IT.

OSD Database J. Hammerly

Improvements to the OSD database is a short term team goal. A sub-team should be created to identify improvements and outline a path forward for NASIS integrations and new capabilities.

Mobile Data Collection

Research on the upload process was not added to PI 13 an alternative should be developed in the interim.

2021-02-23 Minutes

Website Updates J. Hammerly

The team page needs updating, take some time to review existing information and send me any corrections. Any suggestions for content or improvements are welcome.

Team Updates Team

Planning for PI 13 may include time to research mobile data collection form upload capability.

NASIS Bug Reports J. Hammerly

If bug reports are received by the soils hotline staff, I will try and duplicate before a ticket is submitted to address the issue in future NASIS releases. I may also ask for assistance from the team on this.

2021-02-23 Minutes

Training Plan Review J. Hammerly

A training plan was sent out to the focus teams for feedback. we identified a lack of ecological staff training opportunities in learning the SPSD database systems. We also recommended revisiting the option of having a national formal training of NASIS at the basic and advanced levels.

DSP Hub Updates J. Nemecek

A DSP Hub Development server is up and running with PostgreSQL, RStudio, and shiny-server. It will be a sandbox for testing new ideas and features that will integrate with the Hub.

NASIS Data Integrity J. Hammerly

We discussed the status of data integrity on a national level, and revisited the request made to include data integrity requirement in NSSH. We will be reaching out for follow up on the status.

Website Updates J. Hammerly

This item was tabled to the next meeting.

2021-01-26 Minutes

[Proposal](#) to update NSSH NASIS pop. guidance 618.47 & 618.48 for organic horizons D. Wing

Discussed changing the guidance from populating 0 for sand, silt, and clay to leaving null. Also suggests keeping sieves null as well. Dan W. will circulate the proposal for comment and review prior to bringing the document to the Senior Regional Soil Scientist Meeting next week.

Subteam updates

Point Certification W. Gabriel

The team is exploring options for flagging pedons for distribution -- mainly by using the area overlap table in NASIS until a better permanent solution is able to be enacted

Mobile Data Collection J. Hammerly

The team is finalizing a standardized form in Survey 123 to be used across SPSP, and exploring methods to streamline conversion of the data into a receivable format for NASIS. There are several options available -- worksheet upload, pedonPC access db, and through a modernization effort, a custom method is possible

WCS Update D. Beaudette

The experimental web coverage service for gSSURGO/gNATSGO is running and has [R functions](#) to simplify access to the data. Any input and/or reporting of issues is welcome. Kyle Stephens, Dan Wing and Joe Brennan will meet to discuss delivery of the raster soil data products to SDA

2020-12-22 Minutes

A RECORDING OF THIS MEETING IS AVAILABLE: [RECORDING](#)

Delivery of gridded data + SDA J. Hammerly

Dylan Beaudette has developed a method for obtaining soils information via a web coverage service (WCS)

Global soil map updates S. Roecker

SPSP systems diagram cleanup J. Hammerly

A new revised diagram might be useful - input from others appreciated:

[Diagram](#)

Connecting to national databases in RStudio J. Hammerly

A demo of making a connection to the production national databases in RStudio. Still investigating ways to extract spatial data.

[Basic Instructions](#)

2020-10-27 Minutes

Short and Long Term Team Planning J. Hammerly

[Focus Team Presentation to Leadership](#)

Open Source Data Users S. Peaslee

Exploring SQLite as a replacement for delivery of soils data may be viable. Anyone with experience using SQLite, which can provide input on its use are encouraged to share with the group and discuss any

advantages or disadvantages.

Lab Data Mart J. Nemecek, D. Beaudette, A. Diaz
NSSC Updates K. Stephens

2020-09-22 Minutes

SQL 2016 Advanced Analytics Extensions J. Hammerly

This is a feature which can be enabled during the install process and has different names depending on the SQL version. For 2016 it's called "R Services".

Some of the documentation here: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/sql/sql-server/editions-and-components-of-sql-server-2016?view=sql-server-2016#deciding-among--components>

Further explanation here: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/sql/machine-learning/r/sql-server-r-services?view=sql-server-2016>

Specifics on installation here: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/sql/machine-learning/install/sql-r-services-windows-install?view=sql-server-2016>

It should be explored as something we could test and potentially implement in the future. Some benefits to having the feature, if enabled, would be that it could make some of the NASIS calculations much more simple to write, and could make new calculations achievable, not possible previously.

Database snapshots and backups J. Hammerly

NASIS currently lacks a simple method for local backup or snapshot of data. Adding this feature could enable easier recovery of data due to deletion or modification errors, and could allow generation of new reports on historical data via a snapshot.

Shiny EcoSite Report J. Hammerly

The report can be viewed here: https://usda.shinyapps.io/eco_report/

This app replicates some of the functionality of the old ES reports available in WSS which were recently removed the uploaded shapefile is processed on shinyapps servers so be aware of PII if using.

2020-08-25 Minutes

Database Focus Team Updates J. Hammerly

Proposed OSD Object in NASIS: Pedon copy vs. links D. Beaudette

New soilDB Functions for gNATSGO/gSSURGO S. Roecker

2020-07-28 Minutes

Introductions / Roll Call J. Hammerly

Sub Team Reports Team

Mobile Data Collection

1. Have the Database Team petition the Division to back fill Henry Ferguson's old position. Henry

helped get data into NASIS from various sources (internal and external) as well as helped to clean up data that is currently in NASIS.

2. Have the Database Team petition the Regional Directors to agree to identify one person from each region to be trained on how to upload pedon data from various Apps outside of NASIS (Apps like collector, Survey123, pedon pc, excel workbooks, etc). There are several options that regions across the division are using for mobile data collection tools. When it comes time to get this data up to NASIS, there are only a few folks that know how to format the data and get it into NASIS (through excel workbooks). This is a bottle neck! No mobile data collection tool will streamline the data collection and entry process until we have folks trained on how to get that data into NASIS. (Kevin Godsey is the POC for this process and train the trainer possibility.
3. Have the Database Team petition the division to hire or train someone to assist George Teachman with the workload of how to address and handle new data fields (old or obsolete data fields, new data collection requirements, etc. in the NASIS database structure). Currently, George Teachman handles this and he is retiring in December 2020. If data is to continue to upload to NASIS from other means (Excel, Pedon PC, Survey123, etc.), the data will have to be compatible with the NASIS table structures (each external data column, row, cell will have to be cross-referenced with where it's going in NASIS). The Database Team could possibly help with this workload, but that sounds inefficient as everyone is stretched pretty thin these days.

EDIT Database

SSURGO Refresh

gNATSGO

gNATSGO and gSSURGO were recently released in spring of 2020

update of these products with the July 2020 data refresh may not happen, and instead may occur at the next July 2021 release

Worksheet Upload

SSD Tools Organization

KSSL

Useful links for laboratory data

https://jneme910.github.io/NRCS-Soil-Data-Access/sandbox/Lab_Chemical_Properties.html

https://nasis.sc.egov.usda.gov/NasisReportsWebSite/limsreport.aspx?report_name=SDA-KSSL

Links from Dylan

<https://github.com/ncss-tech/lab-data-delivery/>

<https://github.com/ncss-tech/lab-data-delivery/tree/master/manual>

Links to lab databases and documentation

<https://new.cloudvault.usda.gov/index.php/s/eSoPYbWDBQNX2HP>

Work continues on data integrity reports in NASIS. Progress on can be viewed within NASIS.

National Updates K. Stephens

FPAC NASIS Modernization -- SAFe (Scaled Agile Framework) based structure, will be working closely with developers on this process

ESIS, EDIT to NASIS, and EDIT to WSS -- testing functionality to ensure proper operation

Vegetation Data in NASIS J. Hammerly

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/John_Hammerly/publication/343190440_A_Tour_of_Vegetation_Data_in_the_Tour-of-Vegetation-Data-in-the-National-Soil-Information-System-Presentation