



## MLRA SOIL SURVEY RESTRUCTURING

### MLRA Restructure Terminology

- MLRA Soil Survey Area (SSA)
- MLRA Soil Survey Office (SSO)
- MLRA Soil Survey Leader (SSL)
- MLRA Soil Survey Regional Office (MO)

**Board of Directors** - Membership includes State Conservationists from the states serviced by the MO. They are responsible for providing guidance to the MO and for helping to resolve issues with the management team. They also review and approve the SSA Long-Range Plan.

**Management Team** - Membership includes State Soil Scientists and key partners from the states serviced by the SSO. Where Federal reimbursable projects are involved, the Federal NCSS partner(s) should also be included on the team. The Management Team is responsible for providing guidance and support to the SSO related to the development of long-range plans and project plans and setting priorities for project work.

**Technical Team** (replaces steering committees) - Membership includes the SSO staff, the respective Soil Data Quality Specialist, Resource Soil Scientists; and, where appropriate and beneficial, other NRCS personnel (such as district conservationists or specialists); and, where appropriate, Federal/State partners. Team members are responsible for assisting the SSL with the soil survey area evaluation and providing technical guidance to the SSO related to resource needs and concerns.

### MLRA Soil Survey Area Management Documents

**Evaluation** - This is a process/document that summarizes the deficiencies of soil survey information and products (attribute and spatial) within the SSA related to current customer needs and resource concerns. It is a vital document used to plan and guide future update work. Findings from the evaluation will be a large part of the SSA long-range plan. **An evaluation is required prior to beginning soil survey update activities. The time frame for completing an evaluation should be 1 year or less.**

**MLRA Soil Survey Update Implementation Guide** - Provides guidance to the SSOs for initiating and conducting soil survey update activities.

**MLRA SSA Long-Range Plan** - General overview of the SSA describing the area and the soil resource needs (inventory and soil resource assessment of the SSA).

**Project Plans** - Generally, these plans identify specific geographic subsets to be updated and enhanced.

**Annual Plan of Operations** - The APO should account for all staff time and activity within a fiscal year, including time and staff spent on update project activities.