

Soils Theme Strategic Plan

Theme Lead (Co-Leads): David Hoover, National Leader for Soil Business Systems

Theme Lead Agency(ies): USDA-NRCS

Executive Theme Champion: David Lindbo, Director, Soil Science Division

Executive Champion Agency: USDA-NRCS

Soils Theme NGDA Datasets	Dataset Manager Agency
National Coordinated Common Resource Areas (CRA) Geographic Database	USDA-NRCS
Major Land Resource Area (MLRA)	USDA-NRCS
Soil Survey Geographic Database (SSURGO)	USDA-NRCS
U.S. General Soil Map (STATSGO2)	USDA-NRCS
National Cooperative Soil Characterization Database	USDA-NRCS
Gridded Soil Survey Geographic Database (gSSURGO)	USDA-NRCS

Goal 1: Communicate the importance of soils to society.

Objective 1.1 Update soils data annually.

Anticipated Outcome: Provide access to the National Cooperative Soil Survey authoritative soils datasets.

Action 1.1.1 Update and publish metadata.

External Factors, Challenges, and Opportunities

There is always a challenge to keep up with technology while maintaining a stable public-facing application to deliver authoritative soils datasets.

Goal 2: Develop and deliver soils information for all lands in the United States.

Objective 2.1 Soils 2026

Anticipated Outcome: Complete inventory of soils data for all lands in the United States.

Actions 2.1.1 Continue inventory of soils to complete data voids.

External Factors, Challenges, and Opportunities

The challenge exists to complete the goal of having soils data for all lands in the US by 2026. There will always be concerns of budget and a skilled workforce to complete the inventory.