

## **Idaho Technology Authority (ITA)**

### **ENTERPRISE STANDARDS – S4000 INFORMATION AND DATA**

**Category: S4260 – SOILS DATASET STANDARD**

#### **TIM For Idaho Soils Dataset**

Data Nominated By: Jerry Korol NRCS Idaho State GIS Coordinator

Framework Data Theme: Soils

Framework Data Set: Soil polygons

Proposed Framework Dataset Name: National Soil Survey

Link To Publication Dataset Of Proposed Framework Dataset:  
<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/id/soils/> (Idaho Soil Survey Home)

<https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/> (Web Soil Survey Home)

Link To Metadata Of Proposed Framework Dataset:

[https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/soils/survey/geo/?cid=nrcs142p2\\_053631](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/soils/survey/geo/?cid=nrcs142p2_053631)

Link To Machine-Readable Metadata Of Proposed Framework Dataset:

<https://catalog.data.gov/harvest/object/788833aa-3154-4650-afb8-e0639e026c28>

Authoritative Source(s) Description: The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), formerly known as the Soil Conservation Service (SCS), was established in 1935 as a permanent agency in the United States Department of Agriculture. Public Law 74-46, the Soil Conservation Act, directed the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture to establish the SCS in order to coordinate and direct activities to provide for the protection of land resources against soil erosion, and authorized the SCS to conduct surveys, investigations and research related to soil erosion. Furthermore, Public Law 97-258, the Economy Act of 1982, authorizes the NRCS to provide leadership in the federal portion of the National Cooperative Soil Survey in conducting and publishing soil surveys for the United States. The NRCS soil survey program is an objective, orderly, scientific investigation conducted in accordance with the standards of the NCSS. The NRCS program—

- (1) Establishes and maintains standards for mapping, classification, correlation, interpretation, and other aspects of soil survey in conjunction with NCSS partners.
- (2) Collects information about the location and extent of soil resources of the United States.
- (3) Maintains the information to meet evolving and changing needs.
- (4) Interprets the information for a wide variety of uses.
- (5) Distributes the information in a variety of forms to a wide range of recipients.

- (6) Promotes the use of soil survey information.
- (7) Provides technical assistance in understanding soils and using soil survey.

The program is carried out by conducting field and laboratory investigations, mapping soil landscapes, developing appropriate databases, developing interpretive criteria, and providing soils information. Field investigations, mapping, and updating are conducted in the context of a comprehensive survey for one or more areas within major land resource areas (MLRAs) in accordance with needs documented in project plans. Data gathered during the survey are used to define soil characteristics and document decisions on mapping, classification, and correlation of the the soil. Soil survey data are maintained in official soil survey databases to facilitate dissemination; as reference for updating classification, correlation, and interpretation of the soils as technology changes; and to develop new interpretations and applications.

Link To Data Exchange Standard:

<https://gis.idaho.gov/coordination/standards.html>

<https://ita.idaho.gov/psq/g350.pdf>

Trusted Source Description: The Authoritative Source is publishing the data, hence is the Trusted Source.

Agreements Between Authoritative Source And Trusted Source: The Authoritative Source and the Trusted Source are one and the same; an agreement is not necessary.

Minimum Scale Of Dataset: A scale of 1:12,00 is considered the minimum usable scale, and 1:24,000 is preferred. The Area Of Interest defined by the Web Soil Survey (WSS) user must be larger than 0.05 acres, and smaller than 100,000 acres. A different website (the NRCS Geospatial Data Gateway) is available for downloading data at the county or state level.

Maintenance Schedule Of Framework Dataset: Annually, usually October - November

If this dataset is not a statewide coverage then please describe the methodology for developing or incorporating other data to make a statewide coverage: Current gaps in the data reflect areas managed by the U.S. Forest Service. The national forests often have their own soil data, but data are not collected to NRCS national standards. NRCS is working with several national forests to update their data to these standards.

Other information for the IGC-EC to consider: The dataset will not need to be hosted by INSIDE Idaho. Instead, a link to the Web Soil Survey would be provided. Web Soil Survey instructions could be provided as well, though they are available on the web site.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

For more information, contact the ITA Staff at (208) 605-4064.

## **REVISION HISTORY**

11/16/2017 – Approved by IGC-EC