

SBAAG

Soil Business Area Analysis Group

Organization, Background and Charges

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Executive Sponsor:

Berman Hudson, Director, Soil Survey Division, NRCS, Washington, DC

Group Members:

Rotating Members

Kenneth F. Scheffe, State Soil Scientist, NRCS, Albuquerque, NM (chair)

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Robert Dayton, Agronomist, Resources Inventory Division, NRCS, Ames, IA

Jennifer Sweet, SSURGO Support, NCGC, NRCS, Ft. Worth, TX

Background:

The Soil Business Area Advisory Group (SBAAG) is a cross-section of soil scientists and other technical experts who act as a sounding board and advisor to the Soil Survey Division Leadership on issues related to the soil survey business area. Members of the group are knowledgeable of the agency's data management needs and in the Soil Survey Program operations and function areas.

The group's primary function is to analyze the overall need for automation of soil survey technical and operational processes and to provide recommendations to the Division Leadership for that automation. The group's objectives are improving the quality and delivery of soil information and the processes by which that information is collected, managed, and developed.

The primary focus of the group has been and will remain The National Soil Information System (NASIS), since that system embodies most of the program's technical and operational data and processes.

NASIS is being developed incrementally, and it is essential that a group having an overall understanding of the system and of the soil survey program, prepare the project slate and develop the priorities for that development in a manner that best serves the needs of field and management.

SBAAG Charges:

1. Define an integrated soils application system by developing a Soil Business Area Analysis Plan.
2. Develop and maintain the priority slate of projects for the Soils Business Area Analysis Plan.
3. Address issues brought to the Group and identify other issues relating to the Soils Business Area automation.
4. Understand relationships and guide interaction of NASIS with other agency automation efforts.
5. Recommend individuals necessary to develop application requirement statements.
6. SBAAG may at times function as the group most appropriate for developing draft requirements for a particular application.