

SECTION II

II - A. OFFICIAL SOIL SURVEY INFORMATION

The following information regarding NRCS Official Soil Survey Information for a county or other designated soil survey area has been taken from the NRCS General Manual Section 430-402.5 “Official Soil Survey Information”.

A. Official Soil Survey Information (maps, data, interpretations, and metadata) is identified in the Field Office Technical Guide. Official soil survey attribute data, and to the extent practicable all other official soil survey information (maps, interpretations, metadata), are maintained in a central, sole-source repository (soil data warehouse) and accessible electronically through various soil data marts.

B. USDA program activities (e.g. Farmland Protection Policy Act, conservation planning, Conservation Reserve Program) that require soil survey information use the Official Soil Survey Information as identified in the Field Office Technical Guide.

C. Official Soil Survey Information may be changed only if the need for revision is identified and supported in a documented evaluation, throughout the entire geographic extent of each map unit to be changed, such evaluation to be performed by the NRCS as detailed in NSSH Part 610. Proposed revisions, modifications, and supplemental mapping are documented, and when determined appropriate by an evaluation of the soil survey, used to revise the Official Soil Survey Information. Changes to the Official Soil Survey Information may be extensive or limited in scope. Extensive revisions warrant a memorandum of understanding.

D. Changes to official soil survey information are approved by the State Technical Guide Committee (STGC). The State Soil Scientist participates with the STGC in approving changes to official soil survey information. The State Conservationist may delegate authority to the State Soil Scientist to approve changes to soil survey information without having to call a meeting of the full STGC for each change. Specific procedures for updating the Official Soil Survey Information are described in NSSH Part 638.08.

There are two primary ways to access Official Soil Survey Information: the USDA-NRCS “Soil Data Mart” (SDM) and the USDA-NRCS “Web Soil Survey” (WSS).

The Soil Data Mart is where you can either download spatial and tabular SSURGO (Soil Survey Geographic database) data for GIS analyses or generate reports and tables on-line.

The Web Soil Survey is where you can generate reports, tables, and soils maps through your web browser and save them on your personal computer.

This folder contains the Web Soil Survey web link and the Soil Data Mart web links for each California soil survey area organized by county under the sub-folder “County Soil Survey Reports”. For example, in the Fresno County sub-folder you will find the Soil Data Mart web links for CA653 – Fresno County, Western Part, CA and CA654 – Eastern Fresno Area, CA.