Properties Sub-Team meeting

6/6/18

Participants:

* 1. Dylan Beaudette
  2. Colby Brungard
  3. Tom D’Avello
  4. Chad Ferguson
  5. Suzann Kienast-Brown
  6. Zamir Libahova
  7. Jessica Philippe – absent
  8. Stephen Roecker
  9. Alex Stum
  10. Travis Nauman
  11. Jim Thompson
  12. Rob Vaughan – absent
  13. Skye Wills
  14. Dave Zimmerman

Agenda:

* Follow-up from West Region NCSS meeting (Suzann, Travis, Colby)
  + Raster interpretations
    - Raster interpretations generator project (gSSURGO)
      * Drew Kinney and Dave Hoover both talked about this project at the conference
      * Upon further clarification – the project has been approved but not funded; received information from Maxine Levin and passed on to Dylan to compare to what he and Jason had worked on previously
      * Suzann will follow up with interpretations staff and set up a meeting to discuss our goals of developing interpretations from continuous properties
    - Bob Dobos – sub-team to provide example dataset to start exploration of interpretations from continuous property data
      * Travis has a dataset from the upper CO River basin that has continuous properties predicted in depth intervals; data structure is similar to what we are pursuing
      * Perhaps Bob can focus on Valley Fever interpretation for this test dataset
      * Suzann will follow up with Bob and propose the CO River basin dataset for testing; perhaps set up a meeting with him
      * Skye and Zamir can follow up with Bob if needed
  + Soils2026 continuous properties project funded
    - Funds channeled through WVU; Jim will expand on this to the group
      * Jim awaiting details of agreement from Hoover; he hopes to have details at our next sub-team meeting
    - Discuss best use of funds
      * Personnel – hire a post-doc
        + Focus on specific tasks such as ranking/weighting of point data, stratification for modeling domains, etc
        + Person needs to be fully integrated with NRCS/NCSS and this sub-team for this to be successful
        + Amanda Ramcharan was suggested; Travis will inquire about her situation
      * Working sessions – bring everyone together in workshop setting for a week at a time since time is everyone’s limiting factor
        + Funds from agreement could be used for non-NRCS personnel travel; we can submit a proposal to HQ to fund NRCS personnel for working sessions
    - Ideally, we would do both – hire task oriented post-doc and hold working sessions
  + Other items from the meeting?
    - None
* Group discussion
  + As we move forward, it is imperative we demonstrate the application of these raster products
  + Appeal to those inside and outside NCSS with application for specific concerns
    - Link to conservation planning; farm bill programs
    - Wetlands
    - Ecological site development
    - Dust
  + Discussion initiated about 30m scale – need to determine scale that will help manage expectations – what’s possible vs. what’s reasonable – will table discussion for future meeting
* Next steps
  + Test some ideas on SoilGrids100 covariate data
    - Use this data to test some of the most pertinent questions as we are working toward preparing other covariate data
    - Prioritize testing
      * Stratification of modeling domains
        + Perhaps start with MLRAs to stratify and compare results to SoilGrids100
        + Parallelization of workflow should be evaluated
      * Ksat, AWC, depth to restrictive layer, and thickness were key to hydrologists needs (from TX meeting)
  + Continue work with Rob and Colby
    - Development of 30m covariates
  + Others?
* Other items
  + gPROP for name of continuous property products – chime in if you have other ideas
  + Suzann is working with Kyle Stephens from the database focus team on a short article for the SSD weekly outlining the gridded products and how they are related, or not
  + The DSM focus team has presented five NSSC webinars in the past six months and would like to continue the series with one every month or so; please volunteer if you have interesting DSM projects that could fit into a one-hour webinar
    - Travis has a couple projects he could present
    - Dave White from Las Cruces SSO has also agreed to present his update work

Next meeting: June 18 @12:30pm CST