Properties Sub-Team meeting

6/18/18

Participants:

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

Agenda:

* Update on WVU agreement details – Jim
  + Soils2026 raster continuous soil properties project
  + Conversation with Hoover, Kinney
    - Explained focus team vision for these products
    - Supportive of approach and products
      * Not using SSURGO or STATSGO for input data – derived from point data using statistical/machine learning methods
    - What is the delivery mechanism and how does that influence what we produce?
  + 150k over 2 years
    - Opportunity to add funding after 2 years
    - Extension for 3 years available if needed
  + Post-doc
    - Conversation with Amanda and Travis
      * She is interested
    - Preference is for post-doc to be in Morgantown, but not imperative
      * Location not as important as getting the right person and getting the work done
      * Could sub-contract with Colby at NMSU
      * Main goal is get this done; continuous soil property rasters for US asap
    - Create momentum and push goals of focus team forward
  + Kinney requested proposal by July 15
    - Contract to start before Sept 30 to obligate FY18 funds; to begin spending on Oct 1
  + Improvements to previous efforts
    - Covariates – better input data
      * For example: parent materials – Skye and others working on this
      * Rob is also working on 30m covariates (elevation, imagery)
    - More input point data
    - Stratification of the modeling domains
  + What role does the focus team play?
    - Post-doc becomes a member of the sub-team
    - Collaborates with sub-team who provides direction, discussion, oversight
      * Sub-team actively engaged with post-doc
    - Engage with SSD staff; incorporate property products into yearly workloads
      * Share your ideas on how to make this succeed
        + Ownership of update process to improve product
        + Connect to acre goals
        + Connect to DSM projects that SSOs are already doing in their local areas
        + Replicate node idea of GSM structure with each SSD Region serving as a node
    - Goal is to integrate work of post-doc and sub-team into agency so NRCS/NCSS has ownership over methods and products
* 2018 field week proposal – Tom
  + Proposal emailed to group
    - Dates have not been decided; will wait for proposal to move forward and determine how many people can be supported to attend
  + Training via an in-progress project (update or initial)
  + Cross pollinate between DSM focus team and field crew
  + Achieve objective of project
  + Develop a network of SSD staff
  + Feeds into goals of DSM sub-teams (initial, update, properties)
  + Structure weeks to integrate both field and modeling activities
* Interpretations update – info from Maxine – Suzann will send email
  + Approved as SSRA priority; not funded
    - Have the ability to adjust soil properties from site specific locations and generate on the fly interpretations (from ready-to-use interpretations) for desktop and mobile applications.
    - Have the ability for users to create new interpretations outside of the transactional NASIS database.
    - Have the ability to use geospatial layers from many formats to integrate into the soils data for developing more spatially explicit interpretations.
  + Dylan will summarize work that he and Jason started
  + Set up meeting with interpretations staff to discuss what we envision
    - Subset of people who want to focus on this?
* Github – dsm-properties-subteam under ncss-tech
  + Stephen – done
  + Add members and meeting info and other supporting documentation