

Soil Science Division Training

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SSD Courses & Sessions

- ◎ 21 NEDC Courses
 - Prerequisites

- ◎ 20-24 Sessions
 - Instructor Cadres

SSD Training Schedule

☉ Training Needs Inventory

☉ Schedules & Course Description

- NSSC Page
- AgLearn
- NEDC Course Catalog

Soil Education

- Grades K thru 6
- Grades 7 thru 12
- College Level
- NCSS Members

NCSS Members

 [Sign up for E-mail updates on NCSS Training Needs](#)

This training information is directed to employees of agencies participating in the National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS).

NCSS Training Course Materials -- Links training course materials.

Schedules -- Links to or listings of courses for NEDC, ES

Job Aids -- Access to job aids prepared as alternatives to

On-the-Job Training (OJT) Modules -- Training modules for soil scientists.

On-the-Job Training (OJT) -- Guidelines and job aids for

Syllabuses -- Recommendations for soil scientists and G

Specialized Training and Training Plans -- Training plans for soil scientists and others in the National Cooperative Soil Survey

SSD Training Resources Beyond NEDC Coursework

- ◎ Videos & Webinars
- ◎ ENTSC Library
- ◎ ESRI Virtual Campus
- ◎ Training Plans
- ◎ Job Aids & OJT Modules

Soil Education

Grades K thru 6

Grades 7 thru 12

College Level

NCSS Members

Videos and Webinars

Quick Links

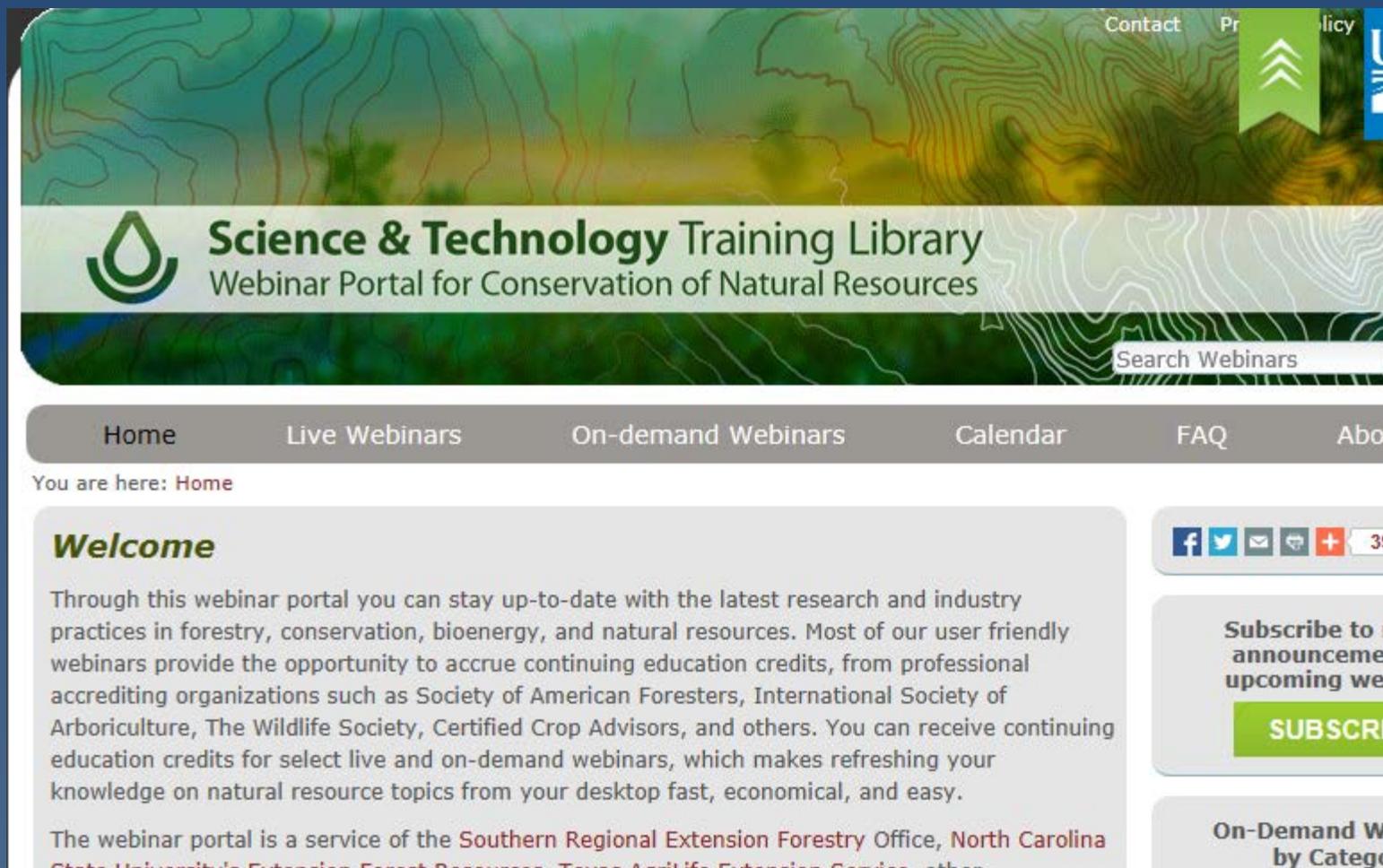
- > [YouTube Videos](#)
- > [Webinars on YouTube](#)
 - > [Soil Business Systems](#)
 - > [Soil Quality and Ecosystems](#)
 - > [Soil Interpretations](#)
 - > [Soil Survey Research and Laboratory](#)
 - > [Soil Survey Standards](#)
 - > [Technical Soil Services](#)
- > [Other Soil-Related Videos](#)

[National Soil Survey Center YouTube channel](#)

- > [How to Sample Bulk Density in the Field](#) (1/15)
- > [A Soil Scientist's Perspective](#) (6/14)

SSD Training Resources Beyond NEDC Coursework

- ⦿ Videos & Webinars
- ⦿ ENTSC Library
- ⦿ ESRI Virtual Campus
- ⦿ Training Plans
- ⦿ Job Aids & OJT Modules



SSD Training Resources Beyond NEDC Coursework

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ESRI Virtual Campus Training

Overview

The ESRI Virtual Campus training provides a high-quality learning experience using interactive exercises, examples, and instructional resources to create a rich learning environment.

Web courses teach a variety of topics related to ESRI software, the theory underlying GIS technology, and the application of GIS tools in particular fields. Some Web courses include downloadable trial editions of ESRI software.

Are you new to online self-paced courses on our Virtual Campus? The [course orientation](#)  [\[Flash\]](#) [\[non-Flash version\]](#)  provides a tutorial on how to navigate a Virtual Campus course.

SSD Training Resources Beyond NEDC Coursework

- ◎ Videos & Webinars
- ◎ ENTSC Library
- ◎ ESRI Virtual Campus
- ◎ Training Plans
- ◎ Job Aids & OJT Modules

Soil Education

Grades K thru 6

Grades 7 thru 12

College Level

NCSS Members

NCSS Members

 [Sign up for E-mail updates on NCSS Training News](#) 

This training information is directed to employees of agencies participating in the National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS).

NCSS Training Course Materials -- Links training course materials.

Schedules -- Links to or listings of courses for NEDC, ESRI, NSSC, and NCGC.

Job Aids -- Access to job aids prepared as alternatives to training.

On-the-Job Training (OJT) Modules -- Training modules for newly employed scientists.

On-the-Job Training (OJT) -- Guidelines and job aids for those who prepare a

Syllabuses -- Recommendations for soil scientists and GIS support.

Specialized Training and **Training Plans** -- Training plans, list of courses, and job aids for soil scientists and others in the National Cooperative Soil Survey.

New SSD Training Resources

◎ Coming Soon

- Expanded Introduction to Digital Soil Mapping Workshop
- Statistics in Soil Survey
- Soil Property Module Series
- How to Measure and Record Rock Fragments Video
- National Seminars Webinar Access

New SSD Training Resources

Available Now

- NRCS Photo Gallery
 - (<http://photogallery.nrcs.usda.gov/res/sites/photogallery/>)
- Guide to Pronouncing Taxonomic Terms
 - (<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/soils/home/?cid=NRCSEPRD376616>)
- Illustrated Guide to Soil Taxonomy
 - (http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/soils/survey/class/taxonomy/?cid=nrcs142p2_053580#illustrated)
- Ecological Site Inventory
 - OJT Modules

National Ecological Site Training Team OJT Modules & Other Training Opportunities

Johanna Pate
Rangeland Management Specialist
National Grazing Lands Team

◎ National Ecological Site Training Team consists of

◎ Executive Committee

◎ Curriculum Managers

◎ Lesson Plan Developers

- ◎ Developed a comprehensive catalogue of existing training materials
- ◎ Training materials consist of webinars, power point presentations, workshops, NEDC courses, You Tube videos and On-the-job training modules
- ◎ Material is broken down into 11 categories

Categories

- ◎ Overview
- ◎ Conservation Planning
- ◎ Soils
- ◎ Ecology
- ◎ Inventory

- ◎ Classification and Concepts
- ◎ Development
- ◎ State and Transition Model
- ◎ Writing
- ◎ Interpretations
- ◎ Data Bases

- ◎ Developed a spreadsheet listing all knowledge, skills and abilities needed in order to write Forestland and Rangeland Ecological Site Descriptions
- ◎ Matched catalog of existing training resources with KSA(s)
- ◎ Started with OJT Modules

- ◎ 701 How to access and use the Ecological Site Information System (PDF; 55 KB)
- ◎ 702 How to find, access, and use the Web Soil Survey website (PDF; 104 KB)
- ◎ 703 How to access ecological site information within Web Soil Survey (PDF; 47 KB)
- ◎ 704 How to access and use the PLANTS database (PDF; 50 KB)
- ◎ 705 How to conduct a belt transect (PDF; 49 KB)
- ◎ 706 How to conduct a gap intercept (PDF; 50 KB)
- ◎ 707 How to conduct a line point intercept (PDF; 50 KB)
- ◎ 711 How to conduct the dry weight rank method (PDF; 49 KB)
- ◎ 712 How to conduct the point-intercept method (PDF; 53 KB)
- ◎ 713 How to conduct the step-point method (PDF; 51 KB)
- ◎ 717 How to determine tree density (PDF; 46 KB)
- ◎ 718 How to gather background information for an ecological site (PDF; 53 KB)
- ◎ 719 How to locate, access, and use local flora information (PDF; 48 KB)
- ◎ 720 How to measure plant production with the comparative yield method (PDF; 53 KB)
- ◎ 727 How to set up for photo points (PDF; 49 KB)

OJT Training Module Cover Sheet

Title: 713 How to conduct the step-point method

Type: Skill Knowledge

Performance Objective: Trainee will be able to...

- Use the step-point method to estimate soil cover, including vegetation, litter, rocks, and biotic crusts.

Target Proficiency:

- Awareness Understanding Perform w/ supervision
 Apply independently Proficiency, can teach others

Trainer Preparation:

- Review the assigned reading material in the lesson plan that follows.

Special Requirements:

None

Prerequisite Modules:

- 707 How to conduct a line-point intercept
- 726 How to set up a vegetation transect

Notes:

The procedure is the same as the line-point intercept method except that step points are used instead of a measuring tape.

Authors:

Johanna Pate
J.B. Daniel

AgLearn Registration & Withdrawals

Presenter: Lisa Visokey, NEDC Registrar
NRCS National Employee Development Center

AgLearn – Supervisor Verification

The screenshot displays the AgLearn+ web application interface. At the top left is the AgLearn+ logo with the tagline "adding to your knowledge". To the right, there are navigation links: "Welcome LISA VISOKEY | Check System | Sign Out". Below the logo are two buttons: "Home" and "Admin".

The user profile section shows a silhouette icon, the name "LISA M VISOKEY" (highlighted with a red box), and the role "NRCS-Operations-HR-NEDC".

The "To-Do List" section features a search bar labeled "Search To-Do List" and a "Show:" dropdown menu set to "Everything". Below this, a list of tasks is shown under the heading "No due date":

- Books24x7 Referenceware**
In progress
- Developing Strategic Peer Relationships in Your Organizati...**
Available
- The Importance of Flexibility in the Workplace**
Available

On the right side, there is a "Search Catalog" bar with a "Browse" link below it. Below that is an "Easy Links" section with a wrench icon, containing a grid of links:

Approvals	News
Ask AgLearn Now	Options and Settings
Books24x7	Record Learning
Contact Us	Reports
Getting Started Guide	SF-182s

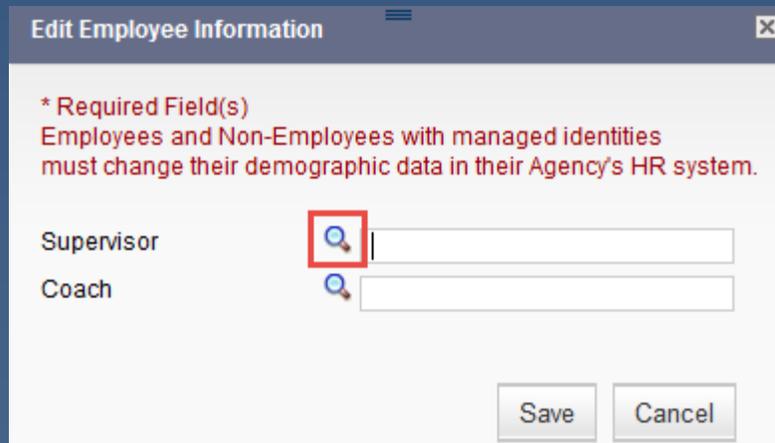
A "Show Less" link is located at the bottom right of the Easy Links section.

AgLearn – Supervisor Verification

- ◎ If your supervisor is correct in the “Employee Information” section, no action is needed. Otherwise, click the edit icon.



- ◎ Delete any text in the supervisor field and click the magnifying glass.

A screenshot of a dialog box titled "Edit Employee Information". At the top, it says "* Required Field(s)" and "Employees and Non-Employees with managed identities must change their demographic data in their Agency's HR system." Below this, there are two input fields: "Supervisor" and "Coach". Each field has a magnifying glass icon to its left. The magnifying glass icon for the "Supervisor" field is highlighted with a red square. At the bottom of the dialog, there are "Save" and "Cancel" buttons.

AgLearn – Supervisor Verification

- Enter your supervisor's first and last name, then click Search.

Case sensitive search: Yes No

User ID: Starts With [v] [text box]

Last Name: Starts With [v] [text box]

First Name: Starts With [v] [text box]

Agency: Starts With [v] [text box] [blue arrow]

Email: Starts With [v] [text box]

Search [button] Reset [button]

- Select your supervisor from the list.
- Click Save on the next window.
- Verify that your supervisor is listed correctly in your profile.

AgLearn – Individual Development Plan (IDP)

- ◎ Complete the competency assessment in AgLearn
 - Foundational and leadership competencies
 - Series-specific competencies
- ◎ Complete the IDP in AgLearn
 - The employee and supervisor work together
 - Create an IDP that identifies training to fill any competency gaps that were identified in the assessment

AgLearn – Registration

◎ Two registration methods:

1. AgLearn Catalog Request

- AgLearn Users requests their own training
- Requests are routed per a two-step approval process to the first-level supervisor and training officer

2. Direct enrollment

- Training Officer enrolls AgLearn Users directly
- No further approval is required in AgLearn, although Training Officers may have external processes that they follow

◎ The following slides will demonstrate the AgLearn Catalog Request

AgLearn – Catalog Registration Request

Welcome LISA VISOKEY | [Check System](#) | [Sign Out](#)

Home | **Admin**

LISA M VISOKEY
NRCS-Operations-HR-NEDC

To-Do List

Search To-Do List Show: Everything

No due date

- Books24x7 Referenceware**
In progress
- Developing Strategic Peer Relationships in Your Organizati...**
Available
- The Importance of Flexibility in the Workplace**
Available

Search Catalog
[Browse](#)

Easy Links

- Approvals
- Ask AgLearn Now
- Books24x7
- Contact Us
- Getting Started Guide
- News
- Options and Settings
- Record Learning
- Reports
- SF-182s

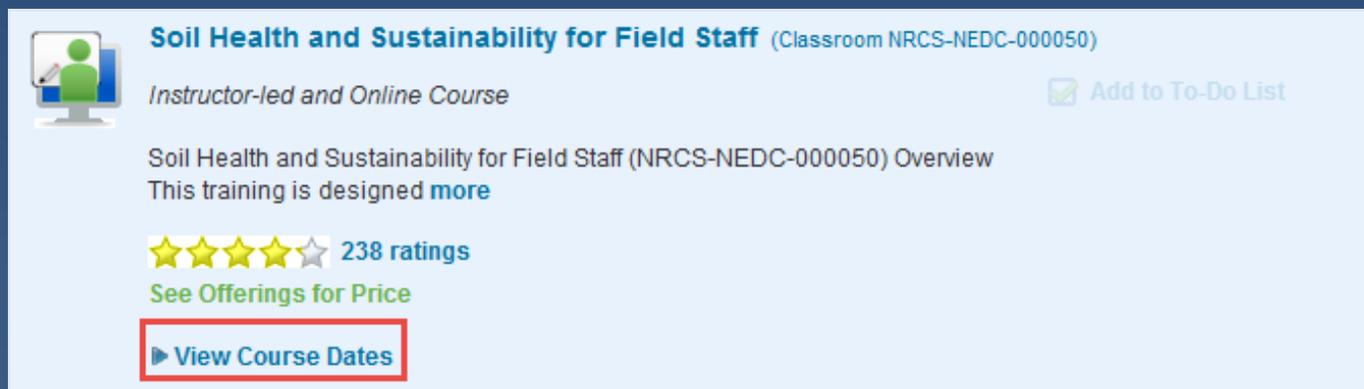
Show Less



Enter the course title or keyword, then click "Browse."

AgLearn – Catalog Registration Request

- Find the course in the results listing.



The screenshot shows a course listing for "Soil Health and Sustainability for Field Staff" (Classroom NRCS-NEDC-000050). The listing includes a small icon of a person at a computer, the course title, and the text "Instructor-led and Online Course". There is a link to "Add to To-Do List". Below the title, it says "Soil Health and Sustainability for Field Staff (NRCS-NEDC-000050) Overview" and "This training is designed more". There are five stars and the text "238 ratings". A link "See Offerings for Price" is present. At the bottom, a button labeled "View Course Dates" is highlighted with a red box.

- Click the title to read a course description and target audience.
- Click “View Course Dates” for a list of offerings.

AgLearn – Catalog Registration Request

- ◎ Identify a class with the date and location that meets your needs.



Soil Health and Sustainability for Field Staff (Classroom NRCS-NEDC-000050)

Instructor-led and Online Course Add to To-Do List

Soil Health and Sustainability for Field Staff (NRCS-NEDC-000050) Overview
This training is designed [more](#)

★★★★☆ 238 ratings
[See Offerings for Price](#)

▼ Hide Course Dates

9/1/2015 08:00 AM - 3 days Lincoln, NE 0.00 USD No seats available	<input type="checkbox"/> Waitlist
9/15/2015 08:00 AM - 3 days Portland, OR 0.00 USD 1 seats available	<input type="checkbox"/> Register



Click “Waitlist” or “Register” to request approval to attend one of these courses.

AgLearn – Catalog Registration Request

- Click “Yes” on the AgLearn warning to submit your request.

Warning Details:

- The scheduled offering (39873) requires approval for you to register. If you continue, you will be registered with a pending status until the approvers approve your registration request.

Do you wish to proceed?

AgLearn – Catalog Registration Request

- Click “Confirm” on the next screen.

Offering

Soil Health and Sustainability for Field Staff
Classroom NRCS-NEDC-000050
Revision: 12/27/2005 10:41 AM America/Phoenix
Start Date: 9/15/2015 08:00 AM America/Phoenix
End Date: 9/17/2015 05:00 PM America/Phoenix
Capacity: 29 of 30 enrolled, 0 waitlisted, 2 pending
Price : 0.00 (USD)

Approval Steps

Approval Step	Approvers
Level 1 Supervisor	Supervisor Level 1 (Show All)
Training Coordinator	Training Officer (Show All)

Registration Comments

User Name: VISOKEY, LISA M
Registration Status: PENDING (Pending)
Comments:

Previous **Confirm**

Click “Show All” to see your supervisor and training officer.



The comments field is optional.



Click confirm.

Who can register for NEDC training?

- ◎ NRCS Employees
- ◎ NRCS Partners
- ◎ USDA Employees
- ◎ Other Federal Employees
- ◎ Those identified in the Target Audience description

- ◎ NOTE: Priority for registration is given to NRCS employees.

Withdraw Registration

- ◎ To withdraw your registration:
 - Get permission from your supervisor.
 - Notify your training officer.
 - Withdraw your registration in AgLearn.
- ◎ The exact procedure may vary from state to state, or division, or center, etc. Follow your organizational unit's protocol.
- ◎ If you withdraw after receiving the participant letter, you MUST notify the point-of-contact listed in the letter.

AgLearn – Withdraw Registration

- ◎ Find the course in your To-Do list.
- ◎ Hover your mouse over the course title, then click “Withdraw.”

The screenshot shows the 'To-Do List' interface. At the top, there is a search bar labeled 'Search To-Do List' and a 'Show:' dropdown menu set to 'Everything'. Below this, a list of courses is displayed under the heading 'No due date'. The course 'Soil Health and Sustainability for Field Staff' is highlighted with a red box. A tooltip window is open over this course, showing details: 'Self-Assigned', 'Originated From Scheduled Offering', 'Classroom NRC S-NEDC-000050', and 'Soil Health and Sustainability for Field Staff (NRC S-NEDC-000050)'. In the bottom right corner of the tooltip, there are three buttons: 'View Registration', 'Withdraw' (highlighted with a red box), and 'View Details'.

The confirmation dialog box has a blue header with the text 'Confirmation'. Below the header is an orange warning icon and the text 'Do you want to withdraw from this session?'. At the bottom, there are two buttons: 'Yes' (highlighted with a red box) and 'No'.

Click “Yes” on the confirmation window.

Training Officers

- ◎ A list of Training Officers has been provided in the Adobe Connect file pod.
- ◎ Each of these units has its own designated Training Officer:
 - Soil Science Division (Regions and NHQ)
 - States
 - Centers
 - NHQ
- ◎ This list is also available on the AgLearn “Contact Us” page at:
http://www.aglearn.usda.gov/LandingPage/popups/NRCS_List.html

Points of Contact

◎ For assistance with registration in NEDC courses, contact:

1. Your supervisor or Training Officer
2. Lisa Visokey, NEDC Registrar

NRCS National Employee Development Center

Cell: 817-471-5735

Office: 480-988-1078 x102

Lisa.Visokey@ftw.usda.gov

NRCS.AgLearn@ftw.usda.gov