
NCST NATIONAL COMMITTEE
ON SOIL AND TERRAIN

Operational Plan 2018-19

September 2018

NCST Operational Plan 2018-19

Under the five goals of the National Soil RD&E Strategy, the committee will support the activities of the Australian Soil Network through the following;

	<i>Proposed work for 2018/19</i>	<i>Outputs</i>	<i>NCST lead</i>
1. Improve effectiveness of co-investment to generate and apply new knowledge			
	Develop a closer relationship with Soil Science Australia (SSA)	Discuss independent SSA representation on the NCST. Possible closer collaboration on standards, branding and guidelines	Jason Hill
2. Improve quality, availability and access to soil data and information			
	<p>Continue to coordinate the following NCST Working Groups. Brand these working group outputs as ACLEP activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian Soil Classification (ASC) • Digital Soil Assessment (DSA) • Australian Soil and Land Survey Field Handbook 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further develop the Arenosol soil order • NCST representatives to assist with development of a national map of Arenosols • Explore options for updating the ASC interactive key • Consider development of a nationwide land capability/versatility map from the Soil and Landscape Grid. Link to soil security. • Develop ToR for Field Handbook Working Group. 	<p>Mark Imhof</p> <p>Peter Wilson and Darren Kidd</p> <p>Peter Wilson and Dan Brough</p> <p>Darren Kidd</p> <p>Tim Overhue</p>

	<i>Proposed work for 2018/19</i>	<i>Outputs</i>	<i>NCST lead</i>
	<p>Support the potential development of an Australian Soil Information Facility (ASIF)</p> <p>Provide input and advice to major national research programs</p>	<p>Jurisdictions to nominate representatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to engage with the ASN regarding progressing an ASIF Engage with other programs such as the TERN Soil and Landscape Facility and CRC for High Performance Soils to assess options for co-investment in a potential ASIF Resume advisory role for TERN Soil and Landscape Facility Provide information and feedback on the national soil constraints inventory developed by Victoria for the CRC for High Performance Soils 	<p>Peter Wilson, Dan Brough and Jason Hill Mike Grundy (TERN) and Mark Imhof and Darren Kidd (CRC)</p> <p>All</p> <p>Mark Imhof</p>
3. Improve communication and exchange of soil knowledge			
	<p>Provide regular NCST updates to the ASN</p> <p>Ensure up to date NCST information is available online</p>	<p>NCST representatives to present key soil projects from around Australia to the ASN</p> <p>Update information and links on the SSA website (i.e. factsheet, ToR, strategic plan and workplans)</p>	<p>Jason Hill</p> <p>Jason Hill</p>
4. Adopt a national approach to building future skills and capacity			

	<i>Proposed work for 2018/19</i>	<i>Outputs</i>	<i>NCST lead</i>
	Professional development and capacity building	Continue to identify digital soil mapping capacity building opportunities for NCST agencies	All
Better land use/management decisions through effective use of soil and land information			
	Soil liming	States to provide the Commonwealth with details of liming associations in their respective jurisdictions	Tim Overhue
	Distribute new reports to representatives	Distribute report, <i>'Soil Sensing – New Technology for Tracking soil water availability, managing risk and improving farm management decisions'</i>	Michele Barson

Other Activities:

	<i>Proposed work for 2018/19</i>	<i>Outputs</i>	<i>NCST Lead</i>
Strategic and Operational Plans			
	Develop NCST Strategic Plan	Develop NCST 5 Year Strategic Plan (2018-2022) and have approved by the ASN	Dan Brough
	Develop NCST Operational Plan	Develop 2018/19 NCST Operational Plan and have approved by the ASN	Jason Hill

NCST Reporting Arrangements

Reporting arrangements for the NCST, including current working groups and their respective NCST representatives are presented below.

