Roadside Survey Database Transfer to ASRIS

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Background

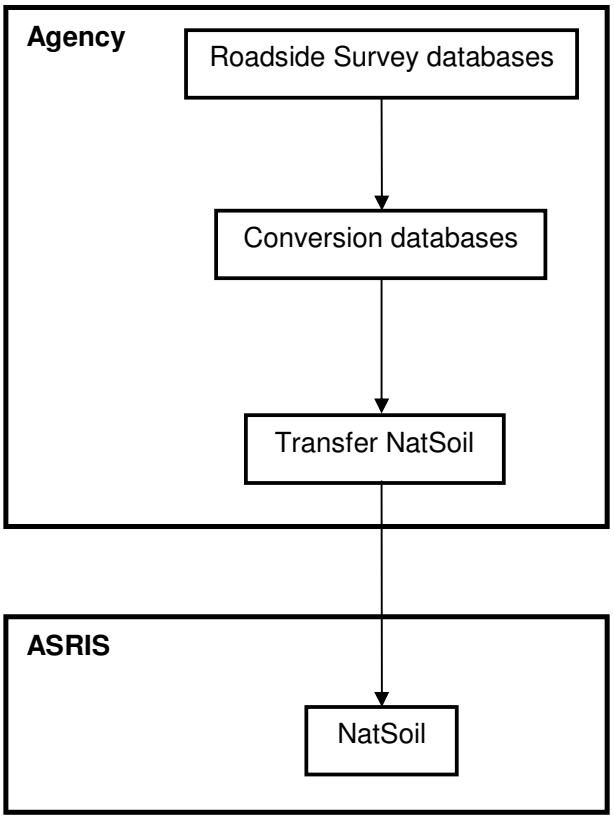
ASRIS (Australian Soil Resource Information System, http://www.asris.csiro.au) is a collaborative project hosted by CSIRO Division on Land and Water in Canberra. As well as the national delivery of the available soil and related resource information, it is developing as a national repository for soil samples, descriptions, analyses and now soil condition monitoring.

NatSoil is an element of ASRIS. It is a database designed in collaboration with the state land resource assessment agencies which stores morphology, chemistry and condition data against geo coded sites. This is the national repository for soil condition monitoring to provide the basis of a national legacy dataset.

In the first instance, these data are a compilation of the data of custodial Agencies (mainly states). This document describes the intent and likely procedures to transfer and maintain these data in NatSoil.

Transfer Concept

The concept describing the process is:



Only the data relevant will be delivered. Effectively, this is the spatio-temporal observations. The concept is that NatSoil is a time relevant copy, and the Agency Roadside Survey databases are

the masters. The transfer strategy is that on receipt of a new Transfer NatSoil, the relevant projects in NatSoil are deleted and replaced.

Roadside Survey databases

The Roadside Survey wind and water erosion databases are a set of observations made over time at sites which have been organised into transects for the convenience of collection. In its simplest form it has three levels of identification: Transects, Sites and Observations. Agencies currently monitoring have different structures. Western Australia has designed a database complying with national standards for use by new agencies and has added Agency above Transects in the hierarchy.

NatSoil (NatSoil.mdb)

This follows a national standard for description of soil profiles and storing the attributes of samples collected. Relevant to the Roadside Survey database is upper part of the hierarchy: Agencies, Projects, Sites and Observations.

Transfer NatSoil (NatSoil_RSS_Transfer.mdb)

This is a cutdown version of NatSoil to accommodate these data and to send to ASRIS. It also contains code which connects to ASRIS version of NatSoil to transfer the data.

Conversion databases

These databases (one per Agency) export a converted version of the relevant data from the Roadside Survey Databases to a copy of Transfer NatSoil. One to export the Western Australian (default National) database has been developed (e.g. RSS_Conversion.mdb).