SharePoint Software — a tool for collaborative communications with agency partners Tyrone Swearengen Information Technology Specialist USDA-ARS, MAS, National Sedimentation Laboratory Oxford, MS 38655

What is SharePoint Software?

- Web based tool that gives ARS the ability to conveniently share information
- Provides office management tools like file sharing, calendar, tasks, surveys and more

How is ARS using SharePoint?

- ARS has thousands of SharePoint web sites being used with over 1200 non-ARS participants.
- The primary uses of SharePoint sites are research project teams, functional teams, and organizations.

How is ARS using SharePoint? (cont.) Researchers are using SharePoint to write project plans... Creating sites and inviting ARS and non-ARS partners to write project plans. Keeps all supporting and reference materials together and accessible to everyone on the team Version history feature controls files by automatically filing every version How is ARS using SharePoint? (cont.) Locations are using SharePoint to keep employees informed... Provide a consistent electronic place for common files, contact information, and updates on location activites Calendars for information about construction outages, field day events, and when supervisors are out of the office Announcements are posted for upcoming professional conferences and Web links are included for easy access to registration links How is ARS using SharePoint? (cont.) Safety Officers are using SharePoint to build stronger teams... - Announce safety conferences - Post meeting minutes - Share files of policies, training material, and web links

How is ARS using SharePoint? (cont.)	
Researchers use SharePoint to work on posters	
- Files too large for emailthen create SharePoint site to work on the poster together	
- Ability to go back to any prior version of the poster file`	
When should I consider using a SharePoint site?	
Shareroint site?	
SharePoint sites should be considered whenever you	
share information – as a provider or a consumer of the information – with another person. SharePoint	
may improve the availability of information and thus improve the partnership.	
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How do I get started?	
Contact your local IT specialist, the Area IT specialist or the OCIO Web Branch for assistance and training	
SharePoint Web site: https://arsnet.usda.gov	
For SharePoint reference materials/training: https://arsnet.usda.gov/sites/ARS/SPADMIN/default.aspx	

