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To: All State Directors
ATTN: State Soil Resource Leads and Soil Scientists

From: Director, National Applied Resource Sciences Center

Subject: National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS) Centennial
Information Materials

The NCSS and its cooperators are celebrating the Survey's 100th Anniversary during 1999. The BLM has been an important cooperator in the National Soil Survey Program, with the BLM-NCSS partnership playing an important role in the inventory and interpretation of soils in the western United States.

A variety of quality activities and products are being conducted and prepared to celebrate the NCSS Centennial. This milestone observance began with a special activity held at the Nation's Capitol on the National Celebration of Earth Day on April 22 and with the opening of a special exhibit at the Chicago Field Museum of Natural History in May. Numerous other events around the country are also scheduled, with a special program planned for the Soil Science Society of America's annual meeting to be held in Salt Lake City, Utah, October 30 through November 5, 1999. These planned events celebrate the accomplishments of the soil survey program but, more importantly, provide a time to focus attention on the continued importance of the public land soil resources.

Some of the products prepared for the NCSS Centennial are attached for you to use and share with other Field Office staff. These products include a list of activities, publications, and posters.

A video tape presentation, "Tools of the Trade, 100 Years of Exploring Soil Resources," prepared by the National Soil Survey Center will be forwarded to all State BLM Offices.

In addition to distribution of NCSS Centennial informational materials, BLM has provided contributions to the Historical Volume on Soil Survey and the Historical Item Collection and has presented poster displays at various meetings. BLM is scheduled to participate in the Soil History Symposium, "Past, Present, and Future of Soil Survey," at the Soil Science Society of America's annual meeting to be held in Salt Lake City, Utah, October 30 through November 5, 1999.

The NCSS Centennial presents an excellent opportunity for BLM to participate and to promote a renewed focus on soil survey activities and the value of soil information in supporting the BLM's restoring and maintaining the health of the land initiatives.

For further information, please contact Alan Amen at 303-236-0154 or e-mail at alan_amen@blm.gov.

8 Attachments

- 1 - Soil Survey Centennial List of Activities
- 2 - The National Cooperative Soil Survey of the United States by David Gardner
- 3 - NARSC Quarterly (2nd Quarter, March 1999) Containing the Article, "100 Years of Soil Survey"
- 4 - Sustaining Our Soils and Society - American Geological Institute, Soil Science Society of America and USDA-NRCS
- 5 - 1999 Soil Survey Centennial Planning Guide
- 6 - Soil Sustains Life Poster
- 7 - NCSS Centennial Poster
- 8 - Centennial Logo Magnet

Distribution

Director 200, MIB, Room 5650
RS-150A, BLM Library
NI-100, Reading File