

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY FOR:**May 4, 1998**

NRCS, Office of Legislative Affairs
 Room 5121 South Agriculture Bldg.
 (202) 720-2771

For additional information contact:

Tia Young
 Douglas E. Williams
 Douglas J. McKalip

LAST WEEK:

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS - After conferees worked through differences in two versions of H.R. 3579, the House and Senate each passed the Conference Report which provides emergency supplemental appropriations. The bill Contains \$80 million for the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program and \$30 million for the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP). The President signed the bill into law on May 1, 1998.

THIS WEEK:

ANIMAL WASTE SUMMIT - On Tuesday, May 5, Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA), Secretary Dan Glickman, and EPA Administrator, Carole Browner will participate in a national summit on animal waste issues. Issues slated for discussion include the scope of federal regulations, engineering and scientific standards, and the coordination between USDA and EPA on the issue. Several governmental, private sector, and non-profit organizations will participate in the forum.

May 5 9:00 a.m. 216 Hart Senate Building

FOREST SERVICE BUDGET - On Thursday, May 7, 1998 the House Agriculture Committee, (Chairman Smith, R-Ore.) will hold a hearing on the FY'99 Budget request for the Forest Service.

May 7 10:00 a.m. 1300 Longworth Building

LOOKING AHEAD:

EPA REGULATIONS ON ANIMAL WASTE MANAGEMENT - The Forestry, Resource Conservation, and Research Subcommittee (Chairman Larry Combest R-TX) and the Livestock, Dairy and Poultry Subcommittee (Chairman Richard Pombo R-CA) of the House Agriculture Committee will hold a joint hearing on how Environmental Protection Agency regulations on concentrated animal feeding operations may affect small operators.

May 13 10:00 a.m. 1300 Longworth Bldg.
Craig Cox

USDA YEAR 2000 COMPLIANCE - The Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee (Chairman Richard Lugar, R-Indiana) will hold a hearing to review USDA's information technology systems to ensure year 2000 compliance.

May 14 9:00 a.m. 328A Russell Bldg.
Witnesses TBA

=====