Federal Breakout Session

1st Proposal—

NRCS would like feedback on their Soil Survey Division Program Plan, photos, etc. Copies are available at this meeting and will be distributed in draft throughout the conference participants. Comments should be sent or given in person to NRCS-SSD staff.

2nd Proposal—

Increase communication and sponsorship of USFS for the conferences, both regional and national. USFS was not listed as active partner and sponsor of this conference.

3rd Proposal—

BIA representative requests based on 2008 MOU with NRCS and tribes to act as a facilitator for NCSS in Soil Survey activities. Contact Patricia Wright BIA for more information.

4th proposal—

NSCSS professional soil scientists (president Hal Owens) requested more input to septic tank and KSAT interps and database. ESD business rules for point data has contemplated input from private sources

5th proposal—

2005 NCSS Business proposal from working group guidance document—functioning of National and Regional Conferences—more detail than handbook; SSD would like to reference this document in the National Soil Survey Handbook; NRCS SSD will review this document and supplement National Soil Handbook

6th proposal—

NSCSS request details for contract mapping; membership list will be available. Would like the opportunity for more input to interpretations and standards. Would like National certification or standards for High intensity order 1 soil surveys. State by state rules vary.

Discussion:

ME has used contractors. For the most part worked well however funding was limited. Used local/state sources to advertise positions.

Presently state and local authorities offer some standards but ME questions science of the standards. Perhaps NRCS does need to address high cut standards in the National Soil Survey Handbook for high intensity surveys.

NCSS digital information is being misrepresented as detail of order 1 in court and regulatory cases and consulting soil scientists have concerns.