National Park Service Soil Resources Inventory

Status of NPS Soil Surveys

National Level

Parks to be mapped	270
Acres to be mapped	84.5 million
Parks mapped thru FY05	70 (26%)
Acres mapped thru FY05	24.5 million (29%)

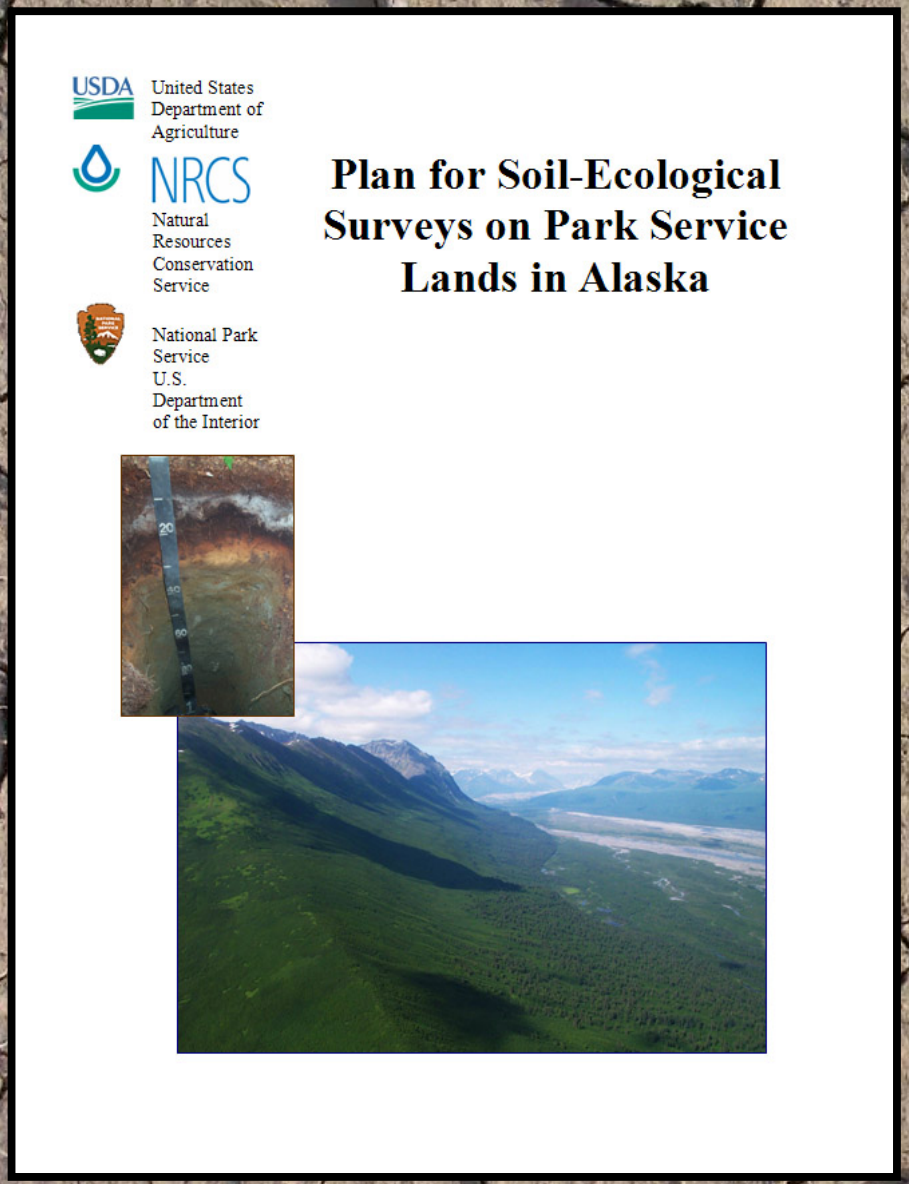
National Park System

U.S. Department of the Interior

Status of NPS Soil Surveys in West Region

Parks to be mapped	134 (50% of total)
Acres to be mapped	76.5 million (90% of total)
*Parks completed thru FY06	47 (35%)
*Acres mapped thru FY06	12.7 million (17%)

NPS Alaska Strategy



Alaskan Parks	16 (6%)
Alaskan Acres	54 Million (64%)

Denali National Park Complete (6 Million Acres)

15 Parks and 48 Million acres remain

Current Plan prioritizes Parks, will use multiple mapping scales and multiple levels of mapping orders to meet the needs of the parks

Hopeful to initiate Wrangell St. Elias NP with supplemental funding

Engaging Private Sector for Alaska Parks

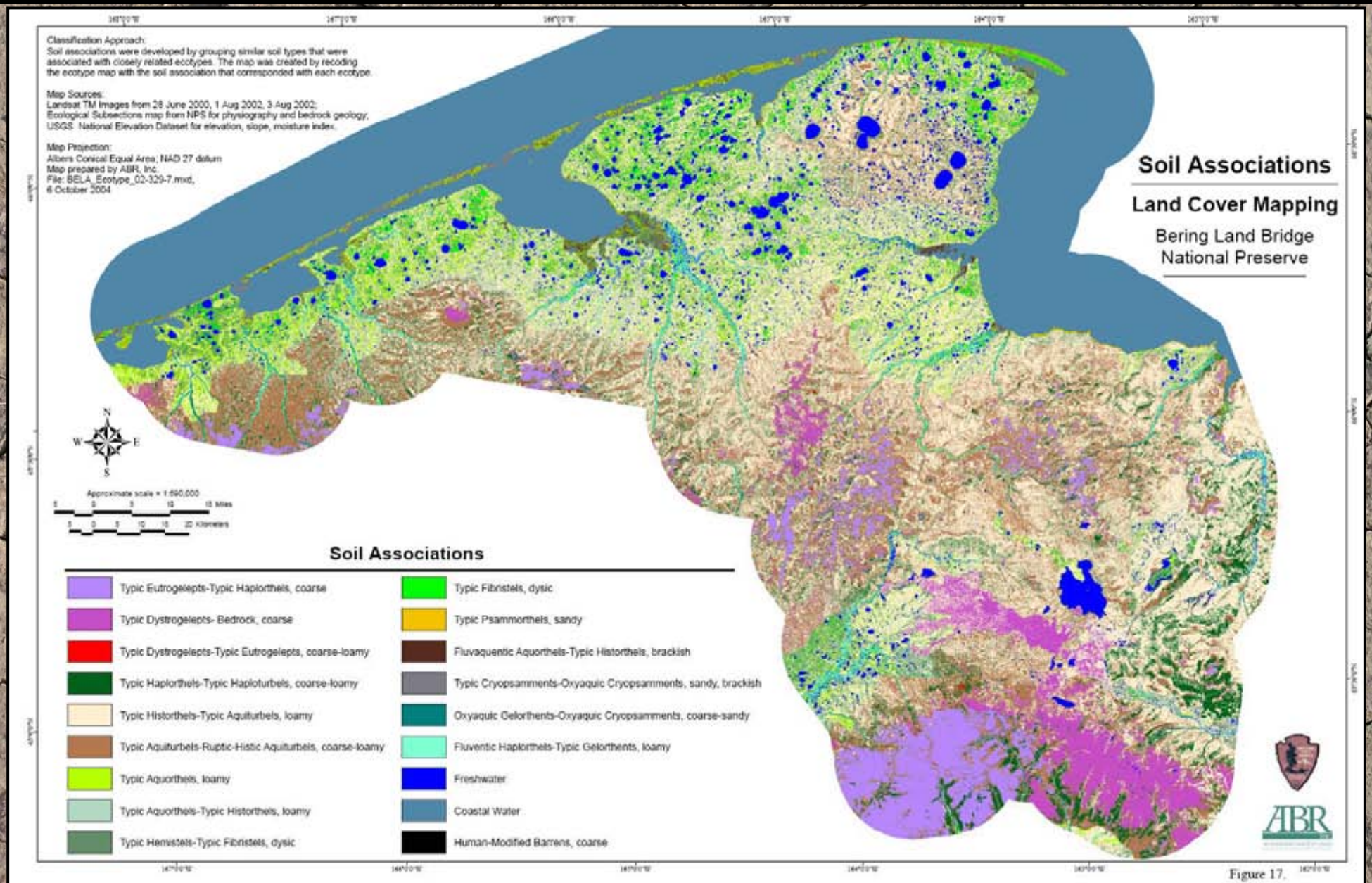


Figure 17.

Status of NPS Soil Surveys in West Region

Current Interagency Agreements with NRCS

- 6 states
- 34 parks
- 12 million acres

*Agreement with Nevada currently in the works for Great Basin NP

Current Activities

NPS support of "Park Specific" Soil Survey crews

<u>Mount Vernon, Washington</u>

Project Leader, Soil Scientist, Forest Ecologist

5 Parks
1.75 million Acres

Current Activities

Richfield, Utah

Project Leader, Soil Scientist, Range Conservationist (2), Cultural Resource Specialist

8 Parks
1.86 million acres

Current Activities

Page, Arizona

Project Leader, Soil Scientist, Range Conservationist

7 Parks
870,000 acres

***Potential for mapping Park Units in other states**

Planned Activities

Victorville, California

Will meet with NRCS in early FY07 to discuss strategies for our Mojave Desert Parks

Joshua Tree National Park
Mojave National Preserve
Death Valley National Park

5.6 million acres

Planned Activities

Coordination with USFS and NRCS for mapping of parks

<u>Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem</u>

Yellowstone National Park
Grand Teton National Park
John D. Rockefeller Parkway

2.6 million acres

Planned Activities

Coordination with USFS, NRCS, and Private Sector for mapping of parks

Glacier National Park

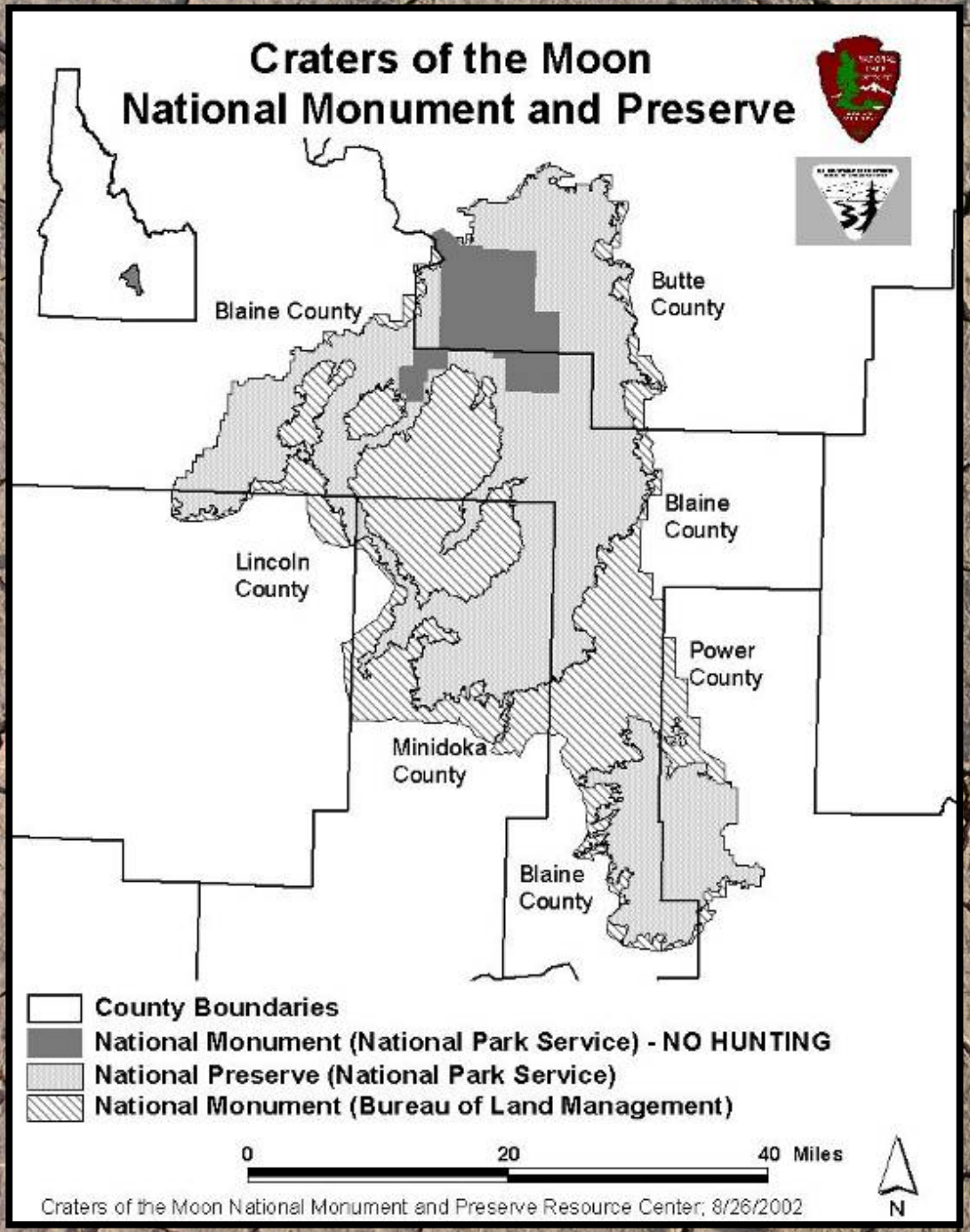
1 million acres

Current Activities

Not all of the work requires new mapping

Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve "grew" from approximately 35,000 acres to its present size of 714,727 acres

Idaho NRCS and MO1 staff to the rescue !



Soil Survey Area acres updated

New legend created from parts of 6 existing soil survey areas

Posted to the Soil Data Mart

Additional enhancements to follow

Research Needs

Focus not just on taxonomic issues, but use and management and interpretation and education as well

- **Gypsiferous soils**
- **Soils with chemical crusts**
- **Desert pavement**
- **Soils with upper horizons dominated by vesicular pores**

Soil Interpretations

Soil Interpretations

Pursue development of landscape level interpretations, with less emphasis on only the unique properties of the potentially variable components in broadly mapped areas

Soil Interpretations and Dynamic Soil Properties

Applied Technology

Pursuing the use of the Remote Area Soil Proxy (RASP) Model in North Cascades National Park

Development of Landscape and Landform 1:24,000 digital coverage's to enhance RASP

Soil Modeling underway at Pinnacles National Monument in cooperation with UC-Davis

Will rely heavily on Applied Technology to map Mojave Desert Parks, as well as those in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem

NPS Strategy to Complete West Region Parks

Coordinate with NRCS to acquire a NPS Soil Database Manager/Interpretations Specialist to handle Parks that cross state lines or exist in multiple soil survey areas

Continue interactions with NRCS State Soil Scientists and Cooperators to address parks without initial mapping, and develop budget and staffing plans to complete them by 2012

Federal Lands Advisory Group - FLAG

Purpose:

To facilitate the development and maintenance of the soil and ecological site inventories of the nation's federal lands in association with the other partners of the NCSS

Federal Lands Advisory Group - FLAG

Objectives:

Improve Communication and Coordination

Develop cooperative solutions

Develop common priorities and a plan to complete soil mapping and ESD's for all federal lands

Federal Lands Advisory Group - FLAG

Members:

Federal Agencies actively participating in the soil survey of the U.S.

Currently includes BIA, BLM, DoD, NPS, NRCS, and NRCS

Working to coordinate with other federal land management agencies such as USFWS, BOR

Current Projects - FLAG

"Initial Soil Survey and Ecological Site Acceleration and Completion"

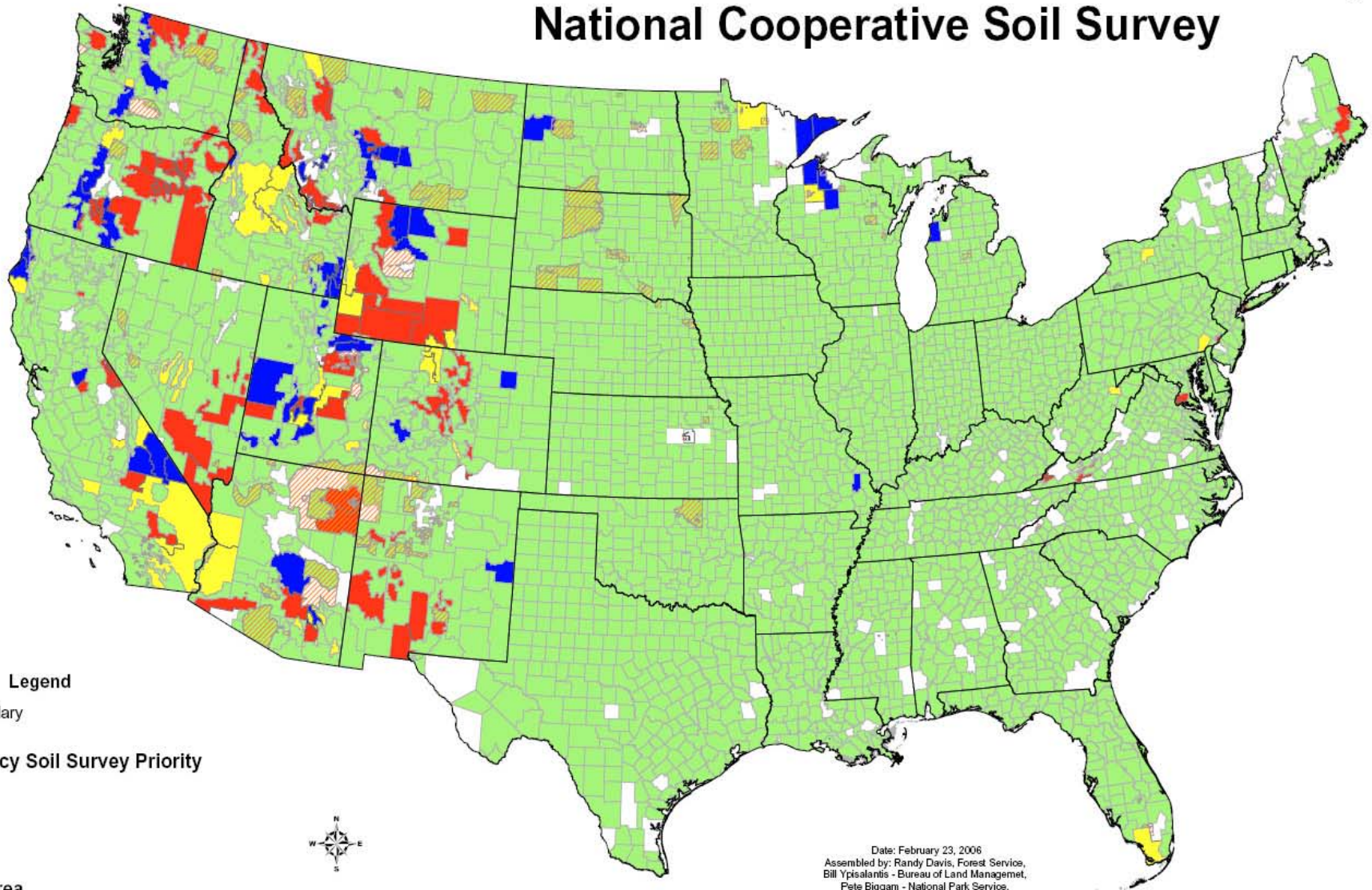
- **Involves request for new federal agency budget initiatives and restructuring of current NRCS funds**
- **Would involve new Term or Private sector soil scientists and plant specialists**
- **Goal to complete initial mapping and ecological sites by 2012**
- **FLAG will be meeting Friday at 9:00 AM**

Federal Lands Advisory Group - FLAG

Current Status of Federal Lands

Category	Total Acres	Acres Mapped	Acres Remaining to Map
BLM	257,886,837	226,432,241	31,454,596
USFS	192,730,805	135,139,828	57,590,977
NPS	84,419,753	24,490,156	59,929,597
Other Federal	118,310,239	108,149,050	10,161,189
Totals	**653,347,634**	**494,211,275**	**159,136,359**

Priorities for Soil Survey on Federal Lands with Native American Land Boundaries Overlay National Cooperative Soil Survey



Legend

State Boundary

Federal Agency Soil Survey Priority

- No Survey
- First
- Second
- Third

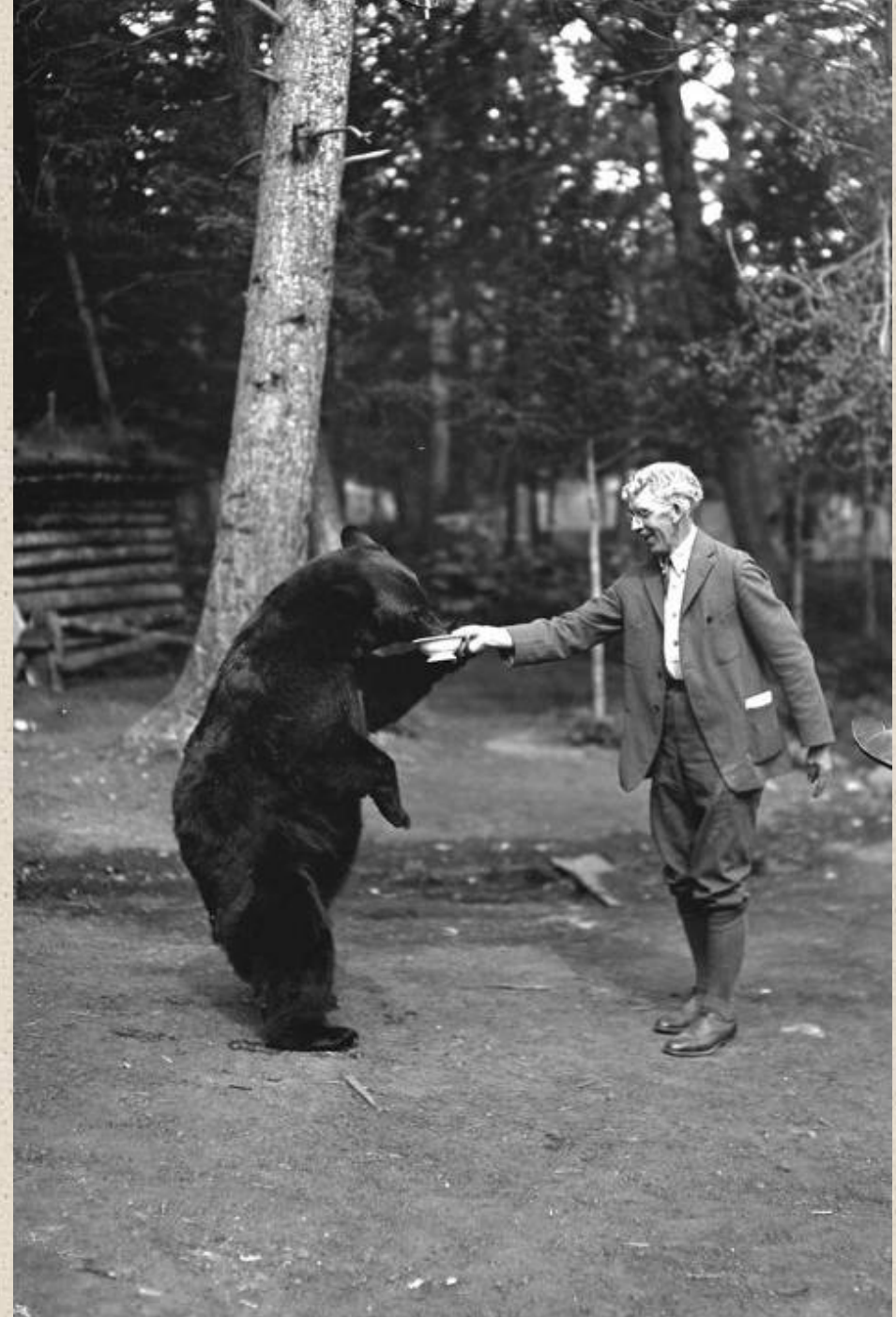
Soil Survey Area

Year of Correlation

- 1942 - 2007
- Native American Land

1:7,000,000

0 150 300 600 Miles

Date: February 23, 2006
Assembled by: Randy Davis, Forest Service,
Bill Ypisalantis - Bureau of Land Managemet,
Pete Biggam - National Park Service,
George Teachman - Dept. of Army, and
Dennis Lytle - Natural Resources Conservation Service...

Projected Coordinate System: NAD_1983_Albers