



Federal Lands Advisory Group

FLAG



Federal Lands Advisory Group

FLAG is a national level group whose current membership includes those federal agencies actively participating in the soil survey of the U.S.

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)

Department of Defense - Army (DoD)

Forest Service (FS)

National Park Service (NPS)



Federal Lands Advisory Group

Our 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

Current Group Members

Pete Biggam, NPS – Chair

Bill Ypsilantis, BLM

Randy Davis, USFS

George Teachman, DoD-Army

Jim Orwin, BIA



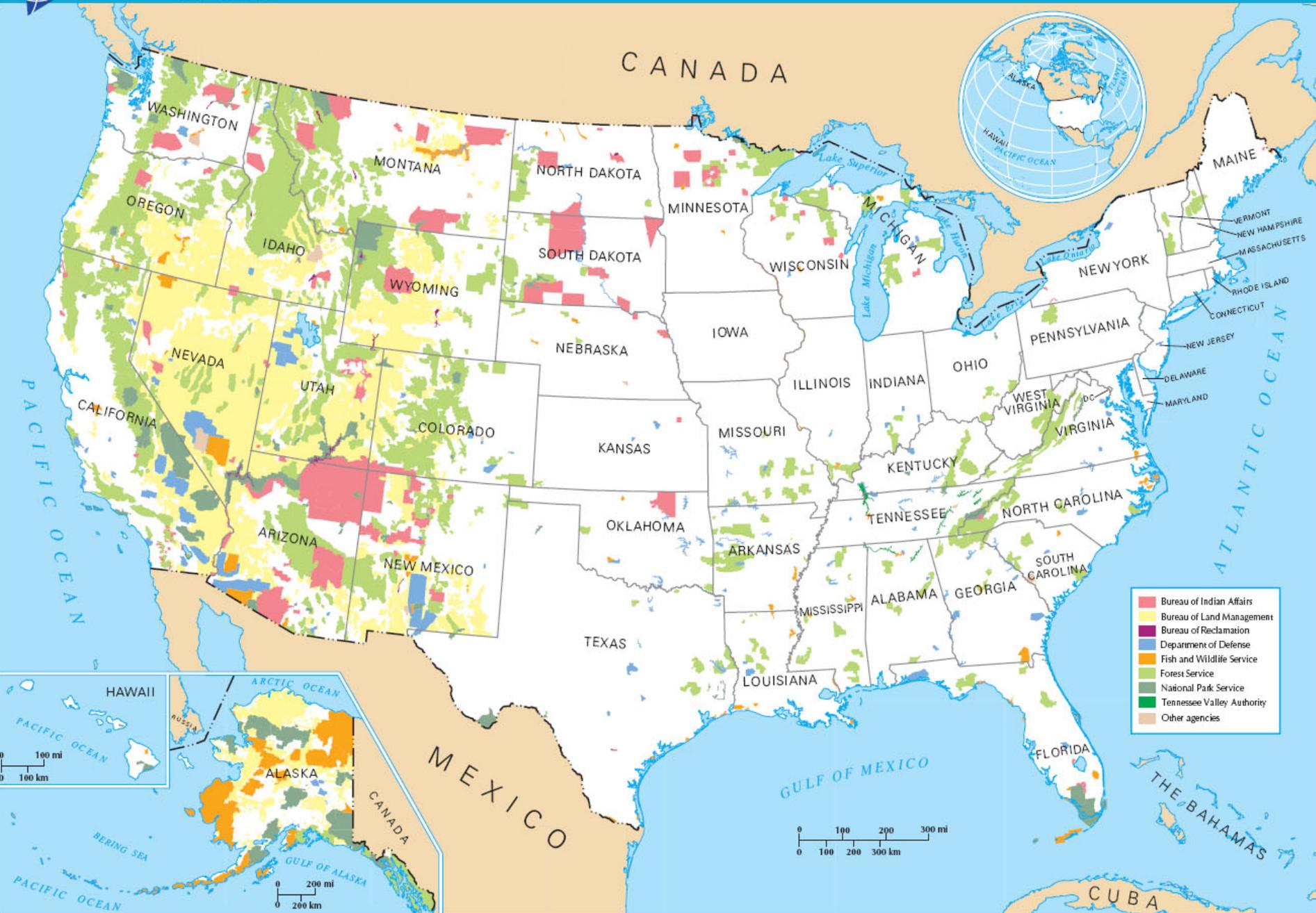
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Status of Soil Survey on Federal Lands

Significant progress has been made, but large part of the U.S. remains and many of these lands are intermingled, especially in the West. These intermingled areas make it very inefficient to map only agency or private land areas.

In addition, coordination and priorities have largely been competed at the region, state, forest level, district, county, or park levels with sporadic and fluctuating funding levels.





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The FLAG Plan.....

In response to a request from the Director, Soil Survey Division, FLAG Agency Members worked to develop a prioritization of remaining *initial acres* to depict a strategy to complete soil mapping and ecological site development efforts by 2012.

This strategy would then be incorporated into the national strategy to complete the initial soil survey of the United States.



Agency	Prioritized Acres Remaining (millions)	Required Staff Years for Soil Mapping	Required Staff Years for Ecological Site Development	Total Staff Years Required	Cost per Staff Year	Total Projected Cost (millions)
BLM	32.2	350	115	465	\$110k	\$51.15
USFS	55.9	558	184	742	\$110k	\$81.60
NPS	65.2	263	87	347	\$110k	\$38.17
DoD - Army	4.8	88	29	117	\$110k	\$12.87
Tribal and Private Lands NRCS/BIA	63	1000	306	1306	\$110k	\$143.66
TOTALS	221.1	2259	721	2977	\$110k	\$327.45

The Pending Issues.....

Agency Funding Strategies and Budget Initiatives need to be developed and approved

NCSS Staff Repositioning in response to agency funding





National Park Service Status

Currently funded at \$3.0 Million/Year as part of our ongoing Inventory and Monitoring Program to acquire soil surveys and Ecological Site Descriptions for 270 Parks

32 Parks in 10 States currently in progress

“Dedicated” NPS soil survey and ecological site inventory crews set up in Alaska, Arizona, California, Utah, Washington

Alaska Parks account for majority of our remaining acres (~ 48 Million Acres)



National Park Service Status

Implementing use of new technologies to facilitate mapping in remote areas and where Wilderness designation prevents use of traditional mapping tools

Will pursue additional funding to facilitate completion by 2012, but available staffing to meet the workload to complete parks (48 million acres) in Alaska is just as critical!

Will be involved in the FY 2010 Interagency budget initiative



Bureau of Land Management Status

Currently funded at \$1.4 million, of which \$650,000 are new funds in FY07

FY 2008 and 2009 BLM will try to maintain funding at FY 2007 levels

FY 2010 funding source based on success of interagency budget initiative

Completion of soil survey in 2012 will not happen even on high priority areas

May look at 5 or 10 year time frame starting from 2010 for completion of soil survey



Bureau of Land Management Status

Priority Mapping Underway in 2007

- Malheur County Soil Survey, OR
- Carbon County Soil Survey, WY
- Utah
 - Duchesne County
 - Emery County
- California
 - Central Sierra Foothills
 - Morongo Basin



Forest Service Status

Currently funded at \$1.85 million

FY 2008 FS will try to maintain funding at FY 2007 levels

Currently submitting a FY2009 Funding Request for "accelerated" soil survey completion

Will be involved in the FY 2010 Interagency budget initiative

Completion of soil survey in 2012 will not happen even on high priority areas, forecasting completion in 2020



Forest Service Status

Currently mapping projects:

Humboldt-Toiyabe NF – Ely District, NV

Fremont-Winema NF, OR

Tonto NF, AZ

Coconino NF, NM

