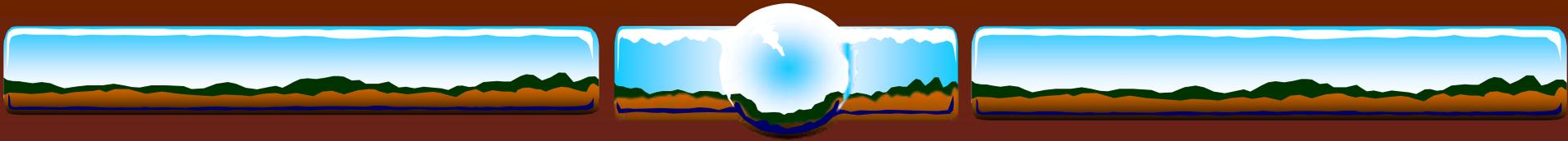


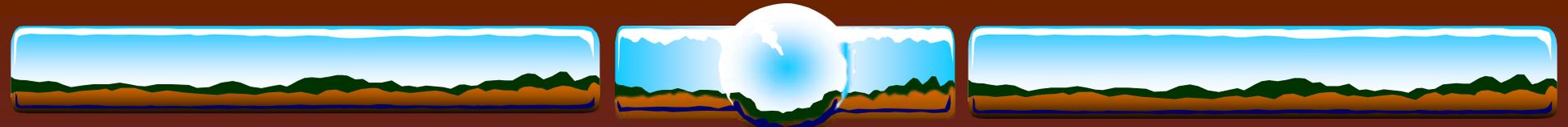
REPORT OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

West Region Conference
National Cooperative Soil Survey
Telluride, CO July 2002



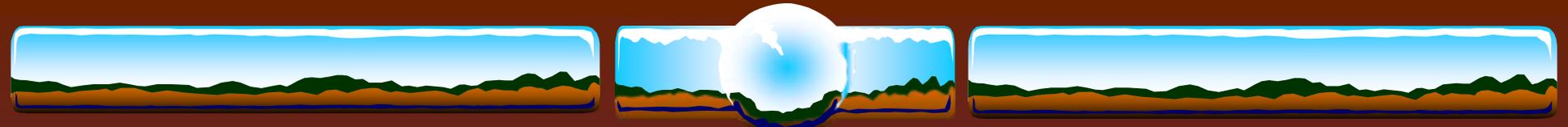
Committee members participating

- ❖ Duane Lammers, FS, Chair
- ❖ Randy Southard, UC Davis
- ❖ Chad McGrath, NRCS
- ❖ Tom Hahn, NRCS
- ❖ Bill Johnson, NRCS
- ❖ Neil Peterson, NRCS
- ❖ Mike, McArthur, FS



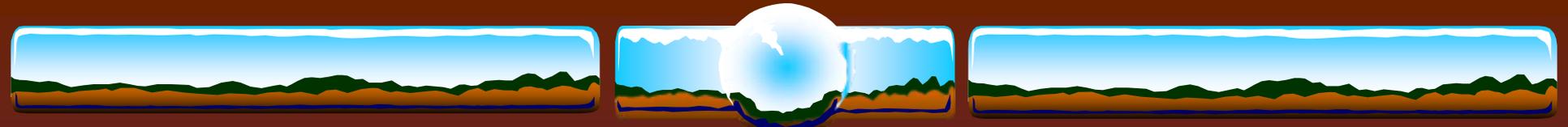
1. What roles and function should this committee have in the West Region?

- ❖ a) The West Regional Standards Committee serves as a technical advisory committee to the National Leader for Standards. Committee tasks are assigned by the Conference Steering Committee of the West Region.
- ❖ b) The Committee represents West Regional interests on proposed changes to standards.
- ❖ c) The Committee reviews proposals on changes to NCSS standards (ST, NSSH, SSM) and makes a recommendation on approval.



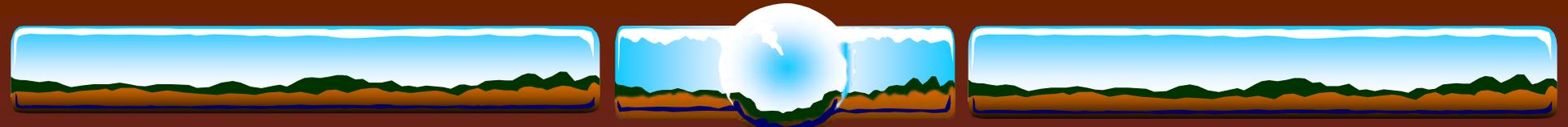
1. What roles and function should this committee have in the West Region?

- ❖ d) The Committee evaluates the success (or not) of recently implemented changes to standards
- ❖ e) The Committee serves as a forum for new issues and recommends action to address these issues
- ❖ f) Two members of the Committee represent the West Region on the National Standards Committee.



2. Does the West Region Conference Bylaws specifically address this committee and its membership?

- ❖ Not specifically!
- ❖ Bylaws - Conference Steering Committee determines the standing committees and appoints a Chairperson.
- ❖ The Chair in-turn selects committee members.
- ❖ Not necessary for the Bylaws to specifically address this committee and its membership.



3. Review and discuss findings and recommendations of Soil Crust Task Force.

Concerns raised:

- ❖ Additional workload to describe crusts
- ❖ Relationship of bio-crusts to other surface features
- ❖ Need standard protocol to describe soil crusts
- ❖ Soil or potential crust community
- ❖ Soil survey or vegetation (range) function



3. Review and discuss findings and recommendations of Soil Crust Task Force.

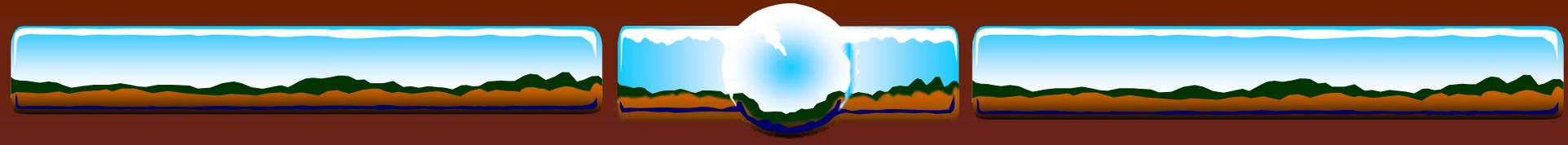
Recommendations:

- ❖ Appendix 2 - Biological Soil Crusts; should be distributed as a proposed addition to SSM.
- ❖ Appendix 3 - Guides for Describing Soil Surface Features; needs additional study.



4. Review and discuss current proposals to amend Soil Taxonomy and make recommendations.

- ❖ Comments of the proposed changes to Soil Taxonomy have been distributed.
- ❖ A recommendation on approval will be prepared following additional discussion.



5. Prepare committee report.