

PROPOSAL

COMPLETION OF WISCONSIN'S SOILS FOUNDATIONAL ELEMENT

◆ **Opportunity to Coordinate WLIB and Wisconsin Land Council Activities**

Completion of the soils foundational element would demonstrate cooperation and coordination between the WLIB and the Wisconsin Land Council (WLC).

By statute, WLIB members represent the interests of local, county, and state government, as well as the state university, utilities, private industry, and other land information groups. Other local, county, regional, state and federal interests advise the WLIB. The WLIB is directed to coordinate Wisconsin's efforts to modernize and integrate its land information at all levels.

By statute, WLC members represent the interests of local, county, and state government, as well as the state university and the public. The WLC is directed to identify procedures to coordinate local, state, and federal land use planning activities. The WLC is also directed to recommend legislation to implement a computer-based "Wisconsin Land Information System" to assist in land use planning activities at all levels - from individual citizens to state level planners.

◆ **Opportunity to Assure Wisconsin Continues to Capture Existing Federal Funds**

This project provides an excellent opportunity to leverage federal funds to create Wisconsin products with local, county, regional, state, and federal benefits. NRCS's current policy for funding soil survey mapping and digitization favors states and/or counties that provide cost-share funding or county soil survey staff.

Currently, 20 Wisconsin counties have published and digital soil surveys that meet current NRCS standards. Another 14 counties have secured funding to complete digitization and certification of their soil surveys by 2004. State/county cost-share funding for these mapping and digitizing projects has come from many sources, including WLIB grants. The remaining 38 counties need to secure funding to complete soil survey mapping, digitization, and/or certification.

Field Work and Mapping: After 2004, NRCS nationally will shift funding priorities from mapping initial soil surveys to updating and maintaining published soil surveys. NRCS estimates that without a state funding initiative, such as this proposal, it cannot finish mapping the nine northwest Wisconsin counties until 2014 or beyond.

Digitization and Certification: Annually, the Wisconsin NRCS office submits a list of soil surveys it wants digitized and/or certified to the national NRCS office. States compete with each other for national NRCS funds. State cost-share commitment is a key consideration for NRCS in determining which surveys will be funded. A 50% cost-share from Wisconsin for soil survey digitization virtually assures that our state will capture NRCS cost-share funds for these 38 county soil survey projects. Without Wisconsin a cost-share, these NRCS funds will very likely go to other states.

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◆ **Opportunity to Capture Additional Federal Funds**

Completion of the soils foundational element would allow Wisconsin to compete more effectively with other states for additional federal funding. For example, NRCS is currently placing geographic information system (GIS) technology in county service centers across the country. This initiative also involves the acquisition and compilation of county-based data such as orthophotography and field boundaries (which are often equivalent to parcel boundaries in rural areas). The state NRCS office has already prioritized Wisconsin counties for this program, but participation favors counties with existing digital soil surveys that meet NRCS standards.

PRODUCTS

Field work and initial soil survey mapping in 9 northwest counties (Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Iron, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, and Washburn) would generate the following products:

- ◆ Orthophotography (1:12,000 scale / 1 meter resolution / 3.75' quarter-quad frames / meet National Map Accuracy Standards) for these nine counties
- ◆ Published (paper) soil surveys, meeting NRCS standards, for these nine counties

Digitization and/or certification of soil surveys in 38 counties across the state (Adams, Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Columbia, Crawford, Dane, Douglas, Eau Claire, Florence, Grant, Green, Iowa, Iron, Juneau, Kenosha, Lafayette, Langlade, Marinette, Marquette, Milwaukee, Monroe, Oconto, Ozaukee, Polk, Price, Racine, Rusk, Sawyer, Trempealeau, Vernon, Walworth, Washburn, Washington, Waukesha, Waupaca, Winnebago, and Wood) would generate the following products:

- ◆ Digital soil surveys and related soil information tables, meeting NRCS standards, for the 38 counties not currently complete or funded
- ◆ Digital soil data layer and related soil information, meeting NRCS standards, for Wisconsin
- ◆ Supplements to published soil surveys for selected counties (based on the update of some map units in current published soil surveys that would occur during the digitization and/or certification process), as NRCS deems necessary
- ◆ Orthophotography (1:12,000 scale / 1 meter resolution / 3.75' quarter-quad frames / meet National Map Accuracy Standards) for selected counties, as NRCS deems necessary

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FUNDING

To complete the soils foundational element for Wisconsin by the end of 2004, the State of Wisconsin and/or its counties needs to provide the following cost-share funding over the next six years (1999-2004):

- **\$2,600,000 for 40 FTEs to conduct field work and initial soil survey mapping in 9 northwest counties - see Wisconsin Soil Survey Status map.**
- **\$1,600,000 to digitize and/or certify soil surveys in 38 counties across the state - see Wisconsin Digital Soil Survey map.**

Wisconsin's total cost-share of \$4,200,000 over the next six years is approximately 35% of the total project cost. NRCS would provide \$6,150,000 for mapping, digitizing, and certification plus \$1,700,000 for other activities related to this project. Table 1 lists average Wisconsin and NRCS project costs for the next six years.

TABLE 1. AVERAGE PROJECT COSTS BY YEAR.

Year	WI Cost-Share Field Work/Mapping	NRCS Cost-Share Field Work/Mapping	WI Cost-Share Digitizing/ Certification	NRCS Cost-Share Digitizing/ Certification	WI Total (by Year)	NRCS Total (by Year)
1999	\$ 250,000 (7 FTEs)	\$ 780,000 (12 FTEs)	\$ 270,000	\$ 270,000	\$ 250,000	\$1,050,000
2000	\$ 250,000 (7 FTEs)	\$ 780,000 (12 FTEs)	\$ 270,000	\$ 270,000	\$ 250,000	\$1,050,000
2001	\$ 250,000 (7 FTEs)	\$ 780,000 (12 FTEs)	\$ 270,000	\$ 270,000	\$ 250,000	\$1,050,000
2002	\$ 250,000 (7 FTEs)	\$ 780,000 (12 FTEs)	\$ 270,000	\$ 270,000	\$ 250,000	\$1,050,000
2003	\$ 250,000 (7 FTEs)	\$ 715,000 (11 FTEs)	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 250,000	\$1,050,000
2004	\$ 300,000 (6 FTEs)	\$ 715,000 (11 FTEs)	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 975,000
TOTAL	\$2,600,000 (40 FTEs)	\$4,550,000 (70 FTEs)	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000	\$4,200,000	\$6,150,000

Field Work/Mapping:	Wisconsin Cost-Share =	\$ 2,600,000
	NRCS Cost-Share =	\$ 4,550,000
	Total	\$ 7,150,000
Digitizing/Certification:	Wisconsin Cost-Share =	\$ 1,600,000
	NRCS Cost-Share =	\$ 1,600,000
	Total	\$ 3,200,000
Other NRCS Funding:	Orthophotography/Field Photos =	\$ 700,000
	Soil Sample Lab Analysis =	\$ 100,000
	Publication Costs =	\$ 300,000
	Quality Assurance/Control =	\$ 600,000
	Total	\$ 1,700,000
Project Grand Totals:	Wisconsin Cost-Share =	\$ 4,200,000 (35%)
	NRCS Cost-Share =	\$ 7,850,000 (65%)
	Total	\$12,050,000

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The proposed funding for 40 FTEs (6 or 7 FTEs per year for six years) to complete soil mapping in nine counties supplements 70 FTEs funded by NRCS. NRCS estimates the cost of 1 FTE is approximately \$65,000 per year. The state funded FTEs would be project staff, housed at the county level. The state would be responsible for salary, equipment, vehicles, overhead, and administrative support for these staff. NRCS would train these project staff in appropriate soil survey field and mapping techniques and would provide supplies and technical supervision.

The proposed funding for soil survey digitization would involve entering into a contract with NRCS. The state's cost-share would supplement NRCS funding for staff, equipment, supplies, overhead, and administrative support. NRCS is the custodian of soil survey data in Wisconsin.

FUNDING ALTERNATIVES

◆ **Keep Current Funding Approach**

Mapping and digitization of soil surveys is currently funded on a county-by-county basis through the WLIB grant program and other sources. This funding approach is unsystematic and slow, and it hinders NRCS's ability to group, prioritize, and schedule county projects efficiently. To date, WLIB grants have not been awarded to fund projects such as the systematic completion of the soils foundational element. The current funding approach also hinders Wisconsin and its counties in effectively competing against other states for federal funds for this and other initiatives. An incomplete soils foundational element hinders the ability of the state and 38 of its counties to perform agricultural, land use planning, property valuation, environmental assessment and management, construction, and other activities efficiently.

◆ **Phase State Cost-Share over Different Time Table**

After 2004, NRCS nationally will shift funding priorities from mapping original soil surveys to updating and maintaining published soil surveys. NRCS estimates that without a state funding initiative, such as this proposal, it cannot finish mapping the nine northwest Wisconsin counties until 2014 or beyond.

NRCS's policy also requires state and/or county cost-sharing for updating and digitizing Wisconsin's existing published soil surveys. The Wisconsin NRCS office must apply annually for funding from soil survey digitization. To date, the national NRCS office has always funded the state NRCS's requests for soil survey digitization when there has been substantial state/local cost-share. The NRCS state conservationist is confident that the federal portion of funding will be available to complete Wisconsin's soils foundational element by the end of 2004 if a state/NRCS partnership is developed.

PROPOSAL

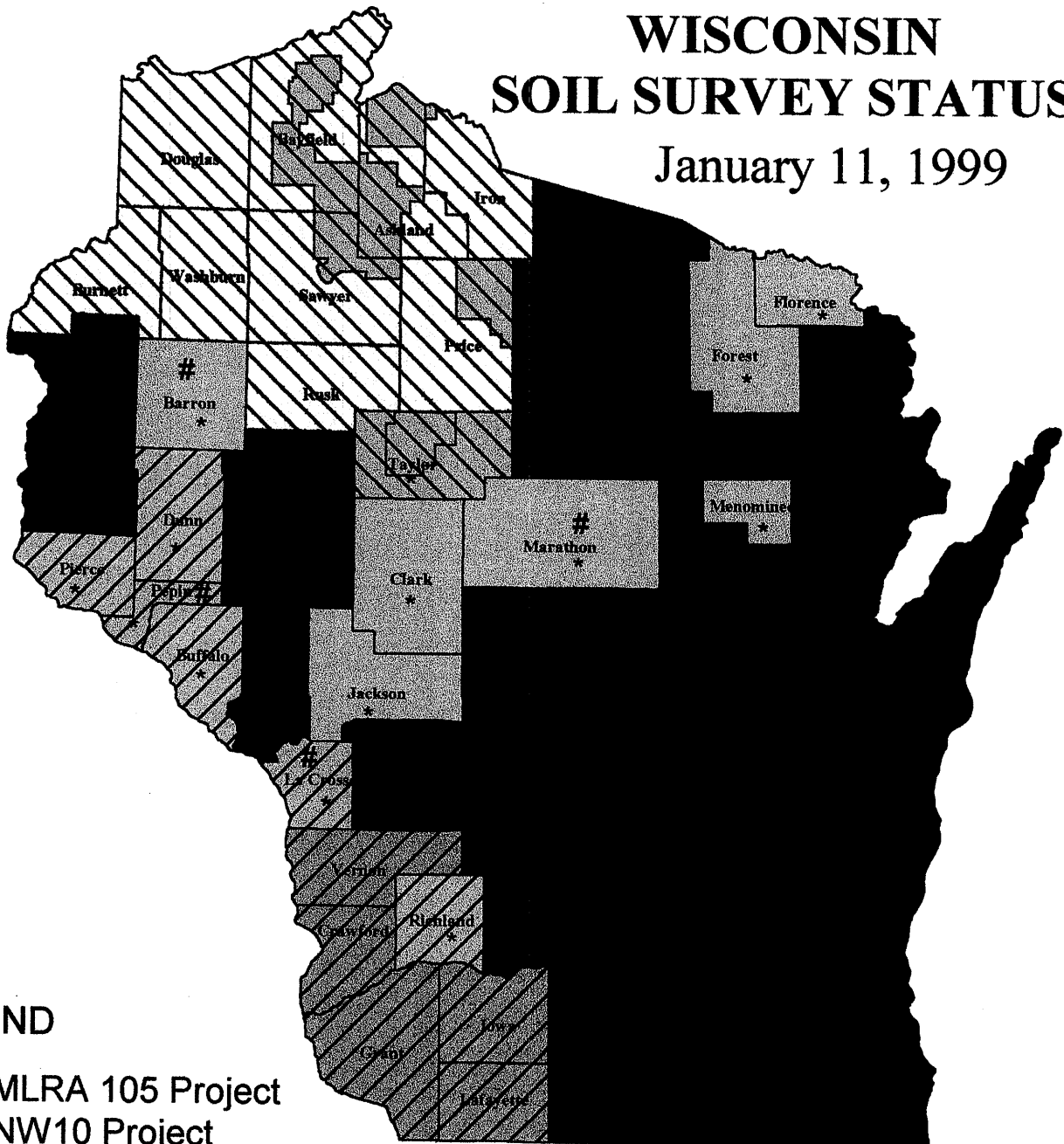
COMPLETION OF WISCONSIN'S SOILS FOUNDATIONAL ELEMENT

◆ **Fund Soil Survey Mapping and Digitization Separately**










Soil survey mapping and digitization are separate processes. Funding the digitization and/or certification of 29 existing county soil surveys separately from the mapping, digitization, and certification of soil surveys in 9 northwest counties is possible. Both activities would need to be funded concurrently, however, to ensure that Wisconsin's soils foundational element is complete by the end of 2004.

WISCONSIN SOIL SURVEY STATUS

January 11, 1999



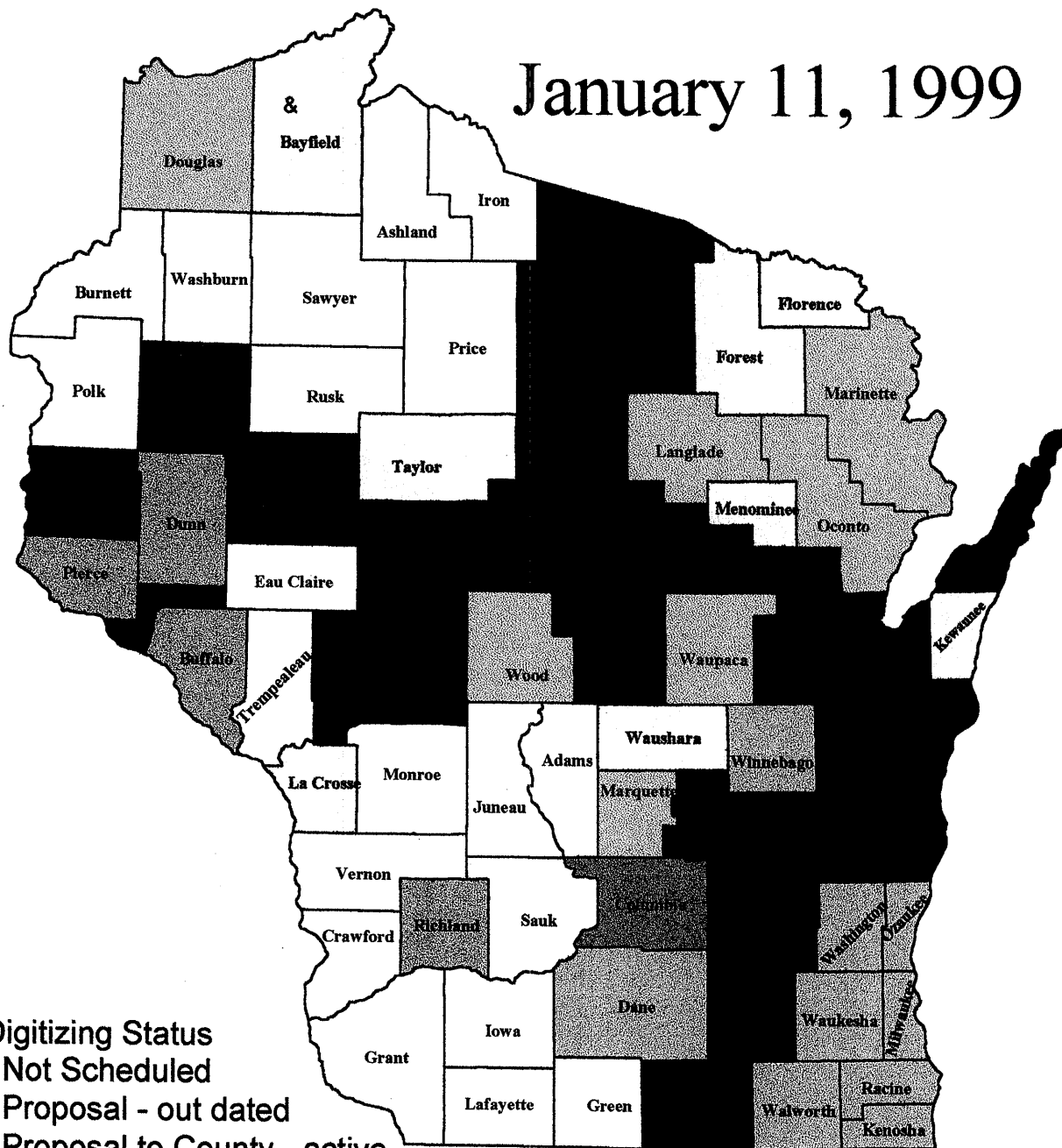
LEGEND

-  MLRA 105 Project
-  NW10 Project
-  Soil Survey Published After 1969
-  Soil Survey Published Before 1969
-  Initial Soil Survey In Progress
-  Initial Soil Survey Field Work Complete
-  Soil Survey Update in Progress
-  Soil Survey Update - Mapping Complete
-  * County Provided Cost-Sharing for Soil Survey










For more information, contact:
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 Madison, WI 53719
 (608) 276-8732 ext 248

WISCONSIN DIGITAL SOIL SURVEY STATUS

January 11, 1999



Soil Digitizing Status

-  Not Scheduled
-  Proposal - out dated
-  Proposal to County - active
-  Soil survey in progress, agreement for digitizing
-  Digitizing awaiting ortho delivery
-  Digitizing in progress
-  Digitized, not available - in SSURGO review
-  Digital data available - not SSURGO certified
-  Digital data available - SSURGO certified

& Only a small part of the county being digitized

Available through County - Winnebago and Dane; Available through NRCS - All SSURGO certified projects;
Available through SEWRPC - Ozaukee, Washington, Waukesha, Milwaukee, Walworth, Racine and Kenosha.

For more information, contact:
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Dane County Regional Planning Commission

Governor's 1999-2001 Proposed Budget

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

- Two members appointed by towns.
- One member appointed by villages.
- One member appointed by small cities (3rd and 4th class).
- Two county board supervisors from outside Madison appointed by county executive.
- Two members appointed by City of Madison.
- Three county board supervisors from Madison appointed by county executive.

INTERIM MEMBERSHIP – GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS

Effective 30 days after Passage of Budget

- Summary:** *Towns* -- at least 4 members
Small Cities and Villages -- at least 2 members
City of Madison -- no more than 4 members
County (at-large) -- 1 member
Western / Eastern Dane County -- at least 3 members from each geographic region

Appointment Process

1. **Town members:** 2 members selected from a list of at least 4 names submitted by the Towns Association. One member each must be from a town in western and eastern Dane County.
2. **Small Cities and Villages:** 2 members selected from a list of at least 4 names submitted by the association of cities and villages.
3. **Madison:** 2 members selected from a list of at least 4 names submitted by the Mayor.
4. **County:** 5 members selected from a list of at least 8 county board supervisors submitted by the County Executive. At least 2 appointees must be from towns, no more than 2 appointees may represent districts in the City of Madison, at least 2 appointees each from western and eastern Dane County.
5. **Additional Names:** The Governor may make appointments from a list of up to 5 names in lieu of any names submitted by the various associations and government officials.

MULTI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

- By July 1, 2001, require the board of every county adjacent to Dane County and not a member of an RPC, and Dane County, must vote on participating in a multi-county RPC.
- Create a multi-county RPC on January 1, 2002, upon approval by two-thirds of the county boards.
- Require that multi-county RPC's formed after December 31, 2001, that include a county with a city of the second-class must use the SEWRPC governance model (RPC with county that contains a city of first class).
- Prohibit RPC's consisting of one county after December 31, 2001.

SEWRPC GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

- One member appointed by county board.
- Two members appointed by Governor, one from a list of county board nominees.
- Secretary of Commerce – ex-officio.

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

- A separate MPO may need to be formed administratively to meet federal representation requirements associated with metropolitan population thresholds.
- A new MPO for the Madison metropolitan area would need approval of the City and the Governor.