

**LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY FOR:**

**August 5, 2002**

NRCS, Office of Legislative Affairs  
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**LAST WEEK**

**FY 2002 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL BILL** – On August 2, 2002 the President signed into law H.R. 4775, the FY 2002 Supplemental Appropriations Act. The legislation provides \$144 million in funding through the Emergency Watershed Protection Program to assist with recovery from natural disasters.

**EMERGENCY AGRICULTURAL ASSISTANCE MEETING-** On August 1, 2002, the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee (Chairman Harkin, IA), held a meeting to discuss the need for legislation to provide emergency assistance to agricultural producers. Members were all in support of legislation and intend to mark up legislation following the August recess.

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**LOOKING AHEAD**

**NATURAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOR FARMERS AND RANCHERS FIELD**

**HEARING** - The Senate Budget Committee (Chairman Conrad, ND) will hold a field hearing on natural disaster assistance for farmers and ranchers. The hearing will be held in the Prairie Rose Room, room 335 and 336, upper level, Memorial Union, North Dakota State University, Administrative Avenue, Fargo, ND.

August 20

9:30 a.m.

Fargo, ND

**MANAGING PUBLIC LANDS THROUGH FEDERAL COURTS OVERSIGHT**

**HEARING** – The House Resources Committee (Chairman Hansen, UT) will hold a hearing on how to management of federal lands is increasingly affected by the courts as a result of lawsuits brought under the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act. This hearing was originally scheduled for June 26.

Date TBA

Time TBA

1324 Longworth Building.

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**SUMMER RECESS** – The House is in recess from July 29 until September 3, 2002 The Senate will remain in session until August 5, when the Senate will go on recess until September 3, 2002.

**LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY** - The next NRCS Legislative Summary will be in September.

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