LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY FOR:

June 3, 2002

NRCS, Office of Legislative Affairs Room 5121, South Agriculture Bldg. (202) 720-2771 www.nrcs.usda.gov/about/legislative/ For additional information contact: Douglas J. McKalip Eric W. Carlson Sharyn C. Alvarez

LAST WEEK

MEMORIAL DAY RECESS – The Senate is in recess until June 3. The House is in recess until June 4.

THIS WEEK

LEGISLATION OF NOTE

The following Bills of significance to NRCS and conservation have been introduced.

Bill	Sponsor	Purpose	
S. 2518	Hagel, NE	To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into	
		cooperative agreements and contracts with the Nebraska	
		State Forester to carry out watershed restoration and	
		protection activities on National Forest System land in the	
		State of Nebraska.	

HOUSE AGRICULTURE BRIEFING ON FARM BILL IMPLEMENTATION- On Tuesday, June 4, 2002 at 10 a.m., the House Agriculture Committee staff will be briefed by the USDA Farm Bill Working Group on implementation of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002.

HOUSE SCIENCE COMMITTEE FIELD HEARING – The House Science Committee (Chairman Boehlert, NY) will hold a full committee hearing on drought in Utah and the West. The hearing is being hosted by Rep. Jim Matheson, UT at the Salt Lake City Council Chambers, North Building, 2100 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah.

June 3

1:00 p.m.

Salt Lake City, UT

CLEAN WATER ACT AND "FILL MATERIAL" DEFINITION

SUBCOMMITTEE HEARING – The Clean Air, Wetlands and Climate Change Subcommittee (Chairman Lieberman, CT) of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee will hold a hearing on a proposed change in the definition of "fill material." The change would bring into uniformity the differing definitions used by the EPA and Army Corps of Engineers in regulating the dumping or material into streams, rivers wetlands under the provisions of the Clean Water Act.

June 6	10:00 a.m.	406 Dirksen Building				
FEDERAL IMPACT ON NATIVE AMERICAN SITES OVERSIGHT HEARING - The Senate Indian Affairs Committee (Chairman Inouye, HI) will hold an oversight hearing on how the activities of federal agencies affect sacred Native American sites.						
June 4	10:00 a.m.	485 Russell Building				

LOOKING AHEAD

TRADING WATER POLLUTION REDUCTION CREDITS SUBCOMMITTEE HEARING – The Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee (Chairman Duncan, TN) of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee will hold a hearing in implementation by EPA of a new water quality trading program, which allows water treatment facilities to trade pollution reduction. USDA Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, Mark Rey, has been invited to testify on behalf of the Department.

June 13	10:00 a.m.	2167 Rayburn Building
MINE RECLAMATI	ON BILLS SUBCOMMI	FTEE HEARING – The Energy an

MINE RECLAMATION BILLS SUBCOMMITTEE HEARING – The Energy and Mineral Resources Subcommittee (Chairman Cubin, WY) of the House Resources Committee will hold a hearing on pending legislation.

June 1110:00 a.m.1334 Longworth Building

COLORADO RIVER WATER USAGE PLAN FIELD HEARING - The Water and Power Subcommittee (Chairman Calvert, CA) of the House Resources Committee will hold a field hearing on implementing a plan regulating the use of Colorado River water by California. Most of the water used in the Los Angeles metropolitan area comes from the Colorado River. The hearing will be held in the City Council Chambers of the La Quinta City Hall, 78495 Calle Tampico, La Quinta, California.

June 14	10:00 a.m.	La Quinta, CA