MEMORANDUM TO THE FIELD

SUBJECT: Partnership Agreement between the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the U.S. Department of the Army Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) for Improving the Management of Water and Related Natural Resources

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to inform you that the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and the Army, through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), signed a partnership agreement (enclosed) on July 7, 2005, to express mutual commitment to comprehensive water and related natural resources management and conservation in support of the President's Executive Order facilitating Cooperative Conservation. Building on existing efforts, we will collaboratively identify program and project activities to support management of water and related natural resources, including watershed planning and implementation; wetland creation; restoration and enhancement; and natural disaster recovery.

2. We are working together to coordinate program and project activities, share expertise, establish water management training and science and engineering technology exchanges, and foster sustainability in water resources development and management. By combining our organizational strengths and capabilities, this partnership will foster innovative approaches to finding effective answers to the many water resources challenges facing the Nation today and in the future.

3. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions regarding this memorandum or the partnership agreement, please contact agency points of contact: Mike Sullivan, NRCS’s Mississippi River Basin Coordinator, at 501-758-2544, ext. 115; or Chuck Moeslein in the USACE Headquarters Office at 202-761-0622.

Lawrence E. Clark
Deputy Chief for Science and Technology
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Date: July 7, 2005

Encl

Don T. Riley
Major General, U.S. Army
Director of Civil Works

Date: July 7, 2005
Distribution:

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Deputy Commander, USACE
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Mike Sullivan, MRB Coordinator, NRCS