Division of Soil Conservation

Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

**Infrastructure Appropriations Request -- FY 2007**

| Infrastructure Appropriations Request: | FY-05 Budget | Current FY-06 Budget | FY-07 Request |
|---|---|---|---|
| • Conservation Cost Share | 5,500,000 | 5,500,000 | 8,500,000 |
| • Watershed Protection Fund Program | 2,700,000 | 2,700,000 | 5,400,000 |
| • Integrated Farm & Livestock Demo Program | 850,000 | 850,000 | 1,600,000 |
| • Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program | 1,500,000 | 1,500,000 | 3,000,000 |
| • District Operations & Initiatives | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 |
| • Ag Drainage Well Closure | 500,000 | 500,000 | 2,500,000 |
| **Total Infrastructure Appropriation Request:** | | | **$23,000,000** |

## Program Descriptions

- **Conservation Cost Share**

Provides cost-share and incentives on permanent conservation practices and management systems to control erosion and reduce sediment. Initially established in 1973, the Iowa Cost-share Program has a long history of

assisting landowners install needed conservation measures. Cost-share has been provided through Infrastructure Appropriations since the FY 2001.
The current appropriation level for the program is $5.5 million and the Division is seeking $8.5 million – a $3.0 million increase in program funding.

- **Watershed Protection Fund Program**

Provides financial and technical assistance to address local water quality protection needs on a watershed basis. The Watershed Protection Fund Program or "WSPF" has been providing funding for the development and implementation of watershed projects since FY 2000.

The current appropriation level for WSPF is $2.7 million and the Division is seeking $5.4 million – an increase of $2.7 million and a doubling of funds for the program.

- **Integrated Farm and Livestock Demonstration Program**

Provides practical, science-based demonstration and education on input management that yields environmental benefits. The Integrated Farm and Livestock Demonstration Program or "IFLM" has been funded since FY 2000.

The current appropriation level is $850,000 and the Division is seeking $1.6 million – an increase of $800,000 to allow more widespread use of demonstration projects, and to implement the Division's new Iowa Learning Farm initiative in cooperation with Iowa State University.

- **Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program**

Provides incentives to establish nitrate-removal wetlands in tile-drained land in north central Iowa. The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program or "CREP" was established with Infrastructure Funds in FY 2000.

The current funding level is $1.5 million and the Division is seeking an additional $1.5 million in state funding to accelerate development and implementation of the program.

- **District Initiatives**

Provides funding to accelerate the implementation of federal conservation programs to protect water quality and fragile land.

The current funding level for District Initiatives is $2.0 million and the Division is not seeking an increase but would like to continue the program at the $2.0 million level in FY 2007.

- **Ag Drainage Well Closure**

Provides cost-share for closure of high-priority wells and the development of alternative drainage outlets.

The current funding level for Ag Drainage Well Closure is $500,000. The Division is seeking a significant increase to $2.5 million – an increase of $2.0 million – in order to speed closure of remaining wells and to allow construction contracts to group multiple wells for closure.