UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

July 27, 2004

SECRETARY'S MEMORANDUM 1030-60

DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO CARRY AND USE FIREARMS FOR PERSONAL PROTECTION PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF PUBLIC LAW 108-199, DIVISION A, TITLE VII, SECTION 745.

1 PURPOSE

Pursuant to Public Law 108-199, Division A, Title VII, Section 745, January 23, 2004, the Secretary is authorized to delegate authority to allow Government employees to carry and use firearms for personal protection while conducting field work in remote locations in the performance of their official duties.

2 DELEGATION

The Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment (NRE) is hereby delegated the authority vested in the Secretary by Public Law 108-199 to allow the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) employees to carry and use firearms for personal protection while conducting field work in remote locations in the performance of their official duties, that field work that is essential to the mission of NRCS to continue without interruption. This authority is further delegated through the Under Secretary for NRE to the Chief, NRCS, without any restrictions on re-delegation.

3 TERMINATION

This memorandum shall remain in effect until September 30, 2004.

/s/

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE