Farm Bill Ad Hoc Committee Call Feb. 10th, 2012

Participating: Carrie(ACT), Gerry(AmF), Jake/Danielle(NASF), Danielle(NACD) and Jennifer

- Through today's Farm Bill Ad Hoc Committee call, the committee arrived at a point to begin drafting the bare bones of a fact sheet.
- Committee moved to position where there is not an *ask* to change any existing authorities in the Farm Bill but to highlight opportunities within the Farm Bill and existing Titles/authorities where there has been successful cross-agency collaboration.
- Connecting the up and downstream water quality issues through programs like Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and Urban Waters Initiative (addressing water quality and water volume coming out of urban areas) works toward larger SUFC Farm Bill platform (#1 and #2) recommendations -- then further tying in data collection tools (#3) to help measure green infrastructure impacts.
- Note: Because America's Great Outdoors (AGO) is an <u>Administration</u> initiative, SUFC should be cognizant of how we reference/promote the initiative with our platform recognizing that some members in Congress *may* discount our issues if AGO is too closely tied to our messaging.

ACTION:

- Jake volunteered to rough out the language (having some familiarity with Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and other rural Title programs in the Farm Bill as well as baseline knowledge of Urban Waters Initiative).
- Committee members will review PRIOR to the next Policy WG call Friday (will revert to 9 a.m. time to cover all topics on the call).
- Jake will also connect with Bill Toomey on Forest Cont. Dialogue to get a sense of their activities/advocacy @ Farm Bill.