To: All vocational agriculture instructors in the South Central region, Nebraska Extension educators, NRCS and NRD staff

From: Chrystal Houston, Public Relations Manager, Upper Big Blue Natural Resources District Chouston@upperbigblue.org // 402-362-6601

South Central Region Land Judging Contest: Wednesday, October 5, 2022

8:30-9:00 a.m. Registration at Whitney Education Center, Gjerloff Prairie

9:00-9:15 a.m. Travel to contest site9:15-11:45 a.m. Contest judging

The 2022 Nebraska South Central Region Land Judging Contest will be held in Hamilton County on Wednesday, October 5. The Upper Big Blue NRD and USDA-Nebraska Natural Resources Conservation Service are sponsoring the contest.

Pre-registration for this event is requested by September 28 to allow NRD staff to assemble judging packets.

Please register online at www.upperbigblue.org/landjudging. Online payment is not available. Instead, plan to bring a check to the event to cover the cost of your students' participation.

If you need to make a change prior to the contest date, email chouston@upperbigblue.org as soon as possible to notify me of the modification. Please keep these changes to a minimum. Making changes the morning of the contest is strongly discouraged as many participants are expected.

There will be a \$2.00 registration fee per contestant, due at check-in time the day of the contest. Make checks payable to Upper Big Blue Natural Resources District.

Be sure you are using up-to-date materials to prepare your student for the contest. All materials are available for download at https://www.nrdnet.org/nebraska-land-judging-soil-evaluation.

The day of the contest:

Check in will be from 8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. at the Whitney Education Center at Gjerloff Prairie (for directions to this facility visit https://www.prairieplains.org/preserves/gjerloff-prairie.html). Please note, this facility is managed by Prairie Plains Resources Institute but is separate from their office location in Aurora. At check in, you will be directed to the event location. The contest will begin at 9:15 and we hope to conclude by 11:45.

Lunch is not provided, however if you want to bring a "brown bag" option, you are welcome to stay at the site at the conclusion of the contest to have lunch. Schools can leave after the contest, as scoring will be done later in the week. Participating schools will be notified of contest results by Friday, October 7 and ribbons/plaques will be distributed soon after.

Restrooms: There will be bathroom facilities at the Whitney Education Center during registration. At the land judging site, there will be port-a-potties only. They will be a good distance from the land judging pits, so plan accordingly.

Accessibility: This contest will involve a decent amount of walking to access the pits at different locations. We will not be able to provide additional transportation to pit sites for participants who are injured or who have mobility limitations. Please plan accordingly for the needs of your team.

Please call or email if you have questions: 402-362-6601 or chouston@upperbigblue.org.

We look forward to seeing you on October 5!