COST-SHARING AGREEMENTS IN OHIO

by Donald E. McCormack

During the month of August, 1964, agreements were signed in Ohio with two planning commissions for the conduct of soil surveys on a cost-sharing basis. One covers an area of 350,000 acres comprising most of Summit County (Akron) and adjoining parts of Medina and Portage Counties. It was negotiated with the Tri-County Planning Commission, which serves these three counties. The other covers an area of 172,200 acres in Clermont County, Ohio, just east of Cincinnati.

The Soil Conservation Service and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Lands and Soil, share the mapping load and the funds provided for this purpose. The Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station will do the required laboratory analyses on a cost-sharing basis. In both these surveys the county governments are providing office space for the parties, and a backhoe will be made available by the County Engineer for digging pits. These surveys are both to be completed late in 1967 as the projects were initiated to cover a three-year period.

In the Tri-County survey, Alexander "Bob" Ritchey, of the DLS, is the party chief; and Gerald Post and Joseph Steiger, of the SCS, are party members. Both agencies expect to use additional personnel to complete the survey on schedule. In the Clermont County survey Norbert Lerch, of the SCS, is the party chief; and William Hale, SCS, and Dale Garner and James Ernst, of the DLS, are party members.

Field work is nearing completion in Stark County (Canton), Ohio. This county had the first cost-sharing arrangement involving MHFA funds in the United States. Richard Christman, DLS, is the party chief of that survey. Party members include Dwain Waters, Frank Calhoun, James Bauder and Jon Bockus, of DLS;