

**JULY 1, 2003 TO
JUNE 30, 2004**

FY - 04

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

**NEZ PERCE SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

CROPLAND, GRAZING, FOREST MANAGEMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CROPLAND:

- *Provided direct seed technical assistance in the Palouse New Technology EQIP priority area.
- *Completion of soil quality evaluation cards for the Palouse and Nezperce Prairie regions. This card was distributed to producers attending the Direct Seed Conference in Pendleton, Oregon.
- *Erosion reduction measures applied on 2,936 acres of cropland.

- *Nutrient Management systems applied on 4,776 acres.
- *Residue management applied on 4,766 acres of cropland.

FOREST LANDS:

- *Assisted landowners in completing forestland thinning on 3,600 acres.
- *Tree and shrub establishment completed on 166 acres.
- *Promoted RC&D seed collection program.

GRAZING LANDS:

- *Completed a Bio-Control Workshop for noxious weed pests.
- *Pest management practices applied on 4,551 acres.
- *Grazing land practices applied on 676 acres.
- *Grazing land plans written for 29 acres.



WATERSHED AND WATER QUALITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- *Inventoried 92 miles of stream in the Lapwai Creek watershed. Stream inventory focused on fish habitat, weeds and streambank erosion.
- *Protected 11,963 acres of cropland from excessive erosion.
- *Continued support of the Tammany TMDL by completion of the Tammany Creek TMDL implementation plan.

- *Completed watershed project obligations in the Tammany Creek, Bedrock and Lapwai Creek Watersheds.
- *Implemented 5,503 acres of conservation systems to address flooding concerns.
- *Applied 3,807 acres of conservation systems to address water supply issues.

- *Obtained funds for installing conservation practices in Big Canyon Creek Watershed.
- *Obtained funds for installing conservation practices and completing inventory work in the Lapwai Creek Watershed.

Nez Perce County population in the year 2000 = 37, 410

Over 75% of the District is privately owned with the remainder being federal, state, county, municipal & Nez Perce Tribal Land

ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Animal Feeding Operations continue to be a focus within the District. Accomplishments included:
- *Inventoried, planned and developed alternatives for five animal feeding operations.
 - *Begun implementation of winter feeding operation improvements through the North Idaho 319 Grant funded by EPA.

- *Completed three waste storage facilities and nine watering facilities.
- *Developed solar panel alternative watering facility demonstration project.
- *Completed an alternative water development workshop / tour with the Asotin Soil Conservation District.

- *Installed ten troughs providing an alternative system to in-stream watering.
- *Continued to implement Animal Feeding Operations and riparian Water Quality Program for Agriculture located in Tammany, Lapwai and Bedrock Creeks.



DISTRICT RECOGNIZED FOR OUTREACH EFFORTS

The National Association of Conservation Districts recognized the District with a first place award in the Public Information Campaign Division. The award was received in 2003 and focused on the Districts efforts for brochures, displays and exhibits, newsletter articles, youth education classes and landowner workshops used to increase the awareness of noxious weed issues and biological control possibilities.

Other outreach accomplishments included:

- *Development of a District website.
- *District float in the Lewiston Roundup Parade and Culatesac SheBang Days Parade.
- *"Barn to Be Wild" Nez Perce County Fair booth, reaching an estimated 25,000 people.
- *Taught a class for University of Idaho Agriculture Policy students at Camp Wittman.

- *Conducted the Annual Environmental Awareness Days program reaching 380 6th Grade students from Lewiston and Lapwai Schools.

- *Completed a District Tour featuring innovative alternatives to livestock watering systems.



FISH AND WILDLIFE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Fish and wildlife habitat improvements included many highlights:

- *The District presented information on steelhead redds at the Lewiston Chamber of Commerce Steelhead Derby.

- *Installed 800 feet of fence to protect valuable fish habitat.

- *Planned and implemented over 1,000 acres of use exclusion to protect wildlife habitat.

- *Collected stream temperature data at 20 sites to determine areas where stream temperatures limit fish habitat. Temperature gauges are located on Tammany, Captain John, Lindsay, Lapwai, Big Canyon, Jacks, Coyote, Catholic, Pine and Hatwai Creeks.

- *Completed Streambank Stabilization Practices Effectiveness Study. This study

evaluated four streambank stabilization treatments for their effectiveness in controlling erosion and also providing fish habitat.

- *Enhanced one acre of wetland to provide amphibian and other non-game wildlife habitat.

- *Promoted the Habitat Incentive Program.

The District consists of approximately 550,000 Acres: Cropland is the dominant land use (38%), followed by Forestland (26%), Rangeland (22%), Pastureland (4%), Wildlife Areas (5%) and Urban/Suburban(5%)

CREATING NEW PARTNERSHIPS

In early April 2004, 18 individuals planted over 2,000 trees and shrubs, seeded native grass on 15 acres of burned land, and installed 30 biologs in erosion prone areas. Project participants included the Three Rivers Chapter of Trout Unlimited, the Clearwater Region Idaho Fish & Game (IDFG) office, the Nez Perce Soil & Water Conservation District (District) and community volunteers. The planting project sponsored by the District is located along Middle Tom Beall Creek in Nez Perce County. The project area was burned by an accidental fire in September 2003. The fire removed the majority of the riparian vegetation and left the hillsides bare and exposed to erosion. The project site consists of both private and Nez Perce Tribe ownership. Funds for plants,

equipment and seed were contributed from the District's Lapwai Creek Bonneville Power Administration project and from the IDFG.

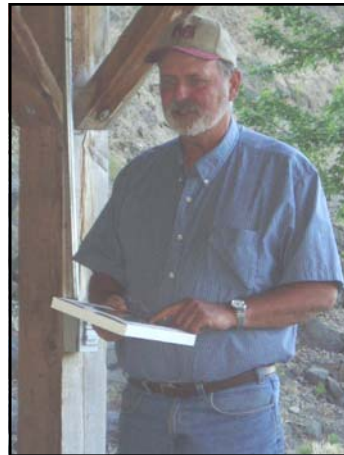


FOR ALMOST 60 YEARS THE NEZ PERCE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT HAS BEEN COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING THE CONSERVATION AND WISE USE MANAGEMENT OF NEZ PERCE COUNTY'S NATURAL RESOURCES.

TODAY, THE DISTRICT CONTINUES TO MEET THE NEEDS OF LANDOWNERS AND LAND USERS THROUGHOUT THE AREA. THE DISTRICT OFFERS INFORMATION AND TECHNICAL GUIDANCE AS WELL AS FINANCIAL COST SHARE ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUALS WITH LAND OR RESOURCE NEEDS AND CONCERNS.

LAND OWNERSHIP, RESOURCE CONDITIONS, TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIETAL VALUES MAY CHANGE AS THE YEARS PASS BUT HEALTHY AND PRODUCTIVE RESOURCES, WHETHER LAND OR WATER, WILL BE DEPENDENT ON THE CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATION OF CONSERVATION PRACTICES.

Gary Silflow was recognized at the Landowner Appreciation BBQ held June 17, 2004 for his past service and commitment to conservation. Gary dedicated 19 years as a District Supervisor for the Nez Perce Soil & Water Conservation District and continues to be an active part of the conservation team.



**DISTRICT SUPERVISORS
2003-2004**

Todd Wittman, Chair
Daryl Sander, Vice Chair
Kyle Wilson, Treasurer
Robert Blair
Dennis Dau
John Hermann
Dallas Knowlton

**We are on the Web !
www.nezperceswcd.org**

**NEZ PERCE SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

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COORDINATING TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CONSERVATION PRACTICES AND PROJECTS THAT ENHANCE AND CONSERVE OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

All Nez Perce SWCD programs are offered on a non-discriminatory basis regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, political beliefs, marital or family status, age, and/or disability.