

Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 131
City, State, ZIP: Culdesac, Idaho 83524
Telephone: (208) 208-843-2931
Contact Person: John Hermann
County / Counties Served: Nez Perce
Legislative District(s): 7

Conservation District Function or Mission Statement

Provide progressive leadership to coordinate technical and financial resources in the implementation of programs to enhance plants, animals, and aquatic life, while supporting conservation communities, and the wise use and protection of air, water, soil, and their related ecosystems.

Most Significant Natural Resource Improvement, Project, or Accomplishment

Completion of wetland mitigation project for 3.0 acres of wetland creation.



Priority # 1 Animal Feeding Operation Management Accomplishments

- Developed plans to improve water quality and fish habitat on 3 AFO operations.
- Served as a member of the Division 2 AFO 319 project administrative committee.
- Administered and ensured technical assistance is provided to six existing AFO 319 project contracts.

Priority # 2 Watershed Assessment and Planning Accomplishments

- Collected, analyzed, and compiled stream temperature data for Big Canyon, Lapwai, Cottonwood, Catholic, Hatwai, Lindsay, Tammany, Jacks, and Bedrock Creeks.
- Coordinated meetings and administrative functions for the Cow Creek, Lindsay, and Tammany Creek Watershed Advisory Groups to assist in meeting TMDL obligations within those drainages.
- Reduced sediment delivery to the Clearwater and Snake Rivers through the protection of over 6,500 acres of cropland from excessive erosion.
- Analyzed pebble count data collected at 8 sites along Lapwai Creek.
- Collected 120 miles of stream assessment data along Lapwai Creek.
- Collected 420 miles of stream assessment data along Big Canyon Creek.
- Updated and revised the District Resource Inventory.
- Identified priority erosion control and water quality improvement areas..

Priority #3 Natural Resource Inventory and Monitoring Accomplishments

- Completed 3,200 acres of conservation plans on non-irrigated cropland.
- Developed 1,500 acres of conservation plans on grazed rangelands in order to improve, maintain, and/or enhance their productive capacity.
- Inventoried and developed conservation plans for 20 acres of native prairie grasslands.
- Assisted landowners in the conservation, restoration and enhancement of forestlands through the development of 200 acres of conservation plans on forestlands.
- Protected 140 acres of ponderosa pine communities through tree plantings.
- Completed Stream Assessment and Inventory on 400 miles of streams within the Lapwai and Big Canyon watersheds.
- Improved, protected, and restored 2.0 acres of wetlands.
- Controlled 5 acres of hybrid knotweed within the Lapwai Creek watershed.
- Released yellow starthistle and spotted knapweed biocontrol agents at 22 sites within the Lapwai and Big Canyon Creek watersheds.
- Improved 3,400 acres of cropland with nutrient management plans.
- Worked with NPC on Sweetwater, Lapwai, and Cottonwood Creek levees to identify areas with flooding concerns.
- Ensured administration and technical assistance is provided to 5 landowner contracts in the Tammany Creek 319 project.
- Completed certification of carbon sequestration on 1,200 acres for the Pacific Northwest Direct Seed Association.
- Pursued resources to develop grazing plans and implement grazing land conservation by submitting Lindsay Creek 319 grant on February 2008.
- Inventoried and mapped existing prairie remnants in Taylor Canyon during conservation plan development within the Big Canyon and Lapwai Creek watersheds.
- Protected existing mature ponderosa pine communities through conservation plan development on 600 acres.
- Developed 6 habitat conservation plans within the Lapwai Creek watershed.
- Increased documentation and supported the efforts of the Idaho Conservation Data Center (CDC) to document the occurrence of rare species and work toward increased reporting of sightings.
- Obtained funding for Big Canyon and Lapwai Creek for the improvement of anadromous fish habitat.
- Identified existing and potential fish habitat barriers in Lapwai and Big Canyon.
- Participated in the Clearwater Basin Weed Group.
- Controlled 3 acres of Hybrid Knotweed.
- Coordinated with local weed control entities to identify noxious weed control areas.
- Identified and prioritized areas for noxious weed treatment. Completed roadside weed index reports for Lapwai and Big Canyon. In addition prioritized invasive weeds identified as control, eradicate and control in the Clearwater Basin WMA and within 300 linear feet of a road or stream corridor as a priority for treatment.
- Coordinated an interagency biocontrol agent day. Completed in July 2007 when over 20,000 insects were collected in coordination with Idaho Department of Fish and Game and Nez Perce Tribe.

District Operations Accomplishments

- Developed a new cooperative working agreement with NRCS, ISCC, IASCD and the District.
- Reviewed and update district policy and procedure manual. Updated sections 7.1-7.4; 6.9.
- District resource inventory is 50% completed.
- Met with Nez Perce Tribe Watershed Division to coordinate resource sharing.
- Reviewed Idaho Department of Corrections working agreement and signed 2008 agreement.

- Strengthened relations with political decision makers to obtain support for programs. Met with Nez Perce County Commissioners in May 2008.
- Conducted 11 board meetings to carry out the business of the District.
- Completed financial audit of District funds.

District Information and Education Accomplishments

- Provide information to landowners regarding the distribution, abundance, and conservation of native fish, wildlife, and plants through newsletters, information at the Nez Perce County Fair, and landowner meetings.
- Participated in the University of Idaho Agricultural Policy Class through teaching conservation policy and planning at an outdoor education camp.
- Distributed newsletters to 2,000 land owners.
- Coordinated with local agencies to collect biocontrol agents for yellow starthistle control.
- Completed Environmental Awareness Days program reaching over 550 6th graders within the District.
- Provided resource information to over 10,000 fair attendees at the Nez Perce County.
- Participated in coordinated plans for the development of recreational areas, industrial sites, and other facilities as requested by the City of Lewiston and/or Nez Perce County.
- Worked with the County and City Planning and Zoning Committee to incorporate conservation practices.
- Participated in educational programs with conservation partners (including youth conservation activities).
- Disseminated accomplishment report to conservation partners, clients, and general public.
- Developed 2 resource internships with local colleges. Advertized for 3 internships at University of Idaho in fall 2007.

Synopsis of financial assistance coordinated for constituents with District Conservation Partners to plan, design, and implemented Best Management Practices (BMPs) to protect, enhance, and conserve Idaho's renewable resources.

Funding Source	Purpose / Benefit	Funding Amount	Match Value ¹
County / City	District Operations	22,753	²
State of Idaho (base funding)	District Operations	5,000	
State of Idaho (2 to 1 match county/city funds)	District Operations	23,819	³
District's Elected Officials (in-kind time)	District Operations		⁴
Water Quality Program for Agriculture	Non-point Source Pollution		
Bonneville Power Administration	Steelhead Habitat Improvement	285,701	
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality	Non-point Source Pollution	66,978	
Idaho Association of Conservation Districts	Non-point Source Pollution	34,361	
Idaho Department of Fish and Game	Upland Bird Habitat Improvement	6,000	
Idaho Department of Transportation	Wetland Mitigation	2,924	
Idaho Soil Conservation Commission		14,045	
Latah Soil & Water Conservation District		2,158	

¹ Includes actual dollars, time, equipment, labor, and materials

² State Match

³ County Match

⁴ Value of Elected Official's time



REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS
Fiscal Year 2008

Conservation District's Elected Officials		
Title	Name	E-mail and/or Phone Number
Chair	John Hermann	npswcd@co.nezperce.id.us
Vice-chair	Steve Becker	npswcd@co.nezperce.id.us
Treasurer	Todd Wittman	npswcd@co.nezperce.id.us
Member	Lisa Swanson	npswcd@co.nezperce.id.us
Member	Tracy Hill	npswcd@co.nezperce.id.us
Member	Steve Becker	npswcd@co.nezperce.id.us
Member	Dale Nichols	npswcd@co.nezperce.id.us