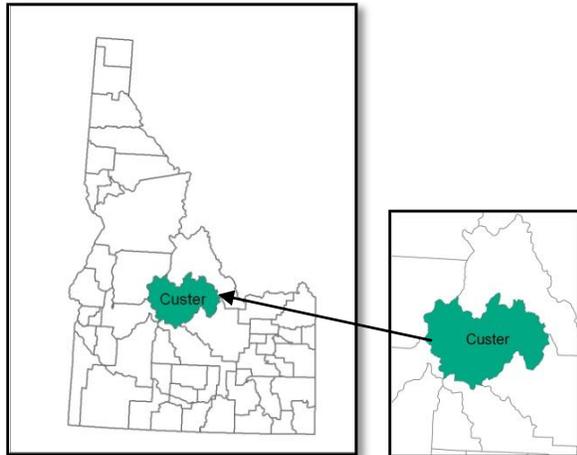


# Custer

Soil and Water Conservation District



P. O. Box 305  
Challis, Idaho 83226  
PHONE: (208) 879-4428  
FAX: (208) 879-5903

<http://www.custerswcd.org>

SWCD Board Meetings: Second Wednesday

## Top 5 Natural Resource Concerns

1. Water Quality
2. Water Quantity
3. Endangered Species Act Mandates
4. Urban Development
5. Recreation use impacts

## 2012-13 Revenues

Federal Grants to Custer SWCD	\$ 709,000
State Funding - SWC	\$ 14,662
County Funding	\$ 4,000
Local Funding	\$ 1,900
Energy Conservation	\$ 15,041
<b>Total District Administered Funds</b>	<b>\$ 744,603</b>
NRCS	\$ 192,000
Landowner Match	\$ 292,000
<b>Total Conservation Funding</b>	<b>\$ 1,228,603</b>

## Recent Projects

### Anadromous Fisheries Projects:

- Completed consultation to install gravity pipeline, stock-water and fencing on Sulphur Creek. Project will be installed in fall 2013 and spring 2014.
- Installed riparian fence to improve livestock management for operator in East Fork.
- Planning and environmental consultation for two additional irrigation improvement projects to be installed in 2014.
- Installed well for the City of Challis to transition from surface water to ground water.
- Installed bridge on Sulphur Creek.
- Planning, test wells, design and work with Owners and SNRA to complete consultation on Pole Creek irrigation project.
- *Results:* Increased flows of approximately 30 cfs and spawning habitat availability by approximately five miles.



### Ag Energy Conservation via the RC&D:

- Approval for five energy conservation projects & installation of six projects.



## Educational Programs



**Annual 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Tour that included a visit to the Parkinson Seed Farm. Students seen here are picking potatoes that they were able to take home.**

- Sponsored two participants in the speech contest in Driggs placing 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Sponsored the poster contest for 45 students.
- Held an annual 5<sup>th</sup> grade tour reaching approximately 24 students. This included a tour of a seed potato and grain farm to increase student's knowledge about agriculture first hand.
- Sponsored three teams to the state Envirothon in May 2013.
- Co sponsored Ag Week (250 students)
- Sponsored Natural Resource Day (220 students)
- Challis Fishing Derby support – Community event.
- Presented at the elementary science fair.
- Educational booth at County Fair.
- Legislative Display at the State Capitol
- Sponsored Independent Scientific Review Committee tour to qualify BPA projects.
- Published newsletter quarterly this year reaching an additional 50 cooperators.
- Engaged Challis FFA and Envirothon students in conservation projects to increase their awareness of natural resource issues.

## Future Projects

Custer Soil and Water Conservation District continues to focus on the statutory requirement in their annual and 5-Year Plan. Water Quality and Water Quantity are the top resource concern in addition to the Endangered Species Act implications. The District has secured approximately 2 million dollars in funding for next year to install “on the ground fish” recovery projects. This includes work with the City of Challis to remove a fish barrier on Garden Creek while addressing the needs of the ever demanding water supply to the City of Challis. Plans are ongoing for one irrigation ditch closure in Pahsimeroi that will allow for a full re-connect of Sulphur Creek to the Pahsimeroi River. An additional diversion removal and pipeline will be installed to allow retention of approximately 10-15 cfs in the Pahsimeroi River.

Pole Creek near Stanley will also be a part of the Custer SWCD's workload for the next two years with the goal of maintaining 17 cfs in stream while keeping the landowners whole.

Continued efforts will be made to address Energy Conservation within Agriculture sector in cooperation with the Salmon River Electric Cooperative. This could reduce electrical costs for the water users while helping BPA address kilowatt reduction.

Funding from various none traditional sources are needed to retain the current “action” level. This includes but is not limited to the Bureau of Reclamation, Bonneville Power Administration and Office of Species Conservation (PCSRF).

### **Board of Supervisors & Staff**

Wayne Baker, Chairman  
Rick Philps, Vice Chairman  
Lida Robinson, Secretary  
Jimmie L. Dowton, Treasurer  
Ben O'Neal, Member  
Karma Bragg, Office/Project Manager

*Providing action and information at the local level for promoting wise and beneficial conservation of natural resources with an emphasis on soil and water.*

IDAHO SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

PERFORMANCE  
REPORT  
CERTIFICATION

DISTRICT:

Custer SWCD

FOR YEAR:

DUE :

December 20, 2013

**CERTIFICATION**

On behalf of my local Board of Supervisors, I hereby certify that the attached Performance Report is true and accurate, and further submit said Report for the above named District and fiscal year.

A copy of this Performance Report shall be kept at the District office and is available for public inspection.

*Wayne Baker*

Board Supervisor Signature

Wayne Baker

Printed Name

11/13/2013

Date

208-879-4428

Telephone

eswcd@custer.tel.net

District Email Address

FOR SWC USE ONLY:

DATE OF CONFIRMATION: