

Custer Soil and Water Conservation District Fact Sheet

General Information: The Custer Soil and Water Conservation District was established in June of 1953. Through the years, the District has sponsored many trial seedings of new and improved grasses furnished by the Soil Conservation Service's Plant Materials Center in Aberdeen, Idaho.

Mission (or Function):

- Provide action and information at the local level for promoting wise and beneficial conservation of natural resources with the emphasis on soil and water.
- Have productive and sustainable natural resources in harmony with elevated land stewardship ethics.

FY 2015 Accomplishments:

- Sponsored Natural Resource Awareness Day, with over 200 students participating.
- Completed installation of gravity pipeline, stock-water and fencing for p-16 Diversion, conserving approximately 15 cf per second.
- Removed the P-13 irrigation diversion and ditch, reconnecting the historic channel of the Pahsimeroi.
- Installed a gravity/groundwater supplemented system on Pole Creek, restoring 18 cf per second back to the stream.
- Consolidated three irrigation ditches to reduce passage barrier.
- Educational booth at the County Fair
- Sponsored two participants in speech contest.
- Held annual 5th grade tour, reaching approximately 27 students. The tour included seed potato and grain farms.
- Sponsored the Pole Creek Conservation Tour
- Applied for and received IASCD Field Office Partnership Award for Challis FO.



More efficient irrigation infrastructure saves water, improves irrigation and improves fisheries.

Future Plans and 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 Custer SWCD will continue to work with willing landowners to address agricultural projects related to fish recovery by addressing flows, fish barriers and stream restoration projects. Funding has been allocated to address six of these additional projects over the next year.

FY 2015 District Funding:

Federal Grants to Custer SWCD	\$1,487,657
State Funding - SWC	\$16,176
County Funding	\$6,000
Local Funding	\$2,615
IDFG	\$7,238
Landowner Match	\$652,000
Total	\$2,171,686

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