

**ELMORE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
795 S. HASKETT STREET
MOUNTAIN HOME, ID 83647**

**FIVE-YEAR RESOURCE CONSERVATION
BUSINESS PLAN**

JULY 1, 2015 – JUNE 30, 2020

Executive Summary or Forward

The Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District is one of 50 Conservation Districts in Idaho. Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Districts are political subdivisions of state Government but are not state agencies. Conservation Districts are charged with carrying out a program for the conservation, use and development of soil, water, and other natural resources.

Conservation Districts are the primary entities to provide assistance to private landowners and land users in the conservation, sustainment, improvement and enhancement of Idaho's natural Resources. They are catalysts for coordinating and implementing conservation programs, channeling expertise from all levels of government into action at the local level. Programs are non-regulatory; science-based technical assistance, incentive—based financial programs and informational and educational programs at the local level.

Both by legislation and by agreement the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service provides technical assistance to landowners and land users through Conservation Districts. Each Conservation District in Idaho has signed Mutual Agreement with the Secretary of Agricultural and the Governor of Idaho that establishes a framework for cooperation.

This Annual Plan/Five-Year Resource Conservation Business Plan was developed not only to guide the Conservation District, but also to encourage cooperation among landowners, government agencies, private organizations, and elected officials. Through knowledge and cooperation, all concerned can ensure a sustainable natural resource base for present and future generations in the Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District.

This document identifies the resource needs in the Conservation District and presents a resource conservation action plan for meeting these needs.

Certificate of Adoption

The Board of elected supervisors of the Elmore Soil and Water Conservation District this 9th day of March 2015, do hereby approve the following document known as the Resource Conservation Business Plan. This Plan will be in effect for a five-year period ending June 30, 2020 during which time it will be updated annually and/or amended, as necessary.

As evidence of our adoption and final approval, we do hereby affix our signatures to this document.

John F. Kieffer

Chairman

Steve Nemeth

Vice Chairman

Telby Black

Secretary

Kip Crowley

Treasurer

Dana Ross

Member

Supporting Idaho Conservation Partners:

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Soil Conservation Commission

Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts



**5-Year Resource Conservation Plan
Business Plan (2015 to 2020)
Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District
For More Information Contact: John Kieffer, 208-587-3482
email: elmoreswcd@hotmail.com**

Organization of the Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District:

The ESWCD was officially organized June 7, 1940 the first supervisors were as of November 27, 1940 Oliver Lord, W. D. Clayville, James Russell, C. R. Slater and W. S. Lee. Several locations and name changes took place. Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District is the official name since 10/19/99.

Function of the Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

The Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District assists land managers with their conservation choices.

We Serve & Why

The Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District serves as the grass roots entity for the County of Elmore. The County of Elmore is diverse and the supervisors prioritize the projects by importance that is deemed relative to our unique area.

Mission of the Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

The Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District is dedicated to working together to conserve Elmore County's natural resources.

Values of the Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

The trends and issues impacting conservation in Elmore County are Water Quantity and Quality—Declining Aquifer, Urban growth as it impacts county infrastructure, sewer, water, schools, and agriculture.

The Elmore Soil & Water Conservation plays a vital part in determining the goals and priorities.

Natural Resource Priorities and Goals:

Water Quantity: Continue alternative measures upstream as given by engineers on the Canyon Creek Erosion control Project. Bring to awareness the erosion concerns in Elmore County and implement remediation programs.

Water Quality: To continue efforts to assist land owners with nonpoint source pollution. To seek State and Federal programs to address water quality concerns including excess runoff and erosion in wild fire areas. Promote pollution free clean water.

District Operations: As required by Soil Commission District Law, to operate effectively and efficiently as a sub division of the State government. Assist landowners in applying for federal and state programs to address water conservation as well as other resource concerns.

District Operations/Information & Education: Implement adult and youth information & education programs. Increase the environmental outreach for Elmore County.

Rangeland: Maintain and improve grazing land in Elmore County. Make plans to increase the effort to improve the quality and quantity of forage on private grazing lands. This is to include the introduction of more desirable species in historical as well as recent burn areas and the introduction of fire resistant species to provide a fire break.

Woodland: To protect and improve woodland area on private land. To establish windbreaks and promote measures to reduce wildfire hazards to homes and forestland. To promote various practices which reduce the rapid spread of forest fires. Promote programs to restore forest regrowth.

Fish & Wildlife: Enhance and improve wildlife habitat areas in Elmore County. Promote programs and land management considerations with regards to candidates, threatened and endangered species. (ie- promote Sage Grouse programs).

Erosion: To seek programs to implement practices to reduce wind and water and fire erosion.

Critical Geographic Areas:

Information – Education Priorities and Goals:

- Conduct adult and youth presentations. Use power point program to depict our history and current activities.
- Enhance environmental outreach efforts to Elmore county landowners and residents.
- Conduct poster and speech contests.

District Operations Priorities, Goals:

- ESWCD will hold 12 regular meetings.
- ESWCD supervisors will meet with elected officials to discuss conservation opportunities and accomplishments.
- ESWCD will conduct supervisor elections.
- ESWCD supervisors and staff will attend IASCD Division meeting and Annual Conference to keep abreast of developments affecting district operations and legislative issues that may require board action.
- LSO upload annual budget, actuals, audit

Trends Impacting Conservation in the Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

- Water quantity—Declining Aquifer
- Urban growth as it impacts
 - County infrastructure
 - Sewer
 - Water
 - Schools
 - Agriculture

Strategies to Address Trends

- Seek local, state, and federal agencies support for flood control project
- Promote irrigation water management practices for irrigated cropland
- Provide support to cooperators seeking funding for irrigation equipment and practices. (EQIP, RCRDP Loans, Conservation improvement grants, and other sources)
- Partner with County Officials to provide support and help maintain the Mosquito Abatement program.

Staffing Needs

Administrative Assistant
Mosquito Abatement program employee(s) and support staff

Annual Budget Needs (available upon request)

Key Decision Makers:

John Kieffer, Chairman/Office Manager
Steve Nemeth, Vice Chairman
Telby Black, Secretary
Kip Crowley, Treasurer
Dana Ross, Supervisor



FY2015 (7/1/2015 – 6/30/16) Annual Plan of Work Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Number 1: Water Quantity

Objective: To provide administrative, technical, and financial support to the Canyon Creek Erosion Control project.

Goal: To prevent flooding from Canyon Creek and other Elmore County streams

Actions	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Seek local, state, and federal agencies support for the flood control project	On going	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Seek local, state, and federal agencies support for remediation of fire damaged areas with concerns for erosion and excessive runoff.	On going	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Promote irrigation water management practices for irrigated cropland	On going	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Provide support to cooperators seeking funding for irrigation equipment and practices. (EQIP, RCRDP Loans, Conservation Improvement Grants, and other sources).	As needed	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Promote Water Conservation	On-going	ESWCD Board/Newsletter
Review new HEL plans	As Needed	ESWCD Board

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FY2015 (7/1/2015 – 6/30/2016) Annual Plan of Work Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Number 2: Water Quality

Objective: Continue efforts to assist landowners with nonpoint source pollution control.

Goal(s): Promote pollution free clean water.

Actions	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Provide assistance and promote programs which minimize stream pollution due to runoff erosion especially due to recent fire events.	ongoing	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Recognize local natural resource problems and contribute to the NRCS by prioritizing corrective measures to address said issues through the LWG (Local Working Group)	Annually	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
For anyone who does not qualify for EQIP payment rate, the ESWCD board and staff encourages the landowner to seek low interest loans or grants through WQPA, RCRDP or other agencies	As requested	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Promote Clean Water—Pollution Free	Quarterly	ESWCD Board/Newsletter
Look at prospective 319 projects	As needed	John Kieffer, Delwyne Trefz, Jason Miller

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FY2015 (7/1/2015 – 6/30/2016) Annual Plan of Work Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Number 3: District Operations

Objective: To operate effectively and efficiently as a sub division of State government as required by Soil Commission District Law.

Goal(s): Seek State and federal programs to address water quality concerns; apply for programs to assist landowners

Actions	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Schedule and hold 12 Board Meetings	Monthly	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Develop and submit Conservation District Annual Plan of Work	03/31/15	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Develop and submit Conservation District Budget	05/15	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Maintain financial management system using QuickBooks; submit reports Maintain and upload budget, actual, audit to LSO website	As needed	Crowley, Kazyaka
Seek and appoint new associate supervisors, or supervisors to run for election	As needed	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Conduct ESWCD election 4 year terms as needed. Internal elections yearly	As needed	Kazyaka
Arrange for Financial Review	07/15	Crowley, Kazyaka
Seek assistance from the Elmore County Commissioners by Chairman	Annually	Kieffer

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FY2015 (7/1/2015 – 6/30/2016) Annual Plan of Work Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Number 3A: District Operations/Information & Education

Objective: Enhance environmental outreach efforts to Elmore County

Goal(s): Implement adult and youth information & education programs.

Actions	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Promote cooperator agreements clearly establishing conservation goals and practices	Monthly	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Conduct poster and speech contests	Annually	Kazyaka
Plan & conduct 9 th grade Conservation Field Day at the Gingerich Ranch	05/15	Kieffer, Nemeth, Kazyaka
Provide Conservation news articles to local newspapers	Bi-annually	Kazyaka
Edit and distribute a quarterly newsletter to approximately 396 recipients/contact sponsors for support.	Quarterly	Kazyaka
Support NRW with partial tuitions, Support Envirothon, Forestry Contest, Support FFA & Ag in the Classroom	Annually	ESWCD Board

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FY2015 (7/1/2015 – 6/30/2016) Annual Plan of Work Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Number 4: Rangeland

Objective: Improve quality and quantity of forage on private grazing lands.

Goal(s): Maintain & improve grazing land in Elmore County

Actions	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Work with Cooperators to develop and implement grazing plans and practices	As needed	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Promote programs which include the introduction of more desirable species	On going	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Promote the introduction of fire resistant species as a method of establishing a natural fire break.	On going	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Promote programs to minimize the effects of erosion due to fires.	On going	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
To work cooperatively with other agencies to control and manage noxious weeds and undesirable species.	On going	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka

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FY2015 (7/1/2015 – 6/30/2016) Annual Plan of Work Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Number 5: Woodland

Objective: To fund & establish windbreaks through payment rate programs

Goal(s): Protect and improve woodland areas on private land

Actions	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Assist landowners in seeking funding for establishing windbreaks and forestland improvements	As needed	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Determine and promote measures to reduce wildfire hazards to homes and forestland. Decrease the effects of erosion after wildfires.	As Needed	ESWCD Board/RC & D
Community Outreach offering free Blue Spruce Seedlings in conjunction with stewardship week and arbor day	Annually	ESWCD Board/Kazyaka

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FY2015 (7/1/2015 – 6/30/2016) Annual Plan of Work Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Number 6: Fish & Wildlife

Objective: Assist landowners with wildlife habitat concerns

Goal(s): Improve wildlife habitat areas in Elmore County

Actions	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Facilitate, store maps for Sage Grouse LWG	As needed	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Sponsor Community Meeting through RC&D	As needed	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Pursue possibilities of Partnering with organizations ie Rocky Mtn. Elk foundation, Pheasants Forever, Sage Grouse Initiative and other organizations.	As needed	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Promote programs and land management considerations with regards to candidates, threatened and endangered species: i.e. Sage Grouse	As needed	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka

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**FY2015 (7/1/2015 – 6/30/2016) Annual Plan of Work
Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District**

Conservation District Priority Number 7: Erosion

Objective: To be aware of erosion concerns in Elmore County

Goal(s): Reduce wind, fire and water erosion

Actions	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Continue working with the Canyon Creek Emergency Conservation Plan (CCECP) project emphasis on erosion	As needed	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Review new HEL plans	As needed	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Review sod buster & wetland plans	As needed	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Assist landowners, partnering with Federal, State and County agencies to reduce erosion after wildfires	As needed	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka

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FY2015 (7/1/2015 – 6/30/2016) Annual Plan of Work Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Number 8: Mosquito Abatement Program

Objective: Partner with Elmore County to maintain Mosquito Abatement

Goal(s): Provide assistance to maintain Mosquito Abatement

Actions	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Partner and work cooperatively with Elmore County Officials with the Mosquito Abatement program	As needed	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Review Mosquito Abatement program with Elmore County Commissioners	As needed	Kieffer, Nemeth, Crowley, Ross, Black and Kazyaka
Provide administrative support staff	As needed	Kazyaka

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**IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**FIVE-YEAR (5) PLAN and
ANNUAL WORK PLAN
CERTIFICATION**

DISTRICT: Elmore Soil & Water
Conservation District

FOR FISCAL YEAR:

2015

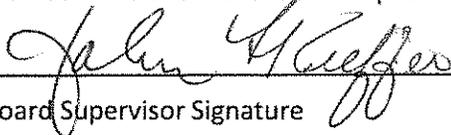
DUE :

March 31, 2015

CERTIFICATION

On behalf of my local Board of Supervisors, I hereby certify that the attached Five-Year (5) Plan and Annual Work Plan is true and accurate, and further submit said Plan for the above named District and fiscal year.

A copy of this Five-Year (5) Plan and Annual Work Plan shall be kept at the District office and is available for public inspection.



Board Supervisor Signature

John F. Kieffer

Printed Name

March 10, 2015

Date

208-587-3482

Telephone

elmoreswcd@hotmail.com/stefanie.kazyaka@id.nacdnet.net

District Email Address

FOR SWC USE ONLY:

DATE OF CONFIRMATION:
