

**MINIDOKA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION
DISTRICT
98-B SOUTH 200 WEST
RUPERT, ID 83350**



**FIVE-YEAR RESOURCE CONSERVATION
BUSINESS PLAN**

JULY 1, 2014 - JUNE 30, 2019

ANNUAL PLAN

July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

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Forward

The Minidoka Soil and 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 nonregulatory; 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 a signed Mutual Agreement with the Secretary of Agriculture and the Governor of Idaho that establishes a framework for cooperation.

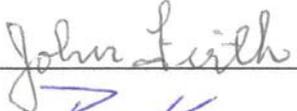
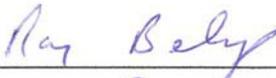
This Annual Plan/Five-Year Resource Conservation Business Plan was developed not only to guide the Conservation District, but also to encourage cooperation among landowners, government agencies, private organizations, and elected officials. Through knowledge and cooperation, all concerned can ensure a sustainable natural resource base for present and future generations in the Minidoka Soil and 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 Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District this 31st day of March 2014, 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, 2019, 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 Firth, Chairman	 _____
Brian Kossman, Vice Chairman	 _____
Russ Suchan, Treasurer	 _____
Roy Belnap, Member	 _____
Dusty Wilkins, Member	 _____

Supporting Idaho Conservation Partners:

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission
Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts
Minidoka County Extension

CONSERVATION DISTRICT STRUCTURE AND GOVERNING POLICIES

Conservation District History

Homesteaders began moving to southern Idaho's Minidoka County in 1904 with government assurance that there would soon be water for irrigated farming. Southern Minidoka County was opened for homesteading after the Minidoka Dam on the Snake River was completed and Lake Walcott was formed east of Rupert in 1907. The Minidoka Irrigation District now administers water in this area.

In the late 1940s, well driller Julion Clausen tapped into the Snake River Plain aquifer in central Minidoka County. The Bureau of Reclamation then drilled wells there, and finding adequate underground water, opened the Northside Pumping Division of the Minidoka Project to homesteading.

Homesteads were mostly limited to veterans; thousands applied. Public drawings for the homesteads were held from 1953 to 1959, with 637 families taking up land in the project. They cleared sagebrush, leveled ground, laid out ditches, dug wells for drinking water, and built barns and homes. The only assistance homesteaders received came from two University of Idaho Extension county agents in Rupert.

Many of the settlers had lived in a soil conservation district elsewhere, and in 1954, some of them formed The Homestead Committee. Their goals were to address local public concerns such as roads, telephones, fire protection, weed and pest control, and to establish a soil conservation district in Minidoka County. A public hearing was held March 8, 1955. Supporters of the district decided to limit the district boundaries to land in the Northside Project, known today as the A&B Irrigation District. A public referendum passed, and the Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District was officially organized July 1, 1955.

The first supervisors of the Minidoka SWCD were Edward Smith, George Hedlind, Willard Warren, and Roger Dean (all of Rupert), and George Falkner from Paul.

The Walcott Soil and Water Conservation District was organized for the original Minidoka Project area in 1961. Since their area had been settled nearly fifty years earlier, the primary concerns did not include roads and basic public facilities, but rather to educate, inform, and assist farmers in improving their farming practices to prevent soil and water erosion.

The first supervisors of the Walcott SWCD were Thomas Maberly, Sherman Saylor, Pat O'Donnell, and Albert Fredrick (all of Rupert), and Harvey Hollinger of Paul. The two districts shared office space and staff. In 1969 they merged as the Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District.

The Minidoka SWCD spent most of its first five years helping farmers level land, build irrigation structures, and develop proper crop rotations. Land-leveling equipment was in great demand, so the District obtained a government surplus TD-18 International track-tractor and purchased a land plane and carryall, which it leased to cooperators.

The Minidoka SWCD has assisted farmers in converting to sprinkler irrigation, which lessens soil erosion on sandy or steep ground and also helps curb high water table problems. The district also promotes conservation practices to reduce erosion of surface-irrigated land. In many areas of the county, concrete ditches, cablegation, gated pipe, and pump back systems make efficient use of water while reducing energy costs.

Over the years, there have been major changes in the duties and priorities of the District. Foremost was the 1985 Food Security Act bill that required farmers receiving any form of federal funding to obtain a Conservation Plan of Action for all actively farmed property. The District board was given the responsibility of approving and monitoring these plans for effective implementation.

In 1990, the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act (FACTA) expanded the government mandates and included water quality.

In addition to the FSA and FACTA, water quality has been a major concern of state and local special-interest groups. The district has attempted to address these concerns.

SWCD Administration and Financing

The northern three-fourths of Minidoka County was issued a certificate of organization on July 1, 1955, as the Minidoka Soil Conservation District. The remaining southern part of the county was issued a certificate of organization as the Walcott Soil and Water Conservation District on April 18, 1961.

The two districts were consolidated into one, and a certificate of organization was issued by Pete Cenarusa, Idaho Secretary of State, on April 16, 1969, to the Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District. The Minidoka County boundaries make up the district boundaries. Lands within the incorporated cities are not included in the District.

The District receives financing provided from the general fund of Minidoka County and the State of Idaho. The county is authorized by State law to provide the district with financial or other assistance. The State is authorized to match the county funds.

The District is administered by a five-man board of supervisors elected by the local residents. The board members serve four-year terms. They receive no salary but are entitled to reimbursement of expenses when carrying out responsibilities for the District. The five elected members select associate supervisors to assist them. A regular meeting is held the second Thursday of each month with special meetings called as needed.

SWCD Policies

The Minidoka SWCD is governed by Title 22, Chapter 27 of the Idaho Code. The Idaho Administrative Procedures Act (IDAPA) Rule 60.05.02 and IDAPA Rule 60.05.04 direct Soil Conservation Districts to establish a Five-Year Plan and an Annual Work Plan to identify natural resource concerns within their boundaries and formulate strategies to address these concerns.

The Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission (ISWC) oversees the MSWCD through its powers and responsibilities. The MSWCD is a grassroots organization that has accepted the responsibility of overseeing the wise use and conservation of our natural resources.

The Board of supervisors also enlists the support of local, county, state, and federal agencies to assist them with their goals.

A monthly meeting is held to address local, state, and federal issues that directly affect the conservation resources of this community.

The MSWCD willingly accepts the responsibility inherent to districts to address agricultural non-point source pollution as set forth in the 1987 Water Quality Act – Section 319; the Safe Drinking Water Act 1986; and the Clean Water Act of 1972 – Antidegradation Program. The MSWCD accepts this responsibility in order to preserve a locally administered voluntary approach for control and abatement of agricultural non-point source pollution to protect and enhance the quality and value of water resources of the State of Idaho.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Land

Minidoka County is located in South Central Idaho. It is made up of the Snake River Plain section of the Columbia Plateau province. The district encompasses 487,794 acres. The land ownership is nearly split between private and public ownership.

Land use has remained relatively constant.

Land Ownership within Minidoka SWCD

- Water 0.4%
- State 1.6%
- National Park Service 15.8%
- BLM 33.0%
- BOR 1.6%
- Private Land 47.6%

Topography

The topography of Minidoka County ranges from nearly level, very low terraces adjacent to the Snake River to a very gently undulating, loess-covered basalt upland in the northern part of the county. The elevation ranges from about 4,125 feet at the Snake River to 5,000 feet on Kimama Butte.

The soil associations in the Minidoka Soil Survey of 1976 were grouped into five general kinds of landscape for broad interpretative purposes. The terms for texture used in the associations apply to the texture of the surface layer.

1. Level to Strongly Sloping, Well-Drained Silt Loams on Basalt Plains
2. Very Gently Sloping to Strongly Sloping, Well-Drained Silt Loams on Basalt Plains
3. Level to Strongly Sloping, Well-Drained Sands and fine Sandy Loams on Basalt Plains
4. Level to Sloping, Well-Drained Sands to Silty Clay Loams on Low Alluvial Terraces
5. Level and Nearly Level, Poorly Drained Loamy Sands to Clay Loams on Low Alluvial Terraces

Copies of the soil survey are available at the district office.

Climate

The average annual temperature is 48 degrees F.; with a length of 125-130 days of frost-free weather. The average precipitation is 8-10 inches annually.

Economic Conditions & Outlook

Population and Employment

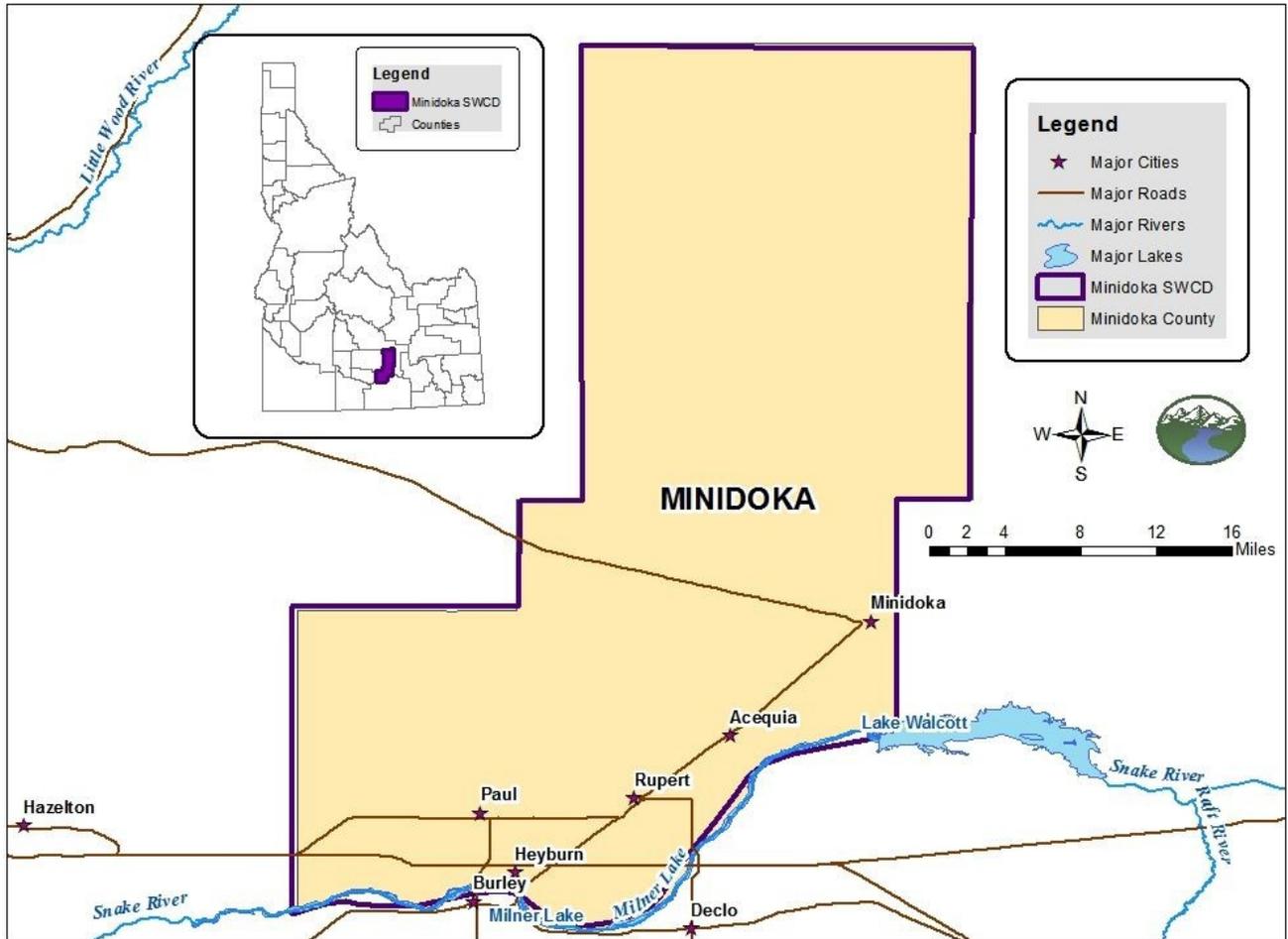
The population and demographics of the county have made significant changes in the past years. The population is slowly increasing after slipping in 2003. There has been a 2.5% increase in population from 2002 to 2012.

While still heavily dependent on agriculture and food processing, the county economy has diversified to include durable manufacturing and wholesale and retail trade tied to agriculture.

Agricultural Economy

Agriculture is the number one business in the county. The major crops grown in the county are wheat, malt barley, hay, sugar beets, beans and potatoes. Dairy cattle, feeder cattle, swine, and sheep are the primary animals raised in the county.

Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District Boundary





Five-Year Resource Conservation Plan Business Plan (2014 to 2019) Minidoka Soil & Water Conservation District

For More Information Contact: John Firth, Chairman, (208) 436-4777 ext. #3

Organization of the Minidoka Soil & Water Conservation District

A political subdivision of the State of Idaho – authorities, powers, and structure contained in Soil Conservation District Law, Title 22, Chapter 27, Idaho Code

- Organized July 1st, 1955, to provide voluntary land and water conservation technical and financial assistance to landowners and uses within the Minidoka SWCD boundary.

Function of the Minidoka Soil & Water Conservation District

To make available technical, financial, and educational resources, whatever their source, and focus or coordinate them so that they meet the needs of the local land manager with conservation of soil, water, and related natural resources.

Who We Serve & Why

- We serve the people and natural resources in the Minidoka SWCD by assisting them in conserving the natural resources for the beneficial and sustainable use by all.

Mission of the Minidoka Soil & Water Conservation District

- To deliver natural resource technology and education, to promote wise use of natural resources, and to promote management practices to ensure a sustainable natural resource base for present and future generations of producers in Minidoka County.

Vision of the Minidoka Soil & Water Conservation District

- To better co-ordinate and unify with our partners and other districts to provide a higher level of assistance to the landowners and producers in each of our particular areas.

Values of the Minidoka Soil & Water Conservation District

- Sustainable use of natural resources
- Support for agriculture activity that uses sustainable, economic feasible practices
- Value and respect for the Idaho Conservation Partnership
- Conservation education for adults and youth

Natural Resource Project Priorities and Goals (listed in order of highest priority):

- Water Resources-Water Quality & Quantity
- Soil Health, wind/water erosion
 - Irrigated Cropland
 - Non-Irrigated Cropland
- Information & Education/Public Outreach
- Animal Waste Management/Nutrient Management
- Fish & Wildlife (including sage grouse)
- Rangeland
- Pasture and Hayland
- Recreation
- Urban

1. Water Resources-Water Quality & Quantity
 - Make available technical and financial assistance for improved irrigation water management to interested producers through the Idaho Conservation Partners' programs.
 - Provide information to District irrigators on current Idaho water issues.
 - Attend Watershed Advisory Group meetings.
 - With assistance of Conservation Partners provide and/or determine nutrient management technical assistance needed by dairies and animal feeding operations.
 2. Soil Health, Wind/Water Erosion
 - Work on obtaining a Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG) from NRCS for purchase of two no-till drills and establish a seed bank for cover crops.
 - Target landowners and operators in priority wind erosion areas and encourage participation in EQIP and other Farm Bill programs to use conservation measures to reduce wind erosion.
 - Work with NRCS to encourage landowners or operators to develop and implement a conservation plan to reduce erosion on highly erodible cropland.
 - Conduct a Conservation Tree Sale Program annually to encourage constituents to develop conservation and farmstead windbreaks.
 3. Information and Education/Public Outreach
 - Design a District Website/Facebook Page
 - Work on developing a quarterly newsletter that will provide current information to constituents throughout the district.
 - Attend Quarterly RC&D meetings.
 - Annually conduct youth environmental education programs and increase participation in – speech contest, poster contest, seek and sponsor Land & Soil Evaluation Event Team.
 - Annually sponsor a fair booth.
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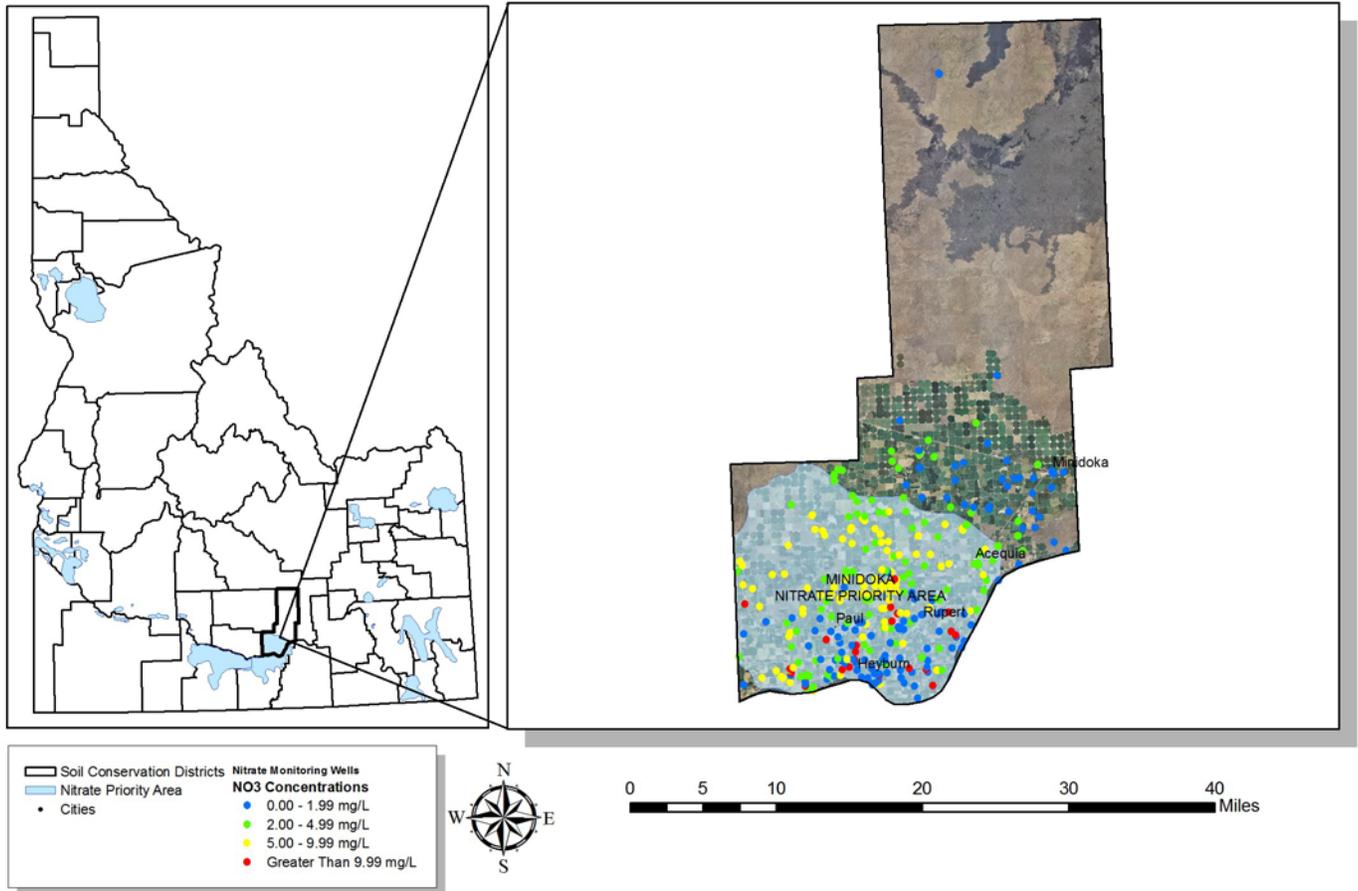
Information – Education Priorities and Goals:

- Annually all 5th and 6th grade students will have had the opportunity to participate in the conservation poster contest using the annual theme of the NACD's stewardship week.
 - Annually host conservation speech contest annually for grades 9-12 using the annual theme of NACD's Stewardship Week.
 - Work with Minico High School to encourage student participation in our educational programs such as Land and Soil Evaluation Event, Envirothon, Fire Wise plant program, and scholarships.
-

District Operations Priorities, Goals:

- New supervisors will study Supervisor Handbook and have an understanding of district law and district operations.
- Complete effective and efficient operations including accounting, personnel management, training and development, annual planning and reporting.
- In cooperation with other Conservation Districts, develop and carry out an effective legislative outreach program to ensure 90% State matching funds for all Districts.
- Conduct Conservation District elections in 2014, 2016, and 2018

Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District Nitrate Priority Areas



Critical Geographic Areas (including stream segments of concern with pollutants):

- Lake Walcott Watershed
 - Snake River – sediment, oil and grease, total phosphorus
 - Milner Reservoir – sediment, oil and grease, total phosphorus
- Minidoka Nitrate Priority Area, which ranks #25 in the state (see map)
- Parts of Minidoka County also fall in the American Falls Groundwater Management Area

Trends Impacting Conservation in the Minidoka Soil & Water Conservation District

- Blowing dust issues resulting from crop rotations and tillage practices that leave fields unprotected during the non-growing season
- Groundwater and surface water issues
- Maintaining existing recreational uses of Lake Walcott and the Milner Reservoir
- Potential listing of sage grouse as an endangered species, which would impact grazing practices
- Increasing small acreage farms, five acres or less
- Limited availability of State funds for conservation
- Increased paper work to getting the job done
- Trend to regulate agriculture and ranching
- Urban impact on agriculture production
- Poorly planned growth in agricultural areas

Strategies to Address Trends

- Host no-till drill demonstration and workshop to educate growers about advantages of cover crops
- Become involved with local sage grouse working group
- Stay abreast of U.S. Fish and Wildlife planning activities regarding the Minidoka National Wildlife Refuge
- More education and public outreach
- Determine opportunities to coordinate outreach activities with traditional and non-traditional partners
- Raise awareness of conservation values with state legislature and elected officials – help decision makers be better informed
- Strengthen locally-led efforts
- Supervisors become informed on current issues impacting working lands, including the recently approved (2014) Farm Bill programs
- Determine how to become involved with County Planning and Zoning issues impacting natural resources.
- Establish a data base to track resource conditions
- Conduct a tour of Aberdeen NRCS Plant Materials Center
- Conduct a tour of recent and ongoing conservation projects
- Solicit input to improve Annual Plan/Five-Year Resource Conservation Business Plan
- Take a proactive approach to funding water delivery systems on irrigated cropland
- Identify the information methods to communicated with small landowners
- Sponsor project proposals with other districts
- Take advantage of training opportunities for Conservation District Supervisors and staff

Staffing Needs

- Full-time Conservation District Administrative Assistant with benefits
- Information & Education Specialist with benefits
- Conservation District Technician

Annual Budget Needs

- \$80,000 to hire two full time employees and provide benefits
 - \$10,000 for utilities, supplies, and audit requirements
 - District would require additional funding to meet these goals
-

Key Decision Makers

- Citizens in Conservation District
 - Minidoka County Commissioners and Planning and Zoning Board Members
 - Elected City Officials
 - State legislators representing Conservation District –Senator Dean Cameron, Representative Scott Bedke, Representative Fred Wood
 - U.S. Senators, Representatives and Staffers
 - Conservation District Supervisors
 - Key contacts for cities
 - Chamber of Commerce
 - Special Interest Groups
-

Priority Actions – 6 Months

- Seek public comments on Annual Plan/Five-Year Resource Conservation Business Plan.
- Board of Supervisor review of Annual Plan/Five-Year Resource Conservation Business Plan priorities, actions, and public comment.
- Complete written update of Annual Plan/Five-Year Resource Conservation Plan.
- Identify budget and staff needs.
- Complete CIG grant application.
- Develop, adopt, and submit annual budget.
- Adopt and submit Annual Plan/Five-Year Resource Conservation Business Plan.



**FY2016 (7/1/15 – 6/30/16) Annual Work Plan
Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District**



FY2016 (7/1/15 – 6/30/16) Annual Work Plan Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District

For Information Contact: John Firth, Chairman

Telephone Number: 208-436-4777 x3

Email: mswcd@pmt.org

County Served: Minidoka

Legislative District: 27



Mission of the Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District

To deliver natural resource technology and education, to promote wise use of natural resources and to promote management practices to ensure a sustainable natural resource base for present and future generations of producers in Minidoka County.

Trends & Issues Impacting Conservation in the Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District

- ❖ **Blowing dust issues resulting from crop rotations and tillage practices that leave fields unprotected during the non-growing season**
- ❖ **Groundwater and surface water issues**
- ❖ **Maintaining existing recreational uses of Lake Walcott and the Milner Reservoir**
- ❖ **Potential listing of sage grouse as an endangered species, which would impact grazing practices**
- ❖ **Increasing small acreage farms, five acres or less**
- ❖ **Limited availability of State funds for conservation**
- ❖ **Increased paper work to getting the job done**
- ❖ **Trend to regulate agriculture and ranching**
- ❖ **Urban impact on agriculture production**
- ❖ **Poorly planned growth in agricultural areas**

Projects Planned, Coordinated or Managed by the Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District

- ❖ We are currently working with East & West Cassia SWCDs on the Mini-Cassia Direct Seed & Cover Crop Project, which was funded through a Conservation Innovation Grant from NRCS (and some of the partners listed below) to purchase two no-till drills and establish a seed bank for cover crops.
- ❖ We have received a joint CCPI grant with the Cassia Districts to address the problem of elevated nitrates in the Cassia and Minidoka Nitrate Priority Areas, which are ranked first and twenty-fifth in Idaho (respectively).
- ❖ We are working with A&B Irrigation and NRCS on an AWEPP project to help alleviate shortages of irrigation water by installing a 12 1/2-mile pipeline to convey surface water to agricultural fields to use in place of ground water when surface water is available.
- ❖ Develop an Arbor Day Project.
- ❖ Develop and implement a tree windbreak in the area surrounding Acequia Elementary school to prevent blowing dirt and fertilizer.
- ❖ Attend Ag Advisory Meetings at Minico High School to encourage participation in district and state activities, such as the Land and Soil Evaluation Event, Envirothon, Fire Wise plant program, speech contest, and scholarship program; work with the Ag Advisory Group to expand the agricultural education program at Minico High School.
- ❖ Sponsor a fair booth at the Minidoka County Fair.
- ❖ Hold annual poster contest for 5th and 6th graders.
- ❖ Sponsor students for the Know Your Government Conference.
- ❖ Sponsor students for Natural Resources Camp.

Funding Sources for District Operations and Projects Coordinated- State and County Funds, Grants and Other funding sources that may be available

Minidoka County
Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission
USDA - NRCS
CIG Grant
Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Pheasants Forever
Mid-Snake RC&D



FY2016 (7/1/15 – 6/30/16) Annual Work Plan Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District

Priority Area Number 1: Water Resources – Water Quality and Quantity

Objective(s): Determine conservation practices to reduce nitrates in ground water and meet the requirements of the Lake Walcott TMDL. Facilitate conservation activities that would conserve ground water.

Goal(s): Work with Minidoka Ground Water Management Committee, Idaho Soil and Water Commission, and NRCS to implement best management practices to reduce pollutant levels in ground and surface water.

Actions	Target Dates	Person(s) Responsible
Monitor and spot-check irrigation water management practices and systems and nutrient management practices.	Ongoing	NRCS & ISWC
Continued monitoring of domestic and irrigation wells for nitrates.	Ongoing	DEQ
Encourage implementation of nutrient management plans for dairy and feedlot operations to meet statutory requirements.	Ongoing	NRCS, MSWCD, ID Dept. of Agriculture, ISWC
Seek and implement EQIP projects for 116,800 acres in nitrate area, including the CCPI project.	Ongoing	NRCS, MSWCD, ISWC
Assist with development and conduct educational outreach (conservation planning, newsletter articles on USDA Farm Programs) and other important information needed by county farmers and ranchers.	Quarterly	Lori Anderson, FSA
Attend Lake Walcott Watershed Advisory Group meetings and provide information to district irrigators on current Idaho water issues.	Quarterly	MSWCD, ISWC
Encourage participation in the FSA Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP).	Ongoing	MSWCD, ISWC, FSA



FY2016 (7/1/15 – 6/30/16) Annual Work Plan Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District

Priority Area Number 2: Soil Health – Wind and Water Erosion

Objective: To improve, evaluate, and establish BMPs to improve soil health on all co-operator farms

Goal(s): Reduce erosion to tolerable levels on cropland and improve soil health by increasing soil organic matter

Actions	Target Dates	Person(s) Responsible
Encourage participation by local farmers in the no-till drill rental program and establish a seed bank for cover crops. Encourage local farmers to plant cover crops.	Ongoing	MSWCD Board & Lori Anderson
Host no-till drill tour and demonstration to educate growers about advantages of cover crops.	Fall 2015	MSWCD, NRCS, ISWC, ECSWCD, WCSWCD
Encourage landowners and operators in priority wind erosion and highly erodible cropland areas to participate in EQIP and other Farm Bill programs.	Ongoing	MSWCD, NRCS, ISWC
Educate through partnership with FSA with their emailed newsletters-articles on irrigation BMPs.	Quarterly	Lori Anderson
Conduct a Conservation Tree Sale Program promoting windbreaks for wind erosion control.	Annually	MSWCD Board & East & West Cassia SWCD
Host workshop to evaluate progress on the Mini-Cassis Direct Seed & Cover Crop Project and educate growers about the advantages of cover crops and reduced tillage.	Winter 2016	MSWCD, NRCS, ISWC, ECSWCD, WCSWCD



FY2016 (7/1/15 – 6/30/16) Annual Work Plan

Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District

Priority Area Number 3: Information and Education/Public Outreach

Objective: Implement a public outreach program through both youth and adult education programs and develop an image of leadership and recognition within the conservation community

Goal(s): Raise awareness of conservation issues and possible solutions through newsletters, tours, workshops, IASCD programs, participation in the Minico High School Ag Advisory Group, and other forums.

Actions	Target Dates	Person(s) Responsible
Support State Land Judging contest financially and by participation in the event by Board members, County Commissioners, ISWC, NRCS, and administrative assistant.	Annually in October	MSWCD Board, County Commissioners, ISWC, NRCS & Lori Anderson
IASCD Speech Contest-solicit 4 contestants from Minico High School.	Annually in October	Lori Anderson
IASCD Poster Contest-7 schools-200 participants.	Annually in September	Lori Anderson
Promote and Sponsor two students to attend NRW Camp.	Annually in June	MSWCD Board & Lori Anderson
Promote and select two high school scholarship recipients.	Annually in April-May	MSWCD Board
Support the Know Your Government program by sponsoring students with scholarship funds.	Annually in February	Lori Anderson & Minidoka County Extension 4-H Jeni Bywater
Financially support the Ag in the Classroom program.	Annually in	MSWCD Board & Lori Anderson

Promote conservation tree sale. Proceeds to youth education: 2 high school scholarships, 5 KYG scholarships and 2 NRW scholarships.	Annually in April	Lori Anderson & 4-H Teen Association
Sponsor fair booth at the Minidoka County Fair.	August 2014	MSWCD Board
Encourage regular board meeting attendance.	Monthly	MSWCD Board
Support attendance at annual IASCD conference-2 supervisors attend.	Annually	MSWCD Board & Lori Anderson
Encourage attendance at leadership and informational seminars as available.	Annually	MSWCD Board & Lori Anderson
Employ and evaluate district staff –a. Administrative Assistant.	Annually	John Firth & 1 supervisor
Supervisors & administrative assistant will attend the annual IASCD conference to receive training and information necessary to carry out effective District programs.	Annually	MSWCD Board & Lori Anderson
Supervisors & administrative assistant will attend Spring and Fall Division meetings to keep abreast of current developments affecting district operations and legislative issues that may require board action.	Spring & Fall	MSWCD Board & Lori Anderson
Develop and distribute quarterly newsletter.	Quarterly	Lori Anderson
Design a district Website and/or Face Book page.	April 2014 – March 2015	Lori Anderson, Brian Kossman
Attend RC&D meetings.	Quarterly	Lori Anderson
Meet with and participate in the Minico High School Ag Advisory Group	Ongoing	Dusty Wilkins
Submit newspaper articles to publicize & promote Mini-Cassia Direct Seed & Cover Crop Project	Fall 2015, Spring 2016	Lori Anderson

Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District

Priority Area Number 4: Animal Waste Management

Objectives: Prevent pollutants that can negatively impact ground water

Goal(s): Provide assistance for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) for odor control and large CAFO placement.

Actions	Target Dates	Person(s) Responsible
Continue effective communications with Minidoka County Planning and Zoning	As needed	MSWCD Board
Identify potential problems and respond as appropriate		MSWCD Board, NRCS, ID Dept. of Ag.
Provide information (Farm Bill, RCRDP) and encourage all dairies and feedlots to meet environmental guidelines	As needed	MSWCD Board, ISWC, NRCS staff
Promote nutrient management plans	As needed	ID Dept. of Ag.



FY2016 (7/1/15 – 6/30/15) Annual Work Plan Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District

Priority Area Number 5: Fish & Wildlife (including sage grouse)

Objective: **Enhance wildlife populations and habitat while still maintaining present land uses such as grazing, farming, and recreational activities**

Goal(s): Prevent sage grouse being listed as an endangered species. Maintain existing recreational use of Lake Walcott.

Actions	Target Dates	Person(s) Responsible
Become involved with local sage grouse working group.	May 2015	MSWCD
Stay abreast of U.S. Fish and Wildlife planning activities regarding the Minidoka National Wildlife Refuge.	Ongoing	MSWCD, Lori Anderson
Encourage responsible use of recreational areas to protect wildlife and their habitat.	Ongoing	MSWCD, Lori Anderson
Outreach to encourage the adoption of no-till and minimum-till farming practices as well as cover crops as a way to enhance wildlife resources.	Ongoing	MSWCD, Lori Anderson, NRCS

Conservation District's Elected Officials & Office Staff		
Title	Name	E-mail and/or Phone Number
Chair	John Firth	208-431-4462
Vice-chair	Brian Kossman	208-431-5699
Treasurer	Russ Suchan	208-260-1155
Member	Justin Hunter	208-650-0188
Member	Dusty Wilkins	208-670-1641
Admin. Asst.	Lori Anderson	208-436-4777 ext. 3 mswcd@pmt.org

Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District assisting land managers with their conservation choices

**IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

DISTRICT: Minidoka SWCD

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

FOR FISCAL YEAR:

2016

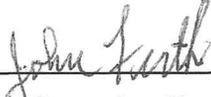
DUE :

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 Firth

Printed Name

March 31, 2015

Date

208-436-4202

District Telephone

mswcd@pmt.org

District Email Address

FOR SWC USE ONLY:

DATE OF CONFIRMATION:
