

**PAYETTE
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ADDRESS**

ANNUAL PLAN

**FIVE-YEAR RESOURCE CONSERVATION
BUSINESS PLAN**

JULY 1, 2015 – JUNE 30, 2020

The Payette Soil and Water Conservation District is one of 51 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, providing 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 Payette 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.

The Board of elected supervisors of the Payette Soil and Water Conservation District this 30th 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.



Five-Year Resource Conservation Plan Business Plan (2015 to 2020) Payette Soil & Water Conservation District

Contact: Jo Anne Smith, Chairman (208) 642-6129

Organization of the Payette 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, and Idaho Code

- The District was organized in February 26, 1958 to provide voluntary land and water conservation, technical, and financial assistance to landowners within the Payette SWCD boundary.

Function of the Payette 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

- The communities and the people living within the Payette SWCD, to ensure a future that can enjoy our natural resources for the environmental and economic benefit of present and future generations.

Mission of the Payette Soil & Water Conservation District

- Payette Soil and Water Conservation District will work towards conserving and enhancing all natural resources for the economic and environmental benefit of present and future generations in Payette County.

Vision of the Payette Soil & Water Conservation District

- *To rise up to the challenges facing conservation districts today and in the future to protect our air, soil and water. By working side by side with our partners, we will take on this new challenge to deliver a sustainable working environment for the next generation.*

Values of the Payette Soil & Water Conservation District

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

Natural Resource Priorities and Goals:

The following are priorities and goals the Payette Soil and Water Conservation District has selected to address natural resources issues in their District. The priorities are:

Priorities and Goals

1. District Operations
 - Promote the importance of agriculture and natural resources in Payette County
 - Maintain contact with the cities, county and planning & zoning committees
 - Seek other groups and/or organizations to promote PSWCD's programs
 - Meet with the Payette County Commissioners and the cities to discuss district accomplishments and funding.
 - Maintain a viable district in order to provide efficient and effective service to the public.
2. Information and Education
 - Conduct a conservation tour, seminar and/or workshop for the public
 - Continue development and use of the district website
 - Promote soil and water stewardship
 - Promote the poster and speech contest to area students
 - Provide an information display for the Payette County Fair
3. Water Quality
 - Implement 319 Non-point source grant phase II for the Mid-Snake Payette Clean Water Project.
 - Provide support for the implementation of the Lower Payette River TMDL, Middle Snake Hells Canyon TMDL, the Boise River TMDL, Big Willow Creek TMDL ,and Little Willow Creek TMDL.
 - Promote and develop Best Management Practices on 2,060 acres
4. Irrigated Cropland
 - Develop irrigation designs for cooperators involved in district programs.
 - Develop and approve conservation plans on irrigated cropland: goal is 10 plans and 1,000 acres
5. Fish and Wildlife
 - Develop and approve wildlife resource management plans: goal is 150 acres
 - Applied to improve fish and wildlife habitat: goal is 150 acres (wetland, recreational and enhancement)
6. Grazing Land
 - Develop and approve conservation systems on pasture and hay land goal is 1000 acres per year
 - Grazing land resource protection: goal is 1,000 acres.

Critical Geographic Areas:

The county of Payette and the cities located within (Fruitland, New Plymouth and Payette).

Trends Impacting Conservation in the Payette Soil & Water Conservation District

- Urban impact on agriculture production
 - Poorly planned growth in agricultural areas
 - 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, reducing local control.
 - Long term climatic changes.
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Strategies to Address Trends

- Will use the information gather from the irrigation and drainage ditch inventory completed last year to identify future projects with local irrigation and drainage districts.
- Strengthen Locally Led efforts
- Will review subdivisions plans that are presented to the district
- Supervisors become more informed on current issues impacting working lands and Farm Bill programs.
- The supervisors will attend division meetings, IASCD conference, speakers at local meetings and workshops to increase their knowledge of issues impacting our local area and statewide.
- The district will maintain a website to provide information about the district and conservation news, continue annual display at the county fair, and support the local noxious weed department within the county.

Staffing Needs

- Conservation District Manager with benefits
 - Full-time Conservation District Administrative Assistant
 - Conservation District Technician
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Annual Budget Needs

- The amount currently budgeted to carry out the Payette SWCD plan is \$15,000 (not including grant money for individual projects, or annual symposium sponsorship funds raised). An estimated effective district operations budget would be \$25,000. A high goal would be to fill a full-time technical assistant position (with benefits) to increase district effectiveness, with the position supporting itself with grants or other funds.
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Key Decision Makers

- Citizens in Conservation District
 - Payette County Commissioners and Planning and Zoning Board Members
 - Cities of Fruitland, Payette, and New Plymouth Elected City Officials and Planning and Zoning Board Members
 - State legislators representing Conservation District
 - U.S. Senators, Representatives and Staffers
 - Conservation District Supervisors
 - Special Interest Groups
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Priority Actions – 6 Months

- See the attached annual work plan for the Payette SWCD which indicates the priority actions needed to start the 5-year plan of the Payette Soil & Water Conservation District based on the above information.

Action	Begin Date	End Date
▪ Board of Supervisors review of Annual Plan/Five-Year Resource Conservation Business Plan priorities, actions	03/2015	03/2016
▪ Complete written update of Annual Plan/Five-Year Resource Conservation Plan	03/2015	03/2016
▪ Meet with City and County governments for funding and prepare budget	04/2015	06/2015
▪ Begin grant planning	04/2015	08/2016
▪ Begin Education & Outreach annual soil health symposium planning	03/2015	02/2016



FY2015 (7/1/15– 6/30/16) Annual Plan of Work Payette Soil and Water Conservation District

Contact: Jo Anne Smith - Chairperson

Telephone Number: (208) 642-6129

Email: Johna.Gabiola@payetteswcd.org

County Served: Payette Legislative District: 9



Mission of the Payette Soil and Water Conservation District

- Payette Soil and Water Conservation District will work towards conserving and enhancing all natural resources for the economic and environmental benefit of present and future generations in Payette County using educational, financial, and technical assistance to promote voluntary resource conservation practices.

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

- Animal Waste Management: Follow trend to encourage the beneficial use of animal resources to improve soil and water quality
- Water Quality: TMDL development and implementation
- Irrigated Cropland: Promote adoption of soil and water conservation practices
- Fish and Wildlife: Support and approve wildlife resource management plans; threatened and endangered species
- Pasture and Hay: Assist with planning and application of conservation on pasture and hay land
- Rangeland: Assist with planning and application of conservation on rangeland
- Other Impacts: Rural subdivision of farm and range lands; availability of funds for district operations

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

- Hold a seminar to educate producers on sustainable agricultural practices.
- Implement 319 grant for the 2nd phase funding for the Middle Snake Payette Clean Water Project.
- Coordinate efforts to address TMDLs in Payette County and surrounding watersheds.

Funding Sources for District Operations and Projects Coordinated

- State Of Idaho
 - Payette County
 - Cities of Payette and New Plymouth and Fruitland
 - Irrigation districts and Water District No. 65
 - Pursue other funding sources, private and public.
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FY2015 (7/1/15 – 6/30/16) Annual Plan of Work Payette Soil and Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Number 1: District Operations

Objective: Inform the Payette County Commissioners, Cities Mayors, State Legislators, and the public about district activities and conservation issues.

Goal(s): Maintain a viable district in order to provide efficient and effective service to the public.

Actions	Date	Agency	Goals Achieved
Each District Supervisor will try to attend at least one IASCD conference.	Nov-15 Feb-16	PSWCD Supervisors	
Maintain membership in the NACD by participation and dues (funding permitting)	July 15 June16	PSWCD Supervisors	
Sponsor and participate in USDA Local Working Group meeting(s)	Fall 15, Spring-16	PSWCD Supervisors, NRCS	
Participate as a member of the West Central Highlands RC&D Council	July 15 June16	PSWCD Supervisors	
Continue to meet with the cities and county to discuss district accomplishments and to secure funding	July 15 June16	PSWCD Supervisors & Staff	
Actively support the IASCD with dues and participation in annual and division meetings, funding permitting	July 15 June16	PSWCD Supervisors & Staff	
Promote the importance of agriculture and natural resources conservation in Payette County	July 15 June16	PSWCD Supervisors, NRCS & Staff	
Seek other groups and/or organizations to promote PSWCD's programs	July 15 June16	PSWCD Supervisors and Staff	
Investigate methods to increase funding for district operations	July 15 June16	PSWCD Supervisors and Staff	



FY2015 (7/1/15 – 6/30/16) Annual Plan of Work Payette Soil and Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Number 1: District Operations (continued)

Objective: Inform the Payette County Commissioners, Cities Mayors, State Legislators, and the public about district activities and conservation issues.

Goal(s): Maintain a viable district in order to provide efficient and effective service to the public.

Actions	Date	Agency	Goals Achieved
Schedule and hold a minimum of 10 Board Meetings	Monthly	JoAnne Smith and Administrative Assistant	
Develop and submit Conservation District Annual Plan of Work, updating 5-Year Plan	Jan 16 Mar-16	PSWCD Supervisors, and Administrative Assistant	
Complete Financial & Match Report	Aug-15	PSWCD Supervisors and Administrative Assistant	
Maintain financial management system using QuickBooks	July 15 June16	Administrative Assistant	
Promote training to develop new skills and knowledge for staff and supervisors	July 15 June16	PSWCD Supervisors and Staff	
Conduct an employee(s) review	Annual	PSWCD Supervisors	



FY2015 (7/1/15 – 6/30/16) Annual Plan of Work Payette Soil and Water Conservation District



Conservation District Priority Number 2: Information and Education

Objective: Educate producers, ranchers, and the public about natural resources conservation.

Goal(s): Increase the public awareness of the importance of conserving our natural resources.

Actions	Date	Agency	Goals Achieved
Provide an Information Booth at Payette County Fair	Summer15	Administrative Assistant	
Conduct a conservation tour in conjunction with 319 grant. Hold annual soil health symposium and workshop.	Fall 15 Spring 16	PSWCD Supervisors, NRCS & Staff	
Continue development and use of District website: www.payetteswcd.org	Quarterly	PSWCD Supervisors, NRCS & Staff	
Participate in Soil Judging Contest with local schools (FFA members)	Fall 15	Administrative Assistant	
Promote the conservation district and natural resource educational programs to local entities	July 15 June16	PSWCD Supervisors, & Staff	



FY2015 (7/1/15 – 6/30/16) Annual Plan of Work Payette Soil and Water Conservation District



Conservation District Priority 3: Water Quality

Objective: Assist district cooperators with planning and application of Water Quality Best Management Practices.

Goal(s): To meet state water quality rules, regulations, and requirements

Actions	Date	Agency	Goals Achieved
Identify sources of funding and associated programs for water quality projects in Payette County	July 15 June16	PSWCD Supervisors, NRCS & Staff	
Implement 319 Grant for Phase 2 of the Mid Snake-Payette Clean Water Project.	July 15 June16	PSWCD Supervisors,NRCS & Staff	
Coordinate and Hold Watershed Advisory Group Meetings	July 15 June16	PSWCD Supervisors & Staff	
Provide support for the implementation of the Lower Payette River TMDL, Boise River TMDL, Big Willow Creek TMDL, Middle Snake Hells Canyon TMDL, Little Willow Creek TMDL.	July 15 June16	PSWCD Supervisors, NRCS & Staff	
Conservation application to improve water quality ➤ Goal: 1260 acres	July 15 June16	NRCS Staff	
Apply conservation practices to improve irrigation efficiency ➤ Goal: 800 acres	July 15 June16	NRCS Staff	
Promote best management practices for containment and application of animal waste, reducing the impact of animal waste on natural resources.	July 15 June16	NRCS Staff	
Cooperate with Idaho Power Water Quality Improvement	July 15 June16	PSWCD Supervisors, NRCS & Staff	



FY2015 (7/1/15 – 6/30/16) Annual Plan of Work Payette Soil and Water Conservation District



Conservation District Priority Number 4: Irrigated Cropland

Objective: Promote soil and water conservation on irrigated cropland

Goal(s): To work with cooperators to plan and implement BMPs to conserve soil & water.

Actions	Date	Agency	Goals Achieved
Develop and approve conservation plans on irrigated cropland: Goal 10 plans	July 15 June16	NRCS Staff	
Implement BMPs Goal:1000 acres	July 15 June16	NRCS Staff	



FY2015 (7/1/15 – 6/30/16) Annual Plan of Work Payette Soil and Water Conservation District



Conservation District Priority Area 5: Fish and Wildlife

Objective: Maintain and enhance wildlife resource conservation

Goal(s): Conservation of fish and wildlife resources

Actions	Date	Agency	Goals Achieved
Develop conservation plans to address wildlife resources. ➤ Goal: 150 acres	July 15 June16	NRCS Staff	
Apply conservation practices to improve fish and wildlife habitat Goal: 150 acres (wetland, recreational and enhancement)	July 15 June16	NRCS Staff	

Conservation District Priority Area 6: Grazing land

Objective: Assist with planning and application of conservation plans on rangeland, pasture and hay land

Goal(s): To protect and improve rangeland, pasture and hay land through proper resource treatment

Actions	Date	Agency	Goals Achieved
Develop and approve conservation plans on range, pasture and hay land ➤ Goal: 1000 acres per year	July 15 June16	NRCS Staff	
Implement conservation practices for grazing land resource protection ➤ Goal: 1000 acres	July 15 June16	NRCS Staff	

**IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

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

DISTRICT: Payette Soil & Water
Conservation District

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.

Jo Anne Smith

Board Supervisor Signature

JoAnne Smith

Printed Name

03/30/2015

Date

208-642-6129

District Telephone

johna.gabiola@payetteswcd.org

District Email Address

FOR SWC USE ONLY:

DATE OF CONFIRMATION: