

**PORTNEUF SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
1551 BALDY AVE., STE 2
POCATELLO, ID 83201**

**FIVE-YEAR RESOURCE CONSERVATION
BUSINESS PLAN**

JULY 1, 2012 – JUNE 30, 2017

Introduction

The Portneuf 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 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 Agricultural and the Governor of Idaho that establishes a framework for cooperation.

This 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 Portneuf 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.

Mission of the Portneuf Soil & Water Conservation District

To coordinate technical, financial, and educational assistance for responsible natural resources management that conserves and improves air, soil, and water quality, and fish and wildlife habitat.

Certificate of Adoption

The Board of elected supervisors of the Portneuf Soil and Water Conservation District this 13th day of June 2012 does 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, 2017 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.

_____ Chairman Scott Henderson

_____ Vice Chairman Kevin Koester

_____ Treasurer Dave Jackson

_____ Member Kit Tillotson

_____ Member John B. McNabb

Supporting Idaho Conservation Partners (As applicable)

_____ Natural Resources Conservation Service

_____ Soil Conservation Commission

_____ Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts

Physical Characteristics

Land, Geology, and Topography

The geology of the county can be derived into three broad geological areas: relatively old sedimentary rocks of the mountains, younger sedimentary deposits of the valleys with some inclusions of volcanic rock.

The mountain and hill area, represented by the Portneuf Range, Pocatello Range and Bannock Range, are along the eastern and western sides of the county. The ranges are composed of Precambrian and early Paleozoic quartzite, limestone and shale with some Precambrian metamorphosed volcanic and met sediment included. Younger silicic volcanic rocks occur in the northern and western parts of the Bannock Range. The soils associated with this area are somewhat shallow, well drained, and generally gravelly and stony.

The foothills along Marsh and Mink Creek, and the area southeast of Pocatello are primarily loess-covered sediments of the Salt Lake formation of Pliocene age. This formation is poorly consolidated sand, silt, and gravel of lacustrine and fluvial origin. The soils found in this area are generally deep, well drained, and of medium textures. They may contain gravel in some places.

Between these two mountain ranges, or included with them, are Marsh Creek, Portneuf Valleys, and numerous other smaller valleys or basins. Alluvium, Pleistocene to recent in age, occurs along floodplains of the streams. Inclusions of smaller areas of the Snake River Basalt are located along the Portneuf River near Inkom. Also found in this area are barren rocklands which are among the youngest formations in the county. The soils associated with this area are shallow, too deep, fine-texture, and vary from poorly drained to well drained.

The climate conditions in Idaho exhibit great variety. In winter, while there are frequent periods of persistent southwest wind with an effect of mildness, there are also stretches of several days length when the temperature stays below freezing and the daily minimum falls below zero.

During cold periods, precipitation falling as snow accumulates to a depth of a foot or more. Clouds and unsettling weather prevail throughout the winter with measurable amounts of precipitation on about one-third of the days. Frost depth of two or three feet is common during the winter season.

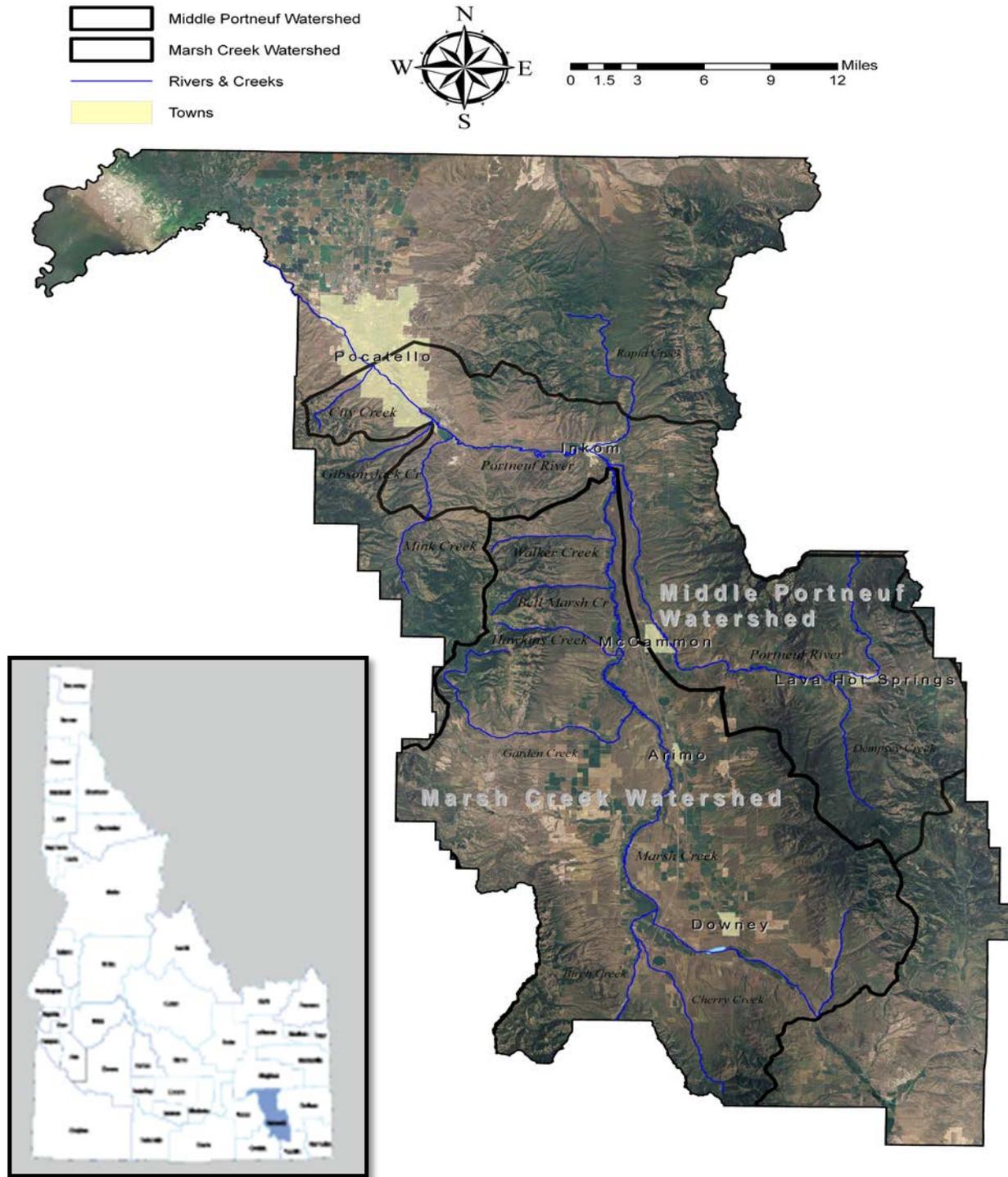
There is a gradual warming in spring, but temperatures at night are generally low through most of April. The average date of the last killing frost is May 4, although the danger period continues until near the middle of May. Normally, spring months are the wettest and windiest. Winds of twenty to thirty miles per hour are common for days at a time.

The average date of the first killing frost in autumn is October 5, even though frost has been noted to occur early in September. Winter's first cold wave may appear during late November, but usually not until the latter part of December.

The precipitation varies throughout the county from low of ten inches or less in the Tyhee area to more than thirty inches in the mountains. Most of the precipitation occurs during the fall, winter, and spring. This

precipitation comes in the form of rain or snow. Most summer precipitation is limited to short intense local thunderstorm.

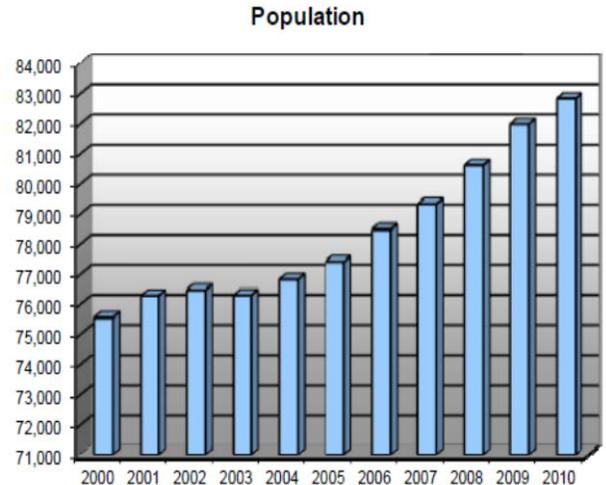
Critical Geographic Areas:
Bannock County, Idaho



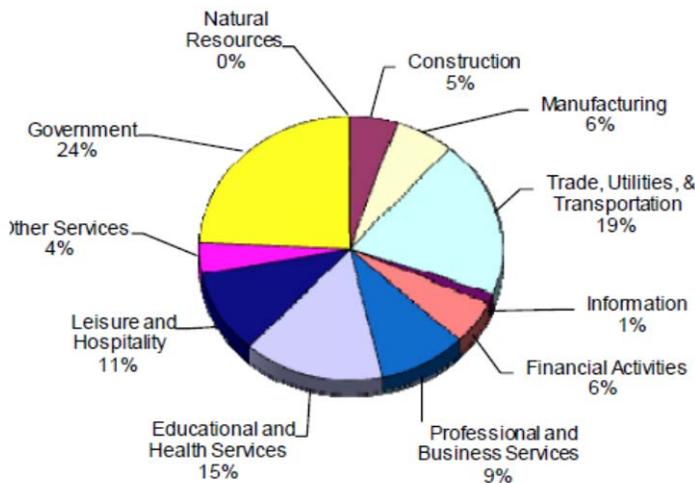
Economic Conditions and Outlook

Population

Access to higher education and the intersection of major north-south and east-west interstate highways fuel Bannock County's population and economic growth. The county has benefited from expanding research and energy related programs at Idaho State University, especially alternative energy research and spin-off business activity. The population rose from 75,565 in 2000 to 82,839 in 2010 as both Bannock County and southeastern Idaho were being rediscovered. Further growth is anticipated. Pocatello, the county seat in the Portneuf River Valley, is a major trade center for southeastern Idaho. It is home to the Idaho Accelerator Center, the Stephens Performing Arts Center and Pebble Creek Ski Area. Spectacular Lava Hot Springs with geothermal pools adds to year-round tourism appeal.



Employment



Bannock County enjoys a diverse and highly-skilled labor force with an excellent work ethic. Over the last decade food manufacturing and construction increased dramatically. But from 2008 to 2009 residential construction slowed substantially although commercial building remained steady with construction of the Hoku manufacturing plant and a Costco store. Major highway projects and the \$200 million remodeling of Portneuf Medical Center kept commercial construction employment stable. Despite layoffs at On Semiconductor, manufacturing jobs have remained steady with expansion and relocation of companies such as Petersen Inc., Heinz, VTCU and Hoku. Retail jobs increased for several years before dipping in 2009 as national firms restructured

in response to the recession. While all industries suffered, retail, transportation and professional and business services lost the most jobs. The unemployment rate peaked at 5.8 percent in 2002 after the 2001 recession and then began trending down as several businesses expanded and new ones opened. As individuals found it easier to obtain work, the jobless rate sunk to 2.7 percent in 2007. But the recession turned that around. The rate began rising to 6.9 percent in 2009 and then 8.2 percent the next year. With growth and economic development, the county expected to slowly rebound over the next several years.

Natural Resource Concerns:

▪ Animal Waste Management*	▪ Fish and Wildlife *
▪ District Operations	▪ Irrigated Cropland
▪ Information and Education*	▪ Pasture/Hayland
▪ Non-irrigated Cropland	▪ Recreation
▪ Rangeland*	▪ Urban
▪ Riparian	▪ Water Resources (quantity)
▪ Water Quality*	▪ * <i>Meets Antidegradation Plan for Agriculture criteria</i>
▪ Forest/woodland	

Priorities and Goals

1. Water Quality

According to the Portneuf River TMDL, 2002, the agricultural implementation plan goal is to restore impaired beneficial uses to Portneuf River and its tributaries that are state listed 303(d) waterbodies. Impaired uses include cold water biota, salmonid spawning, and primary and secondary contact recreation. Pollutants from agricultural sources that are impairing the waterbodies include total suspended sediment, total phosphorous, total inorganic nitrogen, and fecal choliform bacteria.

- Implement contracts for phase 2 of Marsh Creek Watershed Project. Continue implementing Phase 1 and WQPA contracts.
- Seek additional grants or other funding opportunities for continuing Marsh Creek and Portneuf River Watershed BMPs to continue to improve water quality in accordance with the Agricultural Implementation Plan in the Portneuf River TMDL.
- Conduct outreach through newsletter articles, web site, and direct contact with land managers and area residents; tour monitoring sites and projects with elected and other officials, state DEQ officials, legislators, and the public.
- Continue intensive water quality monitoring in the Portneuf and Marsh Creek Watersheds by support of continuous monitoring stations, and implementing monitoring plan including additional monitoring sites. Coordinate with other agencies to gather and analyze data, and to allow data to assist in future planning as well as BMP effectiveness monitoring.
- Coordinate with other districts, agencies and partners to work in entire Portneuf and Marsh Creek watersheds for water quality and quantity improvements, and assist with monitoring in nitrate groundwater priority areas.

2. Urban (County/Cities) Priorities and Goals

- Attend scheduled meetings and comprehensive reviews of land use plans and ordinances. Meet at least yearly with elected city and county officials to keep all informed of current projects, new and anticipated conservation needs and concerns.
- Upon request, review and comment upon subdivision plans, zoning ordinances and other plans of the City of Pocatello and Bannock County as to soil and water resource concerns.

- Assist Cities of Pocatello and Chubbuck, and Bannock County with soils information, seeding varieties, application rates, and other information on lands owned or controlled by the City or County. Assist other cities and entities in the county as requested.
- Assist in development and implementation of plans for practical multi-purpose resource use in the best interests of the citizens of Bannock County.
- Provide technical assistance as requested in development of conservation plans for all lands subject to acquisition and future annexation into the City of Pocatello.
- Address urban conservation needs and concerns as necessary.
- Address recreation needs and concerns as necessary.

3. District Operations Priorities and Goals:

- Ensure district office runs efficiently and meets needs of land managers, partner agencies, and community.
- Conduct business according to District, Idaho, and Federal law, and answer needs of Bannock County land managers and district partners.
- Conduct Conservation District elections 2010, 2012, 2014.
- Conduct annual audit in accordance with IASCD Accountability Policy.
- Recruit board and associate board members as needed.
- Comply with all requirements of Idaho open meeting Laws, Public Records Law, and Privacy Act
- Attend Division V fall and Spring meetings, and attend IASCD annual conference.
- Keep elected officials and legislators informed of local conservation issues.
- Office management, Quickbooks, mail, phone, budget, plan of work.
- Conduct monthly board meetings.
- Attend partner/cooperator meetings (WAG, Three Rivers RC&D, PWP, BAG, others as needed)
- Actively pursue other funding and grant opportunities.
- Publish District newsletter, update District website regularly.
- Continue coordination with NRCS for office support and other support as requested and as per MOA.
- Update and continue MOAs and MOUs with other agencies and partners as needed.

4. Information – Education Priorities and Goals:

- District Newsletter published quarterly.
- Annually conduct youth environmental education programs and increase participation in speech contest, poster contest, soil and land judging, IASCD sponsored camps and contests.
- Annually sponsor booth at Environmental Fair, RiverFest, and County fairs.
- Regularly update District website.
- Co-Sponsor Fall Ag Days for 4th graders in the local public and private schools
- Support Environmental education – Envirothon, FFA, Ag in the Classroom, other programs; actively seek environmental education grants and funding.

5. Non-irrigated Cropland, Pasture/Hayland, Rangeland

- Assist landowners with funding, technical assistance, and information for conservation practices and resource management, particularly erosion control practices.
- Support noxious weed management on public and private lands; participate in Bannock County weed tour.

- Continue planning effort on private land; seek additional grants or other funding opportunities for BMPs and outreach and education.
- Support continuance of CRP enrollment however possible.

6. Irrigated Cropland

- Assist landowners with funding, technical assistance, and information for conservation practices and resource management, particularly erosion control practices and water management.
- Support noxious weed management.
- Continue to seek additional grants or other funding opportunities for BMPs and outreach and education.

Staffing Needs

Office Administrator

Technical support staff as needed to carry out grants administration.

Annual Budget Needs

Basic budgetary needs

Income

City appropriations –	6,700.00	Pocatello	6500.00	Inkom	200.00
County appropriations	9,700.00	Bannock County			
State Base funding –	8,500.00				
Match (full 2:1)	32,800.00				
319 funding admin	1,000.00				
Income total	58,700.00				

Expenses

Dues	2,840.00
Insurance	1,150.00
Office supplies	400.00
Professional Services	5,000.00
Payroll	28,000.00
Utilities	550.00
Equipment Expenses	100.00
Travel	4000.00
Scholarships	500.00
Outreach	3000.00
Miscellaneous	100.00
Expense total	47810.00



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

For Information Contact: Chairman Kevin Koester

Telephone Number: 208-237-4628 x. 111

Email: portneufswcd@gmail.com

Counties Served: Bannock

Legislative Districts: 29, 30



Board Members: Chairman Kevin Koester, Vice Chairman Scott Henderson, Treasurer David Jackson, Kit Tillotson, John McNabb
Associates: Morgan Evans, Kirk Irick, Brad Kent, Dr. John Sigler, Hannah Sanger

Mission of the Portneuf Soil and Water Conservation District:

To coordinate technical, financial, and education assistance for responsible natural resources management that conserves and improves air, soil, and water quality, and fish and wildlife habitat.

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

Due to urbanization and future growth in Bannock County, there will be a significant shift in land use. This movement will create a greater focus on conservation for agriculture, while increasing the need for urban conservation planning as well.

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

Pebble Creek Water Quality Project

Department of Environmental Quality §319 subgrants S467

Lava Hot Springs Urban Conservation Project

Sacajawea Park Habitat Restoration and Beautification Project

Bannock Civitan – ICF and other grant funding pending

Dempsey Creek Ditch to Pipe Project

Department of Environmental Quality §319 subgrants pending

Funding Sources for District Operations and Projects

Bannock County

City of Pocatello

City of Inkom

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (Pebble Creek §319 subgrants)

State of Idaho

Simplot



FY2013 (7/1/15 – 6/30/16) Annual Plan of Work Portneuf Soil and Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Number 1: Water Quality Projects:, Pebble Creek §319 Subgrant S467

Objective: Address animal feeding operations impacting water quality on Marsh Creek, towards meeting goals of the Idaho Agricultural Abatement Plan & Portneuf River TMDL

Goal(s): Contract with land managers and implement BMPs.

Actions	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Implement contracts for Pebble Creek Project	Year long	Board, project coordinator
Inventory, design, construction, and implementation oversight of BMPs with contracted landowners	Year Long	Board, project coordinator
Outreach, newsletter articles; tour of monitoring sites and projects with elected officials, state DEQ officials, legislators	Year Long	Office Admin., ISCC, Board, Project Coordinator
Water quality monitoring – support of continuous stations, additional monitoring sites	Year Long	Board, IASCD, monitoring coordinator
Project administration –tracking funding, invoices, payments, monthly and annual reports.	Year Long	Office Admin, Project Coordinator. ISCC, IASCD
Seek additional grants or other funding opportunities for Portneuf watershed BMPs, outreach, and education.	Year Long	Office Admin. , Project Coordinator



FY2013 (7/1/15 – 6/30/16) Annual Plan of Work Portneuf Soil and Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority 2: District Operations

Objective: Ensure district office runs efficiently and meets needs of land managers, partner agencies, and community

Goal(s): Conduct business according to District, Idaho, and Federal law, and answer needs of Bannock County land managers and district partners

Actions	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Conduct annual audit in accordance with IASCD Accountability Policy	yearly	Board, Office Admin.
Comply with all requirements of Idaho open meeting Laws, Public Records Law, and Privacy Act	Year Long	all
Attend Division V fall and Spring meetings Attend IASCD annual conference	March, Oct Nov	all
Keep elected officials and legislators informed of local conservation issues	Year Long	Office Admin, board
Office management, Quickbooks, mail, phone	Year Long	Office Admin. Treasurer
Budget, plan of work	June	Office Admin., Treasurer, Board
Board meetings – 5 year plan revision	monthly	all
Attend partner/cooperator meetings (WAG, Three Rivers RC&D, PWP, BAG, others) Actively pursue other funding and grant opportunities	Year Long	Appointed, Office Admin.



FY2013 (7/1/15 – 6/30/16) Annual Plan of Work Portneuf Soil and Water Conservation District

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Conservation District Priority Number 3: Public Outreach

Objective: Public Outreach, Information and Education

Goal(s): promote wise use of natural resources through outreach, education, and community involvement

Actions	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
District Newsletter	As needed	Office Admin
District Website and Facebook updates and maintenance	As needed	Office Admin
Co-Sponsor Fall Ag Days for 4 th graders in the local public and private schools	Sept	Office Admin./board
Support Soil Judging Contest, Bannock County Fair participation	Fall	Board
Inform TV and radio stations of conservation events and issues through PSAs, stories	As needed	Office Admin
Spring Environmental Fair, Riverfest	April, June	Office Admin
Support Environmental education – Envirothon, FFA, Ag in the Classroom, other programs	As needed	Board, Office Admin.



FY2013 (7/1/15 – 6/30/16) Annual Plan of Work Portneuf Soil and Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Area Number 4: Assist Bannock County, City of Pocatello, and City of Chubbuck in reviewing and updating comprehensive plans and land use ordinances.

Objective: To encourage the wise use of available land resources in the urban and rural areas

Goal(s): Appropriate land management in agricultural and urban areas and interfaces

Actions	Target Date	Person(s) Responsible
Attend scheduled meetings and comprehensive reviews of land use plans and ordinances. Meet at least yearly with elected city and county officials.	As needed	Appointed/board
Upon request, review and comment upon subdivision plans, zoning ordinances and other plans of the City of Pocatello and Bannock County as to soil and water resource concerns.	As requested	Board
Assist Cities of Pocatello and Chubbuck, and Bannock County with soils information, seeding varieties, application rates, and other information on lands owned or controlled by the City or County.	As requested	Board
Assist in development and implementation of plans for practical multi-purpose resource use in the best interests of the citizens of Bannock County.	As requested	Board
Provide technical assistance in development of conservation plans for all lands subject to acquisition and future annexation into the City of Pocatello.	As requested	Board



FY2013 (7/1/15 – 6/30/16) Annual Plan of Work Portneuf Soil and Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Area 5: Rangeland, Hay land, Pasture

Objective: To preserve or improve forage health, vigor and production, while sustaining or improving riparian and wildlife habitat.

Goal(s): To encourage proper range and pasture management, and adequate production, on appropriate ground in Bannock County

Actions	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Assist landowners with funding for conservation projects	Year Long	all
Support Noxious weed management on public and private lands, participate in Bannock County weed tour	Year Long	Board
Continue planning effort on public and private land, seek additional grants or other funding opportunities for BMPs, outreach	As needed	Board
Provide information to landowners requesting information regarding resource management	Year Long	all



FY2013 (7/1/15 – 6/30/16) Annual Plan of Work Portneuf Soil and Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Number 6: Non-irrigated cropland and CRP

Objective: Implement BMPs on non-irrigated cropland

Goal(s): Control soil erosion and noxious weeds on non irrigated cropland

Actions	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Support continuance of CRP enrollment however possible	Year long	Board
Implement RMS plans on non-irrigated cropland through cost share programs	Year long	NRCS
Install water and sediment control basins	Year long	Board, NRCS
Convert highly erodible cropland to permanent vegetation	Year long	Board
Support Noxious weed management on public and private lands, participate in Bannock County weed tour	Year long	Board
Seek additional grants or other funding opportunities for BMPs, outreach	Year long	Office Admin.

**IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

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

DISTRICT:

Portneut SWCD

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

Kevin Koester

Printed Name

3/31/15

Date

(708) 237-4628 x111

District Telephone

portneutswcd@gmail.com

District Email Address

FOR SWC USE ONLY:

DATE OF CONFIRMATION: