

MADISON SWCD PERFORMANCE REPORT

FY 2015

MISSION STATEMENT:

To take available Technical, Financial and Educational resources, whatever their source, and focus or coordinate them so that they meet the needs of the local land user for conservation of Soil, Water and related resources.

Also, to protect and improve the natural resources in Madison County for landowners to use for generations to come.

IDENTIFICATION OF SERVICE AREA:

County: Madison

Cities: 4

Legislative District(s): 34



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SWCD Board Meetings: Third Thursday

Top 5 Natural Resource Concerns

1. Soil Quality
2. Water Quality and Water Resources
3. Vegetative Management
4. Riparian / Wetlands
5. Fish and Wildlife

Recent Projects

Natural Resource Projects:

- The Madison SWCD received a Western SARE grant that enables the District to collect soil health data and prepare reports of their findings.
- The Madison County Health Soil Initiative is a project aimed at assisting farmers to improve their soil health through such practices as cover crops, no-tillage/minimum-tillage, variable rate irrigation and variable rate fertilizing.
- 71 Water and Sediment Control Basins were installed on agriculture land benefiting eight landowners to improve both water quality and also reduce soil erosion.
- No-Till was practiced on 4,978 acres benefiting six landowners which greatly improved both soil quality and water quality.
- Cover crops were used on 1,918 acres assisting eight landowners to reduce wind erosion and improve soil quality and crop production.

Conservation dollars spent in Madison County in FY-2015

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| State Funding | \$ 19,102 |
| County Funding | \$ 6,000 |
| Tree and Fabric Program | \$ 11,327 |
| NRCS Funding | \$ 1,303,018 |
| Landowner Contribution | \$ 769,460 |
| Value of Volunteer Time | \$ 20,000 |
| Total | \$ 2,128,907 |



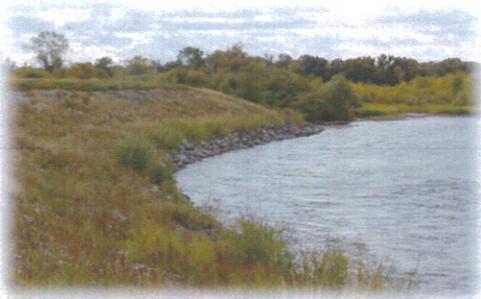
A grain field after harvest shows the benefits of Cover Crop and no tillage

Educational Programs



Marlon Winger, NRCS State Agronomist, explains the benefits to our soil as a result of soil health practices at the 2014 tour

- The District conducts an annual Conservation tour to educate landowners and legislative members concerning conservation practices that are applied and practiced on the ground in Madison County.
- The District conducted its annual tour which highlighted several soil health practices.
- College students continue to be utilized to learn and promote natural resource conservation.
- The District sponsored a County youth to attend the Natural Resource camp in Ketchum.
- A capacity grant from the Soil and Water Commission that was used by the District for its public outreach program.



A stream bank improvement project was seen at the 2014 annual tour

Future Projects

Madison SWCD continues to focus on the statutory requirement in their annual and 5-Year Plan. Water Quality and Water Resources remains the top resource concern. The Madison SWCD will continue to plan and seek funding for programs such as the Rexburg Bench Energy Savings Program that promote energy and water conservation.

Continued efforts will be made with the assistance of the Natural Resource Conservation Service to address, educate and promote the conservation of our natural resources and to promote such practices as No-Till, Cover Crop, Crop Rotations, Stream Bank Restoration and Wildlife Habitat Improvement.

Our focus will continue to be to conduct educational conservation tours, workshops and local working group planning meetings to gain insight from county leaders and residents to formulate our continuing plan of action concerning natural resource conservation.

Funding from various nontraditional sources is needed to retain the current office level. This includes the Resource Conservation and Development council and administrative fees from potential grants.



Board of Supervisors & Staff

Greg Blaser, Chairman
Joe Jeppesen, Vice Chairman
Susan Hymas, Secretary/Treasurer
Rod Robison, Member
Charles Ricks, Member
Robbie Taylor, District Manager

**IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

PERFORMANCE REPORT
CERTIFICATION

DISTRICT:

Madison SWCD

FOR FISCAL YEAR:

2015

PERIOD:

July 1, 2014 to June 30 2015

DUE :

DECEMBER 20, 2015

On behalf of my local Board of Supervisors, I hereby certify that the attached Performance Report is true and accurate, and further submit said Report for the above named District and fiscal year.

A copy of this Performance Report and supporting documents shall be kept at the District office and is available for public inspection.


Board Supervisor Signature

GREG BLASER, Chairman

Printed Name

20 Aug 2015
Date

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Telephone

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District Email Address

FOR SWC USE ONLY:

DATE OF CONFIRMATION:
