



IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING NOTICE & AGENDA Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission Wednesday, Feb 17, 2016, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. MT

*Len B. Jordan Bldg., 650 W. State, Boise
Rm 145 (SWCC Conference rm)*

TELECONFERENCE # 1-877-820-7831 Passcode: 922837

The Commission will occasionally convene in Executive Session, pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206(1).
Executive Session is closed to the public.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT COMPLIANCE

The meeting will be held in facilities that meet the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you require special accommodations to attend, participate in, or understand the meeting, please contact the Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission at (208) 332-1790 or Info@swc.idaho.gov so advance arrangements can be made.

Members of the public may address any item on the Agenda during consideration of that item. Those wishing to comment on any agenda item are requested to indicate so on the sign-in sheet in advance. Copies of agenda items, staff reports and/or written documentation relating to items of business on the agenda are on file in the office of the Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission in Boise. Upon request, copies can be emailed and will also be available for review at the meeting.

	1.	WELCOME, SELF-INTRODUCTIONS, AND ROLL CALL	Chairman Wright
	2.	AGENDA REVIEW <i>Agenda may be amended after the start of the meeting upon a motion that states the reason for the amendment and the good faith reason the item was not included in the original agenda.</i>	Chairman Wright
	3.	PARTNER REPORTS <i>Typically include NRCS, IASCD, IDEA, Attorney General, DFM, OSC, etc.</i>	Partners
	4.	ADMINISTRATION	
*#	a.	Minutes 1. Jan 25, 2016 Joint IASCD/SWCC Meeting 2. Jan 26, 2016 Regular Meeting ACTION: Approve	Chairman Wright
*#	b.	Administrator's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring IASCD Division Meetings • Legislative Committee Presentations • Commission Meeting Schedule 	Murrison

(*) Action Item

(#) Attachment

ACTION: Staff recommended action for Commission Consideration

Wed, Feb 17, 2016 Reg. Meeting Agenda

Date of Notice Feb 11, 2016

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Association of State Conservation Agencies Annual Dues <p>ACTION: Approve ongoing participation in NASCA and payment of 2016 dues.</p>	
*#	c.	<p>Financial Report</p> <p>1. January, 2016</p> <p>ACTION: Approve the January 31, 2016 Financial Report</p>	Yadon
*#	d.	<p>Sage Grouse Resolution memo</p> <p>ACTION: For direction to staff</p>	Murrison
	5.	PROGRAMS	
*#	a.	<p>Resource Conservation & Rangeland Development Program Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RCRDP Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cash Report for January, 2016 <p>ACTION: For information only</p>	Hoebelheinrich
*#	b.	<p>IASCD Beginning Farmer Resolution and Alternative</p> <p>RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve a new RCRDP loan term of 10 years with an interest rate of 2.75% to be secured with new equipment or real estate and offered to all eligible applicants.</p>	Hoebelheinrich
	6.	OTHER BUSINESS	
	a.	<p>Reports</p> <p>ACTION: For information only</p>	Commissioners, Staff
	7.	<p>EXECUTIVE SESSION</p> <p><i>Executive Session is closed to the public. Under the relevant Idaho Code Sections noted below, all Board action will be taken publicly in open session directly following Executive Session.</i></p> <p>ACTION: Move to enter Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(b) for the purpose of considering the evaluation of a public employee</p>	
	a.	<p>Human Resources: Employee Performance Review</p> <p>Pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(b), the Commission will convene in Executive Session for the purpose of considering the evaluation of a public employee.</p> <p>ACTION: For information only</p>	Commissioners
	8.	<p>ADJOURN</p> <p>The next regular teleconference meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2016.</p>	

(*) Action Item

(#) Attachment

ACTION: Staff recommended action for Commission Consideration

Wed, Feb 17, 2016 Reg. Meeting Agenda

Date of Notice Feb 11, 2016

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ITEM #3: ADJOURN:

The meeting was adjourned at 3:31 pm. The next Commission Meeting will be held in Boise and via teleconference on Tuesday, January 26, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Leon Slichter, Secretary

DRAFT



Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission

650 W. State St., Room 145 • Boise Idaho 83720
Telephone: 208-332-1790 • Fax: 208-332-1799

IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC MEETING & TELECONFERENCE

Date and Time:

Tuesday, January 26, 2016
8:00 am – 2:17 pm MST

Location:

Len B Jordan Building
650 W State St, Rm B09
Boise, Idaho

DRAFT MINUTES

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Norman Wright (Chair) Leon Slichter (Secretary)
David Radford (via teleconference) Glen Gier

COMMISSION STAFF PRESENT:

1 Teri Murrison Terry Hoebelheinrich
2 Chuck Pentzer Delwyne Trefz
3 Carolyn Watts Cheryl Wilson
4 Rhonda Yadon

5

COMMISSION FIELD STAFF PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE

6 **(joined at 9:00 am to be present for Brian Patton's presentation):**

7
8 Jason Miller Mark Hogen Eileen Rowan
9 Rob Sharpnack Carolyn Firth Brian Reed
10 Bill Lillibridge

11

PARTNERS AND GUESTS PRESENT:

12 Mark Cecchini-Beaver, Office of the Attorney General
13 Steve Becker, IASCD
14 Kit Tillotson, IASCD
15 Curtis Elke, NRCS
16 Joshua Uriarte, OSC
17 Brian Patton, IDWR

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ITEM #1: WELCOME AND ROLL CALL

22 Chairman Wright called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.
23 Roll call: Chairman Norman Wright, Commissioners Leon Slichter, David Radford and Glen Gier
24 were present.

25 **ITEM #2: PARTNER REPORTS**

26 The following reports were moved from item 5a:

27 Curtis Elke, NRCS

28 Joshua Uriarte, OSC

29 Action: None taken

30

31 **ITEM #2A: RESOURCE CONSERVATION & RANGELAND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

32 Action: None taken

33

34 **ITEM #3: SURFACE WATER COALITION SETTLEMENT AND IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD**
35 **RECHARGE PRESENTATION, Brian Patton, Idaho Department of Water Resources**

36 **Action: none taken**

37

38 **ITEM #3A: DISTRICT SUPPORT SERVICES**

39 Action: None taken

40

41 **ITEM #3B: PARTNER REPORTS**

42 The following report was moved from item 5a:

43 Mark Ceccini-Beaver, AG

44 Action: None taken

45

46 **ITEM #4a: MINUTES**

47 Sept 24, 2015

48 Oct 30, 2015

49 Nov 13, 2015

50 Nov 15, 2015

51 Nov 17, 2015

52

53 Action: Commissioner Slichter moved to approve the above-listed minutes as submitted.

54 Commissioner Gier seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

55

56 **ITEM #4B: ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

57 Action: Commissioner Radford moved to direct staff to donate \$6,000 to Bear Lake SWCD over
58 the next three years to support the FY 2018 Idaho International Envirothon. Commissioner Gier
59 seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

60

61 **ITEM #4C: FINANCIAL REPORTS**

62 Action: Commissioner Gier moved to approve the amended August 2015 financial report.

63 Commissioner Slichter seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

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65 Action: Commissioner Slichter moved to approve the September financial report as submitted.

66 Commissioner Gier seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

67 Action: Commissioner Gier moved to approve the October financial report as submitted.

68 Commissioner Slichter seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

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70 Action: Commissioner Gier moved to approve the November financial report as submitted.

71 Commissioner Slichter seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

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73 Action: Commissioner Radford moved to approve the December financial report as submitted.

74 Commissioner Slichter seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

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76 **ITEM #5: PARTNER REPORTS**

77 See items 2, and 3B

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79 **ITEM 6A: OTHER BUSINESS**

80 Action: None taken

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82 Action: Commissioner Slichter moved to convene in Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code §

83 74-2061(b) for the purpose of considering the evaluation of a public employee. There is no

84 anticipated action during the Executive session. Commissioner Gier seconded the motion.

85 Motion carried by unanimous vote.

86

87 **ITEM #7: EXECUTIVE SESSION**

88 Executive Session commenced at 12:43 pm

89 Roll call: Chairman Norman Wright, Commissioners Leon Slichter, David Radford and Glen Gier

90 were present.

91

92 Administrator Murrison and Deputy Attorney General Cecchini-Beaver were present during

93 Executive Session.

94 Commissioner Radford left the meeting at 1:28 pm

95

96 Administrator Murrison and Deputy Attorney General Cecchini-Beaver were excused at 2:05.

97 Executive Session ended at 2:15 pm.

98 Commissioners reconvened in Open Session at 2:16.

99

100 **ITEM #8: ADJOURN:**

101 The meeting was adjourned at 2:17. The next Commission Meeting will be held in Boise via

102 teleconference on Wednesday, February 17, 2016, at 8:00 am.

103

104 Respectfully submitted,

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107

108 Leon Slichter, Secretary



**IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

ITEM #4b

TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT AND COMMISSIONERS RADFORD, GIER, WRIGHT, SLICHTER, AND TREBESCH
FROM: TERI MURRISON, ADMINISTRATOR
DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 2016
RE: ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Spring IASCD Division Meetings - Specific locations and meeting times will follow as facilities are confirmed.

IASCD Division	Hosting District	Date	Suggested Commissioner
6	Yellowstone	February 16 th Soil Health Workshop in Idaho Falls	Radford
3	Payette	March 8	Trebesch
4	Blaine	March 9	Gier
5	South Bingham	March 16	Wright
1	Boundary	Late March	Slichter
2	Idaho	Late spring tour	Slichter

Legislative Committee Presentations

The Commission's annual presentation to the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee (JFAC) was delivered on February 2. Staff has requested time of all five House and Senate germane committees this month. Known appointments are:

Committee	Location	Date	Time
Senate Ag Committee	State Capitol Bldg., WW53	February 9	8:00 am
House Ag Affairs	State Capitol Bldg., EW42	February 16	1:30 pm
Senate Resources & Environment	State Capitol Bldg., WW55	March 2	1:30 pm
House Resources & Conservation	State Capitol Bldg.,	tba	
House Environment, Energy, Technology	State Capitol Bldg.,	tba	



IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Commission Meeting Schedule

The remaining Regular Commission meeting dates and tentative locations are as follows:

Date & Time	Type of Meeting, Location	In Person (IP)/ Teleconference (T)
April 21, 8:00 am	Regular meeting/650 W. State St., Rm. 145, Boise (teleconference)	T
May 19, 8:00 am	Regular meeting/650 W. State St., Rm. 145, Boise (teleconference)	T
June 9, 8:00	Regular meeting, LBJ Building, 650 W. State, Basement Conference Room, Boise	IP
June 10, time tba	Joint Board Meeting with IASCD, Safari Inn, 1070 Grove Street, Boise	IP

Should there be important loan or other business to conduct, the Chairman may elect to call a special meeting via teleconference to accomplish it.

National Association of State Conservation Agencies Annual Dues

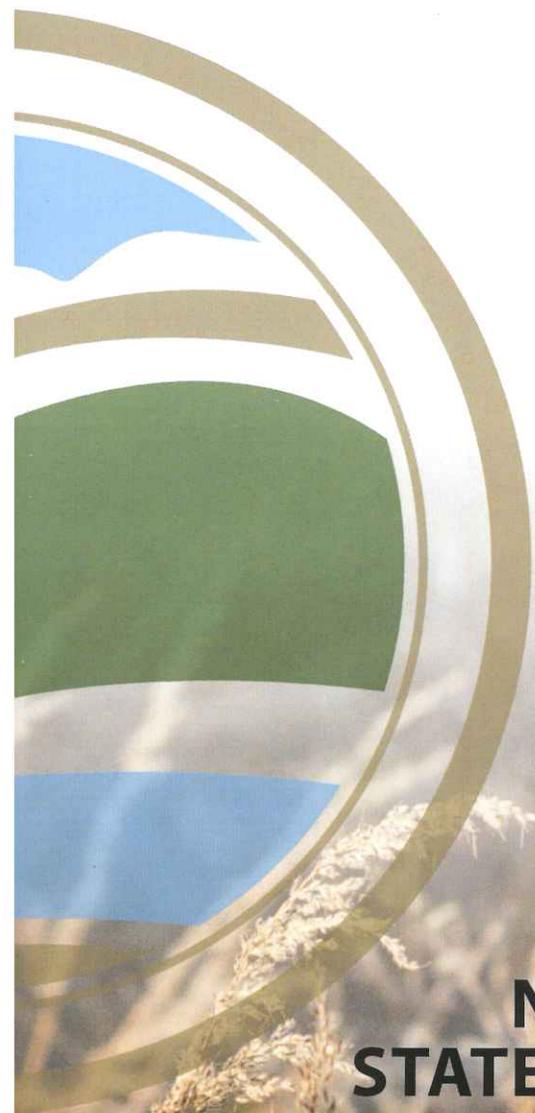
For the last two years, the Commission has been an active participant in the National Association of State Conservation Agencies (NASCA). Participating in NASCA has enabled the Commission to actively participate in national policy discussions and develop a robust network of relationships with similar agencies across the country for information and knowledge sharing. In addition, your administrator serves as the Pacific Region NASCA Director, assisting NASCA with outreach to potential members and interstate coordination among member agencies. Attached is a copy of NASCA's 2015 Annual Report for your information.

Also attached is a letter from NASCA executive director Mike Brown along with an invoice for 2016 dues. Dues have not increased and payment of NASCA dues is contained in the current year's budget. Staff recommends the administrator's continued participation in NASCA and payment of 2016 NASCA dues.

ACTION: Approve ongoing participation in NASCA and payment of 2016 dues.

ATTACHMENTS:

- NASCA 2015 Annual Report
- Letter and Invoice from Mike Brown, NASCA Executive Director for 2016 Dues



2015
NASCA

ANNUAL REPORT

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
STATE CONSERVATION AGENCIES**

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Serving as NASCA President the past 16 months has been a rewarding and enlightening experience. I have long been an enthusiastic supporter of our national organization, in large part due to the opportunities to exchange information and ideas with my counterparts from other states. I am now more convinced than ever that NASCA is a truly effective national organization. Our relationships with each other, with the core national partners, and our developing relationships with new partners are our primary strengths. Our relationship with each of the core partners is stronger today than ever before thanks to the commitment and engagement of all NASCA members as we all interact with our partners on multiple levels. I look forward, as I hope all of you do, to strengthening our organizations' relationships even further in the future.

The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) is our closest national partner. Like our NASCA member agencies, NACD focuses on the relevance and success of conservation districts across the country. Over the past 16 months I have gained an appreciation for just how closely our organization works with NACD and the investment of time necessary to participate as a true partner. Not only do we provide State Conservation Agency representation on NACD's Resource Policy Groups, but they have also asked NASCA to play integral roles in their special task forces as well. For instance, in 2015 NASCA played key roles in both the RCPP Task Force and the District Outlook Task Force. We will continue to contribute substantially in these ongoing efforts in 2016, including taking on several key roles at NACD's upcoming Annual Meeting in Reno. Furthermore, NACD refers members to NASCA to provide district official training to those states that request help. This is a program that both organizations consider mission critical and NASCA is proud to fill this key role. Our staff meets every month with NACD staff, and I am happy to report that the relationship between the two groups has never been stronger.

We have also improved our relations with the National Conservation District Employees' Association (NCDEA). I have been continually impressed with the professional development work this organization does as well as their willingness to provide assistance to the core partners at any time. NASCA has stepped up our efforts over the last couple of years to work closely with them. Another member of the national partnership, the National Association of RC&D Councils (NARC&DC), has endured sweeping changes to their organization during the past few years. NASCA remains ready to be of assistance to NARC&DC as they continue to evolve. I feel that our partnership with the National Watershed Coalition holds great promise as we work together on matters of mutual interest.

Our final partner in the National Conservation Partnership is the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Just as our members work hand in hand with NRCS to deliver conservation at the local level, NASCA works very closely with NRCS at the national level to develop policy and address conservation issues of national concern. This relationship is also closer than ever, as evidenced by NRCS asking our own Mike Brown to co-chair the National Conservation Planning Partnership with NRCS Western Regional Conservationist Astor Boozer.

I am pleased that we are so engaged with our core conservation partners, and that we are expanding the scope of our partnership with other national conservation organizations. I am also pleased with our hard-working staff, our incoming slate of officers, and the fact that we are more fiscally sound than at any other time during the organization's existence. However, I have realized during my term in office that the single greatest strength our organization has is the engagement of its members. Our members continue to bring their knowledge and experience to the table to share with their peers, not just at annual meetings, but through a variety of forums. It is the greatest gift we can give one another. I am thankful to have served as NASCA's President and I look forward to my continued engagement in NASCA as Immediate Past President.



*"THE SINGLE GREATEST STRENGTH
OUR ORGANIZATION HAS IS THE
ENGAGEMENT OF ITS MEMBERS"*



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE
CONSERVATION AGENCIES**

Founded 1967

OUR VISION

TO ENHANCE THE ABILITY OF ALL MEMBER CONSERVATION AGENCIES TO FULFILL THEIR AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCE MISSIONS

OUR MISSION

TO STRENGTHEN MEMBERS' CAPACITY AND INFLUENCE NATIONAL PROGRAMS AND POLICIES BY PROVIDING LEADERSHIP, FOCUS, AND DIRECTION

OBJECTIVE I

PROVIDE CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMS AS MEMBERS IDENTIFY NEEDS

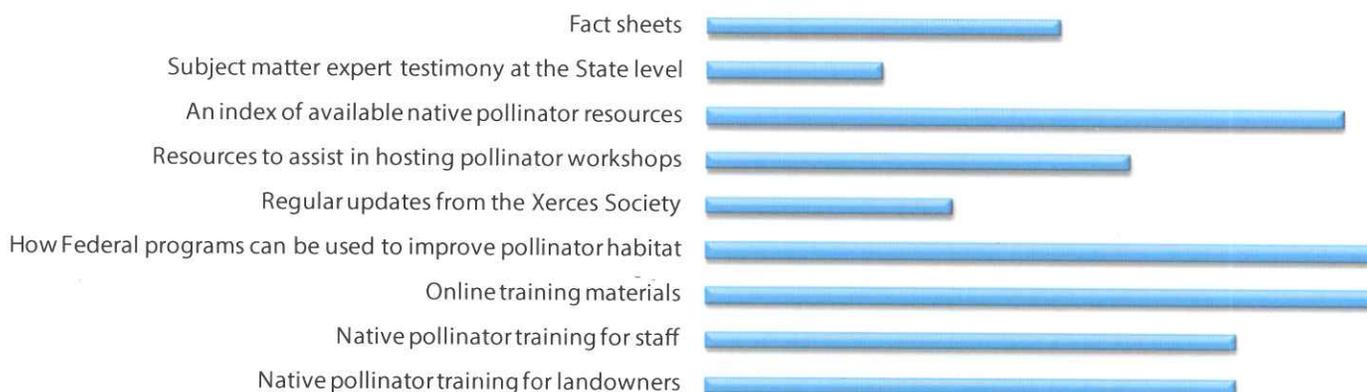
There is an undeniable value to NASCA membership in the form of networking opportunities with our peers from other states. NASCA provides a unique forum for many of our state conservation agencies to share ideas and experiences. Members benefit as more states become active NASCA members due to the increased size of our network. Additionally, NASCA becomes more marketable to inactive member states as the number of active state members increases. With each additional active member we have more to offer one another, and thus we become more effective in our member capacity-building efforts. We therefore strive to solicit more participation from all of our member states and enlist greater participation from staff-level personnel of those states that are currently active.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

NASCA continues to provide opportunities for its members and partners to interact and learn about the conservation delivery topics that are of the utmost importance. In keeping with tradition, we hosted two webinars in 2015. The first was on April 8 and highlighted Urban and Stormwater programs from different parts of the country. The next presentation took place on July 30 and focused on conservation funding strategies from a variety of states. Our 2015 webinars reached Approximately 100 participants from over 30 states and the District of Columbia. These presentations are also archived at <http://www.nascanet.org/index.php/category/webinars/>

NATIVE POLLINATORS

NASCA continues to make resources available to its members on managing for native pollinator populations. Midway through 2015 NASCA conducted a membership poll to determine what resources would be of the greatest value to our membership. The results are presented in the graph below, and based on these survey responses, NASCA has arranged for the Xerces Society to provide training in early 2016 on those elements most requested in the poll results.



DISTRICT OFFICIAL TRAINING

NASCA continues to provide one-on-one assistance to those states that request it in order to improve their district official training. Additionally, we have committed to work closely with the NACD District Operations Committee to continue to update and streamline the district official training matrix.

NASCA Executive Director Mike Brown provided district official training on January 6 at the 2015 Delaware Association of Conservation Districts (DACD) annual meeting in Dover, DE. He also provided district official training program on October 22 for the New York Association of Conservation Districts (NYACD). NASCA believes that district official training ultimately leads to better decision-making at the local level, resulting in more efficient and effective conservation delivery.

NATIONAL CONSERVATION PLANNING PARTNERSHIP

In September 2012 NASCA drafted a white paper entitled "Commitment to Conservation Technical Assistance Through Partnership and Collaboration." The white paper calls for a greater investment in conservation technical assistance and placed a tremendous emphasis on conservation planning.

Fast forward to January 2015 when NRCS hosted a conservation planning summit in Indianapolis. The summit was attended by a diverse group of NRCS staffers, representing positions from Associate Chiefs to District Conservationists. The core partners were also invited to participate. The summit resulted in the creation of the National Conservation Planning Partnership (NCP), a group whose purpose is to reinvigorate conservation planning as the foundation for voluntary conservation delivery. The NCPP Leadership Team is composed of representatives from all of our core partners: NRCS, NACD, NCDEA, NARC&DC, and NASCA. The team is nationally co-chaired by NRCS Western Regional Conservationist Astor Boozer and NASCA Executive Director Mike Brown.

This effort included the formation of action teams to address five specific elements of developing multi-year action plan to address conservation planning. These elements and the NASCA representatives assigned to each action team were:



The action teams have completed their work and have submitted reports to the NCPP Leadership Team. The Leadership Team is working to combine these action team reports into a comprehensive action plan to place an increased emphasis and awareness on conservation planning in the years ahead.

NASCA's Vision for Conservation Planning

We will provide greater services by providing conservation plans that comprehensively support landowner objectives, are technically and economically sound, are tailored for a specific operation, efficiently use technical assistance resources, and are goal-oriented. We will shift our focus from managing programs to managing natural resources with the assistance and enthusiasm of our greatest partners, America's landowners and land managers.

BUDGET

The NASCA board of directors continues to reevaluate it's annual budget reducing costs wherever applicable. NASCA performed well in 2015 exceeding budget expectations

	2015 ACTUAL	2015 BUDGET	2016 BUDGET
TOTAL INCOME	\$145,174	\$141,000	\$156,250
OPERATIONAL COSTS	\$28,659	\$33,750	\$33,750
CONTRACTOR COSTS	\$111,657	\$103,750	\$122,500

2015 OUTSTANDING STATE CONSERVATIONIST AWARD



NASCA is proud to recognize Louisiana's State Conservationist Kevin Norton as the recipient of NASCA's Outstanding State Conservationist Award.

Kevin is the first recipient of this annual award that recognizes the NRCS State Conservationist that has made the greatest impact on locally-led conservation on a state-wide basis through excellence in service, dedication, cooperation, and partnership. Kevin has demonstrated this excellence not only in Louisiana, but regionally and nationally as well. His efforts have greatly benefited his agency, his peers, his partners, and the cooperators we serve. Kevin is a trusted friend to all with whom he works, and NASCA is pleased to recognize him as the 2015 Outstanding State Conservationist.



CONGRATULATIONS TO KEVIN NORTON !

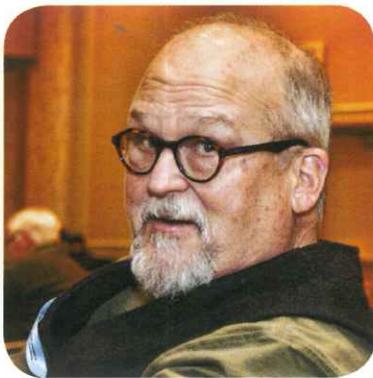
NATIONAL WATERSHED COALITION (NWC)

NASCA continued to work closely with the National Watershed Coalition in 2015 to ensure the sustained viability of the Small Watershed Program. In May, NASCA President Shana Joy, NASCA Executive Director Mike Brown, and several NASCA members attended the NWC Biannual Meeting in Fort Worth, Texas. NASCA members Rex Isom, Trey Lam, Greg Foley, and Don Underwood manned a panel on watershed operations from a State Conservation Agency perspective.



"Our partnership with NASCA is extremely important to us. The increase in participation by NASCA and its members in NWC activities has been an important part of several recent watershed success stories. We hope that you find our partnership equally beneficial."

Dr. Dan Sebert - National Watershed Coalition



NASCA AT YOUR SERVICE

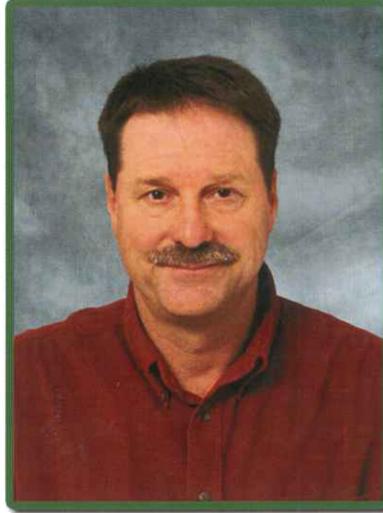
In addition to representing its membership at the national level, NASCA also took the opportunity this year to provide a national perspective at some local venues. NASCA Executive Director Mike Brown presented a NASCA overview and a look at the conservation delivery world through the eyes of State Conservation Agencies to the Joint State Conservation Summit in Boise, Idaho in July. The event was attended by the conservation delivery communities, decision-makers, and practitioners from Idaho, Oregon, Montana, and Washington State. Mike additionally reported on NASCA's behalf in August at the NACD Northeast Regional meeting held at Canaan Valley, West Virginia.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Shana Joy
President
Regional Director
 Washington State
 Conservation Commission



Adrian Baber
Vice President
Conservation Division Chief
 Arkansas Department of
 Natural Resources



Marc Cribb
Secretary
Conservation Districts
Program Manager
 South Carolina Department
 of Natural Resources



Stephen Shine
Treasurer
Pollution Prevention Section Manager
 Michigan Department of
 Agriculture & Rural Development



Don Underwood
Past President
Executive Director
 Mississippi Soil & Water
 Conservation Commission

REGIONAL DIRECTORS

Teri Murrison
Administrator
Idaho



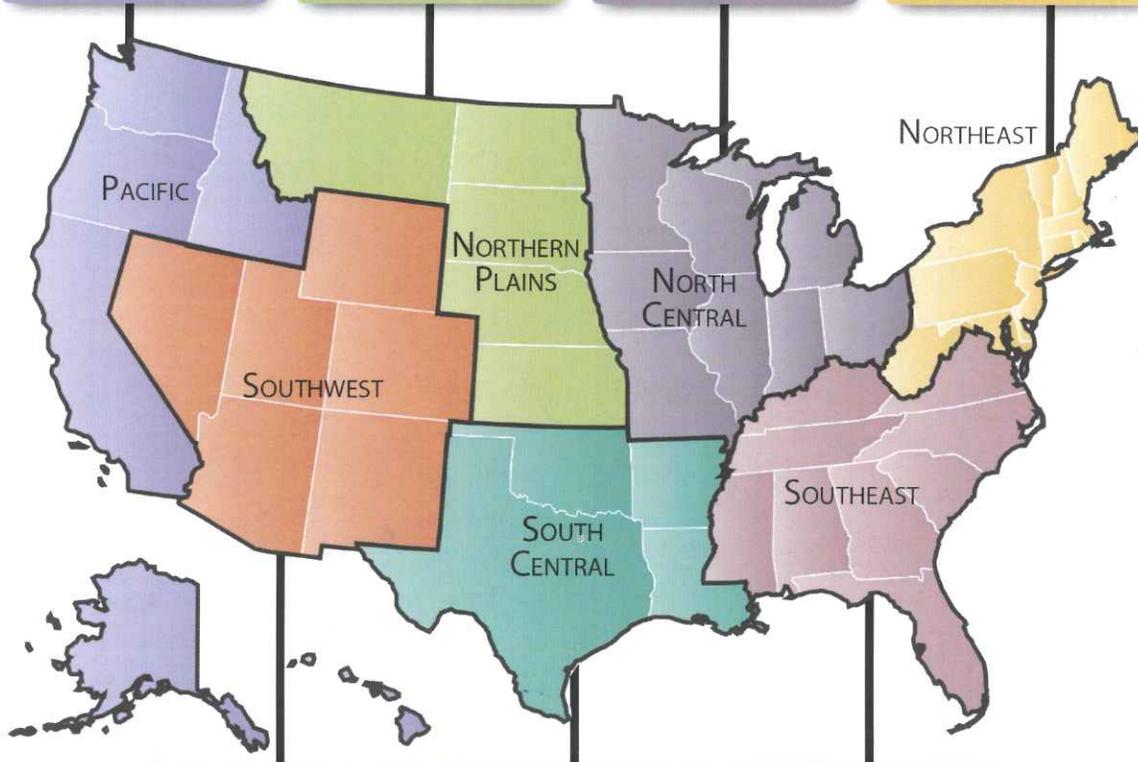
Bill Smith
Division Director
South Dakota



Bill Wilson
Environmental Manager
Missouri



Louise Lawrence
Chief
Maryland



Cindy Lair
Program Manager
Colorado



Brad Spicer
Assistant Commissioner
Louisiana



Mark Gilbert
Deputy Administrator
Mississippi

RECEIVED

FEB 02 2016

IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

January 27, 2016

Teri Murrison
Soil and Water Conservation Commission
650 W. State St. Room 145
Boise, ID 83702

Dear Teri Murrison:

NASCA members realize a tremendous value as a result of their participation with the organization. Through exposure to their counterparts from all over the country, the NASCA network facilitates information exchange between all of our members. Using membership dues, our association is able to provide tools and resources utilizing this network, enhancing every state's capacity to deliver conservation effectively and efficiently. This benefit alone is a valuable return on investment for member state agencies.

NASCA asks that you support the organization in two ways: the first is financially by paying 2016 NASCA dues; and secondly by actively participating in the organization. NASCA provides a number of services to its membership, and each of these is enhanced when more members get involved. A few examples are explained in detail at <http://www.nascanet.org/index.php/about-us/benefits-of-membership>. Please feel free to contact me at any time to discuss current NASCA activities and what issues are most critical to your state. I believe NASCA best serves its members when we are engaged in those conservation issues of key concern to our membership, so your feedback is critical to our success. My cell number is (302)270-8624 if you cannot reach me at my office number listed above. You can also reach me via email at mike-brown@nascanet.org.

Thank you again for supporting NASCA. I look forward to another prosperous year in 2016 and working closely with as many of our member states as possible!

Sincerely,



Mike Brown
NASCA executive Director



INVOICE

Bill to:	Invoice #	Date
State of Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission 650 W. State St. Room 145 Boise, ID 83702	2016-112	01-27-2016

Description	Amount
NASCA Annual Membership Services 2016	3,000

Thank You!
Partial Payments are welcome

NASCA's Tax ID#: 52-1316337

Checks Payable to NASCA

Please send vendor update forms to the contact address or email to Mike Brown

Contact:

Mike Brown mike-brown@nascanet.org

(302) 492-8881

P.O. Box 211

Hartly, DE 19953





**IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Item # 4c

TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT AND COMMISSIONERS RADFORD, GIER, SLICHTER, AND TREBESCH
FROM: RHONDA YADON, FINANCIAL SPECIALIST
DATE: FEBRUARY 9, 2016
RE: FINANCIAL REPORTS, FISCAL MATTERS

Attached for your review are the financial reports for January 31, 2016 which include the Detail Financial Report and the YTD Financial Summary. By looking at the combination of these two reports, you will notice that in Operating Expenditures in the general fund, for example, that even though we have spent 74 percent of our budget (due to several large annual and semi-annual billings), we should end the year very close to budget as the projected expenditures for February through June is only approximately 23 percent of budget. Overall, I believe that we are in good financial standing. I will review these reports on all the funds at your meeting beginning with the Detail Report and will answer any questions you might have.

Honorariums are paid by statute to Commissioners at \$50 per meeting day. In addition, the Commission pays FICA and Worker’s Compensation costs for each Commissioner. Dividing the budgeted amount equally, it was projected that each Commissioner could attend 22 meetings this year (in person or via teleconference) under the current budget. Due to the method that Worker’s Compensation is allocated to all employees, our benefit costs are higher than projected. For the remainder of this fiscal year, if we can keep total Commissioner meeting days to 100 (20 days each), we should be able to remain within our budget for honorariums.

Here is a schedule of the balances remaining of all the Commissioner honorariums, which can help the Chairman decide which Commissioners to send to some of the optional meetings and events so that we don’t go over our honorarium budget. We are in good standing with the travel budget for Commissioners as we have only spent 38 percent of the allocation.

Commissioner	Days Budgeted/ Traveled to Date	Benefit Costs included in Honorariums	Honorariums Budgeted	Expended to Date	Remaining
Wright	20 / 21	\$187	\$1,187	\$1,285	(\$98)
Gier	20 / 11	187	\$1,187	\$667	\$520
Trebesch	20 / 13	187	\$1,187	\$803	\$384
Radford	20 / 12	187	\$1,187	\$734	\$453
Slichter	20 / 18	187	\$1,187	\$1,088	\$99
Totals		\$935	\$5,935	\$4,576	\$1,359

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve the January 31, 2016 Financial Report

Encl: SWC Detail Financial Report for January 31, 2016
 SWC Summary Financial Report as of January 31, 2016

Soil and Water Conservation
FY2016 YTD Financial Summary Through January 31, 2016

Updated: 1/8/2016

Fund Summaries

Appropriation

Fund Source	General Fund				Professional Services				RCRDP Loan Administration				Revolving Loan			
Personnel Funds	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining					Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining				
	\$ 1,119,800	\$ 652,809	\$ 420,558	\$ 46,433					\$ 155,200	\$ 93,284	\$ 58,443	\$ 3,473				
Operating Funds	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining
	\$ 169,400	\$ 125,692	\$ 39,707	\$ 4,001	\$ 20,000	\$ 2,115	\$ 3,048	\$ 14,837	\$ 146,100	\$ 42,228	\$ 66,164	\$ 37,708	\$ 30,000	\$ 880	\$ 5,720	\$ 23,400
Capital Funds	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining												
	\$ 47,700	\$ -	\$ 47,700	\$ -												
Trustee and Benefit	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining												
	\$ 1,253,200	\$ 1,253,200	\$ -	\$ -												

Cash Balance at 01/31/16

Fund Source	General Fund				Professional Services				RCRDP Loan Administration				Revolving Loan			
	Beg Cash at 7/1/15	Plus Total Receipts	Less Total Expenses	Actual Cash balance	Beg Cash at 7/1/15	Plus Total Receipts	Less Total Expenses	Actual Cash balance	Beg Cash at 7/1/15	Plus Total Receipts	Less Total Expenses	Actual Cash balance	Beg Cash at 7/1/15	Plus Total Receipts	Less Total Expenses	Actual Cash balance
	\$ 2,590,100	\$ -	\$ 2,031,700	\$ 558,400	\$ 5,872	\$ 14	\$ 2,115	\$ 3,771	\$6,586,137	\$ 631,605	\$ 433,776	\$ 6,783,966	\$ 25,484	\$ 12,652	\$ 880	\$ 37,256

SWC DETAIL FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF January 31, 2016

GENERAL FUND	PERSONNEL			OPERATING			CAPITAL OUTLAY			TRUSTEE & BENEFITS			CASH				
FY16	BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE thru End of Current Month		BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current		BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current		BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current		BEG CASH AT 7/1/15	PLUS TOTAL		LESS TOTAL EXP TO DATE	ACTUAL CASH BALANCE End of Current
		Month	BALANCE		Current	BALANCE		Current	BALANCE		Month	BALANCE		REC TO DATE	TO DATE		
INDEX																	
7101 MANAGEMENT ADMIN	266,000	150,580	115,420	43,742	35,295	8,447							309,742			185,876	123,866
7111 MANAGEMENT BOARD	30,450	3,781	26,669	11,645	4,871	6,774							42,095			8,652	33,443
7201 FIELD STAFF	487,600	295,827	191,773	95,888	76,219	19,669	47,700		47,700				631,188			372,046	259,143
7301 PROGRAMS	201,700	121,790	79,910	2,378	58	2,320							204,078			121,848	82,230
7310 DISTRICT ALLOCATIONS										1,103,200	1,103,200	0	1,103,200			1,103,200	0
7320 DISTRICT CAPACITY BLDG										150,000	150,000	0	150,000			150,000	0
7350 CREP	134,050	80,831	53,219	15,747	9,249	6,498							149,797			90,079	59,718
TOTAL GENERAL FUND 0001	1,119,800	652,809	466,991	169,400	125,692	43,708	47,700	0	47,700	1,253,200	1,253,200	0	2,590,100	0	2,031,700	558,400	
		58.30%			74.20%						100.00%				78.44%		
7325 SWC PROFESSIONAL SERV				20,000	2,115	17,885							5,872	14		2,115	3,771
TOTAL FUND 0450	0	0	0	20,000	2,115	17,885	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,872	14	2,115	3,771	
					10.58%										36.03%		
DEDICATED FUND	PERSONNEL			OPERATING			CAPITAL OUTLAY			CASH				BALANCE SHEET			
FY16	BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE thru End of Current Month		BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current		BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current		BEG CASH AT 7/1/15	PLUS TOTAL REC TO DATE	LESS TOTAL EXP TO DATE	ACTUAL CASH BALANCE End of Current	NOTES RECEIVABLE 7/1/15	LOANS PAID OUT, COLLECTIONS /ADJUSTMENTS TO DATE		NOTES RECEIVABLE End of Cur period
		Month	BALANCE		Current	BALANCE		Current	BALANCE								
7351 RCRDP LOAN ADMIN	155,200	93,284	61,916	146,100	42,228	103,872				6,586,137	631,605	433,776	6,783,966	3,365,718	298,264	3,130,646	
TOTAL RCRDP ADMIN 0522-01	155,200	93,284	61,916	146,100	42,228	103,872	0	0	0	6,586,137	631,605	433,776	6,783,966		(533,336)		
		60.11%			28.90%							6.59%					
7361 REVOLVING LOAN - DEQ				30,000	880	29,120				25,484	12,652	880	37,256	572,995	0	494,587	
TOTAL DEQ LOAN 0529-16	0	0	0	30,000	880	29,120	0	0	0	25,484	12,652	880	37,256		(78,408)		
					2.93%							3.45%		ADV FROM PAYMENTS/ADJ TO DATE	ADV FROM TO DATE	ADV FROM END OF CUR PERIOD	
														515,723	(77,305)	438,418	



**IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

ITEM #4d

**TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT AND COMMISSIONERS RADFORD, GIER, WRIGHT, SLICHTER, AND
TREBESCH**
FROM: TERI MURRISON, ADMINISTRATOR
DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 2016
RE: GREATER SAGE GROUSE RESOLUTION

Attached for your review and consideration is the resolution adopted by IASCD on the Greater Sage Grouse proposed listing.

After discussion at your last meeting, staff would like further direction from Board members.

ACTION: For direction to staff

ATTACHMENTS:

- IASCD Greater Sage Grouse Resolution



Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts Committee Resolutions

Resolution No.: R-15-02

Resolution Subject/Title: Greater Sage-Grouse
Sponsoring District: IASCD Board of Directors
Date Submitted: August 20, 2015
District Contact: Kit Tillotson (IASCD President)
Phone Number: (208) 251-5829

Committee to Review Resolution:

Resolutions Subcommittee Determination:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accepted	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejected	
Standing Committee Determination:	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass	<input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Pass	<input type="checkbox"/> No Recommendation
IASCD Action:	<input type="checkbox"/> Passed	<input type="checkbox"/> Failed	<input type="checkbox"/> Tabled

- 1 **WHEREAS**, the State of Idaho opposes the arbitrary listing of the greater sage-grouse as
- 2 threatened or endangered under the endangered species act; and
- 3
- 4 **WHEREAS**, Idaho's state and local efforts have demonstrated a valuable increase of health and
- 5 population of the greater sage-grouse; and
- 6
- 7 **WHEREAS**, continuing with or implementing future federal land use planning through an obscure
- 8 and hidden process undermines the effectiveness of locally lead conservation efforts; and
- 9
- 10 **WHEREAS**, the State of Idaho and its agricultural and natural resource community has paid a
- 11 heavy cost in time, effort and funding; and
- 12
- 13 **WHEREAS**, the corresponding federal agencies have not properly recognized the state and local
- 14 sage grouse management plans by giving them priority of preserving the species and its habitat;
- 15
- 16 **BE IT RESOLVED**, the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts supports Idaho's
- 17 Governor, Attorney General and Legislature in efforts to keep the greater sage-grouse off the
- 18 threatened and endangered species list.
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IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

COMMISSION

Item 5a

H. Norman Wright
Chairman

Jerry Trebesch
Vice Chairman

Leon Slichter
Secretary

Dave Radford
Commissioner

Glen Gier
Commissioner

Teri A. Murrison
Administrator

**TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT, COMMISSIONERS GIER, RADFORD, SLICHTER,
AND TREBESCH**

FROM: TERRY HOEBELHEINRICH, LOAN OFFICER

DATE: February 10, 2016

RE: RCRDP UPDATE

Marketing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• COMPLETED (since last report)• Western Idaho Ag Expo, January, Caldwell• PLANNED• Soil Health Symposium, February, Ontario, OR• Direct Seed Workshop, February, Idaho Falls• Idaho Family Forest Landowners Conference, March, Moscow
Loan Applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 loan inquiries have been received since the last update on January 19• 0 loan applications received• 3 loan applications in process• 0 loan applications denied
Delinquencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1
Cash Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RCRDP Cash Report for January

ACTION: For Information Only

RCRDP FY16 - JANUARY 2016

BEGINNING CASH BALANCE at 12/31/2015			\$6,724,475.79	\$6,586,137.04
Increase of Funds	January 2016	Year to Date		
Interest Income:	\$ 2,569.92	\$ 15,892.29		
Loan Interest:	\$ 9,830.42	\$ 71,361.46		
Default Interest: (late fees)	\$ 96.33	\$ 299.65		
Principal payments received	\$ 65,615.17	\$ 533,333.42		
Suspense - payment not yet reported	\$ 2,448.62	\$ 9,698.62		
Expenditure Adjustments	\$ 3.00	\$ 40.30		
Pcard Adjustment		\$ -		
3rd quarter Pcard Rebate		\$ 13.26		
Payroll Expenditure Adjustment		\$ -		
Loan Refunds		\$ 13.71		
TOTAL INCREASES	\$ 80,563.46	\$ 630,652.71		
ADJUSTED CASH BALANCE			\$6,805,039.25	\$7,216,789.75
Decrease of Funds	January 2016	Year to Date		
Personnel Costs	\$ (11,718.58)	\$ (93,284.33)		
Operating Expense (Interagency Billing)	\$ (5,673.35)	\$ (42,227.82)		
P Card Payment	\$ (100.30)	\$ (1,167.17)		
P Card Charges (not yet paid)	\$ 941.11	\$ 2,186.48		
Expenditure Adjustments		\$ (53.56)		
Loan Disbursements	\$ (4,522.00)	\$ (298,263.51)		
Suspense Cleared		\$ -		
Refund from loan Payments		\$ (13.71)		
TOTAL DECREASES	\$ (21,073.12)	\$ (432,823.62)		
ENDING CASH BALANCE at 01/31/2016			\$ 6,783,966.13	\$ 6,783,966.13
3% Minimum Contingency Reserve		\$ (93,919.38)		
Funds Approved - Not Disbursed		\$ (239,366.00)		
Pending Approval				
FUNDS AVAILABLE		\$ 6,450,680.75		
LOAN STATUS REPORT: JANUARY 2016				
Outstanding Principal Loan Balance at December 31, 2015		\$ 3,191,741.79		
Disbursements		\$ 4,522.00		
Principal payments made		\$ (65,617.95)		
Adjustments to STARS balance		\$ -		
ADJUSTED PRINCIPAL LOAN BALANCE as of 01/31/2016			\$ 3,130,645.84	
Previous report number of active loans	82			
New Loans	0			
Loans Paid Off	-2			
Number of active loans	80			
Past Due Account(s)	1			



SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

ITEM #5b

TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT AND COMMISSIONERS RADFORD, GIER, WRIGHT, SLICHTER, AND TREBESCH
FROM: TERRY HOEBELHEINRICH, LOAN OFFICER
DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 2016
RE: IASCD BEGINNING FARMER RESOLUTION UPDATE

IASCD Beginning Farmer Resolution Update

Staff has obtained the final resolution from the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts.

See the attached IASCD resolution R-15-03.

Implementation of this resolution requires a change in Administrative Rules.

Administrative Rules

Creating or changing administrative rules is a lengthy process and will require significant staff time. The state offers a 137 page Rule Writers Manual to guide staff through the process. There are 25 steps and the process will take approximately 1 year to complete.

See the attached Rule Promulgation documents.

Included in these steps are the required approval from the Division of Financial Management and the Governor's Policy Advisors to proceed with the development of rules. It is expected multiple meetings will be needed to obtain feedback about proposed rules. And of course the Legislature must approve the rules next year.

USDA Beginning Farmer Definition

Staff researched the USDA beginning farmer definition by contacting Farm Service Agency (FSA) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Both organizations have their own definition of a beginning farmer.

See the attached Limited Resource Farmer/Rancher Beginning Farmer definitions for FSA, NRCS and an appendix.

According to FSA staff a beginning farmer program will require that a determination will be needed each time a loan inquiry and application is made to the RCRDP. This will require tax returns, proof of

production experience and management experience. This determination will add to the loan inquiry and loan application processing time.

Proposed Alternative to the Beginning Farmer Program

The Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts resolution asks for a minimal interest rate. This presumably is a rate that approaches zero interest included in their original resolution. A minimal interest rate will provide little revenue for the program. RCRDP expenses have been greater than revenues for several years and a beginning farmer program will only make the shortfall worse.

Staff believes an RCRDP beginning farmer program would be a lengthy process to create and would add significant time, paperwork, and verification to the loan application process. The Commission is aware of previous complaints about the length and extent of the require loan application process and the beginning farmer program may result in additional complaints.

Instead, there is an alternative that will be faster, simpler and more effective than the proposed Beginning Farm Program.

Staff suggests adding a new loan term and interest rate to help all farmers and ranchers improve their cash flow while implementing conservation measures. This change could be implemented immediately by the Commission through Board action. Furthermore this action is flexible and can be modified by the Board at any time. The Commissioners can change interest rates and terms as long as the changes do not violate any Idaho laws or administrative rules.

Staff recommends offering a loan with a 10 year term at 2.75% to be secured with new equipment or real estate.

Attached is a loan comparison and proposed term and interest rates for your review and possible action.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve a new RCRDP loan term of 10 years with an interest rate of 2.75% to be secured with new equipment or real estate and offered to all eligible applicants.

Attachments

- IASCD Resolution R-15-03.
- Rule Promulgation documents
- NRCS Limited Resource Farmer and Rancher Beginning Farmer Program definition
- Farm Service Agency Beginning Farmer Definition
- GAO Appendix V FSA and NRCS Beginning Farmer Definitions
- Loan Comparison



Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts Committee Resolutions

Resolution No.: R-15-03

Resolution Subject/Title: Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission Loan Program
Sponsoring District: Portneuf SWCD
Date Submitted: August 30, 2015
District Contact: Kevin Koester
Phone Number: (208) 251-3091

Committee to Review Resolution:

Resolutions Subcommittee Determination:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accepted	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejected	
Standing Committee Determination:	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass	<input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Pass	<input type="checkbox"/> No Recommendation
IASCD Action:	<input type="checkbox"/> Passed	<input type="checkbox"/> Failed	<input type="checkbox"/> Tabled

1 **WHEREAS**, conservation pays, but can be expensive to implement; and
 2
 3 **WHEREAS**, beginning farmers and ranchers, those with ten or fewer years owning or operating a
 4 farm and/or ranch, are faced more with making a profit than conservation;
 5
 6 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts urges
 7 the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission to adopt rules within their loan program to
 8 implement 0% minimal rate interest loans for conservation implementation. These loans could be
 9 used for match or direct, on the ground application. **This program minimal interest rate is only open**
 10 **to beginning farmers and ranchers as defined by USDA.**
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RULE PROMULGATION: STEP-BY-STEP PROCEDURES

STEP	PROCEDURE
1.	Inception - decision to initiate rulemaking is made and agency prepares the rulemaking record.
2.	Agency prepares a Proposed/Temporary Administrative Rules Form (PARF) and submits it to the Division of Financial Management (DFM - Governor's Office). (This form must be submitted when doing either negotiated, proposed and/or temporary rulemaking.)
3.	Both DFM and Governor's Policy Advisors review the PARF before either approving or denying the rulemaking request and return a signed copy to agency. (Agency should receive signed PARF before proceeding with the rulemaking in the event it is not approved.)
4.	Agency determines whether or not negotiated rulemaking is feasible and, if feasible, prepares a 'Notice of Intent to Promulgate - Negotiated Rulemaking' and forwards it to the Coordinator.
5.	Notice of Intent to Promulgate - Negotiated Rulemaking is published in the Administrative Bulletin (Bulletin).
6.	Negotiated rulemaking meetings are held. All information, comments received, etc., must be posted to the agency website along with a summary of any unresolved issues relating the formulation of the proposed rule.
7.	If amending an existing rule, agency requests a working copy (Word document) of the rule from the Coordinator's office, which is forwarded to the agency electronically.
8.	Agency prepares Rulemaking Packet: Notice of Rulemaking - (Proposed, Temporary, or Temporary/Proposed) Rulemaking, the rulemaking checklist, copy of signed PARF, text of rule in legislative format and a cost/benefit analysis for any fees being imposed or changed.
9.	Agency files the rulemaking packet electronically only (E-mail) with the Coordinator's office. The notice, text of the proposed, temporary, or temporary/proposed rulemaking, and cost/benefit analysis is forwarded to the Legislative Services Office (LSO) by the Coordinator.
10.	Coordinator checks the electronically filed rulemaking for all necessary documents. The notice and text are reviewed for required information, formatting, numbering, and style, a rulemaking docket number is assigned, and the docket is prepared for publication. A proof copy is then sent to the agency for its review and approval.
11.	Agency reviews the proof copy of the docket (pdf copy that is emailed), makes any needed corrections and contacts the Coordinator's office.
12.	The proposed, temporary, or temporary/proposed rulemaking is published in the Bulletin.
13.	Public hearings are held, if scheduled or requested. (Holding a public hearing is not required unless the hearing has been scheduled by the agency or the agency receives requests for a hearing in writing by 25 persons, a political subdivision, or another state agency within the 14-day minimum time period required to allow for requests for public hearings.
14.	Comment period ends. (Minimum of 21 days after publication; may be extended if necessary or desired.) If a public hearing is scheduled after the 21-day comment period ends, the close of the comment period should be extended to coincide with the last hearings date.
15.	Agency reviews and gives consideration to all oral and written comments that are received. Agency may then make changes, if warranted, to the proposed rule based on the comments received. Changes made must be a logical outgrowth of the proposed rule. (All submitted comments become part of the rulemaking record and made available for public inspection.)

STEP	PROCEDURE
16.	Agency adopts pending rule (pending legislative review) and prepares Notice of Rulemaking - Adoption of Pending Rule. The text of the rule in legislative format is submitted only if changes are made to the pending rule, otherwise no rule text is published.
17.	Agency submits the Notice of Rulemaking - Pending Rule (and text) electronically.
18.	The Coordinator reviews the pending rulemaking checklist, notice and, if applicable, the rule text. The rulemaking docket is prepared for publication and a proof copy of the pending rule that is then sent to the agency for review.
19.	Agency reviews the proof copy of the docket, makes corrections or changes and contacts the Coordinator's office.
20.	Pending rule docket is published in the Bulletin. The pending rule remains unenforceable until it has been reviewed and approved by the Legislature and becomes a final rule.
21.	At the beginning of the session the Coordinator submits the Rules Review Books of all pending, pending fee, and *temporary rules to the germane committees of the Legislature for review.
22.	Legislative Rules Review takes place during the first weeks of the session and agency presenters testify before the legislative committees on their rules that have been submitted for review.
23.	Rule dockets are approved or rejected by the Legislature. Rejection of a rule docket, or any part of it, requires the adoption of a concurrent resolution (both Houses). When rejected, the agency must submit a 'Notice of Final Rule' and any necessary rule text for publication in the Bulletin. Pending Rules that are approved by the Legislature become final and enforceable at the end of the session and require no further action by the agency. Pending fee rules must be affirmatively approved by concurrent resolution to become effective. Temporary rules must be extended by concurrent resolution to remain in effect after the conclusion of the session.
24.	Upon adjournment of the legislative session, an Omnibus Notice of Final Legislative Action on pending rules and temporary rules is published in the Bulletin. (This notice usually publishes in first available Bulletin after the session ends and lists all pending, pending fee, and temporary rulemakings by docket number that were submitted for review and includes the effective dates of the rules, Bulletin volume numbers, and any action taken on the rules by concurrent resolution.)
25.	Pending rules become final and effective upon the adjournment of the legislative session (sine die), or on the date specified in the pending rule, or on the date of the concurrent resolution, if any, affecting the rule. final rules are then codified and published in the Admin Code.

***A Temporary Rule that has not been adopted as a Pending Rule prior to beginning of the Legislative session will be submitted by the Coordinator to the Legislature for review and extension unless advised by the agency to do otherwise. Legislative approval extending a temporary rule allows the rule to remain in full force and effect until the end of the next succeeding legislative session unless the temporary rule will expire by its own terms or by a provision of law prior to the end of the next succeeding legislative session.**

A moratorium on proposed rulemaking begins at the end of November and remains in effect until the end of the legislative session (sine die). The moratorium affects proposed rulemakings only and does not affect negotiated, temporary, or pending rulemakings which may be filed for publication.



Search USDA

General Information

- ▶ NRCS Limited Resource Farmer Programs
- ▶ Purpose

Determination Tools

- ▶ FY 2016 Online Tool
- ▶ FY 2015 Historic Data
- ▶ FY 2014 Historic Data
- ▶ FY 2013 Historic Data
- ▶ FY 2012 Historic Data

Definitions

- ▶ Limited Resource
- ▶ Beginning Farmer
- ▶ SDA Farmer
- ▶ Veteran Farmer

LRFRT Resources

- ▶ NASS Prices Paid Data
- ▶ National Poverty Level Data
- ▶ County Household Median Income
- ▶ ERS Analysis

Other Resources

- ▶ USDA Offices

Limited Resource Farmer and Rancher - (LRF/R)

Beginning Farmer Program Definition

NRCS

Beginning Farmer or Rancher

Definition

A Beginning Farmer or Rancher means an **individual** or **entity** who:

- a. Has not operated a farm or ranch, or who has operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 consecutive years. This requirement applies to all members of an entity,
- b. Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm or ranch.
 1. In the case of a contract with an individual, individually or with the immediate family, material and substantial participation requires that the individual provide substantial day-to-day labor and management of the farm or ranch, consistent with the practices in the county or State where the farm is located
 2. In the case of a contract with an entity, all members must materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm or ranch. Material and substantial participation requires that each of the members provide some amount of the management, or labor and management necessary for day-to-day activities, such that if each of the members did not provide these inputs, operation of the farm or ranch would be seriously impaired.

Updated 11/01/2010

For questions concerning the definition of Limited Resource Farming and/or supporting economic data, contact: David Buland, Economist, 817-509-3577

Definitions of Terms Used in This Handbook (7 CFR 761.2 (b)) (Continued)

Beginning Farmer

*--Beginning farmer is an individual or entity who:

- (1) Meets the loan eligibility requirements for a direct or guaranteed CL, FO, or OL, as applicable;
- (2) Has not operated a farm for more than 10 years. This requirement applies to all members of an entity;
- (3) Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm:
 - (i) In the case of a loan made to an individual, individually or with the family members, material and substantial participation requires that the individual provide substantial day-to-day labor and management of the farm, consistent with the practices in the county or State where the farm is located.
 - (ii) In the case of a loan made to an entity, all members must materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm. Material and substantial participation requires that the member provide some amount of the management, or labor and management necessary for day-to-day activities, such that if the individual did not provide these inputs, operation of the farm would be seriously impaired;
- (4) Agrees to participate in any loan assessment and borrower training required by Agency regulations;
- (5) Except for an OL applicant, does not own real farm property or who, directly or through interests in family farm entities owns real farm property, the aggregate acreage of which does not exceed 30 percent of the median farm acreage of the farms in the county where the property is located. If the farm is located in more than one county, the median farm acreage of the county where the applicant's residence is located will be used in the calculation. If the applicant's residence is not located on the farm or if the applicant is an entity, the median farm acreage of the county where the major portion of the farm is located will be used. The median county farm acreage will be determined from the most recent Census of Agriculture;
- (6) Demonstrates that the available resources of the applicant and spouse (if any) are not sufficient to enable the applicant to enter or continue farming on a viable scale; and
- (7) In the case of an entity:
 - (i) All the members are related by blood or marriage; and
 - (ii) All the members are beginning farmers.--*

Appendix V: FSA and NRCS Beginning Farmer Definitions

FSA and NRCS have different beginning farmer definitions in place. While both definitions generally define a beginning farmer and rancher as one who has operated a farm or ranch for 10 years or less who will materially and substantially participate in its operation, only FSA's definition considers an applicant's available resources as part of its program eligibility requirements. FSA's definition also establishes other requirements that relate to its loan programs. For example, beginning farmers must agree to participate in borrower training. Table 9 presents a comparison of both FSA and NRCS beginning farmer definitions.

Table 9: FSA and NRCS Beginning Farmer Definitions

Farm Service Agency	Natural Resources Conservation Service
As defined in 7 U.S.C. 1991(a)(11) and 7 C.F.R. § 1941.4 a beginning farmer or rancher is an individual or entity who:	As defined in 7 C.F.R. §§ 1466.3 and 1469.3, a beginning farmer or rancher is an individual or entity who:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has not operated a farm or ranch or has operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has not operated a farm or ranch, or who has operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 consecutive years
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm or ranch* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm or ranch*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meets the loan eligibility requirements of the program to which he/she is applying 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • agrees to participate in such loan assessment, borrower training, and financial management programs as the Secretary requires 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrates insufficient resources to continue farming or ranching on a viable scale 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • does not own a farm greater than 30 percent of the average size farm in the county (farm ownership loans only) 	

Source: GAO.

*If the applicant is an entity, all members must materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm or ranch.

PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE TO BEGINNING FARMER PROGRAM WITH LENGTHY RULES PROMULGATION

LOAN COMPARISON

PROGRAM TYPE	LOAN	INTEREST RATE	TERM	PAYMENT	ANNUAL CHANGE	% CHANGE	COLLATERAL	IMPLEMENTATION METHOD	APPLICATION PROCESS
Current Loan Program	\$ 50,000	2.5%	7	\$ 7,875			New OR used equipment, real estate		
Original IASCD Beginning Farmer	\$ 50,000	0%	7	\$ 7,143	\$ (732)	-9%		Rule Creation	Determine Eligibility
Possible Beginning Farmer Program	\$ 50,000	1%	7	\$ 7,431	\$ (444)	-6%		Rule Creation	Determine Eligibility
Proposed Modified Loan Program	\$ 50,000	2.75%	10	\$ 5,787	\$ (2,088)	-27%	New equipment, real estate only	Board Action	No Change

EXISTING AND PROPOSED RCRDP LOAN INTEREST RATES, TERMS AND COLLATERAL

Existing	\$ 50,000	2.5%	7	\$ 7,875			New or Used Equipment & Real Estate
Proposed	\$ 50,000	2.75%	10	\$ 5,787			New Equipment Or Real Estate
Existing	\$ 50,000	3%	12	\$ 5,023			Real Estate
Existing	\$ 50,000	3.5%	15	\$ 4,341			Real Estate