

## Part I – Agency Profile

### Agency Overview

The Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission (ISWCC) was created in 1939 under Idaho Code § 22-2716, et. seq.) to form local conservation districts to work on reducing soil erosion generated by agricultural land management practices. ISWCC is now also the lead agency for a variety of voluntary conservation programs that address water quality and other natural resource issues. ISWCC has no regulatory authority.

The ISWCC is led by five Commissioners appointed by the Governor: Chairman H. Norman Wright, Vice Chairman Roger Stutzman, Secretary Gerald Trebesch, and members Dave Radford and Leon Slichter, and an administrator, Teri Murrison. The administrator oversees 16 full time administrative and technical staff located in offices around the State.

### Core Functions of ISWCC

1. **District Support and Services:** provides technical, financial, and other assistance to Idaho's 50 local conservation districts.
2. **Comprehensive Conservation Services:** provides/promotes non-regulatory incentive and science-based programs to support voluntary conservation activities enhancing the environmental quality and economic productivity of the state.
3. **Administration:** ensures continuity of operations and establishes protocols to support Commissioners and staff.
4. **Outreach:** engages local, state, and federal partners, non-governmental organizations, and resource and agricultural production groups to coordinate, collaborate, and cooperate on voluntary conservation efforts.

### Revenue and Expenditures:

Revenue	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
General Fund	\$2,357,740	\$2,265,932	\$2,306,400	\$2,364,108
Receipts	\$23,013	\$0	\$6,700	\$5,600
RCRDP Loan Program	\$2,125,270	\$1,621,209	\$1,793,900	\$1,447,600
SRF Loan Program	\$107,270	\$12,815	\$147,270	\$31,900
Federal Grant Funds	\$0	\$0	\$80,000	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,413,293</b>	<b>\$3,889,505</b>	<b>\$4,118,688</b>	<b>\$3,849,208</b>
Expenditure	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
Personnel Costs	\$1,00,810	\$953,306	\$1,137,421	\$1,151,400
Operating Expenditures	\$245,052	\$302,787	\$421,341	\$286,200
Capital Outlay	\$6,340	\$18,761	\$10,526	\$0
Trustee/Benefit Payments	\$1,105,190	\$1,103,200	\$1,103,198	\$1,169,200
RCRDP Loan Disbursements	\$724,664	\$524,244	\$232,623	\$794,100
DEQ Loan	\$94,693	\$44,972	\$116,322	\$44,300
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,185,749</b>	<b>\$2,947,270</b>	<b>\$1,507,705</b>	<b>\$3,445,200</b>

**Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided**

<b>Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided</b>	<b>FY 2011</b>	<b>FY 2012*</b>	<b>FY 2013***</b>	<b>FY 2014</b>
Conservation systems implemented on all cropland (acres)	178,080	133,967	133,625	186,076
Conservation implemented on other land uses (acres)	15,687	18,855	107,090	78,925
Grazing/pasture management systems implemented (acres)	269,295	379,157	539,007	531,613
Riparian acres implemented with protection, restoration, enhancement or creation (acres)	705	1,347	487	289
Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) – Private agricultural land removed from tillage-induced erosion through financial incentive for a contractual time period. *	670,935	518,341**	349,617	589,484

\* Prior to state FY 2010, conservation data was reported by federal fiscal year. In FY 2010, ISWCC began providing conservation data based upon the state fiscal year. Due to the transition, the fourth quarter data for federal FY 2009 has been included as part of the state FY 2010 data.

\*\* CRP acres were down significantly in FY 2013 due to a large number of contracts that expired and fewer new contracts were enrolled. CRP acres rebounded in FY 2014.

\*\*\* Numbers in FY 2011 and 2012 did not include data from all partners. Beginning in FY 2013, NRCS and district statistics are included.

**Performance Highlights**

- **District Support and Services** ISWCC completed the first year of a new process to allocate technical assistance to districts. Beginning in July 2013, ISWCC solicited input and made changes in the process to allow for a greater degree of flexibility. Districts received Trustee and Benefit funding that included the usual base funding (\$8,500), local matching funds (capped at \$50,000 per district), and modest capacity building grants. In addition, prudent management allowed ISWCC to roll down a modest operating surplus to districts (\$320 each) at the end of FY 2014.
- **Comprehensive Conservation Programs and Services** Loan volume in RCRDP increased significantly in FY 2014: from 4 loans approved in FY 2013 for a total loaned of \$128,100 to 12 loans approved in FY 2014 for a total of \$841,624. Momentum also continued on TMDL Implementation Plans.
- **Outreach** 75<sup>th</sup> ISWCC celebrated its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a ceremony in the Capitol, legislative awards, and began publishing a newsletter that has been well received.

**Part II – Performance Measures**

Performance Measure	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	Benchmark
<b>DISTRICT SUPPORT &amp; SERVICES</b>					
District Surveys on Commission Satisfaction	49 of 50	47 of 50	40 of 50*	36 of 50	50 of 50
- Strongly agree	22%	32%	18%	17%	25%
- Somewhat agree	57%	44%	25%	25%	47%
- Neutral	10%	14%	38%	33%	23%
- Somewhat Disagree	8%	4 %	5%	17%	5%
- Disagree	2%	0%	15%	3%	0%
N/A			6%	0%	0%
District five-year plans updated	50	50	50	50	50
Technical Assistance Provided to districts:	31	35	31	38	39
- # of districts w/projects					
- # of new projects	42	47	24	57	58
- # of ongoing projects	50	45	41	103	115
- # of landowners served	812	271	246	386	400
<b>COMPREHENSIVE CONSERVATION PROGRAMS</b>					
CREP Program Deliverables	161	157	159	156	160
- Total Contracts	17,457	17,210	17,236	16,792	17,500
- Total Acres	10	11	0	28	15
- Certified Contracts					
- Certified Acres	725	327	0	2,537	1,500
Ground Water Quality/Nitrate Priority Areas	49,320	40,606	35,685	27,918	37,700
- Acres Treated	254,105	151,020	114,797	141,779	132,100
- Nitrates Reduced (lbs.)					
- Phosphorus Reduced (lbs.)	24,200	28,677	24,473	32,084	26,500
- Sediment Reduced (tons)	128,367	144,482	137,414	54,618	142,600
RCRDP Loan Program					
- # of new loans	17	12	4	12	15
- Total \$ conservation projects	\$1,116,908	\$664,193	\$128,100	\$841,624	\$950,000
TMDL Ag Implementation Plans (subject to DEQ priorities)	4 Completed 16 In Progress 38 Pending	3 Completed 23 In progress 30 pending	5 Completed 19 In Progress 31 Pending	6 Completed 15 in Progress 19 Pending	6 Completed 12 In Progress 19 Pending
WQPA					
- Ongoing Priority Areas	13	13			
- Completed Priority Areas	5	13	N/A - unfunded	N/A – unfunded	N/A – unfunded
- Acres Treated	6,400	29,672			

<b>OUTREACH</b>					
Communications					
- Website (Total Visitors)	321,588	320,000	383,964	N/A	N/A
- Facebook impressions (l)/posts	8,387(l)	10,075(l)	49**	220	275
- Twitter (# of tweets)					
- Newsletter subscriptions	N/A*	N/A*	29	89	150
	***	***	***	505	750

\*Process established to allocate ISWCC technical field staff time. Drop in satisfaction correlates with implementation of that process in FY 2013. Planned evaluation and retooling with districts of process based on lessons learned is ongoing.

\*\*FY 2011- FY 2012 counted total impressions, a statistic that may not represent the number of people who actually read the post). From FY 2013 on, # of posts are reported.

\*\*\*New Measure in FY 2015

### For More Information Contact

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