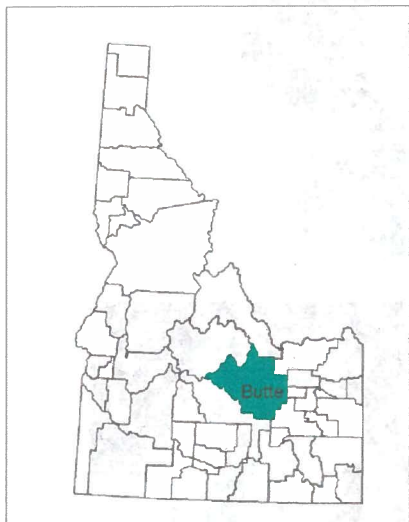


Butte Soil and Water Conservation District

July 2011 – June 2012



125 South Water Street
PO Box 819
Arco Idaho 83213
Tel: 208-527-8557, extension 3
Fax: 208-527-3978
<http://www.buteswcd.org>

Natural Resource Concerns

- Water Quality and Water Resources (quantity)
- Cropland and Pasture (irrigated and non-irrigated)
- Animal Waste Management and Riparian
- Information and Education

July 2011 – July 2012 Funding

Local Units of Government -----	\$7,802.00
State of Idaho -----	\$22,155.75
USDA NRCS Farm Bill Programs -----	\$3,157,936.00
Estimated Value of Volunteer Time --	\$9,000.00
Fish and Wildlife -----	\$11,391.62
RC&D Ag Energy -----	\$13,538.51
Weed Program Administration -----	\$1,401.00

AG Energy Conservation with RC&D

Through cooperation with Lost River Electric Coop and High Country RC&D 31 farm energy audits were conducted. Incentive practices have been implemented which resulted in \$11,209.28 savings.



Transmission Line Fire Resistance Project

Butte SWCD in cooperation with Northwest Management, Inc., High Country RC&D, BLM, Idaho State Highway Dept, INEL, SWC have been working on ways to protect the transmission lines that serve Arco, Lost River Electric and Salmon River Electric. These lines end in the Challis area with are no alternative routes in case the lines are down.



Educational Programs

- Sponsored the Poster Contest for 60, 6th grade students from Mackay and Arco schools.
- Held an annual 6th grade Natural Resources Day with Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Idaho Fish and Game, Lost River Coordinated Weed Management Group and South Custer Fire District participating.
- The Stewardship Theme this year is “Soil to Spoon” with emphasis on the USDA *ChooseMyPlate* nutrition and portion guidelines. Fruit, vegetables, protein, grains and milk were traced back to the soil. One very smart kindergarten student answered that “milk could be traced back to the soil when you spilled it”!!! The “correct” answer was that milk comes from dairy cows that eat grass and hay that grow from seeds in the soil. Booklets with games and activities to follow up on the theme “Soil to Spoon” were given to about 300 students.



- Nine students to attended the Natural Resources Camp in Ketchum, Idaho on scholarships coordinated by Butte SWCD.



- Sponsored two teams to the Idaho State Envirothon with the Mackay High School team placing 3rd.



Future Projects

Sage Grouse Initiative

Eight ranches have been enrolled in the Grasslands Reserve Program. This program will improve and protect 8844 acres for the Greater Sage Grouse and rangeland.

Board of Supervisors & Staff

Randy Purser	Chairman
Walt Johnson	Vice-Chairman
Todd Perkes	Sec/Treasurer
Laura Waddoups	Member
Jeff Isham	Member
Frances Perkes	Administration Assistant
Teena Lord	Program Coordinator

Butte Soil and Water Conservation District

January 2013 – December 2013



125 South Water Street
 PO Box 819
 Arco Idaho 83213
 Tel: 208-527-8557, extension 3
 Fax: 208-527-3978
<http://www.buteswcd.org>

Natural Resource Concerns

- Water Quality and Water Resources (quantity)
- Cropland and Pasture (irrigated and non-irrigated)
- Animal Waste Management and Riparian
- Information and Education

January – December 2013 Funding

Local Units of Government -----	\$ 8,036.50
State of Idaho -----	\$21,002.22
Capacity Building Grant -----	\$ 875.00
USDA NRCS Farm Bill Programs -----	\$3,390,000.00
Estimated Value of Volunteer Time --	\$9,000.00
Fish and Wildlife -----	\$24,999.91
RC&D Ag Energy -----	\$ 8,774.87
Weed Program Administration -----	\$ 1,360.00

Quaking Aspen Stock Water Project

The Quaking Aspen Pipeline project will water 1,186 head of cattle. Three deep wells will be drilled to supply 32,615 gallons of water per day to the 42 miles pipeline. 96 troughs will be placed at 24 locations.



Each trough holds 1,500 gallons



Three deep wells and 42 miles of pipeline

Sage Grouse Grassland Reserve Program

Butte County has 12 Sage Grouse Grassland Reserve Program contracts on about 15,000 acres of prime sage grouse habitat. Permanent easements are being obtained on these acres and are worth about \$5.5 million dollars to the land owners.

EQIP Sage Grouse Initiative

\$90,000 of sage grouse enhancement practices on about 700 acres of prime habitat have been installed by landowners with EQIP contracts.



AG Energy Conservation with RC&D

Through cooperation with Lost River Electric Coop and High Country RC&D 4 farm energy audits were conducted and 12 projects were completed. The incentive practices which have been implemented resulted in \$7,030.22 savings. Unfortunately, as of September 30, 2013, the Butte SWCD is no longer assisting with this program.

Educational Programs

- Sponsored the Poster Contest for 6th grade students from Mackay and Arco schools.
- Held an annual 6th grade Natural Resources Day with Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Idaho Fish and Game, Lost River Coordinated Weed Management Group and South Custer Fire District participating.



- The Stewardship Theme this year was "Where Does Your Water Shed"

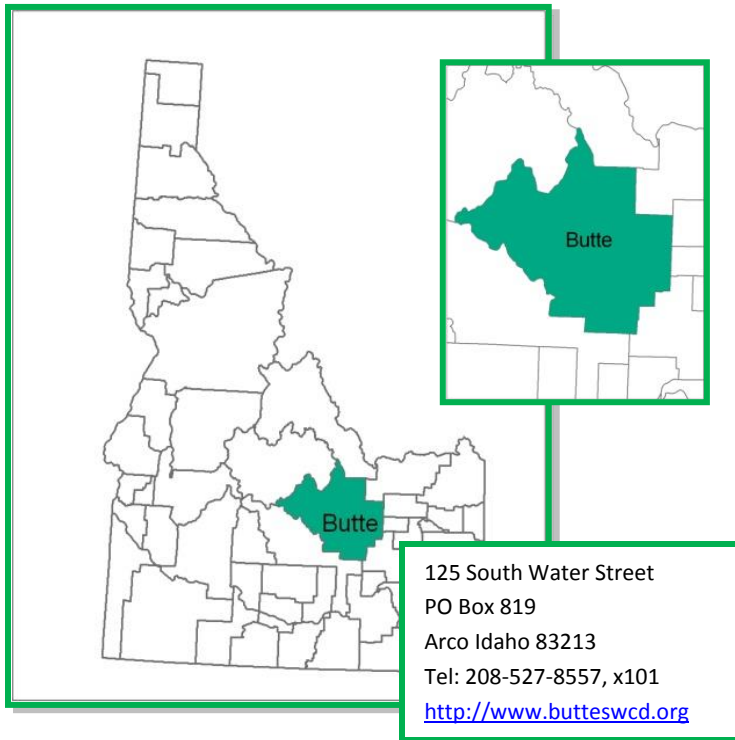


- Three students attended the Natural Resources Camp in Ketchum, Idaho on scholarships coordinated by Butte SWCD.
- Sponsored two teams to the Idaho State Envirothon with the Mackay High School team placing 5th.
- Thanks to SWC for a Capacity Grants that helped BSWCD sponsor these activities.

Board of Supervisors & Staff

Randy Purser	Chairman
Walt Johnson	Vice-Chairman
Todd Perkes	Sec/Treasurer
Laura Waddoups	Member
Jeff Isham	Member
Frances Perkes	Administration Assistant
Teena Lord	Program Coordinator

Butte Soil and Water Conservation District - January 2014 – December 2014



Natural Resource Concerns

- Water Quality and Water Resources (quantity)
- Cropland and Pasture (irrigated and non-irrigated)
- Animal Waste Management and Riparian
- Information and Education

Board of Supervisors & Staff

- Randy Purser Chairman
- Walt Johnson Vice-Chairman
- Todd Perkes Sec/Treasurer
- Jeff Isham Member
- Mark Telford Member
- Frances Perkes Administration Assistant
- Teena Lord Program Coordinator

January – December 2014 Funding

Local Units of Government -----	\$ 8,277.60
State of Idaho -----	\$22,832.22
Capacity Building Grant -----	\$ 875.00
District Operations Funding -----	\$ 1,000.00
Donations and Sales -----	\$ 3,500.00
Estimated Value of Volunteer Time --	\$9,000.00
RC&D Ag Energy -----	\$ 4,727.00
Weed Program Administration -----	\$ 1,229.00
USDA NRCS Farm Bill Programs-----	\$2,619.277.00

Sage Grouse Initiative

Butte County continues to be a center of activity for the NRCS' Sage Grouse Initiative (SGI), which seeks to address threats to the greater sage grouse through voluntary, cooperative conservation practices implemented by agricultural producers. Because "what is good for the grouse is good for the ground", the goals of the SGI and private landowners often dovetail, and win-win conservation plans can be developed that benefit both the grouse and the long-term viability of a ranching operation. The SGI is implemented through multiple NRCS programs:

Grassland Reserve Program

In 2014, NRCS conservationists continued to work with landowners enrolled in or still awaiting final closure on SGI conservation easements through the Grassland Reserve Program (GRP), which has been replaced by the restructured Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) in the 2014 Farm Bill. Baseline inventories were completed on two ranches, and conservation and grazing plans are currently being developed for those properties.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program

Butte Soil & Water Conservation District accepted three applications for EQIP through the Sage Grouse Initiative in 2014. One of these projects has been deferred due to potential disruption to cultural resources during planned conservation practice implementation, and an alternate plan is being developed to address these concerns. Two applications were approved and contracted. The first project involves range planting to enhance sage grouse late brood rearing habitat along a riparian and wet meadow area. The second project involves prescribed grazing on nearly 3,000 acres to improve residual grass cover, plant diversity and vigor and long term range health in potential breeding, nesting, and winter habitat. Structural practices such as fence, pipeline and watering facilities are included in the conservation plan to facilitate the implementation of prescribed grazing on the property. All practices will be implemented with great care to minimize and mitigate disturbance to sage grouse and other wildlife. This includes installing fence markers along the new cross-fence and existing fence near a lek and installing wildlife escape ramps in all livestock watering facilities.

Educational Programs

6th Grade students from Arco and Mackay participated in the Poster Contest. The theme this year was “DIG DEEPER - Mysteries in the soil”



- 295 students from Arco and Mackay elementary made edible soil profiles to learn about the “Mysteries in the soil”.
- Held an annual 6th grade Natural Resources Day with Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Idaho Fish and Game, Lost River Coordinated Weed Management Group and South Custer Fire District participating.



Steve Wright, archeologist with the Bureau of Land Management in Salmon



Cassie Wood, U.S. Forest Service

- Nine students attended the Natural Resources Camp in Ketchum, Idaho on scholarships coordinated by Butte SWCD.



- Sponsored two teams to the Idaho State Envirothon. The team from Butte planted choke cherry trees at the Community Garden for a team project.



- Thank you to SWC for the Capacity Building funds that BSWCD used to help sponsor this activity.

**IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**PERFORMANCE
REPORT
CERTIFICATION**

DISTRICT: BUTTE SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

FOR YEAR:

2014

DUE :

December 20, 2014

CERTIFICATION

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 shall be kept at the District office and is available for public inspection.



Board Supervisor Signature

RANDY PURSER

Printed Name

12/8/14

Date

208-527-8557, EXT 101

Telephone

Frances.Perkes@id.nacdnet.net

District Email Address

FOR SWC USE ONLY:

DATE OF CONFIRMATION:

Butte Soil and Water Conservation District Fact Sheet

General Information: The Butte Soil and Water Conservation District was organized by the citizens of Butte County, Idaho in 1953 to offer technical assistance to farmers and ranchers in water use and conservation, land leveling, soil fertility, crop rotation, introduction of new crops, use of windbreaks and range management.

Mission (or Function):

- Set high standards for the wise use of the natural resources in the District.
- Make technical, financial and educational resources available and coordinate them to meet the needs of the local land manager with conservation of soil, water and related natural resources.

FY 2015 Accomplishments:

- Cooperated with NRCS to improve residual grass cover, plant diversity and vigor, and long term range health in potential sage grouse breeding, nesting and winter habitat.
- Purchased a no-till drill which has been rented out to local growers.
- Sponsored an Applicator Re-Certification and Soil Health Workshop in January, 2015. Subjects included understanding and managing soil health, noxious weed identification, and the good, the bad and the ugly facts related to how herbicide residues in soils affect insects, earthworms and other organisms in the soil.
- Students from Arco and Mackay schools participated in District-sponsored poster and speech contests. Students from the District placed second and fourth at the Division 6 speech competition. The winning District poster entered placed first in the Division 6 competition, and went on to place third in the state competition!
- Sponsored three student scholarships to the Natural Resources Camp in Ketchum.

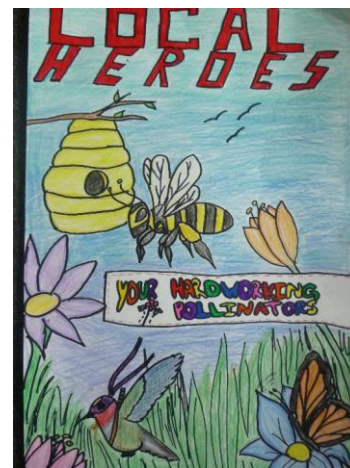
- In conjunction with partners, held a 6th Grade Natural Resources Day for students at Butte Middle School and Mackay Elementary School.
- Sponsored teams from Butte and Mackay to the Idaho State Envirothon. Mackay placed 4th!

Future Plans and Projects:

- Continue sponsoring and hosting educational and outreach programs for the youth and adults in the community.



Soil Health Workshop



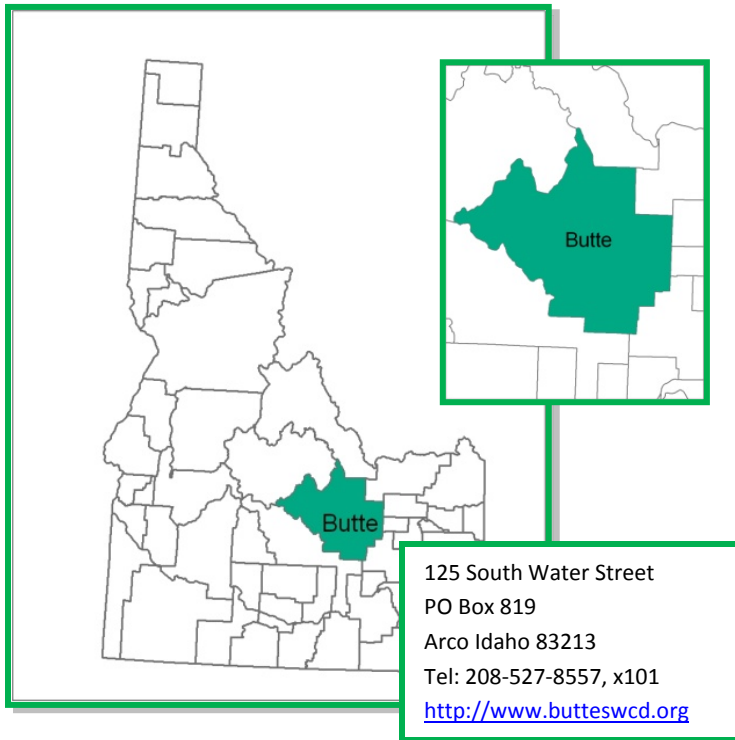
Poster contest winner

FY 2015 District Funding:

State	\$15,103
Local	\$8,525
Donations and Sales	\$1,700
RC&D Energy Funds	\$1,300
Weed Program Administration	\$1,300
Total	\$27,928

Butte SWCD
PO Box 819
Arco ID 83213

Randy Purser-Chair
208-527-8557
www.buteswcd.org



Natural Resource Concerns

- Water Quality and Water Resources (quantity)
- Cropland and Pasture (irrigated and non-irrigated)
- Animal Waste Management and Riparian
- Information and Education

Board of Supervisors & Staff

- Randy Purser Chairman
- Walt Johnson Vice-Chairman
- Todd Perkes Treasurer
- Jeff Isham Member
- Mark Telford Member
- Frances Perkes Administration Assistant
- Mindy Hawley Program Coordinator

January 2016 – December 2016	Funding
Local Units of Government -----	\$ 8,781.00
State of Idaho -----	\$ 20,370.00
Capacity Building Grant -----	\$ 800.00
District Operations Funding -----	\$ 2,000.00
Donations and Sales -----	\$ 4,595.00
Estimated Value of Volunteer Time --	\$ 9,000.00
Weed Program Administration -----	\$ 1,050.00
USDA NRCS Farm Bill Programs-----	\$806,294.00

HIGH TUNNEL



The High Tunnel System is a conservation practice available through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). This practice helps producers:

Extend the growing season

Improve plant quality and soil quality

Reduce nutrient and pesticide transportation

- o Improve air quality through reduced transportation inputs

Reduce energy use by providing consumers with a local source of fresh produce

Educational Programs

- Students from Arco and Mackay elementary participated in Stewardship Week “We All Need Trees”



- 6th grade posters contest



1st: Kelly Westergard, 2nd: Brenna McAfee and
3rd: Brooke Sievers.

- Natural Resources Camp



Four students attended the Natural Resources Camp in Ketchum, Idaho on scholarships coordinated by Butte SWCD.

- Division VI Speech Contest



Danielle Harwood Placed 2nd

- Natural Resources Workshop



Over sixty 6th grade students from both Butte Middle School and Mackay Elementary attended presentations by the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Lost River Coordinated Weed Management Group, and Natural Resources Conservation Services. Ken Day demonstrated the capability of the South Custer Fire Department Engine.

- Sponsored two teams to the Idaho State Envirothon



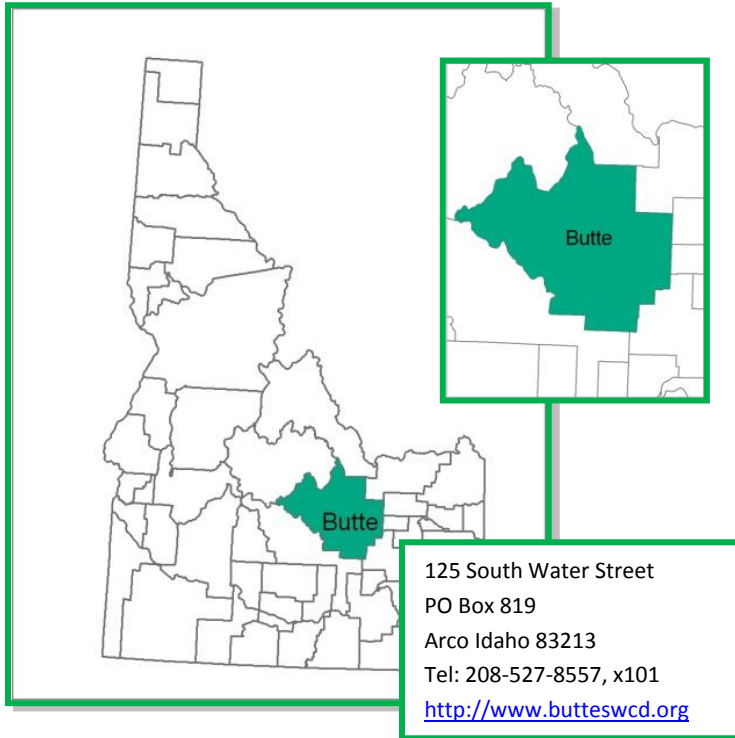
Butte County High School Team



Mackay High School Team

Thank you to SWC for the Capacity Building funds that SWCD used to help sponsor these activities.

Butte Soil and Water Conservation District - January 2017 – December 2017



Natural Resource Concerns

- Water Quality and Water Resources (quantity)
- Cropland and Pasture (irrigated and non-irrigated)
- Animal Waste Management and Riparian
- Information and Education

Board of Supervisors & Staff

- Randy Purser Chairman
- Mark Telford Vice-Chairman
- Todd Perkes Treasurer
- Jeff Isham Member
- Walt Johnson Member
- Frances Perkes Administration Assistant
- Mindy Hawley Public Outreach Coordinator

January 2017 – December 2017

Funding

Local Units of Government -----	\$ 9,205.00
State of Idaho -----	\$ 20,370.00
Capacity Building Grant -----	\$ 800.00
District Operations Funding -----	\$ 2,000.00
Donations and Sales -----	\$ 7,947.00
Estimated Value of Volunteer Time --	\$ 9,000.00
Weed Program Administration -----	\$ 1,030.00
USDA NRCS Farm Bill Programs-----	\$ 908,896.00

SOIL HEALTH WORKSHOP



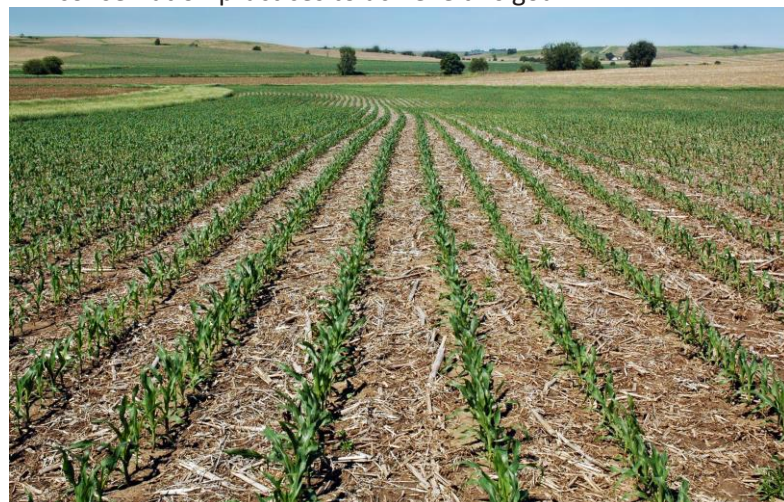
Presented by Butte SWCD October 4th 2017

Soil health matters because:

1. Healthy soils are high-performing, productive soils.
2. Healthy soils can reduce production costs and improve profits.
3. Healthy soils protect natural resources on **and** off the farm.
4. Healthy soils can reduce nutrient loading and sediment runoff, increase efficiencies, and improve pollinator and wildlife habitat.

What are the benefits of healthy soil?

1. Healthy soil holds more water (by binding it to organic matter), and loses less water to runoff and evaporation.
2. Organic matter builds as tillage declines and plants and residue cover the soil. Organic matter holds 18-20 times its weight in water and recycles nutrients for plants to use.
3. One percent of organic matter in the top six inches of soil holds approximately 20,000 gallons of water per acre.
4. Most farmers can increase their soil organic matter in 3-5 years if they are motivated about adopting conservation practices to achieve this goal.



Educational Programs

- **STEWARDSHIP**



Over 100 Students from Arco and Mackay elementary participated in Stewardship Week.

- **6th GRADE POSTER CONTEST**



Over Sixty students from both Butte Middle School and Mackay Elementary participated in our poster contest.

- 1st: Cora Barnes (shown)
- 2nd: Kala Hansen
- 3rd: Cooper Coleman

- **NATURAL RESOURCE CAMP**



Seven students from Arco and Mackay attended the Natural Resources Camp in Ketchum, six of which were sent on scholarships coordinated by Butte SWCD.

THANK YOU!

SWC for the Capacity Building funds that Butte SWCD used to help sponsor all of these activities.

- **NATURAL RESOURCE WORKSHOP**



Over sixty local 6th grade students attended presentations by the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Lost River Coordinated Weed Management Group, and Natural Resources Conservation Services.

- **IDAHO ENVIROTHON**



Butte SWCD sponsored two teams at the Idaho Envirothon.

**IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**PERFORMANCE
REPORT
CERTIFICATION**

DISTRICT: Butte SWCD

FOR YEAR:

2017


DUE :

December 20, 2017

CERTIFICATION

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 shall be kept at the District office and is available for public inspection.



Board Supervisor Signature

Randy Purser

Printed Name

December 14, 2017

Date

208-527-8557, ext 101

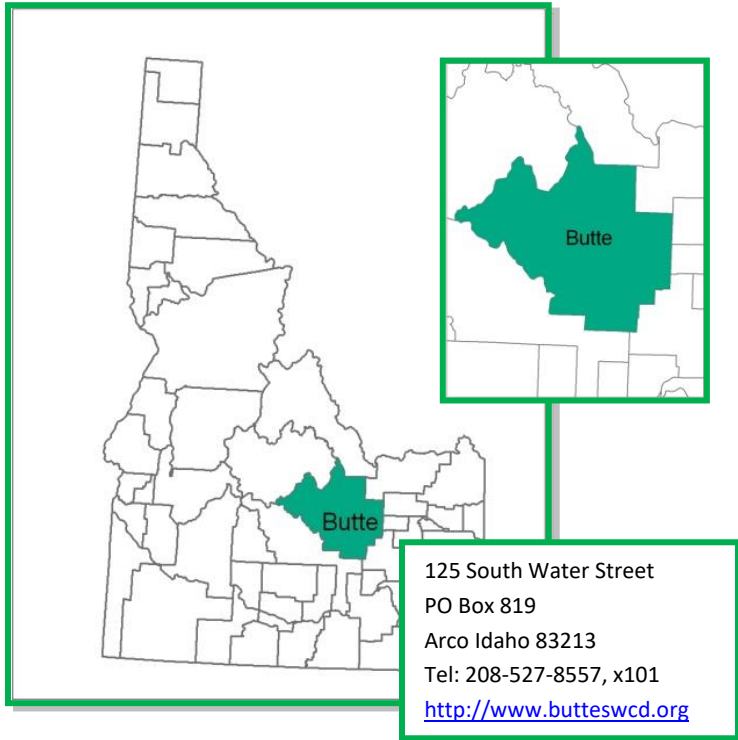
District Telephone

Frances.Perkes@id.nacdnet.net

District Email Address

FOR SWC USE ONLY:

DATE OF CONFIRMATION:



Natural Resource Concerns

- Water Quality and Water Resources (quantity)
- Cropland and Pasture (irrigated and non-irrigated)
- Animal Waste Management and Riparian
- Information and Education

Board of Supervisors & Staff

- Randy Purser Chairman
- Mark Telford Vice-Chairman
- Todd Perkes Treasurer
- Jeff Isham Member
- Walt Johnson Member
- Frances Perkes Administration Assistant
- Mindy Hawley Public Outreach Coordinator
- Stephanie Barnes Technical Assistant

January 2018 – December 2018	Funding
Local Units of Government -----	\$ 9,481.00
State of Idaho -----	\$ 21,329.24
Capacity Building Grant -----	\$ 800.00
District Operations Funding -----	\$ 2,000.00
Donations and Sales -----	\$ 7,325.00
Estimated Value of Volunteer Time --	\$ 9,000.00
Program Administration -----	\$ 5,486.00
USDA NRCS Farm Bill Programs-----	\$ 1,439,352

LOW ELEVATION SPRINKLER APPLICATION



LESA with different nozzle heights

Low-elevation sprinkler application (LESA) applies water 12 to 18 inches above ground wetting less foliage. Nozzle pressures can be regulated to as low as 6 to 10 psig. which reduces pumping energy and water leaks. The technology is especially effective during periods of high temperatures, high winds, and low humidity.

Both surface and ground water availability is limited within the Butte SWCD area. Most of the irrigated cropland in this region has been converted from flood to sprinkler irrigation.

Declining water availability has been a source of controversy and conflict in the unique Lost River Watersheds for many decades, pitting outdoor enthusiasts, surface irrigators, and groundwater irrigators against each other. Drought years exacerbate the issue, and irrigators are looking for ways to cut back on their water consumption both voluntarily and to meet potential future curtailment requirements.

Because center pivot equipment life is approximately 30 to 50 years, irrigation equipment manufacturers and distributors have developed retrofit kits that can be used to convert existing pivots into LESA units.

Brian Harrell installed LESA on two pivots that would dry up by July. This year he was able to harvest a crop from under all the whole pivot even when the water table dropped.

There have been two LESA's and eighteen retrofit projects completed through the Arco FO. A rebate system is also available through power companies.

Educational Programs

- **STEWARDSHIP**



Over 100 Students from Arco and Mackay elementary participated in Stewardship Week.

- **6th GRADE POSTER CONTEST**



Over Sixty students from both Butte Middle School and Mackay Elementary participated.

- 1st: Aislin Stayman(Arco)
- 2nd: Jaimie Bodreau(Mackay)
- 3rd: Brenna Waymire(Arco).

- **NATURAL RESOURCE CAMP**



Butte SWCD sponsored seven students from Arco and Mackay to attend the Natural Resources Camp in Ketchum, Idaho.

- **NATURAL RESOURCE WORKSHOP**



Over sixty local 6th grade students attended presentations by the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Lost River Coordinated Weed Management Group, Butte SWCD, South West Custer Fire Station and NRCS.

- **SPEECH CONTEST**



Butte SWCD sponsored Jennifer Schaefer at their Division VI Fall meeting. She won first place and advanced to participate in the IASCD Contest in Post Falls, ID. where she won third place.

- **IDAHO ENVIROTHON**



Butte SWCD sponsored one team for the Idaho Envirothon.

- **TECHNICAL ASSISTANT**



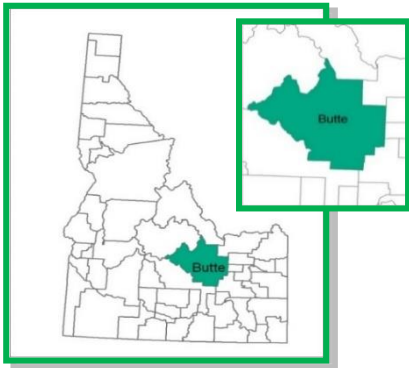
Butte SWCD applied for and received a grant of EQIP technical assistance funds from NACD. Stephanie Barnes has been hired to assist NRCS in carrying out a coordinated soil and water conservation program. Stephanie was born and raised in northeastern Oklahoma. She obtained her bachelor's degree in fish and wildlife biology from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma and a Master of Science degree from the University of Nebraska. After graduation, she worked for Nebraska's Natural Resource Districts for almost four years. Stephanie recently married and relocated to Arco. In her free time, Stephanie enjoys gardening, hiking, quilting, and collecting insects. She is thrilled to join the Butte Soil and Water Conservation District team.

Butte SWCD Performance Report: January – December 2019

The Butte SWCD was founded in 1953 with the goal of “**setting high standards for conservation and making wise-use of our natural resources**”. This is still the goal of the Butte SWCD today.

The District covers all of **Butte County** and the Southern portion of **Custer County**. This area encompasses the cities of Arco, Butte City, Howe, Mackay and Moore.

Legislative Districts: 8 and 35



FY2019 Accomplishments

- Held two **public informational meetings** highlighting produce production in



High Tunnel Informational Meeting

seasonal high tunnels. The meeting resulted in several applications for the NRCS’ Seasonal High Tunnel Initiative.

- The Butte SWCD received a second year of **NACD/NRCS Technical Assistance Grant** funding
- Two **new staff were hired** by the District
- The District created an **online newsletter** to provide quarterly updates of District activities

- **Educational outreach activities** included conducting NACD Stewardship Week activities and poster contest, sponsored two Envirothon teams, conducted the annual 6th grade Natural Resources



Local Work Group Meeting

Tour, provided outreach information and educational activities at county fairs and farmer’s markets, provided scholarships for seven students to attend Natural Resource Camp, created pollinator seed packets for distribution, and sponsored a speech

contestant at the Division and State levels

- Hosted a **local work group meeting** to provide the NRCS with direction for utilizing FY2020 funding



6th Grade Natural Resources Tour

- **Conducted weed and compliance monitoring** for the Lost River Highway District at the Pence Bridge wetland mitigation areas

FY2019 Funding:

Source	Amount
State	\$24,571.22
Counties	\$9,766.00
TA Grant	\$48,000.00
RC&D admin. assistance reimbursement	\$846.81
No-Till Drill Rental	\$2,720.00
Stewardship book sales	\$305.00
Donations	\$1,295.00
NRCS cost-share funding	\$1,617,085.95
TOTAL	\$1,704,589.98



Find us on Facebook

@ButteSoilAndWaterConservationDistrict

FY2019 NRCS Contract Load

The NRCS obtained 43 new contracts, **benefiting 45,771 acres** and provided \$1.6 million financial assistance for landowners. Contracts were obtained in the Sage-Grouse Initiative, general EQIP, general CSP, WaterSmart, Grassland Conservation Initiative CSP, and Natural Disaster categories



Seasonal High Tunnel, EQIP Seasonal High Tunnel Initiative contract



Mackay Public School Envirothon Team



Butte County Envirothon Team



Natural Resource Camp attendees

A special thanks for the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission for providing Capacity Building funds to help sponsor District activities and workshops

Board Supervisor and Employee Service Recognition:

We would like to recognize our board supervisors and employees for their service:

Frances Perkes, Administrative Assistant and Financial Advisor: 35 Years

Randy Purser, Board Supervisor: 33 Years

Jeff Isham, Board Supervisor: 30 Years



Rock riprap to reduce erosion, EQIP contract



Solar powered pump and water storage tank, EQIP Sage Grouse Initiative contract

Future Goals and Plans:

- **Promote landowner participation** in NRCS' programs to increase conservation practices in the District
- **Actively drive wise conservation decisions** in the District
- **Conduct educational outreach** activities for youth and adults
- **Support irrigation efficiency** conservation practices
- **Promote conservation** of wildlife habitat
- **Promote invasive weed removal** programs provided through NRCS and partner programs
- **Enhance relationships** with partner agencies to promote natural resource conservation
- **Follow the annual plan of work** developed by the District

**IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**PERFORMANCE
REPORT
CERTIFICATION**

DISTRICT: Butte SWCD

FOR YEAR:

2020

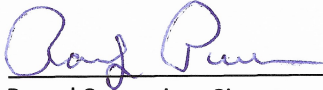
DUE :

December 20, 2020

CERTIFICATION

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 shall be kept at the District office and is available for public inspection.



Board Supervisor Signature

Randy Purser

Printed Name

12/17/20

Date

208-527-8557, ext. 101

District Telephone

butteswcd@outlook.com

District Email Address

FOR SWC USE ONLY:

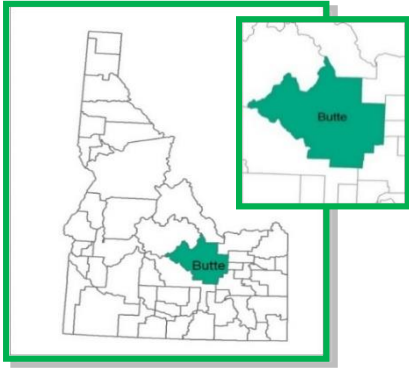
DATE OF CONFIRMATION:

Butte SWCD Performance Report: January – December 2020

The Butte SWCD was founded in 1953 with the goal of “**setting high standards for conservation and making wise-use of our natural resources**”. This is still the goal of the Butte SWCD today.

The District covers all of **Butte County** and the Southern portion of **Custer County**. This area encompasses the cities of Arco, Butte City, Howe, Mackay and Moore.

Legislative Districts: 8 and 35



FY2020 Accomplishments

- Held a **public informational meetings** highlighting irrigation water efficiency, NRCS programs, and nutrient management.
 - The Butte SWCD received a third year of **NACD/NRCS Technical Assistance Grant** funding



Winter workshop

- The District produced an **online newsletter** to provide quarterly updates of District activities
- Educational outreach activities** included sponsoring an Envirothon team, conducted the annual 6th grade Natural Resources Tour, provided outreach information and

educational activities at county fairs and farmer’s markets, created pollinator seed packets for distribution, held a speech contest at the District level, participated in Ag Days at Mackay School, hosted a Conservation Tour in the Little Lost River Valley



Envirothon Team



6th Grade Natural Resources Tour

- Hosted a **local work group meeting** to provide the NRCS with direction for utilizing funding in 2021

- Held a **District tree sale**
- Installed a **recycling bin for chemical containers** through grant funding and local partnerships
- Worked with USFWS to **install wildlife fence markers** along a busy highway
- Purchased a no-till drill** for landowner rental

FY2020 Funding:

Source	Amount
State	\$10,500.00
Counties	\$10,060.00
Grants	\$59,312.26
RC&D admin. assistance reimbursement	\$587.39
Pence Bridge Monitoring	\$20,000.00
NRCS cost-share funding	\$1,487,018.70
TOTAL	\$ 1,587,478.35



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FY2020 NRCS Contract Load

The NRCS obtained 50 new contracts, **benefiting 14,460.8 acres** and provided \$1.4 million financial assistance for landowners. Contracts were obtained in the general EQIP, general CSP, RCPP-EQIP, and EQIP Natural Disaster categories



Conservation Tour



Speech contest winners



TA Grant Employee Jennifer Weathered



Ag Days at Mackay School



Chemical container recycling bin

A special thanks for the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission for providing Capacity Building funds to help sponsor District activities and workshops

Board Supervisor Service Recognition:

We would like to recognize **Walt Johnson**, for 30 years of service on the board of supervisors



Walt Johnson building rock gabions for a conservation project in 1980



Wildlife fence markers



New no-till drill

Future Goals and Plans:

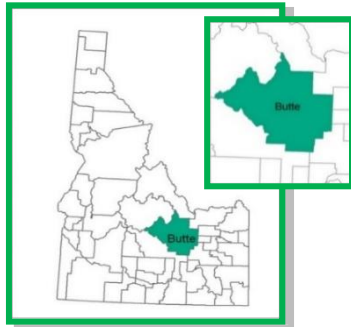
- **Promote landowner participation** in NRCS' programs to increase conservation practices in the District
- **Actively drive wise conservation decisions** in the District
- **Conduct educational outreach** activities for youth and adults
- **Support irrigation efficiency** conservation practices
- **Promote conservation** of wildlife habitat
- **Promote invasive weed removal** programs provided through NRCS and partner programs
- **Enhance relationships** with partner agencies to promote natural resource conservation
- **Follow the annual plan of work** developed by the District

Butte SWCD Performance Report: January – December 2021

The Butte SWCD was founded in 1953 with the goal of “**setting high standards for conservation and making wise-use of our natural resources**”. This is still the goal of the Butte SWCD today.

The District covers all of **Butte County** and the Southern portion of **Custer County**. This area encompasses the cities of Arco, Butte City, Howe, Mackay and Moore.

Legislative Districts: 8 and 35



FY2021 Accomplishments

- The Butte SWCD received a fourth year of **NACD/NRCS Technical Assistance Grant** funding



2021 6th grade tour

The District produced an **online newsletter** to provide quarterly updates of District activities

- Educational outreach activities** included sponsoring an Envirothon team, conducted the annual 6th grade Natural Resources Tour, provided outreach information and educational activities at county fairs, held a speech contest at the District level, participated in Ag Days at Mackay School
- Hosted several **local work group meetings** to provide the NRCS with direction for utilizing

funding in 2022 as well as drafting two initiative proposals

- The District conducted **Cheatgrass Challenge monitoring** for landowners enrolled in this NRCS program
- Held an **electronic waste recycling day** during the summer
- Hosted a public meeting for the **antelope migration route fence retrofit** initiative funding request



Envirothon Team



No-till drill in use

- Established tillage test plots** in association with Butte County UI Extension
- Rented the no-till drill** for use on 1,084 acres
- Provided engineering funding assistance** for a pipeline conversion project

FY2021 Funding:

Source	Amount
State	\$31,030.62
Counties	\$10,360.00
Grants	\$24,000.00
RC&D admin. assistance reimbursement	\$1,014.14
No-till drill rent	\$8,035.00
Stockmanship manual sales	\$321.00
NRCS cost-share funding	\$4,251,854.50
TOTAL	\$4,326,614.76

A special thanks for the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission for providing Capacity Building funds to help sponsor District activities and workshops

FY2021 NRCS Contract Load

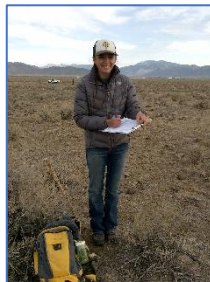
The NRCS obtained **39 new contracts, benefiting 33,878.6 acres** and provided **\$4.25 million financial assistance** for landowners. Contracts were obtained in the general EQIP, general CSP, and Regional Conservation Partnership Program-EQIP



Public Meeting for Antelope Migration Corridor Fence Retrofit Project



Speech contest winners



TA Grant Employee Sam Spaulding



Electronic waste recycling day



NRCS funded irrigation ditch lining project in-progress

Board Supervisor and Staff Service Recognition:

We would like to recognize **Randy Purser**, for 35 years of service on the board of supervisors

Long-time District employee **Frances Perkes** retired after 37 years of service



District Manager Frances Perkes

Future Goals and Plans:

- **Promote landowner participation** in NRCS' programs to increase conservation practices in the District
- **Actively drive wise conservation decisions** in the District
- **Conduct educational outreach** activities for youth and adults
- **Support irrigation efficiency** conservation practices
- **Promote conservation** of wildlife habitat
- **Promote invasive weed removal** programs provided through NRCS and partner programs
- **Enhance relationships** with partner agencies to promote natural resource conservation
- **Follow the annual plan of work** developed by the District



Find us on Facebook

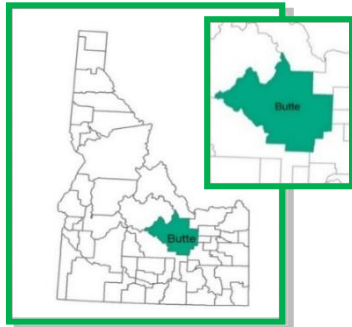
@ButteSoilAndWaterConservationDistrict

Butte SWCD Performance Report: January – December 2022

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The District covers all of **Butte County** and the Southern portion of **Custer County**. This area encompasses the cities of Arco, Butte City, Howe, Mackay and Moore.

Legislative Districts: 8 and 30



FY2022 Accomplishments

- The Butte SWCD received a fifth year of **NACD/NRCS Technical Assistance**



Conservation Tour

Grant funding

- Educational outreach activities** included sponsoring an Envirothon team, sponsoring youth to attend Natural Resources Camp,

conducted the annual 6th grade Natural Resources Tour, provided outreach information and educational activities at county fairs, held a speech contest at the District level, participated in Ag Days at Mackay School, and held a conservation tour near Howe

- Hosted a **local work group meeting** to provide the NRCS with direction for utilizing

funding in 2023. The meeting was attended by 30 landowners and conservation partners

- The District **received several grants** to conduct forest education events, purchase equipment for the local farmer’s market, help purchase fish screens for an irrigation system. A WQPA award was also received to improve water quality and quantity on a farm near Moore



6th Grade Natural Resources Tour



District Board receiving grant award

- Rented the no-till drill** for use on 650 acres
- Provided an educational scholarship** for a District employee to take classes needed for NRCS employment

FY2022 Funding:

Source	Amount
State	\$34,203.52
Counties	\$10,670.80
Grants	\$54,750.00
Contract Services	\$5,592.90
No-till drill rent	\$7,896.00
Stockmanship manual sales	\$92.00
NRCS cost-share funding	\$1,918,328.64
Water Quality Program for Agriculture (WQPA)	\$335,177.00
TOTAL	\$2,366,710.86

A special thanks for the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission for providing Capacity Building funds to help sponsor District activities and workshops

FY2022 NRCS Contract Load

The NRCS obtained **45 new contracts, benefiting 15,811 acres** and provided **\$1.9 million financial assistance** for landowners. Contracts were obtained in the general EQIP, general CSP, and Regional Conservation Partnership Program-EQIP programs.



Local working group public meeting



Speech Contest Winners



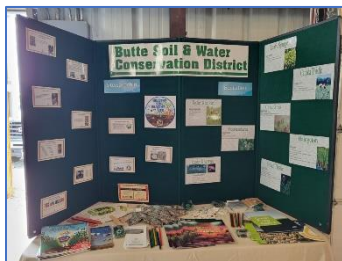
TA Grant Employee Sara Zollinger



Natural Resource Camp campers



NRCS Beaver Dam Analog Installation



Educational County Fair Display



NRCS funded irrigation ditch to pipeline conversion project



Forest Education Grant Activity

Future Goals and Plans:

- **Promote landowner participation** in NRCS' programs to increase conservation practices in the District
- **Actively drive wise conservation decisions** in the District
- **Conduct educational outreach** activities for youth and adults
- **Support irrigation efficiency** conservation practices
- **Promote conservation** of wildlife habitat
- **Promote invasive weed removal** programs provided through NRCS and partner programs
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