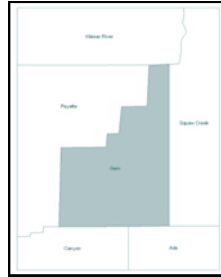


Gem Soil & Water Conservation District



1857 Highway 16, Suite B
Emmett, Idaho 83617
Phone: (208) 963-4693
www.facebook.com/GemSWCD
Leanne.buck@id.nacdnet.net

SWCD Board Meetings: First

Top 5 Natural Resource Concerns

1. Water Quality
2. Irrigated Cropland
3. Public Outreach/ Information & Education
4. Rangeland
5. Urban

FY 2021 Revenue

County Funding	\$ 6,250.00
State Funding	18,175.31
NRCS Funds	408,806.00
319 Grant Funds	77,735.94
Total	\$522,188.16

Significant FY 2021 Projects:

319 Pivot Project

Two center pivots were installed on 78 acres of furrow irrigated cropland. The irrigation runoff from these fields drain to the Silver Leaf drain. The 2018 DEQ monitoring results showed that the Gem SWCD should concentrate their efforts in the Silver Leaf drainage area as it exhibited significantly higher inputs sediment, bacteria, and nitrogen. Maximum load reduced by 356.55 tons of sediment, 570.48 lbs phosphorus, and 1140.96lbs nitrogen.



Community Tree Planting



Gem SWCD sponsored the purchase and planting of a 17ft Colorado Blue Spruce in the Bowman Memorial Park in Emmett. In years past, the park has served the community in its annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony with a donated cut tree, which proved to be a challenge some years.

The planting supports our mission of conservation and this year's stewardship theme, "Healthy Forests, Healthy Communities". We were pleased to offer this opportunity for our community and educate on the importance that planting trees has for a community and the environment.

Shadow Butte Elementary Outdoor

Classroom and Pollinator Garden Phase II

Gem SWCD recently completed Phase II of the pollinator garden/outdoor classroom at Shadow Butte Elementary. The Garden has two raised vegetable garden boxes made by our local ag welding class at the Emmett High School, forty-six pollinator attracting perennials, and a large interpretive sign for interactive activities and education in the garden setting.



Education/Outreach

2021 Theme “Healthy Forests, Healthy Communities.”

2021 Poster Contest Winners

The winners this year came from Carberry Elementary School and Shadow Butte Elementary. Prizes were awarded for First, Second, Third, and Honorable Mention posters. They went on to compete at Division level.



Gem SWCD actively promotes conservation through education and outreach:

- Distributed 250 Ponderosa Pine tree seedlings to students in Gem County during Arbor Day and explained the importance of planting trees/renewable resources.
- Sponsored 250 fifth grade students in the poster contest.
- Published a district newsletter to keep farmers and ranchers in the District informed, mailing to 725 subscribers twice a year.
- Promoted education and conservation through a District Facebook page.
- Sponsored a pollinator flower entry for the local Gem/Boise County Fair.
- Educated Preschoolers about the importance of pollinators with a hands-on bumble bee, paper mâché' craft and educational brochures to take home.



No-Till Drill



The Gem SWCD educates and promotes the use of reduce-till farming practices to conserve and protect organic matter in the soil, reduce erosion, promote biodiversity in and around the soil, and increase water absorption. This year our No-till Drill was rented out and used by 8 producers on over 153 acres in the Gem and Squaw Creek Soil & Water Conservation Districts.

Future Plans/Projects

The 5-Year Plan of Work continues to be the focus and guiding document for the Gem SWCD. Some of the information for statutory requirements are:

Load reductions-

Lower Payette River - 33% for bacteria at the confluence of the Lower Payette River and Snake River.

Snake River – Hells Canyon TMDL 30% for phosphorus .

*Bissel Creek – 34% reduction in sediment
87% reduction in bacteria*

*In 2023 the District will do 5-year monitoring.
Gem SWCD has members on the Lower Payette Watershed Advisory Group.*

The Gem SWCD will continue to promote natural resource conservation through outreach and education programs for local youth, landowners, and future farmers and ranchers. Future workshops to educate landowners are in the planning stages but postponed due to the pandemic.

Education to landowners, students, and the general public is a priority with the Gem SWCD and one that requires continued commitment and participation in activities such as National Stewardship Week with the Poster and Speech Contests. Arbor Day, Ag Day and other means of education or information on natural resources. The District continues to apply for grant funding to provide local landowners financial assistance for conservation projects.

Funds awarded to the Gem SWCD by the Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission were spent on outreach and education.



Gem Soil And Water Conservation District

Board of Supervisors and Staff

Kirk Vickery, Chairman

Tim McFarlane, Vice-Chairman

Jim Hutchison, Treasurer

Cliff Fivecoat, Secretary

Maggie Sisler, Supervisor

Leanne Buck, Administrative Assistant

The District's mission is to set high standards for conservation of soil, water and related natural resources, and encourage cooperation among landowners, government agencies, private organizations and elected officials, through education, technical support, and financial assistance.

**IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**PERFORMANCE
REPORT
CERTIFICATION**

DISTRICT:

Gem SWCD

FOR YEAR:

FY 2021

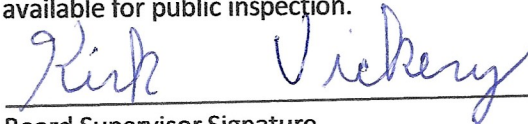
DUE :

December 20, 2021

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

Kirk Vickery

Printed Name

December 6, 2021

Date

(208)963-4693

District Telephone

Leanne.Buck@id.nacdnet.net

District Email Address

FOR SWC USE ONLY:

DATE OF CONFIRMATION: