

Gem Soil and Water Conservation District

Fact Sheet

General Information: The Gem Soil and Water Conservation District was formed in 1954 to provide voluntary land and water conservation technical and financial assistance to landowners and users within the District boundary. The major soil and water conservation needs in the district today are soil protection on cropland, animal waste management, irrigation water management, and land reclamation.

Mission (or Function):

- 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.
- Coordinate conservation activities and disseminate natural resources information to organizations and the public in Gem SWCD.

FY 2013 Accomplishments:

- Worked with NRCS to help 11 landowners with cost-sharing on installation of best management practices.
- Used 319 funds to install a pivot irrigation system on the Emmett bench, with an estimated reduction of 234 tons of sediment load annually flowing into the Lower Payette River.
- Contracted best management practices on 366 acres in the District to include;
 - Drip Irrigation
 - Windbreaks
 - Cover Crops
 - Fire Break Green Strip
 - Spring Development/Livestock Well



Filter Station with timing device to emit drip lines on mint field and corn

Future Plans and Projects:

- Focus on load reductions of 33% bacteria at the confluence of the Lower Payette and Snake Rivers, 30% phosphorus in Hells Canyon and 34% reduction in sediment and 87% reduction of bacteria in Bissel Creek.
- Continue to educate landowners, students and the general public through the sponsorship of multiple outreach and educational workshops.

FY 2013 District Funding:

Base Allocation	\$	8,500
Local Funding	\$	5,000
Capacity Building	\$	1,000
State Match	\$	<u>6,840</u>
	\$	21,340

Gem SWCD
1805 Hwy 16 Room 1
Emmett ID 83617

Kirk Vickery-Chair
208-365-4212

District Documents

Prepared by Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission