

# Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District Fact Sheet

## General Information:

The Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District was organized in 1955 and spent its first five years helping farmer's level land, build irrigation structures, and develop proper crop rotation. This year Steve Bradshaw was awarded 2012 Co-operator of the Year at the Annual Awards Banquet.

**Mission (or Function):** Deliver natural resource technology and education, to promote wise use of natural resources and to promote management practices to ensure a sustainable natural resource base for present and future generations of producers in Minidoka County.



No-till Drill

## FY 2013 Accomplishments:

- Continued to work on a two-year Nitrate Priority Area contract with 505 acres participating in the program to incentivize farmers to implement nutrient management, precision agriculture, and high-intensity irrigation water management.
- Took part in BPA/High Country RC&D Ag Energy Efficiency Program, in partner with United Electric Cooperative, to offer energy savings opportunities for businesses where the operation requires significant energy use.
- Jointly participated with NRCS to assist with the A&B project, which consists of ten miles of pipeline to convert 118 cfs of water to provide more efficient irrigation on 4500 acres in Minidoka County.

## Future Plans and Projects:

- Minidoka has applied for a Source Water Protection Grant for community outreach to educate local farmers on the use of no-till drilling and teach landowners to properly close abandoned wells.

- Minidoka has applied jointly with East & West Cassia districts for a Conservation Innovation Grant from NRCS to purchase a no-till drill to rent out to local farmers. This program will also help supply landowners with cover crop seed.
- Attend Minico High School's Ag Advisory Meetings to help inform students and teachers about upcoming contests and events, including the Land & Soil Evaluation Event, Speech Contest, Scholarship Programs and the annual Envirothon.

## FY 2013 District Funding:

Base Allocation	\$	8,500
Local Funding	\$	3,000
State Match	\$	<u>4,104</u>
	\$	15,604

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District Documents

Prepared by Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission