

Portneuf Soil and Water Conservation District Fact Sheet

General Information: The Portneuf Soil and Water Conservation District was organized in 1940. The district contains 741,120 acres with about 254,244 acres of privately owned farmland. The topsoil of Bannock County is very erosive and the District assists dryland farmers using a variety of conservation practices including terraces, strip cropping and chiseling and surface residue to capture water in the soil and reduce soil runoff and erosion

Mission (or Function):

- To coordinate technical, financial, and educational assistance for responsible natural resources management that conserve and improves air, soil, and water quality and fish and wildlife habitat.

FY 2013 Accomplishments:

- Completed the North Channel reconstruction of Pebble Creek, which is a spawning creek for the native Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout. Pebble Creek is a large tributary to the Portneuf River, a 303(d) listed stream. Willows were planted and sedge mats laid for bank stability and critical fish habitat. One remaining BMP to install is buck and pole fence which will protect the newly formed riparian zone from livestock grazing.
- Installed four wire fence, a corral fence, corral berm and waste containments.
- Began a new project with USFWS to establish a corridor on Rapid Creek for beavers to build their dams and function naturally, yet steer them away from building in culverts and threaten human establishments.

Future Plans and Projects:

- Continue to seek additional grants or other funding opportunities for BMP's and outreach education.



Fully restored and fully functioning South Channel of Pebble Creek



Beaver Habitat Restoration near Hoot Owl Road

FY 2013 District Funding:

Base Allocation	\$	8,500
Local Funding	\$	16,257
Capacity Building	\$	1,000
State Match	\$	<u>22,241</u>
	\$	47,998

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District Documents

Prepared by Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission