CLARK SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
302 PROFIT STREET
REXBURG, IDAHO 83440

FIVE-YEAR RESOURCE CONSERVATION

BUSINESS PLAN

2014 - 2019

Index

Cover page photo – Irrigated Cropland in Clark County

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Executive Summary or Forward

The Clark Soil Conservation District is one of 50 Conservation Districts in Idaho. Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Districts are political subdivisions of state government but are not state agencies. Conservation Districts are charged with carrying out a program for the conservation, use and development of soil, water, and other natural resources.

Conservation Districts are the primary entities to provide assistance to private landowners and land users in the conservation, sustainment, improvement and enhancement of Idaho's natural resources. They are catalysts for coordinating and implementing conservation programs, channeling expertise from all levels of government into action at the local level. Programs are nonregulatory; science-based technical assistance, incentive–based financial programs and informational and educational programs at the local level.

Both by legislation and by agreement, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service provides technical assistance to landowners and land users through Conservation Districts. Each Conservation District in Idaho has a signed Mutual Agreement with the Secretary of Agricultural and the Governor of Idaho that establishes a framework for cooperation.

This Annual Plan/Five-Year Resource Conservation Business Plan was developed not only to guide the Conservation District, but also to encourage cooperation among landowners, government agencies, private organizations, and elected officials. Through knowledge and cooperation, all concerned can ensure a sustainable natural resource base for present and future generations in the Clark Soil Conservation District.

This document identifies the resource needs in the Conservation District and presents a resource conservation action plan for meeting these needs.

Mission of the Clark Soil Conservation District

To take available Technical, Financial and Educational resources, whatever their source, and focus or coordinate them so that they meet the needs of the local land user for conservation of Soil, Water and related resources. Also, to protect and improve the natural resources in Clark County for landowners to use for generations to come.

Vision of the Clark Soil Conservation District

The vision of the district is to provide landowners and users with a legal mechanism whereby they might cooperate with one another and with state, local and federal agencies in establishing sound soil and water conservation measures within the district. Also, to encourage each landowner to put all land and water resources to the most beneficial use and to treat each acre in accordance with its needs for protection and improvement.

Values of the Clark Soil Conservation District

- Sustainable use of natural resources
- Support for agriculture activity that uses sustainable, economic feasible practices
- Value and respect for the Idaho Conservation Partnership
- Conservation education for adults and youth

Clark SCD History

Livestock was the first and is still the principal agricultural industry in eastern Idaho's Clark County. The northern half of the county forms part of the Continental Divide. Canyons and creeks draining to the south dissect this mountainous timber country. The mountains produce about 200,000 acre-feet of water annually, but due to seepage losses many streams run dry before they can be used. Water from the mountain streams irrigates only about 15,000 acres in the SCD. Rolling *lava* plains make up the southern half of the district. Hay, wheat, and potatoes are the main crops raised in the district.

Water conservation was the major problem mentioned by ranchers and farmers at a 1956 public hearing on forming the Clark Soil Conservation District. Because water conservation was so important to sustaining and building agriculture in the area, the Clark County Chamber of Commerce strongly supported forming the new district. Following the hearing, landowners voted by a 92 percent margin to organize the SCD to include all of Clark County except Dubois, this was annexed to the district in 1976. The Clark SCD was officially organized on September 5, 1956.

Sherman Halverson, Kilgore; Stacy Bond, Small; and George Thomas, Daniel Thomas, and Howard Frederiksen, Dubois, were the first supervisors of the Clark SCD.

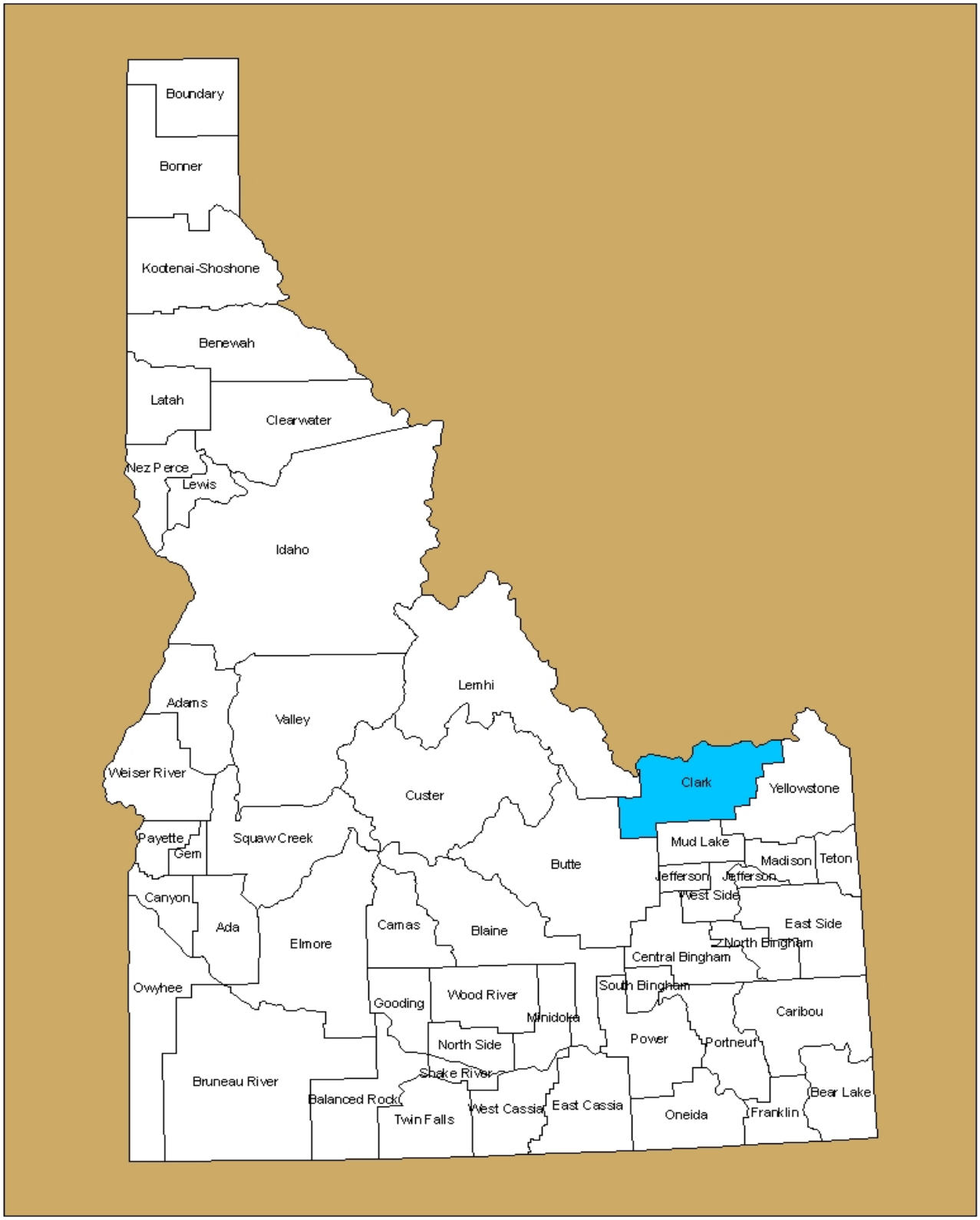
Since the SCD was organized, the amount of irrigated land in Clark County has jumped from 13,207 to 62,600 acres. Most of the new irrigated land was formerly rangeland. Only about 20,000 acres are classified as dry farmland. Today more than 680,000 acres of federal, state, and private land are used for grazing.

Both wind and water cause erosion on dry farmland and rangeland in the Clark SCD. Water shortages still occur in late summers; water conservation is an important part of the district's program. Erosion is a problem on rangeland in the district. Additional sources of water are needed for both livestock and wildlife. To improve management of intermingled grazing lands, the SCD supports coordinated rangeland planning.

Each year the Clark SCD provides technical assistance to landowners and operators on a variety of soil and water conservation practices. Some of the more popular conservation measures being adopted in the district today are conservation tillage, brush control, irrigation water management, windbreaks, grazing management, use of crop residue, and irrigation system improvements.

The Clark SCD supports and encourages habitat for big game including moose, deer, elk, and bear in the higher elevations and antelope in the lowlands. This area also supports numerous high-quality fisheries and game birds including one of the largest sage grouse populations in Idaho. Located near intensively used recreation areas such as Yellowstone National Park, Clark County's rural character offers tremendous opportunity for recreational growth.

SECTION 1: Physical Characteristics of the District
(IDAPA.60.05.02.025.01)



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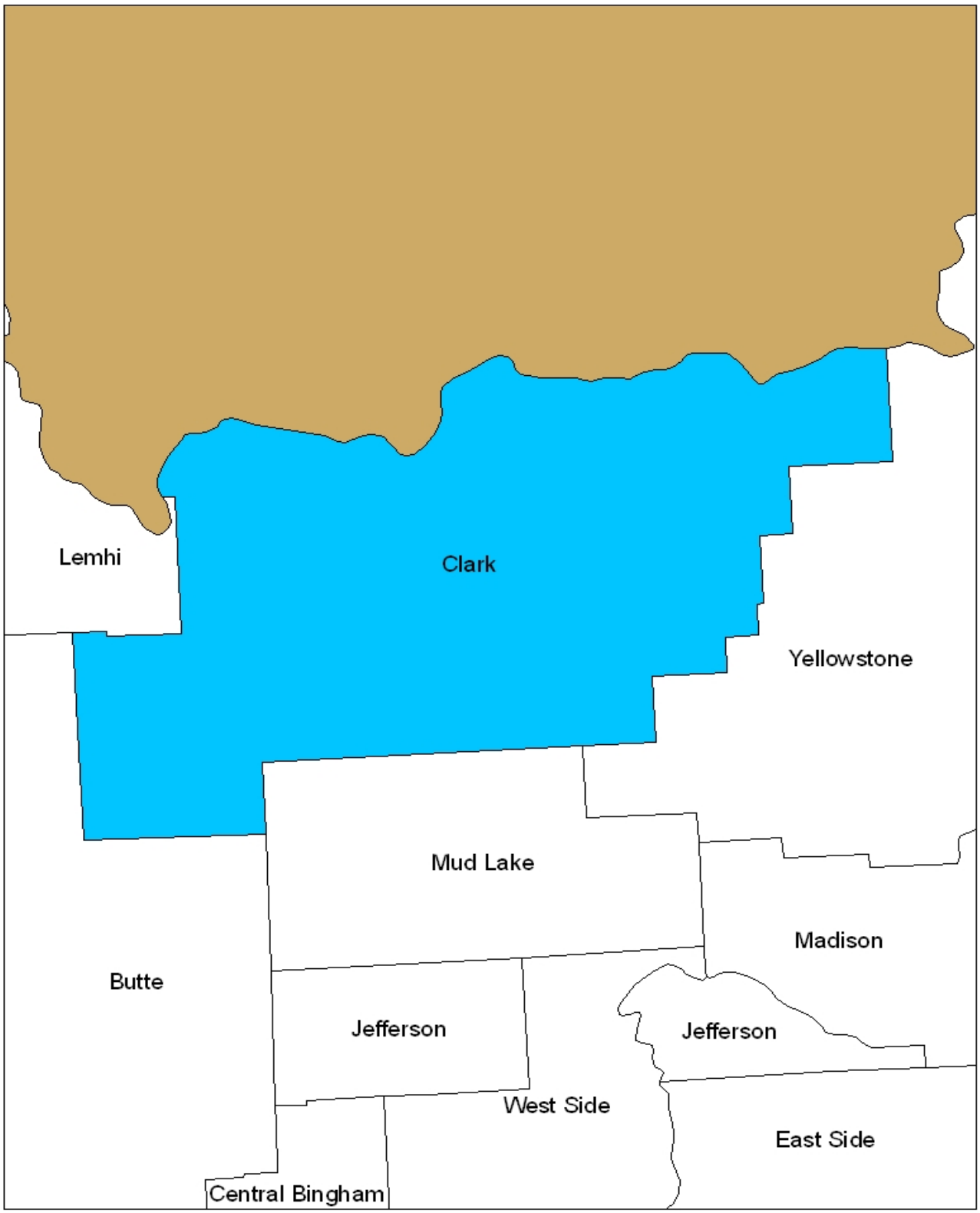

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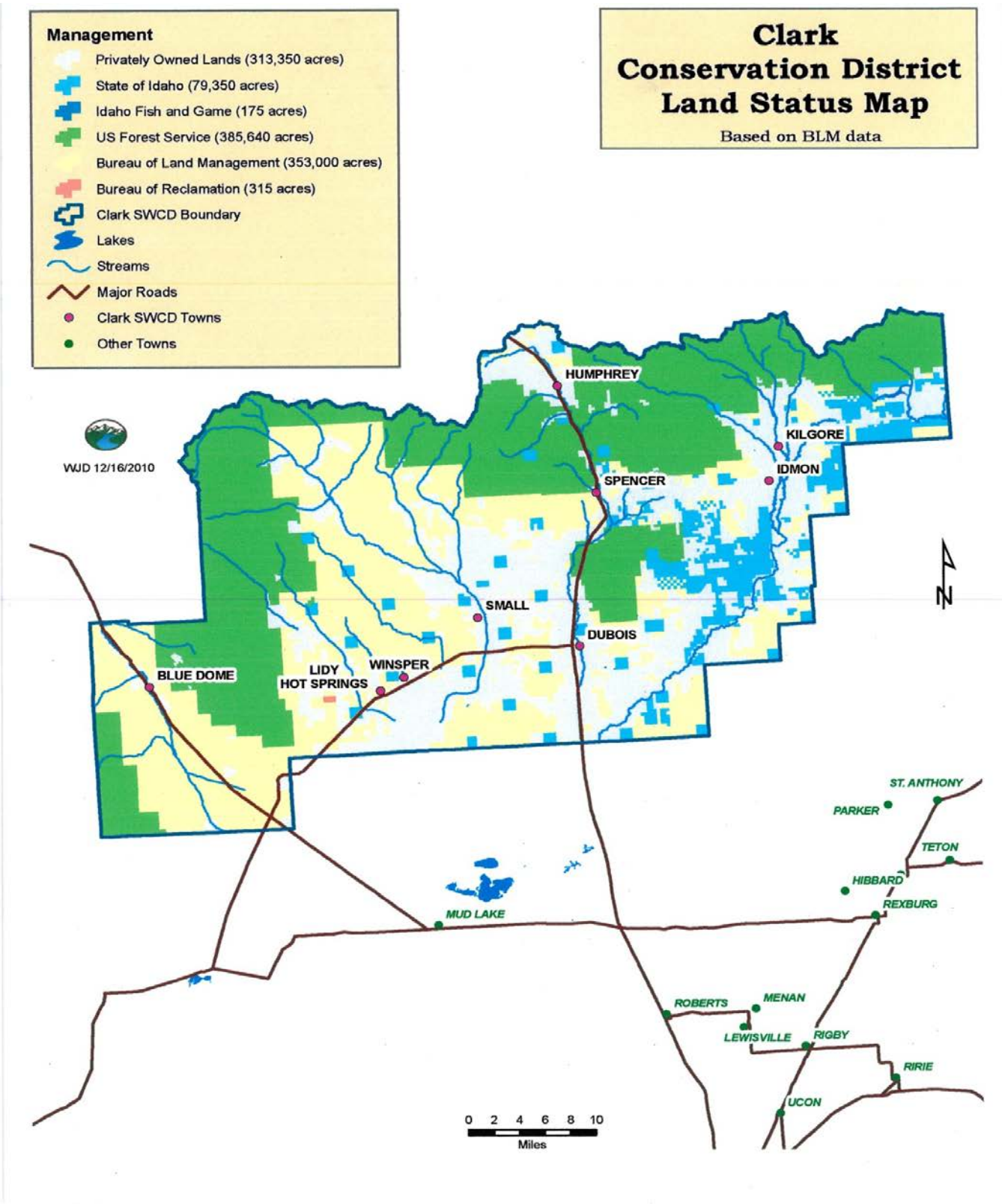

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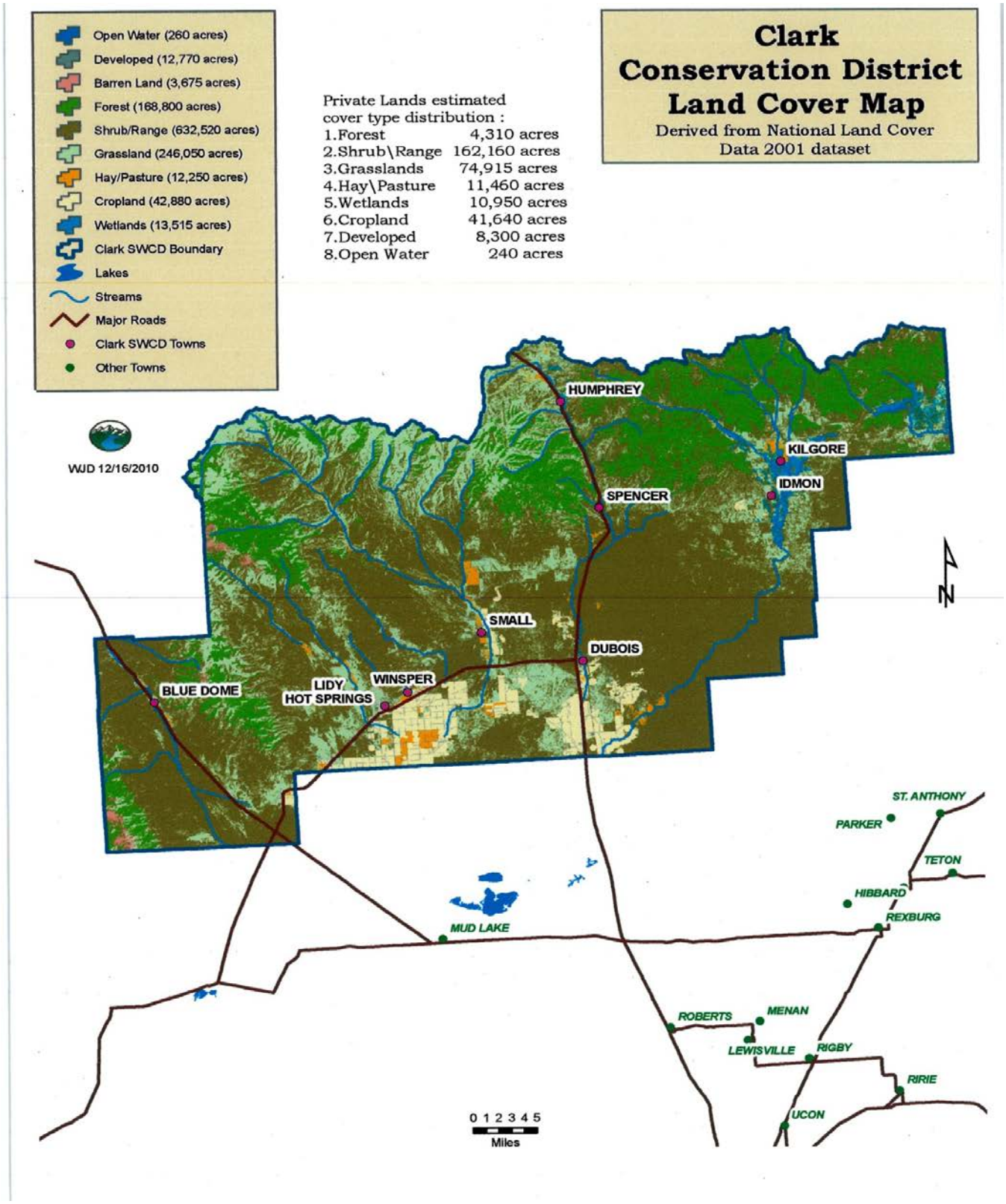

SECTION 2: Economic Conditions and Outlook (IDAPA.60.05.02.025.02)

Population, Labor Force & Employment

Clark County has the smallest population in the state at just 869 in 2012. Over the last decade the population dropped slightly below 900 in 2003 after peaking at over 1,000 in 2000 before the last recession. Clark County has just one person for every two square miles, severely limiting its labor force but also providing plenty of open space. Population may drop again with the loss of an Idahoan Foods processing plant, which was previously one of the largest employers in the area. Clark County is highly dependent on agriculture, food manufacturing and government for its employment.

With a small labor force and population, unemployment rates can fluctuate significantly. The 2012 unemployment rate at 6.6 percent remained below state and national levels. Unemployment in the agriculturally dependent county spiked from 2001 to 2005 because of water shortages. The county experienced a steady decline in its labor force from 1998 to 2002 before it began slowly rebounding. The population is aging as younger people are drawn away by urban education and employment.

Farming is the largest industry. Over 66 percent of the land is owned by the federal government and another 7 percent by the state. The majority is considered rangeland, and sheep are a major commodity. The U.S Department of Agriculture operates a research faculty, which studies and develops new breeds of sheep. Among the other industrial sectors, manufacturing provides the most jobs at 40 percent. Government, primarily the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is the second largest sector, employing 36 percent of workers. The county is located on the Montana border and includes part of the Continental Divide. The city of Dubois is virtually the last place of refuge when winter storms intermittently cause closure of Interstate 15.

Labor Force	Oct 12	Oct 13
Civilian Labor Force	589	534
Total Employment	553	499
Unemployed	36	35
% of Labor Force Unemployed	6.2	6.6
State of Idaho % Unemployed	6.6	6.7
U.S. % Unemployed	7.9	7.3

Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 2002, 2011 & 2012	2002		2011		2012	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	509	$22,483	536	$37,022	470	$36,435
Agriculture	70	$29,716	121	$29,274	146	$32,020
Mining	*	*	0	$0	0	$0
Construction	0	$0	*	*	*	*
Manufacturing	*	*	175	$41,569	18	$44,770
Trade, Utilities, & Transportation	37	$11,028	26	$22,329	73	$34,214
Information	*	*	9	$44,460	8	$40,992
Financial Activities	13	$28,177	10	$95,939	10	$59,853
Professional and Business Services	*	*	46	$56,390	66	$51,606
Educational and Health Services	*	*	4	$23,963	*	*
Leisure and Hospitality	10	$4,055	*	*	*	*
Other Services	0	$0	0	$0	*	*
Government	175	$23,567	145	$30,673	143	$32,022

SECTION 2: Economic Conditions and Outlook (IDAPA.60.05.02.025.02)

Per Capita Income	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Clark County	$30,419	$29,684	$28,427	$27,088	$30,089	$37,629	$36,454	$31,240	$44,283	$49,413
State of Idaho	$27,086	$28,961	$29,973	$32,019	$33,038	$32,796	$31,629	$32,076	$33,436	$34,481
United States	$32,676	$34,300	$35,888	$38,127	$39,804	$40,873	$39,357	$40,163	$42,298	$43,735

Trends Impacting Conservation in the Clark Soil Conservation District

- Continued reduction in state funding which further reduces the district's efforts to be as effective in conservation.
- Unfunded mandates as it affects agricultural, natural resource and forest management.
- Endangered Species Act mandates and enforcement.
- Urban development and absentee landowners.
- Recreational use and its impact to agricultural management.

Strategies to Address Trends (IDAPA. 60.05.02.025.03)

- Develop a legislative outreach program to address funding shortfalls from State funds.
- Secure funding to address agricultural mandates and landowner private property rights.
- Implementation of water quality and water quantity projects to improve fish passage and wildlife habitat within the District to help address ESA issues.
- Continue an active information and education program for landowners to address urban development.

Status of the Agricultural Economy and Outlook (IDAPA.60.05.02.025.02)

The right of agriculture to exist and continue to operate is protected by Idaho law. Given the rural nature of the county, local ordinances and resolutions must not conflict with the right to farm protections for agricultural operations in *Idaho Code, Title 22, Agriculture and Horticulture, Chapter 45, Right to Farm*.

High-density residential development defined as more than one home per acre, or conflicting development should be directed away from irrigated agricultural land, taking into consideration the following factors:

1. Potential crop productivity
2. Availability of water
3. Grazing potential
4. Environmental factors
5. Availability of public services
6. Historical land use practices

Lands designated for agricultural use are suitable for all types of agricultural and range operations, as well as single family homes, including manufactured homes, and accessory buildings necessary for agricultural operations.

Existing commercial, industrial, and residential land uses, home-based businesses and occupations and livelihoods are historical uses and will be allowed and will be managed to minimize the impacts on agriculture. Non-agricultural uses that could have adverse impacts on agricultural land use areas must be carefully reviewed.

Pasture/Hayland:

Pasture and hayland is limited throughout the sub basin, reasonably considered a subset of the other major land uses, such as cropland and rangeland. Pasture/hayland is typically irrigated; however, non-irrigated riparian areas are used for forage for domestic animals. Irrigated pastureland includes low elevation pastures and high elevation mountain valleys. Pasture/Hayland can be found throughout the sub basin. The elevation of the sub basin ranges from approximately 5,000 feet south of Dubois to almost 10,000 feet along the continental divide. Precipitation ranges from less than 10 inches to 30 inches. Between the Jacoby Ranch and Eighteen Mile Shearing Corrals, located along Camas Creek, the soils are medium textured and dark colored. They have formed chiefly in wind deposited material over basalt bedrock. Much of this area is characterized by a landscape of volcanic cones, craters, fissure vents and rock outcrops along pressure ridges and tumuli on the lava flows. The soils are used for rangeland pasture and wildlife refuge. In the Kilgore area, the soil is generally moderately fine textured and has a high water table. The soil color is very dark due to wetness. Pasture plants are introduced perennial forage species, such as Timothy, Smooth Brome grass, Meadow Foxtail, and Orchard Grass or native grass/rush/sedge complexes. Hayland plants consist of Grain and Alfalfa Hay grown in rotation.

Irrigated Cropland (Sprinkler and Surface Irrigated):

Conventionally tilled, cultivated cropland with a potato/grain rotation. Other commonly raised crops include barley, dry peas, wheat, oats, alfalfa, grass hay, and nursery stock. Elevation ranges from less than 5,000 feet to 6,600 feet and precipitation ranges from less than 10 inches to 30 inches. Most of the irrigated land is situated near the 5,200 foot level, except at Kilgore, which is approximately 6,200 feet. A large majority of the cropland is located in the southern portion of the sub basin, near Hamer and the Camas National Wildlife Refuge. In the Camas National Wildlife Refuge, small grain crops are grown for wildlife and haying and prescribed fires are used for management purposes. The southern part of the sub basin consists of lava fields and lava flows of basalt covered by Eolian sands and loess deposits. The Clark County drainage soils are well-drained soils that formed in mixed alluvium on stream terraces. The soils are medium and coarse textured and usually effervescent with reaction to acid. Carbonates are present at the surface and extend through the subsoil. The soils are used for both cropland and rangeland. Soil series consist of Idmonton, Kilgore, Alex, Malm, Matheson, Hagenbarth, Crabcreek, and Richvale; ranging from 0 to 12 percent slopes. It is very difficult to give a generalized estimate on erosion hazards. Soil ratings in this area may be from slight to very severe erosion potential. Factors such as slope and depth to bedrock vary greatly with soils within these map units. The land capability classes of the dominant soils are 4c, 4e, 5w, and 6e. The available water holding capacity ranges from 0.03 to 0.21 inches of water per inch of soil for the major soil types in this area.

Rangeland:

Rangeland is typical of high elevation desert habitat. Rangeland and adjacent riparian corridors are grazed predominantly by cattle and sheep. A significant portion of the Beaver Creek drainage near Dubois is owned and operated by the U.S. Sheep Experiment Station. Elevation ranges from 5,000 feet to 7,200 feet and precipitation ranges from less than 10 inches to 30 inches. Near Monida Pass, the soils are moderately fine to medium textured, and have formed in calcareous sandstone, siltstone, and shale's. The soils of this area are used almost exclusively for rangeland and wildlife habitat. From approximately Indian Creek east to Idmon, the soils have formed in glacial outwash and residuum from rhyolite. They are dark-colored, medium textured, and used primarily for rangeland. Soil series consist of Blacknoll, Jipper, Jacoby, Eaglecone, Pyrenees, Hotspot, Nayrib, Pinebutte, Vadnais, Stoneman, Maremma, Crystalbutte, Cinderbutte, Malm, Matheson, Becreek, Mogg, Buist, Kilgore, and Idmonton;

ranging from 0 to 12 percent slopes, except 5 to 35 percent slopes on crater/butte side slopes. It is very difficult to give a generalized estimate on erosion hazards. Soil ratings in this area may be from slight to very severe erosion potential. Factors such as slope and depth to bedrock vary greatly with soils within these map units. The land capability class of the dominant soils range from 3e to 4e. However, soils that are shallow, rocky or wet are rated at 5w, 6e, 7e, 6s, and 7s. The available water holding capacity ranges from 0.3 to? inches of water per foot of soil for the major soil types in this area. Rangeland management practices typically follow planned grazing systems to include rest and rotation of pastures. This system is augmented with stock water pipelines and tanks to provide watering to the grazing units. The northern part of the watershed is mountainous, formed by the continental divide. Mostly timber covered, Douglas fir is the main tree species, but Lodgepole Pine, Limber Pine, Engelmann Spruce, and Quaking Aspen are common. Shrub species include: Antelope Bitterbrush, Basin Big Sagebrush, Broom Snakeweed, Horse brush, Juniper, Mountain Big Sagebrush, Rabbit brush, three tip Sagebrush, and Wyoming Big Sagebrush. Forbs include: Arrow leaf Balsamroot, Aster, Buckwheat Spp., Bushy Birds beak, Buttercup, Death Camas, Globe Mallow, Larkspur, Lupine, Onion, Phlox, Prickly Pear Cactus, Puss toes, Taper tip Hawks beard, Western Yarrow, Wooly pod Milkvetch, and Russian Thistle. Grass species include: Basin Wildrye, Bluebunch Wheatgrass, Bluegrass spp, Idaho Fescue, Indian Rice grass, Mountain Brome, Needle-and-Thread, Prairie June grass, and Timothy. Rangeland east of Dubois is part of the Egin-Hamer wildlife closure area, which provides winter habitat for migrating herds of antelope, deer, elk, and moose. There is an emphasis on sage grouse study and management because the area has one of the largest populations of sage grouse in the state. The entire drainage possesses and supports numerous species of raptors. The sagebrush grassland also provides habitat for badger, coyote, fox, and raccoons.

Grazed Forest:

Forest resource use consists of private and public lands that are grazed by cattle and sheep, harvested for timber, and sources of recreational activities. Elevation ranges from 5,600 feet to 9,000 feet and precipitation ranges from less than 10 inches to 30 inches. Soil series consist of Koffgo, Monida, Zeebar, Edgway, Fitzwil, Vitricryands, Cryumbrepts-Rock Outcrop, Fourme, and Cryaquolls, poorly drained; ranging from 0 to 60 percent slopes. It is very difficult to give a generalized estimate on erosion hazards. Soil ratings in this area may be from slight to very severe erosion potential. Factors such as slope and depth to bedrock vary greatly with soils within these map units. Soil property and interpretation tables are listed by unit in the Targhee National Forest ecological unit inventory. The major limitations associated with the specific soil/units for this drainage are as follows: Fencing is severely limited because of rocky soils; unsurfaced roads and parking areas are severely limited because of soils having low strength; the use of heavy equipment for rangeland management is severely limited off-road vehicle use is severely limited because the soils erode easily and compact easily. The slopes of some units have a high potential for mass movement. Slump–earth flows and small slumps are common in the drainage ways. Shallow excavations and dwellings without basements are severely limited because of slope. Pond reservoir areas are severely limited because of seepage and slope. The potential off-road vehicle use is severely limited because the soils erode easily and compact easily. The slopes of some units have a high potential for mass movement. Slump–earth flows and small slumps are common in the drainage ways. Shallow excavations and dwellings without basements are severely limited because of slope. Pond reservoir areas are severely limited because of seepage and slope. The potential for runoff from rain events or snowmelt is high. Evidence of overland and concentrated flows is common. The soils have reduced infiltration rates because of strong, coarse structure and hydrophobic

conditions in the surface layers. The available water holding capacity ranges from 0.1 to 0.23 inches of water per inch of soil for the major soil types in this area. The most abundant tree species include: Douglas fir, Lodge pole Pine, Quaking Aspen, Sub-Alpine Fir, and White bark pine. Shrub species include: Currants, Huckleberry, Mountain Big Sagebrush, Snowberry, Spirea, and Willow Spp. Forbs include: Mesic Forbs, Marsh Marigold, Milkvetch, Prairie-Smoke, Sticky Cinquefoil, and Sticky Geranium. Grass species include Bluebunch Wheatgrass, Bluegrass, California brome, Idaho fescue, and Pine grass.

Erosion

Sheet and rill erosion by water on croplands and pasturelands in this watershed have been essentially static since 1982. Sheet and rill erosion is not a major issue on cropland in this subbasin. Susceptibility to sheet and rill erosion is low in this subbasin because the natural precipitation is low and the cropland is relatively flat. Controlling erosion not only sustains the long-term productivity of the land, but also affects the amount of soil, pesticides, fertilizer, and other substances that move into the nation's waters. Wind erosion has decreased by slightly more than 2 tons per acre per year on cropland, pasture and CRP in this subbasin between 1982 and 1997. Following a spike in wind erosion to approximately 10 tons per acre per year in 1987, wind erosion has decreased to approximately 5.5 tons per acre per year in 1997. Conservation practices that can be used to address wind erosion include: surface wetting, surface roughening, windbreak, seedbed preparation (delayed seeding), mulching, and pasture and hayland planting.

USFWS Endangered Species listings and occurrences for Clark County, Idaho

Summary of Animal, Fish and Bird listings

Status	Species
T	Bear, grizzly lower 48 States, except where listed as an experimental population or delisted (*Ursus arctos horribilis*)
T	Lynx, Canada (*Lynx canadensis*)
C	Yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus)*
C	Greater sage-grouse *(Centrocercus urophasianus)*
P	North American Wolverine *(Gulo gulo Liscus)*

Summary of Plant listings

Status	Species
C	Whitebark Pine *(Pinus albicaulis)*

T - Threatened Species
C - Candidate Species
P - Proposed Species

SECTION 3: Assessment
(IDAPA.60.05.02.025.03)

District Operations: Financial

Annual Budget Needs – All Funding

July - June

Income	
County Appropriations	$7,500.00
Equipment Rental.	$825.00
Interest Income	$310.00
State Base Funding	$8,500.00
State General Funding	$15,000.00
Total State Appropriations	$23,500.00
Total Income	***$32,135.00***
Gross Profit	***$32,135.00***
Expenses	
Audit	$1,500.00
Cloud Seeding	$500.00
Computer Expense	$700.00
Conference Registration	$700.00
Contributions	$500.00
District Employee Travel	$1,000.00
Dues	$2,000.00
Elections	$100.00
Equipment	$500.00
IASCD Conference	$750.00
IASCD Division 6 Meeting	$100.00
Liability Insurance	$935.00
Workmen's Compensation Insurance	$150.00
Total Insurance	$1,085.00
Miscellaneous	$615.00
Office Supplies & Stamps	$300.00
Annual Business Meeting	$2,000.00
Newsletter	$500.00
Newspaper Ads	$250.00
Public Meeting	$500.00
Tours & Workshops	$1,000.00
Weed Eradication	$5,000.00
Youth Education	$1,500.00
Total Public Outreach	$10,750.00
Total Quarterly Reimbursement	$9,200.00
Supervisor Travel	$1,000.00
Total Expenses	***$32,135.00***
Net Operating Income	**$0.00**
Net Income	**$0.00**

SECTION 3: Assessment (IDAPA.60.05.02.025.03)

District Staffing Requirements/ Needs (IDAPA.60.05.02.025.03)

- Full-time Conservation District Administrative Assistant with benefits
- Half Time Information and Education Staff with appropriate benefits

Technical Assistance (IDAPA.60.05.02.025.03)

- In partnership with the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), the District is able to utilize Engineer, Range and Soil technical assistance. The Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission support the District with a Water Quality Specialist. The Clark SCD will seek and accept appropriate and legitimate technical assistance outside the NRCS and ISWCC when or if required.

SECTION 4: Identify and Prioritize Objectives (IDAPA.60.05.02.025.03)

Natural Resource Priorities and Goals:

1. **Rangeland**
   - Assist ranchers and landowners in the development of BMP's to sustain resources through local working groups, information meetings, newsletters, tours and cost share programs and grants.
   - Improve and maintain rangeland resources in Clark County in partnership with the NRCS through local working groups, information meetings, newsletters, tours and cost share programs and grants.
2. **Water Quantity**
   - To develop and implement Resource Management Systems with local Canal districts and BAG's through local working groups, information meetings, newsletters, tours and cost share programs and grants.
   - Promote conservation practices to sustain production on irrigated and dry cropland with the NRCS through local working groups, information meetings, newsletters, tours and cost share programs and grants.
3. **Water Quality**
   - To identify and develop priorities for water quality on limited streams by working with DEQ and BAG's through local working groups, information meetings, newsletters, tours and cost share programs and grants.
   - Aggressively plan and implement projects to improve water quality in county streams through local working groups, information meetings, newsletters, tours and cost share programs and grants.
4. **Pasture / Hay Lands**
   - Improve and maintain the quality of pasture and hay lands in Clark County with local landowners and the NRCS through local working groups, information meetings, newsletters, tours and cost share programs and grants.
   - Work with cooperators and the NRCS to help reduce erosion through local working groups, information meetings, newsletters, tours and cost share programs and grants.
5. **Fish and Wildlife**
   - Work with landowners and the Idaho Fish and Game on predator control to increase populations to upland game birds and avoid endangered species listing through local working groups, information meetings, newsletters, tours and cost share programs and grants.
   - Continue to improve wildlife habitats with local landowners and the NRCS through local working groups, information meetings, newsletters, tours and cost share programs and grants.

Information and Education Priorities and Goals:

- By 2016, work with the NRCS and FSA to update all Conservation District cooperator addresses and files.
- Continue to the County School District to provide all 5th and 6th grade students with the opportunity to participate in the annual conservation poster contest.
- By 2016 work with the County School District to provide all High School students with the opportunity to participate in the annual conservation speech contest.

SECTION 5: Water Quality Component (IDAPA.60.05.02.025.03)

Beaver-Camas Subbasin

Hydrologic Unit Code	17040214
Size	643,083 acres (1,005 square miles)
§303(d) Listed Stream Segments	Camas Creek (2 segments), Beaver Creek (2 segments), Cow Creek
Beneficial Uses Affected	Cold water, salmonid spawning, primary/secondary contact recreation, domestic water supply
Pollutants of Concern	Nutrients, sediment, temperature, flow alteration, habitat alteration
Major Land Uses	Range, irrigated agriculture, forestry
Date Approved by U.S. EPA	August 2005

Overview

The Beaver-Camas Subbasin of southeast Idaho is a watershed of the Upper Snake River Basin. The watershed is the easternmost in a series of five "sinks drainages." The subbasin is dominated by both natural and human-caused flow alterations.

Data have been collected and analyzed to evaluate the scope of the water quality limiting issues on §303(d) listed and non-listed streams. Seven temperature TMDLs and one sediment TMDL have been developed in response to the data. Some TMDLs have been established for non-listed streams since water quality data show that there are exceedances of Idaho's water quality standards.

Stream bank erosion, reduced riparian vegetation, and low flow conditions are the causes of increased water temperatures in the subbasin. Riparian grazing is the principal source of temperature and sediment loading to the watershed. Elevated temperatures from reduced riparian vegetation and accelerated stream bank erosion have been exacerbated by an ongoing drought.
There are two §303(d) listed segments on Beaver Creek. Temperatures in the upper segment of the creek exceed the state standard and a TMDL was developed. Perennial flows are seldom seen in the lower segment; therefore, it is proposed to be de-listed for all currently listed pollutants and re-listed only as flow altered.

Camas Creek is §303(d) listed from its headwaters to its mouth (as two segments). Riparian grazing has contributed to bank erosion and elevated stream temperatures. Sediment and temperature TMDLs have been calculated to address the pollutants of concern in the upper segment. The lower segment of Camas Creek is intermittent and flow altered for irrigation; therefore, it is recommended this segment be listed only as flow altered. No TMDLs were developed for the lower segment.

SECTION 5: Water Quality Component (IDAPA.60.05.02.025.03)

Cow Creek is §303(d) listed, but is an ephemeral stream and therefore should be de-listed; ephemeral streams are not expected to support the same biological communities as perennial waters. Dairy, East Fork Camas, Modoc, Threemile, and West Fork Camas Creeks are not §303(d) listed. However, stream temperature data show that there were major exceedances in Idaho's numeric temperature criteria in these creeks. Temperature TMDLs were established for all five streams.

TMDLs were not developed for streams listed as flow or habitat altered. The EPA does not believe that flow or habitat alteration are pollutants as defined by the Clean Water Act. Since TMDLs are not required for water bodies impaired by pollution but not pollutants, TMDLs were not developed for flow or habitat altered streams.

Streams and Pollutants for which TMDL's were developed

Beaver Creek	Temperature
Camas Creek	Sediment, Temperature
Dairy Creek	Temperature
East Camas Creek	Temperature
Modoc Creek	Temperature
Threemile Creek	Temperature
West Camas Creek	Temperature

Medicine Lodge Subbasin

Hydrologic Unit Code	17040215
Size	872 square miles
§303(d) Listed Stream Segments	Edie Creek, Irving Creek, Fritz Creek, Medicine Lodge Creek, Warm Springs Creek
Beneficial Uses Affected	Cold water aquatic life, salmonid spawning, primary and secondary contact recreation, domestic water supply, special resource water
Pollutants of Concern	Sediment, temperature, nutrients, flow alteration, habitat alteration
Major Land Uses	Grazing, irrigated agriculture, dryland farming
Date Approved by U.S. EPA	May 2003

Overview

The Medicine Lodge watershed is located in southeastern Idaho and borders Montana to the north. The northern half of the subbasin is rural and occupied by about one person per every two acres. The southern half of the subbasin has a higher population, but does not contain any of the flowing streams of the Medicine Lodge watershed.

SECTION 5: Water Quality Component (IDAPA.60.05.02.025.03)

This document assesses the §303(d) listed stream segments in the Medicine Lodge Subbasin as well as several other streams. Medicine Lodge Creek sinks and is diverted very soon after the town of Small, Idaho. Crooked Creek, Warm Springs Creek, and Deep Creek flow independently in drainages to the west of Medicine Lodge Creek. These streams also sink before reaching other water bodies.

Three species of salmonids have been documented in the watershed. Rainbow trout, brook trout, and Yellowstone cutthroat trout are all found throughout Medicine Lodge Creek and its tributaries. The Yellowstone cutthroat trout is a state sensitive species and is carefully managed by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Warm Springs Creek contains some warm water species of fish. Salmonid spawning has been determined an existing use for streams within the Medicine Lodge Subbasin, except for Warm Springs Creek, Divide Creek, Deep Creek, and the lower portion of Medicine Lodge Creek.

DEQ has collected data throughout the subbasin and has determined that sediment and temperature are the primary pollutants of concern. Instream sediment targets have been identified from literature values that are supportive of salmonid spawning and cold water aquatic life. These target values will be used to track the progress of stream bank recovery and determine the need for additional management practices to improve water quality.

Sediment TMDLs were written for Medicine Lodge Creek, Irving Creek, and Edie Creek. Temperature TMDLs have been developed for 11 streams. Nutrient TMDLs will not be written for the streams in the Medicine Lodge Subbasin since there are no data indicating nutrient enrichment in any part of the watershed.

Edie and Irving Creeks are listed for habitat alteration, and Medicine Lodge Creek is listed for flow alteration. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency does not believe that habitat or flow alteration are pollutants as defined by the Clean Water Act. Since TMDLs are not required for water bodies impaired by pollution but not pollutants, TMDLs were not developed for habitat or flow alteration.

Streams and Pollutants for which TMDL's were developed

Medicine Lodge Creek	Temperature, sediment
Fritz Creek	Temperature
Irving Creek	Temperature, sediment
Crooked Creek	Temperature
Deep Creek	Temperature
Edie Creek	Temperature, sediment
Horse Creek	Temperature
Indian Creek	Temperature
Middle Creek	Temperature
Warm Creek	Temperature
Webber Creek	Temperature

SECTION 6: Identify and Prioritize Projects (IDAPA.60.05.02.025.03)

The Clark SCD has identified projects and programs for State and County funding as follows:

- ✓ Maintain staff hours to conduct and implement District business
- ✓ Conduct public outreach Tours and provide publications on Water quality and quantity improvement projects, Rangeland, Crop and Hayland improvement projects and Sage Grouse Initiative projects
- ✓ Organize and conduct Awareness workshops
- ✓ Quarterly reimburse the Madison SWCD for a shared Administrative Assistant
- ✓ Sponsor a Poster contest for County 5th and 6th Graders
- ✓ Sponsor a Speech contest for County High School students
- ✓ Operate the District equipment program (District owns and rents a Jet Stinger for Willow planting)
- ✓ Support the State Lands judging contest
- ✓ Support Idaho Ag in the Classroom program
- ✓ Support and contribute to the High Country RC&D Cloud Seeding program
- ✓ Support the control of Noxious Weeds
- ✓ Provide the community with leadership and support for the conservation of natural resources
- ✓ Support of the IASCD, RC&D and IDEA

The above projects and activities are ranked in a priority order however the Clark SCD believes they have secured adequate funding to provide both staff and sponsorship of these activities for the next fiscal year.

Implementations of these projects and activities are scheduled to take place through the fiscal year, starting July 1st, 2014 and have secured funding. The Clark SCD Board of Supervisors and Administrative Staff will oversee the implementation of this work with the assistance from the NRCS, RC&D and County.

SECTION 7: Key Decision Makers

- The Citizens within the Clark Conservation District
- County Commissioners;
  Greg Shenton, Commission Chairman
  Tod Shenton, Commissioner
  William Frederiksen, Commissioner
- County Planning and Zoning Administrator;
  Kerri Ellis
- Mayor and City Council of Dubois;
  Randy Mead, Mayor
  Dan Bramwell, Council Member
  Kerri Ellis, Council Member
  Joel Billman, Council Member
  Camilo Serrano Jr., Council Member
- State legislators representing Conservation District, Legislative District #35;
  State Senator: Jeff Siddoway
  House Seat A: Representative, JoAn Wood
  House Seat B: Representative, Paul Romrell
- U.S. Senators, Representatives;
  U.S. Senator Michael Crapo
  U.S. Senator James Risch
  U.S. Representative Michael Simpson
- Conservation District Supervisors;
  Andy Wagoner, Chairman
  David Zweifel, Vice-Chairman
  Lynn Hoggan, Treasurer
  Norman Tavenner, Member
  Richard Savage, Member
- Technical Expertise Groups;
  NRCS
  NRCS Soils Office
  U.S. Bureau of Land Management
  U.S. Forest Service
  U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
  Clark County Weed Department
  High Country RC&D
  University of Idaho Extension Office
  Continental Divide Water Advisory Group (CDWAG)
  Continental Weed Management Area (CWMA)

Acronyms and Definitions

Acronym	***Defined***
AFO	Animal Feedlot Operation
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
USBoR	U. S. Bureau of Reclamation
CRP	Conservation Reserve Program
CWMA	Cooperative Weed Management Area
DEQ	Department Environmental Quality
EQIP	Environmental Quality Incentives Program
FSA	Farm Service Agency
IDA	Idaho Department of Agriculture
IDFG	Idaho Department of Fish and Game
IDWR	Idaho Department of Water Resources
ISWC	Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
OSC	Idaho Governors Office of Species Conservation
RC&D	Resource Conservation and Development
SWCD	Soil and Water Conservation District
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USFS	U.S. Forest Service
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
WHIP	Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program
WQPA	Water Quality Program for Agriculture

Reference sources for information used to compile plan:

United States Fish and Wildlife Service

Natural Resource Conservation Service Rapid Watershed Assessment

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

Idaho Department of Commerce

Idaho Department of Labor

Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission

Clark Soil Conservation District Annual Work Plan

FY-2015 (7/1/14 – 6/31/15) Annual Plan of Work
Clark Soil Conservation District

For Information Contact: Chairman Andy Wagoner
Telephone Number: (208) 356-5701 ext. 101
Email: Robbie.Taylor@id.nacdnet.net
Counties Served: Clark
Legislative District: 35

Mission of the Clark Soil Conservation District

To take available Technical, Financial and Educational resources, whatever their source, and focus or coordinate them so that they meet the needs of the local land user for conservation of Soil, Water and related resources. Also, to protect and improve the natural resources in Clark County for landowners to use for generations to come.

Trends Impacting Conservation in the Clark Soil Conservation District

Noxious weeds
Wildfire
Dewatering of crop lands and resulting Conservation problems

Projects Planned, Coordinated or Managed

Anticipated applications for 319 grants on Beaver & Camas Creek.
Gravity fed pipeline projects.
Noxious weeds: Biological control and a County "Weed Day".

Funding Sources for District Operations and Projects Coordinated

Clark County: $7,500
State of Idaho: $15,000

Board = Andy Wagoner, Dave Zweifel, Lynn Hoggan, Norman Tavenner and Richard Savage

Clark Soil Conservation District assisting landowners and operators with their conservation choices

FY-2015 (7/1/14 – 6/31/15) Annual Work Plan
Clark Soil Conservation District

Priority Area Number 1: Rangeland

Objective: Assist ranchers in the development of BMPs to sustain resources.

Goal(s): Improve and maintain rangeland resources in Clark SCD.

Action(s): The actions this District will take are listed below

Actions for FY-2015	Target Dates	Person(s) Responsible
Provide technical and financial assistance for ranchers to improve range resources in the following areas: seeding, brush control, fencing, water development, and prescribed grazing systems.	Ongoing	Board
Promote weed control on range land with coordinated weed management programs, and public awareness.	Ongoing	Board
Encourage eligible ranchers to apply for NRCS EQIP funding.	Ongoing	Board / NRCS
Encourage eligible ranchers to apply for RCRDP grants and loans.	Ongoing	Board / ISWCC
Provide technical and financial assistance for ranchers through NRCS.	Ongoing	Board
Continue to work with the Sage Grouse Local Working Group for improved Sage Grouse habitat.	Ongoing	Board
Prioritize resources for water developments for both livestock and wildlife.	Ongoing	Board
Continue to promote prescribed grazing systems to maintain and improve range conditions.	Ongoing	Board

Board = Andy Wagoner, Dave Zweifel, Lynn Hoggan, Norman Tavenner and Richard Savage

Clark Soil Conservation District assisting landowners and operators with their conservation choices

Priority Area Number 2: Water Quality

Objective: To identify and develop priorities for water quality limited streams.

Goal(s): Aggressively plan and implement projects to improve water quality 303(d) listed streams.

Action(s): The actions this District will take are listed below

Actions for FY-2015	Target Dates	Person(s) Responsible
Participate and promote the goals of Continental Divide Watershed Advisory Group.	Ongoing	Board
Promote next listed streams: Birch, Camas, and Beaver before TMDL's are due.	Ongoing	Board
Determine AFO / CAFO for needed assistance and funding.	Ongoing	Board
Work with DEQ, ISWCC, and NRCS on Sub-basin assessments and TMDL's.	Ongoing	Board / NRCS / ISWCC

Objective: To ensure the quality of riparian and wetland zones.

Action(s): Below

Actions for FY-2015	Target Dates	Person(s) Responsible
Promote Continuous CRP, WRP, and EQIP	Ongoing	Board / NRCS
Promote multiple uses of riparian areas.	Ongoing	Board / NRCS
Create an awareness among riparian users of the value of improving riparian and the importance of continued multiple use economically, socially, and environmentally.	Ongoing	Board / NRCS / ISWCC

Board = Andy Wagoner, Dave Zweifel, Lynn Hoggan, Norman Tavenner and Richard Savage

FY-2015 (7/1/14 – 6/31/15) Annual Work Plan
Clark Soil Conservation District

Priority Area Number 3: Cropland

Objective: To develop and implement Resource Management Systems.

Goal(s): Promote conservation practices to sustain production on irrigated and dry cropland.

Actions(s): The actions this District will take are listed below

Actions for FY-2015	Target Dates	Person(s) Responsible
Support NRCS in their goal to implement Resource Management Systems.	Ongoing	Board / NRCS
Determine impact on water and community during drought year and promote conservation.	Ongoing	Board / NRCS
Evaluate impact of idle and erodible land and protect from soil erosion.	Ongoing	Board / NRCS

Board = Andy Wagoner, Dave Zweifel, Lynn Hoggan, Norman Tavenner and Richard Savage

Clark Soil Conservation District assisting landowners and operators with their conservation choices

FY-2015 (7/1/14 – 6/31/15) Annual Work Plan
Clark Soil Conservation District

Priority Area Number 4: Pasture / Hayland

Objectives: Improve and maintain the quality of pasture and haylands in Clark County.

Goal(s): Work with cooperators to help reduce erosion.

Action(s): The actions this District will take are listed below

Actions for FY-2015	Target Dates	Person(s) Responsible
Continue to promote Integrated Pest Management to maintain and improve pasture hayland.	Ongoing	Board
Promote practices to help reduce erosion.	Ongoing	Board / NRCS
Continue to promote prescribed grazing systems to maintain and improve pasture / hayland conditions.	Ongoing	Board
Continue to work with the Sage Grouse Local Working Group.	Ongoing	Board

Board = Andy Wagoner, Dave Zweifel, Lynn Hoggan, Norman Tavenner and Richard Savage

Clark Soil Conservation District assisting landowners and operators with their conservation choices

Priority Area Number 5: Fish & Wildlife

Objective: Predator control to increase populations to upland game birds and avoid endangered species listing.

Goal(s): Continue efforts to improve wildlife habitat.

Action(s): The actions this District will take are listed below

Actions for FY-2015	Target Dates	Person(s) Responsible
Establish predator control methods to sustain and increase sage grouse population (SGLWG)	Ongoing	Board / LWG
Promote CRP, EQIP, and WHIP with potential participants.	Ongoing	Board / NRCS
Continue endorsement of sustainable species support.	Ongoing	Board / NRCS
Monitor ESA & potential candidates for the list and how it affects landowners.	Ongoing	Board / NRCS

Objective: Improve relationships with sportsmen and recreationists.

Action(s): Below

Actions for FY-2015	Target Dates	Person(s) Responsible
Foster respect for private property among a growing number of sportsmen and recreationists.	Ongoing	Board / LWG
Continue to cultivate working relationships with state and federal agencies responsible for fish, wildlife, and recreation resources.	Ongoing	Board
Support responsible multiple usage of recreational land.	Ongoing	Board

Board = Andy Wagoner, Dave Zweifel, Lynn Hoggan, Norman Tavenner and Richard Savage

Clark Soil Conservation District assisting landowners and operators with their conservation choice

Acronym Definitions

BMP's	-	Best Management Practices
Board	-	Is defined as the Clark SCD Board of Supervisors
CRP	-	Conservation Reserve Program
EQIP	-	Environmental Quality Incentive Program
ESA	-	Endangered Species Act
ISWCC	-	Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission
LWG	-	Local Working Group
NRCS	-	Natural Resource Conservation Service
RCRDP	-	Resource Conservation and Rangeland Development Loan Program
SGLWG	-	Sage Grouse Local Working Group
TMDL	-	Total Maximum Daily Load
WHIP	-	Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program

IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION **FIVE-YEAR (5) PLAN and ANNUAL WORK PLAN CERTIFICATION**	**DISTRICT:** Clark SCD **FOR FISCAL YEAR:** 2015 **PERIOD:** July 1, 2013 – June 30 2014 **DUE :** **March 31, 2014**

On behalf of my local Board of Supervisors, I hereby certify that the attached Five-Year (5) Plan and Annual Work Plan is true and accurate, and further submit said Plan for the above named District and fiscal year.

A copy of this Five-Year (5) Plan and Annual Work Plan shall be kept at the District office and is available for public inspection.

Board Supervisor Signature

ANDY WAGONER, Chairman

Printed Name

1-9-14

Date

356-5701, ext. 101

Telephone

Robbie.Taylor@id.nacdnet.net

District Email Address

FOR SWC USE ONLY:

DATE OF CONFIRMATION: