

The Pathfinder

***Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation
District
Five Year Plan 2012-2017***

Revised January 2014



District Chair's Message



Figure 1. Steve Becker, Board chairman.

Since 1941, the Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District (District) has diligently fulfilled its charge as the primary entity to provide assistance to private landowners and land users in the conservation, sustainment, improvement and enhancement of the District's natural resources.

With over 70 years of experience, our District has risen to numerous challenges and conducted ourselves in a proactive manner. Our mission, values, and goals complement those in all levels of government.

To truly transform our District to one with a secured future, protecting natural resources and the economy, we need to have a strong commitment to getting conservation on the ground. We are people of action and are committed to natural resource conservation.

Cooperation with our county, state, federal and tribal partners is essential. At times, it's been a tough fight to balance resource needs with resource shortages—but the District survives. We continue to put conservation on the ground in a voluntary manner. Over 55 people have

donated time to serve as board members and promote a grass-roots local government approach to solving natural resource issues.

The strategic plan that follows—our Pathfinder—will guide us towards excellence in maintaining our conservation and natural resource heritage. We challenge you to take part in our initiatives and to leave a legacy that is more creative and stronger than those of the past.

Contents

MISSION / VISION	4
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	4
DISTRICT ELECTED OFFICIALS	5
DISTRICT CONTACT INFORMATION	5
1 - INTRODUCTION.....	6
FUNCTION	6
PURPOSE AND NEED.....	6
TIMELINE.....	7
A LIVING DOCUMENT	7
TIES TO OTHER EFFORTS.....	7
2 - PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS.....	13
LOCATION	13
OWNERSHIP	13
LAND USE MANAGEMENT	14
3 - RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	17
OBJECTIVES	17
DELIVERABLES.....	18
TRENDS	28
4 - ECONOMIC TRENDS AND CONDITIONS	29
5 - PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIES	30
PRIORITY 1	31
PRIORITY 2	32
PRIORITY 3	33
PRIORITY 4	35
PRIORITY 5	37
PRIORITY 6	38
PRIORITY 7	39
PRIORITY 8.....	40
6 - IMPLEMENTATION	43
REFERENCES	44
APPENDIX A - FY13 ANNUAL WORK PLAN	46
APPENDIX B - FY14 ANNUAL WORK PLAN	47
APPENDIX C - FY15 ANNUAL WORK PLAN	48
APPENDIX D - FY16 ANNUAL WORK PLAN	49
APPENDIX E - FY17 ANNUAL WORK PLAN	50

District Mission

To be the primary entity leading non-regulatory efforts in the conservation, sustainment, improvement, and enhancement of Nez Perce County's natural resources.

District Vision

A county with a sustainable landscape.

Executive Summary



Figure 2. Above: City of Lewiston. Circa 1918. Right: City of Lewiston, circa 2012.

The Pathfinder is the Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District's (District) five year plan which is the foundation for the District's focus and direction over the next few years. The five year plan will be used to develop specific strategies in the District's annual work plan.

Priorities were developed from information gathered in focus groups, interviews, surveys, and from analysis of existing information. These issues form the foundation upon which The Pathfinder was developed. The eight

priorities are:

- Priority #1: Maintain and Enhance a Sustainable District Infrastructure
- Priority #2: Fulfill Current Grant, Statutory, and Client Commitments
- Priority #3: Improve, Protect, and Enhance Riparian Corridors
- Priority #4: Water Management
- Priority #5: Sustainable Energy Systems
- Priority #6: Community Education
- Priority #7: Responsible Rural Land Development and Urban Expansion
- Priority #8: Maintain, Restore, and Enhance the Productive Capacity of Working Lands

District Elected Officials

Steve Becker, Chair
Tracy Hill, Vice-Chair
Kyle Wilson, Treasurer
John Hermann
Dale Nichols
Dave Troy
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Figure 4. Big Canyon Creek.

Introduction

The Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District (District) is one of 50 conservation districts in Idaho. The District is a subdivision of Idaho State government and is governed by a Board of seven members who are elected and serve a four year term without pay. Board members are elected by public ballot in the Nez Perce County general election process.

The District receives funding by state and county allocations. However, the majority of funding is through grants and contracts for services.

Operating funds are provided primarily through appropriations from the State of Idaho and Nez Perce County. The District administers grants from the State of Idaho and federal government to accomplish soil and water objectives.

The District cooperates with numerous agencies and organizations to meet their goals. This cooperation includes sharing of personnel and equipment, local support and advisory roles, and the exchange of resource information.

The District develops and implements programs to protect and conserve soil, water, farmland, rangeland, forestland, wildlife, energy, and other renewable resources in lands located within the District boundary.

The District has over 70 years of experience in resource conservation, design and implementation of land improvements, and working with local landowners to install on-the-ground conservation practices. As a result of current and past efforts, the District has an excellent working relationship with local landowners and elected officials. The District implements voluntary conservation programs with private landowners and agricultural operators. Landowner agreements are based on approved conservation plans that are developed primarily by District staff.

Function of the Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District

The function of the District is to act as the “primary entity to provide assistance to private landowners and land users in the conservation, sustainment, improvement and enhancement of the District’s natural resources” as outlined in Idaho State Law §22-2716 (Idaho Statutes, 2009).

Purpose and Need

The Pathfinder meets the requirements of the Idaho State Administrative Rule 60.05.02 (Idaho Soil Conservation Commission, 2003) which requires all conservation districts within the state to develop a five year plan. This document will also guide the District’s actions for the 2012-2017 time periods.

Timeline

The priorities outlined in this plan draw upon the cumulative body of work that has been completed in Nez Perce County. The time frame for implementing the aspects of this plan is the five year period from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2017. The plan follows the state of Idaho's fiscal year period of July 1 to June 30th.

A Living Document

This document is a result of a collaborative planning effort by multiple stakeholders spanning several years. The document is intended to provide a framework for prioritization and coordination of conservation efforts and will be updated as necessary to include additional data and improved scientific methods. These updates will be used to reprioritize activities as necessary, and allow successful implementation of the plan through adaptive management. Approval and adoption of this document and any revisions shall follow the administrative procedures for the District.

This document has been reviewed by the public, the District elected officials, and local resource management agencies. Comments that added value to the plan were incorporated.

The Plan was adopted on February 12, 2012, revised on February 17, 2013 and January 16, 2014.

Ties to Other Efforts

An extended network of management, protection, and restoration efforts exists for the District on the local, tribal, state and federal level. The District used information from these efforts in developing the planned activities in the "Pathfinder". These regional efforts are outlined below.

NPCC 2009 Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program

The Northwest Power and Conservation Council's (NPCC) Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program (FWP) is based on rebuilding healthy naturally-producing fish and wildlife populations by protecting, mitigating, and restoring habitats and the biological systems within them. The FWP focuses on performance, emphasizing scientific review and accountability of both new and on-going actions.

The FWP draws on subbasin management plans to provide subbasin-level objectives to accomplish Columbia River basin goals. The vision for the Clearwater River subbasin as outlined in the Clearwater Subbasin Management Plan is of "...a healthy ecosystem with abundant, productive, and diverse aquatic and terrestrial species, which will support sustainable resource-based activities (Northwest Power and Conservation Council, 2009).

Specific Tie(s) to this strategy:

Implementation of the 2012-2017 Pathfinder works toward accomplishing the vision and objectives of the Clearwater Subbasin Management Plan and, by extension, the FWP.

Clearwater Subbasin Management Plan

The Clearwater Subbasin Management Plan was adopted in 2005 by the Northwest Power and Conservation Council (NPCC) into their Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program. Sub-basin plans were developed for each subbasin in the Columbia River Basin in order to identify project priorities to achieve restoration and recovery goals in each respective subbasin. The Clearwater Subbasin Management Plan presents problem statements, objectives and strategies for habitat treatments within the Clearwater Subbasin.

The subbasin plan identifies three management units within several of the District's watersheds. The subbasin plan identified priority restoration issues for each unit, with each issue prioritized by H=high, M=medium, L=low, or U=suspected but unknown need. Table 1, taken from the Clearwater Subbasin Management Plan (Northwest Power and Conservation Council, 2004), depicts the three major units identified within the District's boundaries (PR-6, PR-7, PR-8), along with level of priority ascribed to each restoration issue.

Table 1. Restoration Issues and Priority

Restoration Issue	PMU-6	PMU-7	PMU-8
Surface Erosion	H	H	H
Water Temperature	H	H	H
Prairie Grasses	H	H	H
Grazing Impacts	M	L	L
In-stream Work	L	L	L
Ponderosa Pine	H-M	-	H-M

Specific Tie(s) to this strategy:

The Clearwater Subbasin Management Plan lists five high priority factors limiting aquatic and terrestrial species and habitats in the Clearwater River subbasin: instream temperatures, sedimentation, loss or disturbance of riparian habitats, changes in vegetative structure, and alteration of environmental processes. These issues are directly addressed through this plan.

NOAA Fisheries Salmon Recovery Plans

The overall goal for the recovery plan is to achieve conditions for each Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU) and Distinct Population Segment (DPS) so they no longer need protection under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) because either the danger of extinction or the likelihood of endangerment within the foreseeable future has been

eliminated. A delisting decision will include consideration of the current extinction risk of the listed species and whether factors for the decline that lead to the listing have been addressed so they no longer limit the viability. The Interior Columbia Technical Recovery Team (NOAA - Fisheries, 2011) recommended that all Major Population Groups (MPG) in an ESU or DPS be viable before being considered at low risk of extinction and a candidate for delisting.

The ICTRT made determinations for the Snake River steelhead DPS and their respective MPGs recognizing desired future status and the current status. The desired future status is a description of the recovery plan objective for the MPG that meets the minimum viability requirements based on the ICTRT (NOAA - Fisheries, 2011) viability criteria. The minimum viability requirements are the minimum combination of populations within the MPG that must be at viable status for the MPG to satisfy the ICTRT criteria. There are multiple combinations of populations within a MPG that could meet minimum viability requirements. The populations included in each MPG recovery plan objective were selected based on unique sets of characteristics, such as run timing, importance as core production areas, management opportunities, and feasibility to monitor status. The recommended objectives or desired future status that NOAA presents in the draft recovery plans represent the shortest routes to MPG viability.

Populations within a MPG that have been identified as necessary to achieve the desired future status for that MPG will be prioritized higher for habitat restoration than one that is not. The recovery plans caution that although not all population in an MPG need to be viable under the initial recovery planning objective, it would be highly risky to allow the status of any population to degrade.

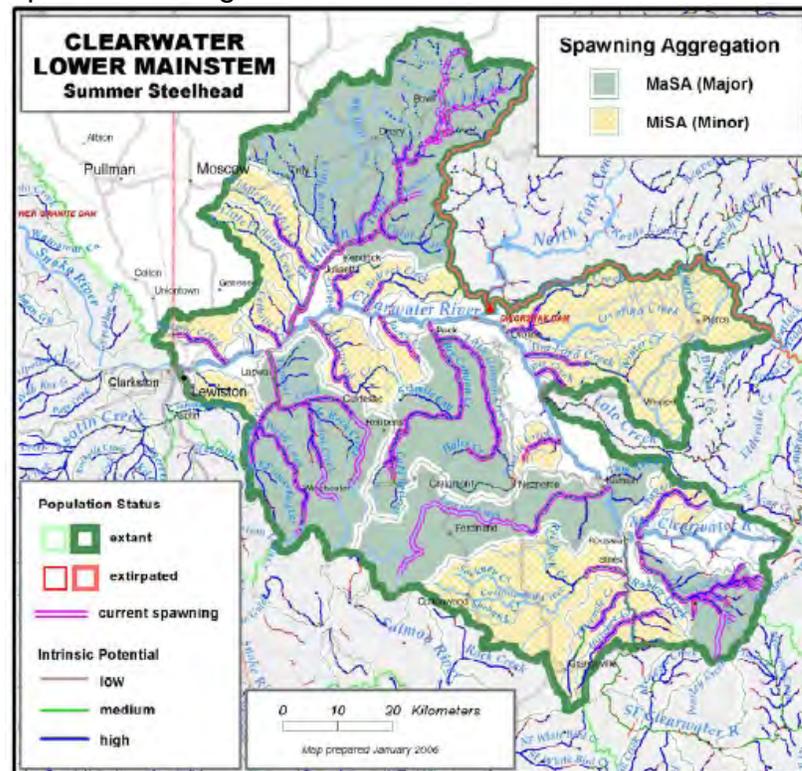


Figure 5. Major and Minor Spawning Areas within the Lower Mainstem Clearwater Basin

Specific Tie(s) to this strategy:

The 2011 draft Salmon Recovery Plan¹ names Big Canyon and Lapwai Creeks as two of the five Major Spawning Aggregation (MaSA) areas² for the Clearwater Lower Mainstem (CRLMA) population of the Snake River Basin Steelhead DPS' Clearwater River MPG (Figure 5). In addition Catholic, Hatwai, Lower Potlatch, Pine, Bedrock, Jacks and Cottonwood Creeks are listed as minor spawning areas (MiSA). The draft Recovery Plan also identifies six restoration objectives designed to improve habitat condition and bolster salmonid productivity:

- Address localized areas where riparian function is most limited, including those segments of stream where roadbeds have been constructed adjacent to or within the immediate floodplain.
- Restore riparian area composition, structure, and function in localized areas of the Lower Clearwater by improving riparian vegetation and hydrologic function through decommissioning or obliterating of roads within riparian areas and returning road surfaces, cuts and fills to productivity.
- Fine sediments in the Lower Clearwater mainstem are currently high due to the geologically unstable nature of the watershed and legacy effects from land management. Promote landscape management activities that minimize the threat of chronic sediment inputs.
- Improve water quality and geomorphic integrity by implementing watershed restoration and reducing accelerated sediment impacts in localized areas of the Lower Clearwater mainstem.
- Contribute to de-listing Lower Clearwater mainstem stream segments from the 303(d) list of water quality limited water bodies by applying appropriate and active watershed restoration to reduce sediment (identified as the pollutant of concern).

The treatments outlined in the 2012-2017 Pathfinder address these objectives in all aspects.

Lower Clearwater River Tributaries TMDL

The Lower Clearwater River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) allocation is scheduled for completion in 2014. The TMDL effort is led by the Nez Perce Tribe in cooperation with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The TMDL for the Lower Clearwater River is pending publication and includes all sub-basins on the reservation. Data collected provides information for additional resource management applications and can be used to identify source water protection zones, areas especially sensitive to development or specific land use, and to monitor trends and responses to climate change or population density changes. Figure 6 below illustrates

¹Draft can be found at the following website: http://www.idahosalmonrecovery.net/pdfs/PVA7_2_6_1ClearwaterLowerMainstem-stlhd.pdf

²Adult weir data from USFWS (Howard Burge personal conversation) and Idaho Fish and Game (Bowersox, 2007) suggest that the number of MaSa areas within the Lower Clearwater basin may be revised to a total of either three or four.

water quality monitoring site locations. As TMDL plans are implemented, monitoring will be incorporated to assess effectiveness and determine trends in surface water quantity and quality on the reservation.

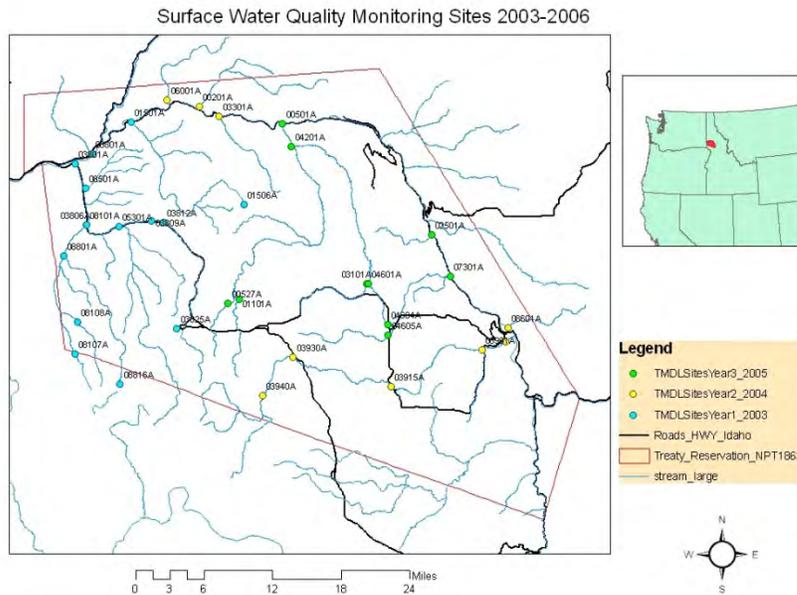


Figure 6. Lower Clearwater River TMDL Location and Water Quality Monitoring Sites 2003-2006

Specific Tie(s) to this strategy:

Water Quality data from the TMDL was used to identify water quality pollutants and impaired streams. These streams and pollutants are addressed by specific actions listed in this plan.

Clearwater Basin Weed Management Area

A Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) is a distinguishable hydrologic, vegetative, or geographic zone based upon geography, weed infestations, climatic or human-use patterns (Idaho State Department of Agriculture, Accessed 2012).

The Clearwater Basin Weed Management Area (CBWMA) was formed in 1995. The cooperative was created to bring together those responsible for weed management within the Clearwater River Basin, to develop common management objectives, facilitate effective treatment, integrate weed programs and coordinate efforts along logical geographic boundaries with similar lands, use patterns and problem weeds.

The District is located within the mainstem Clearwater subbasin. A basin-wide Steering Committee coordinates sub-basin activities, maintains the CBWMA Long Range Strategy and consolidates information. The District is a member of the Steering Committee.

Cooperators in the CBWMA include private landowners, county government, tribal

government, university, state and federal land management agencies, as well as interested individuals and organizations.

The major weeds of importance in the area include Dalmatian toadflax, diffuse knapweed, yellow toadflax, rush skeletonweed, spotted knapweed, orange hawkweed, meadow hawkweed, scotch thistle, and yellow starthistle. Major efforts are being made to control these weeds each year.

Specific Tie(s) to this strategy:

Weed treatments and strategies implemented through this plan are adopted directly from the CBWMA. In addition, weed inventory data collected through this plan is supplied to the CBWMA who houses weed infestation and treatment data for the Clearwater Basin. This plan will monitor weed control success and infestations levels by using the established CBWMA protocols and database.

Nez Perce County Transportation Master Plan

The Nez Perce County Transportation Master Plan (Master Plan) identifies transportation deficiencies throughout Nez Perce County and identifies and prioritizes projects that improve transportation access and safety. The Master Plan includes a growth analysis and short, medium, and long range projects to be completed over a 20-year timeframe.

The major projects identified as short term within the District are the paving of gravel roads. Long range projects include the replacement of Bear Creek Bridge near Peck (J-U-B Engineers).

Specific Tie(s) to this strategy:

The Master Plan was used for economic and transportation data in this plan. In addition, the Master Plan project list was used to identify potential projects within the District. Implementation of strategies in this plan will assist Nez Perce County in meeting the objectives outlined in the Master Plan. The Master Plan will be used as a tool to implement identified county road projects which are impacting fisheries resources.

Physical Characteristics

The District is located in North Central Idaho along the Washington/Idaho border (Figure 7). The District boundaries are within Nez Perce County, Idaho and consist of approximately 540,000 acres. A portion of the District is located within the Nez Perce Tribe Reservation boundary.

Ownership (Figure 8) within the District consists of mostly private (71%), federal (7%), tribal (7%), and state (15%). Land use within the District includes cropland (42%), forestland (41%), wildlife lands (28%), rangeland (25%), pastureland (4%), urban/suburban areas (1%) and lakes (1%).

Elevations within the District range from 720 feet near Lewiston to 5,000 feet near Mason Butte. Precipitation ranges from 10 to 25 inches per year.

The District's Resource Inventory and Assessment (Rasmussen et al, 2013) provides additional details regarding the District's natural resource characteristics.



Figure 7. Nez Perce SWCD Location Map

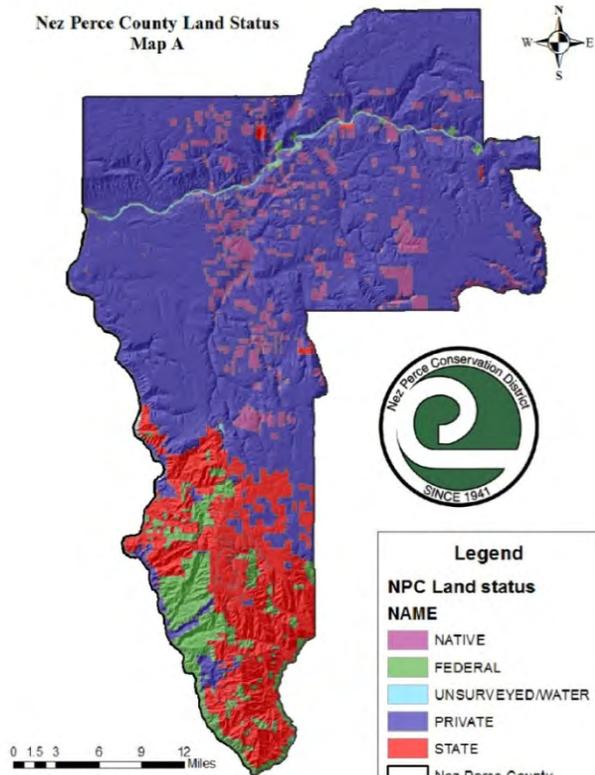


Figure 8. Nez Perce County Ownership Map

The major rivers within the District are the Salmon, Snake, and Clearwater. The District includes over 290 miles of streams with the majority listed on the EPA 303(d) water quality limited stream list. The 155 acres of lakes include Soldier's Meadow Reservoir, Mann's Lake, Waha Lake, and Blue Lake. Water quantity can be a resource issue. Runoff and flooding occur from February through May. 1996 and 1997 were years with 75 to 100 year flood events. Surface water flows tend to be the greatest in May then decrease to minimal levels over the course of the summer. Local communities obtain their water from ground and surface water systems. Lewiston obtains most of its domestic water from the Clearwater River. The City of Peck obtains its water from Big Canyon Creek. The remainder of the communities uses ground water sources. Rural residents use mainly groundwater sources.

The District is within the Clearwater Plateau groundwater system. This aquifer is recharged by

area streams where permeable basalts are exposed in stream channels (allowing for infiltration) and by precipitation percolating through fractured bedrock in the upland plateau

Land Use Management

Cropland

Many producers within the District are adopting direct seeding systems. The District plans to assist these producers by providing both technical and financial assistance. The implementation of direct seeding systems will reduce erosion by an estimated 25%. Additional benefits include improved soil quality/health, reduction in fossil fuel consumption, improved carbon sequestration, increased water infiltration and improved watershed hydrology. The Camas Prairie region of the District has increased bluegrass for seed production by an estimated 30% in the past 5 years.

Benefits are improved yields and improved agricultural sustainability. Over 700 acres of irrigated cropland is used primarily for the production of garden produce. Management challenges for irrigated producers include disease control, product marketing, erosion and loss of production, and limited water availability.



Figure 9. Aerial fertilizer application in Big Canyon Creek. 1992.

Grazing Lands

Pasture acres are generally located in close proximity to perennial streams and intermittent drainages. Livestock grazing has a direct influence on the riparian areas. Riparian areas adjacent to pastures with excessive livestock grazing use are degraded from lack of protective woody and perennial grass cover. Lack of protective vegetation along stream channels increases channel erosion during runoff events.

The majority of rangeland acres occur on steep canyon walls adjacent to perennial streams and intermittent drainages. Slopes range from 40 to 90 percent. Livestock grazing occurs predominantly in the spring and summer months. Some rangeland units are grazed for a twelve-month period.

Noxious weed invasions on rangeland have drastically reduced forage production. Aggressive weeds of concern include yellow starthistle and cheatgrass brome.

The severe soil limitations and low production potential of rangeland cause range improvement practices to be very costly, resulting in a small return on investment. Erosion concerns on rangeland are primarily ephemeral gully and stream bank erosion. Stream bank erosion may be a problem where livestock have direct access to streams for drinking water and crossings.

Forestland

The Craig Mountain area has moderate to severe erosion problems caused by the building of roads and their maintenance. Erosion rates vary from 1 ton to 40 tons per acre. The most serious concern is sediment delivered to streams. Poor logging practices, insect infestations, and root and stem diseases are impacting forest health. Eighty percent of the forestland acres need some type of conservation treatment.

The Idaho Forest Practices Act (IFPA) provides for the application and inspection of BMPs on forestland. Forest management practices must meet or exceed the intent of the IFPA best management practices to comply with the state water quality standards.

Riparian Areas

Riparian areas are adjacent to water sources such as streams, springs, rivers, and ponds. A healthy riparian system provides sediment filtering, bank stabilization, water storage and release, and aquifer recharge.

The magnitude, duration and frequency of stream flow are the most important factors influencing riparian areas. Riparian systems are dynamic, and condition of vegetation on a site is only one attribute of riparian health. Riparian health should be evaluated in terms of physical and biological function in relation to the entire watershed.

It is unlikely that soil and water conditions at many riparian sites will remain stable. Erosion resistance is characterized by vegetation condition as it relates to soil and substrate stability and texture. Vulnerability of the area or susceptibility to change may be influenced by external activities. Riparian areas have been subject to extreme hydraulic events as well as intensive grazing and forest harvesting activities.

Wetland Areas

Wetlands are typically associated with Aquolls, Riverwash and Aquents, Bridgewater-Joseph, Wilkins silt loam, and Westlake-Latahco complex soil types. These soils are hydric because of saturation, are naturally supportive of woody vegetation, and are seasonally ponded or flooded. A wetland inventory was completed utilizing climatic data, soil survey information, and hydric soil lists coupled with the use of a geographic information system (GIS). Soils were categorized by landscape such as floodplain, terraces and drainage ways. The inventory showed approximately 7,000 acres of wetlands within the District. Many of the wetlands were historically drained. NRCS and Corps of Engineers policies and procedures for the protection of wetlands will be followed.



Figure 10. Wetland mitigation project near Winchester, Idaho.

Other Land Uses and Management Needs

There are 602 miles of public roads in Nez Perce County¹. Of these miles, 200 are paved and 402 are unpaved. Roads have a significant impact on conservation planning considerations and are often major contributors to erosion.

The main conservation problems in urban and suburban areas are surface runoff, which causes sedimentation and water quality problems. Erosion from residential development and road building are concerns. Recreational activities include big game, upland bird and waterfowl hunting, fishing, rafting, boating, water-skiing, snowmobiling, hiking, camping, and cross-country skiing. All-terrain vehicles have become very popular in areas that are inaccessible by road. This presents an erosion problem that can be serious. If vehicles are in constant use in repeated areas, grasses and plants that are necessary to hold the soil base are stripped away, and sedimentation occurs in adjacent streams and watercourses. Other visitors to the area are attracted to Hells Canyon National Recreational Area, located at the southern end of the county. In 1999, over 22,000 people toured Hells Canyon by commercial jet boat and over 350 people experienced the canyon via commercial rafting operations. In addition to this, twelve of these commercial outfitting businesses are located in Lewiston².



Figure 11. Conservation tour. Circa 1946.

¹ Nez Perce County Road and Bridge Department, 2000

² Unpublished correspondence with Michelle Peters, Director Hells Canyon Visitor Assoc., August 2000

Resource Assessment

The majority of the streams within the District do not meet the federal requirements identified in the Clean Water Act or the Endangered Species Act.

Section 303(b) of the Clean Water Act lists impaired streams within each state (Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, 2007). The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) maintains lists of impaired waters and the identified pollutants. For each pollutant a total maximum daily load or TMDL is established which identifies the reductions needed to meet the water quality standards. For Nez Perce County, the majority of streams are listed as impaired on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Clean Water Action Section 303(d) impaired water list. In addition, the majority of the streams within the District are listed as critical habitat for chinook and steelhead fish under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The major pollutants include high stream temperatures, sediment, nutrients, bacteria and poor aquatic habitat suitability.



Figure 12. Sheet, Rill and Ephemeral Gully Erosion near Genesee, Idaho

Objectives

The District's Resource Inventory and Assessment (Rasmussen L. , 2012) identifies 3 objectives to meet the requirements of EPA and ESA:

Objective 1 – Reduce stream temperatures

Reduce water temperatures to levels meeting applicable water quality standards for life stage specific needs of anadromous and native resident fish, with an established upward trend in the number of stream miles meeting standards. The benchmark for this objective is to reduce overall days exceeding daily average temperatures at less than 16 degrees Celsius for spawning and rearing for anadromous salmonids and less than 20 degrees Celsius under all circumstances (US Environmental Protection Agency, 2003). Additional benchmarks for specific project types are discussed under relevant deliverables. Desired outcomes include restoring hydrologic functions related to temperature--identifying and rehabilitating wetland and floodplain areas, restoring riparian functions related to temperature--continuing efforts aimed at increasing streamside shading where streamside shading has been reduced by anthropogenic activities.

Management criteria are based on the NOAA Matrix of Pathways and Indicators (NOAA - National Marine Fisheries Service, 1996). These include water temperature of 16°C, adequate sources of woody debris recruitment, and bank erosion of <10%.

This deliverable includes three components. Our goal is to complete 4 miles (components 1-3) of aquatic habitat suitability improvements through riparian restoration.

COMPONENT (1) Riparian Establishment – ongoing sites. Projects planned in 2012 will have ongoing treatment in the 2014-2017 years in order to ensure successful establishment.

METHODS: Ongoing treatment includes pre-plant weed control, grass establishment in 2013 and 2014, tree/shrub plantings in 2015, and maintenance in 2016-2017.

SUCCESS FACTORS: Weather conditions, especially spring and summer precipitation, heavily impacts survival of vegetation.

COMPONENT (2) Reduce Livestock Impacts to the Stream. Install at least two projects to reduce livestock impacts on the stream.

METHODS: Treatment includes, but is not limited to, fencing, water developments, and vegetative planting.

SUCCESS FACTORS: Factors that may limit success include landowner financial limitations and soil conditions that are too wet or frozen which will delay construction timing. The landowners are sharing in the installation costs of these projects, if a situation occurs where costs exceed available funds, the District will seek supplemental funding, and if none is available, the amount of work will be scoped to fit within our available resources resulting in a longer implementation timeframe.

COMPONENT (3) Riparian establishment – new sites. Additional riparian improvement sites will be selected in the highest geographic priority areas within the Lapwai and Big Canyon watersheds.

METHODS: Riparian treatments include invasive weed control, vegetative plantings and maintenance in areas lacking stream adjacent forest. Vegetation will be suited to site conditions and capable of supplying large wood within the riparian area, providing a buffer to filter nutrients and sediment, providing stream shade and stabilizing the streambanks. In areas impacted by livestock, treatments include development of a grazing management plan which identifies stocking capacity, forage amounts, and timing of grazing activities; fencing of sensitive areas including springs, wetlands and streams, and installation of alternative watering systems if livestock are utilizing streams, springs or wetland as their water source. Plans and designs shall follow USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service and USDA-Forest Service protocols. Work will be completed by project staff, subcontractors and the Idaho Department of Corrections inmate work crew. Outreach efforts to illustrate project benefits and to solicit voluntary landowner cooperation for any identified restoration activities will follow strategies identified in the Lapwai Creek Marketing Plan (Rasmussen L. W., 2012).

SUCCESS FACTORS: The success of this work is predicated on negotiating projects with the numerous landowners with interest in these areas. Weather conditions, especially spring and summer precipitation, heavily impacts survival of vegetation.

Deliverable 2 - Reduce Streambank Erosion

Priorities outlined in a project prioritization exercise along with information in the Lapwai Creek Ecological Restoration Strategy (Richardson, 2009), the Big Canyon Creek Ecological Restoration Strategy (Rasmussen L. a., 2009) and the Catholic Creek Watershed Management Plan (Fales, 2012) will guide the restoration efforts in targeting channel segments that are actively eroding and delivering sediment to designated spawning and rearing habitats. Collectively, the planned sites do not meet management criteria. Management criteria are based on the NOAA Matrix of Pathways and Indicators (NOAA - National Marine Fisheries Service, 1996) for channel condition and dynamics. These indicators list streambank conditions as >90% stable, with on average, less than 10% of banks actively eroding.

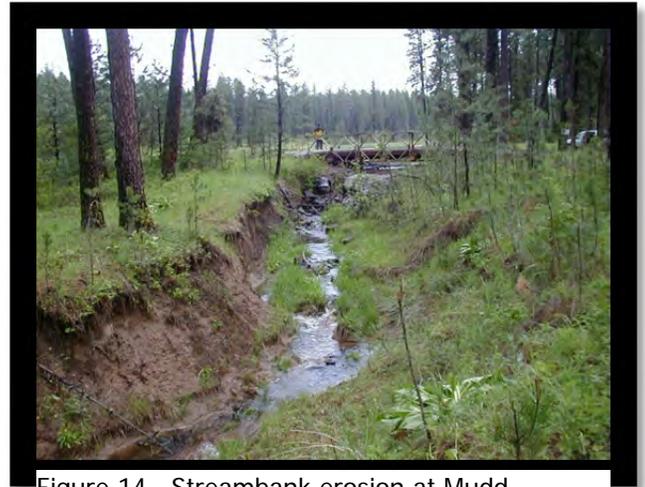


Figure 14. Streambank erosion at Mudd Springs.

This deliverable includes three components. Within the constraints of budget and staffing, completion of work for components 1 and 2 will result in the assessment/plan development of 1.1 miles of stream. While completion of work for component 3 will result in 800 LF of streambank protection.

COMPONENT (1) Lower Lapwai streambank plan development: Within the identified project areas 3,715 linear feet of stream were having excessive bank erosion during the 2009 stream inventory.

METHODS: The plan includes evaluating the previously identified eroding segments, selecting site specific treatments, developing designs, and cost estimates. Work will be completed by project staff, and a team of professionals from the Nez Perce Tribe, USDA-NRCS and NOAA. Plan completion is scheduled for 2014. After plan development outreach efforts to illustrate project benefits and to solicit voluntary landowner participation will include strategies identified in the Lapwai Creek Marketing Plan (Rasmussen L. W., 2012).

SUCCESS FACTORS: The success of implementing this deliverable is predicated on negotiating projects with the numerous landowners with interest in these areas and the availability and coordination of schedules for identified team members.

COMPONENT (2) Sweetwater Creek streambank plan development: Within the identified project area 2,270 linear feet of stream were identified as having excessive bank erosion during the 2009 stream inventory.

The METHODS and SUCCESS FACTORS are the same as those listed in Component 1 above.

COMPONENT (3) Streambank Erosion Treatment: Projects identified through the efforts of the plans developed under 1 and 2 will be installed. From a preliminary

scoping effort, we estimated that 800 LF of the eroding streambanks will need physical treatment. However, the actual applied amount will be based on the needs identified in the planning process under 1 and 2 above.

METHODS: Work for this component includes permitting and installation. Work will be completed by project staff and subcontractors. Methods include those outlined in the Practical Streambank Bioengineering (Bentrup, 1998) as well as those outlined by engineering designs. Bioengineering techniques that may be used include post plantings, brush mattress, fascines, and rootwads. To maximize efficiencies, work will be planned so that sites in close proximity will be completed in the same year. At this time, we are planning on 2 to 3 installation phases: Year 2015 – Sweetwater Creek sites; Year 2016 Middle Lapwai Sites; and Year 2017 Lower Lapwai sites.

SUCCESS FACTORS: Factors that may limit success are the availability of plant materials, weather conditions and budget constraints. A majority of the plant materials will be locally collected and ensuring that an adequate supply of materials meeting the size requirements may be a challenge. Installation will be in the dormant season, so wet or frozen soil conditions may prohibit or delay construction.

Deliverable 3 - Reduce Road Related Sediment Delivery

Priorities outlined in a project prioritization exercise along with information in the Lapwai Creek Ecological Restoration Strategy (Richardson, 2009), and the Tammany Creek Road Inventory and Assessment (Hall, 2011) will guide the restoration efforts in targeting road segments that are actively eroding and delivering sediment to designated spawning and rearing habitats.

This deliverable includes two components, (1) planning and (2) installation of treatment measures within the identified geographic priority areas. Specific sites include both Nez Perce County maintained roads as well as private field access roads. These sites do not meet the management criteria of <20% cobble embeddedness.



Figure 15. Road bank erosion.

Within the constraints of staffing and budget, we propose to treat 1.5 road miles and complete 3 plans and designs for an additional 5.0 miles in the five year period of 2012-2017.

COMPONENT (1) Planning: Planning consists of survey, problem identification and selection of treatment alternatives.

METHODS: Hydrology analysis components are performed using USDA-NRCS hydrology models. Work will be completed by project staff and subcontractors. Outreach efforts to illustrate project benefits and to solicit voluntary landowner participation will include strategies identified in the Lapwai Creek Marketing Plan (Rasmussen L. W., 2012)

SUCCESS FACTORS: The success of implementing this deliverable is predicated on negotiating projects with the numerous landowners with interest in these areas

COMPONENT (2) Installation: Treatment measures include installation of cross drains, culvert replacement, reducing road gradient, increasing vegetation on cut slopes, improving road surface conditions, road relocation, and road obliteration.

METHODS: Road construction guidelines outlined in the USDA Forest Service Forest Road Construction and Management Manual (USDA Forest Service, 2012) will be used in completing road work. Work will be completed by project staff, subcontractors, and Nez Perce County. Outreach efforts to illustrate project benefits and to solicit voluntary landowner participation will include strategies identified in the Lapwai Creek Marketing Plan (Rasmussen L. W., 2012). Coordination efforts will be needed between design engineering staff, landowners, and permitting entities.

SUCCESS FACTORS: The success of implementing this deliverable is predicated on negotiating projects with the numerous landowners with interest in these areas.

Deliverable 4 - Reduce Sediment Delivery from Uplands

Priorities outlined in a project prioritization exercise along with information in the Lapwai Creek Ecological Restoration Strategy (Richardson, 2009), Big Canyon Creek Ecological Restoration Strategy (Rasmussen L. a., 2009), Catholic Creek Watershed Management Plan (Fales, 2012) and the Tammany Creek Water Quality assessment (Fales J. , 2011) will guide the restoration efforts in targeting upland areas that are actively eroding and delivering sediment to designated spawning and rearing habitats. Uplands identified as having high sediment delivery rates are those areas with a soil K factor exceeding 0.37 (Figure 16). Collectively, these projects do not meet management criteria. Benchmarks include soil erosion rates at 1.5 times the specific soils' tolerance rate as established by the Lewis and Nez Perce Soil Survey (USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, 2004), and cobble embeddedness <20%.

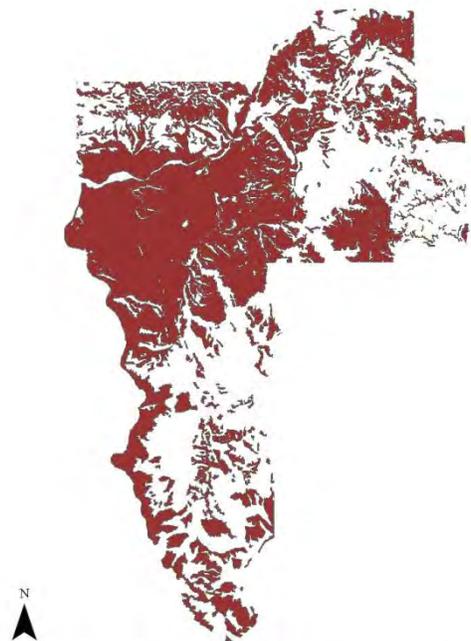


Figure 16. Upland Sediment Priority Treatment Areas

Within the constraints of staffing and budget we plan to treat 120 acres of upland erosion.

COMPONENT (1) Erosion treatment. Treatments include the installation of erosion control measures including vegetative buffers, surface treatments, grade control structures, and water and sediment control structures.

METHODS: Project designs follow USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service Field Office Technical Guide protocols. Outreach efforts to illustrate project benefits and solicit landowner participation will follow strategies outlined in the Lapwai Creek Marketing Plan (Rasmussen L. W., 2012)

SUCCESS FACTORS: The success of implementing this deliverable is predicated on negotiating projects with the numerous landowners with interest in these areas.

Deliverable 5 - Remove and/or Retrofit Barriers

Priorities outlined in a project prioritization exercise along with information gathered in the Lapwai Creek Ecological Restoration Plan (Richardson, 2009), and the Big Canyon Creek Ecological Restoration Strategy (Rasmussen L. a., 2009) will guide the restoration efforts in targeting fish barriers.

This deliverable includes treatment for three high priority projects within the Lapwai Creek watershed.

Selected sites were identified through the Fish Passage Assessment (Taylor, 2004) and the Lapwai creek stream assessment completed in 2009. These barriers include culverts and field access stream crossings that are passage barriers during certain flows. These sites do not meet the management criteria of allowing upstream and downstream fish passage at all flows.

Within the constraints of staffing and budget we plan to treat 3 sites in the five year period from 2012-2017 with a goal of restoring 1.25 miles of access. Activities include: site survey, design, permitting, and construction. These will be implemented in phases over multiple years during this timeframe.

METHODS: Designs will follow the NOAA Criteria for Anadromous Salmonid Passage Facility Design (Nordlund, 2008). Culvert barriers are replaced with either a fish passable structure; stream crossings are shaped and strengthened to match the existing channel profile. Work will be completed by project staff, subcontractors, and landowners. Outreach efforts to illustrate project benefits and to solicit voluntary landowner participation will follow strategies identified in the Lapwai Creek Marketing Plan (Rasmussen L. W., 2012).

SUCCESS FACTORS: The success of implementing this deliverable is predicated on negotiating projects with the numerous landowners with interest in these areas.



Figure 17. Flat Iron Road fish barrier on Sweetwater Creek.

Deliverable 6 - Restore Floodplain Access and Reconnect Channels

Priorities outlined in a project prioritization exercise along with information in the Lapwai Creek Ecological Restoration Strategy (Richardson and Rasmussen, 2009) will guide the restoration efforts in targeting areas where floodplain access is not meeting management criteria. Management criteria are based on the NOAA Matrix of Pathways and Indicators (NOAA - National Marine Fisheries Service, 1996) for channel condition and dynamics. These indicators include width to depth ratios <10 , streambank conditions are $>90\%$ stable, with on average, less than 10% of banks actively eroding, and overbank flows occur on a 1.5 – 2 year event.



Figure 18. 1996 flooding along Big Canyon Creek. Road prohibits access to floodplain.

This deliverable includes three components. Our goal is to complete 7.6 miles of floodplain analysis (Components 1 and 2) and restore aquatic habitat suitability to 1, 200 feet of stream channel (Component 3).

COMPONENT (1) Rock Creek Floodplain Analysis: During the 1965 and 1996 flood events, 0.86 miles of stream was diked with gravel berms (both sides of the channel = 1.7 miles). These berms prohibit access to the floodplain and cause on-site as well as downstream impacts. Downstream impacts include streambank erosion, impacts on the Mission Creek Road Bridge, and additional bedload deposition. This project is upstream of project work completed in 2012.

METHODS: The site needs a topographic survey, hydrologic analysis and design prior to installation activities. The planning phase of this project is scheduled for completion during the 2014-2017 timeframe. Work will be completed by project staff and USDA engineers. Methods will follow USDA/ACOE protocols using HEC-GeoRAS modeling software. After plan development outreach efforts to illustrate project benefits and to solicit voluntary landowner cooperation for any identified restoration activities will follow strategies identified in the Lapwai Creek Marketing Plan (Rasmussen L. W., 2012).

SUCCESS FACTORS: The success of implementing this deliverable is predicated on negotiating projects with the numerous landowners with interest in these areas.

COMPONENT (2) Lapwai Creek Floodplain Analysis: As identified during the 2009 field surveys this 6.8 mile reach of stream starting at Culdesac and continuing to Sweetwater is confined within Highway 95, a railroad and numerous gravel berms. The District partnered with USDA-NRCS to complete a floodplain analysis in order to identify potential areas to restore overbank flows and hydrologic connectivity to the stream. Preliminary field work was completed in 2011 and 2012.

METHOD: A HEC-GeoRAS model will be used to complete identified project work. A sample of the preliminary analysis is illustrated both in the results portion of this proposal as well as located at www.nezperce.org/ISRP.aspx (Document Name = Lapwai Creek HEC-GeoRAS analysis sample outputs 2012). The goal is to finish the analysis in 2014. Permission has been obtained by landowners and USDA resources are committed. After plan development outreach efforts to illustrate project benefits and to solicit voluntary landowner cooperation for any identified restoration activities will follow strategies identified in the Lapwai Creek Marketing Plan (Rasmussen L. W., 2012).

SUCCESS FACTORS: The success of implementing this deliverable is predicated on negotiating projects with the numerous landowners with interest in these areas.

COMPONENT (3) Tom Beall Channel Restoration: This site was identified during the Lapwai Creek stream inventory in 2005; however, it lacked landowner permission until the winter of 2012. Through outreach efforts and coordination with all stakeholders, the District was able to obtain the necessary land owner commitment to relocate this 1,200 foot segment of Tom Beall Creek to its original channel. The channel was moved in the late 1970s as part of a road improvement project, resulting in 1,200 feet of channelization. Design work is slated for the 2013, permitting in 2014, and installation in 2015.

METHODS: Project work will include installation of 2 culverts, 1 stream crossing, and riparian plantings. When finished connectivity will be restored and aquatic habitat diversity improved on 1,200 feet of stream. Compliance monitoring will occur at this site with a minimum of pre-installation/post-installation channel cross-sections and photo point monitoring. Thermographs are already located up and down stream of this area. The majority of the construction labor will be performed by the Nez Perce County Road and Bridge Department.

SUCCESS FACTORS: Factors that may limit success are the availability and timing of construction labor and budget constraints. As actual costs are not prepared prior to the submittal of this proposal, actual costs may exceed allocated budgets. If this occurs, the District will seek supplemental funding, and if none is available, the amount of work will be scoped to fit within our available resources resulting in a longer implementation timeframe.

Deliverable 7 - Improve Watershed Hydrology

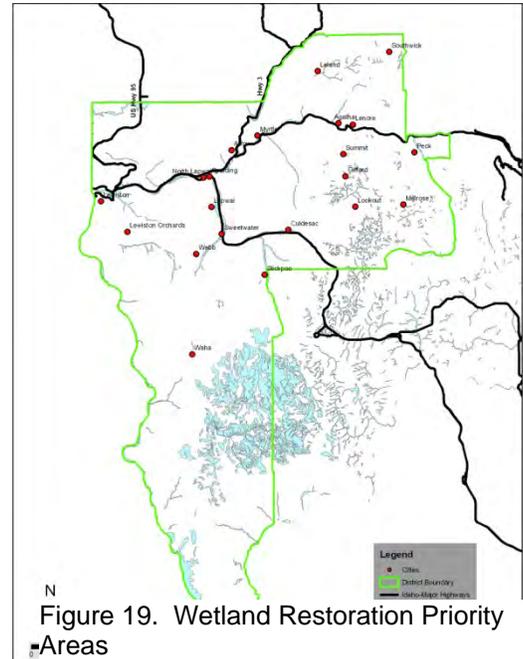
Priorities outlined in a project prioritization exercise along with information gathered in the 2009 Lapwai Creek Ecological Restoration Strategy (Richardson, 2009), Big Canyon Creek Ecological Restoration Strategy (Rasmussen L. a., 2009) and the Catholic Creek Watershed Management Plan (Fales J. A., 2012) will guide restoration efforts in targeting areas with impaired hydrologic function. Collectively the planned sites do not meet management criteria. Management criteria includes adequate flows for fish. This deliverable focuses on watershed hydrograph characteristics of peak flow and flow timing. Management criteria are based on the NOAA Matrix of Pathways and Indicators (NOAA - National Marine Fisheries Service, 1996) for flow/hydrology. A properly functioning condition is identified as a

watershed hydrograph that indicates peak flow, base flow and flow timing characteristics are comparable to an undisturbed condition.

Within the constraints of staffing and budget, our goal is to install 1.5 acres of wetland enhancements (Component 1) 40 acres of upland grass/forb planting (Component 2), and 60 acres of upland tree planting (Component 2).

Hydrologic conditions in the geographic priority areas are driven by upland conditions. Focus areas are restoring wetlands, restoring native vegetation, and reducing surface runoff from agricultural fields.

Treatments include actions that promote water retention and land surface roughness, such as: detention basins, road decommissioning, transportation planning, wetland enhancement and protection, restoration of drained lands, spring protection, vegetative plantings, and changing agricultural management practices.



COMPONENT (1) Wetland enhancements will occur in springs and areas with wetland soils that have been converted either by drainage or by removal of hydric vegetation. These areas are most prevalent in the priority areas shown in Figure 19. Work scheduled for 2012-2017 on these sites includes initial plan development, negotiation with landowners, design, permitting, and installation.

METHODS: Outreach efforts to illustrate project benefits and will include strategies identified in the Lapwai Creek Marketing Plan (Rasmussen L. W., 2012). Monitoring efforts will include project compliance including photo point.

SUCCESS FACTORS: The success of implementing this deliverable is predicated on negotiating projects with the numerous landowners with interest in these areas.

COMPONENT (2) Upland vegetation treatment. Upland vegetation projects will be selected in areas with a C or D soil hydrologic rating within the geographic priority areas. Treatment includes planting of grass/forbs and upland trees or other treatments that increase surface infiltration rates to a minimum of 0.6 inches/hour. Land use priorities for treatment are cropland, rangeland then forestlands.

METHODS: The District has identified priority areas and will solicit landowners to convert land cover from crops to grass and/or trees. Work scheduled for 2012-2017 on these sites includes project solicitation, initial plan development, negotiation with landowners, design and installation. Grass/forb plantings will be installed with a drill and weeds maintained by the landowner using mechanical and chemical means. Upland tree plantings will be seeded to grass/forbs first to reduce weed competition and then planted to suitable forest species. Vegetation selection will follow USDA-Plant Material Center guidelines and Idaho Department of Lands recommendations (forest land conversion).

SUCCESS FACTORS: The success of this work is predicated on negotiating projects with the numerous landowners with interest in these areas. Weather conditions, especially spring and summer precipitation, heavily impacts survival of vegetation.

Deliverable 8 - Improve Groundwater Quality

Priority geographic areas were identified state-wide by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) (Figure 20). The District contains three of the 25 identified areas. Planned treatments within the Lapwai Creek Nitrates priority area (#15 on figure 10), Camas Prairie Nitrates Priority Area (#5 on figure 10), and Genesee/Cow Creek Nitrates Priority Area (#23 on figure 10) include reducing nitrate leaching. Collectively the planned sites do not meet management criteria.

Within the constraints of staffing and budget, our goal is to install 1.5 acres of wetland enhancements (Component 1).

Treatments include actions that promote water retention and land surface roughness, such as: detention basins, road decommissioning, transportation planning, wetland enhancement and protection, restoration of drained lands, spring protection, vegetative plantings, and changing agricultural management practices.

COMPONENT (1) Wetland enhancements will occur in springs and areas with wetland soils that have been converted either by drainage or by removal of hydric vegetation. Work scheduled for 2012-2017 on these sites includes initial plan development, negotiation with landowners, design, permitting, and installation.

METHODS: Outreach efforts to illustrate project benefits and will include strategies identified in the Lapwai Creek Marketing Plan (Rasmussen L. W., 2012). Monitoring efforts will include project compliance including photo point.

SUCCESS FACTORS: The success of implementing this deliverable is predicated on negotiating projects with the numerous landowners with interest in these areas.

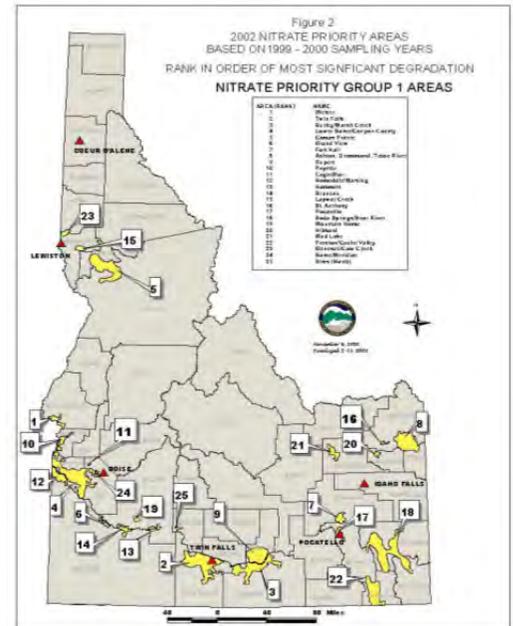


Figure 20. Idaho's Nitrates Priority Areas

Trends Affecting Conservation Needs in the Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District

- Continued profitability challenges of production agriculture
- Increase in fossil fuel prices
- Urbanization
 - a. fragmentation of habitat
 - b. increase in natural disasters (flood, fire, landslides)
 - c. increase in recreation use
- Changes in land management and land use
- Decreased funding available for planning and implementing practices

Strategies to Address Trends

Strategies to address trends within the District include the maintenance and development of technical expertise within District staff, continued promotion of conservation tillage measures which reduce the need for fossil fuels, coordination with county zoning to promote conservation related zoning ordinances, and continued development of partnerships with governmental and non-governmental organizations.

Economic Trends and Conditions

According to the US Census Bureau, Nez Perce County's population in the year 2000 was 37,410. This includes several incorporated communities: Lewiston, Lapwai, Culatesac, and Peck. Lewiston is the county seat and the largest community with a population of 30,363. Unincorporated communities include Lenore, Cameron, Leland, Southwick, and Sweetwater. In 1996, 83% of the overall county population lived in urban areas with only 17% of the population classified as rural. The county is the ninth most populated in Idaho and the thirty-third largest in area (Idaho Department of Commerce, 2010).

Located along the confluence of the Snake and Clearwater Rivers, Lewiston is the only city in Idaho with a seaport. This location contributes to Lewiston's role as a major employment center in the District. Both the population and labor force in the Lewiston area have grown significantly over the last five years with an annual average growth of 3% (Lewiston Job Service, 2000).

Agricultural production plays a major role in the District. With 383 farms in operation covering a total area of 339,476 acres, agricultural production represents approximately 63% of the land use in the District (1997 Department of Commerce/Agriculture Census Data). Yet based on 1996 Idaho Department of Commerce data it employs only about 2% of the work force. The top five employers in the Lewiston area are ATK Inc., City of Lewiston, Clearwater Paper, Inc., Lewis-Clark State College and the Lewiston Independent School District.



Figure 21. Harvest – October 1990.

Nez Perce County labor market information indicates that unemployment rates have increased from 5.1 percent in 2000 to 7.2 percent in 2010.

Priorities and Strategies

Identification and prioritization of the District's objectives and activities for the five year period from 2012 through 2017 was completed in order to address the identified resource conservation needs.

Priorities were developed from information gathered in focus groups, interviews, surveys, and from analysis of existing information. These issues form the foundation upon which The Pathfinder was developed. The eight priorities are:

- Priority #1: Maintain and Enhance a Sustainable District Infrastructure
- Priority #2: Fulfill Current Grant, Statutory, and Client Commitments
- Priority #3: Improve, Protect, and Enhance Riparian Corridors
- Priority #4: Water Management
- Priority #5: Sustainable Energy Systems
- Priority #6: Community Education
- Priority #7: Responsible Rural Land Development and Urban Expansion
- Priority #8: Maintain, Restore, and Enhance Productive Capacity of Working Lands



Figure 22. Canola growing in the Lapwai Creek watershed.

The priorities and strategies for the period 2012 through 2017 are listed on the following pages.

1

Priority

Maintain and Enhance a Sustainable District Infrastructure**Objective 1.1**

Identify stable funding mechanisms.

Strategies:

- Explore alternative funding sources to meet identified conservation needs.
- Develop sales opportunity for difficult to obtain materials used in conservation projects.
- Identify and pursue stable funding mechanisms.

Objective 1.2

Expand District capacity.

Strategies:

- Strengthen Board effectiveness in delivering, promoting and managing conservation activities.
- Maintain membership in the Idaho Association of Conservation Districts.
- Develop partnership agreements and memoranda of understanding with governmental entities to provide services.
- Participate in Idaho Counties Risk Management Program activities.
- Explore, develop, and maintain partnerships to facilitate sharing of resources and reduce duplication of efforts.
- Improve district use of resources and skills through partnering.

Objective 1.3

Build and strengthen partnerships and coalitions.

Strategies:

- Strengthen relationships with agriculture, conservation, and community organizations and other mission stakeholders.
- Help build and support coalitions of public and private partners based on ecological and industry needs.
- Increase leveraging of investments and resources with traditional and non-traditional partners.
- Strengthen partnerships within the District.

2

Priority

Fulfill Current Grant, Statutory, and Client Commitments

Objective 2.1

Financial
Management

Strategies:

- Achieve clean financial audits.
- Complete grant and contract reporting responsibilities.
- Prepare annual budgets and work plans.
- Invest in human resources and information technology systems to strengthen and streamline financial management performance.
- Continually improve internal controls.

Objective 2.2

Utilize the resource conservation plan as a decision making tool for identifying the District's natural resource issues.

Strategies:

- Revise the District's resource assessment and inventory to reflect current conditions.
- Revise the District five year plan to align with priorities identified in the resource assessment.
- Ensure resource inventory and assessment information is available to local decision makers.

Objective 2.3

Improve quality and accountability to deliver better products and services.

Strategies:

- Improve efficiency and organization.
- Employ, develop, and retain a highly skilled and diverse workforce.
- Align District Operations Policies with recommendations from Idaho Counties Risk Management Program.
- Improve District use of resources and skills through partnering.
- Hold public meetings to ensure transparency of District decision making process.
- Simplify and efficiently deliver conservation assistance to customers.

3

Priority

Improve, Protect and Enhance Riparian Corridors

Objective 3.1

Increase and improve fish productivity through habitat improvement.

Strategies:

- Implement action items listed in watershed restoration plans and contracts.
- Assist the all partners in the evaluation of alternative habitat treatments and determine their effectiveness in improving anadromous fish habitat.
- Reduce water temperatures to levels meeting applicable water quality standards and biological needs for fish.
- Cooperate with Nez Perce Tribe and Idaho Department of Fish and Game to ensure that fish distribution and abundance data is collected on all streams within the District.
- Obtain and distribute funding for the improvement of anadromous fish habitat.

Objective 3.2

Reduce the number of artificially blocked streams.

Strategies:

Identify existing and potential fish migration barriers.
Secure technical and financial resources to identify, prioritize, and remove barriers.
Remove priority barriers.

3

Priority

Improve, Protect and Enhance Riparian Corridors

Objective 3.3

Restore, repair, enhance riparian and wetland resources within the District.

Strategies:

- Protect currently functioning wetlands and restore historic wetlands to proper functioning condition.
- Protect wetland habitats through the development of grazing plans and installation of alternative forms of water for livestock.
- Conduct wetland planting demonstration areas throughout the District.
- Identify and prioritize riparian habitats for protection and restoration.
- Produce wetland biolug, plug and sod materials for use in conservation projects.
- Protect and restore riparian communities in agricultural lands through increased enrollment in conservation easement programs.
- Use hydric soils maps to determine the location of historic wetlands focusing on the areas of Gifford and Reubens.

Objective 3.4

Reduce animal feeding operation impacts on water quality and fisheries habitat.

Strategies:

- Implement conservation measures on animal feeding operations.
- Participate as a member in the Clearwater region animal feeding operation committee.
- Utilize the Division 2 Idaho Association of Soil Conservation District's AFO project fund to assist private landowners in meeting EPA water quality requirements.

4 Priority

Water Management

Objective 4.1

Reduce risks from drought and flooding.

Strategies:

- Identify flood prone areas.
- Implement actions listed within the Nez Perce County Hazard Mitigation and Floodplain management plans.
- Reduce the impacts of flooding in flood prone areas through upland treatments.
- Promote water conservation and water use efficiency.

Objective 4.2

Improve and enhance water quality to acceptable standards for ground and surface waters within the District.

Strategies:

- Develop nutrient management plans for agricultural lands.
- Identify streambank sediment sources through stream inventories.
- Reduce sediment through the protection of cropland from excessive erosion.
- Implement protection measure identified in TMDL implementation and water quality improvement plans.
- Reduce instream sedimentation and nutrient level meeting applicable water quality standards and measures.

Objective 4.3

Assess and monitor watershed conditions.

Strategies:

- Collect data to assess and analyze watershed conditions.
- Collect stream temperature data within the District.
- Collect bank erosion data.
- Collect soil quality data in the Lapwai, Tammany, and Cow Creek watersheds.

4 Priority

Water Management

Objective 4.4

Develop watershed based resource plans for improving and protecting natural resources.

Strategies:

- Partner with the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, and Nez Perce Tribe in the development and coordination of TMDL and TMDL implementation plans.
- Participate in the Cow, Tammany and Lindsay Creek watershed advisory groups.
- Participate in the Lower Clearwater TMDL watershed advisory group.
- Review the 303(d) list of water bodies and incorporate changes within the District resource conservation plan.
- Develop watershed plans for the Lapwai, Big Canyon, Cottonwood, Jacks, Pine, Bedrock, Hatwai and Catholic Creek watersheds.
- Conduct landowner educational meetings in TMDL watersheds.

Objective 4.5

Reduce transportation system impacts on water quality, fish habitat, and hydrology.

Strategies:

- Compile road inventory and assessment in the Tammany Creek watershed.
- Improve roads to reduce run-off and pollution contributions to streams.
- Identify priority road treatment areas.

5 Priority

Sustainable Energy Systems

Objective 5.1

Demonstrate and deploy clean energy technologies.

Strategies:

- Demonstrate alternative energy sources for livestock watering systems.

Objective 5.2

Identify sustainable energy systems for implementation in District.

Strategies:

- Explore technical assistance opportunities available from the Department of Energy.
- Identify sustainable energy system options for use within the District.
- Provide training to District elected officials and staff on sustainable energy systems.
- Develop a strategy to incorporate sustainable energy systems into District business and products.
- Explore waste to energy system options.

6 Priority

Community Education

Objective 6.1

Increase public awareness of conservation programs and activities.

Strategies:

- Develop and implement a District wide marketing plan.
- Develop internships with local colleges/universities.
- Produce District wide newsletter.
- Utilize social media to inform and educate public.
- Coordinate with local partners to implement conservation education programs.
- Participate in the Home and Garden Show.
- Complete conservation needs assessment surveys with landowners.
- Develop and launch a conservation education initiative to increase public understanding of the value of conservation and natural resource protection.
- Increase landowner and operator involvement in implementing conservation systems.
- Provide conservation planning information to local realtors and developers.
- Disseminate an accomplishment report to conservation partners, clients, and the general public.

Objective 6.2

Provide natural resource education to area youth.

Strategies:

- Provide scholarships to attend natural resource camps.
- Coordinate the annual Environmental Awareness Days program for area 5th and 6th graders.
- Support, coordinate and implement environmental education programs at Camp Wittman.
- Provide conservation education information to educators and students.

Objective 6.3

Transfer technology to District clients.

Strategies:

- Support the Rangeland Grazing Conference.
- Assist in the coordination of the annual weed control clinics sponsored by the Clearwater Basin Cooperative Weed Management Area.
- Develop field trials to demonstrate and evaluate different grass varieties for road bank erosion control.
- Organize a basic fish biology workshop for local landowners.

7

 Priority

Responsible Rural Land Development and Urban Expansion

Objective 7.1

Promote responsible urban developments so that soil and water resources will be conserved and meet the TMDL objectives.

Strategies:

- Review and provide comments on city and county development activities in coordination with the Nez Perce County Planning Department.
- Work with the Nez Perce County and City of Lewiston planning and zoning committees to incorporate environmental set-backs and protect critical natural resource areas.
- Identify prime and unique farmland areas within the District and provide information to planning and zoning jurisdictions to ensure adequate protection of resources.
- Develop urban run-off management systems on.

Objective 7.2

Protect cultural resources within the District.

Strategies:

- Consult with the State and tribal historic preservation officers when installing earth disturbing practices.
- Identify cultural resources within the District.

8 Priority

Maintain, Restore, and Enhance the Productive Capacity of Working Lands

Objective 8.1

Maintain productive working farms and ranches

Strategies:

- Encourage the adoption of direct seed systems.
- Certify carbon sequestration acres for the Pacific Northwest Direct Seed Association.
- Maintain membership in the Pacific Northwest Direct Seed Association.
- Encourage the use of the RCRDP loan program for direct seed systems equipment.
- Improve soil quality on cropland acres.
- Encourage the use of the Soil Quality Test kit on cropland.
- Rangeland will be treated to protect their quality and ensure long-term productive capacity.
- Pursue resources to develop grazing plans and implement grazing land conservation treatments.
- Forestlands will be treated to protect their quality and ensure long-term productive capacity.
- Cropland will be treated to protect their quality and ensure long-term productive capacity.
- Help farmers and ranchers comply with existing environmental regulations and alleviate the need for further regulations.
- Support the Clearwater Resource Conservation and Development Council's Forestry measures.

Objective 8.2

Encourage the protection of existing and the development of additional ponderosa pine communities.

Strategies:

- Restore ponderosa pine communities through planting ponderosa pine trees within Nez Perce County.
- Protect existing mature ponderosa pine communities through conservation plan development.

8

Priority

Maintain, Restore, and Enhance the Productive Capacity of Working Lands

Objective 8.3

Restore and/or protect native plant communities.

Strategies:

- Restore and/or protect prairie habitats through noxious weed control, cultural practices and seeding.
- Develop grazing management plans to limit adverse impacts to rare or culturally sensitive plant populations.
- Inventory and map existing prairie remnants during conservation plan development within the Lapwai Creek watershed.
- Protect the existing quality, quantity, and diversity of native plant communities by preventing the introduction, reproduction, and spread of noxious weeds and invasive exotic plants into the District.

Objective 8.4

Reduce the extent and density of established noxious weeds.

Strategies:

- Identify and prioritize areas for noxious weed treatment.
- Release biocontrol agents for yellow starthistle and spotted knapweed control within the county.
- Coordinate an interagency biocontrol agent collection day.
- Complete a bio-control workshop for noxious weed pests.
- Implement pest management plans.

Objective 8.5

Prevent the introduction, reproduction and spread of invasive species.

Strategies:

- Prevent seed dispersal through limiting the dispersal of weed seeds from District owned and operated equipment.
- Recommend and use noxious weed free seeds when implementing grass seeding projects.
- Participate in the Clearwater Basin Cooperative Weed Management Area.
- Complete the Reeds Canary Grass Demonstration Project.
- Control of Hybrid Knotweed.

8 Priority

Maintain, Restore, and Enhance the Productive Capacity of Working Lands

Objective 8.6

Ensure the long-term survival of native fish, wildlife, and plants.

Strategies:

- Restore native species where they have declined or disappeared.
- Collaborate with the Idaho Governor's Office of Species Conservation, the Idaho Fish and Game, and the Nez Perce Tribe to develop and implement plans to recover threatened and endangered species and conserve native fish, wildlife and plants.
- Assist public and private landowners in the conservation, restoration, and enhancement of native fish, wildlife, and plants through the implementation of conservation practices on.
- Support the efforts of the Idaho Conservation Data Center (CDC) to document the occurrence of rare species and work toward increased reporting of sightings.
- Participate in the Idaho Fish and Game non-game program.
- Provide information to landowners regarding the distribution, abundance and conservation of native fish, wildlife, and plants.
- Develop habitat conservation plans as identified in restoration strategies.
- Encourage landowners to designate areas for wildlife habitat and food plots.
- Support conservation practices which provide off-site or secondary benefits to fish and game species.

Implementation

Implementation of the five year plan will be accomplished by annual plans prepared by the District. The annual plan will address those items and projects that the District plans to accomplish upon consideration of available technical and financial assistance and public support for the proposed actions.

The annual plan shall cover the period July 1 through June 30th each year. Annual plans are posted on the District's web site at www.nezperceswcd.org.



Figure 23. Rainbow near Winchester, Idaho

Annual plans are contained in Appendices A-E.

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Appendix A – Fiscal Year 2013 Annual Work Plan

The next pages contain the FY2013 work plan for the period July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.



Figure 24. Melrose School house.

Annual Workplan

*Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District
Annual Work Plan
July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013*



District Mission

To provide progressive leadership to coordinate technical and financial resources in the implementation of programs to enhance plants, animal, and aquatic life, while supporting conservation communities, and the wise use and protection of air, water soil and their related ecosystems.

District Vision

Our vision is to maintain a productive, sustainable natural resource base while promoting the wise use of our natural resources to protect the environment for future generations and communities.

District Annual Workplan



The Annual Workplan is the Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District's (District) plan which is the foundation for the focus and direction for the period July 1, 2012 to July 30, 2013.

Priorities and strategies are identified in the District's Five year plan. The eight priorities are:

- Priority #1: Fulfill Current Grant, Statutory, and Client Commitments
- Priority #2: Establish a Sustainable Resource Infrastructure
- Priority #3: Improve, Protect, and Enhance Riparian Corridors
- Priority #4: Run-off Management
- Priority #5: Responsible Rural Land Development and Urban Expansion
- Priority #6: Maintain, Restore, and Enhance Productive Capacity of Working Lands
- Priority #7: Sustainable Energy Systems
- Priority #8: Community Education

The annual workplan was adopted by the District Board on February 16, 2012

District Organization

The Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District (District) is one of 50 Conservation Districts in Idaho. The District is a subdivision of Idaho State government and is governed by a Board of seven members who are elected and serve a four year term without pay. Board members are landowners or land managers within the district boundary. Board members are elected by public ballot in the Nez Perce County general election process.

Function of the Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District

The function of the District is to act as the “primary entity to provide assistance to private landowners and land users in the conservation, sustainment, improvement and enhancement of the District’s natural resources” as outlined in Idaho State Law §22-2716.

District Elected Officials

Steve Becker, Chair
Tracy Hill, Vice-Chair
Kyle Wilson, Treasurer
John Hermann
Dale Nichols
Dave Troy
Todd Wittman

The District serves all landowners within the District boundary.

1 Priority

Fulfill Current Grant, Statutory, and Client Commitments

Objective 1.1

streamline financial management.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Complete District financial audit for FY12	3/31/13
Develop FY14 budget.	1/31/13
Complete Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission financial match report.	9/1/13
Develop an inventory tracking system.	12/31/12

Objective 1.2

Utilize the resource conservation plan as a decision making tool for identifying the District's natural resource issues.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Complete District physical resource inventory	12/30/12
Meet with local resource managers to identify priority resource conservation needs.	1/31/13
Post resource assessment information on District web site	5/1/13

Objective 1.3

Improve quality and accountability to deliver better products and services.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Conduct board meetings to carry out the business of the District.	6/30/12
Develop FY 2014 Annual Work Plan	1/31/13
Conduct District elections on County General Ballot	11/15/12
Complete annual accomplishments report and submit to Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission.	12/1/13

2 Priority

Establish a Sustainable Resource Infrastructure

Objective 2.1

Identify stable funding mechanisms.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Meet with Idaho Legislative representatives to identify potential funding sources.	6/30/13
Complete feasibility study for tree and other conservation product sales.	12/31/12

Objective 2.2

Expand District capacity.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Participate in the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation District's annual meeting	11/2012
Attend Idaho County Risk Management Program Certification Program sessions.	11/2012 3/2013
Finalize cooperative working agreement with Idaho Department of Fish and Game	3/2013
Improve plant nursery to increase efficiency in watering and reduce plant loss.	8/2012

Objective 2.3

Build and strengthen partnerships and coalitions.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Develop a cooperative working agreement with the Port of Lewiston.	9/2012
Meet with Nez Perce County Board of Commissioners to identify projects and shared resource opportunities	10/2012 5/2013
Participate as a steering committee member for the Clearwater Basin Cooperative Weed Management Area	10/2012 5/2013

3 Priority

Improve, Protect and Enhance Riparian Corridors

Objective 3.1

Increase and improve fish productivity through habitat improvement.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Implement the statement of work for the Bonneville Power Administration Lapwai Creek Steelhead Restoration project	4/30/13
Implement conservation measures identified in the Tom Beall restoration plan.	6/30/13
Install 2 miles of habitat improvements.	6/30/13
Collect stream temperature data within the District. Data will be used for water quality and fish habitat assessment purposes. Implement stream temperature monitoring plans for Big Canyon, Lapwai, and Nez Perce County.	6/30/13
Implement actions in the Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery's Big Canyon Fish Habitat Restoration Project.	6/30/13

Objective 3.2

Reduce the number of artificially blocked streams.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
In cooperation with Nez Perce County remove two stream barriers.	8/30/12
Complete barrier assessment for the Catholic Creek watershed	9/30/12

Objective 3.3

Restore, repair, enhance riparian and wetland resources within the District.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Complete a hydric soils analysis to identify the location of all potential wetland areas.	9/30/12
Meet with local wetland scientists to identify priority wetland treatment areas.	11/30/12
Improve wetland function and quality on 0.5 acres by controlling invasive species and installation of conservation practices.	11/30/12
Complete Wetland Mitigation Project obligations.	12/2012
Produce wetland biolog and sod products for use in conservation projects.	6/30/13
Implement 5,000 feet of riparian restoration practices.	6/30/13
Install 3,000 feet of fence to protect riparian areas.	6/30/13

Objective 3.4

Reduce animal feeding operation impacts on water quality and fisheries habitat.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Participate in Division II Animal Feeding operation committee	6/30/13
Install conservation measures at two animal feeding operations.	6/30/13

4 Priority

Run-Off Management

Objective 4.1

Reduce risks from drought and flooding.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Finalize Lapwai Creek floodplain reconnection assessment.	10/30/12
Incorporate floodplain management action items into the Catholic, Cottonwood and Jacks Creek watershed plans	6/30/13

Objective 4.2

Improve and enhance water quality to acceptable standards for ground and surface waters within the District.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Participate in local watershed advisory group meetings.	6/30/13
Reduce sediment through the protection of 1,000 acres of cropland from excessive erosion.	6/30/13
Develop 500 acres of nutrient management plans.	6/30/13
Incorporate TMDL implementation planning actions into the Catholic, Cottonwood, and Jacks Creek watershed plans.	6/30/13

Objective 4.3

Assess and monitor watershed conditions.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Complete 20 miles of stream inventory on the Jacks Creek watershed.	6/30/13
Complete 40 miles of stream inventory in Pine and Bedrock Creek watershed.	6/30/13

Objective 4.4

Develop watershed based resource plans for improving and protecting natural resources.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Write a proposal and obtain funding for watershed plans for the Deer, Eagle, and China Creek watersheds.	6/30/13
Complete Cottonwood Creek watershed plan.	6/30/13
Complete Catholic Creek watershed plan.	6/30/13

Objective 4.5

Reduce transportation system impacts on water quality, fish habitat, and hydrology.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Install 3 miles of road improvement measures.	6/30/13
Complete a culvert inventory and road assessment in the Jacks Creek watershed.	6/30/13

5 Priority

Promote Responsible Rural Land Development and Urban Expansion

Objective 5.1

Promote responsible urban developments so that soil and water resources will be conserved and meet the TMDL objectives.

Activities for FY2013	Target Dates
Participate in coordinated plans for the development of recreational areas, industrial sites, and other facilities as requested by the City of Lewiston and/or Nez Perce County.	12/31/12
Preserve prime and unique farmland.	12/31/12
Work with the City of Lewiston to identify potential projects within the Lindsay and Tammany Creek watersheds.	6/30/13

Objective 5.2

Protect cultural resources within the District.

Activities for FY2013	Target Dates
Consult with State Historic Preservation Officer and/or tribal historic presentation officer when installing earth disturbing practices. Estimate 10 consultations completed. ¹	6/30/13

6 Priority

Maintain, Restore, and Enhance the Productive Capacity of Working Lands

Objective 6.1

Maintain productive working farms and ranches

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Encourage the use of the RCRDP loan program for direct seed systems equipment.	6/30/13
Maintain membership in the Pacific Northwest Direct Seed Association.	6/30/13
Complete 1,000 acres of Conservation plans on non-irrigated cropland. ¹	6/30/13
Provide SCCD reduced tillage/direct seed/no till loan program information to cooperators.	6/30/13
Pursue resources to develop grazing plans and implement grazing land conservation treatments.	6/30/13
Implement conservation practices on 500 acres of grazing lands.	6/30/13
Apply 50 acres of forest stand improvement.	9/30/12

Objective 6.2

Encourage the protection of existing and the development of additional ponderosa pine communities.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Plant 50 acres of ponderosa pine trees	6/30/12

Objective 6.3

Restore and/or protect native plant communities.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Inventory and map existing prairie remnants during conservation plan development within the Big Canyon and Lapwai Creek watersheds.	6/30/13
Restore prairie habitats through noxious weed control, cultural practices and seeding.	6/30/13

6 Priority

Maintain, Restore, and Enhance the Productive Capacity of Working Lands

Objective 6.4

Reduce the extent and density of established noxious weeds.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Identify and prioritize areas for noxious weed treatment.	6/30/13
Release biocontrol agents for yellow starthistle and spotted knapweed control at 20 sites within the District.	7/5/12
Coordinate an interagency biocontrol agent collection day.	7/5/12
Complete a bio-control workshop for noxious weed pests.	6/30/13
Implement 250 acres of Pest management conservation plans. ¹	6/30/13

Objective 6.5

Prevent the introduction, reproduction and spread of invasive species.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Prevent seed dispersal from equipment	6/30/13
Recommend and use noxious weed free seeds when implementing grass seeding projects.	6/30/13
Participate in the Clearwater Basin Weed Group.	6/30/13
Control 15 acres of Hybrid Knotweed.	6/30/13
Coordinate with local weed control entities to identify noxious weed areas	6/30/13

Objective 6.6

Ensure the long-term survival of native fish, wildlife, and plants.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Develop conservation plans on 200 acres to address native species restoration. ¹	6/30/13
Develop 4 habitat conservation plans within the Big Canyon Creek Watershed and 6 habitat conservation plans in the Lapwai watershed.	6/30/13
Provide information to landowners regarding the distribution, abundance and conservation of native fish, wildlife, and plants.	6/30/13
Collaborate with IDFG and NPT to develop plans to recover threatened and endangered species and conserve native fish, wildlife and plants.	6/30/13
Support the efforts of the Idaho Conservation Data Center (CDC) to document the occurrence of rare species and work toward increased reporting of sightings. Provide CDC inventory forms on an annual basis ¹ .	6/30/13

7

Priority

Sustainable Energy Systems

Objective 7.1

Demonstrate and deploy clean energy technologies.

Strategies:

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
No actions planned for this fiscal year.	

Objective 7.2

Identify sustainable energy systems for implementation in District.

Strategies:

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Obtain technical assistance from the Department of Energy in order to identify system types and potentials for the District.	6/30/13

8

Priority

Community Education

Objective 8.1

Increase public awareness of conservation programs and activities.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Publish Forever Soil and Water Newsletter—4 times per year	6/30/13
Maintain District Web Site.	6/30/13
Participate in the Nez Perce County Home Show	3/30/13
Complete one display focusing on water quality education.	6/30/13
Disseminate accomplishment report to conservation partners, clients, and general public.	12/31/12

Objective 8.2

Provide natural resource education to area youth.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Coordinate annual Environmental Awareness Days program for area schools.	6/1/13
Provide one scholarship to attend a resource camp.	6/30/13
Support Camp Wittman education activities	6/30/13
Develop 2 resource internships with local colleges.	6/30/13

Objective 8.3

Transfer technology to District clients.

Actions for FY2013	Target Dates
Support the Rangeland Grazing conference	1/31/13
Evaluate conservation field trials and disseminate results	3/30/13
Complete the Roadside Vegetation Plant Materials trial evaluation with the Pullman Plant Materials Center	6/30/13

District Contact Information

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Culdesac, Idaho 83524

208-843-2931

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www.nezperceswcd.org

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/NezPerceSWCD>



Appendix B – Fiscal Year 2014 Annual Work Plan

The next pages contain the FY2014 work plan for the period July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.



Figure 25. Lewiston Port, 1987.

Annual Workplan

*Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District
Annual Work Plan
July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014*



District Mission

To be the primary entity leading nonregulatory efforts in the conservation, sustainment, improvement, and enhancement of Nez Perce County's natural resources.

District Vision

A county with a sustainable landscape.

District Annual Workplan



The Annual Workplan is the Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District's (District) plan which is the foundation for the focus and direction for the period July 1, 2013 to July 30, 2014.

Priorities and strategies are identified in the District's Five Year Plan. The eight priorities are:

- Priority #1: Maintain and Enhance a Sustainable District Infrastructure
- Priority #2: Fulfill Current Grant, Statutory, and Client Commitments
- Priority #3: Improve, Protect, and Enhance Riparian Corridors
- Priority #4: Water Management
- Priority #5: Sustainable Energy Systems
- Priority #6: Community Education
- Priority #7: Responsible Rural Land Development and Urban Expansion
- Priority #8: Maintain, Restore, and Enhance Productive Capacity of Working Lands

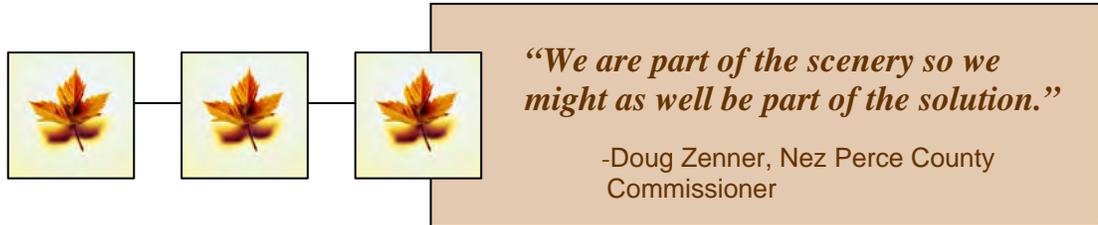
The annual workplan was adopted by the District Board on February 21, 2013.

District Organization

The Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District (District) is one of 50 Conservation Districts in Idaho. The District is a subdivision of Idaho State government and is governed by a Board of seven members who are elected and serve a four year term without pay. Board members are elected by public ballot in the Nez Perce County general election process.

Function of the Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District

The function of the District is to act as the “primary entity to provide assistance to private landowners and land users in the conservation, sustainment, improvement and enhancement of the District’s natural resources” as outlined in Idaho State Law §22-2716.



District Elected Officials

Steve Becker, Chair
Tracy Hill, Vice-Chair
Kyle Wilson, Treasurer
John Hermann
Dale Nichols
Dave Troy
Todd Wittman

1

Priority

Maintain and Enhance a Sustainable District Infrastructure

Objective 1.1

Identify stable funding mechanisms.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Meet with Idaho Legislative representatives to identify potential funding sources.	6/30/14
Develop financial fundraising plan	6/30/14
Maintain current funding relationships with partners such as BPA OSC DEQ IDFG NRCS.	6/30/14

Objective 1.2

Expand District capacity.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Attend Idaho County Risk Management Program Certification Program sessions.	11/2013 3/2014
Finalize cooperative working agreements.	3/2014
Seek continued opportunities for professional development for staff and supervisors.	6/30/2014

Objective 1.3

Build and strengthen partnerships and coalitions.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Meet with Nez Perce County Board of Commissioners, City of Lewiston, and the Port of Lewiston to identify projects and shared resource opportunities	10/2013 5/2014
Participate as a steering committee member for the Clearwater Basin Cooperative Weed Management Area	10/2013 5/2014
Participate in the Valley Chamber Meetings	6/30/14

2 Priority

Fulfill Current Grant, Statutory, and Client Commitments

Objective 2.1

Financial management.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Complete District financial audit for FY13	3/31/14
Develop FY15 budget.	1/31/14
Complete Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission financial match report.	9/1/13

Objective 2.2

Utilize the resource conservation plan as a decision making tool for identifying the District's natural resource issues.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Complete Phase 3 of the District physical resource inventory	12/30/13
Meet with local resource managers to identify priority resource conservation needs.	1/31/14
Post resource assessment information on District web site	5/1/14

Objective 2.3

Improve quality and accountability to deliver better products and services.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Conduct board meetings to carry out the business of the District.	6/30/14
Develop FY 2015 Annual Work Plan	1/31/14
Complete grant obligations identified in FY 2014	6/30/14
Complete annual accomplishments report and submit to Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission.	12/1/14

3 Priority

Improve, Protect and Enhance Riparian Corridors

Objective 3.1

Increase and improve fish productivity through habitat improvement.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Implement the statement of work for the Bonneville Power Administration Lapwai Creek Steelhead Restoration project	4/30/14
Implement conservation measures identified in the Tom Beall restoration plan.	6/30/14
Install 3 habitat improvement measures.	6/30/14
Collect stream temperature data within the District. Data will be used for water quality and fish habitat assessment purposes. Implement stream temperature monitoring plans for Big Canyon, Lapwai, and Nez Perce County.	6/30/14
Implement actions in the Snake River Basin Cottonwood Creek Fish Habitat Restoration Project.	6/30/14

Objective 3.2

Reduce the number of artificially blocked streams.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
In cooperation with Nez Perce County, plan and design the removal of two stream barriers.	8/30/13
Complete barrier assessment for the Jacks Creek watershed	9/30/13

Objective 3.3

Restore, repair, enhance riparian and wetland resources within the District.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Request the Army Corp of Engineers adopt District Watershed plans for use in the ACOE Wetland mitigation programs	9/30/2013
Improve wetland function and quality on 0.5 acres by controlling invasive species and installation of conservation practices.	11/30/13
Produce wetland biolog and sod products for use in conservation projects.	6/30/14
Implement 2,000 feet of riparian restoration practices.	6/30/14
Install 2,000 feet of fence to protect riparian areas.	6/30/14

Objective 3.4

Reduce animal feeding operation impacts on water quality and fisheries habitat.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Pursue additional funds for animal feeding operations	6/30/14
Install conservation measures at two animal feeding operations.	6/30/14

4 Priority

Water Management

Objective 4.1

Reduce risks from drought and flooding.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Coordinate a Lower Potlatch corridor floodplain management plan	6/30/14
Incorporate floodplain management action items into the Rattlesnake and Bedrock Creek watershed plans	6/30/14
Identify Nez Perce County high flow hazards.	6/30/14

Objective 4.2

Improve and enhance water quality to acceptable standards for ground and surface waters within the District.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Participate in local watershed advisory group meetings.	6/30/14
Reduce sediment through the protection of 1,000 acres of cropland from excessive erosion. ¹	6/30/14
Encourage land managers to implement nutrient management measures	6/30/14
Incorporate TMDL implementation planning actions into the Lower Clearwater watershed plans.	6/30/14
Identify, inventory and implement storm water measures for farm, buildings, and industrial areas such as rock quarries, county lots, shops, airstrips and grain facilities.	6/30/14

Objective 4.3

Assess and monitor watershed conditions.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
All activities planned in the District's Five Year Strategic Plan have been completed	6/30/14
Pursue funding as needed.	6/30/14

Objective 4.4

Develop watershed based resource plans for improving and protecting natural resources.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Write a proposal and obtain funding for watershed plans for the Deer, Eagle, and China Creek watersheds.	6/30/14
Complete Hatwai, Pine and Bedrock Creek watershed plans.	6/30/14

Objective 4.5

Reduce transportation system impacts on water quality, fish habitat, and hydrology.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Install 3 miles of road improvement measures.	6/30/14
Complete a culvert inventory and road assessment in the entire County if not completed.	6/30/14

5 Priority

Sustainable Energy Systems

Objective 5.1

Demonstrate and deploy clean energy technologies.

Activities for FY2014	Target Dates
Explore funding sources	6/30/14
Explore opportunities with local power companies to complete energy audits.	6/30/14

Objective 5.2

Identify sustainable energy systems for implementation in District.

Activities for FY2014	Target Dates
Obtain technical assistance from the Department of Energy in order to identify system types and potentials for the District.	6/30/14

6 Priority

Community Education

Objective 6.1

Increase public awareness of conservation programs and activities.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Publish Forever Soil and Water Newsletter—4 times per year	6/30/14
Maintain District Web Site.	6/30/14
Participate in the Earth Day Celebration	3/30/14
Complete one display focusing on water quality education.	6/30/14
Disseminate accomplishment report to conservation partners, clients, and general public.	12/31/13
Participate in the Legislative Display in Boise	6/30/14

Objective 6.2

Provide natural resource education to area youth.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Coordinate annual Environmental Awareness Days program for area schools.	6/1/14
Provide one scholarship to attend a resource camp.	6/30/14
Support Camp Wittman education activities	6/30/14
Develop 2 resource internships with local colleges.	6/30/14

Objective 6.3

Transfer technology to District clients.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Support the Rangeland Grazing conference	1/31/14
Evaluate conservation field trials and disseminate results	3/30/14
	6/30/14

7 Priority

Responsible Rural Land Development and Urban Expansion

Objective 7.1

Promote responsible urban developments so that soil and water resources will be conserved and meet the TMDL objectives.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Participate in coordinated plans for the development of recreational areas, industrial sites, and other facilities as requested by the City of Lewiston and/or Nez Perce County.	12/31/13
Preserve prime and unique farmland.	12/31/13
Work with the City of Lewiston to identify potential projects within the Lindsay and Tammany Creek watersheds.	6/30/14

Objective 7.2

Protect cultural resources within the District.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Consult with State Historic Preservation Officer and/or tribal historic presentation officer when installing earth disturbing practices. Estimate 10 consultations completed. ¹	6/30/14

8

Priority

Maintain, Restore, and Enhance the Productive Capacity of Working Lands

Objective 8.1

Maintain productive working farms and ranches

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Encourage the use of the RCRDP loan program for direct seed systems equipment.	6/30/14
Maintain membership in the Pacific Northwest Direct Seed Association.	6/30/14
Provide SCCD reduced tillage/direct seed/no till loan program information to cooperators.	6/30/14
Pursue resources to develop grazing plans and implement grazing land conservation treatments.	6/30/14
Implement conservation practices on 500 acres of grazing lands.	6/30/14
Apply 50 acres of forest stand improvement.	9/30/13

Objective 8.2

Encourage the protection of existing and the development of additional ponderosa pine communities.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Plant 50 acres of ponderosa pine trees	6/30/13

Objective 8.3

Restore and/or protect native plant communities.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Inventory and map existing prairie remnants during conservation plan development within the Lapwai Creek watersheds.	6/30/14
Restore prairie habitats through noxious weed control, cultural practices and seeding.	6/30/14

8

Priority

Maintain, Restore, and Enhance the Productive Capacity of Working Lands

Objective 8.4

Reduce the extent and density of established noxious weeds.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Identify and prioritize areas for noxious weed treatment.	6/30/14
Release biocontrol agents for yellow starthistle and spotted knapweed control at 20 sites within the District.	7/5/13
Coordinate an interagency biocontrol agent collection day.	7/5/13
Complete a bio-control workshop for noxious weed pests.	6/30/14
Implement 250 acres of Pest management conservation plans. ¹	6/30/14

Objective 8.5

Prevent the introduction, reproduction and spread of invasive species.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
Prevent seed dispersal from equipment	6/30/14
Recommend and use noxious weed free seeds when implementing grass seeding projects.	6/30/14
Participate in the Clearwater Basin Weed Group.	6/30/14
Control 5 acres of Hybrid Knotweed.	6/30/14
Coordinate with local weed control entities to identify noxious weed areas	6/30/14

Objective 8.6

Ensure the long-term survival of native fish, wildlife, and plants.

Actions for FY2014	Target Dates
¹	6/30/14
Develop 4 habitat conservation plans within the Cottonwood Creek Watershed and 6 habitat conservation plans in the Lapwai watershed.	6/30/14
Provide information to landowners regarding the distribution, abundance and conservation of native fish, wildlife, and plants.	6/30/14
Collaborate with IDFG and NPT to develop plans to recover threatened and endangered species and conserve native fish, wildlife and plants.	6/30/14
Support the efforts of the Idaho Conservation Data Center (CDC) to document the occurrence of rare species and work toward increased reporting of sightings. Provide CDC inventory forms on an annual basis ¹ .	6/30/14

District Contact Information

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Appendix C – Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Work Plan

The next pages contain the FY2015 work plan for the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.



Figure 26. Wheat along road in Tammany Creek.

Annual Work Plan

*Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District
Annual Work Plan
July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015*



NEZ PERCE
SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

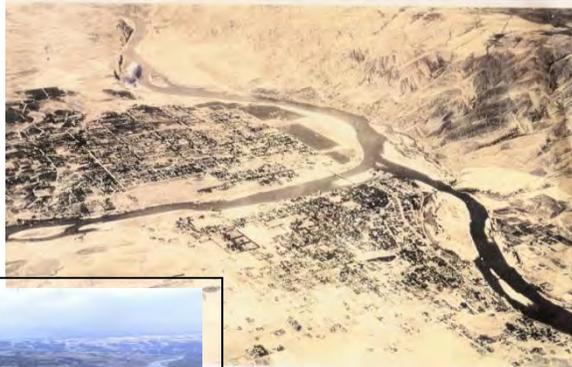
District Mission

To be the primary entity leading non-regulatory efforts in the conservation, sustainment, improvement, and enhancement of Nez Perce County's natural resources.

District Vision

A county with a sustainable landscape.

District Annual Workplan



The Annual Workplan is the Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District's (District) plan which is the foundation for the focus and direction for the period July 1, 2014 to July 30, 2015.

Priorities and strategies are identified in the District's Five Year Plan. The eight priorities are:

- Priority #1: Maintain and Enhance a Sustainable District Infrastructure
- Priority #2: Fulfill Current Grant, Statutory, and Client Commitments
- Priority #3: Improve, Protect, and Enhance Riparian Corridors
- Priority #4: Water Management
- Priority #5: Sustainable Energy Systems
- Priority #6: Community Education
- Priority #7: Responsible Rural Land Development and Urban Expansion
- Priority #8: Maintain, Restore, and Enhance Productive Capacity of Working Lands

The annual workplan was adopted by the District Board on January 16, 2014.

District Organization

The Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District (District) is one of 50 Conservation Districts in Idaho. The District is a subdivision of Idaho State government and is governed by a Board of seven members who are elected and serve a four year term without pay. Board members are elected by public ballot in the Nez Perce County general election process.

Function of the Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District

The function of the District is to act as the “primary entity to provide assistance to private landowners and land users in the conservation, sustainment, improvement and enhancement of the District’s natural resources” as outlined in Idaho State Law §22-2716.

District Elected Officials

Steve Becker, Chair
Tracy Hill, Vice-Chair
Kyle Wilson, Treasurer
John Hermann
Dale Nichols
Dave Troy
Todd Wittman

*“We are part of the scenery so we
might as well be part of the solution.”*

-Doug Zenner, Nez Perce County
Commissioner

1

Priority

Maintain and Enhance a Sustainable District Infrastructure

Objective 1.1

Identify stable funding mechanisms.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ¹
1.1.1	Meet with Idaho Legislative representatives to identify potential funding sources.	12/30/14	1,760
1.1.2	Implement District Operations fund raising plan.	1/31/15	1,820
1.1.3	Maintain current relationships with funding partners such as BPA and OSC.	6/30/15	475
1.1.4	Present annual budget request to Nez Perce County Commissioners.	5/30/15	910

Objective 1.2

Expand District capacity.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ¹
1.2.1	Attend Idaho County Risk Management Program Certification Program sessions.	1/31/15	1,128
1.2.2	Finalize cooperative working agreements	5/1/15	590
1.2.3	Seek continued opportunities for professional development for staff and Board members.	6/30/15	6,600
1.2.4	Participate in the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation District's annual meeting	12/30/14	2,850
1.2.5	Participate in the 2014 IASCD conference planning committee	11/30/14	3,500
1.2.6	Submit annual technical assistance request from the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission.	3/1/2015	1,030

Objective 1.3

Build and strengthen partnerships and coalitions.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ¹
1.3.1	Meet with Nez Perce County Board of Commissioners to identify projects and shared resource opportunities.	1/31/15	1,480
1.3.2	Participate as a steering committee member for the Clearwater Basin Cooperative Weed Management Area.	11/15/14	1,620
1.3.3	Meet with regional partners to identify projects and shared resource opportunities.	6/30/15	665
1.3.4	Maintain membership in the National Association of Conservation Districts.	6/30/15	700
1.3.5	Maintain membership in the Idaho Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.	6/30/15	1,800
1.3.6	Maintain membership in the Lewis Clark Valley Chamber of Commerce.	6/30/15	100
1.3.7	Maintain membership in the Clearwater Resource Conservation and Development Council.	6/30/15	125

¹ Each Budget Item is denoted as follows: Black – general operations budget; Blue – grant budget; Red – unmet need

2 Priority

Fulfill Current Grant, Statutory, and Client Commitments

Objective 2.1

Streamline financial management.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ²
2.1.1	Complete District financial audit for Fiscal Year 2014.	3/31/15	10,310
2.1.2	Develop Fiscal Year 2016 budget.	1/31/15	590
2.1.3	Complete Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission financial match report.	9/1/13	810

Objective 2.2

Utilize the resource conservation plan as a decision making tool for identifying the District's natural resource issues.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ²
2.2.1	Complete Phase 4 of the District physical resource inventory	12/30/14	3,680
2.2.2	Meet with local resource managers to identify priority resource conservation needs.	1/31/15	2,400
2.2.3	Post resource assessment information on District web site	5/1/14	520

Objective 2.3

Improve quality and accountability to deliver better products and services.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ²
2.3.1	Conduct board meetings to carry out the business of the District.	6/30/15	6,350
2.3.2	Develop FY 2016 Annual Work Plan	1/31/15	1,000
2.3.3	Complete obligations for all active grants in FY2015.	6/30/15	45,000
2.3.4	Complete annual performance report and submit to Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission.	12/1/14	910
2.3.5	Conduct District elections on County General Ballot.	11/15/14	500
2.3.6	Maintain facilities, equipment, and accounting systems.	6/30/2015	16,693

² Each Budget Item is denoted as follows: Black – general operations budget; Blue – grant budget; Red – unmet need

3 Priority

Improve, Protect and Enhance Riparian Corridors

Objective 3.1

Increase and improve fish productivity through habitat improvement.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ³
3.1.1	Implement the statement of work for the Bonneville Power Administration funded project number 2002-070-00 "Restore and Protect Anadromous Fish Habitat in the Lapwai Creek Watershed".	6/30/15	75,000
3.1.2	Implement conservation measures identified in the Tom Beall restoration plan.	1/31/15	22,000
3.1.3	Install 3 habitat improvement measures.	6/30/15	60,000
3.1.4	Collect stream temperature data within the District. Implement the Stream temperature work plan.	12/1/14	8,000
3.1.5	Implement actions in the Snake River Basin Adjudication funded project #1103 " Cottonwood Creek Fish Habitat Restoration Project – Phase I".	11/15/14	70,000

Objective 3.2

Reduce the number of artificially blocked streams.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ³
3.2.1	In cooperation with Nez Perce County, plan and design the removal of two stream barriers.	6/30/15	70,000
3.2.2	Complete barrier assessment for the Jacks Creek watershed.	1/31/15	2,780

Objective 3.3

Restore, repair, enhance riparian and wetland resources within the District.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ³
3.3.1	Complete a hydric soils analysis to identify the location of all potential wetland areas.	6/30/15	1,194
3.3.2	Meet with local wetland scientists to identify priority wetland treatment areas.	1/31/15	400
3.3.3	Improve wetland function and quality on 0.5 acres by controlling invasive species and installation of conservation practices.	6/30/15	25,000
3.3.4	Maintain the District plant nursery in order to produce wetland and riparian restoration plants for use in conservation projects.	12/1/14	3,600

Objective 3.4

Reduce animal feeding operation impacts on water quality and fisheries habitat.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ³
3.4.1	Pursue additional funds for animal feeding operation treatments.	6/30/15	800
3.4.2	Install conservation measures at two animal feeding operation facilities.	1/31/15	60,000

³ Each Budget Item is denoted as follows: Black – general operations budget; Blue – grant budget; Red – unmet need

4 Priority

Water Management

Objective 4.1

Reduce risks from drought and flooding.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ⁴
4.1.1	Coordinate a Lower Potlatch River corridor floodplain management plan.	6/30/15	3,200
4.1.2	Incorporate floodplain management action items into the Rattlesnake and Bedrock Creek watershed plans.	1/31/15	400
4.1.3	Identify Nez Perce County high flow hazard areas.	6/30/15	1,020

Objective 4.2

Improve and enhance water quality to acceptable standards for ground and surface waters within the District.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ⁴
4.2.1	Participate in local watershed advisory group meetings.	6/30/15	800
4.2.2	Reduce sediment through the protection of 1,000 acres of cropland from excessive erosion.	1/31/15	10,000

Objective 4.3

Assess and monitor watershed conditions.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ⁴
4.3.1	Complete Rattlesnake Creek watershed assessment.	6/30/15	1,990
4.3.2	Complete lower Clearwater Face Drainages assessment.	1/31/15	2,140

Objective 4.4

Develop watershed based resource plans for improving and protecting natural resources.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ⁴
4.4.1	Write a proposal and obtain funding for watershed plans for the Deer, Eagle, and China Creek watersheds.	6/30/15	800
4.4.2	Complete the Wheeler and Jacks Creek watershed plans.	1/31/15	2,210

Objective 4.5

Reduce transportation system impacts on water quality, fish habitat, and hydrology.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ⁴
4.5.1	Install 1 mile of road improvement measures.	6/30/15	10,800
4.5.2	Complete road erosion inventory on roads within the Rattlesnake and Jacks Creek drainages	1/31/15	2,210

⁴ Each Budget Item is denoted as follows: Black – general operations budget; Blue – grant budget; Red – unmet need

5 Priority

Sustainable Energy Systems

Objective 5.1

Demonstrate and deploy clean energy technologies.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget
	NO activities planned for this Fiscal year		

Objective 5.2

Identify sustainable energy systems for implementation in the District.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget
	No activities planned for this fiscal year		

6 Priority

Community Education

Objective 6.1

Increase public awareness of conservation programs and activities.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ⁵
6.1.1	Publish Forever Soil and Water Newsletter – 4 times per year.	6/30/15	3,668
6.1.2	Maintain the District Web site at www.nezperceswcd.org .	6/30/15	1,180
6.1.3	Participate in the City of Lewiston's Earth Day Event.	4/30/15	870
6.1.4	Complete one display focusing on water quality education.	6/30/15	260
6.1.5	Disseminate performance report to conservation partners, clients and the general public.	1/30/15	145
6.1.6	Participate in the Idaho Capital Legislative display in Boise, Idaho.	2/28/15	460

Objective 6.2

Provide natural resource education to area youth.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ⁵
6.2.1	Coordinate annual Environmental Awareness Days program for area schools.	5/30/15	5,160
6.2.2	Support Camp Wittman education activities.	6/30/15	484
6.2.3	Develop two resource internships with local colleges.	6/30/15	320

Objective 6.3

Transfer technology to District clients.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ⁵
6.3.1	Support the Rangeland Grazing conference.	1/30/15	400
6.3.2	Evaluate conservation field trials and disseminate results.	6/30/15	2,400
6.3.3	Complete the Roadside Vegetation Plant Materials Trial evaluation with the Pullman Plant Materials Center.	6/30/15	1,600

⁵ Each Budget Item is denoted as follows: Black – general operations budget; Blue – grant budget; Red – unmet need

7

Priority

Promote Responsible Rural Land Development and Urban Expansion

Objective 7.1

Promote responsible urban development so that soil and water resources will be conserved and meet the TMDL objectives.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ⁶
7.1.1	Participate in coordinated plans for the development of recreational areas, industrial sites, and other facilities as requested by the City of Lewiston and/or Nez Perce County.	6/30/15	1,600
7.1.2	Preserve prime and unique farmland.	1/31/15	1,600
7.1.3	Coordinate with the City of Lewiston to identify potential projects within the Lindsay and Tammany Creek watersheds.	6/30/15	1,600
7.1.4	Implement the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality funded 319 project "Lindsay Creek Water Quality Improvement Project – Phase I".	6/30/15	128,400

Objective 7.2

Protect cultural and historical resources within the District.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ⁶
7.2.1	Consult with State Historic Preservation Officer and/or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer when installing earth disturbing practices.	6/30/15	25,000

⁶ Each Budget Item is denoted as follows: Black – general operations budget; Blue – grant budget; Red – unmet need

8

Priority

Maintain, Restore, and Enhance the Productive Capacity of Working Lands

Objective 8.1

Maintain productive working farms and ranches

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ⁷
8.1.1	Maintain membership in the Pacific Northwest Direct Seed Association.	6/30/15	100
8.1.2	Provide SCCD reduced tillage/direct seed/no till loan program information to cooperators.	6/30/15	400
8.1.3	Pursue resources to develop grazing plans and implement grazing land conservation treatments.	6/30/15	2,000
8.1.4	Implement conservation practices on 50 acres of grazing lands.	6/30/15	10,000

Objective 8.2

Encourage the protection of existing and the development of additional ponderosa pine communities.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ⁷
8.2.1	Plant 50 acres of ponderosa pine trees.	6/30/15	20,000

Objective 8.3

Restore and/or protect native plant communities.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ⁷
8.3.1	Inventory and map existing prairie remnants during conservation plan development within the Lapwai watershed.	6/30/15	2,400
8.3.2	Restore prairie habitats through noxious weed control, cultural practices and seeding.	6/30/15	5,600

⁷ Each Budget Item is denoted as follows: Black – general operations budget; Blue – grant budget; Red – unmet need

8

Priority

Maintain, Restore, and Enhance the Productive Capacity of Working Lands

Objective 8.4

Reduce the extent and density of established noxious weeds.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ⁸
8.4.1	Identify and prioritize areas for noxious weed treatment.	6/30/15	400
8.4.2	Release biocontrol agents for yellow starthistle, spotted knapweed and field bindweed control at 20 sites within the District.	6/30/15	2,800
8.4.3	Coordinate interagency biocontrol agent collection day.	6/30/15	400
8.4.4	Complete a biocontrol workshop for noxious weed pests.	6/30/15	800
8.4.5	Implement 250 acres of pest management conservation treatments.	6/30/15	5,000
8.4.6	Administer the landowner herbicide cost-share project funded through the Clearwater Basin Cooperative Weed Management Area.	6/30/15	800

Objective 8.5

Prevent the introduction, reproduction and spread of invasive species.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ⁸
8.5.1	Prevent seed dispersal from equipment.	6/30/15	400
8.5.2	Recommend and use noxious weed free seeds when implementing grass seeding projects.	6/30/15	400
8.5.3	Participate in the Clearwater Basin Cooperative Weed Management Area.	6/30/15	1,250
8.5.4	Control 5 acres of knotweed.	6/30/15	5,500
8.5.5	Inventory and map orange hawkweed on 250 acres of land.	6/30/15	4,000
8.5.6	Inventory and map rush skeletonweed along Coyote Grade road.	6/30/15	3,000

Objective 8.6

Ensure the long-term survival of native fish, wildlife, and plants.

Task #	Actions for FY2015	Target Date	Budget ⁸
8.6.1	Develop 2 habitat conservation plans within the Cottonwood Creek watershed and 4 habitat conservation plans in the Lapwai watershed.	6/30/15	9,600
8.6.2	Provide information to landowners regarding the distribution, abundance and conservation of native fish, wildlife, and plants.	1/31/15	3,200
8.6.3	Collaborate with IDFG and NPT to develop plans to recover threatened and endangered species and conserve native fish, wildlife and plants.	6/30/15	800
8.6.4	Support the efforts of the Idaho Conservation Data Center (CDC) to document the occurrence of rare species and work toward increased reporting of sightings. Provide CDC inventory forms on an annual basis.	6/30/15	200

⁸Each Budget Item is denoted as follows: Black – general operations budget; Blue – grant budget; Red – unmet need

Budget Summary

Priorities 1 through 8 include a budget item by each task. Figures listed in white boxes are those which will be funded through the District's general operations or GO budget. The items highlighted in blue are those which will be funded through an existing grant administered by the District. Those highlighted in red are items that are considered unmet needs. This means that the line item will not be completed unless there are additional resources available to complete the task. The District's general operations budget for FY 2015 is \$71,900. The District needs an additional \$243,878 in resources in order to complete those items identified as unmet needs. Table 1 summarized the budget information by priority and funding source.

Table 1 Fiscal Year 15 Budget Summary.

	Funding Source			Total
	GO Funded	Grant Funded	Unmet Need	
Priority 1	\$18,934	\$5,270	\$0	\$5,270
Priority 2	\$37,683	\$47,400	\$3,680	\$51,080
Priority 3	\$3,600	\$237,780	\$157,394	\$395,174
Priority 4	\$1,020	\$19,750	\$14,000	\$33,750
Priority 5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Priority 6	\$10,563	\$1,180	\$5,204	\$6,384
Priority 7	\$0	\$155,000	\$3,200	\$158,200
Priority 8	\$100	\$18,550	\$60,400	\$78,950
TOTAL	\$71,900	\$484,930	\$243,878	\$728,808

District Contact Information

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Appendix D – Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Work Plan

The FY2016 work plan for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 has not been developed at this time. Anticipated development date is January 2015.

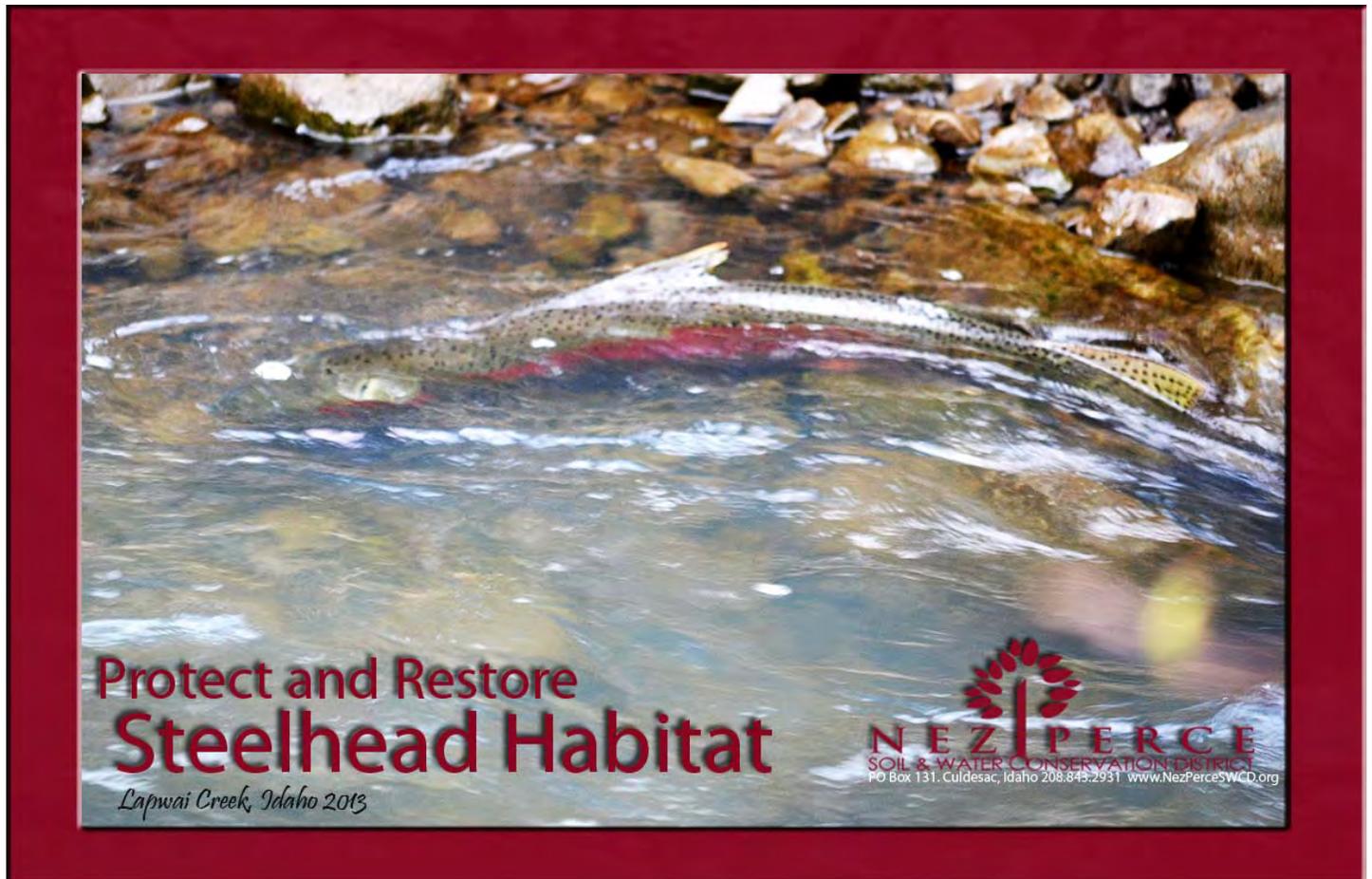


Figure 27. Protect and restore fish habitat.

Appendix E – Fiscal Year 2017 Annual Work Plan

The FY2017 work plan for the period July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 has not been developed at this time. Anticipated development date is January 2016.



Figure 28. Conservation is an Idaho Value.

**IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**FIVE-YEAR (5) PLAN and
ANNUAL WORK PLAN
CERTIFICATION**

DISTRICT:

Nez Perce Soil & Water Conservation District

FOR FISCAL YEAR:

FY 14

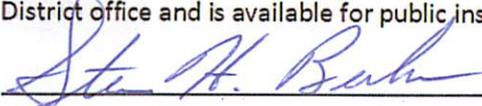
DUE :

March 31,

CERTIFICATION

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

Steve Becker

Printed Name

1/16/14

Date

208.843.2931

Telephone

npswcd@co.nezperce.id.us

District Email Address

FOR SWC USE ONLY:

DATE OF CONFIRMATION:
