

WOOD RIVER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

217 WEST F STREET SHOSHONE, IDAHO 83352 PHONE NUMBER 208-886-2258 EMAIL: WRSWCD@GMAIL.COM

February 24, 2014

Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission
Attention: Delwyne Trefz
650 West State Street, Room 145
Boise, Idaho 83702-0083

Dear Delwyne:

The Wood River Soil and Water Conservation District (WRSWCD) would like to request 20 hours of comprehensive assistance from the SWC to finish up the Green Stripping Project we applied for last year. Basically the SWC needs to finalize the plans so the District can submit a project proposal to request some funding from the RC&D. If the funding is approved we then need to purchase seeds and equipment and organize the fall planting.

The WRSWCD is also requesting 80 hours of comprehensive assistance for a forage sampling project that we call "Sampling for Success". This project will involve many hours of taking samples from 10 different landowners on a variety of fields' periodically throughout the summer. The District would then finish up with an educational workshop teaching the landowner's involved and hopefully more agriculture producers the nutrient value of the forage and the relationship to animal production and production costs.

The WRSWCD board of supervisors appreciates your time in reviewing these requests as we believe they are valuable tool in promoting our soil health and economic sustainability in the community.

Please find attached the requested certification letter and criteria rating sheet.

Thank you again for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Carl Pendleton
Chairman, WRSWCD

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING REQUEST FOR COMPREHENSIVE DISTRICT ASSISTANCE
By the Wood River Soil and Water Conservation District

- 1) *Does the proposed activity address a priority identified within the district's 5 year or annual work plan?* Yes, these activities would fall under the Grazing Lands Health and Information and Education priority which are both major priorities in their 5Y-Plan. The primary goal is to inform and educate the local agricultural producer and the community about forage testing and the relationship to animal production and production costs. We would request the SWC's time to actually go out and pull samples in the summer from 10 different landowners roughly 3 different times.
- 2) *Has the district provided documentation of support for the proposed activity, including:* No such letters have been pursued at the present. However, we have the University of Idaho Lincoln County Extension Service in support while providing the forage sampling kit and to aide in the summarization of the results in addition to Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). We also have a local lab volunteering to discount the analysis by 50 % for this project.
- 3) *Have the necessary steps been taken to ensure that the district will be able to utilize the assistance being requested within the time-frame indicated in the request for assistance?* Yes, the project "Sampling for Success" will take place this summer educating and working with 10 different landowners. The project will take place this summer taking forage samples throughout the growing season. We also would request time in the fall when we want to have a workshop to use the information gained from this project to determine further direction in meeting nutritional needs by the livestock and provide insight to the landowners feed budget.
- 4) *Will the requested assistance be used to enhance district capacity by developing tools, strategies and successes which the district will be able to use to independently implement future projects?* Yes, Due to the drought and economic hard times we see this as a great tool and value to the landowners.
- 5) *Is the assistance required for use as either in-kind or hard match in order to enable the district to qualify for a specific grant or cost-share program opportunity?*
No, not at this time!
- 6) *Has the district provided evidence of having researched the availability of district, division, IASCD, IDEA or other resources which may be available to meet their need?*
Yes, we currently are looking for funding through different entities but currently have not been approved.
- 7) *Has the district requesting assistance received activity of project specific comprehensive or specialized technical assistance from SWC within the last three years?* Yes
- 8) *If yes, were the objectives of the activity or project which SWC provided assistance for achieved in timely fashion?* We are currently still working on the "Green Stripping Project" and should have it completed in November 2014.

**IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE
CERTIFICATION**

DISTRICT: **Wood River SWCD**

Project or Activity Name: **Green Stripping Project**

FOR FISCAL YEAR: **FY-2014**

Hours of Assistance Requested:
20 hours

Due: **March 31, 2014**

CERTIFICATION

By concurrence of a majority of the supervisors of the district board and the above name conservation district certifies that attached Request for Assistance is true and accurate, and further submits said Report for the above named District and fiscal year.

A copy of this Request for Assistance and supporting documents shall be kept at the District office and is available for public inspection.

barbara.messick@usda.gov

Digitally signed by barbara.messick@usda.gov
DN: cn=barbara.messick@usda.gov
Date: 2014.02.24 11:30:39 -0700

Board Supervisor Chairperson Signature

Carl Pendleton



Printed Name

02-24-2014

Date

208-420-6401

District or Board Chairperson Telephone

wrsxcd@gmail.com

District Email Address

FOR SWC USE ONLY:

DATE OF CONFIRMATION:

**IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE
CERTIFICATION**

DISTRICT: Wood River SWCD

Project or Activity Name: Sampling for Success

FOR FISCAL YEAR: FY-2014

Hours of Assistance Requested:
80 hours

Due: March 31, 2014

CERTIFICATION

By concurrence of a majority of the supervisors of the district board and the above name conservation district certifies that attached Request for Assistance is true and accurate, and further submits said Report for the above named District and fiscal year.

A copy of this Request for Assistance and supporting documents shall be kept at the District office and is available for public inspection.

barbara.messick@usda.gov

Digitally signed by barbara.messick@usda.gov
DN: cn=barbara.messick@usda.gov
Date: 2014.02.24 11:30:39 -0700

Board Supervisor Chairperson Signature

Carl Pendleton



Printed Name

02-24-2014

Date

208-420-6401

District or Board Chairperson Telephone

wrsxcd@gmail.com

District Email Address

FOR SWC USE ONLY:

DATE OF CONFIRMATION:

Criteria for Evaluating Request for Comprehensive District Assistance

- 1) Does the proposed activity address a priority identified within the District's 5-Year or Annual work plan? *Yes; these activities would fall under the priorities of Grazing Land Health and Species of Concern "the greater Sage Grouse" which are two of our priorities in the Wood River SWCD's 5Y-Plan. The district would like to see information, education and mapping for green stripping and fire protection along the corridors to Lincoln County.*
- 2) Has the district provided documentation of support for the proposed activity, including: a) letters in support of the proposed activity from landowners and producers within the project area : b) letters in support of the proposed activity from entities which will be contributing resources towards achieving activity objectives? *No such letters of support have been pursued at the present. However, we have verbal support from NRCS to help direct persons to pursue this opportunity. We also are meeting with the Department of Lands to set up meetings for firefighting efforts and or local association for initial attack on range fires in the surrounding areas.*
- 3) Have the necessary steps been taken to ensure that the district will be able to utilize the assistance being requested within the time-frame indicated in the request for assistance? *Yes, this project would take place in the spring or fall when they could get in the field and work with landowners on surveys or filling out necessary paper work for NRCS programs and demonstration plots. Other time requested would take place in the office contacting landowners, GIS mapping and ground trothing.*
- 4) Will the requested assistance be used to enhance district capacity by developing tools, strategies and successes which the district will be able to use to independently implement future projects? *Yes, these surveys, maps and possible demonstration plots could be used for many other agencies that are working on Fire Protection Enhancements throughout Lincoln County. Working toward green stripping and long term implementation could be used for tours etc.*
- 5) Is this assistance required for use as either in-kind or hard match in order to enable the district to qualify for a specific grant or cost-share program opportunity? *No, not at this time.*
- 6) Has the district provided evidence of having researched the availability of district, division, IASCD, IDEA or other resources which may be available to meet their need? *Yes, the district has investigated all of these areas including Idaho Department of Lands and there seems to be no funding or staff available at this time.*
- 7) Has the district requesting assistance received activity – or project-specific comprehensive or specialized technical assistance from SWC within the last three years? *No*
- 8) *If the answer to question: 7 is "yes" were the objectives of the activity or project which SWC provided assistance for achieved in timely fashion? Not Applicable*