

**Valley Soil and Water Conservation District
Request for Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission
FY 2015 (July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015) Technical Assistance**

General Information and Background:

The North Fork Payette River is the highest load contributor of phosphorus, comprising 46% of the inflow, into Cascade Reservoir (Lake Cascade). A Sediment Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) based on bank erosion is in place on the North Fork Payette River below Cascade Dam. Our current 319 grant project incorporates Best Management Practices (BMPs) identified in the respective TMDL Implementation Plans, helping meet the pollutant reduction goals of the Cascade Reservoir and North Fork Payette River TMDLs.

The Boulder/Willow Subwatershed represents 10% of the inflow but is the third highest phosphorus loader (after North Fork Payette River and Gold Fork River). The Phase III/Five Year Review (2009) document states that the water quality trend in Boulder/Willow Creek remains static while all other watersheds are improving. Thus, Valley SWCD is implementing our current 319 grant funds and seeking additional funding sources to continue the momentum especially in Boulder/Willow Creek riparian restoration efforts, helping meet load reduction goals of both the Cascade Reservoir TMDL and the Cascade Tributary TMDL addendum. The TMDL for Boulder Creek is sediment.

The current 319 grant project has provided a great opportunity to continue efforts to improve water quality while integrating watershed stewardship and education by incorporating a diverse group of participants and volunteers. The Valley SWCD is partnering with the Idaho Fish and Game volunteer crew, Idaho Master Naturalists, the Payette Children's Forest, Trout Unlimited, Donnelly Elementary School 5th grade class, Positive Outdoor Teen Service (POTS), Cascade High School, Valley County, State Parks (Lake Cascade), City of Donnelly, City of Cascade and landowners throughout the watershed. These groups are directly involved in project implementation, outreach and monitoring.

Landowners, local entities, volunteers, Natural Resources Conservation Service technical assistance and in kind technical assistance provided by our partnership with Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission, all play a key role in our voluntary efforts to reduce sediment, improve water quality and water efficiency by implementing BMP projects to accomplish our Valley SWCD conservation goals and objectives.

Addresses three priorities as listed in the Valley SWCD Annual Plan:

- **Priority 1: Water Quality**
- **Priority 2: Riparian**
- **Priority 5: Fish & Wildlife**

Technical Assistance Requested: 175 hrs. (Loretta Strickland)

Project #1 Description:

Valley SWCD 319 Watershed Restoration Project: Valley SWCD received funding from DEQ in FY13 for this project. The project's goals include reduction of sediment and nutrients to Boulder Creek, Willow Creek, Gold Fork River, Cascade Reservoir and North Fork Payette River. Projects are primarily Tier 1 and Tier 2 as identified in the North Fork Payette River Implementation Plans, Cascade Reservoir Implementation Plans and Cascade Reservoir Tributary Implementation Plan. NRCS has agreed to help when available with survey and irrigation design, as well as 404 permitting.

Valley SWCD does not have funding for 319 technical assistance for landowner outreach, site visits, conservation planning, BMP monitoring/effectiveness, or sediment load reduction calculations. This request is for technical assistance for the anticipated 2-3 new projects, as well as follow up and reporting to the Valley SWCD on the status of implemented projects. This includes field site visit tour of implemented 319 projects in FY15.

Time needed: 126 hrs + 8 trips @ 3hrs/trip or 24 hrs Travel = **150 hrs**
(One round trip is 3 hrs: Emmett to Valley County and back to Emmett)
Dates needed: July 2014 - June 2015

Project #2 Description

Technical assistance in seeking other funding sources to continue efforts to address TMDLs locally led implementation efforts on agricultural, forested and urban/suburban lands. In order to keep the water quality improvements moving forward while integrating watershed stewardship and education by incorporating a diverse group of participants.

Time needed: 22 hrs + 3 hrs Travel (Round trip Emmett/Valley County/Emmett) = **25 hrs**
Dates needed: July 2014 - June 2015