

**KOOTENAI-SHOSHONE SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
7830 MEADOWLARK WAY SUITE C-1  
COEUR D'ALENE, ID 83815**

**ANNUAL PLAN**

**FIVE-YEAR RESOURCE CONSERVATION  
BUSINESS PLAN**

**JULY 1, 2009 – JUNE 30, 2014**

## **Executive Summary**

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

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

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

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

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

## Certificate of Adoption

The Board of elected supervisors of the Kootenai-Shoshone Soil and Water Conservation District this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby approve the following document known as the Resource Conservation Business Plan. This Plan will be in effect for a five-year period ending June 30, 2014 during which time it will be updated annually and/or amended, as necessary.

As evidence of our adoption and final approval, we do hereby affix our signatures to this document.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jody Bieze, Chairman  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Isaac Henry, Vice Chairman  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joy Cassidy, Secretary-Treasurer  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Fran Hughes, Supervisor  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Burton, Supervisor  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gordon Sanders, Supervisor

### Supporting Idaho Conservation Partners (As applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Addy, Natural Resources Conservation Service  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Hogen, Idaho Soil Conservation Commission  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jamie Davis, Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Alice Wallace, IASCD Division 1 Director



# **Five-Year Resource Conservation Plan Business Plan (2009 to 2014) Kootenai-Shoshone Soil & Water Conservation District**

**For More Information Contact: Bob Flagor, Administrator  
208-762-4939 Extension 101  
ksswcd@icehouse.net**

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**Mission of the Kootenai-Shoshone Soil & Water Conservation District (District):** To promote the conservation of natural resources and to serve local landowners who wish to implement conservation practices to protect and conserve soil, water, wildlife, forestland, and farmland.

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**Vision of the Kootenai-Shoshone Soil & Water Conservation District:** To contribute to the protection of natural resources/natural resource management by advancing sustainable practices and by working collaboratively with the government and the public to safeguard the economic, environmental and social values of our natural resources.

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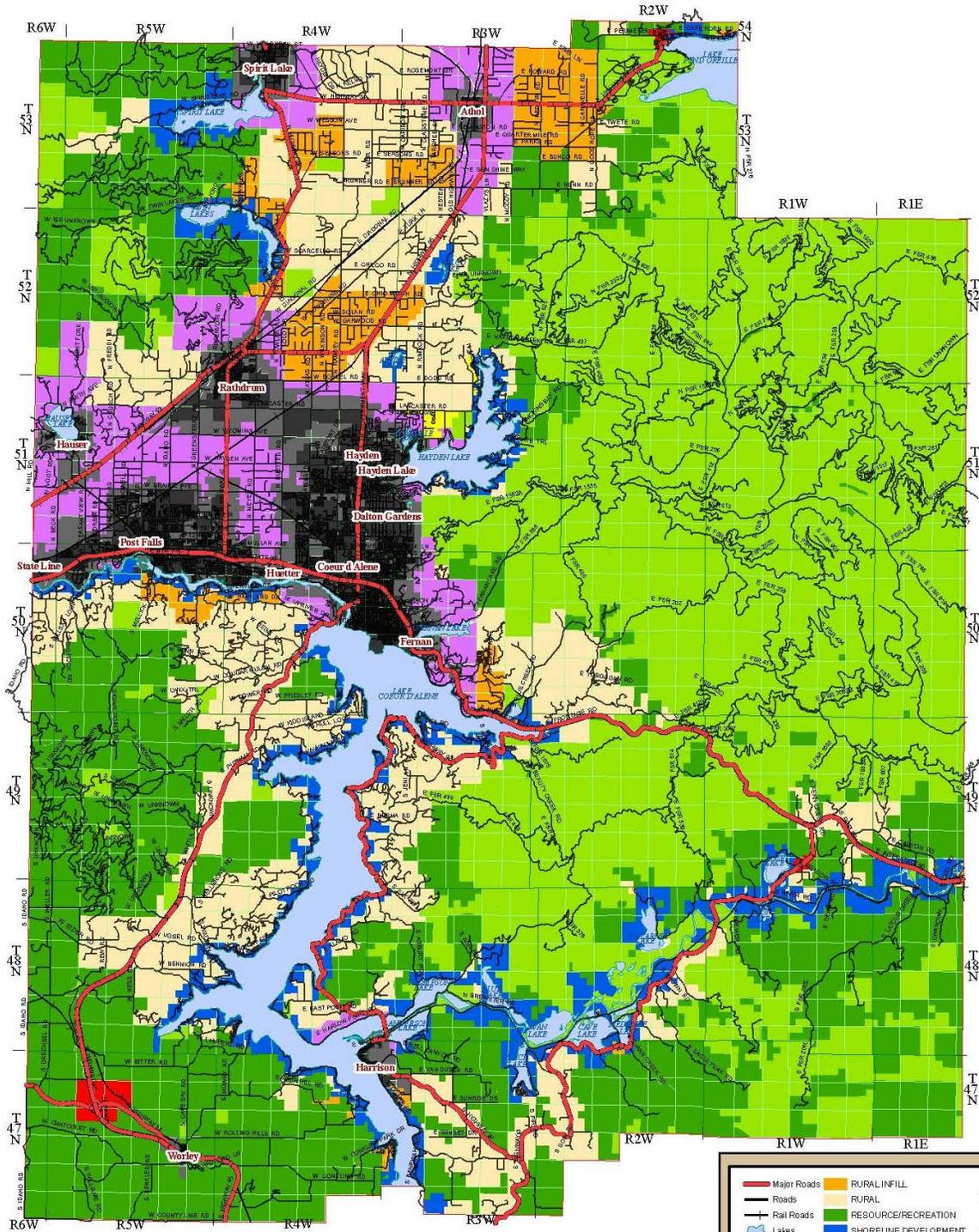
**Marketing Strategy:** The District will be an active voice in the conservation of natural resources. We will promote the image of the District as a responsible, conservation resource. We will reach out to the public using appropriate marketing and communication channels to promote this objective.

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**Business Strategy [July 1 2009 through June 30, 2010]:** To carry out a disciplined approach to increase awareness of the economic benefit of agriculture land throughout Kootenai-Shoshone Counties. Define and document how this land is valued by the community, landowners, developers et al. Find innovative environmentally sound solutions to land use changes while safeguarding the well-being of our natural resources.

# Critical Geographic Areas

## Kootenai County Comprehensive Plan 2008 Future Land Use



	Major Roads		RURAL INFILL	3 to 10 Acres
	Roads		RURAL	10 to 20 Acres
	Rail Roads		RESOURCE/RECREATION	20+ Acres
	Lakes		SHORELINE DEVELOPMENT	1/3 to 40 Acres
	City Limits		OPEN SPACE	80+ Acres
			TRANSITIONAL	1/2+ Acres
			RURAL DISPERSED VILLAGES	1/3 to 3 Acres
			PLANNED COMMUNITIES	Varies
			URBAN RESERVE	10+ Acres
			URBAN	1/4 to 1/6 Acres



**Kootenai County GIS**  
 PO Box 9988  
 117 W Duane Street  
 Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814-0988  
 Phone: 208.765.4100  
 Fax: 208.765.4101  
 Email: kcgis@kootenai.gov  
 Website: www.kootenai.gov



This map is to be used for reference purposes only.  
 Kootenai County is not responsible for any inaccuracies contained herein.

## **Trends Impacting Conservation in the Kootenai-Shoshone Soil & Water Conservation District [Representative List]**

- Loss of human capital
- Loss of high-quality agricultural land
- Land fragmentation
- Development and related issues in wildland-urban interface
- Changing forestland (issues/opportunities)
- Land being overcome with noxious and invasive weeds
- Urban impact on agriculture production
- Increase in small acreage farms, five acres or less

### **Strategies to Address Trends:**

- Create value through innovative solutions that address the changing needs of landowners while safeguarding our natural resources.
- Identify landowners' changing needs and capture emerging opportunities, environmentally and economically sound solutions.
- Ensure excellence in the operational execution of all programs funded (administered) by the District
- Emphasize a data-driven, rigorous analytic approach to land designated as "resource." Resource land includes both public and private land. KSSWCD's initial focus is on private land designated as resource land (agriculture). KSSWCD defines agriculture as the production and processing of timber, crops, and livestock.
- Build a proactive approach to address growth and development throughout Kootenai and Shoshone Counties.

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### **Staffing Needs**

Further analysis will be completed no later than 12/31/09 to best ascertain the District's future staffing needs.

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### **Annual Budget Needs**

See Appendix 1

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## FY2015 (7/1/2014- 6/30/2015) Annual Plan of Work Kootenai-Shoshone Soil & Water Conservation District

### Conservation District Priority Number 1: Cropland

**Goal(s): Promote BMP and conservation uses on crop and grazing lands**

**Objective: Maintain and enhance a viable and sustainable agricultural economy**

Actions	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Work with partners to provide a plan and secure funding to address soil pH	Oct 2015	Supervisors and Staff
Promote partner programs, as appropriate	Continuous	Supervisors and Staff
Offer program and technical assistance to producers	Sept 2015	Supervisors and Staff Partner Staff
Conduct reviews and surveys of the conservation plans and conditions on CRP lands and past project areas; provide reports of what has worked and if additional treatments are needed	Continuous	Supervisors and Staff
Continue to work with NRCS Soils to assess soil condition on the Rathdrum Prairie	Dec 2015	Supervisors and Staff

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# FY2015 (7/1/2014- 6/30/2015) Annual Plan of Work Kootenai-Shoshone Soil & Water Conservation District

## Conservation District Priority Number 2: Surface Water Quality/TMDL

**Goal(s): Improve water quality, especially in 303(d)-listed streams**

**Objective: Maintain and enhance water quality conditions**

Actions	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Monitor riverbank stabilization on IDFG property at Medimont	June 2015	Supervisors and Staff
Continue to seek, plan and implement conservation and BMP projects. Focus on watersheds with planned or in progress, including Mica, Beaver, Wolf Lodge, and Fish Creeks and Coeur d'Alene River	Ongoing	Supervisors and Staff Conservation Partners
Work with voluntary landowners seeking funding and technical assistance to address erosion, sedimentation, nutrient and other water quality issues	Continuous	Supervisors and Staff Conservation Planners
Implement Best Management Practices whenever possible using incentive programs	Continuous	Supervisors and Staff Conservation Planners
Coordinate and participate with IDEQ for developing and implementing TMDLs for watersheds within the District. Also assist Washington State TMDLs that might affect watersheds within the District	Continuous	Supervisors and Staff Conservation Planners
Actively participate in local watershed advisory groups organized through the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEO)	Ongoing	Supervisors and Staff Conservation Planners
Coordinate efforts with Basin Environmental Improvement Project Commission (BEIPC) and their Technical Leadership Group and Project Focus Teams	Ongoing	Supervisors and Staff Conservation Planners
Coordinate with IDEQ and the Tribe in implementing the Coeur d'Alene Lake Management Plan	Ongoing	Supervisors and Staff Conservation Planners
Coordinate and cooperate with the Lower Basin Collaborative	Ongoing	Supervisors and Staff
Coordinate and cooperate with agency partners on Lower Basin Monitoring	Ongoing	Supervisors and Staff

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## FY2015 (7/1/2014-6/30/2015) Annual Plan of Work Kootenai-Shoshone Soil & Water Conservation District

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### Conservation District Priority Number 3: Ground Water Quality

#### Goal(s): Protect the Rathdrum Prairie-Spokane Valley Aquifer

#### Objective: Protect and prevent further water quality degradation and improve current conditions

Actions	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Cooperate with Aquifer Protection Board and other partners to install fuel/oil/chemical traps on farms. Coordinate and work with Rathdrum Prairie CAMP Advisory Committee on their recommended Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan to assist in implementation of protection measures	Ongoing	Supervisors and Staff
Promote irrigation management and practices for more efficient water usage to reduce quantities used and water quality impacts, and to reduce energy use and costs.	Ongoing	Supervisors and Staff Conservation Planners
Coordinate and work with IDEQ on the Upper Spokane River (lakes and streams located on or draining to the Rathdrum Prairie) Subbasin Assessment and TMDL efforts	Ongoing	Supervisors and Staff Conservation Planners
Implement the pilot irrigation scheduling program in cooperation with IDWR and Bureau of Reclamation. Install new AgriMet stations at several locations. Install new irrigation controllers at select residential, commercial, municipal, and agricultural locations.	Ongoing	Supervisors and Staff Conservation Planners

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## FY2015 (7/1/2014-6/30/2015) Annual Plan of Work Kootenai-Shoshone Soil & Water Conservation District

### Conservation District Priority Number 4: Woodland, Forestry, and Silviculture

**Goal(s):** Ensure healthy, productive woodlands within Kootenai and Shoshone Counties

**Objective:** Maintain and enhance a viable and sustainable forest economy and ecology

<b>Actions</b>	<b>Target Date</b>	<b>Individual(s) Responsible</b>
Continue annual tree seedling sales program efforts with IFOA. Participate with IFOA/Division 1 forestry committee	Annual & Bimonthly	Supervisors and Staff
Work with partners to thin forests within the I-90 corridor	Ongoing	Supervisors and Staff
Work with partners to find an economical use for forest biomass, specifically an energy-producing use	Ongoing	Supervisors and Staff
Work with agencies and community groups to identify and address silvicultural and forest health issues and concerns	Ongoing	Supervisors and Staff
Promote and assist landowners to improve stream bank and stream conditions by assisting in development and implementation of conservation and watershed projects	Continuous	Supervisors and Staff Conservation Planners
Promote and work with willing landowners to improve grazing practices and to implement BMPs to improve stream and watershed conditions	Ongoing	Supervisors and Staff Conservation Planners
Investigate additional opportunities for ranchers to partner with BLM, USFS, and individual landowners to improve and/or develop grazing opportunities	Ongoing	Supervisors and Staff Conservation Planners
Participate in meetings and discussions with the Shoshone County Forest Collaborative and Silver Valley Economic Development Corporation	Ongoing	Supervisors and Staff

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## FY2015 (7/1/2013- 6/30/2014) Annual Plan of Work Kootenai-Shoshone Soil & Water Conservation District

### Conservation District Priority Number 5: District Operations

**Goal(s): Implement conservation practices with cost-share incentives**

**Objective: Promote better communication about the district and increase efficiency in implementation to provide conservation resources to future generations**

<b>Actions</b>	<b>Target Date</b>	<b>Individual(s) Responsible</b>
Create a summer internship position for a local student to assist with district operations	June 2015	Supervisors and Staff
Maintain a professional accounting system to effectively manage District funds. Prepare an accurate budget	June 2015	Supervisors and Staff
Hold monthly board meetings on the second Wednesday, including two of which are held in the evening	Monthly	Supervisors and Staff
Contact and work with potential and known funding sources, and cultivate new funding sources whenever possible for conservation projects and district operations	Continuous	Supervisors and Staff
Participate in local, regional, state, tribal and federal intergovernmental processes that address issues relevant to the District's mission, goals and objectives	Continuous	Supervisors and Staff
Work with existing partners; e.g., NRCS and ISWCC as much as possible within the limitations of administering district business	Continuous	Supervisors and Staff Conservation Planners
Update the District's Five-Year Plan with scoping sessions with our partners and public meetings to better identify the needs and priorities within the district	Sept 2015	Supervisors and Staff Conservation Planners

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## FY2015 (7/1/2014-6/30/2015) Annual Plan of Work Kootenai-Shoshone Soil & Water Conservation

### Conservation District Priority Number 6: Information, Education and Outreach

**Goal(s): Provide education and information to students, the general public, and partnership organizations, to promote the conservation and wise use of natural resources in the District.**

**Objective: Promote efforts to enhance the local communities understanding of ecological systems, the social systems directly dependent upon these natural systems, and the political and organizational systems developed for the management of natural resources within the District.**

Actions	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Provide information and technical assistance to small acreage landowners and urban residents regarding water quality, wildlife plant materials, water conservation, etc.	Continuous	Supervisors and Staff
Upon invitation, participate in community forums to discuss natural resource management programs within the District	Ongoing	Supervisors and Staff
Organize community service projects. Conduct Lake*A*Syst demonstration workshop(s) at Fernan Lake	Continuous	Supervisors and Staff Conservation Partners
Host a district field trip for the benefit of partner agencies, elected officials, and the general public	Ongoing	Supervisors and Staff Conservation Partners
Participate in the Idaho State Forestry Competition	Annually	Supervisors and Staff
Sponsor students for the Natural Resources Camp as requested	Ongoing	Supervisors and Staff
Sponsor another (annual) grower information meeting	Ongoing	Supervisors and Staff

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