

# Balanced Rock Soil Conservation District

## Fact Sheet

**General Information:** The Balanced Rock Soil Conservation District was organized in 1961 to provide educational, technical and financial assistance to local landowners and operators, and conserve soil, water and related natural resources within the District's boundaries. Although cropland provides the majority of income for the District's cooperators, the bulk of the resource base is rangeland or grazing land.

### Mission (or Function):

- Help people help the land.
- Provide local leadership to educate and assist the public on the stewardship of soil, water, air, plant and animal resources, and to promote strong conservation partnerships to find practical, economical solutions to natural resource problems and coordinate their implementation.

### FY 2014 Accomplishments:

- Conducted monitoring to demonstrate the sediment load reductions being accomplished by constructed wetlands complexes built over the last 10 years.
- Planning and funding has been completed for a constructed wetland complex which will be built on the 39/39A drain north of Filer in 2015.
- Featured the district's Multi-Species Cover Crop Demonstration Project in a display at the Ag Pavilion at the Twin Falls County Fair.
- Sponsored a conservation poster contest for 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade students and a speech contest for high school students.
- Provided one camper a full scholarship to the U of I Natural Resources Camp.
- Sponsored a wetland education day for Castleford 5<sup>th</sup> graders.



**Water leaving a constructed wetland, having dropped off significant amounts of sediment and other pollutants which would otherwise have degraded downstream surface water quality.**

### Future Plans and Projects:

- The district will use USDA NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant funds awarded in 2014 to improve soil health by providing cost-share funds to help landowners switch to no-till planters and plant multi-species cover crops. Targets are to use the no-till drill on 1,000 acres and to plant cover crops on 480 acres in western Twin Falls County.
- Construction of a wetland complex on the 39/39A drain will be completed in 2015.

### FY 2014 District Funding

State Funding	\$ 20,956.00
County Funding	\$ 7,700.00
Federal 319 Grant Funds	\$ 158,622.00
Total	\$ 187,278.00

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District Documents

Prepared by Soil and Water Conservation Commission