

# Balanced Rock Soil Conservation District



## Recent Projects



**Address:** 1441 Fillmore St. #A  
Twin Falls, ID 83301

**Phone:** (208) 733-5380 ext. 3

**FAX:** (208) 733-734-5138

<http://tfconservation.org>

*Meets third Wednesday of each month*

### Top Five Natural Resource Concerns

1. Water Quality
2. Groundwater Quality
3. Cropland
4. Animal Waste Management
5. Rangeland

### 2013 Revenue

Federal Grants	\$158,622
State Grants and Services	\$20,956.36
County General Services	\$7,700
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$187,278.36</b>

### Water quality projects

Balanced Rock SCD worked with the Twin Falls Canal Company to submit two federal 319 grant applications on troublesome irrigation return drains on the west end of the Twin Falls Tract. One proposal would install four sprinkler irrigation systems on highly erodible land, the other involved constructing wetland complexes. Neither was ranked high enough by the Middle Snake Basin Advisory Group to receive funding in 2015.

The district also worked with Idaho Soil and Water Conservation District to collect water quality data for the proposed projects as well as several existing wetlands to evaluate the effectiveness of those previous projects.

That monitoring showed that a wetland complex built 10 years ago was more effective at lowering the total suspended sediment concentration than one built just two years ago. The newer pond removed about half of the sediment compared to approximately 70 percent for the older wetland.

A proposal to construct a wetland complex on the 39/39A drain north of Filer was funded in 2014 and construction is expected to begin in 2015.

## Educational Events

- Approximately 60 fourth, fifth and sixth grade students from two schools participated in the 2014 poster contest for elementary students. A speech contest for high school students is also held each fall.
- 5th grade students from Castleford participated in a wetland educational day at the Filer Fishing Ponds in May 2014.
- Provided one camper with a full scholarship to Natural Resources Camp.
- Balanced Rock SCD also participated in the 2014 Ag Pavilion at the Twin Falls County Fair, featuring the 2014 Soil and Water Stewardship theme — “Dig Deeper: Mysteries in the Soil.” The display featured the district’s involvement in Multi-Species Cover Crop Demonstration Project sponsored by the Twin Falls Soil and Water Conservation District.

---

## Capacity Building Grant

The Balanced Rock SCD is utilizing its FY 2014 Capacity Building Grant to update its website to improve communication with the general public and share information about projects or programs with landowners and operators. The district hired a professional web designer for this upgrade.

## Future Projects



Balanced Rock SCD received a Conservation Innovation Grant from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in July 2014 to help cooperators improve soil health using no-till and cover crops. Through the project, cooperators will receive cost-share to use a no-till planter and also to plant a multi-species

cover crop mix. This project will build on lessons learned from the Multi-Species Cover Crop Demonstration Project underway in the Magic Valley.

The district is also working with an implement dealer in Buhl to order the no-till planter and also hold a no-till seminar in early 2015. It is hoped cooperators will use the no-till planter for spring grain, cover crops and winter grain.

Targets are to use the no-till drill on approximately 1,000 acres and to plant cover crops on 480 acres in western Twin Falls County by August 2016.

---

### Balanced Rock SCD Supervisors:

Rick Rodgers	Chair	537-6681	2805 N 700 E, Castleford, ID 83321
Rick Pearson	Vice-chair	731-6233	964 E 4300 N, Buhl, ID 83316
John Hurley	Sec/Treas.	537-6836	3341 N 900 E, Castleford, ID 83321
Terry Kramer	Member	537-6895	711 E 3600 N, Castleford, ID 83321
Tim Cornie	Member	308-6799	4397 N 900 E, Buhl, ID 83316
Bob Juker	Associate	543-5915	1581 E 4400 N, Buhl, ID 83316

**IDAHO SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**PERFORMANCE  
REPORT  
CERTIFICATION**

DISTRICT: Balanced Rock SCD

FOR YEAR:

2014

DUE :

December 20, 2014

**CERTIFICATION**

On behalf of my local Board of Supervisors, I hereby certify that the attached Performance Report is true and accurate, and further submit said Report for the above named District and fiscal year.

A copy of this Performance Report shall be kept at the District office and is available for public inspection.

Richard Rodgers  
Board Supervisor Signature

Richard Rodgers  
Printed Name

12-2-14  
Date

208-733-5380 ext 101  
Telephone

chsimons@cableone.net  
District Email Address

**FOR SWC USE ONLY:**

**DATE OF CONFIRMATION:**