

# Benewah Soil and Water Conservation District

## Fact Sheet

**General Information:** The Benewah Soil and Water Conservation District was organized in 1946, and boasts a large agriculture base, as well as a significant timber base. The District has introduced conservation practices such as contour and cross-slope farming, stubble mulching, strip cropping and range and pasture management.

**Mission (or Function):**

- Serve as a liaison bringing together state, federal and private sector’s resources to solve conservation and natural resource issues.
- Assist landowners in the planning and implementation of best management practices and provide technical information to help landowners and land users make the best use of land and water resources.

**FY 2014 Accomplishments:**

- Participated in DEQ Watershed Advisory Group for the St. Joe and St. Maries Rivers to assess TMDL water quality improvements.
- Provided 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> graders with soil education and demonstrations as part of Natural Resources Tour.
- Provided Benewah Co with technical assistance for 319 grant-funded Alder Creek Rd Project in St. Maries River drainage.
- Outreach to St. Joe and St. Maries River landowners regarding stream bank remediation assistance available through the district.
- Sold 4,000 tree seedlings to landowners for conservation plantings.
- Partner with Idaho Forest Owners Association on conifer seedling project.
- Participate in Basin Environmental Improvement Project Commission meeting and tour in the Silver Valley.



**Students observe a forestry practices demonstration.**

**Future Plans and Projects:**

- Provide information and assistance in obtaining cost-share funding to control non-point source pollution and soil erosion.
- Plan and apply visible conservation on designated priority watersheds.
- Provide information to landowners/operators on existing practices to reduce soil erosion through the District information outreach.

**FY 2014 District Funding:**

State Funding	\$ 17,302
County Funding	\$ 4,500
Tree Sale Income	\$ 220
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 22,022</b>

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District Documents

Prepared by Soil and Water Conservation Commission