

Madison Soil and Water Conservation District Fact Sheet

General Information: The Madison Soil and Water Conservation District was organized in 1948, primarily to help farmers modernize irrigation systems, level land, control the spread of noxious weeds, and improve the quality and quantity of forage for their cattle. Strip cropping on dryland farms has gradually been replaced with terraces and debris basins and the District also promotes dryland conservation practices.

Mission (or Function):

- Make technical, financial and educational resources available and coordinate them so that they meet the needs of the local land user for conservation of soil, water and related resources.
- Protect and improve the natural resources in Madison County for landowners to use for generations to come.

FY 2014 Accomplishments:

- Assisted seven landowners, enrolling 2,874 acres in the Idaho Soil Health Initiative which is the largest enrollment in the state.
- Fifty Water and Sediment Control Basins were installed on agriculture land benefitting eight landowners to improve both water quality and reduce soil erosion.
- Eleven Variable Frequency Drives (VFDs) were installed to assist farmers in reducing electrical energy use and groundwater withdrawals in a large agricultural area..
- Cover crops were planted on 1,324 acres, assisting eight landowners in reducing wind erosion and improve soil quality and crop production.



Cover crops and no-till practices benefit the soil

Future Plans and Projects:

- Continue to seek funding for Rexburg Bench Energy Savings Program that promote energy and water conservation.
- Continue to promote practices as No-Till, Cover Crop, Crop Rotations, Stream Bank Restoration and Wildlife Habitat Improvements.
- Conduct educational conservation tours and workshops for local working groups to gain insight from county leaders and residents to continue conservation plans of action.
- Seek funding from various nontraditional sources to retain the current office level.

FY 2014 District Funding:

State Funding	\$ 17,708
County Funding	\$ 6,000
Tree and Fabric Program	\$ 13,541
Total	\$ 37,249

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District Documents

Prepared by Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission