

Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District Fact Sheet

General Information:

The Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District was organized in 1955 and spent its first five years helping farmer's level land, build irrigation structures, and develop proper crop rotation. This year Steve Bradshaw was awarded 2012 Co-operator of the Year at the Annual Awards Banquet.

Mission (or Function): Deliver natural resource technology and education, to promote wise use of natural resources and to promote management practices to ensure a sustainable natural resource base for present and future generations of producers in Minidoka County.

FY 2014 Accomplishments:

- Continued to work on a two-year Nitrate Priority Area (NPA) contract to address the problem of elevated nitrates in the ground water within the Cassia and Minidoka NPAs. Minidoka county dropped from 12th to 25th in the latest Idaho DEQ ranking because of a decreasing trend in groundwater nitrate concentrations.
- Continued participating in BPA/High Country RC&D Ag Energy Efficiency Program, in partner with United Electric Cooperative, to offer energy savings opportunities for businesses where the operation requires significant energy use.

Future Plans and Projects:

- Assisting with the A&B Agricultural Water Enhancement Project. The project will consist of ten miles of pipeline to convey 118 cfs of irrigation water from the Snake River to more efficiently irrigate 4,000 acres and reduce ground water withdrawals from the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer.
- Working with Minidoka School District to design and windbreak at Acequia Elementary School.

- Minidoka, East Cassia and West Cassia SWCDs were awarded a Conservation Innovation Grant from the NRCS for the Mini-Cassia Direct Seed and Cover Crop Project, which will promote direct seed farming and cover crop practices.
- The program will help supply landowners with cover crop seed.
- Two no-till drills will also be available for rent starting in 2015.



No-till Drill

FY 2014 District Funding:

State Funding	\$ 13,918
County Funding	\$ 3,500
BPA Project	\$ 3,069
Tree Sale	\$ 1,205
Total	\$ 21,692

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District Documents

Prepared by Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission