

# Owyhee Soil and Water Conservation District

## Fact Sheet

**General Information:** The Owyhee Soil and Water Conservation District was organized in 1953. The district assists landowners and managers with irrigation water management, erosion control, and range improvements. District interest in the quality of water resources has resulted in helping livestock operators develop and maintain animal waste systems.

**Mission (or Function):**

- Reduce irrigation induced soil erosion on approximately 10,000 acres to TMDL tolerable limits and to improve surface water quality by 2017.
- Increase public awareness of conservation resource problems and opportunities in the district.
- Coordinate with BLM partners for rangeland restoration, improvement and maintenance by encouraging BMPs.
- Decrease the spread of noxious weeds through public awareness and education while increasing native plants and forage to sustainable levels.

**FY 2014 Accomplishments:**

- Hosted a tour of Denis Turner’s no-till / strip-till farm in Homedale. The tour group included members of the public and OCD Board members.
- Hosted the annual Pesticide License Renewal class, which was attended by over 30 people.
- Annual banquet, at which Denis Turner was named Owyhee county Conservationist of the Year.
- Continued participation in the Noxious Weed Management Project to stop the spread of noxious weeds in an effort to save valuable farm land.

- Sponsored a 4500 agriculture scholarship to a graduating senior entering college in the agricultural field.
- Booth at the Owyhee County Fair, Rodeo and Livestock Auction in Homedale

**Future Plans and Projects:**

- Looking into the possibility of purchasing a no-till drill to help the local farmers.
- Continue to encourage coordination with conservation partners for the protection of land, water and air.



**Tour of Denis Turner’s no-till / strip-till operation**

**FY 2014 District Funding:**

State Funding	\$ 12,884
County Funding	\$ 3,000
Coordinated Weed Mngmnt Funds	\$ 26,475
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 42,359</b>

Owyhee SWCD  
250 N Bruneau Hwy  
Marsing ID 83639

Charles Chadez-Chair  
208-896-4544

District Documents

**Prepared by Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission**