

Owyhee Conservation District

Performance Report 2014

FY 2013/2014



250 N. Bruneau Hwy.
Marsing, Idaho 83639
Phone: 208-896-4544 ext 102
Fax: 208-896-4016
OCD Board Meetings: 2nd Thursday of Month
Winter Hours 10am - noon
Summer Hours 8pm – till done

Natural Resource Concerns

1. Water Quality
2. District Operations
3. Information and Education
4. Rangeland
5. Riparian

Revenue

Source	Funding Received	In- kind Match
Owyhee County	\$3000	\$3000-
State of Idaho	\$12884	
NOCWMA	\$25260	\$55,000
NOCWMA admin	\$1215	
NRCS Funding	\$3,399,125	\$1,699,562
Total	\$3,441,484	

NOCWMA Noxious Weed Management



Figure 1 Canada Thistle -Not Wanted dead or alive.

Canada Thistle

Owyhee CD- has sponsored the NOCWMA for 6 years. This is a IDA grant funded program designed to encourage and assist farmers, ranchers and landowners to stop the spread of noxious weeds: white top, puncture vine, perennial pepper weed , thistles Bull, Scotch etc. All participants are encourage to take an active role in our group. In put from participants is welcomed. Lauri Moncrief will be taking over the duties of administration-we are lucky to have her.



Figure 2 Denis Turner- a man outstanding in his field.

Summer Tour

Owyhee CD annual summer tour featured Denis Turner’s practices of no- till/strip till in Homedale. The tour group consisted of a few members of the public and OCD board members on June 12, 2014 Thursday. Denis explained the process he goes through during the year. His focus is growing the best crop possible with minimum input and expense- an healthy soil advocate. No till/strip till is extremely cost effective manner of planting –no need for deep plows.

Information and Education

In the know:

When I first started this job, I was told the best thing you can do is learn what is going on in the world and how it affects the farmers locally. The practice of soil health is an old way becoming new again. For the last 5 years Ag Symposiums on soil health have been educating the young farmers to soil health practices. Farmers/author like Joel Salatin has written over 10 books discussing benefits of healthy soil. Farmers Gabe Brown, Soil Agronomist NRCS, Ray Archuleta and Maron Winger demonstrate how and why healthy soil makes sense. In the Midwest Nebraska, Kansas, Montana etc have been experimenting with this idea in mind due to lack of rainfall. Healthy soil begets healthy plants. Soil devoid of life will produce puny plants. A farmer has to offset the plants needs with fertilizers and other nutrients spending more. The concept is simple grow your soil grow your plants. For more information contact your local NRCS office or go on line to sustainable agriculture.

Agriculture Scholarship

A \$500 Agriculture scholarship is offered each year to graduating seniors going to college in the Agriculture field. The applicants must submit their transcripts, GPA, college acceptance letter and written essay. The 2014 recipient is Morgan Hall she will attend BYU. The Owyhee CD proudly offers senior AG Scholarships

Owyhee County Fair & Livestock Auction

Owyhee County holds a Fair, Rodeo and Livestock Auction in Homedale, Idaho each year in August a long time tradition. The Owyhee CD's displays a booth with information on the districts various programs, projects and events for youth and adults. One program is the Owyhee County Fair - FFA Jr. Livestock Auction Sales. 2014 contribution to over twenty youth sales was \$999. Tim Volk, Supervisor for over 30 years does add to help increase the animals sales price.



Farmers Appreciation Luncheon & Pesticide License Renewal Class

The Owyhee Conservation District offers a class to farmers and others to renew their pesticide license. Each year we have over 30 people attend. To show thanks and solidarity one supervisor cooks a killer chili and we supply sandwiches, drinks and snacks for lunch. This program is well received and attended every year.

Conservationist of the Year

We start the year off with a banquet and honor exception farmers in Owyhee County. The Owyhee CD highlights the exceptional practices in Owyhee County including all community events. We recognize our partners & outstanding community leaders. One person or group is acknowledged for outstanding work and named as Conservationist of the Year. Denis Turner was recognized as the 2014 innovator using no/till strip till farming practices.



Future of Owyhee CD

The Owyhee CD is making a slight change this year saying farewell to 2 incredible famers and supervisors and welcoming 2 young diverse farmers Jeanette Farrell and Levi Loucks. We are excited about the prospects of no/till farming and possibly purchasing a no till drill to help the local farmers. As district operators we will encourage coordination with conservation partners for the protection of land, water, and air.



Owyhee Conservation District

Board of Supervisors

Charles Chadez, Chairman
Charles Kiestler, Vice Chairman
Ray Mansisor, Treas./Sect.
John Cossel, Supervisor
Rick Smith, Supervisor
Tim Volk, Supervisor
Elmon Thompson, Supervisor
Gina Millard, Administrative Assistant

**IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**PERFORMANCE
REPORT
CERTIFICATION**

DISTRICT: Owyhee Conservation District

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.

Charles Kiester

Board Supervisor Signature

Charles Kiester

Printed Name

12-03-2014

Date

208-896-4544 ext 102

Telephone

gina.millard@id.nacdnet.net

District Email Address

FOR SWC USE ONLY:

DATE OF CONFIRMATION: