

Gem Soil and Water Conservation District

2018 Fact Sheet

General Information

The Gem Soil and Water Conservation District was formed in 1954 to provide voluntary land and water conservation technical and financial assistance to landowners and users within the District boundary. The major soil and water conservation needs in the district today are soil protection on cropland, animal waste management, irrigation water management, and land reclamation.

Mission

Set high standards for conservation of soil, water and related natural resources and encourage cooperation among landowners, government agencies, private organizations and elected officials, through education, technical support and financial assistance.

Location

Gem County; the Payette River runs west to east through the lower third of the District.

Legislative District 9

FY 2018 Accomplishments

- Partnered with IDEQ to conduct 5-year monitoring of the water quality of Bissel Creek and 5 irrigation drains.
- Along with the NRCS, utilized \$173,900 in EQIP funds to 9 landowners for the installation of Best Management Practices (BMPs.)
- Utilized ISWCC funds to create outreach and education materials, at for a soil health workshop in partnership with the UI Extension.
- Sponsored a poster contest for 268 fifth-grade students from 3 schools. The poster theme was

- Published the District newsletter for distribution to 725 subscribers.
- Sponsored a District Speech Contest.
- Distributed 258 Western White Pine seedlings to 3rd graders.



Poster Contest Winners

Future Plans and Projects

- Continue to implement the District's 5-Year Plan, including activities that help to meet TMDL load reductions for the Lower Payette River, the Snake River-Hells Canyon, and Bissel Creek.
- Plan and conduct workshops to educate landowners and others about natural resource conservation practices.
- Continue participation in National Stewardship Week (Poster and Speech Contests,) Arbor Day, Ag Day, and continued daily outreach and education.

FY 2018 Funds

State	\$ 18,921.33
County	\$ 6,250.00
NRCS	\$ 173,900.00
319 Grants	\$ 57,898.00
Total	\$ 256,969.33

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Meetings: First Mondays