

# Portneuf Soil and Water Conservation District Fact Sheet

**General Information:** The Portneuf Soil and Water Conservation District was organized in 1940. The district contains 741,120 acres with about 254,244 acres of privately owned farmland. The topsoil of Bannock County is very erosive and the District assists dryland farmers using a variety of conservation practices including terraces, strip cropping, chiseling and managing surface residue to capture water in the soil and reduce soil runoff and erosion.

**Mission (or Function):**

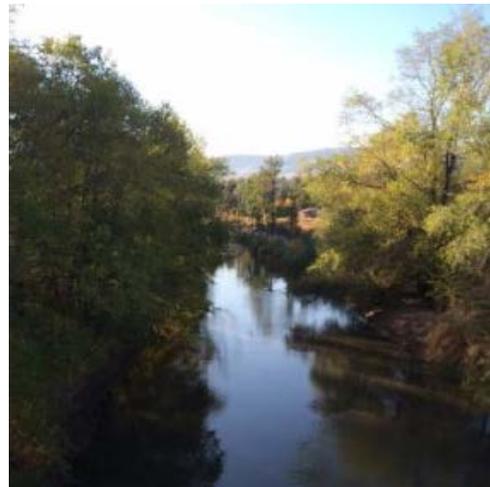
- To coordinate technical, financial, and educational assistance for responsible natural resources management that conserves and improves air, soil, and water quality as well as fish and wildlife habitat.

**FY 2015 Accomplishments:**

- Improved sustainability and accessibility of the Portneuf River around Sacajawea Park by stabilizing the river banks and installing riparian fencing. This also provided accessibility and safety for the surrounding residents.
- Partnered with other agencies and businesses to sponsor Ag Days at Swore Farms, which was attended by nearly 1200 4<sup>th</sup> grade students from the Pocatello area. Students learned the aspects of running a farm and where their food comes from. They learned the process of pollination, how to harvest potatoes, and how to be friendly to the land that provides our food.
- Hosted a booth at the Community Environmental fair.
- Presentation at the Water Quality Conference
- Completed the Pebble Creek 319 project. Approximately 3200 feet of stream channel was reconstructed and 3700 feet of fencing was installed to reduce livestock impact and allow the new riparian area to regenerate.

**Future Plans and Projects:**

- Continue to seek additional grants or other funding opportunities for BMP's and outreach education. Three grants were written this year.
- Continue to be an active part of the Portneuf Watershed Partnership. Through the partnership we have been able to initiate and maintain an extensive watershed monitoring program. The group also meets monthly to discuss local areas of concern for the watershed.



**Sacajawea Park on the Portneuf River**

**FY 2015 District Funding:**

State Funding	\$35,057
County Funding	\$15,000
Local Funding	\$10,716
Grants	\$71,217
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$131,990</b>