

# West Side Soil and Water Conservation District Fact Sheet

**General Information:** The Westside Soil and Water Conservation District was organized in 1944 to provide voluntary land and water conservation technical and financial assistance to landowners and users within the District. The original SCD contained 56,000 acres in south-central Jefferson County and almost 82,000 acres in Western Bonneville County. In 1946 an additional 149,120 acres in Western Bonneville County were added to the district, bringing the districts total acreage to 281,696.

**Mission (or Function):**

- Deliver natural resource conservation technology and education.
- Promote management practices and wise use of natural resources to ensure sustainable resource base for present and future generation.
- Promote BMP's implemented by landowners on a non-regulatory basis rather than mandated by government agencies.

**FY 2015 Accomplishments:**

- In cooperation with NRCS and growers, placed 126 acres in Nutrient Management.
- Continued success of the Adopt-A-Canal project, with 38 teams participating and over 25 miles of canals cleaned.
- Participation in the High Country RC&D cloud seeding project.
- Acreage placed in conservation cover maintenance, residue management and in wildlife habitat management is helping mitigate erosion created by both the wind and water.
- Provided a full scholarship for 1 student to attend the Natural Resource Camp.

**Future Plans and Projects:**

- Research Variable Frequency Drive pump project with assistance to landowners in energy use reduction and better water control.
- Continue to work with landowners for the conversion of hand or wheel line watering to pivot to provide better water efficiency.
- Continue to work with Idaho Department of Transportation and Bonneville County to help educate landowners on the importance of planting wind breaks and cover crops to control the blowing soil as well as snow that can cause major highway issues.



**Natural Resource campers fishing for their dinner during the Camp in Sun Valley**

**FY 2015 District Funding:**

State Funding	\$ 18,368
County Funding	\$ 10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 28,368</b>