

# Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District Fact Sheet

**General Information:** The Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District was formed in 1947 to provide educational, technical and financial assistance to local landowners and operators, and conserve soil, water and related natural resources within the District’s boundaries. The SWCD has been instrumental in helping farmers design and incorporate sprinkler irrigation into their farm plans.

**Mission (or Function):**

- Support high quality and effective projects that engage private landowners in the conservation and enhancement of wildlife and natural resources on their lands.
- We place high priority on innovative concepts that integrate conservation practices in ongoing agriculture and ranching operations.

**FY 2015 Accomplishments:**

- The following highlights a portion of our entire work, which encompassed education programs for youth and adults, and ongoing projects with partners such as Idaho State Department of Agriculture, water districts, and the Franklin County Planning and Zoning.
- Completed the \$4,000,000 Water Smart Irrigation Hydro Facility project that began in 2011 with a feasibility evaluation. The project increases crop production due to reduced water losses in the irrigation system with the added benefit of a revenue source from hydropower facility. The District converted a seeping open irrigation ditch to 20,000 feet of conduit, provided the penstock for a hydropower facility. Its generating power capability can be up to 500kw; enough to power 100 houses for one year!
- The District coordinated an extensive Franklin County Irrigation Reservoir Alliance project entailing multiple community members, entities, and organizations. With strong support

from Representative Marc Gibbs, the Alliance was able to provide 2 full time & 1 part time invasive species inspection stations located at reservoir boat launches to assist in the data collection of boat traffic to further help in the protection from a Quagga / Zebra mussel infestation.

- Bear River Streambank Restoration - 2,000 linear feet of the Bear River was protected using barbs, toe rock, and riparian vegetation.



**Construction of the Hydro Facility**

**Future Plans and Projects:**

- Working with the Utah and Idaho CWMA, the District applied for future funding to locate and control the spread of previously undocumented noxious weeds.

**FY 2015 District Funding:**

Grants	\$79,490
State Appropriation	\$60,330
County Appropriation	\$6,080
Cities Contribution	\$2,400
Programs & Contracts	\$238,278
Sales & Services	\$11,995
Other local entities	\$13,165
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$411,738</b>

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