



**IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

REGULAR MEETING via TELECONFERENCE, NOTICE & AGENDA
Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission
April 21, 2016, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. MT

Len B. Jordan Bldg., 650 W. State, Rm 145, Boise

TELECONFERENCE # 1-877-820-7831 Passcode: 922837

The Commission will occasionally convene in Executive Session, pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206(1).
Executive Session is closed to the public.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT COMPLIANCE

The meeting will be held in facilities that meet the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you require special accommodations to attend, participate in, or understand the meeting, please contact the Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission at (208) 332-1790 or Info@swc.idaho.gov so advance arrangements can be made.

Members of the public may address any item on the Agenda during consideration of that item. Those wishing to comment on any agenda item are requested to indicate so on the sign-in sheet in advance. Copies of agenda items, staff reports and/or written documentation relating to items of business on the agenda are on file in the office of the Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission in Boise. Upon request, copies can be emailed and will also be available for review at the meeting.

	1.	WELCOME, SELF-INTRODUCTIONS, AND ROLL CALL	Chairman Wright
	2.	AGENDA REVIEW <i>Agenda may be amended after the start of the meeting upon a motion that states the reason for the amendment and the good faith reason the item was not included in the original agenda.</i>	Chairman Wright
	3.	PARTNER REPORTS <i>Typically include NRCS, IASCD, IDEA, Attorney General, DFM, OSC, etc.</i>	Partners
	4.	ADMINISTRATION	
*#	a.	Minutes 1. September 25, 2014 Regular Meeting 2. February 17, 2016 Regular Meeting 3. March 31, 2016 Special Meeting ACTION: Approve	Chairman Wright
#	b.	Administrator's Report • Activities • Rock Creek Ranch Advisory Committee Participation • Office Move	Murrison

(*) Action Item

(#) Attachment

ACTION: Staff recommended action for Commission Consideration

Thurs. April 21, 2016 Reg. Meeting Agenda

Date of Notice April 14, 2016

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FY 2017 Tri-State Conservation Agency Summit Anti-Voluntary Conservation Efforts in Washington State <p>ACTION: For information only</p>	
*#	c.	<p>Financial Report</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> February 28, 2016 March 31, 2016 <p>ACTION: Approve</p>	Yadon
*#	d.	<p>FY 2017 Appropriation and Budget Blueprint</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SB 1416: FY 2017 ISWCC Appropriations Bill FY 2017 Budget Draft Blueprint (General and Dedicated Funds) <p>ACTION: Approve Budget Blueprint</p>	Yadon
*#	e.	<p>FY 2017-2020 Strategic Plan</p> <p>ACTION: For information only</p>	Murrison
	5.	PROGRAMS	
#	a.	<p>District Support Services Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical Assistance Requests, Review of Process, Timeline <p>ACTION: For information only</p>	Trefz
#	b.	<p>Resource Conservation & Rangeland Development Program Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RCRDP Update <p>ACTION: For information only</p>	Hoebelheinrich
	6.	OTHER BUSINESS	
	a.	<p>Reports</p> <p>ACTION: For information only</p>	Commissioners, Staff
	7.	<p>EXECUTIVE SESSION</p> <p><i>Executive Session is closed to the public. Under the relevant Idaho Code Section(s) noted below, all Board action will be taken publicly in open session directly following Executive Session.</i></p> <p>ACTION: Move to enter Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(d), for the purpose of reviewing Loan Applications</p>	
	a.	<p>Resource Conservation & Rangeland Development Program</p> <p>Pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(d), the Commission will convene in Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing Loan Applications and Information.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Loan # A705 Delinquent Loan # A-345 Delinquent Loan # A-396 <p>ACTION: For consideration and possible action</p>	Commissioners, Staff
	8.	<p>RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION. ADJOURN.</p> <p>The next regular meeting is scheduled for May 19, 2016.</p>	

(*) Action Item

(#) Attachment

ACTION: Staff recommended action for Commission Consideration

Thurs. April 21, 2016 Reg. Meeting Agenda

Date of Notice April 14, 2016

IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
PUBLIC MEETING & TELECONFERENCE

Item # 4a

Date and Time:

Thursday, September 25, 2014
From 8:00 am – 12:00 pm MST

Location:

Len B. Jordan Building, Room 145
650 W. State Street
Boise, Idaho

DRAFT MINUTES

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT via teleconference:

Norman Wright	Dave Radford
Roger Stutzman	Leon Slichter

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jerry Trebesch

COMMISSION STAFF PRESENT:

1 Teri Murrison	Cheryl Wilson
2 Terry Hoebelheinrich	Ali Hardy
3	

PARTNERS AND GUESTS PRESENT:

4 Ann Vonde, Office of the Attorney General
5 Anita Hamann, Division of Financial Management
6 Keith Reynolds, Department of Administration
7 Art Beal, Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts
8
9

PARTNERS AND GUESTS PRESENT via teleconference:

10 Gene Schock, Natural Resources Conservation Service
11 Benjamin Kelly, Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts
12 John Homan, Office of the Attorney General
13
14

ITEM #1: WELCOME AND ROLL CALL

15
16 Chairman Wright called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m. Roll call: Chairman Norman Wright,
17 Commissioners Leon Slichter and Roger Stutzman were present via teleconference.
18 Commissioner Jerry Trebesch was absent.
19
20

21 Commissioner Dave Radford joined the meeting via teleconference at 8:18 a.m.
22

ITEM #4a: MINUTES
23

24 Action: Commissioner Slichter moved to approve the August 28, 2014 and September 12, 2014
25 Minutes as submitted. Commissioner Stutzman seconded the motion. Motion carried by
26 unanimous vote.

27

28 **ITEM #4b: FINANCIAL REPORTS**

29 Action: Commissioner Radford moved to approve the August 31, 2014 Financial Report as
30 submitted. Commissioner Slichter seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

31

32 **ITEM #4c: ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

33 Action: None taken.

34

35 **ITEM #5a: DISTRICT SUPPORT SERVICES UPDATE**

36 Action: None taken.

37

38 **ITEM #6a: REPORTS**

39 Action: None taken.

40

41 **ITEM #7: EXECUTIVE SESSION**

42 Action: Commissioner Radford moved to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code
43 §67-2345(d) for the purpose of reviewing Loan Applications. Commissioner Stutzman seconded
44 the motion. Roll call: Chairman Norman Wright, Commissioners Roger Stutzman, Dave Radford,
45 and Leon Slichter voted to do so. Commissioner Jerry Trebesch was absent. Motion carried by
46 unanimous vote.

47

48 Executive Session commenced at 9:26 a.m. Ms. Murrison, Ms. Wilson, Ms. Hardy, Mr.
49 Hoebelheinrich, Ms. Vonde, and Mr. Homan (by teleconference) were present during Executive
50 Session.

51

52 Executive Session ended at 9:50 a.m. Commissioners reconvened in Open Session at 9:51 a.m.
53 and took the following action:

54

55 **ITEM #7a: LOAN #A-580**

56 Action: Commissioner Radford moved to allow staff and legal counsel to enter into negotiations
57 for, and modify loan documents to reflect, a settlement with borrowers of Loan #A-580 based on
58 a substantial upfront payment to the Commission. Commissioner Stutzman seconded the
59 motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

60

61 **ITEM #8: ADJOURN:**

62 The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m. The next Commission Meeting will be held on
63 November 19, 2014 in Lewiston.

64

65 Respectfully submitted,

66

67

68 Jerry Trebesch, Secretary



Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission

650 W. State St., Room 145 • Boise Idaho 83720
Telephone: 208-332-1790 • Fax: 208-332-1799

IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC MEETING & TELECONFERENCE

Date and Time:

Wednesday, February 17, 2015
8:00 am – 11:49 am MST

Location:

Len B Jordan Building
650 W State St, Rm. 145
Boise, Idaho

DRAFT MINUTES

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Norman Wright (Chair)	Gerald Trebesch (Vice-Chair)
Leon Slichter (Secretary)	David Radford
Glen Gier	

COMMISSION STAFF PRESENT:

1 Teri Murrison	Terry Hoebelheinrich
2 Carolyn Watts	Cheryl Wilson
3 Rhonda Yadon	
4	

PARTNERS AND GUESTS PRESENT:

6 Mark Cecchini-Beaver, Office of the Attorney General
7 Kent Foster, Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts (via teleconference)
8 James Eller, NRCS (via teleconference)
9
10

ITEM #1: WELCOME AND ROLL CALL

13 Chairman Wright called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

14 Roll call: Chairman Norman Wright, Commissioners Leon Slichter (via teleconference), Gerald
15 Trebesch, and Glen Gier were present.

ITEM #2: AGENDA REVIEW

18 Action: Chairman Wright moved that because it arose subsequent to the posting of this agenda
19 but is of sufficient urgency to warrant discussion, agenda item 5c be added to discuss
20 reallocating some of Eileen Rowan's Technical Assistance hours to the Clearwater Complex Fire
21 project. Seconded by Commissioner Glen Gier. The motion passed unanimously.
22

23 **ITEM #3: PARTNER REPORTS**

24 Action: None taken

25

26 **ITEM #4a: MINUTES**

27 Action: Commissioner Slichter moved to approve the January 25, 2016 Joint IASCD/SWCC
28 meeting and the January 26, 2016 Regular meeting minutes as submitted. Commissioner Gier
29 seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

30

31 Commissioner Radford joined the meeting via teleconference at 8:19 a.m.

32

33 **ITEM #4b: ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

34 Action: Commissioner Slichter moved to approve ongoing participation in NASCA and payment
35 of 2016 dues. Commissioner Trebesch seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous
36 vote.

37

38 **ITEM #4c: FINANCIAL REPORTS**

39 Action: Commissioner Trebesch moved to approve the January 2016 financial report as
40 submitted. Commissioner Gier seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

41

42 **ITEM #4d: SAGE GROUSE RESOLUTION MEMO**

43 Action: Commissioners directed staff to draft a letter recognizing the Governor's efforts to
44 challenge the federal government's failure to stick to a transparent, collaborative process in
45 setting new land-use restrictions on greater sage-grouse habitat, and commending the
46 collaborative efforts of the Governor's Office of Species Conservation and Idaho conservation
47 districts to voluntarily address and promote sage-grouse and wildfire rehabilitation.

48 **ITEM #5a: RESOURCE CONSERVATION & RANGELAND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

49 Action: None taken

50

51 **ITEM #5b: IASCD BEGINNING FARMER RESOLUTION AND ALTERNATIVE**

52 Action: Commissioner Radford moved to approve a new RCRDP loan term of 10 years with an
53 interest rate of 2.75% to be secured with new equipment or real estate and offered to all
54 eligible applicants. Commissioner Slichter seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous
55 vote.

56

57 Commissioner Radford left the meeting at 10:01 a.m.

58

59 **ITEM #5c: REALLOCATION OF EILEEN ROWAN'S TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE HOURS**

60 Action: None taken

61

62 Commissioner Radford re-joined the meeting at 10:18 a.m.

63

64 **ITEM #6a: REPORTS**

65 Action: None taken

66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91

ITEM #7: EXECUTIVE SESSION

Action: Commissioner Gier moved to convene in Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(b) for the purpose of considering the evaluation of a public employee. Commissioner Trebesch seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Roll call: Chairman Norman Wright, Commissioners Leon Slichter (via teleconference), Gerald Trebesch, David Radford (via teleconference) and Glen Gier were present.

Executive Session commenced at 11:04 a.m.
Teri Murrison was present during Executive Session.

Action: none taken

Executive Session ended at 11:48 a.m. Commissioners reconvened in Open Session at 11:48 a.m. and took no action.

ITEM #8: ADJOURN:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:49 a.m. The next Commission Meeting will be held via teleconference on April 21, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Leon Slichter, Secretary

28 Executive Session commenced at 8:03 am.

29

30 Teri Murrison, Terry Hoebelheinrich, Carolyn Watts, Cheryl Wilson and Mark Cecchini-Beaver
31 were present during Executive Session.

32

33 Commissioner Radford joined the Executive Session at 8:15 am.

34

35 Executive Session ended at 8:45 a.m.

36

37 Action: None taken

38

39 **ITEM #3: RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION**

40 Loan #A-703

41 Action: Commissioner Trebesch moved to approve Loan #A-703 contingent upon obtaining a
42 loan guarantee from the applicant's farming corporation, and with conditions as recommended
43 by the loan officer. Commissioner Gier seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous
44 vote.

45

46 Loan #A-704

47 Action: Commissioner Radford moved to approve Loan #A-704 with conditions as
48 recommended by the loan officer. Commissioner Gier seconded the motion. Motion carried by
49 unanimous vote.

50

51 The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 am. The next Commission Meeting will be held in Boise and
52 via teleconference on April 21, 2016.

53

54 Respectfully submitted,

55

56

57 Leon Slichter, Secretary

**TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT AND COMMISSIONERS RADFORD, STUTZMAN, SLICHTER,
AND TREBESCH**
FROM: TERI MURRISON, ADMINISTRATOR
DATE: APRIL 18, 2016
RE: ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

ACTIVITIES

IASCD Division Meetings The IASCD Divisions that were holding meetings this spring have all taken place with the exception of Division 1 which will be held this week in North Idaho (Terry Hoebelheinrich, Delwyne Trefz, and I will attend from Boise, along with North Idaho Staff and Commissioner Slichter). Divisions 2 and 6 opted out of Division meetings, and instead are planning tours later in the spring. Divisions 3 and 4 were well attended (Terry will summarize feedback we received on the new loan program at those meetings). Unfortunately, illness and other commitments kept Boise staff from attending the Division 5 meeting, but Chairman Wright represented us there and will report on the discussion at that meeting.

FY 2017 Appropriations, Personnel The Commission's FY 2017 Appropriations bill (SB 1416, attached under agenda item 4d) was signed into law by the Governor on April 4th and will take effect on July 1, 2016. Of particular note is the fact that the bill was passed unanimously in both houses. Thanks to the efforts of IASCD and individual districts, support for the Commission and the partnership appears to be strong.

Included in the Appropriations Bill is a merit-based Change in Employee Compensation (CEC) of 3%. We prepared and submitted to the Department of Financial Management (DFM) and Department of Human Resources (DHR) a CEC Plan that awards our employees a full 3%, 2.5% and 2.0% depending on personnel evaluation ratings of Exemplary, Solid Sustained, and Achieves Performance Standards. In addition, with the approval of the Plan we are able to bring our last employee whose compensation is lower than 80% of market rate to slightly above that percentage per our DFM-approved Compensation Policy. DFM authorized early implementation of CECs to agencies that had salary cost savings. We have a generous amount of salary savings this year due to leaving the Board Clerk/Administrative Assistant position vacant since July 1st (we are interviewing this week to fill that position half-time). We will implement the early CEC at the end of this month, and project rolling down additional salary savings to the Operating fund in June, as well.

We've also requested approval of a plan to award bonuses at year end to three employees who have demonstrated exceptional performance (by DFM direction, only 20% of our staff – three out of 17.75 – can receive bonuses). While these awards are also merit based, we examined compensation increases and bonuses awarded over the last five years and have proposed rewarding some employees who have received less in salary adjustments and promotions.

ROCK CREEK RANCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

On March 10th I was invited (as a representative of the Commission) by Representative Merrill

Beyeler (Leadore) to accompany him and attend the first meeting of the Rock Creek Ranch Advisory Committee (Committee). The Committee was formed to transition the 12,000 acre previously privately owned Rock Creek Ranch (located in the mountains between Fairfield and Haley) from ownership by the Nature Conservancy and the Wood River Land Trust to the University of Idaho. It's planned the Ranch will serve as a field station dedicated to research & education, fish and wildlife conservation, public access, and active ranching. The transition is anticipated to take 3-5 years. The commitment is to attend meetings and field days, and participate in plan reviews and approvals. This will be a high profile public process given the Ranch's location adjacent to the Wood River Valley.

The Chairman gave initial approval, but wishes to confer with the Board on this matter, so attached for your review is the letter of invitation from Lou Lunte, Deputy Director of The Nature Conservancy, and a project overview that gives more information on the role of the Committee. It is interesting to note that this won't be the Commission's first involvement with the Rock Creek Ranch. Staff has conducted water quality assessments there in the past, so it seems a good fit.

It is not necessary to take formal action on their request since it falls within my responsibilities under the Strategic Plan to "develop new partnerships..." (3.3 Intergovernmental Relations) and "Participate in natural resource groups and processes to attract partners and resources" (3.4 Collaborate with industry associations and other stakeholders).

OFFICE MOVE

With the approval of the Commission's FY 2017 budget, the move to the Water Center has been set into motion. We met with the IDWR staff and architects, as well as Correctional Industries. As a result of Correctional Industries' input, the architects will make slight changes to the layout of the office and will build us four cubicles. We anticipate moving into the Water Center in October or November of 2016.

FY 2017 TRI-STATE CONSERVATION AGENCY SUMMIT

Attached is a copy of the draft Tri-State Washington State Conservation Agency Summit. The date has changed from July to October 4-7, 2016. It will be held in the Methow Valley, about 182 miles northwest of Spokane. We can make reservations for Commissioners to fly from Boise to Spokane (except for our northern commissioner who may prefer to drive to Spokane and meet us there) and rent a large van or SUV to drive to Methow Valley. In addition to the Tri-State Commission meeting, Mark Clark is arranging for us to attend the Washington State Coordinated Resource Management Program (<http://scc.wa.gov/coordinated-resource-management/>) meeting, and the following day, to discuss (and tour) some selected fire sites. Oregon Commission staff have committed to attend. We've been asked to extend an invitation to IASCD and Curtis Elke to attend, as well, although the meeting – as was ours last summer - is focused on state conservation agency issues.

Lodging for the Tri-State Summit will be at the Sun Mountain Lodge in Methow Valley, Washington (<http://www.sunmountainlodge.com/>). Mark has negotiated (and the Commission will cover) a great government rate (\$89 per night) for single occupancy rooms. Let us know if you prefer a double room and we can connect you with the facility to make arrangements to cover the additional charges for the extra person.

VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION EFFORTS CHALLENGED IN WASHINGTON STATE

For your information, two documents from Washington State are provided. The first calls into question the efficacy of voluntary conservation efforts in the Puget Sound region. This document can be viewed at <http://swc.idaho.gov/media/27822/Ag-Pollution-in-Puget-Sound.pdf>

The second (attached) describes the uproar that has resulted from the Northwest Fisheries Commission's use of EPA grant funding to pay for a billboard portraying agriculture as putting waterways at risk. I've spoken with staff at the Washington Conservation Commission regarding both of them. They are redoubling their outreach efforts in response.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: For information only

Attachments:

- Rock Creek Advisory Committee Invitation Letter
- Rock Creek Ranch Overview
- Draft Tri-State Washington State Conservation Agency Summit plan
- *Washington State Billboard Causing Uproar*, news clipping

March 29, 2016

Teri Murrison, Administrator
ID Soil and Water Conservation Commission
650 W. State St.
Room 145
Boise, ID 83702

RE: Request ISWCC to participate in the Rock Creek Ranch Advisory Committee

Dear Teri Murrison,

On behalf of the University of Idaho, Wood River Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy, I invite you, as a representative from the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission, to participate in the Rock Creek Ranch Advisory Committee.

The ISWCC has a long history of working with agricultural producers in Idaho to use the state's natural resources to benefit Idaho people while maintaining and improving those resources for future generations. We believe that your experience and the philosophy of the ISWCC will bring a lot to helping us achieve our goal: *to establish a sustainable rangeland research and education facility in the heart of Idaho where ranching, recreation, and conservation intersect.*

As the University of Idaho, Wood River Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy embark on a partnership at Rock Creek Ranch we believe it will take a broad collaboration to achieve the multi-faceted goals of **Research & Education, Fish and Wildlife Conservation, Public Access and Active Ranching.**

The Advisory Committee will have a key role in helping develop a management plan for the overall project, which includes identifying strategies and setting objectives/actions for achieving all aspects of the goal outlined above. While each Advisory Committee member will bring a suite of expertise, we are particularly interested in members who can help us develop a truly integrated approach to this project. We also expect to get support with specific technical elements of the plan and the later implementation of the plan from many stakeholders, however, we want to keep the Advisory Committee at an effective size.

Attached is a more detailed description of the role of the Advisory Committee and the elements we anticipate being addressed in the project plan.

I appreciate your consideration of this request. If you have any questions please call me at 208-350-2200. As you saw during our first meeting of the Rock Creek Advisory Committee there is a lot of enthusiasm for this project and what can be accomplished by bringing the right partners together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lou Lunte".

Lou Lunte
Deputy Director
The Nature Conservancy in Idaho

Cc: Scott Boettger, Executive Director, Wood River Land Trust
John Foltz, Assistant to the President, University of Idaho
Karen Launchbaugh, Director of the Rangeland Center, University of Idaho

ROCK CREEK RANCH

Goal: Establish a sustainable rangeland research and education facility in the heart of Idaho where ranching, recreation, and conservation intersect. The facility would be home to a collaborative partnership for important and up-to-date research on 21st century ranching and conservation practices. While providing for public access and recreation, the facility also will serve as a podium for education on conserving fish and wildlife habitat and enhancing livestock production on Idaho rangelands.

Background: Key funding from the NRCS Sage Grouse Initiative and a substantial gift in land value from the Rinker family made the purchase of the Rock Creek ranch possible by the WRLT and TNC. The NRCS acquired Grassland Reserve Program easements limiting development on the Ranch and protecting sage grouse habitat. In making their gift the Rinker family stated they wanted “to leave a legacy of open space and wildlife habitat for the public of Blaine County and Idaho”. Through many discussions over nearly 2 years a list of attributes were considered, including fish and wildlife habitat conservation and restoration, managed public access (primarily hunting, but hiking and biking was also considered), maintaining a working ranch and conducting research and education activities.

As the University of Idaho, Wood River Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy embark on a partnership at Rock Creek Ranch we believe it will take a broad collaboration to achieve the goals of **Research & Education, Fish and Wildlife Conservation, Public Access and Working Ranch.**

Key Elements

1. During a 3-5-year period the ranch would continue to be owned by WRLT and TNC, during which time the feasibility of this proposal is tested. No rent will be charged during this period, though carrying costs for WRLT/TNC’s continued ownership of the property, including interest, taxes, insurance and administration will be recovered at the time of an eventual sale.
2. WRLT/TNC sign an agreement (MOU) with UI (the Parties) that provides a framework for the partnership during 3-5 year pilot period, including a process for setting objectives and clarifies responsibilities.
3. Advisory Committee. A group of existing and potential partners will be invited to participate on an Advisory Committee, which will advise and assist as appropriate the Parties in the development and implementation of management plans for the Ranch. Each partner will bring expertise and/or resources in one or more of the key Project elements, such as research, management and/or education applications to rangeland and riparian habitats, fish and wildlife, water, grazing and livestock, public lands, public access, recreation, rural economics, weed control, fire and monitoring.

The Advisory Committee will function under a charter ("**Charter**") developed promptly after signing of the MOU between the UI, WRLT and TNC, so that input from the Advisory Committee will be timely in development of the first management plan. The Advisory Committee will be led by the UI, WRLT and TNC and will include six or more partners. The Charter will stipulate, among other things, how the Advisory Committee will operate, its role, how often and when it will meet, expected participation, and appointment of successor members.

Current Members of the Advisory Committee are:

- Idaho Cattle Association – Wyatt Prescott and Tim Willie
- Idaho Dept Fish & Game – Ed Shriever
- NRCS – Trisha Cracroft and Brendan Brazee
- CIRN – Merrill Beyeler
- Rangeland Resources Commission – Gretchen Hyde

Regular participants but not formal members of the committee

- BLM – John Kurtz or Clare Josiatis

4. Management Plans. The Parties will develop both near term (1-Year) and longer term (3-5 Year) plans for the management of the Ranch (**the "Plans"**). The Plans will address, at a minimum, the topics outlined below. The Plans will be developed by consensus of the Parties with input from the Advisory Committee. The Plans will identify **Outcomes, Timelines, Budgets** and **Leadership** for each topic covered.
 - a) Livestock Operations and Infrastructure. Consistent with the Purposes of this MOU, other elements of the Plans and the NRCS GRP easements, a livestock operations section of the Plans, including necessary infrastructure needs, will be developed in collaboration with the NRCS range staff. The livestock operations section of the Plans will address both the fee lands of the Ranch and the public land leases held by the Ranch, inclusive of native range, seeded pastures and irrigated pastures.
 - b) Fish and Wildlife Habitat. The Plans will address maintenance, enhancement and restoration of fish and wildlife habitat, including, at a minimum, action to address water quantity and quality, weeds and fire.
 - c) Research and Education Programs. Topics of interest include:
 - i) Wet meadow habitat - current condition and needed improvements
 - ii) Grazing impacts of livestock on wildlife - especially impacts on sage-grouse.
 - iii) Riparian condition and improvements
 - iv) Management of invasive plants
 - v) Conservation of fish and amphibians
 - vi) Social and economic impacts of ranching and healthy rangelands on local communities

- d) Outreach. A priority for the Parties is to share the knowledge and experiences gained through the research done on the Ranch with diverse audiences, including land managers, educators, researchers, policy makers, community leaders and students. The Parties will develop a suite of outreach strategies including, but not limited to, publications, workshops, field tours, technical exchanges, and presentations.

- e) Access for Public Recreation. The Parties acknowledge the importance to local communities of providing a wide range of recreational opportunities on the Ranch including, but not limited to, bird watching, dog walking, hiking, mountain biking, hang gliding, motorized uses and hunting. The Plans will include a balanced approach to recreational uses, consistent with the GRP Easements, reducing wildlife disturbance during crucial life history periods, reducing habitat damage, and minimizing conflicts with other uses of the Ranch. The Plans will address, at a minimum, kinds of use, use periods, access signage, access routes (including roads and trails), access management structures, level of integration with surrounding public land recreation and communications to recreational users.

- f) Monitoring. Essential to accomplishing the goals of this MOU is establishment of a sustainable monitoring program that supports all aspects of the Plans' outcomes. This includes collecting baseline data and ongoing monitoring associated with management and research activities. The Parties will develop a repository for all monitoring information that is available to the Parties and, as appropriate, to the Advisory Committee and other audiences.

Tri-State Meeting and Tour October 5 & 6, 2016

Perched on a mountaintop overlooking Winthrop, [Sun Mountain Lodge](#) has 112 guestrooms with a variety of room types: cozy cabins on a private beach at Patterson Lake, standard guestrooms in the main Lodge and luxury accommodations featuring private patios and jetted tubs. Other amenities include a full service activities shop, year-round gear rentals, two restaurants including the AAA-four diamond dining room and casual Wolf Creek Bar and Grill, full service spa and a 5,000 bottle wine collection. 60 kilometers of trails right from your door! Activities include: horseback riding, mtn biking, pool, tennis, fishing, boating, hot tubs, XC skiing. *Recently honored by Fodor's Travel as one of the Top 100 hotels in the world.*

Proposed travel logistics:

- October 4: Travel day for tri-state representatives / guests to the beautiful [Sun Mountain Lodge](#) in Winthrop, Washington. Address: Patterson Lake Rd, 9 miles SW of Winthrop. Winthrop, WA 98862 Phone: 509-996-2211 Phone Alt.: 800-572-0493 FREE
- October 5: Tri-state meeting that day, can attend the CRM meeting during dinner.
- October 6: Tour / End of meeting
- October 7: Depart

Room rates: \$89/night or \$179/ double occupancy. All guest must call and make their reservations no later than XX, XX. After this date there is no guarantee the above rate will be available.

Sun Mountain Lodge offers fun-filled activities for every age and ability. Described as a "recreational fantasyland" by the [Lonely Planet](#). Check out the [warm weather activities](#) available for guests during their time there.

Washington Airports:

SeaTac Airport: <https://www.portseattle.org/Sea-Tac/Pages/default.aspx>
Directions from [SeaTac Airport to Sun Mountain Lodge](#)

Spokane International Airport: <http://spokaneairports.net/>
Directions from [Spokane International Airport to Sun Mountain Lodge](#)



SUBSCRIBE ADVERTISE ABOUT

Washington State Billboard Causing Uproar

CINDY ZIMMERMAN / APRIL 6, 2016 / LEAVE A COMMENT

Facebook 14 Twitter Email Print

Window Snip

The chairmen of two Senate committees are calling for an investigation into billboards in Washington state that blame agriculture for polluting waterways because they apparently were funded by a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency.

Sen. Jim Inhofe (R-OK), chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, and Sen. Pat Roberts (R-KS), chairman of the Agriculture Committee are requesting an audit and investigation of an EPA grant to the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission that was reportedly used to support a campaign in Washington state funded by a coalition calling itself "What's Up Stream." The campaign included billboards and a website that support increased regulation of agriculture in the Evergreen State.



PHOTO BY DON JENKINS, CAPITAL PRESS

Western agriculture publication Capital Press first called attention to the billboards in an April 1 story, and Sen. Roberts picked up on it Monday. "This disturbing billboard is a bold example of exactly what America's farmers and ranchers complain about all the time: the EPA has an agenda antagonistic to producers," said Roberts in a statement. According to the Capital Press report, EPA's biggest problem with the billboard stating that "unregulated agriculture is putting our waterways at risk" is that they didn't receive credit for their financial contribution, which is apparently a requirement when they provide grant money to organizations.

"It appears a large portion of the EPA financial assistance went to pay a public relations and lobbying firm, Strategies 360, to conduct an advocacy campaign called 'What's Upstream?' in partnership with environmental activists, including Puget Soundkeeper Alliance and Western Environmental Law Center," Inhofe and Roberts wrote in their letter to EPA inspector general Arthur A. Elkins, Jr. "This Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission grant appears to be part of a broader war on farmers and rural communities that the Obama Administration, through the EPA, has been waging in concert with its allies in the environmental activist community. It is imperative we learn whether EPA officials are turning a blind eye to this deceptive wrongdoing, and why the administration did not perform the necessary oversight to confirm taxpayer dollars are not mismanaged, and ensure well-established and important federal restrictions against lobbying are being followed," the Senators concluded.



🔍 Search

ZimmCast A weekly podcast sponsored by GROWMARK

Ethanol Trade Mission to Peru Cindy Interviews Ed Hubbard, Renewable Fuels Association.

In this week's program Ed talks about a recent ethanol trade mission to Peru led by Sec. of Agriculture Tom Vilsack.



#FLEX MY CHOICE



**IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Item # 4c

TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT AND COMMISSIONERS RADFORD, GIER, SLICHTER, AND TREBESCH
FROM: RHONDA YADON, FISCAL & HR MANAGER
DATE: APRIL 13, 2016
RE: FINANCIAL REPORTS, FISCAL MATTERS

Attached for your review are the financial reports for February 29, 2016 and March 31, 2016, which include the Detail Financial Report and the YTD Financial Summary. By looking at the combination of these two reports, you will notice that in Operating Expenditures in the general fund, for example, that even though we have spent 81 percent of our budget (due to several large annual and semi-annual billings), we should end the year very close to budget as the projected expenditures for April through June is only approximately 16 percent of budget. Overall, I believe that we are in good financial standing. I will review these reports on all the funds at your meeting beginning with the Detail Report and will answer any questions you might have.

We have been told by Legislative Services that our Audit Report for Fiscal Years 2011 and 2012 will be complete and ready to present to the Commission Board at the May 19th Meeting. At this point, the audited statements are done, but LSO managerial staff is going through their review process.

Starting in April, my title will change to Fiscal and Human Resource Manager as I am taking on some supervisory functions in our office. We have hired a new half-time Board Clerk, Katie Butcher, and I am reassigning the division of responsibilities between Carolyn and this position. Katie begins work in the office April 25, 2016 and will be at your next meeting.

Below is a schedule of the balances remaining of all the Commissioner honorariums. Commissioners to date have spent 95 percent of the allocation. Next year we will revise the budgeted percentages to allow for the Chairman’s additional meeting responsibilities.

Commissioner	Days Budgeted/ Traveled to Date	Benefit Costs included in Honorariums	Honorariums Budgeted	Expended to Date	Remaining
Wright	20 / 26	\$224	\$1,224	\$1,583	(\$359)
Gier	20 / 17	\$224	\$1,224	\$1,038	\$186
Trebesch	20 / 16	\$224	\$1,224	\$979	\$245
Radford	20 / 15	\$224	\$1,224	\$925	\$299
Slichter	20 / 21	\$224	\$1,224	\$1,279	(\$55)
Totals		\$1,120	\$6,120	\$5,803	\$317

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve the February 29, 2016 and March 31, 2016 Financial Reports

Encl: SWC Detail Financial Report for February 29, 2016 and March 31, 2016
 SWC Summary Financial Report as of February 29, 2016 and March 31, 2016

SWC DETAIL FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF February 29, 2016

GENERAL FUND	PERSONNEL			OPERATING			CAPITAL OUTLAY			TRUSTEE & BENEFITS			CASH				
FY16	BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE thru End of Current Month		BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current		BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current		BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current		BEG CASH AT 7/1/15	PLUS TOTAL		LESS TOTAL EXP TO DATE	ACTUAL CASH BALANCE End of Current
		Month	BALANCE		Current	BALANCE		Current	BALANCE		Month	BALANCE		REC TO DATE	TO DATE		
INDEX																	
7101 MANAGEMENT ADMIN	266,000	170,440	95,560	43,742	37,332	6,410							309,742			207,772	101,970
7111 MANAGEMENT BOARD	30,450	4,240	26,211	11,645	7,209	4,436							42,095			11,449	30,646
7201 FIELD STAFF	487,600	333,665	153,935	95,888	79,177	16,710	47,700		47,700				631,188			412,842	218,346
7301 PROGRAMS	201,700	137,444	64,256	2,378	58	2,320							204,078			137,502	66,576
7310 DISTRICT ALLOCATIONS										1,103,200	1,103,200	0	1,103,200			1,103,200	0
7320 DISTRICT CAPACITY BLDG										150,000	150,000	0	150,000			150,000	0
7350 CREP	134,050	91,185	42,865	15,747	10,526	5,221							149,797			101,710	48,087
TOTAL GENERAL FUND 0001	1,119,800	736,973	382,827	169,400	134,303	35,097	47,700	0	47,700	1,253,200	1,253,200	0	2,590,100	0	0	2,124,475	465,625
		65.81%			79.28%						100.00%					82.02%	
7325 SWC PROFESSIONAL SERV				17,730	2,101	15,629	2,270		2,270				5,872	15		2,101	3,786
TOTAL FUND 0450	0	0	0	17,730	2,101	15,629	2,270	0	2,270	0	0	0	5,872	15	0	2,101	3,786
					11.85%											35.77%	
DEDICATED FUND	PERSONNEL			OPERATING			CAPITAL OUTLAY			CASH				BALANCE SHEET			
FY16	BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE thru End of Current Month		BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current		BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current		BEG CASH AT 7/1/15	PLUS TOTAL REC TO DATE	LESS TOTAL EXP TO DATE	ACTUAL CASH BALANCE End of Current	NOTES RECEIVABLE 7/1/15	LOANS PAID OUT, COLLECTIONS /ADJUSTMENTS TO DATE		NOTES RECEIVABLE End of Cur period
		Month	BALANCE		Current	BALANCE		Current	BALANCE								
7351 RCRDP LOAN ADMIN	155,200	105,063	50,137	146,100	45,809	100,291				6,586,137	659,288	514,985	6,730,440	3,365,718	364,113	3,165,094	
TOTAL RCRDP ADMIN 0522-01	155,200	105,063	50,137	146,100	45,809	100,291	0	0	0	6,586,137	659,288	514,985	6,730,440		(564,737)		
		67.70%			31.35%							7.82%					
7361 REVOLVING LOAN - DEQ				30,000	880	29,120				25,484	12,667	880	37,271	572,995	0	494,587	
TOTAL DEQ LOAN 0529-16	0	0	0	30,000	880	29,120	0	0	0	25,484	12,667	880	37,271		(78,408)		
					2.93%							3.45%		ADV FROM PAYMENTS/ADJ TO DATE		ADV FROM END OF CUR PERIOD	
														515,723	(77,305)	438,418	

SWC DETAIL FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF March 31, 2016

GENERAL FUND	PERSONNEL			OPERATING			CAPITAL OUTLAY			TRUSTEE & BENEFITS			CASH				
FY16	BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE thru End of Current Month		BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current		BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current		BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current		BEG CASH AT 7/1/15	PLUS TOTAL		LESS TOTAL EXP TO DATE	ACTUAL CASH BALANCE End of Current
		Month	BALANCE		Current	BALANCE		Current	BALANCE		Month	BALANCE		REC TO DATE	TO DATE		
INDEX																	
7101 MANAGEMENT ADMIN	266,000	190,253	75,747	43,742	38,584	5,158							309,742			228,837	80,905
7111 MANAGEMENT BOARD	30,450	4,885	25,565	11,645	7,163	4,482							42,095			12,048	30,047
7201 FIELD STAFF	487,600	371,492	116,108	95,888	80,971	14,917	47,700		47,700				631,188			452,462	178,726
7301 PROGRAMS	201,700	153,090	48,610	2,378	58	2,320							204,078			153,148	50,930
7310 DISTRICT ALLOCATIONS										1,103,200	1,103,200	0	1,103,200			1,103,200	0
7320 DISTRICT CAPACITY BLDG										150,000	150,000	0	150,000			150,000	0
7350 CREP	134,050	101,515	32,535	15,747	10,894	4,853							149,797			112,409	37,388
TOTAL GENERAL FUND 0001	1,119,800	821,235	298,565	169,400	137,670	31,731	47,700	0	47,700	1,253,200	1,253,200	0	2,590,100	0	0	2,212,104	377,996
		73.34%			81.27%						100.00%					85.41%	
7325 SWC PROFESSIONAL SERV				17,730	2,224	15,506	2,270		2,270				5,873	9,563		2,224	13,211
TOTAL FUND 0450	0	0	0	17,730	2,224	15,506	2,270	0	2,270	0	0	0	5,873	9,563	0	2,224	13,211
					12.54%												37.87%
DEDICATED FUND	PERSONNEL			OPERATING			CAPITAL OUTLAY			CASH				BALANCE SHEET			
FY16	BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE thru End of Current Month		BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current		BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSE Thru End of Current		BEG CASH AT 7/1/15	PLUS TOTAL REC TO DATE	LESS TOTAL EXP TO DATE	ACTUAL CASH BALANCE End of Current	NOTES RECEIVABLE 7/1/15	LOANS PAID OUT, COLLECTIONS /ADJUSTMENTS TO DATE		NOTES RECEIVABLE End of Cur period
		Month	BALANCE		Current	BALANCE		Current	BALANCE								
7351 RCRDP LOAN ADMIN	155,200	116,970	38,230	146,100	50,560	95,540				6,586,137	750,830	531,643	6,805,324	3,365,719	364,113	3,095,896	
TOTAL RCRDP ADMIN 0522-01	155,200	116,970	38,230	146,100	50,560	95,540	0	0	0	6,586,137	750,830	531,643	6,805,324		(633,936)		
		75.37%			34.61%							8.07%					
7361 REVOLVING LOAN - DEQ				30,000	880	29,120				25,484	12,688	880	37,292	572,995	0	494,587	
TOTAL DEQ LOAN 0529-16	0	0	0	30,000	880	29,120	0	0	0	25,484	12,688	880	37,292		(78,408)		
					2.93%							3.45%		ADV FROM PAYMENTS/ADJ TO DATE		ADV FROM END OF CUR PERIOD	
														515,723	(77,305)	438,418	

Soil and Water Conservation
FY2016 YTD Financial Summary Through February 29, 2016

Updated: 1/8/2016

Fund Summaries

Appropriation

Fund Source	General Fund				Professional Services				RCRDP Loan Administration				Revolving Loan			
Personnel Funds	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining					Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining				
	\$ 1,119,800	\$ 736,973	\$ 350,418	\$ 32,409					\$ 155,200	\$ 105,063	\$ 47,485	\$ 2,652				
Operating Funds	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining
	\$ 169,400	\$ 134,303	\$ 31,535	\$ 3,562	\$ 17,730	\$ 2,101	\$ 2,798	\$ 12,831	\$ 146,100	\$ 45,809	\$ 61,557	\$ 38,734	\$ 30,000	\$ 880	\$ 4,320	\$ 24,800
Capital Funds	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining								
	\$ 47,700	\$ -	\$ 47,700	\$ -	\$ 2,270	\$ -	\$ 2,270	\$ -								
Trustee and Benefit	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining												
	\$ 1,253,200	\$ 1,253,200	\$ -	\$ -												

Cash Balance at 02/29/16

Fund Source	General Fund				Professional Services				RCRDP Loan Administration				Revolving Loan			
	Beg Cash at 7/1/15	Plus Total Receipts	Less Total Expenses	Actual Cash balance	Beg Cash at 7/1/15	Plus Total Receipts	Less Total Expenses	Actual Cash balance	Beg Cash at 7/1/15	Plus Total Receipts	Less Total Expenses	Actual Cash balance	Beg Cash at 7/1/15	Plus Total Receipts	Less Total Expenses	Actual Cash balance
	\$ 2,590,100	\$ -	\$ 2,124,475	\$ 465,625	\$ 5,872	\$ 15	\$ 2,101	\$ 3,786	\$6,586,137	\$ 659,288	\$ 514,985	\$ 6,730,440	\$ 25,484	\$ 12,667	\$ 880	\$ 37,271

Soil and Water Conservation
 FY2016 YTD Financial Summary Through March 31, 2016

Updated: 4/5/2016

Fund Summaries

Appropriation

Fund Source	General Fund				Professional Services				RCRDP Loan Administration				Revolving Loan			
Personnel Funds																
	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining					Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining				
	\$ 1,119,800	\$ 821,235	\$ 268,974	\$ 29,591					\$ 155,200	\$ 116,970	\$ 38,023	\$ 207				
Operating Funds																
	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining
	\$ 169,400	\$ 137,670	\$ 27,447	\$ 4,283	\$ 17,730	\$ 2,224	\$ 2,704	\$ 12,802	\$ 146,100	\$ 50,560	\$ 56,025	\$ 39,515	\$ 30,000	\$ 880	\$ 4,320	\$ 24,800
Capital Funds																
	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining								
	\$ 47,700	\$ -	\$ 47,700	\$ -	\$ 2,270	\$ -	\$ 2,270	\$ -								
Trustee and Benefit																
	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditures Projected	Remaining												
	\$ 1,253,200	\$ 1,253,200	\$ -	\$ -												

Cash Balance at 03/31/16

Fund Source	General Fund				Professional Services				RCRDP Loan Administration				Revolving Loan			
	Beg Cash at 7/1/15	Plus Total Receipts	Less Total Expenses	Actual Cash balance	Beg Cash at 7/1/15	Plus Total Receipts	Less Total Expenses	Actual Cash balance	Beg Cash at 7/1/15	Plus Total Receipts	Less Total Expenses	Actual Cash balance	Beg Cash at 7/1/15	Plus Total Receipts	Less Total Expenses	Actual Cash balance
	\$ 2,590,100	\$ -	\$ 2,212,104	\$ 377,996	\$ 5,872	\$ 9,563	\$ 2,224	\$ 13,211	\$6,586,137	\$ 750,830	\$ 531,643	\$ 6,805,324	\$ 25,484	\$ 12,688	\$ 880	\$ 37,292



IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Item # 4d

TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT AND COMMISSIONERS RADFORD, GLENN, SLICHTER, AND TREBESCH
FROM: RHONDA YADON, FISCAL & HR MANAGER
DATE: APRIL 13, 2016
RE: FY 2017 APPROPRIATION AND BUDGET BLUEPRINT

As you know, the Governor recently signed Senate Bill 1416, the Commission's FY 2017 Appropriations Bill (see attached). It appropriates \$3,158,500 in FY 2017, and caps ISWCC's full-time authorized positions at 17.75. In addition to adjustments for health care, network, statewide cost allocation, etc., the FY 2017 budget provides funding for the replacement of two vehicles, one-time expense for new office cubicles, and ongoing rent payment for the Commission's new offices in the Boise Water Center, increases spending authority to \$30,000 in Professional Services, and appropriates \$100,000 from the Economic Recovery Reserve Fund to the Nez Perce Soil & Water District (one time) for Clearwater Fire Zone rehab coordination and implementation. It also funds the one-time costs of a 27th payroll and a 3% ongoing salary increase for our employees to be distributed based on merit.

The Conservation Commission annually approves a Budget Blueprint for the appropriations of General and Dedicated funds. Attached is a draft FY 2017 Budget Blueprint recommendation for your consideration.

General Fund Draft Blueprint

Revenue: Appropriated General Fund revenue in FY 2017 totals \$2,686,500. It includes \$1,201,000 in Personnel funds, \$177,500 in Operating funds, \$54,800 in Capital funds, and \$1,253,200 in Trustee and Benefit funds. FY 2013's additional \$50,000 in Trustee & Benefit funds distributed under the match allocation formula is included as part of the Commission's Base FY 2017 funding, as are FY 2014's \$50,000 and FY 2015's additional \$50,000 (each year), which are allocated to districts equally.

Expenditures: General Fund budgeted expenditures in FY 2017 are forecasted to be \$175,725. Personnel and Capital fund expenditures in FY 2017 equal the appropriated funds. Per Board policy, the draft Blueprint sets aside a modest \$1,775 in Operating funds as a contingency. Under Trustee and Benefit funds, the draft Blueprint allocates \$425,000 for Base funding, \$678,200 for Match formula funding, \$100,000 for Operating, and \$50,000 for Capacity Building funding.

Since the estimated costs are not yet available, the attached draft Blueprint estimates SWCAP expenses (Controller's Office, Attorney General, etc.) to be \$37,000. The draft Blueprint assumes roughly 50/50 cost sharing with the RCRDP fund for overhead expenses including our Memo of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Administration for IT support.

The General Fund Budget draft Blueprint funds ISWCC staffing at 15.15 FTPs. It assumes some office staff spend .10 of an FTP assisting with RCRDP conservation planning and fiscal activities.

Dedicated Fund Draft Blueprint

Revenues: Dedicated Fund revenues are limited to cash on-hand and interest generated by both RCRDP and SRF loans, as well as one fund containing cost recovery for the provision of technical assistance provided to other agencies. In FY 2017, RCRDP cash on-hand is estimated to be no less than \$6,770,477. Estimated interest income on the current loan portfolio will be approximately \$97,299 (not including late interest, new loan activity, or early payoffs' impacts on interest generation). The total RCRDP Dedicated Fund balance will be approximately \$6,867,776 in FY 2017. Cash on-

hand at the beginning of FY 2017 in the Technical Cost Recovery fund is projected to be \$11,004. Potential income in that fund is \$20,000, which would bring total funds to \$31,004. Cash on-hand in the SRF Fund is forecast to be \$37,271 and FY 2017 income an additional \$11,217. Total SRF cash on-hand and income generated in FY 2017 are estimated at \$48,488.

Terry Hoebelheinrich prepared the above referenced estimate of the interest to be generated along with a comparison to last year's interest estimate. He will be available at your meeting to discuss his projection.

Expenditures: Expenditures assume that the income identified in Revenues materializes, but if not, expenditures are estimated to equal income with the exception of the RCRDP fund. The draft Blueprint assumes that income generated through interest to the RCRDP fund increases, but does not cover the spending authority appropriation. See the attached FY 2017 RCRDP Estimated Interest Income. Loan officer Terry Hoebelheinrich will address that during the discussion of this item.

The RCRDP draft Blueprint assumes 2.10 full time staff persons (loan officer and loan servicing assistant, and .10 of office staff FTP). It also assumes costs incurred for meetings where RCRDP program is discussed or business is conducted will be charged to that fund.

Since the estimated costs are not yet available, the attached draft Blueprint estimates SWCAP expenses (Controller's Office, Attorney General, etc.) to be roughly \$37,000. The draft Blueprint assumes roughly 50/50 cost sharing with the RCRDP fund for overhead expenses including our MOU with the Department of Administration for IT support.

The Budget draft Blueprint for Dedicated Funds assumes the specified income will be realized in Technical Assistance Cost Recovery, however that may not be the case. Cash on-hand on at the beginning of FY 2017 will be approximately \$11,004 and in addition, we may recover up to an additional \$20,000. Regardless, the maximum spending authority in this fund is capped at \$30,000 in FY 2017.

New this year is a one-time appropriation in the Trustee and Benefit Fund of \$100,000 to the Nez Perce Soil & Water Conservation District to lead the collaborative, 5-district Clearwater Fire Zone Recovery & Rehabilitation project.

The budgeted cost in the State Revolving Fund assumes that an amount roughly equal to 10% of the loan officer's salary will be charged to this fund to recoup RCRDP administrative costs. The balance of funds generated through this loan will continue to be held in contingency to build a modest reserve to preserve cash flow in this account should the borrower be late on payments.

ACTION: Approve FY 2017 General and Dedicated Fund Blueprints, including setting Trustee and Benefit fund distribution to districts in FY 2017 at: \$425,000 in Base funding, \$678,200 in Match Formula funding, \$100,000 in Operating funding, \$50,000 for Capacity Building funding, and \$100,000 from the Economic Recovery Reserve Fund to be distributed to the Nez Perce Soil & Water District (one time) for Clearwater Fire Zone rehabilitation coordination and implementation.

Attachment: SB 1416: FY 2017 ISWCC Appropriations Bill
FY 2017 Budget Draft Blueprint (General and Dedicated Funds)

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1416

BY FINANCE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 APPROPRIATING MONEYS TO THE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION FOR FIS-
 2 CAL YEAR 2017; LIMITING THE NUMBER OF AUTHORIZED FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT
 3 POSITIONS; PROVIDING LEGISLATIVE INTENT REGARDING DISTRIBUTIONS TO THE
 4 CONSERVATION DISTRICTS; AND PROVIDING LEGISLATIVE INTENT REGARDING
 5 MONEYS PROVIDED FOR NORTH CENTRAL IDAHO WILDFIRE RESTORATION.
 6

7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

8 SECTION 1. There is hereby appropriated to the Soil and Water Conser-
 9 vation Commission, the following amounts to be expended for the designated
 10 expense classes, from the listed funds for the period July 1, 2016, through
 11 June 30, 2017:

		FOR	FOR	FOR	FOR	
		PERSONNEL	OPERATING	CAPITAL	TRUSTEE AND	
		COSTS	EXPENDITURES	OUTLAY	BENEFIT	TOTAL
					PAYMENTS	
16	FROM:					
17	General					
18	Fund	\$1,201,000	\$177,500	\$54,800	\$1,253,200	\$2,686,500
19	Economic Recovery Reserve					
20	Fund				100,000	100,000
21	Administration and Accounting Services					
22	Fund		30,000			30,000
23	Resource Conservation and Rangeland Development					
24	Fund	166,500	145,500			312,000
25	Clean Water Revolving Loan (SCC)					
26	Fund	<u>0</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>30,000</u>
27	TOTAL	\$1,367,500	\$383,000	\$54,800	\$1,353,200	\$3,158,500

28 SECTION 2. FTP AUTHORIZATION. In accordance with Section 67-3519,
 29 Idaho Code, the Soil and Water Conservation Commission is authorized no more
 30 than seventeen and seventy-five hundredths (17.75) full-time equivalent
 31 positions at any point during the period July 1, 2016, through June 30, 2017,
 32 unless specifically authorized by the Governor. The Joint Finance-Appro-
 33 priations Committee will be notified promptly of any increased positions so
 34 authorized.

35 SECTION 3. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the Legislature that
 36 \$100,000 of the amount appropriated in Section 1 of this act for trustee and

1 benefit payments is to be distributed equally between the fifty (50) soil
2 and water conservation districts in addition to the amounts authorized under
3 Section 22-2727, Idaho Code.

4 SECTION 4. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the Legislature that
5 \$100,000 of the amount appropriated in Section 1 of this act for trustee and
6 benefit payments is to be granted to the Nez Perce Soil and Water Conserva-
7 tion District as the lead for the North Central Idaho Wildfire Restoration
8 Group. Such moneys shall be leveraged to the extent possible for a regional
9 effort to identify and prioritize restoration of private and municipal lands
10 damaged by the 2015 wildfires.

DRAFT FY 2017 IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Dedicated Funds Budget Blueprint

REVENUE	Approx. Cash on hand 7/1/2016	Est. FY 2017 Income	TOTAL Dedicated Funds
RCRDP	\$6,770,477	\$97,299	\$ 6,867,776
Econ Recovery Reserve	\$100,000		\$100,000
TA Cost Recovery	\$11,004	\$20,000	\$31,004
SRF Loan	\$37,271	\$11,217	\$48,488

<u>SPENDING AUTHORITY/ BUDGET</u>	Personnel	Operating	Operating Contingency	Capital	TOTAL Spending Authority/Budgeted
RCRDP	\$166,500	\$145,500			\$312,000
Econ Recovery Reserve				\$100,000	\$100,000
TA Cost Recovery		\$30,000			\$30,000
SRF Loan	-	\$8,454	\$21,546		\$30,000
Total	\$166,500	\$183,954	\$21,546	\$100,000	\$472,000

Revenue Highlights

Approx. cash on hand 7/1/2016 is based on actual cash on hand on 3/18/2016. Does not include estimate of interest generated in RCRDP and SRF during remainder of FY 2016

Est. FY 2016 Income includes earned interest on current portfolio (excludes RCRDP late interest, new loan activity, and early payoffs) and billing to OSC for TA Cost Recovery)

Operating Highlights

Assumes interest income generated to RCRDP fund increases in FY 2017, but income generated does not meet appropriated spending authority

Assumes SWCAP expenses including SCO, AG, STO estimated at \$37,000

Assumes appropriate amount of SWCAP, administrative (including postage, phone, rent expense, etc.), and IT services charged to GF, RCRDP, & SRF

Ongoing expenses for MOU with Admin for IT support assumed to match FY 2016 actuals

Assumes maximum income and expenditures under TA cost recovery

Assumes amount roughly equivalent to 10% of loan officer salary and benefits charged to SRF to cover administrative costs. Remainder held in contingency to cover late borrower payments, if necessary.

Assumes costs associated with meetings where RCRDP program or business conducted will be charged to RCRDP

Assumes 2.10 FTP RCRDP staff, some WQRC/Engineering time to prepare conservation plans, inspections

**TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT AND COMMISSIONERS RADFORD, SLICHTER, GIER, AND
TREBESCH**
FROM: TERI MURRISON, ADMINISTRATOR
DATE: APRIL 8, 2016
RE: DRAFT FY 2017-2020 STRATEGIC PLAN

The Commission is required by statute to submit an updated and adopted Strategic Plan to serve as a guidance document for the agency for the next four years. This year's draft has been slightly modified to remove completed tasks and to add additional tasks as indicated by Track Changes in the attached document.

After your review, a copy of the attached Draft Strategic Plan can be further amended if necessary, before being distributed to the Strategic Plan District & Partner Review Committee (Steve Becker, Art Beal, Dennis Tanikuni, Benjamin Kelly, and Chris Simons). Once they have suggested changes and commented, staff will make any additional changes and return the draft to your Board at the May meeting.

Districts will receive a final draft of the revised Strategic Plan after your meeting in May and will be asked for further comments. Final consideration of the Plan will take place in June. The Board is statutorily required to adopt a final Strategic Plan at the June meeting to meet DFM's submittal deadline of July 1st.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: For information only

Attachments:

- Draft FY 2017-2020 ISWCC Strategic Plan

FY ~~2016~~2017-2019-2020 Strategic Plan

Conservation the Idaho Way: sowing seeds of stewardship



Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission

650 W. State Street, Room 145
Boise, Idaho 83702
208-332-1790
www.swc.idaho.gov



SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship

“A good river is nature's life work in song.”

Mark Helprin



Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship



SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

CONSERVATION THE IDAHO WAY

Idaho is endowed with a magnificent blend of diverse natural landscapes -- rivers, lakes, mountains, forests and desert canyons -- combined with rich and fertile agricultural lands well suited for growing a wide variety of crops and raising livestock. People who work in Idaho agriculture have deep roots in the land. They know that caring for the land will reap benefits for future generations.

"Conservation the Idaho Way" reflects the conviction that the very best way to care for and enhance the soil, water, air, plants and wildlife is through voluntary, locally led projects. Our philosophy is to use the state's natural resources to benefit Idaho people while maintaining and improving those resources for future generations.

MISSION

We facilitate coordinated non-regulatory, voluntary, and locally-led conservation by federal, state, and local governments including Idaho's conservation districts and other partners to conserve, sustain, improve, and enhance soil, water, air, plant, and animal resources. (IC 27:22)

SLOGAN

Conservation the Idaho Way: sowing seeds of stewardship

VISION

Conservation in Idaho reflects locally-led natural resource conservation leadership and priorities, is voluntary and incentive-based, non-regulatory, and demonstrates scientifically sound stewardship. The Conservation Commission and local conservation districts are the primary entities to lead coordinated conservation efforts with partners to provide landowners and land-users with assistance and solutions for natural resource concerns and issues.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Address legislative intent and statute
- Benefit the environment and Idaho's agricultural-based economy
- Benefit conservation districts' locally led, voluntary, non-regulatory priorities and projects
- Benefit the Commission's ability to serve and meet statutory authorities
- Promote fiscal responsibility
- Strengthen existing and build new conservation partnerships
- Incorporate valid scientific data and practices
- Benefit conservation work on natural resource priority issue area
- Promote innovative conservation measures

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship



SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

CORE FUNCTIONS

The Conservation Commission focuses on three core functions:

1. Providing support to Idaho's 50 locally led, volunteer conservation districts.
2. Providing incentive-based and general conservation programs and services.
3. Supporting services and programs in a fiscally prudent, inclusive, and transparent manner.

KEY EXTERNAL FACTORS

There are key external factors that could affect the agency's ability to meet the goals and objectives contained in this Strategic Plan. They include:

- Changing demographics and land use designations.
- State and federal regulatory pressure and mandates that could shift priorities and resources away from current activities.
- Changing economics and pressures of agricultural and natural resources dependent industries which could result in significant increases or decreases in conservation program participation.
- Changing economics of state and federal budgets, which could result in additional agency cuts or fewer conservation dollars available to be spent in the state.

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship



FY ~~2016~~2017-2019-2020 Strategic Plan/OWP

CORE FUNCTIONS & KEY PERFORMANCE MEASURES

GOALS	OBJECTIVES	KEY PERFORMANCE MEASURES	BENCHMARKS
1. Support Districts' voluntary conservation efforts	Provide districts w/technical and capacity building assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct annual survey to identify satisfaction with services & programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of districts satisfied with services & programs
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist in updating 5-Year Plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # district 5-Year Plans updated
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct annual technical & comprehensive assistance request process, assign field staff, including reasonable/flexible discretionary time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quantify and track assistance provided <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of technical assistance hours requested/awarded # served with projects # new projects # ongoing projects # landowners served
2. Provide Conservation Programs & Services	Incentive-Based Programs	Resource Conservation & Rangeland Development Program (RCRDP) Make low interest conservation loans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quantify and track: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of new loans Total \$ loaned in prior FY
		Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Provide technical leadership and oversight to reduce ground water use, improve water quantity and quality, enhance wildlife habitat, and decrease the risk of agriculture-related chemical and sediment runoff in Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quantify & track: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # contracts # of acres # contracts certified (achieving program goals) # certified acres

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship



SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

FY ~~2016~~2017-2019-2020 Strategic Plan/OWP

GOALS	OBJECTIVES	KEY PERFORMANCE MEASURES	BENCHMARKS
	General Conservation Programs & Services	Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Implementation Planning Program – subject to DEQ priorities, write plans/ designated lead for voluntary ag/grazing projects on listed/impaired waterways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quantify & track: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ # of new plans assigned by DEQ ▪ # plans completed ▪ # in progress ▪ # pending
		Ground Water Quality/Nitrate Priority Areas - Facilitate cooperative ground water protection, promote and support implementation of water quality projects to maintain and enhance ground water quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quantify & track: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ # acres treated ▪ Nitrates reduced (#s) ▪ Phosphorus reduced (#s) ▪ Sediments reduced (tons)
3. Build Support for Voluntary Conservation	Conduct outreach and communication – educate/inform public, decision makers, partners, and other stakeholders	Maintain Facebook & Twitter content about voluntary conservation activities of Commission and districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quantify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ # of Facebook posts ▪ # of Twitter tweets
		Publish monthly newsletter about voluntary conservation activities of Commission and districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quantify # of subscriptions
		Co-produce video on Envirothon with Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 7-9 minute video about the Idaho Envirothon competition for use in legislative and other presentations in FY 2017

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship

FY ~~2016~~2017-2019-2020 Strategic Plan

Conservation the Idaho Way: sowing seeds of stewardship

C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor

Board

H. Norman Wright, Chairman

~~Roger Stutzman~~, ~~Gerald Trebesch~~, Vice Chair

~~Gerald Trebesch~~, ~~Leon Slichter~~, Secretary

Dave Radford, Member

~~Leon Slichter~~, ~~Glenn Gier~~, Member

Administrator

Teri Murrison

Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission

650 W. State Street, Rm. 145

Boise, ID 83702

208-332-1790

www.swc.idaho.gov

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship



SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

FY 2016 WORK PLAN & INTERNAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

GOALS	OBJECTIVES	OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	FY 2016 WORK PLAN DELIVERABLES
1. Support District conservation efforts			
	1.1 Provide technical assistance	Technical assistance available to districts that request services (as resources allow)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conduct inventory of available field staff hours ▪ Invite district requests through formal allocation process ▪ Convene Division stakeholder workgroup(s) to rank and recommend awards ▪ Leadership Team allocates district support time: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ~40% of available field staff time to technical assistance ○ ~10% of available field staff time to general discretionary hours ▪ Provide technical assistance to awarded projects and on discretionary basis as time permits ▪ Conduct pilot project with Nez Perce District to determine feasibility of using task-based assistance requests, adjust process if warranted ▪ Convene division Technical Assistance Work Group (TAWG) meetings (6), review prior year's processes

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship



FY ~~2016~~2017-2019-2020 Strategic Plan/OWP

GOALS	OBJECTIVES	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	FY 2016 WORK PLAN DELIVERABLES
	1.2 Provide comprehensive assistance	Comprehensive assistance and capacity building assistance services provided to districts as resources allow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ See deliverables above relating to process for awarding district requests ▪ Field staff attend district board meetings min. of once per quarter
		All districts update 5-Year Plans annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assist districts that request service
		Statutory requirements met for annually holding district budget hearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conduct annual budget/unmet needs for implementation of water quality improvement projects as identified/prioritized in 5-year, other plans in June ▪ Disseminate results to Board, public, decision-makers as appropriate
		Districts aware of potential capacity building opportunities with other partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Identify-Pursue</u> new partnership and funding opportunities, notify districts, facilitate connections
	1.3 Distribute State Funding	Base allocations distributed in compliance with IDAPA 60.05.04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Distribute by July 31 ▪ Annually award district requests for available funding for capacity building activities. Distribute funds by July 31
		\$100,000 in operating funds distributed annually (equal distribution to each district)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Distribute by July 31
		\$50,000 distributed annually to districts for capacity building/outreach purposes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Solicit requests, set awards for following fiscal year by June 15th ▪ Distribute by July 31st of each year ▪ Districts report on funds use by 12/20
		<u>\$100,000 in one time funds to be distributed to Nez Perce SWCD as lead agency on fire recovery efforts in Clearwater Fire Zone</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Distribute by July 31, 2016</u>

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship

FY ~~2016~~2017-2019-2020 Strategic Plan/OWP

GOALS	OBJECTIVES	OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	FY 2016 WORK PLAN DELIVERABLES
		Funds distributed annually subject to local matching formula in IDAPA 60.05.04.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Advise districts in timely documenting submission of the receipt of local matching contributions ▪ Districts submit reports detailing local matching funds by August 15th ▪ Convene workgroup annually to review Financial & Match Reports, make recommendations to Conservation Commission by August 30th ▪ Assess and recommend need for 10% holdback due to economy ▪ Distribute state matching funds by September 30th of each year
2. Provide Conservation Programs & Services			
Incentive-Based Programs			
	2.1 Resource Conservation & Rangeland Development Program (RCRDP)	Low interest loans provided to individual borrowers for conservation practices and equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase loan portfolio by a minimum of the annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase ▪ Set %s and terms, monitor, evaluate, revise loan policies annually ▪ Support Commissioner Loan Committee to review and recommend actions to Board
		Loan review process conducted timely	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conduct annual tracking of two loan applications, report results to Board

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship

FY ~~2016~~2017-2019-2020 Strategic Plan/OWP

GOALS	OBJECTIVES	OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	FY 2016 WORK PLAN DELIVERABLES
		Program marketed to agricultural landowners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop and update marketing plan annually ▪ Conduct annual review of prior year's marketing efforts ▪ Provide regular training to all field staff and districts as identified in Marketing Plan.
	2.2 State Revolving Loan Fund	Existing loan and/or future loans serviced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Service and track existing loan ▪ If RCRDP resources become fully committed, seek re-capitalization from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
	2.3 Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)	Ground water usage reduced, water quantity and quality improved, wildlife habitat enhanced, and the risk of agriculture-related chemical and sediment runoff in Eastern Snake River Plain Aquifer decreased via program efforts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Serve as lead agency for statewide program, provide technical leadership and oversight ▪ Conduct annual leadership and regular interagency meetings ▪ Strive to achieve goals and objectives for the CREP program as outlined in the 2006 agreement with the USDA Farm Service Agency as feasible ▪ Work to achieve increased program goals as outlined in CREP annual reports ▪ Submit annual report to Farm Service Agency and other partners

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship

FY ~~2016~~2017-2019-2020 Strategic Plan/OWP

GOALS	OBJECTIVES	OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	FY 2016 WORK PLAN DELIVERABLES
General Conservation Programs & Services			
	2.6 Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Implementation Planning Program	Timely implementation plans written for approved TMDLs on listed/impaired waterways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In coordination with DEQ, complete TMDL Agricultural Implementation Plans within 18 months of approval of TMDL by EPA ▪ Initiate assigned addendums, and assist with five-year reviews on existing DEQ Sub-basin Assessment (SBA) TMDLs ▪ Conduct annual meetings with six DEQ regional offices to coordinate activities , conduct Interagency meetings with DEQ/ other partners ▪ Provide technical assistance to districts implementing BMPs outlined in implementation plans (as requested in allocation process and resources allow)
	2.7 Ground Water Quality/Nitrate Priority Areas <i>(unfunded, but some work done through district technical allocation process)</i>	Reduce nitrate contamination in Nitrate Priority Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide technical assistance to districts through allocation process (see 1.1, above) ▪ Meet responsibilities as outlined in the Cooperative Agreement and in agreement with the updated Idaho Agricultural Pollution Abatement Plan as resources allow
	2.8 Idaho Agricultural Pollution Abatement Plan	Guidance document in support of the abatement of agricultural non-point source pollution updated every 10 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implement strategies as funding is available ▪ Work with other state agencies and stakeholders to increase funding for implementation measures
	<u>2.9 Professional Services</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Provide engineering assistance to OSC as requested</u> ▪ <u>Perform deep soil testing for DEQ in Cassia & Minidoka Counties to educate landowners on management practices and resulting ground water impacts</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Renew agreement with OSC, work as needed and as time is available</u> ▪ <u>Select consultant for sampling, lab for testing</u> ▪ <u>Sample up to 60 fields within the nitrate priority areas</u> ▪ <u>Conduct outreach to growers</u> ▪ <u>Final summary report on results</u>

Conservation the Idaho Way. Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship



SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

FY ~~2016~~2017-2019-2020 Strategic Plan/OWP

GOALS	OBJECTIVES	OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	FY 2016 WORK PLAN DELIVERABLES
3. Build Support for Conservation			
	3.1 Partner Participation	Commission engaged in district issues, meetings, activities/districts engaged in Commission issues, meetings, activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conduct annual district listening session to solicit input from partners ▪ Administrator attend district meetings (5-10), tours (4) ▪ Invite districts to present results of capacity building funding distributed prior year from Board
		Districts satisfied with services & programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 85% of technical & comp assistance awards accomplished to districts' satisfaction ▪ Annual survey demonstrates maintenance or improvement in district satisfaction ▪ Conduct annual Listening Session, address emerging issues as they arise ▪ Prepare, disseminate 1 page district fact sheets to Legislature
		Transparency & involvement maximized, info regarding services and activities shared	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Post regular and special public meeting agendas online, provide supporting documentation, and minutes/audio ▪ Utilize online video streaming to encourage participation
		Important district/Commission news and updates shared regularly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Utilize field staff, social media, Commission website, newsletter, and email distribution lists to keep districts informed

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship

FY ~~2016~~2017-2019-2020 Strategic Plan/OWP

GOALS	OBJECTIVES	OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	FY 2016 WORK PLAN DELIVERABLES
	3.2 Internal and External Communications	Staff, public, partners, and others informed of progress - successes and challenges	<p>Internal Outreach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Distribute Monthly Updates to staff for presentations at district meetings, and their own knowledge ▪ Conduct bi-weekly LTeam (leadership) video conferences ▪ Conduct monthly ATeam (all staff) video conferences ▪ Conduct annual All Staff meetings, communicate info, training <p>External Outreach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Publish monthly newsletter for districts, public, partners, Legislature and Executive Branch, maintain presence on social media ▪ Attend Governor’s Capitol for the Day (3), legislative events ▪ Encourage newsletter reprinting (Farm Bureau, etc.) ▪ Publish Performance Measures Report (Sept. 1) ▪ Distribute newsletters through businesses, resources permitting ▪ Make presentations to germane committees, JFAC (district fact sheets included), IASCD participate in presentations ▪ Produce annual video featuring significant conservation success story
	3.3 Intergovernmental Relations	Actively-facilitated interaction and participation in other agency programs and projects (local, state, and federal governments)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop new partnerships, resources for programs and districts ▪ Provide technical assistance to other agencies (including engineering) ▪ Review rules/policies that impact Commission and/or districts; review proposed and adopted plans, programs, environmental documents, activities and initiatives impacting conservation, take action as appropriate ▪ Convene advisory group as needed to make recommendations to Board and staff

Formatted Table

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship



FY ~~2016~~2017-2019-2020 Strategic Plan/OWP

	<p>3.4 Collaborate w/industry associations and other stakeholders</p>	<p>Commission services, programs enhanced by regular interaction and collaboration with associations and other voluntary conservation stakeholders</p>	<p>IASCD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Attend IASCD meetings (annual conference, spring and fall division meetings, and Board meetings) ▪ Report at Spring & Fall IASCD Division Meetings ▪ Conduct biannual joint Board meetings to identify and promote common goals and strategy ▪ Form Commission/IASCD leadership planning group, meet as needed ▪ Encourage IASCD participation in monthly Commission meetings via partner reports <p>IDEA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Attend IDEA Board meetings biannually and/or when invited ▪ Provide district employee training opportunities as requested and resources permit •
			<p>Others</p> <p><u>Rock Creek Ranch Project</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Serve on Advisory Committee for transition from The Nature Conservancy, Wood River Land Trust ownership to University of Idaho Research Station development (attend meetings, field days, etc.)</u> ▪ Meet with resource and ag groups to publicize partnership activities ▪ Attend association meetings including Food Producers meetings weekly during legislative session. ▪ Participate in natural resource groups and processes to attract partners and resources. ▪ Participate in, speak at, and attend field trips and tours, annual conferences, attend meetings, conferences, and other functions to represent the Conservation Commission and promote good stewardship of Idaho's natural resources.
<p>4. Provide Agency & Board Administrative & Support Services</p>			
	<p>4.1 Administer agency</p>	<p>Operations provide fiscally sound, efficient support to achieve mission</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fiscal - Conduct all day to day fiscal activities and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review existing agreements, update ○ Change over from contract fiscal support to ¾ time in-house financial specialist ○ Develop monthly cumulative sub-object budget

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship



FY ~~2016~~2017-2019-2020 Strategic Plan/OWP

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> tracking for expenditures, evaluate internal tracking and monitoring reports for all funds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Oversee risk management renewals for property, inventory ○ Facilitate annual audit ▪ HR - Perform regular recordkeeping, evaluation, and planning activities and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Recruit, retain highly qualified staff to carry out mission of agency ○ Evaluate field staff annually in March. ○ Update Performance Plans in June for field staff to include technical assistance allocations ○ Update Compensation Policy and Plan annually ○ Annually evaluate employee performance and eligibility for compensation adjustments/bonuses ○ Annually evaluate employee comp ratios and adjust compensation as appropriate and as funding is available ○ Identify and offer advanced training as needed
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fleet Management Regularly maintain fleet <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Replace vehicles at ~150,000 miles ○ Evaluate ATVs for replacement ▪ Facilities – Ensure office and work space is ample, safe, and functional <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Update ongoing contract with NRCS for field staff office space and IT support ○ Secure new Move Boise headquarters to Water Center office space that meets need for increased Boise FTPs ▪ IT – Provide IT support on a day to day basis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Evaluate need and implement IT replacement schedule ○ Convert staff file and data retention from local hard drives to centralized, shared system ▪ Operating procedure documentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Evaluate and if necessary, update operating manuals for programs, services, and positions
	4.2 Agency governance	Facilitate excellent governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assist Commissioners and Governor’s office during appointment process ▪ Support Commissioners to establish & oversee policies, ops

FY ~~2016~~2017-2019-2020 Strategic Plan/OWP

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conduct up to 12<u>7</u> regular monthly Commission meetings annually and special meetings as necessary to conduct business ▪ Staff ad hoc and ongoing committees ▪ Agendas and reports distributed electronically and filed on website ▪ Provide Commissioners with laptops to use at Board meetings ▪ Propose legislation, promulgate rules, and issue guidance as necessary ▪ To promote increased access and efficiency, conduct video and teleconference (vs. in person) for Board meetings as feasible
	<p>4.3 Planning & Reporting</p>	<p>Short and long term planning maximizes potential for success and efficacy, findings reported to stakeholders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop annual budget, blueprint ▪ Review existing and develop new policies ▪ Develop annually updated Strategic and Work Plans ▪ Deliver annual Performance Measures Report to Governor & Legislature ▪ Make annual reports to Senate and House Agricultural Affairs Committees, other germane committees as appropriate ▪ Inventory staff workload to quantify available resources for services and programs

Conservation the Idaho Way. Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship





TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT, COMMISSIONERS RADFORD, TREBESCH, SLICHTER AND GIER
FROM: DELWYNE TREFZ, DSSS
DATE: APRIL 14, 2016
RE: FIELD STAFF TIME ALLOCATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ALLOCATION PROCESS UPDATE

District Requests For Assistance

Thirty-nine districts submitted requests for FY2017 SWCC assistance. The hours requested by the districts within each Division are presented in Table 1.

Hours Requested

Division	Technical and Comprehensive Assistance	Engineering Assistance	Total by Division
I *	592	465	932
II	1009	60	1069
III	1514	230	1744
IV	478	0	478
V	2233	1961	4194
VI	150	0	150
Total by Type of Assistance	5976	2716	8692 Total Hours

*This total includes an estimate for TA for Benewah, who requested a percentage of the total number of hours available instead of a specific number of hours

The number of hours of SWCC staff time available to provide the assistance districts have requested for FY2017 will be determined by the SWCC Leadership Team when we meet later this month.

Evaluation and Prioritization of District Requests

The next step in the Technical Assistance Allocation Process is to prioritize the requests submitted by districts within each Division. Following is a brief summary of the evaluation process each Division will use to prioritize requests submitted by districts within their division.

DIVISION I: The evaluation committee divides the available SWCC hours equally between the 4 districts in the division. For every 400 hours of SWCC assistance available, 100 hours is allocated to each district.

DIVISION II: The evaluation committee reviews the requests for assistance. They discuss each request and agree amongst themselves how best to divide the available SWCC hours amongst the districts.

DIVISION III: Division III asks SWCC to rank requests. SWCC staff use the lists of criteria developed by the FY2013 TAWG to prioritize the requests, and allocates the available SWCC hours according to the prioritization. That is, beginning with the top ranked requests and continuing down the list, the full number of hours requested is allocated to each request until the available hours were all allocated.

DIVISION IV: The evaluation committee uses their knowledge of local conditions and priorities to allocate the available SWCC hours fairly amongst the requests submitted by districts.

DIVISION V: The evaluation committee reviews all requests from districts in the Division and determines which of the requests are worthy of having SWCC hours allocated towards them. SWCC hours are then allocated to the district requests which the committee has determined are worthy as follows:

- Allocate 10% of the requested hours to each request for comprehensive assistance (CA), i.e., allocate 1 hour of assistance to each 10 hours of requested CA.
- Calculate the percentage of total requested hours which can be provided by the available SWCC staff hours after CA hours have been subtracted from the total available SWCC hours. Multiply the number of hours asked for in each individual request by the calculated percentage to determine how many hours to allocate to each request.

For example: If the total number of hours requested is 100, and SWCC has 50 hours of available staff time to service those requests, then each individual request would be allocated $\frac{1}{2}$ hour of assistance for each 1 hour requested.

DIVISION VI: The evaluation committee uses their knowledge of local conditions and priorities to allocate the available SWCC hours fairly amongst the requests submitted by districts.

Allocation of SWCC Staff Hours To Service Requests

After the requests have been prioritized, the Commission will allocate assistance to each request based on the recommendations of the Division-level evaluation committees, the expertise of available SWCC staff, and geographic and logistical considerations.

Process

The Technical Assistance Work Group (TAWG) representatives in each division have been provided with copies of the requests submitted by districts within their respective Division. TAWG members have also been provided with directions on what they and their Division-level evaluation committee need to do in order to handle the requests in accordance with the evaluation process which their Division has chosen to use.

Delwyne will work with each TAWG member to ensure that all evaluation committees meet prior to the May 16 deadline for submission of recommendations to the Commission. Delwyne will participate, either in person or via video- or teleconference, in all evaluation committee meetings.

Timeline

April 18: Requests and handling instructions distributed to Division-level evaluation committees.

April 18-May 13: Delwyne meets with each Division-level evaluation committee to prioritize requests and develop a recommendation regarding how to allocate SWCC staff hours to the requests from districts within their Division.

May 16: Recommendations to SWCC relative to the ranking of requests and how to allocate SWCC hours to district requests are due from each Division-level evaluation committee.

May 16-30: Commission staff will allocate staff hours to district projects based upon the respective evaluation committee recommendations, the expertise of available SWCC staff, and geographic and logistical considerations.

June 3: Not later than June 3rd, the Commission will inform districts whether or not assistance has been allocated to each request.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: For information only



IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

COMMISSION

Item 5b

H. Norman Wright
Chairman

Jerry Trebesch
Vice Chairman

Leon Slichter
Secretary

Dave Radford
Commissioner

Glen Gier
Commissioner

Teri A. Murrison
Administrator

**TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT, COMMISSIONERS GIER, RADFORD, SLICHTER,
AND TREBESCH**

FROM: TERRY HOEBELHEINRICH, LOAN OFFICER

DATE: April 13, 2016

RE: RCRDP UPDATE

Marketing	COMPLETED (since last report) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Soil Health Symposium, February, Ontario, OR• Direct Seed Workshop, February, Idaho Falls• Idaho Family Forest Landowners Conference, March, Moscow
Loan Applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 11 loan inquiries have been received since the last update on February 10• 2 loan applications received• 1 loan application in process• 2 loans approved (\$85,218, \$61,832)• 0 loan applications denied
Loan Portfolio	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 79 loans \$3,095,895• \$314,166 approved, but not disbursed• 2 Delinquencies
Beginning Farmer/2.75% Loan Product	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presented Update to IASCD Division's 3,4, & 5• Division #1 presentation is scheduled for 4-14-16• Division's 3 & 4 attendees asked lots of questions• Were Supportive of Commissions Efforts• Chairmen Wright Presented to Division 5
Notice of RCRDP Application	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff and DAG Developed a 'Notice of RCRDP Application' Letter to be provided to Districts.

ACTION: For Information Only