



## IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

### REGULAR MEETING NOTICE & AGENDA

Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission  
October 1, 2020, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. MT

Location: Idaho Water Center, 322 E Front St, Suite 560, Conference Room, Boise

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

[ZOOM Meeting Link](#)

Zoom Meeting ID: 964 1600 0610 Zoom Password: 982553

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 so indicate 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.

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](mailto:Info@swc.idaho.gov) so advance arrangements can be made.

	1.	<b>WELCOME, SELF-INTRODUCTIONS, AND ROLL CALL</b>	Chairman Wright
	2.	<b>PARTNER REPORTS</b> (information only)	
*	3.	<b>AGENDA REVIEW</b> (potential action item) The Agenda may be amended by formal Board action, if necessary, at the meeting. If so, a motion that states the reason for the amendment and the good faith reason the item was not included in the original agenda will be made and approved by the Board.	Chairman Wright
<b>NON-ACTION ITEMS</b>			
#	4.	<b>ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Activities</li><li>• IASCD Division Meetings, Annual Conference, Business Meeting</li><li>• November Special Meeting &amp; District Listening Session</li><li>• Commissioner Reappointment</li><li>• Staff Recruitments</li><li>• Email from Idaho Conservation League re Idaho Power Solar Irrigation Case</li><li>• Telecommuting</li><li>• FY 2021 Meeting Schedule</li></ul> <b>ACTION:</b> For information only	Murrison

(\*) Action Item

(#) Attachment

ACTION: Staff recommended action for Commission consideration

Thursday, October 1, 2020 Meeting Agenda

Date of Notice: September 24, 2020

#	5.	<b>DISTRICT OPINION SURVEY RESPONSES ON CHANGES TO THE COMMISSION</b> <u>ACTION:</u> For information and discussion only	Murrison, Trefz
	6.	<b>FRANKLIN SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT SUMMARY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Terms of agreement</li> <li>• Costs Incurred in Civil Litigation</li> <li>• State-Wide Cost Allocation Plan (SWCAP) calculation methods</li> </ul> <u>ACTION:</u> For information only	Chapple Knowlton (OAG), Reiber (DFM)
#	7.	<b>PUBLIC INPUT ON PROPOSED STATUTORY CHANGES TO TITLE 22, CHAPTER 17</b> <u>ACTION:</u> For discussion and comment	Murrison
	8.	<b>OTHER REPORTS</b> <i>Commissioners and staff only, no discussion</i> <u>ACTION:</u> For information only	Commissioners, Staff
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>			
*#	9.	<b>MINUTES</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. August 13, 2020</li> </ol> <u>ACTION:</u> Approve	Chairman Wright
*#	10.	<b>FINANCIAL REPORTS</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Financial Reports for the month ended June 30, 2020.</li> <li>2. Financial Reports for the month ended July 31, 2020.</li> <li>3. Financial Reports for the month ended August 30, 2020.</li> </ol> <u>ACTION:</u> Approve	Misnick
*#	11.	<b>DISTRICT ALLOCATIONS WORK GROUP (DAWG) REPORT</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FY 2021 District Match Eligibility Recommendation</li> <li>• Recommended District Match Allocations for November 2020 Distribution</li> </ul> <u>ACTION:</u> Approve the FY 2021 District Allocation Matching Funds to be distributed as recommended by ISWCC staff and DAWG.	Trefz
<b>ADJOURN</b> <i>The Commission will reconvene to take any action resulting from Executive Session and to adjourn. The next Regular Commission Meeting will be on November 5, 2020, at 10:00 AM MT in Boise, Idaho.</i>			

(\*) Action Item

(#) Attachment

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**SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION  
COMMISSION**

H. Norman Wright  
Chairman

Cathy Roemer  
Vice Chairman

Erik Olson  
Secretary

Gerald Trebesch  
Commissioner

Wendy Pratt  
Commissioner

Teri Murrison  
Administrator

**MEMO**

**TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT AND COMMISSIONERS ROEMER, TREBESCH,  
OLSON, AND PRATT**  
**FROM: TERI MURRISON, ADMINISTRATOR**  
**DATE: SEPTEMBER 22, 2020**  
**RE: ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

**Activities**

**IASCD Division Meetings, Annual Conference, Business Meeting**

Division I	tbd	October 14, 2020
Division II	tbd	October 15, 2020
Division III	CANCELLED	October 13, 2020
Division IV	Zoom online	October 20, 2020
Division V	CANCELLED	October 21, 2020
Division VI	ZOOM online	October 22, 2020
Annual Conference	CANCELLED	November 10-12, 2020
IASCD Business Meeting		November 12, 2020

**November Special Meeting & District Listening Session**

We've scheduled a Listening Session on Thursday November 5<sup>th</sup> to take the place of one we typically hold during the now-cancelled IASCD Annual Conference. We will likely have other agenda items so the Listening Session will be a non-action item to take general comments from Districts.

As part of that meeting, we will specifically ask for District input on proposed statutory changes to the Soil Conservation District Law (see attached *Board-approved proposed changes to Title 22, Chapter 17*) approved by your Board in August. The Division of Financial Management has asked that we check the proposed changes with our stakeholders.

The approved proposed changes would eliminate OnePlan from statute because the program is now defunct and also remove "Soil" and "Soil and Water" from the statute referring to districts and the Commission, standardizing all references instead as "Conservation Districts" and "Conservation Commission".

**Commissioner Reappointment**

There is no news on the reappointment of Commissioner Roemer.

## Staff Recruitments

Staff will be recruiting for three vacant positions in October: a new Water Quality Resource Conservationist (Jon Beals has taken a job with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game), a Loan Assistant (Corrine Dalzell has taken a job with the Idaho Board of Nursing) and an Engineer (Allan Johnson has accepted a position with the Department of Environmental Quality). We hope to have these positions filled by the end of October or middle of November.

## Email from Idaho Conservation League re Idaho Power Solar Irrigation Case

Attached is a copy of an email that was sent to the Bruneau River SCD asking them to comment in the Idaho Public Utilities Council (PUC) matter that proposes to change net metering compensation rates for agricultural irrigation customers in Idaho. Also attached is a copy of a clipping from the Idaho Pumper about the same matter. We have been advised that this issue is complicated, and Districts are being asked to carefully consider aligning with any perspective. The Commission did not receive a letter and any comment from your Board would have to be coordinated, likely through the Governor's Office of Energy, as a unified state agency comment. I don't believe the state will comment but have inquired to Nate Fisher about that and should have an answer by the day of your meeting. This information is provided for your information only.

**Telecommuting** FSA offices have slightly relaxed their restrictions on working in the federal offices. Curtis has advised us that they are increasing the maximum number of NRCS staff working from the offices, however, doors will remain locked with contact information on the doors (telephone). NRCS staff will meet with customers in the field. Our staff will continue to work from home until the federal offices move into phases II and III.

## FY 2021 Commission Meeting Schedule

Date & Time	Meeting, Teleconference to be held	Meeting Type*
Nov. 5, 2020, 10:00 am	SPECIAL MEETING & Commission Listening Session - 322 E. Front Street, Suite 560, Boise	Video Conf. via Zoom, teleconference
Dec. 17, 2020, 10-3, MT	Regular meeting, 322 E. Front Street, Suite 560, Boise	Video Conf. via Zoom, teleconference
Jan. 21, 2021, 10-3, MT	Regular meeting, Regular meeting, 322 E. Front Street, Suite 560, Boise	Video Conf. via Zoom, teleconference
Feb. 18, 2021, 10-3, MT	Regular meeting, 322 E. Front Street, Suite 560, Boise	Video Conf. via Zoom, teleconference
Mar. 18, 2021, 10-3, MT	Regular meeting, Regular meeting, 322 E. Front Street, Suite 560, Boise	Video Conf. via Zoom, teleconference
Apr. 15, 2021, 10-3, MT	Regular meeting, 322 E. Front Street, Suite 560, Boise	Video Conf. via Zoom, teleconference
May 20, 2021, 10-3, MT	Regular meeting, 322 E. Front Street, Suite 560, Boise	Video Conf. via Zoom, teleconference

Jun. 17, 2021, 10-3, MT	Regular meeting, 322 E. Front Street, Suite 560, Boise	Video Conf. via Zoom, teleconference
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*\*While all meetings are scheduled tentatively for video and teleconference, should budgetary rescissions not materialize, regular meetings may again be held in person. In addition, the Chairman may call a special meeting via video or teleconference.*

**REQUESTED ACTION:** For information only

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Email from Idaho Conservation League re Idaho Power Solar Irrigation Case
- Clipping from the Idaho Pumper re Idaho Power Solar

[Back to Agenda](#)

**From:** [Dainee Gibson-Webb](#)

**Sent:** Thursday, September 17, 2020 10:12 AM

**To:**

**Subject:** Idaho Power Solar Irrigation Case and Bruneau River SCD

Hi,

As you may be aware, Idaho Power is petitioning the Idaho Public Utilities Council (PUC) to change net metering compensation rates for agricultural irrigation customers in Idaho.

My name is Dainee Gibson-Webb, and I'm working with a NGO coalition across Idaho to pool our resources and mobilize a response to this petition. Participants include Idaho Conservation League, Sierra Club of Idaho, Conservation Voters of Idaho, Snake River Alliance, Idaho Organization of Resource Councils, and Portneuf Resource Council.

There is a PUC workshop, public hearing and written comment period coming up at the end of September with the comment period extending through the end of October.

We are prioritizing solar advocates and customers to:

1. Submit written comments by October 27th.
2. Speak at the public hearing on October 13th.
3. Attend the public workshop on Sept 28th.

While getting solid numbers of solar advocates and irrigation customers to participate is important, we feel it's also important to have the 'right' type of people commenting. We are hoping to get conservation-minded members of the agriculture community to participate and I'm hoping your Soil and Water Conservation District can reach out to your active district members to encourage them to participate.

We can provide guidelines and talking points for those who need them, but the basic message is:

1. Wait to establish a cutoff date for the current solar net metering program until it has a new one in place. A Dec 1, 2020 cutoff is premature.
2. Support for the single meter.
3. For existing solar customers, want legacy treatment like residential solar customers are receiving.
4. Ag irrigation customers have the right to fair rules as Idaho Power is the only utility option available to them.
5. Allow farmers and families to meet their own energy needs and achieve energy independence.
6. Lift the 100 kW limit for net metering.
7. Request Idaho Power complete the valuation study of customer generated power (as directed by the IPUC in the residential net metering ruling).
8. Idaho Power is committed to 100% renewable energy by 2045. Urge Idaho Power to work with it's customers in partnership to achieve these clean energy goals.
9. Extend the comment period beyond the fall harvest season to provide a better opportunity for those most impacted by these changes to adequately engage.

Let me know if you can share our information! I am happy to answer any questions you may have. Thank you!

Dainee

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**Dainee Gibson-Webb**

She | Her | Hers ([what's this?](#))

Conservation Analyst

Idaho Conservation League

PO Box 844, Boise, ID 83701

office: 208.345.6933 x 111

<http://www.idahoconservation.org>



Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Association, Inc.

2020

## THE IDAHO PUMPER

**Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Association, Inc.**

P.O. Box 2624

Boise, ID 83701-2624

P: (208) 381-0294

F: (208) 381-5272

E: iwpg.ltominaga@gmail.com

**Executive Committee**

Mark Mickelsen, President

Sid Erwin, Vice President

Lynn Tominaga, Ex. Director

Eric Olsen, Attorney

Anthony Yankel, Consultant

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Ryan Searle, Shelley

Dean Stevenson, Rupert

Kris Taylor, Idaho Falls

Dane Watkins, Idaho Falls

Jason Webster, Rexburg

Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Association is a non-profit organization committed to ensuring a reliable power supply at a reasonable cost for Idaho's irrigation pumpers.

Its programs are guided by a volunteer Board of Directors representing a broad cross section of Idaho irrigators and electrical energy users.

IIPA is committed to providing legal and technical representation for Idaho's irrigation pumpers before the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, the Idaho State Legislature and in other forums where the future and cost of our electrical supply is discussed.

IIPA is funded by voluntary contributions from individuals, corporations, associations and businesses interested in achieving the Association's goals and objectives of providing an inexpensive, reliable electrical power supply for Idaho's irrigators. Contributions to the Association are not classified as charitable but are deductible as a regular business expense. Less than 5% of the Association's funds are used for administration. The balance is used for legal and technical services.

**A MESSAGE FROM IIPA'S PRESIDENT**

For nearly 50 years Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Association (IIPA) has served irrigators who use electricity. Farmers today recognize that electric power is one of the first line expenses to grow any crop.

IIPA operates solely on money received from you in the form of dues and contributions. The only people paid in our organization are our executive director, attorney, and power specialist.

We have had several years of stability in power prices because the power companies have elected to negotiate rate settlements over the last decade. IIPA is now expecting the power companies to file general rate cases looking for double digit increases in the next few years.

We are anticipating that the next two to three years will be very expensive as we work with Rocky Mountain Power (RMP), Idaho Power Company (IPC), and the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (IPUC) on the future of irrigation rates.

Our responsibility as pumpers in the upcoming rate cases is to defend our position as a class. IIPA alone is championing our cause. We need your help. I presume IIPA's cost to defend the irrigation customer class in these general rate cases could exceed a half million dollars.

We recognize as a board (all of whom are irrigation electric power users) that times are tough due to difficulties beyond our control. Please help us where you can to keep your pumping costs within reason. Thanks for your support.

**Mark Mickelsen is president of IIPA. He is an eastern Idaho farmer who has been involved with IIPA for over 20 years. He works closely with RMP representing IIPA.**

**RMP intends to file its general rate case in Idaho by June 1, 2021. Any increase is expected to become effective January 1, 2022. The main driver behind the rate increase is depreciation expense for shortening the life of some coal-fired generation that RMP is closing. The other driver is the new investment in cleaner, renewable resources that will be replacing these retired coal plants.**

**Idaho Power Company has not filed a general rate case since 2011. IIPA anticipates their next general rate case will likely include the costs to relicense Hells Canyon Complex, depreciation related to the early retirement of coal-fired plants, and investments in new transmission.**



## **ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER** Contributed by Ted Weston, Rocky Mountain Power, Idaho Regulatory Affairs Manager

Customers connected to the electric grid who generate a portion of their own energy, through solar, wind, or other sources, are called net metering customers. Net metering customers use their connection to the electric utility system in a fundamentally different way than other customers. Unlike other customers who consume only energy that is delivered to them from their electric utility, net metering customers may at different times be receiving all or part of their energy needs from the utility, consuming their own generation onsite, or exporting their excess energy from their generation system to the utility.

Net metering is a billing construct for electric customers who have chosen to install their own generation systems while maintaining their connection to the utility. This allows them to net their energy exported to the utility against the energy supplied by the utility. Net energy does not reflect a net metering customer's physical time-based relationship with the utility. Even though a net metering customer may produce as much total energy as they consume over a period of time, that customer still relies on the utility to provide a steady supply of energy twenty-four hours per day, and a place for the customer to export any energy in excess of their use. Currently, net metering customers are compensated for their exported energy at their full retail energy rate even though that rate includes many other costs to provide electricity, not just the cost of producing it.

Most of the utility's costs of providing your electric service are fixed and don't fluctuate with the amount of energy customers use. For example, approximately 74 percent of the costs to serve residential customers are fixed costs, such as the poles, wires, power plants, maintenance, customer service, and billing, however only 8 percent of these costs are recovered through the fixed monthly customer service charge. Therefore, approximately 89 percent of these fixed costs of providing service are covered by the customer's volumetric energy charge. When net metering customers generate some of their own power, reducing their monthly volumetric energy charges, they no longer pay the full fixed costs it takes to provide service to them. Those fixed costs end up being shifted to other customers. Additionally, when net metering customers receive credits for the energy they export to the grid at the full retail energy rates, it increases costs for customers who have not chosen to generate some of their own power.

A study by Rocky Mountain Power shows that this subsidy from residential net metering is about \$378 per customer per year. For small commercial customers the subsidy is about \$651 per customer per year. Each additional customer who participates in the current net metering program shifts a significant level of cost onto other customers.

To address this issue your electric utilities have proposed changes to the net metering program to the Idaho Public Utilities Commission to ensure that other customers are not adversely impacted through higher rates because of a customer's decision to install on-site generation. To mitigate this cost shift, the utilities are proposing to compensate net metering customers for energy exported to the grid from their customer generation system at a price that fairly reflects that energy's value to the system.

A customer with self-generation should be paid for the exported energy at a rate that is in line with what customers pay for other energy with similar characteristics, rather than the full retail rate. The utilities don't propose paying less than fair market value for exported energy—they just don't believe non-net metering customers should subsidize net metering customers who have chosen to install their own generation systems. A fair and balanced solution is achievable while maintaining Idaho's low energy rates, which are among the lowest in the nation. The utilities' request is simple: customers should pay the actual costs of providing service to them; and customers who use their own generation systems should receive a fair value for that energy. Low-cost utility-scale renewable resources are a major part of utilities' resource planning. Renewable energy sources such as wind and solar can be acquired at prices much lower than those currently being paid to net metering customers.



**IDAHO POWER COMPANY Contributed by Sid Erwin, IIPA Vice President****SOLAR ENERGY FOR SUPPLEMENTING IRRIGATION ELECTRICAL ENERGY**

Solar electrical energy generation is being considered by some irrigation customers to supplement and reduce the cost of pumping irrigation water. These systems have been made affordable through subsidies from tax credits and inequities in power rates. Under today's PUC rules, the power company allows solar energy to be placed on the company grid when the solar producer does not need it. This allows the irrigator to use the power company system as a battery for storage.

The current rate system is designed around the concept that the power company provides all the energy and demand a customer uses to pump and distribute water. If an irrigator produces some of his energy requirements, then he would be able to avoid paying a portion of the cost of service which was included in the energy cost the irrigator did not use. But this energy production does not reduce his peak demand requirement. The design of the current irrigation rate does not account for the potential of an irrigator producing a portion or all of his energy, while still being connected to the power company system.

To demonstrate this by example, we will use a 125 horsepower (HP) electric irrigation pump system and a 100 kilowatts (kW) solar installation at the same site on the Idaho Power system. A typical cost of operating a 125 HP electric motor for one season with current rates would be split between a small customer charge, a demand charge of \$6.97/kW and an energy charge of approximately \$.065 kWh (per kilowatt hour) for a total cost of \$15,689. The Idaho Power cost to maintain the distribution, transmission, and generation facilities standing by to serve the pump even with no energy sold is \$9,413 which is provided by the customer charge, demand charge, and a portion of the energy charge. A 100-kW solar system in Southern Idaho, in a full year, can produce the same amount of total energy in kWh's that the 125 HP electric irrigation pump would use just during the irrigation season. The current structure requires Idaho Power to bank these kWh's and allow the customer to credit their kWh use with this bank, which in this example allows the customer to not pay any kWh charges, which reduces the annual bill to \$3,168. This leads to a subsidy of \$6,245 to the solar producer. Therefore, this \$6,245 portion of the cost of service included in the energy charge is not recovered by the power company and may be spread to other irrigation customers in the future.

The power companies have asked the Idaho Public Utilities Commission to make a special rate which would correct this situation, but to date nothing has changed because the entities wanting to encourage renewable energy have prevailed.

The next general rate case will provide an opportunity to correct this rate inequity. If we can generate the monetary resources needed to put a case together, the Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Association will participate in this general rate case to represent the best interests of irrigation customers. If you are an irrigation customer of either Idaho Power Company or Rocky Mountain Power, please donate to the Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Association so that we may represent you in maintaining reasonable energy rates to pump irrigation water.

**IPC Schedule 84**

Schedule 84 is an optional service for customers who install generation with a capacity up to 100 kilowatts ("kW") to offset a portion or all of their energy usage. Net metering customers may transfer excess electricity to the Company from customer-owned generation facilities. Over the last two years Schedule 84 growth has been driven primarily by the irrigation class. In the first five months of 2020, installed and pending generation capacity in the irrigation class has grown 564 percent, from 2.47 MW to 16.40 MW.

Sid Erwin is vice president of IIPA. He is a western Idaho ground water pumper and farmer. He represents irrigated agriculture on IPC's Integrated Resource Plan Advisory Committee and its Energy Efficiency Advisory Committee.



Idaho Irrigation Pumpers Association (IIPA) represents the irrigation rate class: irrigators who pump from a canal or the ground; irrigators who generate their own electricity, and those who do not. IIPA's mission to ensure that irrigators have access to a reliable and affordable electricity supply is being challenged by recent and significant changes in the electricity industry. This year three issues are of particular importance to irrigators: resource adequacy, hydropower, and net metering.

**RESOURCE ADEQUACY:** Utilities throughout the region are replacing coal-fired generation with clean, carbon-free, renewable resources. Retiring coal-fired generation raises concerns about a potential shortage of electricity capacity in the Pacific Northwest. The shortfall will vary by state, utility, and the resources chosen to replace coal. A capacity shortfall impacts irrigators who are seasonal, summer peak users. RMP proposes to replace its coal-fired generation with utility scale solar, battery storage, and wind. RMP's general rate case in Idaho will seek to recover the depreciation costs associated with the early retirement of these plants and the costs of adding those renewable resources. Replacing coal with renewable resources also leads to increased reliance on wholesale electricity market purchases and contracts with independent power producers. When utilities invest in intermittent or variable renewables, they also need backup energy. Hydropower, transmission, and emerging technologies like battery storage become critically important.

**HYDROPOWER:** IIPA is following three hydropower issues that impact a reliable and affordable electricity supply. **IPC Hells Canyon Complex relicensing** costs are expected to be included in the next general rate case. In February IPC also filed its Notice of Intent to relicense its American Falls Project. Potential changes in the management of the **Columbia River System Operations (CRSO)** impact 14 federal dams and reservoirs on the Snake River and Columbia River. The CRSO environmental impact study (EIS) considered four alternatives, one of which included breaching four lower Snake River dams. The final preferred alternative did not support that option. The preferred alternative strikes a balance between all the users (irrigation, power, fish). IIPA is concerned about potential impacts to non-federal facilities, including IPC's Hells Canyon Complex. **Columbia River Treaty** negotiations are on-going between the U.S. and Canada to modernize the Columbia River Treaty to address flood control, a reliable economical power supply, and improve the ecosystem.

IPC and RMP are partnering to construct new transmission: Boardman to Hemingway (B2H) and Gateway West. Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) will utilize B2H to serve its southeast Idaho power customers. Another concern is the recurring proposal to sell BPA's transmission lines.

There are questions about if and when emerging technologies such as battery storage and hydro pump storage will be available to use reliably on a large-scale. Until emerging technologies like the battery storage necessary to back up these systems are more fully developed, there may be other more reliable and affordable options available to utilities and irrigators such as irrigation load control, energy efficiency, and wholesale market purchases.

**NET METERING:** Over the last two years, IIPA has participated in several cases before the IPUC involving net metering to address cost shifting, rate design, and rate class structure. IIPA has not taken a position on the installation of solar irrigation. However, IIPA does support fair, uniform, and consistent rates within the irrigation customer class and for every customer.

The issues discussed here are issues that require regional collaboration and cooperation in planning and developing a reliable and affordable electricity supply. As the voice of irrigated agriculture, IIPA is your representative in these issues.

[Back to Agenda](#)  
[Back to Memo](#)



**SOIL & WATER  
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Teri Murrison  
Administrator

**MEMO**

**TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT, COMMISSIONERS ROEMER, OLSEN, PRATT, AND  
TREBESCH**  
**FROM: TERI MURRISON, ADMINISTRATOR**  
**DATE: SEPTEMBER 22, 2020**  
**RE: DISTRICT OPINION SURVEY RESPONSES ON CHANGES TO THE  
COMMISSION**

Notes from a June District Supervisors Only meeting in Boise recorded attendees' opinions that they support making "changes" to the Commission. One change offered on the agenda by a legislator present and organizers of the meeting was to dissolve the Commission, passing through our existing Personnel and Operating funds directly to Conservation Districts. No other options were presented. The meeting wasn't attended by a quorum of Districts to vote on advancing any legislation so that agenda item was shelved for a future meeting(s). Others present at the meeting (and ~15 letters from individual districts) stated they didn't support dissolving the Commission, although some expressed, they do support unspecified changes.

Since it's impossible to address general calls for change without the specifics of what they might be, staff deployed an anonymous survey which was sent out June 26<sup>th</sup> to all District Supervisors by email and was also presented to District Boards by our field staff. We had originally intended to send out questions by postal mail with pre-paid postage response envelopes, but FY 2021 budget restraints prohibited that.

The survey asked four specific questions and solicited Further Comments. Those comments have been incorporated into the following summary of results below (and to the Detailed Summary, also attached). The four questions were:

1. Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?
2. What changes would you like to see in the Commission?
3. What does the Commission do well? and
4. What changes could the state make (Legislature & Executive Branch) to better support voluntary conservation?

The questions were our attempt to define, understand, and improve those things over which we have immediate control and make a list of things that will require statute and rule changes.

There are 50 districts in Idaho, the majority with 5-member boards (and several 7-member boards), some of which have unfilled spots (the [District Supervisor Handbook](#) posted on our website under [District Resources](#)) estimates there are 270 Supervisor positions overall). For the sake of analysis, we estimated that there are currently 250 District Supervisors. If we assume that *only* Supervisors completed the survey, there were 59 respondents and about ~191 Supervisors that didn't respond (although some responses were made on behalf of entire Boards, not individuals). Roughly, 23.6% of all presumed Supervisors may have responded to the survey.

Ours is not intended to be a scientifically valid survey, but to generate responses to inform your Board and provide staff with useful perspectives. It wasn't a random survey - respondents self-selected to a large extent, skewing its statistical validity. Regardless, staff conducted an anonymous survey to better understand Supervisor sentiments and incorporate partner input into making some changes that we can affect now.

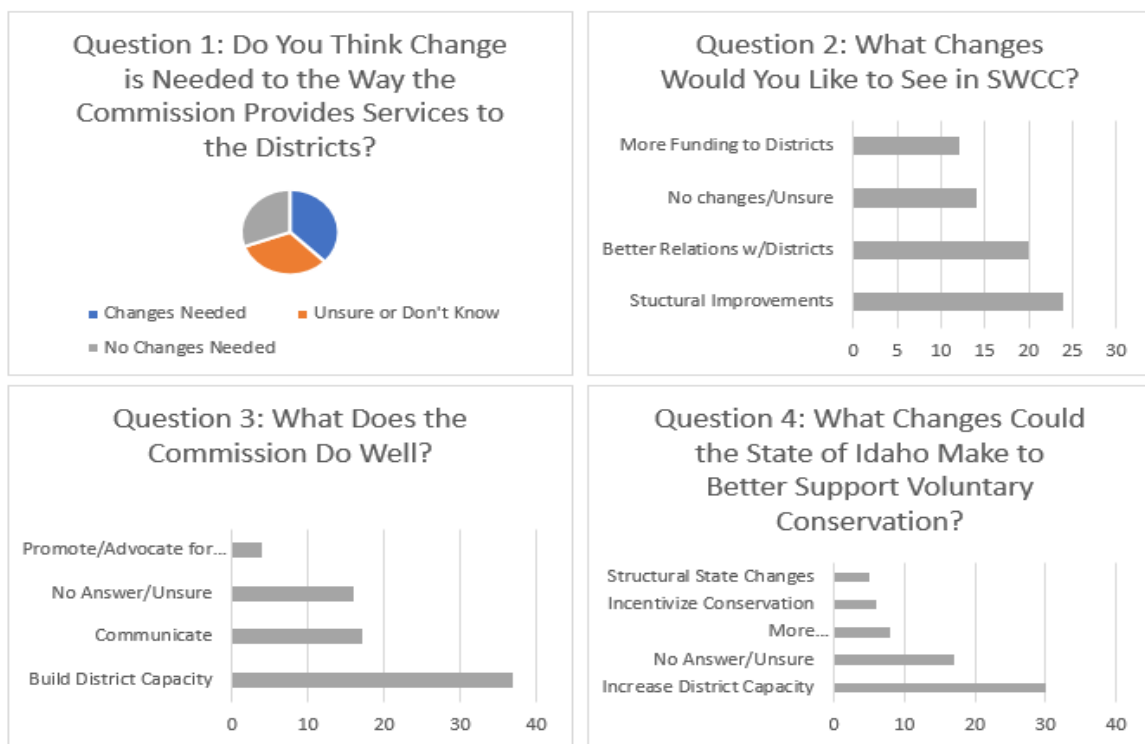
Overall, the aggregated survey results illustrate a wide range of opinions and perspectives among respondents. The following is the breakdown of responses to the question of whether changes are needed to the way we provide District Support.

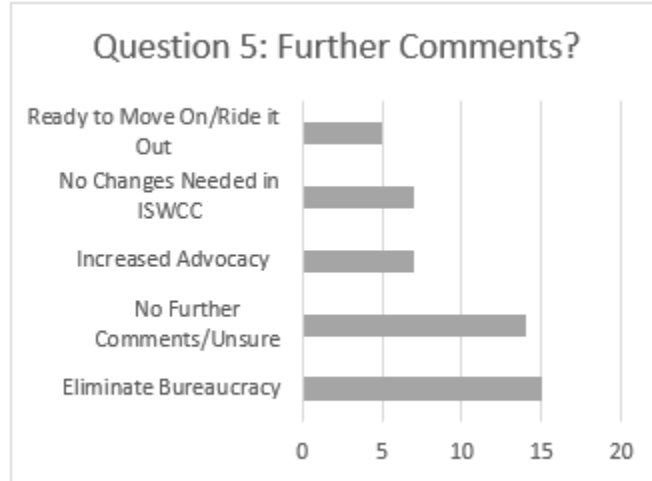
Yes	22	37.29%
No	19	32.2%
Unsure	18	30.51%

Surprisingly, of the 59 respondents, a total of 62.71% either indicated that they didn't want changes at all or were unsure of what changes they might want. Regardless, the survey did identify some areas for improvement that we are addressing herein. Some of the potential changes identified had strong support, others less, but we have considered them all regardless. Among those that don't want changes to the Commission, they expressed a strong desire for ISWCC to continue to exist to help Districts because of their need for technical assistance, and as one expressed, "we are thin enough already".

A copy of the 64-page District Survey Responses Raw Data is attached along with the more detailed Summary which follows. We realize that we are presenting your Board and the Public with a lot of material to review, however, the Supervisors who took the time to respond will be able to say that their input and time was fully presented to the Board.

The following graphically represent the answers we received to each question:





\*Under Question 4, the third response is “More education and outreach”

### Changes Suggested

Respondents suggested changes that could be made across all 5 groups of responses to questions. Responses were categorized in groups: structural changes that could be or should be made to ISWCC, building stronger relationships, increasing District capacity (things ISWCC can do) and (things the Legislature has to do).

- **Make structural changes to reduce bureaucracy (internal @ ISWCC)**
  - Don't sue Districts was a repeated response, though several expressed appreciation for ISWCC's support in protecting their interests. Also mentioned were “get along better with IASCD”, fight for Districts against IASCD, and educate IASCD on understanding “the needs of the Districts”.

*Staff comments: There is no member of the ISWCC Board or staff that wished to sue the Franklin District to recover Trustee and Benefit funds for any reason, including on behalf of other Districts. However, ISWCC has fiduciary responsibility over public funds allocated and the duty to ensure that once proven, action is taken to recover those funds.*

*We understand that it is uncomfortable and disruptive to District Supervisors, their employees, and others to have a breach between long-time partners provoked by a scarcity of resources and personality differences. We stand ready and willing to rebuild the relationship with present or future IASCD representatives and continue working toward a united representation of the efficacy of the Idaho Conservation Partnership.*

- Increase technical assistance flexibility (make awards of blocks of hours and allow districts to direct ISWCC staff, have an “hour bank” for Districts to draw on, allow for easy transfer from one project to another)

*Staff comments: Each division chooses a different way that technical assistance hours are awarded that they choose themselves. There are several Divisions which divide the total available hours equally and list the projects to which they can be applied. If a Division is not currently dividing available blocks equally, Districts should contact their Technical Allocation*



*Work Group representative (chosen by Divisions at Fall or Spring Division meetings) and request he or she contacts Delwyne to request that change in the next allocation cycle.*

*The current technical assistance allocation process allows for ready flexibility in transferring hours from one project to another. The process is for a District to initiate a request by Board action and send an email (or letter) to Delwyne Trefz requesting the hours be reassigned. From receipt of an email request, it typically takes no more than a day or two for Delwyne to transfer the hours. In addition, each field staff WQRC has a discretionary bank of hours that can be put toward unanticipated requests for assistance. Discretionary hours are subject to field staff availability, while technical assistance hours awarded are set aside and assigned to the District. For example, a northern WQRC has the following distribution of technical assistance hours available:*

*830 hrs. for allocated technical support  
405 hours for discretionary support  
106 hours to attend District, Division, and other meetings  
1,341 total hours of District Support*

*Each full-time employee works 2,080 hours, so this leaves him 739 hours to divide between TMDL implementation plan writing, other programs and services where applicable, administration, and holiday and other leave.*

- *Loan program improvement (streamline processes) or eliminate program altogether (both legislative required actions)*

*Staff comments: Several years ago, Commissioners Trebesch and Wright participated in a detailed review of loan program processes. They were able to identify some changes to streamline the loan program, however they determined that changes to statute and rule would be necessary to streamline things further.*

*Traditionally, the Resource Conservation and Rangeland Development Program has been a valuable resource for landowners to access low interest conservation loans that benefit the environment. In recent years, the loan program has underperformed due to the economy and slow economic recovery, borrower uncertainty, until recently, high commodity prices, and a \$200,000 loan limit (leaving larger projects without funding). This year's current Temporary Rule IDAPA 60.05.01, Rules of the Idaho State Soil and Water Conservation Commission, increases the per loan limit to \$600,000, allowing larger projects to be funded. It remains to be seen if that will compensate for borrower uncertainty and other conditions.*

- *"Better" supervision of field staff/less top-down management of field staff*

*Staff comments: Several respondents expressed the desire for the Commission to change its supervision model, a few noting we need to supervise our employees more closely and others, less closely. We recently changed our internal structure from multiple regional supervisors to a supervisor in the north and one in the south. Our staff is spread all over the state and it's not feasible for the Commission to have supervisors in close proximity to those supervised. Each employee understands clearly what they are to accomplish via an annual work plan and a list of District projects that have been formally awarded technical assistance and the expectation that they will report on all discretionary time projects, as well. A list of*

all allocated hours by WQRC (and engineer) is available on our website at <https://swc.idaho.gov/home-2/district-documents-submitted/technical-assistance-updates/>.

- **Build better relationships with Districts**

- Focus on District needs - field staff attend monthly District meetings (realign budget to the extent feasible, or increase usage of Zoom meeting attendance where funding and/or time constraints don't allow)

*Staff comments: Commission relations with Districts have suffered because of state budget constraints. Field staff used to attend every District meeting monthly until several years ago when we changed our policy to field staff attending just one District meeting a quarter. Although attending meetings isn't directly getting conservation on the ground, it is a valuable catalyst to relationships and the generation of good ideas for collaborative conservation by District Boards. After receiving a number of these comments expressing the need to focus on District needs, after the pandemic has subsided, staff intends to have field staff resume attending monthly district meetings. The hours it will take for this will not be inconsiderable given travel times but will help refocus Commission field staff on District needs.*

*Since we have inventoried and allocated all available hours by field staff person, the hours needed to attend additional meetings (including where applicable, travel) have to be taken from another category (see attached FY2021 Field Staff Hours). Most likely, they will have to be transferred from discretionary hours to meetings. Districts can review the potential impact of that by reviewing their Engineer or WQRC's hours allocated at: <https://swc.idaho.gov/home-2/district-documents-submitted/technical-assistance-updates/>, finding their allocation of hours awarded, and looking at the bottom of the list of projects for the employee's hours allocated. For example, in Engineering (Div. 1, 2, 3), the engineer has 998 hours allocated to specific projects, and 416 discretionary hours. Currently, 61 hours are allocated to attend meetings (1/quarter). That number would have to be tripled to 183 and allocated to meetings, reducing available discretionary hours to 233. If our employees can continue using Zoom instead of attending in person, the number of meeting hours could be reduced, although that could limit the relationship building impacts of attending meetings in person.*

- Rebuild trust, interact with Districts more - headquarters staff and Commissioners begin attending District meetings "to observe and listen" periodically as funding permits. Commissioners communicate more, be more interactive, less remote and defensive

*Staff comments: Similarly, we used to have several Commissioners who would attend several Division meetings, increasing our Board to District Board contacts. With the reduction in budgets, however, we have limited our Board attendance to one Division meeting per Board member and attendance at the annual IASCD conference to reduce honorarium, travel, and per diem payments. When the pandemic subsides and the budget constraints ease, we intend to resume Board member attendance at the annual conference and develop an annual visitation plan that includes Board and Boise office staff visits to District meetings to "observe and listen".*

- Communicate more/communicate less. Although 17 respondents said that communication is something that the Commission does well, some respondents said that the Commission should communicate more, and some respondents want us to communicate less. Comments

included: shorten ISWCC reports at Division meetings, send out fewer surveys, and communicate more and with transparency (although 17 respondents listed communication/collaboration/information dissemination/ answering questions, etc. as something the Commission does well).

*Staff comments: Staff will continue to publish the monthly newsletter and reach out to Districts via emails and surveys. We'll continue to provide information so those who want to read it can, and those who don't won't have to. Staff and Board members will continue to attend Division meetings, however aside from a few words from our Board members, we will not expect to deliver a lengthy report unless specifically invited to do so by the appropriate IASCD Division Director.*

- Ramp up PR efforts on behalf of Districts, advocate for Districts more

*Staff comments: Since 2014, we have published 86 issues of Conservation the Idaho Way and produced at least 5 videos featuring the accomplishments of the partners which we've presented to the Legislature, on social media, and by email. Since 2011, we have made annual presentations to 5 Legislative committees, met with legislators to inform them on the activities of the partnership, and conducted tours and made presentations. It is beyond the scope of a state agency to lobby or advocate for Districts. We feel confident that with the resources we have, we have made a good effort to provide positive PR for voluntary conservation in Idaho on behalf of Districts, the Commission, and our partners.*

*Advocacy is the role of the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts whose place is to be a unified voice to advocate for Districts in Idaho. Annually our Board makes a budget request for District Trustee and Benefits funding and relies on IASCD to work with legislators to understand and support it.*

- **Build better relationship with IASCD and partners**

- Define roles of each local, state, federal and association partner more clearly for Supervisors (and benefit of partners)

*Staff comments: We have recently updated our website to provide a clear understanding of the local, state, and federal roles of each partner (see <https://swc.idaho.gov/home-2/conservation-partners/>)*

- Educate legislature, Governor better, be more visible

*Staff comments: See comments above on "Ramp of PR efforts on behalf of Districts"*

- **Build additional District capacity (internal @ISWCC)** – 63% listed this as the top thing the Commission does well. From other categories, the following potential changes were identified.

- More funding for Districts. Surprisingly, the main reason staff has heard proposed for eliminating the Commission is "to get more money to districts", although it was the least mentioned (only 12 of 59 respondents) by survey respondents as something we should change. It is possible that was perceived to be a state-change vs. ISWCC change (it was the top comment on what changes the Legislature could make to better support Districts).

*Staff comments: The Commission currently allocates 100% of District Trustee and Benefit funds directly to Districts as directed by statute. We also provide Districts with capacity building technical assistance to work on project planning and implementation, as well as to help with some administrative and outreach tasks. Our Personnel and Operating budgets are*

*modest for the work we do and assistance we provide. To increase funding to Districts would require limiting our ability to provide the assistance many Districts say they need.*

- Increase Supervisor and District staff training (operational, role of partners, etc.)

*Staff comments: We are currently evaluating additional training we could provide, and when the budget constraints ease and the pandemic subsides, we will explore options for increased Supervisor and District staff training. In the meantime, we have made significant upgrades to our District Resources section of the website at <https://swc.idaho.gov/home-2/district-documents/> specifically targeted at new Supervisors and staff. We now have an enhanced District Resources page (<https://swc.idaho.gov/home-2/district-documents/>) and a dedicated District Training page (<https://swc.idaho.gov/home-2/district-documents/district-training/>). It's not likely that we'll see a huge funding increase and additional technical assistance positions granted by the Legislature to once provide travelling trainers to Districts as we did more than ten years ago, so it's hoped the resources we provide online will make it easier for new Supervisors and staff.*

- Provide more technical assistance

*Staff comments: We are held to the current 11 FTPs for field staff by the Legislature and our annual appropriations. The Commission would love to provide additional technical assistance but there's not been political will to add positions or funding for additional project implementation. We welcome Districts' and IASCD's advocacy efforts to address this in upcoming legislative sessions.*

- **Increase District capacity (external @Legislature)**

- Eliminate matching fund formula requirements, distribute via equal base allocations
- Reduce reporting requirements
- Funding for grants
- Fund Districts @ full 2:1 match
- Keep the Commission, better fund for additional technical assistance
- Cut red tape/eliminate bureaucracy (assuming that removing the match formula to distribute funds equally to all 50 districts, eliminate reporting requirements would satisfy these comments)
- Provide more resources (financial?) for Districts and ISWCC to do more education/outreach on conservation success stories
- Enact legislation supporting incentives for conservation (tax incentives and credits, grants, etc.)
- Make ISWCC accountable to Districts by changing Commissioner representation appointments by Districts, not the Governor

*Staff comments: Should the Legislature consider any of these, the Commission staff agrees with and if asked, would support all strategies listed above except eliminating the Governor's prerogative to appoint Commissioners as prescribed in Title 22, Chapter 27. Removing the Governor and his staff from vetting and making appointments would significantly lower the visibility of the partnership.*

*Further, enacting reporting requirements in exchange for the receipt of public funds was specifically put into our statute by the Legislature. We are comfortable with so doing only if the Legislature desires to do that. In exchange for the receipt of public funds, Districts are required by [Statute](#) and [Rule](#) to submit the following plans, requests, and reports:*

- *A Financial Match Report (FY 2021 pending)*
- *A Five-Year Plan (FY 2020 pending)*
- *An Annual Performance Report (FY 2020 pending)*

*Districts may also submit an annual Unmet Budget Needs Hearing Request and formally request (subject to Commission capacity) hours of technical assistance.*

In conclusion, although the survey fell short of a high participation percentage and wasn't a scientifically valid instrument, we have taken each comment and suggestion seriously. Based on this limited survey, it appears that several Districts may desire changes in how we operate but want us to continue operating, providing technical assistance. Several changes suggested have already been made or will be made when our budget is restored. Some changes must be made by the Legislature, not the Commission, and other suggested changes are not possible due to limited ISWCC capacity and funding.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** For information and discussion only

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Detailed Summary of District Surveys, Sept. 1, 2020
- Commission FY 2021 Field Staff Hours
- District Survey Responses Raw Data *(to be made available at your meeting and incorporated herein by reference)*

[Back to Agenda](#)

DETAILED SUMMARY OF DISTRICT SURVEYS  
SEPTEMBER 1, 2020

In response to the IASCD Supervisors' Meeting held by IASCD in June 2020, Commission staff deployed an anonymous online survey to better understand the expressed dissatisfaction of some supervisors present. The need to change the way the Commission operates is repeatedly brought up some Districts and IASCD Board members, although what that means is not defined. Consequently, a brief questionnaire was deployed by email to all Idaho Supervisors and Districts on June 26, 2020 (via Doodle Poll). The goal of that survey is to define if changes are desired, what changes are desired, and to identify contributing factors to partnership stressors to help the Commission improve its services wherever possible.

The survey contained 5 short questions. The results will be presented to Commissioners at their October 1, 2020 meeting along with proposed actions to address them. The survey remained online and open through August 31. In total, 59 responses (out of more than 250 Supervisors, or 23.6% of likely Supervisors currently serving on Idaho Conservation District Boards) were received. That assumes that each anonymous response was made by a Supervisor, but it's impossible to know if that was the case.

In addition to the online poll, ISWCC field staff presented the questions at District meetings (only five of eleven field staff were able to record responses at Board meetings). Some Board members weren't comfortable discussing their responses with staff or preferred to respond individually from home.

It should be noted also that some respondents may have mentioned more than one topic under each question. Since staff has no way of prioritizing their answers, some questions list more than 59 responses.

After collecting the responses, they were grouped by overall subject matter. Below is a discussion of each question and the range of responses received.

**1. Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts? (answer required - 59/59 respondents answered)**

Yes	22	37.29%
No	19	32.2%
Unsure	18	30.51%

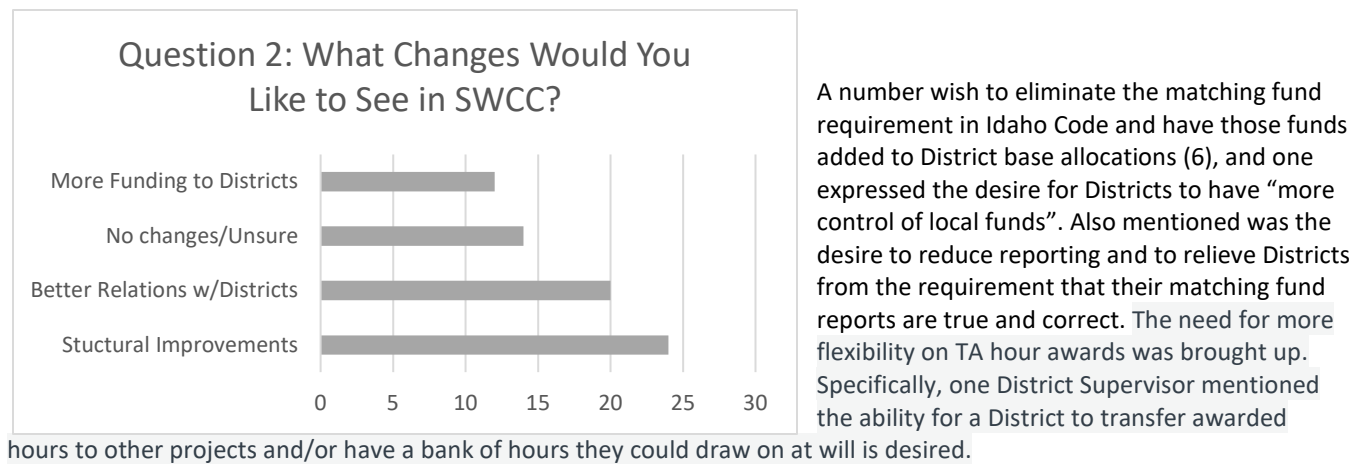
**2. What change(s) would you like to see? (answer not required) 49 answered, 10 skipped - skipped answers were not recorded, and if included, might fall into the "No Changes/Unsure" category, causing that category to tie with the Structural Improvements category for the highest number of responses. Again, we have no way of knowing so skips are tracked independently of "No Changes/Unsure".)**

In general, comments fell into four overarching categories: respondents expressed comments indicating a desire for the ISWCC to pursue better relationships with Districts, to make structural improvements like reducing the number of reports required of Districts, be less directive, and to give more funding to Districts. Some didn't see a need for changes or were unsure what changes they might like to see.

**Structural Improvements (24/59)**

Some District Supervisors want ISWCC to better understand and make decisions based on District needs. The need to eliminate bureaucracy and reform the ISWCC was noted (3). Suggested were to improve (1) or eliminate (2) the loan program and streamline processes. A few (2) were not satisfied with staff (field staff or headquarters staff, was not specified), and the need for more field staff was mentioned (1). Others (2) mentioned poor field staff supervision and the need for our employees to be "actually working". One respondent mentioned the ISWCC was "top heavy" and two others, prone to "command and control". Several would like to see fewer surveys sent out. More training for Districts was a common theme expressed (6), specifically for new District staff, on match funding, and for new Supervisors, as well.





### **Better Relationships with Districts (20/59)**

Some respondents perceive that there is a lack of respect/attitude of superiority at ISWCC toward Districts (5/59). Complaints ranged from the Commission taking too much time in Division meetings, to the need to be more positive, to help supervisors see their value, and value them. They also said ISWCC should focus on District needs, communicate better and with greater transparency (2), don’t litigate against Districts/Supervisors (6), should interact more with Supervisors (field staff should attend more than quarterly meetings – and not on the phone – in person, there should be more training on what supervisors are expected to do, leadership should attend periodic district meetings, should end the adversarial relationship with IASCD, and in general, work to improve the partnership. A respondent suggested that ISWCC could help IASCD “increase their understanding of the needs of Districts”. One respondent stated ISWCC should communicate with Districts, working with and notifying them sooner rather than later if there are errors in reports, and be accountable – “share culpability” - for incorrect District reports. One suggested that leadership should visit District meetings at least once a year to observe and listen.

Again, six respondents mentioned they don’t want the Commission to sue and one stated that the lawsuit was responsible for potential Supervisors not to serve. There was some confusion of the role of ISWCC, one respondent stating his/her District feels the Commission should be a “unified voice for Districts” and work with Legislators to “fully fund” District interests.

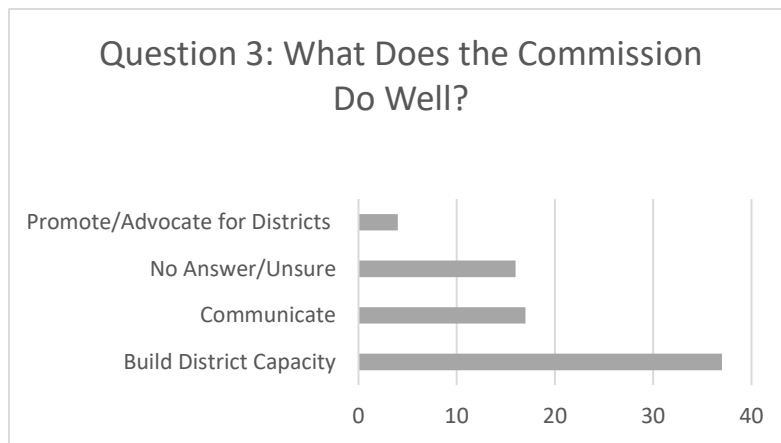
### **No Changes or Unsure About Changes Needed**

There were a significant number of respondents who either don’t want changes, weren’t sure about the changes they’d like to see, or skipped the question entirely. It’s presumed that District supervisors with desired changes would not have responded in any of these three ways. A total of 24 respondents out of 59 selected these or skipped the question entirely. Several commented that they couldn’t think of any changes but would like to get rid of the match requirement and add those funds to the base funding amount. Again, more funding for implementation was mentioned. Several mentioned that they were relatively new and needed to get up to speed before responding appropriately. A respondent mentioned ISWCC “still needs to be here for Districts” and its value in “coordinating with multiple agencies and bringing technology so Districts can lead with good information”. Another mentioned not wanting any reductions for ISWCC because “we are thin enough already”. Several specifically said no changes to ISWCC are warranted but did agree with the need to do away with match funding.

### **More Funding for Districts (12/59)**

It was interesting that of all responses, more funding to Districts received the fewest number of mentions in this category, but since it was mentioned elsewhere by numerous respondents, staff believes this question wasn’t perceived to be (by most) something ISWCC could change. Instead, it was mentioned overwhelmingly among Question 4 responses. Some did note the need for more implementation dollars (projects) in Question 2. Some mentioned that they desire more local control of funding and others mentioned they don’t want ISWCC’s funding reduced because they also rely on technical assistance from ISWCC field staff (but also noted capacity building needs at the Districts). They want to see ISWCC field staff at board meetings (monthly vs. quarterly) and to have time to be responsive to District needs.

### 3. What does the Commission do well? (answer required) 59/59 answered



There are four major categories to responses from respondents on what the ISWCC does well: Build District Capacity, Communicate, No Answer/Unsure, and Promote/Advocate for Districts.

#### **Build District Capacity (37)**

Capacity building is one thing the ISWCC was credited with by 37 of 59 respondents who praised field staff including several who were appreciative of ISWCC engineers and the Boise

office (timely and prompt response), technical assistance, guidance on mandates, and streamlining processes for Districts. Allocation of appropriated dollars was said by one to be well done and the loan program “great”. Another noted distributing funds and requesting reports was done well. Five mentioned our field staff’s assistance in building District Capacity, stating their ability to perform with limited resources and quality of work is good. ISWCC was felt to be a “stable resource” by one. Professionalism of field staff and Boise office noted.

The greatest number of positive comments (excellent, capable, etc.) were reserved for ISWCC’s TA and financial assistance (20). Communication is good, and a number mentioned the technical excellence with which field staff provide TA.

#### **Communicate (17)**

Several respondents mentioned ISWCC’s advocacy for Districts (4), getting and distributing funding for them and making sure that “rogue districts” weren’t consuming financial resources, answering questions when needed, and communicating with them. One stated that ISWCC is “very open to collaborations and projects and in fact, encourage that. Ten respondents specifically mentioned ISWCC’s communication – keeping Districts informed and updated, answering questions, advocating for Districts, publicizing the newsletter, providing day to day guidance on District operations, and responding to calls and emails). Some (3) also mentioned the role ISWCC plays in bridging the gaps between agencies and producers, Commission and Legislators, and organizing meetings and conferences. Reporting results to the Legislature and assisting Districts to submit them were also mentioned (2).

#### **No Answer/Unsure (16)**

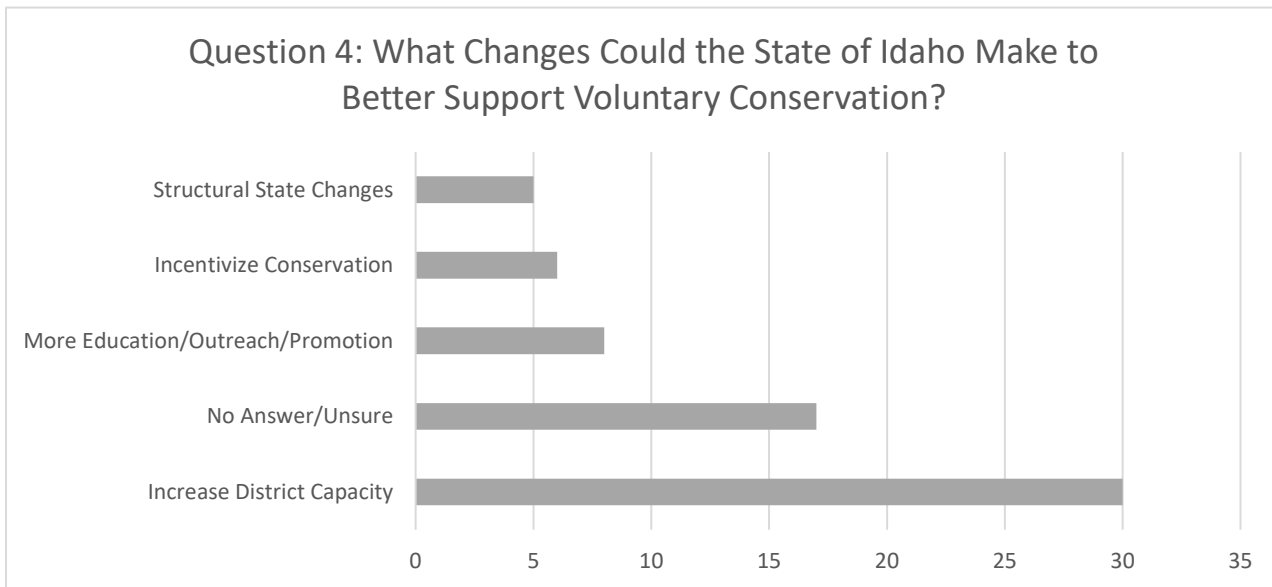
Since this answer was required, respondents had to indicate they had no response or were unsure. One response of the no responses then stated that the ISWCC is guilty of “acting superior over Districts”. Eleven respondents chose not to identify anything the Commission does well. The five who were unsure gave no reason, however elsewhere in the survey, some respondents stated that they were new or lacked knowledge or context to state.

#### **Promote/Advocate for Districts (4)**

Four respondents felt that ISWCC is a good advocate for Districts in general. Individual comments mentioned getting and distributing funding fairly, requesting and producing reports, and “fighting the IASCD”.

#### 4. What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation? (answer required) 59/59

Fifty-nine comments were submitted. There were five overarching changes that respondents would like the State of Idaho (vs. ISWCC) to make. In order of importance to respondents, they were to Increase District Capacity, No Answer/Unsure, Provide More Education/Outreach/Promotion on voluntary conservation and Districts, Incentivize Conservation, and Make Structural Changes.



##### **Increase District Capacity (30)**

Most comments were made about district capacity (30). Respondents want the State of Idaho (Legislature) to provide for grant-making (2) to farmers and ranchers, especially small operators. They want the Legislature to increase District funding to a full 2:1 match “to catch up for inflation and [the] huge increase in real life cost of operating an office”. Also mentioned was to provide additional funding to the Commission which could then award conservation grants directly to Districts. One respondent stated they would “adamantly oppose eliminating the Commission and letting the association of districts anywhere near district monies”. Bureaucracy was decried “up the ranks”, another respondent wanted to see ISWCC commissioners elected by districts, not appointed and “as little red tape as possible”. A comment was made about the 319-grant process and the time it takes, however, the maker acknowledged that is not an ISWCC program.

##### **No Answer/Unsure (17)**

As this was a required question, 12 respondents responded, “no answer” and 5 with “unsure” and provided no further information except one respondent who stated he/she just recently joined a Board.

##### **Provide More Education/Outreach/Promotion on voluntary conservation and Districts (8)**

Responses to this question included both providing more public education about conservation (assuming it means resources for Districts and the Commission to do this), doing a better job publicizing success stories, more funding for advertising, more outreach for educating the public and Legislators, and “the State assisting with more promotion (advertising?) of voluntary conservation at the State level.” One respondent stated, “Keep considering the farmers.”

##### **Incentivize Conservation (6)**

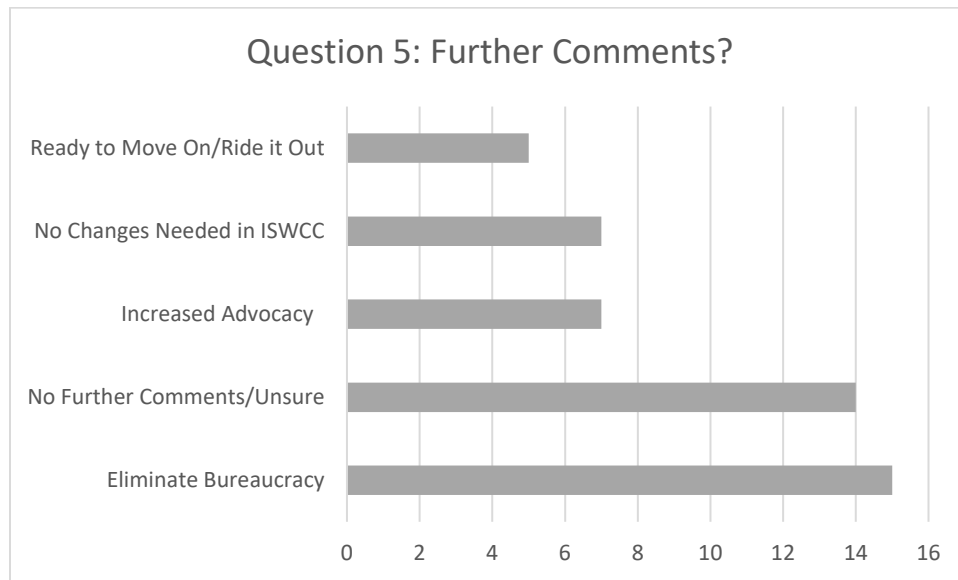
Respondents suggested tax incentives and credits for conservation, grants, and one said that State decision makers should become more involved, the State of Idaho “removing some of the current legislators and their benefits and perks. They need to better educate themselves on conservation and water quality efforts.” Another suggested they actually support it vs. giving it “lip service”... “Stop seeing Districts as easy targets for cuts and start actually helping to do actual projects that help our water quality and help agriculture to do a better job of protecting resources.”

##### **Structural State Changes (5)**

Five respondents mentioned structural changes that should be made by the State (vs. ISWCC). Among them were “cut spending,

reduce taxes” (1), “dissolve Commission” (1), “insulate the Districts from IASCD” (1), reduce bureaucracy “up the ranks” (1), change the requirements for being a Commissioner (1), and “reduce red tape” (2).

**5. Further Comments? (answer not required) 43 answered, 16 skipped (48 comments recorded)**



Five categories encompass the responses to Question 5: Eliminate Bureaucracy, No Changes Needed in ISWCC, Need Increased Advocacy for Districts, No Further Comments/Unsure, and Ready to Move On/Need to Ride it Out. Some earlier responses were restated, but there were also new comments. There were almost as many responses (and non-responses) to this question as the top category, Eliminate Bureaucracy, got. Advocacy for Districts was mentioned by seven respondents, as was the comment that no changes are needed in ISWCC. A number of respondents mentioned the need to move on from the conflicts of late and that the downturn in support from the Legislature (apart from the lawsuit) is part of a cyclical process and Districts need to “ride it out”.

**Eliminate Bureaucracy (15)**

Three respondents confessed to still being “hung up” on the civil lawsuit against the Franklin District. One felt that after the District Advisory Work Group “agreed” on the distribution and it was made, that should be the end of it, that it was ISWCC’s responsibility, not the District’s. Another District (Supervisors responded at a meeting) stated that while they see no need for changes at the ISWCC, they didn’t agree with the lawsuit. A third respondent talked about a lack of trust in ISWCC as a result. He/she saw no benefit to the State or the District and urged ISWCC to stop being defensive and start change. That “blaming the AG for an ISWCC leadership decision is cowardly”. Two respondents expressed that the Board should be chosen, not from previous District Board members, but from current ones who have a “better idea of how the partnership is to function”. One of them thought the Board appears authoritarian, judicial, and defensive. Better communication was suggested by one of them as a vehicle to dispel this.

Districts were said by three respondents to be overloaded by paperwork and documents and one wondered if that was on purpose, another suggested cutting back on surveys, and still another, “find a better way to serve the districts” with “less paperwork and more help”. Try to be more efficient said one, and another suggested fewer dinner meetings to reduce unnecessary spending, reduce District budgets, and requests for funding, tying the conservation message to “reducing the burden in our constituents bank accounts”. The third respondent urged a review of how local staff is handled and stated that “local conservation is being accomplished without, in large part, the help of the Commission”. An unrelated response from another stated that we all want the same thing but may not agree on how to make it happen. He/she concluded “I am not in favor of dissolving the Commission, but think we need to streamline getting tax dollars from the treasury to the ground.

Finally, doubt was expressed by two respondents about what would be done with the results of the survey. One respondent stated, “this is a fairly useless survey” and another stated that he/she would be watching to see what is done with the comments requested.

**No Further Comments (11)/Unsure (3)**

This category tracked this skipped question under No Further Comments, and Unsure and for the most part, was a result of a Board communicating that they need more information (most of the Board is new). Subsequently, they requested a copy of ISWCC's Org Chart and job descriptions, saying they would respond at a later date. It's unknown if they did. Another respondent stated he was new to the Board and the third, gave no explanation beyond "Unsure".

### **Need Increased Advocacy for Partnership (7)**

Three respondents mentioned the need for the Partnership to come together and "understand the roles and responsibilities of each entity: ISWCC as a state agency, the Board of ISWCC as appointed officials, District Supervisors as elected officials, and IASCD as a private entity. Legislative committees need to be educated, as does the Governor. It was also expressed that "IASCD needs to start doing a better job also, especially in the communication department".

Two respondents mentioned the need for more funding and one stated, "Districts and Commission can only do what they can with what funds become available." The other stated that the Commission has always done a good job and that "increasing the budget of a lean, productive organization like the Commission would benefit conservation-on-the-ground in all counties". Visibility and communication were also mentioned (1) by a respondent who connected visibility with recognition and relevancy.

### **No Changes Needed in ISWCC (7)**

A District Board responded that "they don't believe that any changes are needed in the way the Commission provides services. They said they couldn't survive as a District without the technical assistance help from the Commission." Seven respondents total (including the Board) agreed, stating their District hasn't had any problems with the Commission. A new District employee said they see ISWCC as being "very communicative, offers of help come through regularly".

### **Ready to Move On/Need to Ride it Out (5)**

Two District Boards queried by field staff didn't seem interested in changes to the Commission, or in completing the survey. They listened, said our field staff, "but wanted to move on". Another respondent said "It's unfortunate that one person's actions have affected so many others. We should learn and move on instead of dwelling on this so much. Find a better way to serve the districts and less paperwork and more help!"

Three others stated that it's not ISWCC's fault, that the Legislature is making tough decisions and conservation hasn't been a top priority... we need to hunker down and ride this out, merging resources, being creative, and finding more efficient ways of doing things. Also expressed was the belief that by working together, the Districts and ISWCC as partners, always focusing on the end goal, we will create a synergy.

[Back to Agenda](#)  
[Back to Memo](#)

## Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission FY 2021 Field Staff Hours

STAFF	7101 Admin	7201 District Support			7301 Programs/7350 CREP, etc.					7351 RCRDP*	Leave (Hol + Annual Lv)	Ann Lv Accrual Rate (Hr/PayPer)	Total
		Technical Assistance	Discretionary District Support Time	District, Division Meetings	7350 CREP	GWQ	TMDL		7325 Spec. Eng. Services				
							Plans and Updates	Assigned TMDLs					
E - Div. 5,6	152	925	542	52					160		249	6.5	2,080
E - Div. 1,2,3	356	998	416	61							249	6.5	2,080
FS - Div. 1	152	830	405	106			387				200	4.6	2,080
FS - Div. 6	152	122	378	155	950		100				223	5.5	2,080
FS - Div. 4	172	200	212	93	560	213	381				249	6.5	2,080
FS - Div. 4	296	116	149	142	920		208				249	6.5	2,080
FS - Div. 3	868	30	193	136			573				280	7.7	2,080
FS – Div. 2	290	900	297	82			262				249	6.5	2,080
FS – Div. 5	392	771	205	154			335				223	5.5	2,080
FS – Div. 3	602	334	468	107			320				249	6.5	2,080
FS – Div. 3 0.75ftp	152	410	364	102			345				187	4.125	1,560
FS – Div. 4, 5,6	152	183	175	146	800		375				249	6.5	2,080
Total	3,736	5,819	3,804	1,336	3,230	213	3,286		160	0	2,856		24,440
		33%	21%	7%	18%	1%	18%		1%	17,848			

\*RCRDP hours, if any, come from discretionary time

[Back to Agenda](#)



#1

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, June 29, 2020 6:51:50 AM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, June 29, 2020 7:01:48 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:09:57  
**IP Address:** 206.206.26.94

## Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1

No

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

**more interaction** **Partnership - improve** Leadership needs to work within the partnership to work out the differences and issues.

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

**Capacity Building** **TA** technical assistance, guidance on mandates, streamlining processes for Districts.

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**More funding** **Support conservation** They could actually support it rather than give lip service. Legislators could better understand the reasons for working with landowners rather than mandates that don't produce results. They could understand that as agencies go, bigger isn't necessarily better. Stop seeing us as easy targets for cuts and start actually helping to do actual projects that help our water quality and help agriculture do a better job of protecting resources.

Q5

Further Comments?

**Advocacy 4 Partnership** would like to see the partnership working again. IASCD needs to start doing a better job also, especially in the communication dept.

#2

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Monday, June 29, 2020 7:11:31 AM  
Last Modified: Monday, June 29, 2020 7:23:41 AM  
Time Spent: 00:12:10  
IP Address: 174.208.6.42

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 Yes

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

Staff improvements Local supervision of staff seems poor. The technical staff does little to nothing for our district. We ask but there is always an excuse why they can help. I read about all the things they do, but see little.

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

Advocating 4 Dists I think the Commission is fair in distributing dollars between districts. I appreciate the efforts to stop rogue districts from stealing from other districts.

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

Keep/fund Commission Insulate district from IASGD I will adamantly oppose eliminating the Commission and letting the association of districts anywhere near district monies.

Q5

Further Comments?

Increase efficiency A review of how local staff is handled is needed. Local conservation is being accomplished without, in large part, the help of the commission. Every organization needs a review at times.

#3

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, June 29, 2020 7:54:25 AM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, June 29, 2020 8:04:26 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:10:00  
**IP Address:** 75.174.222.128

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **No**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2** **Respondent skipped this question**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**Staff** Professionalism of Boise and field staff.

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**Restore partnership** Get the partnership back to working cooperatively together before all county and State funding is lost!

**Q5**

Further Comments?

**Advocacy 4 Partnership** Partnership needs to "come together" and understand roles and responsibilities of each entity. Specifically- ISWCC as a state agency; ISWCC as appointed officials; District Supervisors as elected officials; IASCD as private entity.

#4

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, June 29, 2020 8:43:02 AM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, June 29, 2020 8:46:00 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:02:58  
**IP Address:** 174.208.19.215

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **Yes**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Staff improvements** Your employees actually working.

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**None specified** Acting superior over districts.

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**Dissolve Commission** Do away with commission.

**Q5**

**Respondent skipped this question**

Further Comments?

#5

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, June 29, 2020 9:37:15 AM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, June 29, 2020 9:38:34 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:01:18  
**IP Address:** 204.228.226.46

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **Yes**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Funding - more to dists** We need more local control of funds

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**Communicating** Emails

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**Unsure** Well know to producers

**Q5**

**Respondent skipped this question**

Further Comments?

#6

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, June 29, 2020 9:50:08 AM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, June 29, 2020 9:51:44 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:01:36  
**IP Address:** 204.9.106.186

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **No**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2** **Respondent skipped this question**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Q3**  
What does the Commission do well?

**TA** help with technical advise

**Q4**  
What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**More funding** Provide more money so districts can get more done.

**Q5** **Respondent skipped this question**

Further Comments?

#7

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, June 29, 2020 10:05:46 AM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, June 29, 2020 10:17:36 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:11:50  
**IP Address:** 96.18.96.242

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **Unsure**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2** **Respondent skipped this question**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Q3**  
What does the Commission do well?

**Capacity Building** Helps Districts & Staff with conservation efforts, planning, guidance and rules and regulations.

**Q4**  
What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**Support conservation** State of Idaho-remove some of the current legislators and their benefits and perks. They need to better educate themselves on conservation and water quality efforts.

**Q5**  
Further Comments?

**No change needed** I think Teri should run for Governor.

#8

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, June 29, 2020 10:25:27 AM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, June 29, 2020 10:42:21 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:16:54  
**IP Address:** 50.37.199.2

## Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **Yes**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Lobby** Our board of supervisors has discussed this issue and feel that we do not know what Commission accomplishes. We believe it was established to become a unified voice of the separate districts to work towards certain goals. One of the main goals should be a continual focus on pushing those in elected positions in the State house to fully fund the judgement against the state in favor of Nettleton's and Lowry's, with accumulated interest for the willful delay.

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**Connecting** Organizing meetings and conferences.

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**Cut spending, reduce tax** Spend less money, which would reduce taxes, allowing land owners, farmers and ranchers more in their bank accounts to do what they need to on their own.

**Q5**

Further Comments?

**Increase efficiency** A lot of Idaho's tax money is literally eaten. Our taxes could be significantly reduced by having less dinner meetings. The Covid 19 response has had devastating effects in every industry, including agriculture. The best thing every one of us can do is reduce unnecessary spending and reduce our budgets and reduce what we ask for. Let's make our conservation message begin by reducing the burden in our constituents bank accounts.

[Back to Agenda](#)



#9

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, June 29, 2020 10:42:45 AM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, June 29, 2020 10:47:41 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:04:55  
**IP Address:** 64.126.160.168

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **No**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Funding - elim. match** Doing away with the match and going to a flat rate for funding each district would help the smaller districts to remain financially stable and get more projects done on the ground.

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**TA** Excellent technical support for the districts

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**More funding** Better funding

**Q5** **Respondent skipped this question**

Further Comments?

#10

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Monday, June 29, 2020 11:03:53 AM  
Last Modified: Monday, June 29, 2020 11:17:47 AM  
Time Spent: 00:13:53  
IP Address: 184.155.139.50

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 Yes

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

Loans discount Loan program moved.

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

TA TA

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

Support conservation Become more involved

Q5

Further Comments?

Increase efficiency Try to be more efficient.

#11

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, June 29, 2020 12:02:09 PM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, June 29, 2020 12:04:48 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:02:38  
**IP Address:** 96.18.96.242

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **Unsure**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Unsure** Unsure

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**Communicating** Communication

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**Unsure** Unsure

**Q5**

Further Comments?

**No change needed** I am new to the SWCD as an administrative assistant. I see the commission as being very communicative, offers of help come through regularly and questions always answered. Sorry I cannot give more input.

#12

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Monday, June 29, 2020 1:06:17 PM  
Last Modified: Monday, June 29, 2020 1:13:13 PM  
Time Spent: 00:06:56  
IP Address: 199.155.44.84

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 Yes

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

**more interaction** In light of the issues that IASCD presented to Districts regarding ISWCC now is the time to address these issues, and strengthen ISWCC. Would like to know our Commission Staff that makes decisions based on District needs. To have this person come to a meeting or 2 a year and make a connection.

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

**Capacity Building** **Engineering** **Communicating** The Commission supplies an engineer that is of great value to Districts as well as local Flood Districts via a SWCD. The ability to have a SWCC employee attend all meeting possible during the year is very beneficial. Having direct contact to Delwyne and Teri, who answer questions in a timely manner is very valuable.

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**More funding** A suggestion would be focus on the Districts that are hard at work completing the voluntary conservation projects. If need be make it competitive with funding so that proven Districts can continue with their boots on the ground projects.

Q5

Respondent skipped this question

Further Comments?

#13

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Monday, June 29, 2020 3:08:26 PM  
Last Modified: Monday, June 29, 2020 3:59:25 PM  
Time Spent: 00:50:59  
IP Address: 50.37.103.0

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 No

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

more training Partnership - improve Commission could take the IASCD under their wing and demonstrate to the association as to how they too might become a valuable aid to the districts.

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

Capacity Building Communicating Staff District assistance from your field staff is super. Info and guidance to help day-to-day operations of District office is excellent. Boise office response to calls and emails from the District is prompt.

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

Grants More funding Increase the match to full 2:1  
Dramatic increase to Base Allocation to catch up for inflation and huge increase in real life cost of operating an office.  
Offer \$\$\$ to Commission to award conservation grants directly to districts.

Q5

Further Comments?

More funding Commission has always done a good job. Increasing the budget of a lean productive organization like the Commission would benefit conservation-on-the-ground in all counties.

#14

**COMPLETE**

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Monday, June 29, 2020 5:03:04 PM  
Last Modified: Monday, June 29, 2020 5:05:21 PM  
Time Spent: 00:02:16  
IP Address: 76.8.2.129

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1**

**No**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

**Respondent skipped this question**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**None specified**

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**Incentivize consrv** tax incentives, credits for conservation

**Q5**

Further Comments?

**Useless survey** this is a fairly useless survey.

#15

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:12:35 AM  
**Last Modified:** Tuesday, June 30, 2020 9:16:58 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:04:23  
**IP Address:** 66.160.251.73

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **Yes**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**TA-reform** More flexibility on how the hours that we get our spent. Meaning if a project ends up not taking as much time then we should be able to easily use those hours on another project. Maybe just give us so many hours of TA and then we use them where we need them.

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**Staff** Your staff does a good job as far as the work goes. They know what they are doing and the quality of work is good. Sometimes this gets lost because of all the red tape we have to jump through to get help. Sometimes feels like we loose time to get your time.

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**Unsure** Not exactly sure on this.

**Q5**

Further Comments?

**Elim bureaucracy** **Ready to Move On** It's unfortunate that one persons actions have affected so many others. We should learn and move on instead of dwelling on this so much. Find a better way to serve the districts and less paperwork and more help!

#16

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 10:46:45 AM  
Last Modified: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 11:15:01 AM  
Time Spent: 00:28:15  
IP Address: 199.138.66.78

## Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1

No

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

more training More training for new admins for the various reports and how those are necessary.

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

TA Excellent Engineering and Technical Assistance.

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

Reduce red tape This really isn't ISWCC, but it is always difficult to explain to private landowners the length of time it takes to work through the 319 grant process. If there was a way the Commission could help expedite this process, it would be helpful. Landowners want assistance today, not 2.5 years from now.

Q5

Further Comments?

Commissioner req As a District Admin I appreciate the excellent support from Commission Staff and Field Personnel. I do not feel comfortable with the Commission Board. It might just be the current climate, but I feel they present themselves as authoritarian and judicial in their positions. It is not a friendly group of people. Quite defensive. I hope these tensions can be remedied soon and we can all focus on local conservation.



#17

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 11:43:50 AM  
Last Modified: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 12:22:32 PM  
Time Spent: 00:38:42  
IP Address: 174.208.11.227

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 Yes

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Funding - elim match** Commission takes responsibility that match funding is correct prior to allocating those funds. If this is too complicated, then simplify the process. It should be easy for a district to certify these, and once it's approved by the commission, it's at least 50/50 culpability if there is a problem.

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

**Unsure** Create excessive paperwork. We request technical hours, just to make sure our reports are filed in time and accurately. So there's staff in Boise and out around the state in local offices, doing nothing but reporting paperwork. (to be fair, that's not a problem unique to the commission, it's all over government agencies)

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**New Reg 4 Commisnrs** **Reduce red tape** If at the end of the day, we are "elected officials" and the responsibility ultimately ends with us, at the least, commissioners, should be elected by us, not appointed. Conservation happening on the ground should be the biggest concern to our legislature. As little red tape as possible.

Q5

Further Comments?

**Streamline funding** I truly believe, that the commission, and staff do really care about conservation in Idaho. We may not all agree on how best to make it happen. But I believe we all want to do the same thing. I am not in favor of dissolving the commission, but think we need to streamline getting tax dollars from the treasury to the ground.

#18

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:29:30 PM  
Last Modified: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 2:43:20 PM  
Time Spent: 00:13:50  
IP Address: 65.129.22.198

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 Unsure

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2 Respondent skipped this question

What change(s) would you like to see?

Q3  
What does the Commission do well?

Communicating Staff TA Our district has greatly benefited from Technical Assistance. Loretta Strickland is a very competent technical assistant with knowledge pertinent to our needs. District accountability is a given. Our district benefits from the Commission's guidance and communication to assist the district in meeting its obligations. The Commission is a stable resource to districts, especially considering supervisor turnover in individual districts. Our district has experienced prompt support when needed from the Commission.

Q4  
What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

More funding Publicize success Additional funding is always helpful. The State of Idaho could assist with more promotion (advertising?) of voluntary conservation at the State level.

Q5  
Further Comments?

No change needed Our district has not experienced any problems with the Commission.

#19

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, July 01, 2020 3:31:57 PM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, July 01, 2020 3:34:53 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:02:56  
**IP Address:** 174.247.146.189

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **Yes**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Bureaucracy - reform** Less command and control

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**Capacity Building** Capacity building

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**More funding** Dollars

**Q5**

**Respondent skipped this question**

Further Comments?

#20

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, July 01, 2020 6:46:01 PM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, July 01, 2020 6:50:32 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:04:30  
**IP Address:** 50.52.12.254

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **Unsure**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Communicate** Be sure there is transparency/communication as the Districts apply for matching funds. Be sure the Districts know sooner than later what they are doing right or incorrectly.

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**Communicating** **TA** Technical field service is good. We do have pretty good communication with Commission staff.

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**Keep/fund Commission** Continue to keep and fund the Commission.

**Q5** **Respondent skipped this question**

Further Comments?



#21

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
 Started: Sunday, July 05, 2020 8:15:29 AM  
 Last Modified: Sunday, July 05, 2020 9:07:24 AM  
 Time Spent: 00:51:55  
 IP Address: 174.208.0.213

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 Yes

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

more training more interaction Communicate I BELIEVE THE SUCCESS OF THE COMMISSION IS BASED ON THE SUCCESSES OF THE CONSERVATION DISTRICTS; PUT BLUNTLY, WITHOUT THE CD'S THERE'S LITTLE NEED FOR A COMMISSION. THAT SAID THE COMMISSION NEEDS TO REPAIR THE ERODING RELATIONSHIP. HOW? 1) COMMUNICATE, COMMUNICATE, COMMUNICATE. YOU MAY SAY, "WE'RE USING FACEBOOK, E-MAIL AND WEBSITE. WHAT ELSE CAN WE DO?" THIS SURVEY IS A GOOD EXAMPLE...HOW MANY SUPERVISORS & DISTRICTS WILL RESPOND? 98%? 50% OR MORE LIKE 10%? HAVE A COMMISSIONER PICK UP THE PHONE; CALL THE CHAIRMAN - NOT THE CD ADMINISTRATOR. ASK HOW THINGS ARE GOING. WHAT'S WORKING, WHAT'S NOT. GET 1-2 CD CHAIRMEN TO ATTEND ISWCC MEETINGS. LISTEN TO THEM. DEVELOP THE RELATIONSHIP. 2) POPULATE "TRACKER" CD'S ARE STRUGGLING NOW WITH DUTIES AND POPULATING "TRACKER" GETS FORGOTTEN 3) HOW ABOUT HANDS ON TRAINING FOR NEWLY - AND NOT SO NEW - ELECTED SUPERVISORS? ONE COULD ARGUE, "THERE'S THE SUPERVISORS' HANDBOOK!" BUT, HOW DOES A NEWLY ELECTED SUPERVISOR EVEN KNOW THERE IS SUCH A HANDBOOK - I SURE DIDN'T. A "TAKE ONE BY THE HAND" TRAINING WHERE ONE COULD: a)LEARN THE JARGON, b)BECOME FAMILIAR WITH THE VARIOUS "PLAYERS" (ie. IASCD, ISWCC, IDEA) & WHO DOES WHAT c)SERVICES AVAILABLE WOULD GO A LONG WAY IN GETTING A NOVICE UP TO SPEED. 4)END WHAT APPEARS TO BE THE ADVERSARIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH IASCD, IT'S EATING US UP - COMMUNICATE, COMMUNICATE, COMMUNICATE

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

Reporting Financial assistance Advocating 4 Dists 1) DISTRIBUTE FUNDS 2) REQUEST REPORTS 3) FIGHTS THE IASCD

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

More funding FUND ( SEE #5 BELOW)

Q5

Further Comments?

**Outreach** IT'S CLEAR TO ME THAT VISIBILITY PROMOTES RECOGNITION, RECOGNITION PROMOTES RELEVANCY, AND FINALLY, RELEVANCY PROMOTES VALUE AND SUPPORT (\$). I BELIEVE EMPHASIS IS NEEDED BOTH BY CD's, THE ISWCC AND IASCD TO BECOME "VALUED" - MORE VISIBILITY, MORE RECOGNITION AND FINALLY, MOST IMPORTANTLY RELEVANCY.

I'LL BE WATCHING TO SEE WHAT BECOMES OF THIS SURVEY

#22

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Monday, July 06, 2020 5:14:15 AM  
Last Modified: Monday, July 06, 2020 5:37:53 AM  
Time Spent: 00:23:38  
IP Address: 67.143.192.181

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1

Yes

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

**more interaction** **Don't sue** First, Drop the lawsuit against INDIVIDUAL Franklin Supervisors (it would show good faith in & to the districts). Second, spend time with and at the districts to see what they need. Our ISWCC contact person, attending meetings via phone is...to be blunt worthless.

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

**loan program** **TA** Loan program, tech support for SOME districts is good I've heard.

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**More TA** Spend less time/\$ on fancy tracking systems & more on time on working with districts with good, solid technical people. Our district has never used anything from the ISWCC & frankly I have never had anyone from the ISWCC explain what they could offer our district except the loan program.

Q5

Further Comments?

**Communication** **Anti-civil lawsuit** **Commiss/Staff Cng** The lack of trust in the ISWCC is very apparent. ISWCC needs to start on the ground communication and start looking at why. You need to stop being so defensive & start some change. Change has to start at the top. Real change, not just lip service.  
Suing the Franklin supervisors has made me very concerned. I don't see any benefit to the state or our district, any money that may be obtained (which is doubtful) will be at great cost & even if the ISWCC says it's for the district's benefit the amount divided by 50 would be peanuts. Leadership at ISWCC can stop it now, they can say NO to the AG office & should show the grit to do so. Blaming the AG for an ISWCC leadership decision is cowardly.

#23

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Monday, July 06, 2020 9:06:22 AM  
Last Modified: Monday, July 06, 2020 9:14:59 AM  
Time Spent: 00:08:37  
IP Address: 75.174.75.83

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 Yes

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

more training more interaction Have commission employees attend more than quarterly meetings. Have leadership visit districts when they have their monthly meetings, maybe once per year to do a listening session. On becoming a supervisor, and this could/should be a district responsibility, the supervisors actually do not know what is expected or required of them. Which gets into the legal realms if something goes wrong. Overall I feel the district administrators have the best intentions, but may also not understand how to educate and be part of a board...hence the Franklin issue, as well as other districts who had "money" issues.

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

Collaborating Very open to collaborations and projects, in fact encourage it. But in my opinion the districts really are not educated to this fact even though it is said, I do not think the supervisors and employees completely understand.

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

More training See number 2. Supervisors need training and/or orientations of their responsibilities. As well as the employee supervisors. There is a gap here, and I am not sure under code who is responsible.

[Back to Agenda](#)

Q5

Further Comments?

**Advocacy 4 Partnership** Legislators in the end (as well as the governor), if a bill comes forward to diminish the commission, relationships with legislators are so important at this time to get each to see what is going on. Start with the committees on both house and senate, then move out from there.



#24

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, July 08, 2020 8:19:15 AM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, July 08, 2020 8:24:16 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:05:01  
**IP Address:** 50.37.153.199

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **Unsure**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**None** none at this time

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**TA** technical support to the districts

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**No answer** good question but i have no answer to that.

**Q5**

**Respondent skipped this question**

Further Comments?

#25

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, July 08, 2020 11:41:59 AM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, July 08, 2020 11:43:06 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:01:07  
**IP Address:** 174.247.129.188

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **Yes**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Bureaucracy - reform** Less command and control

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**Capacity Building** Capacity building

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**More funding** Dollars

**Q5**

**Respondent skipped this question**

Further Comments?

#26

**COMPLETE**

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Thursday, July 09, 2020 12:53:35 PM  
Last Modified: Thursday, July 09, 2020 12:54:29 PM  
Time Spent: 00:00:53  
IP Address: 38.141.32.251

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **No**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Unsure** Not sure yet, just got on the board.

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**Unsure** Not sure yet, just got on the board.

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**Unsure** Not sure yet, just got on the board.

**Q5**

Further Comments?

**Unsure** Not sure yet, just got on the board.

#27

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Thursday, July 09, 2020 12:47:56 PM  
Last Modified: Thursday, July 09, 2020 12:55:38 PM  
Time Spent: 00:07:42  
IP Address: 199.155.24.167

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 Yes

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Funding - elim match** Better communication on funding issues or re-evaluate them. Maybe recalculate how the financial match is disbursed to make sure its more equal and not just the bigger districts seeing all the money.

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

**Communicating** **Reporting** They are great to lead us with legislation and gathering all the reporting for the state. Conservation Way newsletter is great!

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**Promote districts** Promote the Soil and Water Conservation Districts like it use to be in the beginning.

Q5

Further Comments?

**Grateful** This survey was a combined effort by the Gooding Soil Conservation District. We value what the commission does however there are always adjustments that could be made to make things run smoother.

#28

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, July 10, 2020 6:52:57 AM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, July 10, 2020 6:55:38 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:02:41  
**IP Address:** 67.148.127.127

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **Yes**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**IA - more** More support on projects for Eileen's time

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**IA** Does well on having engineering help and getting projects completed.

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**More funding** More support dollars to help with such a tight budget for the local districts.

**Q5**

**Respondent skipped this question**

Further Comments?

#29

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, July 10, 2020 3:36:22 PM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, July 10, 2020 3:40:01 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:03:38  
**IP Address:** 72.168.160.158

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **No**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2** **Respondent skipped this question**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Q3**  
What does the Commission do well?

**TA** The technical support that we (Conservation District) get from the Commission is very valuable.

**Q4**  
What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**More funding** A steady source of funding would be great - but not at the expense of cutting services from the commission.

**Q5**  
Further Comments?

**Grateful** Thanks for all you do....



#30

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 2:23:59 PM  
**Last Modified:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 2:27:07 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:03:07  
**IP Address:** 174.204.86.212

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **No**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2** **Respondent skipped this question**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Q3**  
What does the Commission do well?

**TA** Technical assistance

**Q4**  
What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**Education Outreach** Public education

**Q5** **Respondent skipped this question**

Further Comments?

#31

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 8:16:35 AM  
Last Modified: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 8:17:46 AM  
Time Spent: 00:01:10  
IP Address: 174.208.19.59

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 No

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

None NA

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

TA providing technical support

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

More TA Provide more technical support at the field level.

Q5 Respondent skipped this question

Further Comments?

#32

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 9:25:34 AM  
Last Modified: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 9:27:50 AM  
Time Spent: 00:02:15  
IP Address: 96.18.104.138

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1

Unsure

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

Bureaucracy - reform less survey's

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

Advocating 4 Dists getting funding for Districts

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

Publicize success More Outreach .....educating the public and the legislators

Q5

Further Comments?

Elim bureaucracy cur back on the survey's

#33

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 1:07:30 PM  
Last Modified: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 1:14:55 PM  
Time Spent: 00:07:24  
IP Address: 199.155.32.165

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 Unsure

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

more training Funding - elim match We believe that there may be things to look at as far as budget - financial and match to make it be fair to all Districts. More training for new supervisors.

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

Communicating Advocating 4 Dists The Commission has been great to answer questions when needed and communicate on most every program. We believe they are great advocates for the Districts.

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

More funding Publicize succes More funding and more advertising about what Districts do..

Q5

Further Comments?

none These comments are a compiled version of the Wood River SWCD's board of supervisors response. Thank you

#34

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Thursday, July 16, 2020 11:40:32 AM  
Last Modified: Thursday, July 16, 2020 11:43:26 AM  
Time Spent: 00:02:54  
IP Address: 199.155.37.164

## Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 Unsure

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

Funding - more to dists. More funding needs to go to the districts

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

Unsure good question

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

Less bureaucracy Less bureaucracy up in the ranks

Q5

Further Comments?

Elim bureaucracy we are so overloaded with documents and paperwork, it makes it difficult to find what you are trying to say, or is that the point?

#35

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 3:15:37 PM  
**Last Modified:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 3:18:13 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:02:36  
**IP Address:** 50.37.196.51

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **Yes**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Funding - more to dists** More money to the districts so we can put it on the land

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**Unsure** ????

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**Grants** Loans and Grants to the farmers and ranchers, especially the Small operators

**Q5** **Respondent skipped this question**

Further Comments?

#36

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Thursday, July 30, 2020 3:02:42 PM  
Last Modified: Thursday, July 30, 2020 3:09:53 PM  
Time Spent: 00:07:10  
IP Address: 23.229.103.125

## Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **Yes**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Don't sue** **TA** Continue to provide support to Districts via website and other helpful follow-up data and "how to" guidelines. Be responsive to District needs and requests and, when a number of Districts have the same need/request, communicate to them/follow-up appropriately with what is needed and/or additional services.  
Also, this Franklin County issue has had a big impact negatively on attitudes of current supervisors and has lessened considerably the willingness of new folks to join District boards.

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**Staff** Brad, our contact/partner with the Commission is a super asset to our District! Continue with this type of partnership for sure!

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**More funding** **Publicize success** Funding and communication to the general public.

**Q5**

Further Comments?

**none** None.

[Back to Agenda](#)

#37

COMPLETE

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, August 07, 2020 9:16:01 PM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, August 07, 2020 9:27:45 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:11:44  
**IP Address:** 184.155.139.50

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** Yes

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

What change(s) would you like to see?

Loans discontinued

Loans Improved

Loan program discontinued, moved or made more user friendly.

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

TA

Technical support

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

More funding

Full funding

**Q5**

Further Comments?

Ride it out

Working hand in hand, the districts and commission as partners, always focusing on the end goal, voluntary conservation, will create a synergy.



#38

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Wednesday, August 19, 2020 2:39:32 PM  
**Last Modified:** Wednesday, August 19, 2020 2:41:43 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:02:10  
**IP Address:** 208.98.149.202

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **No**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2** **Respondent skipped this question**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**Connecting** Liazon between commission and legislators

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**Stay Pro Ag** Keep considering the farmers

**Q5** **Respondent skipped this question**

Further Comments?

#39

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 8:22:07 PM  
Last Modified: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 8:55:28 PM  
Time Spent: 00:33:21  
IP Address: 75.98.157.193

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 Unsure

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2 Respondent skipped this question

What change(s) would you like to see?

Q3  
What does the Commission do well?

Unsure Unsure

Q4  
What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

Unsure Unsure

Q5  
Further Comments?

Unsure Unsure

#40

COMPLETE

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:59:50 AM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, August 24, 2020 11:02:02 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:02:11  
**IP Address:** 216.180.186.61

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **Yes**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Funding - more to dists** **IA - more** For our area, we lack in field assistance. We only see our ISWCC representative at board meetings and he seems resistant to doing additional assistance.

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**Communicating** The Commission does a great job of keeping Districts informed on board meetings and decisions that need to be made/have been made.

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**More funding** Additional funding is always nice!

**Q5**

Respondent skipped this question

Further Comments?

#41

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, August 28, 2020 11:21:31 AM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, August 28, 2020 11:24:31 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:02:59  
**IP Address:** 164.165.230.3

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **No**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2** **Respondent skipped this question**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Q3**  
What does the Commission do well?

**TA** The commission provides Technical Assistance well, it's the most valuable thing that they provide

**Q4**  
What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**More funding** The State of Idaho could provide more money to help voluntary conservation in Idaho to get projects on the ground. This probably isn't feasible, but would be nice.

**Q5** **Respondent skipped this question**  
Further Comments?

#42

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Friday, August 28, 2020 11:45:36 AM  
Last Modified: Friday, August 28, 2020 11:47:01 AM  
Time Spent: 00:01:24  
IP Address: 164.165.230.3

## Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 Yes

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

Funding - more to dists More funding to districts would mean more time available to better understand procedures and support to producers

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

TA Used to be excellent for managing wqpa implementation programs to districts

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

More funding Simply need more dollars for implementation

Q5

Further Comments?

Ride it out Simpler is better. It's not SWC's fault, legislature making tough decisions and conservation hasn't been on a top priority CP collected

#43

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Friday, August 28, 2020 11:47:08 AM  
Last Modified: Friday, August 28, 2020 11:47:58 AM  
Time Spent: 00:00:50  
IP Address: 164.165.230.3

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 Yes

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

Funding - more to dists None Hadn't had time to really think about it; busy with harvest. Indicated more money needs to be brought into districts to help with implementation projects. Didn't want any reduced for the SWC, felt like we were thin enough already.

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

Connecting Bridging the gap between agencies and producers.

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

More funding Bring back wqpa type programs, and some dollars for resource issues other than crop/range related activities

Q5

Further Comments?

Ride it out If the economy is going to be tough, we need to hunker down and ride this out. Merging resources, be creative finding more efficient ways of doing things.

Collected by Chuck Pentzer

#44

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Friday, August 28, 2020 11:48:01 AM  
Last Modified: Friday, August 28, 2020 11:49:02 AM  
Time Spent: 00:01:01  
IP Address: 164.165.230.3

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1

No

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

None SWC needs to still be there for districts and serve them by coordinating with multiple agencies bringing technology/expertise so districts could lead with good information

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

Financial assistance loan program SWC administers the dollars well. The loan program has been great. Maybe not as much now because of such low interest rates. When they had dollars, many projects were installed as portions from many entities. It used to be good conservation practices got on the ground and no one really took credit; it was a partnership from many.

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

Publicize success Says that Districts and Commission historically have not advertised the efforts and successes well. We were too busy doing and not following up with effectiveness of the value of implemented practices.

Q5

Further Comments?

**More funding** **Commissioner req** Districts and Commission can only do what they can do with what funds become available. Questions whether only previous SCD board members should be Commission members. No criticism intended, just observation that district board members have a better idea of how the partnership is to function.

collected by Chuck Pentzer



#45

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, August 28, 2020 11:49:42 AM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, August 28, 2020 11:51:30 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:01:47  
**IP Address:** 164.165.230.3

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **No**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Funding - elim match** **None** None. If any thing maybe to get rid of the match requirement and just add more to base funding

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**TA** The commission provides Technical Assistance well, they said it is the most valuable thing that they provide

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**More funding** The State of Idaho could provide more money to help voluntary conservation in Idaho to get projects on the ground. They noted this probably isn't feasible but it would be nice!

**Q5**

Further Comments?

**No change needed** **Pro TA** They don't believe that any changes are needed in the way the commission provides services. They said that they couldn't survive as a district without the technical assistance help from the commission.  
collected by Brad Shelton

#46

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, August 28, 2020 11:54:37 AM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, August 28, 2020 11:55:45 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:01:08  
**IP Address:** 164.165.230.3

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **No**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Funding - elim match** **None** They couldn't think of any changes to the Commission that would be needed. If any thing maybe to get rid of the match requirement and just add more to base funding

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**Financial assistance** **TA** Supporting the districts in all aspects from technical assistance to financial

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**More funding** More funding to get projects done on the ground.

**Q5**

Further Comments?

**none** Collected by Brad Shelton

#47

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, August 28, 2020 11:56:35 AM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, August 28, 2020 11:58:02 AM  
**Time Spent:** 00:01:26  
**IP Address:** 164.165.230.3

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **Yes**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Bureaucracy - reform** Thought the Commission Was Top-Heavy

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**TA** TA

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**No answer** none given

**Q5**

Further Comments?

**none** Discussed at Board meeting. Gave them link and offered to discuss as a board or individually. Only response was from Kevin, who already filled out online survey. No one else spoke their opinion.

George Hitz compiled - Portneuf

#48

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Friday, August 28, 2020 11:58:23 AM  
Last Modified: Friday, August 28, 2020 11:59:59 AM  
Time Spent: 00:01:36  
IP Address: 164.165.230.3

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 Unsure

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

more training Through conversation with Admin, she stated that she thought there was a lot of grey area around what qualifies as match and would like more training... in a group setting.

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

None specified not answered

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

No answer not answered

Q5

Further Comments?

Ready to Move On Discussed at Board meeting. Gave them link and offered to discuss as a board or individually. Did not seem interested in changes to the Commission, or completing the survey... Listened, but wanted to move on.

Central Bingham, compiled by George Hitz

#49

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Friday, August 28, 2020 12:00:20 PM  
Last Modified: Friday, August 28, 2020 12:01:11 PM  
Time Spent: 00:00:50  
IP Address: 164.165.230.3

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 No

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

None none given

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

None specified none given

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

No answer none given

Q5

Further Comments?

Anti-civil lawsuit Sent link to Survey. They did not meet this month due to Harvest. Previously noted that they did not see any change needed to the commission, Just comfortable with the Civil Lawsuit.

North Bingham, compiled by George Hitz

#50

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, August 28, 2020 12:01:35 PM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, August 28, 2020 12:02:32 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:00:56  
**IP Address:** 164.165.230.3

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **Unsure**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Unsure** wanted more information before making any recommendations

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**Approve interactions** Interactions so far seemed good

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**No answer** ?

**Q5**

Further Comments?

**Unsure** Board Felt the needed more information at last months board meeting. (Most of the Board is fairly new) This was the request for the job descriptions and organizational chart. They said they would adsorb, and reply via online survey  
Oneida, compiled by George Hitz

#51

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Friday, August 28, 2020 12:02:34 PM  
Last Modified: Friday, August 28, 2020 12:03:35 PM  
Time Spent: 00:01:00  
IP Address: 164.165.230.3

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 No

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

Note n/a

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

TA Like the TA provided and project assistance

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

No answer n/a

Q5

Further Comments?

Anti-civil lawsuit Hung up on civil lawsuit: Felt that after funds are agreed upon (DAWG) and distributed, that should be the end of it...??? Wasn't sure how to respond to that but Stated that if laws were broken, it was the agencies responsibility to report it and follow through to be responsible for public funds.

Power, compiled by George Hitz

#52

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Friday, August 28, 2020 2:56:02 PM  
Last Modified: Friday, August 28, 2020 2:56:38 PM  
Time Spent: 00:00:35  
IP Address: 164.165.230.3

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 No

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

None none

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

None specified no response

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

No answer none

Q5

Further Comments?

No change needed Thinks the Commission is doing well.

Collected by Brian Reed



#53

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Friday, August 28, 2020 2:55:30 PM  
Last Modified: Friday, August 28, 2020 2:56:59 PM  
Time Spent: 00:01:28  
IP Address: 164.165.230.3

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 Unsure

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

None none

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

None specified no response

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

More funding More funding from the state.

Q5

Further Comments?

none none

collected by Brian Reed

#54

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Friday, August 28, 2020 2:54:43 PM  
**Last Modified:** Friday, August 28, 2020 2:57:24 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:02:41  
**IP Address:** 164.165.230.3

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **Unsure**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Communicate** Need good transparency.

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**Communicating** Does well keeping the Districts updated.

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**No answer** no response

**Q5**

Further Comments?

**none** none

collected by Brian Reed

[Back to Agenda](#)

#55

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Friday, August 28, 2020 2:57:30 PM  
Last Modified: Friday, August 28, 2020 2:58:04 PM  
Time Spent: 00:00:33  
IP Address: 164.165.230.3

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 Unsure

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

None none

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

None specified none

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

More funding End the match system of funding and give all Districts the same amount of state funding.

Q5

Further Comments?

none none

collected by Brian Reed

#56

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Monday, August 31, 2020 1:40:22 PM  
Last Modified: Monday, August 31, 2020 1:42:21 PM  
Time Spent: 00:01:58  
IP Address: 164.165.230.3

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 Unsure

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

Attitude/Respect Help district supervisors see their value. Districts need to feel valued in the Commission's eyes.

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

None specified no answer

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

No answer no answer

Q5

Further Comments?

none no answer

Collected by Carolyn Firth

#57

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Monday, August 31, 2020 1:43:11 PM  
Last Modified: Monday, August 31, 2020 1:43:44 PM  
Time Spent: 00:00:33  
IP Address: 164.165.230.3

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1 Unsure

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

Attitude/Respect Be more positive.

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

None specified no answer

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

No answer no answer

Q5

Further Comments?

none no answer

Collected by Carolyn Firth

#58

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, August 31, 2020 1:43:47 PM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, August 31, 2020 1:44:20 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:00:33  
**IP Address:** 164.165.230.3

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

**Q1** **Unsure**

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

**Q2**

What change(s) would you like to see?

**Attitude/Respect** The Commission takes too much time during Division meetings.

**Q3**

What does the Commission do well?

**None specified** no answer

**Q4**

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

**No answer** no answer

**Q5**

Further Comments?

**none** no answer

Collected by Carolyn Firth

#59

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
Started: Monday, August 31, 2020 1:44:23 PM  
Last Modified: Monday, August 31, 2020 1:44:58 PM  
Time Spent: 00:00:34  
IP Address: 164.165.230.3

Page 1: District Survey on Commission Delivery of Services

Q1

Unsure

Do you think change is needed to the way the Commission provides services to the Districts?

Q2

What change(s) would you like to see?

Attitude/Respect Bureaucracy --reform This district is generally in support of the Commission but would like to see some changes. Those changes would be to reduce the number of reports required; don't rule with a heavy hand; and have more respect for district supervisors.

Q3

What does the Commission do well?

None specified no answer

Q4

What changes could the State of Idaho make to better support voluntary conservation?

No answer no answer

Q5

Further Comments?

none no answer

Collected by Carolyn Firth



**SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION  
COMMISSION**

H. Norman Wright  
Chairman

Cathy Roemer  
Vice Chairman

Erik Olson  
Secretary

Gerald Trebesch  
Commissioner

Wendy Pratt  
Commissioner

Teri Murrison  
Administrator

**MEMO**

**TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT AND COMMISSIONERS ROEMER, TREBESCH,  
OLSON, AND PRATT**  
**FROM: TERI MURRISON, ADMINISTRATOR**  
**DATE: SEPTEMBER 22, 2020**  
**RE: PUBLIC INPUT ON PROPOSED STATUTORY CHANGES TO TITLE 22,  
CHAPTER 17**

The Division of Financial Management requested that your Board propose changes to legislation within our agency's subject area consistent with the Governor's push to extend the efforts of Executive Order 2019-02, the Red Tape Reduction Act. Your Board directed staff to submit the attached draft of the statutory changes proposed to Title 22, Chapter 27 that were approved at your meeting in August.

Those proposed changes essentially:

1. Eliminate OnePlan from statute because the program is now defunct.
2. Remove "Soil" and "Soil and Water" from the statute referring to Districts and the Commission, standardizing all references instead as "Conservation Districts" and "Conservation Commission".

Alex Adams, DFM Administrator, has asked that your Board invite input from Districts and the public on the attached proposed changes.

ACTION: For information and to receive public input

[Back to Agenda](#)



TITLE 22  
AGRICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE

CHAPTER 27  
~~SOIL~~-CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

22-2714. PAYMENTS OF FEDERAL AID TO VARIOUS COUNTIES BY STATE CONTROLLER. The state controller is hereby authorized and directed to draw his warrant in favor of the counties to whom payment should be made pursuant to the Act of Congress of July 24, 1946 (60 Stat. 642, 33 U.S.C.A. 701-C-3) and forward the same to the treasurer of the county to which such funds are allocated under the terms of the aforementioned federal statute, to be by the treasurer of said county deposited in the public school fund of said county.

[22-2714, added 1953, ch. 157, sec. 1, p. 252; am. 1994, ch. 180, sec. 19, p. 434.]

22-2715. SHORT TITLE. This act may be known and cited as the ~~soil~~-conservation district law.

[22-2715, added 1957, ch. 218, sec. 1, p. 476.]

22-2716. LEGISLATIVE DETERMINATION AND DECLARATION OF POLICY. (1) It is the determination of the state of Idaho that:

(a) Forest lands, rangelands and agricultural lands maintained in a healthy condition are a legitimate land use contributing to the economic, social and environmental well-being of the state and its citizens;

(b) It is essential to the general welfare of all citizens of this state that multiple use conservation improvements be implemented on a broader scale on both public and private lands;

(c) Due to numerous economic and practical issues relating to the improvements of individual tracts of land, ~~both~~ public and private resource conservation improvements, projects and programs of the nature contemplated by this chapter would enhance the economic productivity and environmental quality of the state; and

(d) It is sound public policy for the state of Idaho to provide for accounts to finance loans, grants, cost-share funding and tax incentives to the end that forest lands, rangelands and agricultural lands within the state can provide the greatest benefit to all concerned.

(2) It is the intent of the state of Idaho to provide a means by which funds, including federal, state, private and other moneys, can be obtained and utilized for the accelerated development of water quality programs, multiple use forest land, rangeland, and agricultural land conservation improvements in the state, and to provide that these improvements, projects and programs be locally planned, coordinated and implemented through statutory provisions pertaining to ~~soil~~-conservation districts, the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission, appropriate state and federal agencies and the owners and operators of privately owned lands.

(3) It is in the best interest of the state of Idaho:

(a) To emphasize nonregulatory, science-based technical assistance, incentive-based financial programs and informational and educational programs at the local level;

(b) To maintain, preserve, conserve and rehabilitate forest lands, rangelands and agricultural lands to assure the protection and productivity of the state's natural resources;

(c) That ~~soil~~-conservation districts, as governmental subdivisions, and the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission, as a state agency, are the primary entities to provide assistance to private landowners and land users in the conservation, sustainment, improvement and enhancement of Idaho's natural resources;

(d) To establish policies for cooperative working relationships between local ~~soil~~-conservation districts, the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission, local, state and federal agencies and public and private groups to plan, develop and implement conservation goals and initiatives with local landowners and land users;

(e) That ~~soil~~-conservation districts and the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission lead nonregulatory efforts to conserve, sustain, improve and enhance Idaho's private and state lands and to provide assistance to private landowners and land users to plan, develop and implement conservation plans addressing soil, water, air, plant and animal resources. Technical, financial and educational assistance to landowners and land users is vital to that effort; and

(f) That the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission provide support to ~~soil~~-conservation districts in the wise use and enhancement of soil, water and related resources.

(4) It is the policy of the state of Idaho:

(a) To provide appropriate tax policies and program mechanisms that provide incentives for private landowners and land users to voluntarily manage forest lands, rangelands and agricultural lands in a manner that promotes conservation;

(b) That the health, safety and general welfare of the people of this state can be greatly enhanced by providing nonregulatory opportunities to landowners and land users in order to increase the ability of such landowners and land users to readily understand and plan for local, state and federal natural resource requirements and opportunities through technological innovation and processes;

(c) To enhance natural resource productivity in order to promote a strong natural resource sector, reduce unintended adverse effects of resource development and use, protect individual and community health and safety and encourage stewardship;

(d) That conservation plan implementation shall include best management practices implemented according to the standards and specifications developed by the United States department of agriculture natural resources conservation service (NRCS) as designated by the agricultural pollution abatement plan. Those practices shall include, but not be limited to: irrigation water management systems; prescribed grazing; forest stand improvement; establishment of grass, trees and shrubs to reduce wind and water erosion; promotion of sound community development; protection of water and air resources from agricultural nonpoint sources of impairment; maintenance, restoration or enhancement of wetlands and fish and wildlife habitat; protection of upstream watersheds from flood risk; and protection of watersheds from the effects of chronic water shortages and risks; and

That all conservation programs authorized pursuant to this chapter shall deliver services fairly and equitably, strengthen the conservation district delivery system, provide timely science-based information and provide conservation information and educational programs and experiences to youth and adults.

[22-2716, added 2003, ch. 107, sec. 2, p. 335; am. 2010, ch. 279, sec. 1, p. 719.]

22-2717. DEFINITIONS. Whenever used or referred to in this chapter, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context:

(1) "Administrator" means the administrator for the Idaho ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission.

(2) "Agency" includes the government of this state and any subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, corporate or otherwise, of the government of this state.

(3) "Agricultural pollution abatement plan" or "ag plan" means the document developed by the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission and approved by the commission and the department of environmental quality, that provides appropriate technical, programmatic, informational and educational processes, guidelines and policies for addressing agricultural pollution.

(4) "Best management practices" or "BMPs" means practices, techniques, or measures developed or identified by the designated agency and identified in the state water quality management plan which are determined to be a cost effective and practicable means of preventing or reducing pollutants generated from nonpoint sources to a level compatible with water quality goals.

(5) (5) "Commission" or "state soil conservation commission," formally known as "state soil and water conservation commission" or "state soil conservation commission," means the agency created in section 22-2718, Idaho Code.

~~(5) "Commission" or "state soil and water conservation commission" means the agency created in section 22-2718, Idaho Code.~~

(6) "Conservation plan" means a description of identified natural resource issues and a specific schedule of implementation of component practices necessary to resolve those specific resource issues as agreed upon by the landowner.

(7) "Designated agency" is as defined in section 39-3602, Idaho Code.

(8) "District," "conservation district," "soil conservation district," or "soil and water conservation district" means a governmental subdivision(s) of this state, and a public body corporate and politic, organized in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, for the purposes, with the powers and subject to the restrictions hereinafter set forth.

(9) "Due notice" means notice published at least twice, with an interval of at least seven (7) days between the two (2) publication dates, in a newspaper or other publication of general circulation within the appropriate area, or if no such publication of general circulation be available, by posting at a reasonable number of conspicuous places within the appropriate area, such posting to include, where possible, posting at public places where it may be customary to post notices concerning county or municipal affairs generally. At any hearing held pursuant to such notice, at the time and place designated in such notice, adjournment may be made from time to time without the necessity of renewing such notice for such adjournment dates.

(10) "Eligible applicant" means an individual agricultural owner, operator, partnership, corporation, conservation district, irrigation district, canal company or other agricultural or grazing interest.

(11) "Government" or "governmental" includes the government of this state, the government of the United States, and any subdivisions, agency, or instrumentality, corporate or otherwise, of either of them.

~~(12) "Idaho OnePlan" means a computer-based system for improving efficiency and effectiveness of natural resource planning by landowners and land users.~~

~~(13)~~(12) "Landowner" or "owner" includes any person, firm, or corporation who shall hold title to any lands lying within a district organized under the provisions of this chapter. A buyer on contract, who is the occupier of land, shall be construed as landowner.

~~(14)~~(13) "Land user" means any entity with a lease, permit or similar business agreement with a landowner to implement, manage or utilize such land for activities related to use of the land.

~~(15)~~(14) "Natural resources conservation service" or "NRCS" means the agency governed by the provisions of 16 U.S.C. sections 590a through 590d and 590f.

~~(16)~~(15) "Nominating petition" means a petition filed under the provisions of section 22-2721, Idaho Code, to nominate candidates for the office of supervisor of a soil conservation district.

~~(17)~~(16) "Participant" means an individual agricultural owner, operator, partnership, private corporation, conservation district, irrigation district, canal company, or other agricultural or grazing interest approved by the commission or an individual agricultural owner, operator, partnership, or private corporation approved for implementation of conservation improvements, projects, or the water quality program for agriculture.

~~(18)~~(17) "Petition" means a petition filed under the provisions of subsection (1) of section 22-2719, Idaho Code, for the creation of a district.

~~(19) "Project sponsor" means a conservation district, irrigation district, canal company, or other agricultural or grazing interest, as determined appropriate by the commission, that enters into a conservation improvement or water quality project agreement with the commission.~~

~~(20)~~(18) "Qualified elector" means any person who is qualified to vote pursuant to the requirements of section 34-104, Idaho Code.

~~(21)~~(19) "Riparian land" means the beds of streams, the adjacent vegetation communities and the land thereunder, which are predominately influenced by their association with water and are privately owned.

~~(22)~~(20) "Specifications" means the materials, operations and procedures necessary to obtain the desired standards of construction and installation.

~~(23)~~(21) "Standards" means the minimum limits of technical excellence of a component practice for its planning, design and construction.

~~(24)~~(22) "State" means the state of Idaho.

~~(25)~~(23) "Supervisor" means one (1) of the members of the governing body of a district elected or appointed in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

~~(26)~~(24) "Total maximum daily load" is as defined in section 39-3602, Idaho Code.

~~(27)~~(25) "United States" or "agencies of the United States" includes the United States of America, the natural resources conservation service of the United States department of agriculture, and any other agency or instrumentality, corporate or otherwise, of the United States of America.

[22-2717, added 1957, ch. 218, sec. 3, p. 476; am. 1982, ch. 254, sec. 1, p. 646; am. 1995, ch. 118, sec. 7, p. 429; am. 1997, ch. 180, sec. 2, p. 500; am. 2000, ch. 160, sec. 2, p. 406; am. 2003, ch. 107, sec. 3, p. 336; am. 2010, ch. 279, sec. 2, p. 721.]

Commented [CKS1]: I don't see this phrased used anywhere in this chapter

22-2718. IDAHO ~~STATE SOIL AND WATER~~ CONSERVATION COMMISSION. (1) There is hereby established and created in the department of agriculture of the state of Idaho the Idaho ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission which shall perform all functions conferred upon it by this chapter and shall be a nonregulatory agency. The commission shall consist of five (5) members appointed by the governor. In appointing commission members, the governor shall give consideration to geographic representation. Commission members shall be chosen with due regard to their demonstrated expertise including, but not limited to, knowledge of and interest in water quality and other natural resource issues, production agriculture, banking or other similar financial experience or experience as a county commissioner. The ~~soil and water~~ conservation districts may submit to the governor a list of up to three (3) names for each vacancy on the commission and the governor may, in his discretion, consider any such submission in the appointment of commission members. The term of office of each commission member shall be five (5) years; except that upon July 1, 2010, the governor shall appoint one (1) member for a term of one (1) year, one (1) member for a term of two (2) years, one (1) member for a term of three (3) years, one (1) member for a term of four (4) years and one (1) member for a term of five (5) years. From and after the initial appointment the governor shall appoint a member of the commission to serve in office for a term of five (5) years commencing upon July 1 of that year. A vacancy which occurs in an unexpired term shall be filled for its remainder by the governor's appointment. Each vacancy on the commission shall be filled by appointment by the governor. Such appointments shall be confirmed by the senate. Commission members shall serve at the pleasure of the governor. The commission may invite the state conservationist of the United States department of agriculture natural resources conservation service, a representative from a district or districts and the dean of the college of agriculture of the university of Idaho or his designated representative, or any other person or entity as the commission deems appropriate, to serve as nonvoting advisory members of the commission. The commission shall keep a record of its official actions, shall adopt a seal, which seal shall be judicially noticed, and may perform such acts, hold such public hearings and promulgate such rules as may be necessary for the execution of its functions under this chapter.

(2) The ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission shall appoint the administrator of the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission. The ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission may employ such technical experts and such other agents and employees, permanent and temporary, as it may require, and shall determine their qualifications, duties and compensation. The commission may call upon the attorney general of the state for such legal services as it may require. It shall have authority to delegate to its chairman, to one (1) or more of its members, or to one (1) or more agents or employees, such powers and duties as it may deem proper. The commission may establish offices, incur expenses, enter into contracts and acquire services and personal property as may be reasonable for the proper administration and enforcement of this chapter. Upon request of the commission, for the purpose of carrying out any of its functions, the supervising officer of any state agency, or of any state institution of learning, shall insofar as may be possible under available appropriation, and having due regard to the needs of the agency to which the request is directed, assign or detail to the commission members of the staff or personnel of such agency or

institution of learning, and make such special reports, surveys or studies as the commission may request.

(3) The commission shall designate its chairman, and may from time to time, change such designation. A majority of the commission shall constitute a quorum and the concurrency of a majority in any matter within their duties shall be required for its determination. The chairman and members of the commission shall be compensated as provided by section [59-509\(h\)](#), Idaho Code. The commission shall provide for the execution of surety bonds for all employees and officers who shall be entrusted with funds or property; shall provide for the keeping of a full and accurate record of all proceedings and of all resolutions, and orders issued or adopted; and shall provide for a periodic management review of the accounts of receipts and disbursements as determined by the legislative auditor pursuant to section [67-702](#), Idaho Code.

(4) In addition to the duties and powers hereinafter conferred upon the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission, it shall have the following responsibilities:

(a) To offer such assistance as may be appropriate to the supervisors of ~~soil~~ conservation districts in the carrying out of any of their powers and programs.

(b) To keep the supervisors of each of the several ~~soil~~ conservation districts informed of the activities and experience of all other ~~soil~~ conservation districts and to facilitate an interchange of advice and experience between such districts and cooperation between them.

(c) To coordinate the progress of the several ~~soil~~ conservation districts so far as this may be done by advice and consultation.

(d) To secure the cooperation and assistance of the United States and any of its agencies, and of agencies of this state, in the work of such districts.

(e) To disseminate information throughout the state concerning the activities and programs of the ~~soil~~ conservation districts in areas where their organization is desirable.

~~(f) To provide for the establishment and encouragement of the "Idaho OnePlan" as a primary computer based conservation planning process for all natural resource concerns. Establishment and encouragement will be accomplished through an executive group and steering committee both containing private, state and federal representation. The information provided by those using the "Idaho OnePlan" shall be deemed to be trade secrets, production records or other proprietary information and shall be kept confidential and shall be exempt from disclosure pursuant to section 74-107, Idaho Code.~~

(5) In addition to other powers, functions and duties ~~of soil conservation districts and the state soil and water conservation commission~~ provided in this chapter, the [conservation](#) commission shall have the following additional powers, functions and duties:

(a) The commission shall conduct, in cooperation with appropriate federal and state agencies and the owners and operators of privately owned forest lands, rangelands and agricultural lands in this state, conservation improvements on or in respect to these lands for the purposes of implementing conservation systems to conserve and improve natural resource conditions;

(b) The commission shall assist and advise ~~soil~~ conservation districts and other entities in implementing the conservation improvements,

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projects and the water quality program for agriculture. To the extent that there are available general funds, the commission shall provide for grants and cost-share opportunities and, as legislatively designated, utilize the resource conservation and rangeland development fund for loans for conservation improvements. Provided however, that the commission shall determine whether general or resource conservation and rangeland development funds are available before approving any conservation improvements, projects and cost-share opportunities and, after having made such determination, shall enter into the necessary contracts for implementation;

(c) The commission shall be the agency responsible for the administration of funds accruing to the resource conservation and rangeland development fund and for all general funds appropriated as a separate and distinct action of the legislature to implement the powers, functions and duties of ~~soil~~ conservation districts and the commission;

(d) On or before March 1 of each year, the commission shall report to the senate agricultural affairs committee and the house agricultural affairs committee; and

(e) The commission shall promulgate such rules as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

[22-2718, added 1957, ch. 218, sec. 4, p. 476; am. 1967, ch. 28, sec. 1, p. 48; am. 1971, ch. 100, sec. 1, p. 215; am. 1974, ch. 17, sec. 2, p. 308; am. 1980, ch. 247, sec. 10, p. 588; am. 1989, ch. 109, sec. 1, p. 250; am. 1997, ch. 180, sec. 3, p. 501; am. 2000, ch. 160, sec. 3, p. 407; am. 2003, ch. 107, sec. 4, p. 339; am. 2010, ch. 279, sec. 3, p. 723; am. 2015, ch. 141, sec. 33, p. 408; am. 2017, ch. 130, sec. 1, p. 304.]

22-2719. CREATION OF ~~SOIL~~ CONSERVATION DISTRICTS. (1) Any twenty-five (25) owners of land lying within the limits of the territory proposed to be organized into a district may file a petition with the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission asking that a ~~soil~~ conservation district be organized to function in the territory described in the petition. Such petition shall set forth:

(a) The proposed name of said district;

(b) That there is need, in the interest of the public health, safety and welfare, for a ~~soil~~ conservation district to function in the territory described in the petition;

(c) A description of the territory proposed to be organized as a district, which description shall not be required to be given by metes and bounds or by legal subdivisions, but shall be deemed sufficient if generally accurate;

(d) A request that the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission duly define the boundaries for such district; that a referendum be held within the territory so defined on the question of the creation of a ~~soil~~ conservation district in such territory; and that the commission determine that such a district be created.

Where more than one (1) petition is filed covering parts of the same territory, the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission may consolidate all of any such petitions.

(2) Within thirty (30) days after such petition has been filed with the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission, it shall cause due notice to be given of a proposed hearing upon the question of the desirability and necessity, in the interest of the public health, safety and welfare, of the cre



ation of such district, upon the question of the appropriate boundaries to be assigned to such district, upon the propriety of the petition and other proceedings taken under this chapter, and upon all questions relevant to such inquiries. All owners of land within the limits of the territory described in the petition, and of lands within any territory considered for addition to such described territory, and all other interested parties, shall have the right to attend such hearings and to be heard. If it shall appear upon the hearing that it may be desirable to include within the proposed district territory outside of the area within which due notice of the hearing has been given the hearing shall be adjourned and the due notice of further hearing shall be given throughout the entire area considered for inclusion in the district, and such further hearing held. After such hearing, if the commission shall determine upon the facts presented at such hearing and upon such other relevant facts and information as may be available, that there is need in the interest of the public health, safety and welfare, for a ~~soil~~-conservation district to function in the territory considered at the hearing, it shall make and record such determination, and shall define by metes and bounds or by legal subdivisions, the boundaries of such district. In making such determination and in defining such boundaries, the commission shall give due weight and consideration to the topography of the area considered and of the state, the composition of soils therein, the distribution of erosion, the prevailing land use practices, the desirability and necessity of including within the boundaries the particular lands under consideration and the benefits such lands may receive from being included within such boundaries, the relation of the proposed area to the existing watersheds and agricultural regions, and to other ~~soil~~-conservation districts already organized or proposed for organization under the provisions of this chapter, and such other physical, geographical, and economic factors as are relevant, having due regard to the legislature determinations set forth in section 22-2716, Idaho Code. The territory to be included within such boundaries need not be contiguous. If the commission determines after such hearing, after due consideration of the said relevant facts, that there is no need for a ~~soil~~-conservation district to function in the territory considered at the hearing, it shall make and record such determination and shall deny the petition. After six (6) months shall have expired from the date of the denial of such petition, subsequent petitions covering the same or substantially the same territory may be filed as aforesaid and new hearings held and determinations made thereon.

(3) After the commission has made and recorded a determination that there is need, in the interest of the public health, safety and welfare, for the organization of a district in a particular territory and has defined the boundaries thereof, it shall consider the question whether the operation of a district within such boundaries with the powers conferred upon ~~soil~~-conservation districts in this chapter is administratively practicable and feasible. To assist the commission in the determination of such administrative practicability and feasibility, it shall be the duty of the commission, at the next election held after entry of the finding that there is need for the organization of the proposed district and the determination of the boundaries thereof, to hold a referendum, subject to the provisions of section 34-106, Idaho Code, within the proposed district upon the proposition of the creation of the district, and to cause notice of such election to be given as provided in section 34-1406, Idaho Code. The question shall be submitted by ballots upon which the words "For creation of a soil conservation district of the lands below described and lying in the county(ies) of .... and ...." and "Against creation of a ~~soil~~-conservation district of the lands below described and lying in the county(ies) of .... and ...." shall appear, with a square before each proposition and a



direction to insert an X mark in the square before one or the other of said propositions as the voter may favor or oppose creation of such district. The ballot shall set forth the boundaries of such proposed district as determined by the commission. All qualified electors who own lands or reside within the proposed district shall be eligible to vote in said referendum.

(4) The commission shall pay all expenses for the issuance of such notice and the conduct of such hearings and election and shall supervise the conduct of such hearings and election. It shall issue appropriate regulations governing the conduct of such hearings and election. No informalities in the conduct of the election or in any matter relating thereto shall invalidate the election or the result thereof if notice thereof shall have been given substantially as herein provided and the election shall have been fairly conducted.

(5) The commission shall publish the result of the election and shall thereafter consider and determine whether the operation of the district within the defined boundaries is administratively practicable and feasible. If the commission determines that the operation of such district is not administratively practicable and feasible, it shall record such determination and deny the petition. If the commission determines that the operation of such district is administratively practicable and feasible, it shall record such determination and shall proceed with the organization of the district in the manner hereinafter provided. In making such determination the commission shall give due regard and weight to the attitudes of the owners of lands lying within the defined boundaries, the number of landowners and qualified electors eligible to vote in the election who shall have voted, the proportion of the votes cast in the election in favor of the creation of the district to the total number of votes cast, the approximate wealth and income of the landowners of the proposed district, the probable expense of carrying on erosion control and other conservation operations within such district, and such other economic and social factors as may be relevant to such determination, having due regard to the legislative determination set forth in section [22-2716](#), Idaho Code; provided however, the commission shall not have authority to determine that the operation of the proposed district within the defined boundaries is administratively practicable and feasible unless at least a majority of the votes cast in the election upon the proposition of creation of the district shall have been cast in favor of the creation of such district.

(6) If the commission determines that the operation of the proposed district within the defined boundaries is administratively practicable and feasible, it shall appoint two (2) supervisors to act, with the three (3) supervisors elected as provided hereinafter, as the governing body of the district. Such district shall be a governmental subdivision of this state and a public body corporate and politic, upon the taking of the following proceedings:

(a) The two (2) appointed supervisors shall present to the secretary of state an application signed by them which shall set forth (and such application need contain no detail other than the mere recitals): (i) that a petition for the creation of the district was filed with the ~~state~~ ~~soil and water~~ conservation commission pursuant to the provisions of

this chapter and that the proceedings specified in this chapter were taken pursuant to such petition; that the application is being filed in order to complete the organization of the district as a governmental subdivision and a public body, corporate and politic, under this chapter; and that the commission has appointed them as supervisors; (ii) the name and official residence of each of the supervisors, together with a certified copy of the appointments evidencing their right to office; (iii) the term of office of each of the supervisors; (iv) the name which is proposed for the district; and (v) the location of the principal office of the supervisors of the district. The application shall be subscribed and sworn to by each of the said supervisors before an officer authorized by the laws of this state to take and certify oaths, who shall certify upon the application that he personally knows the supervisors and knows them to be the officers as affirmed in the application, and that each has subscribed thereto in the officer's presence.

(b) The application shall be accompanied by a statement by the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission, which shall certify (and such statement need contain no detail other than the mere recitals) that a petition was filed, notice issued and hearing held as aforesaid; that the commission did duly determine that there is need, in the interest of the public health, safety and welfare, for a ~~soil~~ conservation district to function in the proposed territory and did define the boundaries thereof; that notice was given and an election held on the question of the creation of such district, and that the result of the election showed a sixty percent (60%) majority of the votes cast in the election to be in favor of the creation of the district; that thereafter the commission did duly determine that the operation of the proposed district is administratively practicable and feasible. The said statement shall set forth the boundaries of the district as they have been defined by the commission.

(c) The secretary of state shall examine the application and statement and, if he finds that the name proposed for the district is not identical with that of any other ~~soil~~ conservation district of this state or so nearly similar as to lead to confusion or uncertainty, he shall receive and file them and shall record them in an appropriate book of record in his office.

(d) If the secretary of state finds that the name proposed for the district is identical with that of any other soil conservation district of this state, or so nearly similar as to lead to confusion and uncertainty, he shall certify such fact to the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission which shall thereupon submit to the secretary of state a new name for the said district, which shall not be subject to such defects. Upon receipt of such new name free of such defects, the secretary of state shall record the application and statement with the name so modified, in an appropriate book of record in his office. When the application and statement have been made, filed and recorded, as herein provided, the district shall constitute a governmental subdivision of this state and a public body corporate and politic. The secretary of state shall make and issue to the said supervisors a certificate under the seal of the state, of the due organization of the said district, and shall record such certificate with the application and statement. The boundaries of such district shall include the territory

as determined by the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission as aforesaid, but in no event shall they include any area included within the boundaries of another ~~soil~~ conservation district organized under the provisions of this chapter except as provided in section [22-2720](#), Idaho Code.

(7) After six (6) months shall have expired from the date of entry of a determination by the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission that operation of a proposed district is not administratively practicable and feasible, and denial of a petition pursuant to such determination, subsequent petitions may be filed as aforesaid, and action taken thereon in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

(8) Petitions for including additional territory within an existing district may be filed with the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission and the proceedings herein provided for in the case of petitions to organize a district shall be observed in the case of petitions for such inclusion. The commission shall prescribe the form for such petitions, which shall be as nearly as may be in the form prescribed in this chapter for petitions to organize a district. Where the total number of landowners in the area proposed for inclusion is less than twenty-five (25), the petition may be filed when signed by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the owners of such area, and in such case no election need be held. In elections upon petitions for such inclusion, all owners of land and qualified electors lying within the proposed additional area shall be eligible to vote.

(9) Incorporated cities, not already included within a district, may be included by presentation of a request of the district approved by the governing body along with a request of the city approved by the mayor and council, to the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission. The commission shall consider and act on such joint request at the earliest convenience. If the joint request is denied, the commission shall so notify the district and city in writing and state the reasons for such denial. After six (6) months shall have expired from the date of denial of such joint request, a subsequent joint request may again be made. If the joint request is approved, the commission shall then cause the necessary papers to be filed with the secretary of state. This shall include an amended legal description of the boundaries of the total district.

[22-2719, added 1957, ch. 218, sec. 5, p. 476; am. 1973, ch. 164, sec. 1, p. 310; am. 1995, ch. 118, sec. 8, p. 430; am. 2010, ch. 279, sec. 4, p. 725.]

22-2720. CONSOLIDATION OF OR DELETION FROM AND ADDITION TO NEW OR EXISTING DISTRICTS. (1) Petitions for consolidating two (2) or more existing districts or for deleting territory from one (1) or more existing districts and adding the deleted territory to one (1) or more existing districts or incorporating the deleted territory into a new district or districts may be filed with the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission on such forms as may be prescribed by the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission.

(2) The petitions provided for in subsection (1) of this section shall be signed by twenty-five (25) landowners in the area proposed to be consolidated or the area proposed to be deleted plus the district or districts to which it is to be added or the territory which is to be included in a new district or districts, as the case may be. Provided however, if two-thirds (2/3) of the landowners of all such territory total less than twenty-five (25), then such lesser number of signatures will suffice for the petition.

(3) Within thirty (30) days after receipt of such a petition, the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission shall cause due notice of hearing on the matter to be given in all of the areas concerned.

(4) At the close of the hearing, the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission shall make and record the following determinations:

(a) Whether or not, in the opinion of the commission, the proposal set forth by the petition would serve the public health, safety and welfare.

(b) Whether or not, in the opinion of the commission, the proposal set forth by the petition is administratively practicable and feasible.

(5) If either or both of the determinations made under subsection (4) of this section are in the negative, the matter is closed. Provided however, after six (6) months have expired from the date of such determination, a new petition may be filed involving substantially the same proposals.

(6) If both of the determinations made under subsection (4) of this section are in the affirmative and if the proposal involves the consolidation of two (2) or more existing districts or if the proposal involves the deletion of territory from one (1) or more districts and the addition of that territory to another existing district or districts, then the commission shall proceed to effect the change as per the commission's determinations herein-before referred to. The ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission shall effect the change by filing with the secretary of state a sworn statement of a member of the commission stating:

(a) The name of the district or districts which are consolidated, if any;

(b) The name of the district or districts from which the territory is deleted or added, if any; and

(c) A description of the boundaries of the consolidated district or of the territory remaining in the district or districts deleted from and the district or districts added to, according to the commission's determination.

From and after the time of filing of such statement with the secretary of state, the changes will be effective. If the name of a district formed by the consolidation of two (2) or more existing districts differs from that of either of the consolidated districts, the secretary of state shall issue and record a new certificate of organization of said district.

(7) Within ten (10) days after the filing of a statement providing for the formation of a consolidated district as prescribed in subsection (6) of this section, the supervisors of each district involved in the consolidation shall meet and, from their number, shall designate a chairman of the consolidated district. Incumbent supervisors of districts involved in a consolidation may serve until any such supervisor's term expires. Any vacancy on the governing body of a district formed by consolidation shall not be filled until only five (5) supervisors, or seven (7) upon written request pursuant to section [22-2721](#), Idaho Code, remain on the governing body of such district. Thereafter, vacancies shall be filled consistent with procedures prescribed in section [22-2721](#), Idaho Code.

(8) A district formed by the consolidation of two (2) or more districts shall receive a sum not to exceed eight thousand five hundred dollars (\$8,500) for each district involved in the formation of the consolidated district for a period of three (3) years after the formation of such district. The maximum allocation of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) per district set forth in section [22-2727](#), Idaho Code, shall not apply to a district formed by consolidation for a period of three (3) years following

the formation of such district. Upon expiration of the three (3) year time period, a district formed by consolidation shall be treated as one (1) district and shall be subject to all provisions of section [22-2727](#), Idaho Code.

(9) The office of any district supervisor is hereby declared to be vacant when, after the deletion of territory, such district supervisor is no longer a landowner within the district deleted from.

(10) If both of the determinations made under subsection (4) of this section are in the affirmative and if the proposal involves the addition of territory deleted from one (1) or more existing districts to other territory thus forming a new district, a referendum shall be held and other procedures followed as in cases involving the original formation of a district where no existing district is involved. In such a case, due notice shall be given in the area which may comprise the new district.

(11) If a new district is formed under the procedure prescribed in subsection (10) of this section, part of the area which is composed of an old district, the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission shall cause to be filed with the secretary of state a sworn statement of a member of the commission stating:

- (a) The name of the district or districts deleted from; and
- (b) A description of the boundaries of the territory remaining in the district or districts deleted from.

From and after the time of filing of such statement with the secretary of state, the change in the boundaries of the existing districts shall be effective.

[22-2720, added 1957, ch. 218, sec. 6, p. 476; am. 2010, ch. 279, sec. 5, p. 729.]

22-2721. ELECTION, APPOINTMENT, QUALIFICATIONS AND TENURE OF SUPERVISORS. (1) The governing body of the district shall consist of five (5) super—visors, elected or appointed as provided in this chapter. Elections shall be conducted pursuant to the provisions of this section and the uniform district election law, [chapter 14, title 34](#), Idaho Code. If at any time the supervisors of a district deem it necessary, they may request permission from the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission to increase the number of supervisors to seven (7). Upon receipt of such a request in writing, signed by all five (5) supervisors, stating a valid reason for such need, the commission shall grant permission. The additional supervisors shall then be appointed as outlined in this section until such time as regular district elections for two (2) supervisors in each district. At that time those districts having seven (7) supervisors shall then elect four (4) supervisors for four (4) year terms. The two (2) supervisors appointed by the district shall be persons who are by training and experience qualified to perform the specialized services which will be required of them in the performance of their duties. All supervisors shall be landowners or farmers of the district where they are elected or appointed and shall be registered to vote in the state of Idaho.

(2) Within thirty (30) days after the date of issuance by the secretary of state of a certificate of organization of a ~~soil~~ conservation district, nominating petitions may be filed with the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission to nominate candidates for supervisors of each district. The county clerk shall conduct the election for the district in compliance with [chapter 14, title 34](#), Idaho Code, and shall be the election official for the

district. The election official shall have authority to extend the time within which nominating petitions may be filed. Nominating petitions shall be filed with the secretary of the district, and no such nominating petition shall be accepted by the election official unless it shall be subscribed by not less than five (5) persons who are qualified electors owning land or residing within the boundaries of the district. The election official shall give due notice of an election to be held, subject to the provisions of section [34-106](#), Idaho Code, for the election of three (3) supervisors for the district. The names of all nominees on behalf of whom such nominating petitions have been filed within the time herein designated shall appear upon ballots, with directions to choose three (3) names to indicate the voter's preference. The three (3) candidates who shall receive the largest number, respectively, of the votes cast in such election shall be the elected supervisors for such district.

(3) All elections in districts shall be conducted by the county clerk. Such election shall be held on the first Tuesday succeeding the first Monday of November in each even-numbered year. Such elections shall be in compliance with the provisions of [chapter 14, title 34](#), Idaho Code, and shall be supervised and conducted by the county clerk. The cost of conducting such elections shall be borne by the county that conducted the election. The county clerk shall certify to the ~~soil and water~~ conservation district the names of the elected supervisors. The ~~soil and water~~ conservation district shall issue certificates of election to each elected supervisor so certified. The county clerk or county clerks of the county or counties in which the district is located shall conduct the election for the ~~soil~~ conservation district, and the county clerk must provide a ballot for the district election and must provide a process that allows only qualified electors of the district to vote in that district's election.

(4) In any election for supervisor, if after the deadline for filing a declaration of intent as a write-in candidate, it appears that the number of qualified candidates who have been nominated is equal to the number of supervisors to be elected, it shall not be necessary for the candidates to stand for election, and the board of supervisors shall declare such candidates elected as supervisors, and the ~~soil and water~~ conservation district shall immediately make and deliver to such persons certificates of election.

(5) The supervisors shall designate a chairman and may, from time to time, change such designation. The term of office of each supervisor shall be four (4) years commencing on the first day of January next following election, except that the two (2) supervisors who are first appointed shall be designated to serve for terms of two (2) years. A supervisor shall hold office until a qualified successor has been elected or appointed. Vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term. The selection of successors to fill an unexpired term, or for a full term shall be made by a vote of the majority of the supervisors duly qualified and acting at the time the vacancy shall arise and the supervisors shall certify the name of the appointed supervisor to the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission. The ~~soil~~ conservation district shall issue a certificate of such appointment.

(6) A majority of the supervisors shall constitute a quorum and the concurrence of a majority in any matter within their duties shall be required for its determination. A supervisor shall be entitled to expenses, including travel expense, necessarily incurred in the discharge of duties. A supervisor shall receive no compensation for services from regular district funds, county funds authorized in section [22-2726](#), Idaho Code, or state funds authorized in section [22-2727](#), Idaho Code.

(7) In the event the district has a special project, approved by the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission, making project funds available from federal or other sources, a supervisor may receive

compensation not to exceed thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) per day plus actual and necessary expenses from project funds for services directly related to the project.

(8) The supervisors may employ a secretary, technical experts, and such other officers, agents, and employees, permanent and temporary as they may require, and shall determine their qualifications, duties and compensation. The supervisors may call upon the attorney general of the state for such legal services as they may require or may employ their own counsel and legal staff. The supervisors may delegate to their chairman, to one (1) or more supervisors, or to one (1) or more agents, or employees, such powers and duties as they may deem proper. The supervisors shall furnish to the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission, upon request, copies of such ordinances, rules, orders, contracts, forms and other documents as they shall adopt or employ, and such other information concerning the supervisors' activities as the commission may require in the performance of the commission's duties under this chapter.

(9) The supervisors shall provide for the execution of surety bonds for all employees and officers who shall be entrusted with funds or property; they shall provide for the keeping of a full and accurate record of all proceedings and of all resolutions, and orders issued or adopted; and shall provide for independent financial audits in accordance with the provisions of section 67-450B, Idaho Code. Supervisors shall be subject to recall in accordance with the provisions of [chapter 17, title 34](#), Idaho Code.

(10) The supervisors may invite the legislative body of a municipality or county located near the territory comprised within the district to designate a representative to advise and consult with the supervisors of the district on all questions of program and policy which may affect the property, water supply, or other interests of such municipality or county.

[22-2721, added 1957, ch. 218, sec. 7, p. 476; am. 1963, ch. 30, sec. 1, p. 171; am. 1973, ch. 59, sec. 1, p. 97; am. 1978, ch. 280, sec. 1, p. 679; am. 1986, ch. 179, sec. 1, p. 469; am. 1990, ch. 3, sec. 1, p. 4; am. 1995, ch. 118, sec. 9, p. 434; am. 1995, ch. 256, sec. 1, p. 837; am. 1997, ch. 180, sec. 4, p. 502; am. 1999, ch. 78, sec. 1, p. 222; am. 2000, ch. 4, sec. 2, p. 5; am. 2008, ch. 383, sec. 1, p. 1053; am. 2009, ch. 341, sec. 4, p. 994; am. 2010, ch. 279, sec. 6, p. 731; am. 2010, ch. 279, sec. 7, p. 733; am. 2011, ch. 11, sec. 2, p. 24; am. 2012, ch. 211, sec. 1, p. 571.]

22-2722. POWERS OF DISTRICTS AND SUPERVISORS. A ~~soil~~ conservation district organized under the provisions of this chapter shall constitute a governmental subdivision of this state, and a public body corporate and politic, exercising public powers, and such district, and the supervisors thereof, shall have the following powers, in addition to others granted in other sections of this chapter:

(1) To conduct surveys, investigations, and research relating to the character of soil erosion, floodwater and sediment damages, for the conservation, development, utilization, and disposal of water and the prevention and control measures, and works of improvement needed, to publish results of such surveys, investigations, or research, and to disseminate information concerning such preventive and control measures and works of improvement;

provided, however, that in order to avoid duplication of research activities, no district shall initiate any research program except in cooperation with the government of this state or any of its agencies or with the United States or any of its agencies;

(2) To conduct demonstrational projects within the district on lands owned or controlled by this state or any of its agencies, with the cooperation of the agency administering and having jurisdiction thereof, and on any other lands within the district upon obtaining the consent of the owner of such lands or the necessary rights of interests in such lands, in order to demonstrate by example the means, methods, and measures by which soil and soil resources may be conserved, and soil erosion in the form of soil-blowing and soil-washing may be prevented and controlled; works of improvement for flood prevention and the conservation, development, utilization, and disposal of water may be carried out;

(3) To carry out preventive and control measures and works of improvement for flood prevention or the conservation, development, utilization, and disposal of water within the districts including, but not limited to, engineering operations, methods of cultivation, the growing of vegetation, changes in use of land, and other appropriate best management practices, on lands owned or controlled by this state or any of its agencies, with the cooperation of the agency administering and having jurisdiction thereof, and on any other lands within the district upon obtaining the consent of the owner of such lands or the necessary rights or interests in such lands;

(4) To cooperate, or enter into agreements with, and within the limits of appropriations duly made available to it by law, to furnish financial or other aid, to any agency, governmental or otherwise, or any owner of lands within the district, in carrying on erosion control and prevention operations and works of improvement for flood prevention and the conservation, development, utilization, and disposal of water within the district, subject to such conditions as the supervisors may deem necessary to advance the purpose of this chapter;

(5) To obtain options upon and to acquire, by purchase, exchange, lease, gift, grant, bequest, devise, or otherwise, any property, real or personal, or rights or interests therein and all such property shall be exempt from taxation for state, county and municipal purposes; to maintain, administer, and improve any properties acquired, to receive income from such properties and to expend such income in carrying out the purposes and provisions of this chapter; to sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of any of its property or interests therein in furtherance of the purposes and provisions of this chapter;

(6) To make available, on such terms as it shall prescribe, to landowners within the district, agricultural and engineering machinery or equipment, as will assist such landowners to carry on operations upon their lands for the conservation of soil resources and for the prevention and control of soil erosion and for flood prevention or the conservation, development, utilization, and disposal of water;

(7) To construct, improve, operate and maintain such structures as may be necessary or convenient for the performance of any of the operations authorized in this chapter;

(8) To develop comprehensive plans for the conservation of soil resources and for the control and prevention of soil erosion and for flood prevention or the conservation, development, utilization, and disposal of water within the district, which plans shall specify in such detail as



may be possible, the acts, procedures, performances, and avoidances which are necessary or desirable for the effectuation of such plans, including the specifications of engineering operations, method of cultivation, the growing of vegetation, cropping programs, tillage practices, and changes in use of land, and to publish such plans and information and bring them to the attention of occupiers of lands within the district;

(9) To take over, by purchase, lease, or otherwise, and to administer, any soil conservation, flood prevention, erosion control, or erosion prevention project, or combination thereof, located within its boundaries undertaken by the United States or any of its agencies, or by this state or any of its agencies; to manage, as agent of the United States or any of its agencies; or of this state or any of its agencies, any soil conservation, flood prevention, erosion control, or erosion prevention project, or combination thereof, within its boundaries; to act as agent for the United States, or any of its agencies, or for this state or any of its agencies, in connection with the acquisition, construction, operation, or administration of any soil-conservation, flood-prevention, erosion-control, or erosion-prevention project, or combination thereof, within its boundaries; to accept donations, gifts, and contributions in money, services, materials, or otherwise, from the United States or any of its agencies, or from this state or any of its agencies, and use or expend such moneys, services, material, or other contributions in carrying on its operations;

(10) To sue and be sued in the name of the district; to have a seal, which seal shall be judicially noticed; to have perpetual succession unless terminated as hereinafter provided; to make and execute contracts and other instruments, necessary or convenient to the exercise of its powers; to make, and from time to time amend and repeal, rules not inconsistent with this chapter, to carry into effect its purposes and powers;

(11) As a condition to the extending of any benefits under this chapter to, or the performance of work upon, any lands not owned or controlled by this state or any of its agencies, the supervisors may require contributions in moneys, services, materials, or otherwise to any operations conferring such benefits, and may require landowners to enter into and perform such agreements or covenants as to permanent use of such lands as will tend to prevent or control erosion and prevent floodwater and sediment damages thereon;

(12) No provisions with respect to the acquisition, operation, or disposition of property by other public bodies shall be applicable to a district organized hereunder unless the legislature shall specifically so state.

[22-2722, added 1957, ch. 218, sec. 8, p. 476; am. 2003, ch. 107, sec. 5, p. 341.]

22-2723. COOPERATION BETWEEN DISTRICTS. The supervisors of any two (2) or more districts may cooperate with one another in the exercise of any or all powers conferred in this chapter.

[22-2723, added 1957, ch. 218, sec. 9, p. 476; am. 2010, ch. 279, sec. 8, p. 736.]

22-2724. STATE AGENCIES TO COOPERATE. Agencies of this state which shall have jurisdiction over, or be charged with the administration of, any state-owned lands, and of any county, or other governmental subdivision of the state, which shall have jurisdiction over, or charged with the administration of, any county-owned or other publicly owned lands, lying within the

boundaries of any district shall cooperate to the fullest extent with the supervisors of such districts in the effectuation of programs and operations undertaken by the supervisors under the provisions of this chapter. The supervisors of such district shall be given free access to enter and perform work upon such publicly owned lands.

[22-2724, added 1957, ch. 218, sec. 10, p. 476; am. 2010, ch. 279, sec. 9, p. 736.]

22-2725. DISCONTINUANCE OF DISTRICTS. (1) At any time after five (5) years after the organization of a district under the provisions of this chapter, any twenty-five (25) owners of land lying within the boundaries of such district may file a petition with the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission requesting that the operations of the district be terminated and the existence of the district discontinued. The commission may conduct such public meetings and public hearings upon such petition as may be necessary to assist it in the consideration thereof. Within sixty (60) days after such petition has been received by the commission, it shall give due notice to the county clerk of the holding of an election, subject to the provisions of section [34-106](#), Idaho Code, and the county clerk shall supervise the election, and issue appropriate regulations governing such election as are consistent with [chapter 14, title 34](#), Idaho Code, the question to be submitted by ballots upon which the words "For terminating the existence of the . . . . (name of the ~~soil~~ conservation district to be here inserted)" shall appear, with a square before each proposition and a direction to mark the ballot as the voter may favor or oppose discontinuance of such district. All qualified electors who reside within the proposed district shall be eligible to vote in said election. No informalities in the conduct of the election or in any matters relating thereto shall invalidate the election or the result thereof if notice thereof shall have been given substantially as herein provided and the election shall have been fairly conducted.

(2) The commission shall publish the result of the election and shall thereafter consider and determine whether the continued operation of the district within the defined boundaries is administratively practicable and feasible. If the commission determines that the continued operation of such district is administratively practicable and feasible, it shall record such determination and deny the petition. If the commission determines that the continued operation of such district is not administratively practicable and feasible, it shall record such determination and shall certify such determination to the supervisors of the district. In making such determination the commission shall give due regard and weight to the attitudes of the owners of lands lying within the district, the number of residents eligible to vote in the election who shall have voted, the proportion of the votes cast in the election in favor of the discontinuance of the district to the total number of votes cast, the approximate wealth and income of the landowners of the district, the probable expense of carrying on such erosion-control operations within such district, and such other economic and social factors as may be relevant to such determination, having due regard to the legislative findings set forth in section [22-2716](#), Idaho Code, provided however, that the commission shall not have authority to determine that the continued operation of the district is administratively practicable and feasible unless at least a majority of the votes cast in the election shall have been cast in favor of the continuance of such district.

(3) Upon receipt from the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission of a certificate that the commission has determined that the continued operation of the district is not administratively practicable and feasible pursuant to the provisions of this section, the supervisors shall forthwith proceed to terminate the affairs of the district. The supervisors shall dispose of all property belonging to the district at public auction and shall pay over the proceeds of such sale to be covered into the state treasury. The supervisors shall thereupon file an application duly verified, with the secretary of state for the discontinuance of such district, and shall transmit with such application the certificate of the ~~state~~ conservation commission setting forth the determination of the commission that the continued operation of such district is not administratively practicable and feasible. The application shall recite that the property of the district has been disposed of and the proceeds paid over as in this section provided and shall set forth a full accounting of such properties and proceeds of the sale. The secretary of state shall issue to the supervisors a certificate of dissolution and shall record such certificate in an appropriate book of record in his office.

(4) Upon issuance of a certificate of dissolution under the provisions of this section, all contracts theretofore entered into, to which the district or supervisors are parties, shall remain in force and effect for the period provided in such contracts. The ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission shall be substituted for the district or supervisors as party to such contracts.

(5) The ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission shall not entertain petitions for the discontinuance of any district nor conduct elections upon such petitions nor make determinations pursuant to such petitions in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, more often than once in five (5) years.

[22-2725, added 1957, ch. 218, sec. 11, p. 476; am. 1995, ch. 118, sec. 10, p. 437; am. 2009, ch. 341, sec. 5, p. 997; am. 2010, ch. 279, sec. 10, p. 736; am. 2010, ch. 279, sec. 11, p. 737.]

22-2726. FUNDS OR ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY COUNTY FROM COUNTY GENERAL FUND. In those counties of Idaho wherein all or a substantial part of the county has been created and is operating as a ~~soil~~ conservation district or districts under the provisions of [chapter 27, title 22](#), section [22-2719](#), Idaho Code, or any amendment thereto, the board of county commissioners may, from time to time, at their discretion and upon request of the supervisors of such ~~soil~~ conservation districts provide in their budget a sufficient amount of money from the county general fund for allocation to the districts to be used by the districts for any purposes authorized by law, or in lieu of such allocation the county commissioners at their discretion may assign or hire an employee or employees of the county to assist the supervisors in the performance of the work of their office. The duties of such employee or employees shall be under the direct supervision of the supervisors of each ~~soil~~ conservation district.

[22-2726, added 1963, ch. 14, sec. 1, p. 149; am. 1969, ch. 217, sec. 1, p. 711; am. 1976, ch. 17, sec. 1, p. 48; am. 1984, ch. 16, sec. 1, p. 18; am. 1990, ch. 358, sec. 1, p. 967.]

22-2727. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS TO DISTRICTS. (1) A public hearing shall be held by the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission on or before June 15 of each year and twenty (20) days' written notice of such hearing shall be given to each ~~soil~~ conservation district and to all other persons requesting notice of such hearing. At the hearing the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission shall consider the needs of each ~~soil~~ conservation district and shall base its request for state funds for the soil conservation districts upon the budgets, budget requests, district programs and work plans, and work load analysis of the various ~~soil~~ conservation districts.

(2) All funds appropriated by the state for the various soil conservation districts shall be appropriated to the Idaho ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission and shall be allocated by the commission equally to the various ~~soil~~ conservation districts on the basis of the criteria established in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) Funds appropriated to the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission for distribution to ~~soil~~ conservation districts shall be allocated by the commission equally to the various ~~soil~~ conservation districts in a sum not to exceed eight thousand five hundred dollars (\$8,500) per district. All funds appropriated to the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission for distribution to ~~soil~~ conservation districts in excess of eight thousand five hundred dollars (\$8,500) per district shall be allocated by the commission to the various ~~soil~~ conservation districts in a sum not to exceed twice the amount of funds or services allocated to each district by the county commissioners in the previous fiscal year and funds or services allocated to each district by authorized officials or other local units of government or organizations in the previous fiscal year, provided that any such allocation by the commission shall not exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to any one (1) district in a fiscal year.

(4) The ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission shall adopt rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

[I.C., sec. 22-2727, as added by 1969, ch. 217, sec. 2, p. 711; am. 1984, ch. 16, sec. 2, p. 19; am. 1990, ch. 358, sec. 2, p. 967; am. 1991, ch. 80, sec. 1, p. 181; am. 2010, ch. 279, sec. 12, p. 739.]

#### 22-2730. RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND RANGELAND DEVELOPMENT FUND

CREATED. (1) There is hereby created in the state treasury a fund to be known as the Idaho resource conservation and rangeland development fund, which shall consist of all moneys which may be appropriated to it by the legislature or made available to it from federal, private or other sources. The state treasurer is directed to invest all unobligated moneys in the fund. All interest and other income accruing from such investments shall accrue to the fund. The ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission may expend from the fund such sums as it shall deem necessary for any of the conservation improvements, projects and programs provided for under this chapter under such terms and conditions provided for in the commission's rules and the water quality program for agriculture.

(2) The ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission shall establish a priority list for conservation improvements ad projects and the water quality program for agriculture. The priority list shall be used as the method for allocation of funds loaned under this chapter.

**Commented [CKS2]:** Because ISWCC can only make loans from the fund it can't provide money to WQPA because it is a cost share program.

[22-2730, added 1985, ch. 116, sec. 1, p. 240; am. 1992, ch. 270, sec. 4, p. 839; am. 1999, ch. 137, sec. 3, p. 388; am. 2003, ch. 107, sec. 7, p. 344; am. 2010, ch. 279, sec. 13, p. 739.]

22-2731. ALLOCATION OF FUND. The Idaho resource conservation and rangeland development fund shall be allocated for use by the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission:

(1) To eligible applicants for conservation improvements which it deems to be "in the public interest" in such amounts as are necessary for the implementation of conservation measures identified in a conservation plan;

(2) To eligible applicants for the purpose of conservation improvements on rangelands, agricultural lands and riparian lands, which will provide environmental enhancement to soil, water, wildlife and related resources;

(3) For the purpose of implementing conservation improvements and 212qq22q7 projects ~~and the water quality program for agriculture.~~

[22-2731, added 1985, ch. 116, sec. 1, p. 241; am. 1992, ch. 270, sec. 5, p. 839; am. 1999, ch. 137, sec. 4, p. 389; am. 2003, ch. 107, sec. 8, p. 344; am. 2010, ch. 279, sec. 14, p. 740.]

22-2732. LOANS FROM FUND -- APPLICATION -- APPROVAL -- REPAYMENT. (1) Eligible applicants may file an application with the local ~~soil~~ conservation district or the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission for a loan from the fund for the purpose of financing conservation improvement cost. Such application shall be filed in such a manner and shall be in such form, and be accompanied by such information as may be prescribed by the commission. Any such application filed with the district or the commission under the provisions of this chapter shall:

(a) Describe the nature and purposes of the improvements or projects;

(b) Set forth or be accompanied by a conservation plan approved by the local ~~soil~~ conservation district or the commission that identifies the conservation improvements, or projects, together with such technical and economic feasibility data and estimated costs as may be required by the commission;

(c) State whether money other than that for which application is made under this chapter will be used for improvement costs, and whether such money is available or has been sought for this purpose;

(d) Show that the applicant holds or can acquire title to all lands or has necessary easements and rights-of-way for the improvements; and

(e) Show the proposed project is feasible from a technical standpoint and economically justified.

(2) The local ~~soil~~ conservation districts and the commission shall keep each other informed of applications received. Within sixty (60) days of receipt of an application, the local conservation district or the commission shall review and evaluate, and if it deems necessary, investigate aspects of the proposed improvements. As part of such investigation, the district or the commission shall determine whether the plan for development of the conservation improvements is satisfactory. If the district or the commission determines the plan is unsatisfactory, it shall return the application to the applicant and may make such recommendations to the applicant as are considered necessary to make the plan satisfactory. If the district or the commission determines the plan and application are satisfactory, it shall be considered for funding.

(3) The commission may approve a loan for conservation improvements if after review, evaluation and investigation if necessary, it finds that:

- (a) The applicant is qualified and responsible;
- (b) There is reasonable assurance that the borrower can repay the loan; and
- (c) That money in the resource conservation and rangeland development fund is available for the loan.

(4) If the commission approves a loan, the applicant shall execute a promissory note for repayment to the account of money loaned therefrom, together with interest not to exceed six percent (6%) annually as determined by the commission. The note shall further provide that repayment of the loan, together with interest thereon, shall commence not later than two (2) full years from the date the note is signed. Repayment shall be completed within the time period specified by the commission not to exceed fifteen (15) years, except that the commission may extend the time for making repayment in event of emergency or hardship. Such agreement shall also provide for such assurance of, and security for, repayment of the loan as are considered necessary by the commission.

(5) Upon approval of the loan and securing all necessary documents, the commission will make available, in approved form, project or contract funding.

(6) If an applicant fails to comply with the repayment contract, the interest in the improvement may be conveyed to a successor upon approval by the commission, which may contract with the qualified successor in interest of the original obligor for repayment of the loan, together with interest thereon, and for succession to its rights and obligation in any contract with the commission.

[22-2732, added 1985, ch. 116, sec. 1, p. 241; am. 1992, ch. 270, sec. 6, p. 839; am. 1999, ch. 62, sec. 1, p. 164; am. 1999, ch. 137, sec. 5, p. 389; am. 2010, ch. 279, sec. 15, p. 740.]

22-2733. GRANTS FROM ~~STATE SOIL AND WATER~~ CONSERVATION COMMISSION GENERAL FUND -- APPLICATION -- APPROVAL -- GRANT AGREEMENT. (1) Eligible applicants or participants may file an application with the local ~~soil~~ conservation district or the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission for a grant from the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission general fund for the purpose of financing conservation improvements, projects and implementation of the water quality program for agriculture. Such application shall be filed in such a manner and shall be in such form, and be accompanied by such information as may be prescribed by the commission; provided however, any such application filed with the district or the commission under the provisions of this section shall:

- (a) Describe the nature and purpose of the improvements or conservation plan implementation project;
- (b) Set forth or be accompanied by an improvement project plan approved by the local ~~soil~~ conservation district or the commission that identifies the practices to be applied, together with such technical and economic feasibility data and estimated costs as may be required by the commission;
- (c) State whether money other than that for which application is made under this section will be used for improvement project or conservation plan implementation costs, and whether such money is available or has been sought for this purpose; and

(d) Show that the applicant or participant holds or can acquire title to all lands or has necessary easements and rights-of-way to implement the project plan.

(2) The commission and local ~~soil~~ conservation district will keep each other informed of grant applications received. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of an application, the local ~~soil~~ conservation district or the commission shall review and evaluate and, if deemed necessary, investigate all aspects of the proposed improvement, project or conservation plan. As part of such investigation, the district or the commission shall determine whether the project plan is satisfactory. If the district or the commission determines that the plan is unsatisfactory, it shall return the application to the applicant or participant and the district or the commission may make such recommendations to the applicant or participant as are considered necessary to make the plan satisfactory. If the commission determines either the plan or a plan revised pursuant to recommendation of the district or commission is satisfactory, it shall be considered for funding.

(3) The commission may approve a grant if after review, evaluation and investigation if necessary, it finds that:

- (a) The applicant or participant is qualified and responsible;
- (b) The improvement, project or conservation plan demonstrates public benefits; and
- (c) That money in the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission general fund is available for the grant.

(4) If the commission approves a grant, the applicant or participant shall enter into an agreement covering the grant offer and acceptance of the grant for implementing the improvement, project or conservation plan. The agreement shall be improvement, project or conservation plan specific. The terms and conditions shall be those specified by the commission.

(5) Upon approval of the grant and securing all necessary documents, the commission will make available, in the approved form, project or contract funding.

[22-2733, added 1992, ch. 270, sec. 7, p. 841; am. 1999, ch. 137, sec. 6, p. 391; am. 2003, ch. 107, sec. 9, p. 344; am. 2010, ch. 279, sec. 16, p. 741.]

22-2734. COST-SHARE FROM ~~STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION GENERAL FUND -- APPLICATION -- APPROVAL~~. (1) Eligible applicants or participants may file an application with the local ~~soil~~ conservation district or the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission for a cost-share contract ]  
or project from the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission general fund for the purpose of financing agricultural, grazing or other conservation improvements, projects or implementation of the water quality program for agriculture. Such application shall be filed in such a manner and shall be in such form and be accompanied by such information as may be prescribed by the commission; provided however, any such application filed with the district or the commission under the provisions of this section shall:

- (a) Describe the nature and purposes of the improvements and projects requiring cost-sharing;
- (b) Set forth or be accompanied by a plan that identifies the conservation improvements or projects, together with such technical and economic feasibility data and estimated costs as may be required by the commission;

(c) State whether money other than that for which application is made under this section will be used for costs, and whether such money is available or has been sought for this purpose; and

(d) Show the proposed project is feasible from a technical standpoint and is economically justified.

(2) The commission and the local ~~soil~~ conservation district will keep each other informed of cost-share applications received. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of an application, the local ~~soil~~ conservation district or the commission shall review and evaluate and, if deemed necessary, investigate all aspects of the proposed contract or project. As part of such investigation, the district or the commission shall determine whether the plan for development of the conservation improvements or projects is satisfactory. If the district or the commission determines the plan is unsatisfactory, it shall return the application to the applicant or participant and the district or the commission may make such recommendations to the applicant or participant as are considered necessary to make the application satisfactory. When the commission determines either the application or an application revised pursuant to recommendation of the district or commission is satisfactory, it shall be considered for funding.

(3) The commission may approve a cost-share contract to an applicant or participant for conservation projects and improvements if, after review, evaluation and investigation, it finds that:

(a) The applicant or participant is qualified and responsible;

(b) The conservation improvement or project demonstrates public benefit;

(c) There is reasonable assurance that the applicant or participant will adhere to contract terms; and

(d) Money is available in the ~~state soil and water~~ conservation commission general fund for cost-share.

(4) Upon approval of the cost-share contract ~~or cost share grant~~, and securing of all necessary documents, the commission will make funding available.

[22-2734, added 1999, ch. 137, sec. 7, p. 392; am. 2003, ch. 107, sec. 10, p. 345; am. 2010, ch. 279, sec. 17, p. 742.]

22-2735. PAYMENTS BY THE ~~STATE SOIL AND WATER~~ CONSERVATION COMMISSION -- RULES -- APPROVAL OF ATTORNEY GENERAL -- AUDIT OF PAYMENTS. (1) The commission may make payments not to exceed the estimated reasonable cost of an eligible improvement, project or plan.

(2) The commission may, in the name of the state of Idaho, enter into contracts with approved applicants, and any such approved applicants may enter into a contract with the commission concerning eligible improvements, projects or plans. Any such contract may include such provisions as may be agreed upon by the parties thereto, and shall include, in substance, the following provisions:

(a) An estimate of the reasonable cost of the improvements, projects or plans as determined by the commission;

(b) The terms under which the commission may unilaterally terminate the contract and/or seek repayment from the applicant of sums already paid pursuant to the contract for noncompliance by the applicant with the terms and conditions of the contract and the provisions of this chapter;

(c) An agreement by the applicant binding for the life of the eligible improvements, projects or plans:



- (i) To develop water quality plans for landowners and provide payments to landowners for installation of best management practices;
- (ii) To determine payment rates in conjunction with the commission for best management practices;
- (iii) To establish a method for administration and provisions for technical assistance to landowners in conjunction with the commission;
- (iv) To allow the state to make payments up to the estimated reasonable cost for best management practices installation, technical assistance and project administration of an eligible project;
- (v) To develop and to secure the approval of the commission of plans for operation of the eligible project;
- (vi) To ensure that the local matching share of the cost is provided as applicable;
- (vii) To assure an adequate level of landowner participation and application of best management practices to ensure water quality goals are met.

(3) The commission may enter into contracts to provide technical assistance to applicants that have entered agreements pursuant to this chapter. Any such contract may include such provisions agreed upon by the parties thereto and shall include, in substance, the following provisions:

- (a) An estimate of the reasonable cost of technical assistance;
- (b) The terms under which the commission may unilaterally terminate the contract, and/or seek repayment of sums paid pursuant to the contract, for noncompliance by the applicants with the terms and conditions of the contract, the provisions of this chapter, or rules adopted pursuant thereto.

(4) The commission may enter into contracts and establish procedures to be followed in applying for eligible improvements, projects and plans herein authorized as shall be necessary for the effective administration of the water quality program for agriculture.

(5) All contracts entered into pursuant to this section shall be subject to approval by the attorney general as to form. All payments by the state pursuant to such contracts shall be made after audit and upon warrant as provided by law on vouchers approved by the chairman and the administrator of the commission.

(6) All grant agreements and contracts previously entered into with the state board of health and welfare, ~~soil~~-conservation districts and the commission pursuant to section [39-3627](#), Idaho Code, for payments and administration are now to be administered and payments implemented solely by the commission.

[22-2735, added 1999, ch. 137, sec. 8, p. 393; am. 2010, ch. 279, sec. 18, p. 743.]

[Back to Agenda](#)



# Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission

322 E Front St, Suite 560 • Boise Idaho 83702  
Telephone: 208-332-1790 • Fax: 208-332-1799

ITEM #9

## IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC MEETING & TELECONFERENCE

**Date and Time:**

Thursday, August 13, 2020  
10:02 AM – 12:35 PM MT

**Location:**

322 E. Front St., Suite 560  
Boise, Idaho 83702

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### MINUTES

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**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Norman Wright (Chair) (Zoom)  
Jerry Trebesch (teleconference)

Cathy Roemer (Vice-Chair) (teleconference)  
Wendy Pratt (Zoom)

**COMMISSION STAFF PRESENT:**

Teri Murrison  
Rachel Misnick  
Corrine Dalzell (Zoom)  
Chuck Pentzer (Zoom)

Crystal Rosen  
Delwyne Trefz  
Terry Hoebelheinrich (Zoom)

**PARTNERS AND GUESTS PRESENT:**

Mike Sommerville, IASCD (Zoom)  
Benjamin Kelly, IASCD (teleconference)  
Matt Reiber, DFM (Zoom)  
Shantel Chapple Knowlton, Office of the Attorney General (teleconference)

Curtis Elke, NRCS (Zoom)  
David Hahn, DFM (Zoom)  
Stefanie Kazyaka, Elmore SWCD (Zoom)

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**ITEM #1: WELCOME AND ROLL CALL**

Chairman Wright called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Roll call: Chairman Norman Wright, Commissioners Cathy Roemer, Jerry Trebesch, and Wendy Pratt were present. Commissioner Olson was absent.

**ITEM #2: PARTNER REPORTS**

Action: None taken

**ITEM #3: AGENDA REVIEW**

Action: None taken.

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

Action: None taken.

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

Action: None taken.

**ITEM #6: TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD (TMDL) ANNUAL REPORT**

Action: None taken.

**ITEM #7: OTHER REPORTS**

Action: None taken

**ITEM #8: MINUTES**

Action: Commissioner Roemer made a motion to *approve the June 11, 2020 Regular Meeting minutes as submitted*. Commissioner Trebesch seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Action: Commissioner Pratt made a motion to *approve the June 23, 2020 Special Meeting minutes as submitted*. Commissioner Roemer seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Action: Commissioner Pratt made a motion to *approve the July 16, 2020 Special Meeting minutes as submitted*. Commissioner Roemer seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**ITEM #9: FY 2022 BUDGET REQUEST**

Action: Commissioner Roemer made a motion to *approve the FY 2022 Budget Request, granting authority to Administrator to make minor adjustments to request amounts, if necessary*. Commissioner Trebesch seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**ITEM #10: RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND RANGELAND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (RCRDP):  
UPDATE AND ANNUAL SETTING OF INTEREST RATES**

Action: Commissioner Roemer made a motion to *accept the recommended interest rate reduction of ¼ percent*. Commissioner Trebesch seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**ITEM #11: RULEMAKING UPDATES**

Action: Commissioner Roemer made a motion *to approve the Proposed Rule Bulletin Notice and Cost-Benefit Analysis documents for submittal to DFM*. Commissioner Pratt seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**ITEM #12: STATUTE UPDATES**

Action: Commissioner Roemer made a motion *to approve recommended changes to statute as follows:*

1. *Eliminate OnePlan from statute because the program is now defunct*
2. *Remove "Soil" and "Soil and Water" from the statute referring to districts and the commission, standardizing all references instead as "Conservation Districts" and Conservation Commission"*

*And authorize staff to submit the legislative language to DFM for review to allow the proposed changes to be presented to the Legislature for consideration in the 2021 Session.* Commissioner Trebesch seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Trebesch left the meeting at 11:35 AM.

**ITEM #13: FY 2021-2024 STRATEGIC PLAN & FY2020 PERFORMANCE REPORT**

Action: Commissioner Pratt made a motion *to approve the FY 2021-2024 Strategic Plan as submitted*. Commissioner Roemer seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Action: Commissioner Pratt made a motion *to approve the FY 2020 Performance Report as submitted and authorizing the Administrator to make minor changes as necessary prior to submission*. Commissioner Roemer seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 PM. The next Commission Meeting will be held on September 17, 2020 in Boise, Idaho.

Respectfully submitted,

Erik Olson, Secretary

[Back to Agenda](#)



## IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

ITEM #10

**TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT AND COMMISSIONERS ROEMER, TREBESCH, PRATT, OLSON**  
**FROM: RACHEL MISNICK, SENIOR FINANCIAL SPECIALIST**  
**DATE: SEPTEMBER 24, 2020**  
**RE: FINANCIAL REPORTS, FISCAL MATTERS**

### FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Financial Detail and Fund Summary reports as of June 30, 2020, and the year-to-date reports as of July 31, 2020 and August 31, 2020, will be sent under separate cover and will be available at the meeting.

### FY 2022 MINOR BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Our budget request for FY22 was submitted to the Division of Financial Management on August 28. A minor budget adjustment will be submitted this week with a request for the \$3,386 estimated increase in fees for ITS (Information Technology Services). SWCAP (Statewide Cost Allocation Plan) increases expected for FY22 will be entered into the budget request by DFM.

Per an FY22 Agency Budget Request Update from DFM on September 24, 2020, the \$37,100 in estimated increases to General Fund personnel costs, which were required to be shifted out of operating costs, will be added back into the budget as a maintenance increase.

### COMMISSIONER HONORARIUMS

Below is a schedule of the honorarium balances as of September 24, 2020. Included in the schedule are the days and amounts budgeted for each Commissioner for FY21. We are in good standing with the travel budget for Commissioners as we have spent 17% of the honorarium allocation and 7% of the travel budget to date.

Commissioner	Days Budgeted/ Traveled to Date	Benefit Costs included in Honorariums	Honorariums Budgeted	Expended to Date	Projected Balance/ (Overage)
Wright	30 / 3	\$132	\$1,632	\$247	\$1,385
Roemer	20 / 3	\$88	\$1,088	\$265	\$823
Trebesch	10 / 3	\$44	\$544	\$162	\$382
Pratt	20 / 3	\$88	\$1,088	\$161	\$927
Olson	20 / 2	\$88	\$1,088	\$108	\$980
Totals		\$440	\$5,440	\$943	\$4,497

### RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. Approve the Financial Reports for the month ended June 30, 2020
2. Approve the Financial Reports for the month ended July 31, 2020
3. Approve the Financial Reports for the month ended August 31, 2020

### TO BE SENT UNDER SEPARATE COVER:

- Financial Detail Report for June 30, 2020
- Fund Summary Report for June 30, 2020
- Financial Detail Report for July 31, 2020
- Fund Summary Report for July 31, 2020
- Financial Detail Report for August 31, 2020
- Fund Summary Report for August 31, 2020

[Back to Agenda](#)



**SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION  
COMMISSION**

H. Norman Wright  
Chairman

Cathy Roemer  
Vice Chairman

Erik Olson  
Secretary

Gerald Trebesch  
Commissioner

Wendy Pratt  
Commissioner

Teri Murrison  
Administrator

**MEMO**

**TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT AND COMMISSIONERS ROEMER, TREBESCH, PRATT, AND OLSON**  
**FROM: DELWYNE TREFZ, DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR**  
**DATE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2020**  
**RE: DISTRICT ALLOCATIONS WORK GROUP REPORT**  
**RECOMMENDED NOVEMBER DISTRIBUTION OF AVAILABLE FY 2021 MATCH FUNDS**

The District Allocations Work Group (DAWG) met via Zoom on September 14, 2020. Participating DAWG members were Tom Daniel (Boundary SCD, Division I), Julie Burkhardt (Adams SWCD, Division III), Jennifer Jenson (Bear Lake SWCD, Division IV) and ISWCC Commissioner Eric Olson. Staff appreciate the commitment of the DAWG members who help us accomplish the important work of allocating available match funds in a fair and transparent fashion.

Prior to the meeting, all District Financial and Match Reports had been sent to the DAWG on flash drives. During the meeting, the DAWG reviewed each District report and by voice vote acted to recommend which of the funds and services received by each District during FY 2020 were eligible to receive state match funding. Eligibility to receive match funding is based on criteria established by rule (IDAPA 60.05.01, Subchapter B) and detailed in the Reference Manual for Districts. This year the District match recommendation developed by the DAWG is identical to the match recommendation developed by SWCC staff and is attached (attachment 5a-1, FY 2021 District Match Eligibility Recommendation – Joint DAWG & SWCC Staff).

Most of the \$106,060 difference between the value of local support Districts reported and the value recommended as eligible for state match was due to Districts' misunderstanding of what is and is not eligible for match. The one exception involves Blaine SCD, which didn't receive their funds from Blaine County until August 7, 2020. To be eligible for match local funds must be received no later than June 30<sup>th</sup>, the last day of the previous fiscal year, so Blaine SCD will not receive state match for these funds in FY 2021. However, the District will be able to receive match for these County funds next year.

After the DAWG meeting, the match recommendation was distributed to all Districts and they were encouraged to contact SWCC staff if they had questions or concerns related to the recommendation. To date, no District has registered a disagreement with the recommendation.

For FY 2021, \$1,228,100 state general funds were appropriated for distribution to Districts. To date we have disbursed \$525,000 as District base and operations allocations. After accounting for the 5% (\$61,405) reduction in general fund appropriations ordered by the Governor's July 1<sup>st</sup> executive order as well as the \$50,000 of capacity building funds and the \$66,317.40 you directed staff to hold back as protection against future rescissions, \$525,377.60 is available for distribution as District match allocations in November. If you approve the match recommendation presented here, the recommended match fund allocation for each District will be as presented in attachment 5a-2, Recommended District Match Allocations for November 2020 Distribution.

Your action on District match allocations triggers the beginning of a 28-day period during which any person who believes they have been aggrieved by your action may file a petition for judicial review of your action. If no judicial reviews are pending at the end of the 28-day period, SWCC staff will begin processing District match allocations in early November and complete distribution of these funds before the end of November.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Approve the FY 2021 District Allocation Matching Funds to be distributed as recommended by ISWCC staff and DAWG.

**Attachments:**

- FY 2021 District Match Eligibility Recommendation – Joint DAWG & SWCC Staff
- Recommended District Match Allocations for November 2020 Distribution

[Back to Agenda](#)

## FY 2021 DISTRICT MATCH-ELIGIBILITY RECOMMENDATION -- JOINT DAWG &amp; ISWCC STAFF

District	Local Support Submitted on District Report	DAWG & Staff Recommended Match-Eligible Local Support	Comments (see Notes, below)
Ada	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00	
Adams	\$6,900.00	\$6,900.00	
Balanced Rock	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	
Bear Lake	\$12,741.95	\$12,741.95	
Benewah	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	
Blaine	\$18,000.00	\$0.00	County funds deposited 8/7/20, must be rec'd by 6/30/20 to be eligible for FY21 match (1)
Bonner	\$14,500.00	\$14,500.00	
Boundary	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	
Bruneau River	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00	
Butte	\$10,060.00	\$10,060.00	
Camas	\$5,200.00	\$5,200.00	
Canyon	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	
Caribou	\$11,678.00	\$11,438.25	RC&D pymnt for Admin assistance (\$239.75) ineligible (2)
Central Bingham	\$3,850.00	\$3,850.00	
Clark	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	
Clearwater	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	
Custer	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	
East Cassia	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	
East Side	\$25,000.00	\$10,000.00	Volunteer time (\$15,000) ineligible (3)
Elmore	\$12,024.50	\$10,000.00	RC&D (\$1,318.63) and IDF&G (\$705.87) ineligible (2)
Franklin	\$6,800.00	\$6,800.00	
Gem	\$6,250.00	\$6,250.00	
Gooding	\$7,200.00	\$7,200.00	
Idaho	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	
Jefferson	\$21,500.00	\$9,500.00	Volunteer time (\$12,000) ineligible (3)
Kootenai-Shoshone	\$2,225.00	\$2,045.00	Donations from individuals (\$30 + \$100 + \$50) ineligible (4)
Latah	\$18,250.00	\$18,250.00	
Lemhi	\$11,100.00	\$11,100.00	



## FY 2021 DISTRICT MATCH-ELIGIBILITY RECOMMENDATION -- JOINT DAWG &amp; ISWCC STAFF

District	Local Support Submitted on District Report	DAWG & Staff Recommended Match-Eligible Local Support	Comments (see Notes, below)
Lewis	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	
Madison	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00	
Minidoka	\$38,725.94	\$12,000.00	State funds (\$20,644.80) (5), tree sales (\$1,732.39) (6); and pymnt for Direct Seed program admin (\$4,348.75) (2) are ineligible.
Nez Perce	\$53,124.00	\$53,124.00	
North Bingham	\$2,200.00	\$2,200.00	
North Side	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	
Oneida	\$16,500.00	\$16,500.00	
Owyhee	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	
Payette	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	
Portneuf	\$22,500.00	\$22,500.00	
Power	\$8,500.00	\$8,500.00	
Snake River	\$8,500.00	\$8,500.00	
South Bingham	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	
Squaw Creek	\$7,950.00	\$7,950.00	
Teton	\$26,740.43	\$6,851.00	State funds (\$19,889.43) ineligible (5)
Twin Falls	\$8,500.00	\$8,500.00	
Valley	\$15,170.00	\$15,170.00	
Weiser River	\$14,000.00	\$14,000.00	
West Cassia	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	
West Side	\$24,500.00	\$12,500.00	Volunteer time (\$12,000) ineligible (3)
Wood River	\$7,200.00	\$7,200.00	
Yellowstone	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$660,289.82</b>	<b>\$554,230.20</b>	

## NOTES

## 1. Criteria for Match (pg. 19, Reference Manual for Districts)

To qualify for state match funds, local funds and services must meet the following criteria:....

## FY 2021 DISTRICT MATCH-ELIGIBILITY RECOMMENDATION -- JOINT DAWG &amp; ISWCC STAFF

District	Local Support Submitted on District Report	DAWG & Staff Recommended Match-Eligible Local Support	Comments (see Notes, below)
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Funds and services must have been received during the previous fiscal year, i.e., from July 1st of the previous calendar year through June 30th of the current calendar year.

**2. Funds that Do Not Qualify for State Match Funds** (pg. 20, Reference Manual for Districts)

For purposes of calculating the amount of match funds to be distributed to each District, the following funds are not eligible for State match:....

4. Any funding designated for a special project. This includes, but is not limited to, funds received from any agency or individual intended as payment for services rendered (fee-for-service) or performed such as boat washing stations, weed management programs, or equipment rental fees.

**3. Services that Do Not Qualify for State Match Funds** (pg. 20, Reference Manual for Districts)

For purposes of calculating the amount of match funds to be distributed to Districts, the following sources of in-kind services are ineligible:....

5. The value of donated time. The value of time donated from local units of government, organizations or individuals including district supervisors, is not eligible for state match funding.

**4. Funds that Do Not Qualify for State Match Funds** (pg. 20, Reference Manual for Districts)

For purposes of calculating the amount of match funds to be distributed to each District, the following funds are not eligible for State match:....

5. Individual landowner contributions. Funds received from individual landowners are not eligible for state match funding. (Because families are considered to be "organizations", their contributions are eligible for match.)

**5. Funds that Do Not Qualify for State Match Funds** (pg. 20, Reference Manual for Districts)

For purposes of calculating the amount of match funds to be distributed to each District, the following funds are not eligible for State match:....

2. Any State funding. This includes, but is not limited to, funds received from other state agencies, prior District allocations and Water Quality Program for Agriculture cost-share funds.

**6 Funds that Do Not Qualify for State Match Funds** (pg. 20, Reference Manual for Districts)

For purposes of calculating the amount of match funds to be distributed to each District, the following funds are not eligible for State match:....

3. Any funds received from the sale of District assets. Receipts from tree sales, etc., do not qualify

**Recommended District Match Allocations for November, 2020 Distribution**

<b>District</b>	<b>Recommended Match Eligible Local Funds &amp; Services</b>	<b>Match Allowed (2:1, not to exceed \$50,000)</b>	<b>Recommended Match for Distribution November, 2020</b>
Ada	\$60,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
Adams	\$6,900.00	\$13,800.00	\$6,653.97
Balanced Rock	\$9,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$8,679.09
Bear Lake	\$12,741.95	\$25,483.90	\$12,287.61
Benewah	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$4,821.71
Blaine	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bonner	\$14,500.00	\$29,000.00	\$13,982.97
Boundary	\$9,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$8,679.09
Bruneau River	\$2,400.00	\$4,800.00	\$2,314.42
Butte	\$10,060.00	\$20,120.00	\$9,701.29
Camas	\$5,200.00	\$10,400.00	\$5,014.58
Canyon	\$15,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$14,465.14
Caribou	\$11,438.25	\$22,876.50	\$11,030.39
Central Bingham	\$3,850.00	\$7,700.00	\$3,712.72
Clark	\$7,500.00	\$15,000.00	\$7,232.57
Clearwater	\$30,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$28,930.28
Custer	\$6,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$5,786.06
East Cassia	\$6,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$5,786.06
East Side	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$9,643.43
Elmore	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$9,643.43
Franklin	\$6,800.00	\$13,600.00	\$6,557.53
Gem	\$6,250.00	\$12,500.00	\$6,027.14
Gooding	\$7,200.00	\$14,400.00	\$6,943.27
Idaho	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$9,643.43
Jefferson	\$9,500.00	\$19,000.00	\$9,161.26
Kootenai-Shoshone	\$2,045.00	\$4,090.00	\$1,972.08
Latah	\$18,250.00	\$36,500.00	\$17,599.26
Lemhi	\$11,100.00	\$22,200.00	\$10,704.21
Lewis	\$8,000.00	\$16,000.00	\$7,714.74
Madison	\$6,500.00	\$13,000.00	\$6,268.23
Minidoka	\$12,000.00	\$24,000.00	\$11,572.11
Nez Perce	\$53,124.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
North Bingham	\$2,200.00	\$4,400.00	\$2,121.55
North Side	\$12,000.00	\$24,000.00	\$11,572.11
Oneida	\$16,500.00	\$33,000.00	\$15,911.66
Owyhee	\$4,500.00	\$9,000.00	\$4,339.54
Payette	\$9,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$8,679.09
Portneuf	\$22,500.00	\$45,000.00	\$21,697.71
Power	\$8,500.00	\$17,000.00	\$8,196.91

<b>District</b>	<b>Recommended Match Eligible Local Funds &amp; Services</b>	<b>Match Allowed (2:1, not to exceed \$50,000)</b>	<b>Recommended Match for Distribution November, 2020</b>
Snake River	\$8,500.00	\$17,000.00	\$8,196.91
South Bingham	\$2,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$1,928.69
Squaw Creek	\$7,950.00	\$15,900.00	\$7,666.53
Teton	\$6,851.00	\$13,702.00	\$6,606.71
Twin Falls	\$8,500.00	\$17,000.00	\$8,196.91
Valley	\$15,170.00	\$30,340.00	\$14,629.08
Weiser River	\$14,000.00	\$28,000.00	\$13,500.80
West Cassia	\$6,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$5,786.06
West Side	\$12,500.00	\$25,000.00	\$12,054.29
Wood River	\$7,200.00	\$14,400.00	\$6,943.27
Yellowstone	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$4,821.71
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$554,230.20</b>	<b>\$972,212.40</b>	<b>\$525,377.60</b>

[Back to Agenda](#)