



IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING NOTICE & AGENDA

Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission
July 28, 2022, 11:00 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: 884 1676 5351 Zoom Password: 562045

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 so advance arrangements can be made.

1.	WELCOME, SELF-INTRODUCTIONS, AND ROLL CALL	Chairman Wright
* 2.	AGENDA REVIEW (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
3.	PARTNER REPORTS (information only)	
NON-ACTION ITEMS		
4.	ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT <ul style="list-style-type: none">Staffing UpdateWater Quality Program for Agriculture (WQPA) updateCommission Meeting Schedule <u>ACTION:</u> For information only.	Trefz
5.	INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES <ul style="list-style-type: none">Meghan Brooksher: NRC – EmmettMelonie Ziegler: Financial Manager <u>ACTION:</u> For information only.	Trefz/Strickland
6.	PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF FY2022 END OF YEAR FINANCIALS <u>ACTION:</u> For information only.	Ziegler

(*) Action Item

(#) Attachment

ACTION: Staff recommended action for Commission consideration

Thursday, July 28, 2022 Meeting Agenda

Date of Notice: July 21, 2022

	7.	REPORTS <i>Commissioners and staff only, no discussion</i> <u>ACTION:</u> For information only.	Commissioners, Staff
ACTION ITEMS			
*#	8.	FY 2023-2026 STRATEGIC PLAN <u>ACTION:</u> Approve the FY 2023-2026 DRAFT Strategic Plan as presented.	Trefz
POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS			
*	9.	EXECUTIVE SESSION <i>Executive Session is closed to the public. Under the relevant Idaho Code Section(s) noted below, any Board action will be taken publicly in open session directly following Executive Session.</i> <u>ACTION:</u> Move to enter Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Codes § 74-206(1)(d) for the purpose of discussing a loan. <u>Roll Call Vote</u>	Chairman Wright
#	a.	RESOURCE CONSERVATION & RANGELAND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM The Commission will convene in Executive Session to consider approval or denial of a loan application. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loan Application # A-755 <u>ACTION:</u> For consideration and possible action outside of Executive Session	Hoebelheinrich
OPEN SESSION and ADJOURN <i>The next Regular Commission Meeting will be on August 18, 2022, at 10:00 AM MT in Boise, Idaho.</i>			

(*) Action Item

(#) Attachment

ACTION: Staff recommended action for Commission consideration

Thursday, July 28, 2022 Meeting Agenda

Date of Notice: July 21, 2022



**SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION**

H. Norman Wright
Chairman

Erik Olson
Vice Chairman

Wendy Pratt
Secretary

Cathy Roemer
Commissioner

Delwyne Trefz
Administrator

MEMO

**TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT AND COMMISSIONERS
ROEMER, OLSON, AND PRATT**
FROM: DELWYNE TREFZ, ADMINISTRATOR
DATE: JUNE 9, 2022
RE: ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

STAFFING UPDATE

In the last month we have filled two vacancies. June 27th Meghan Brooksher began work as our Emmett-based Natural Resource Conservationist and July was Melonie Ziegler's first day serving as our Financial Specialist, Principal. Staff are excited about everything Meghan and Melonie bring to our team and you will have opportunity to meet them both later during this meeting.

The recent hirings leave us with a three-quarter time Natural Resources Conservationist position vacant. Staff are evaluating where this position can provide the most value to our agency and the Districts we serve and will announce the position when we've determined where to locate it.

WATER QUALITY PROGRAM FOR AGRICULTURE (WQPA) UPDATE

Staff are working with Conservation Districts and landowner participants to complete WQPA grant agreements, which are signed by the sponsoring District and ISWCC, and cost-share contracts, which are signed by the District and the participating landowner. Of the 47 WQPA proposals your board approved for funding, approximately 25% have fully executed grant agreements in place, and approximately 10% have fully executed cost-share contracts. Implementation work has begun on a handful of projects.

Upcoming Commission Meeting Schedule

Below is the tentative Regular Meetings Schedule through November 2022. Meetings are shown in October for scheduling purposes though typically, your Board cancels this meeting to attend Fall Division meetings. The November meeting will be in conjunction with the IASCD Annual Conference in Burley. As has become our tradition, the November Board meeting will be a Listening Session during which Districts are encouraged to bring up and discuss any topic they choose. If additional items come up that need your action, we will add them to the agenda and expand the length of the meeting if necessary.

May 2022 – November 2022 SWCC Meeting Schedule

Date & Time	Location	Meeting Type*
Jul 21, 2022, 10-3 MT	322 E. Front Street, Suite 560, Boise	Regular
Aug 18, 2022, 10-3 MT	322 E. Front Street, Suite 560, Boise	Regular
Sep 15, 2022, 10-3 MT	322 E. Front Street, Suite 560, Boise	Regular
Oct 20, 2022, 10-3 MT	322 E. Front Street, Suite 560, Boise	Regular
Nov 15, 2022, 4-5 MT	Burley	Listening Session

*All meetings listed as Regular Meetings should be held in person and/or via video conference (Zoom) and teleconference. If necessary, additional Special Meetings can be added within the proper public meeting noticing requirements.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: For information only.



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Administrator

ITEM #8

MEMO

**TO: CHAIRMAN WRIGHT AND COMMISSIONERS ROEMER, PRATT,
AND OLSON**
FROM: DELWYNE TREFZ, ADMINISTRATOR
DATE: JULY 14, 2022
RE: FY 2023-2026 STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

The Commission is required by statute to submit an updated and adopted Strategic Plan annually to serve as a guidance document for the agency over next four years. Last year staff worked with our DFM analyst to complete a thorough revision to the Performance Measure Benchmarks contained in the Strategic Plan and these revisions having been carried forward into the attached draft FY 2023-2026 Strategic Plan.

The Board is required to adopt and submit the Strategic Plan to DFM and LSO each year. In previous years, the deadline for submission was late August (August 27th, last year). However, this year the deadline was moved up to July 1st and your staff failed to catch the change until after your June 21st board meeting. To meet this year's deadline, staff submitted a draft of the updated plan prior to July 1st along with a note informing DFM that if your board directed additional changes be made, we would submit a final version after your July meeting. The only changes staff made to last year's Strategic Plan were changing the dates from FY 2022-2025 to FY 2023-2026. Based on consultation with DFM, staff do not recommend additional changes.

REQUESTED ACTION: Approve the FY 2023-2026 Draft Strategic Plan as presented.

ATTACHMENT: FY 2023-2026 Draft Strategic Plan

FY 2023-2026 Strategic Plan

Conservation the Idaho Way: sowing seeds of stewardship



IDAHO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

322 E. Front Street, Suite 560
Boise, Idaho 83702 | (208) 332-1790
info@swc.idaho.gov

Private forest, range, and croplands account for 71% of all land in the lower 48 states, including 82% of wetlands and 80% of endangered species habitat. They support urban areas and agricultural production, provide energy and transportation corridors, and habitat for fish and wildlife. Conservation the Idaho Way is voluntary, locally led stewardship of private lands. It includes projects that improve water quality and restore forests, range, and cropland health. It balances our economic health with that of our natural resources and helps satisfy environmental laws and regulations.

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship

MISSION

To facilitate coordinated non-regulatory, voluntary, and locally led conservation by federal, state, and local governments and other partners to conserve, sustain, improve, and enhance soil, water, air, plant, and animal resources.

SLOGAN

Conservation the Idaho Way: sowing seeds of stewardship

VISION

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

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

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

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship



CORE FUNCTIONS

The Conservation Commission focuses on core functions and responds to Executive Orders outlining other Strategic Plan Requirements:

1. Providing support to Idaho's 50 locally led Conservation Districts
2. Providing incentive-based and general voluntary conservation programs and services
3. Conducting outreach and communications to educate and inform the public, decision makers, partners, and other stakeholders



KEY EXTERNAL FACTORS

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

They include:

- Availability of funding
- Changing demographics and land use designations
- State and federal regulatory pressure and mandates that could shift priorities and resources away from current activities
- Changing economics and pressures of agricultural and natural resource dependent industries which could result in significant increases or decreases in conservation program participation
- Changing economics of local, state, and federal budgets, which could result in reductions in agency personnel, services and/or fewer conservation dollars.

FY 2023-2026 STRATEGIC PLAN

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CORE FUNCTIONS & KEY PERFORMANCE MEASURES

FY 2023 GOALS	FY 2023 OBJECTIVES	FY 2023 KEY PERFORMANCE MEASURES	FY 2023 PERFORMANCE TARGETS/BENCHMARKS
1. Support Districts' Voluntary Conservation Efforts	Build Support in State & Local Partnerships Work to develop strong partnerships with Conservation Districts and facilitate implementation of conservation projects throughout the state; provide Conservation Districts technical guidance and capacity building assistance	Percentage of Conservation Districts satisfied with services & programs provided ¹	Satisfy 90% of Conservation Districts with Commission services and programs
		Percentage of Conservation Districts satisfied with the effectiveness of the communications received from the Commission ²	Satisfy 90% of Conservation Districts with communication effectiveness
		Percentage of requests submitted by Conservation Districts through the Technical Assistance Allocation Process (TAAP) that receive the requested assistance ³	Provide 90% of Conservation District requests for technical assistance in whole or in part
Provide Conservation Programs & Services	Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Provide technical leadership and guidance to private landowners in coordination with Federal, State, and other partners to reduce ground water consumption on cropland within the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer	Number of CREP-enrolled acres over which technical leadership and guidance is provided ⁴	Provide technical leadership and guidance for 20,000 acres enrolled in CREP

¹ Developed in collaboration with key legislators, partners in 2012

² Targeted to determine achievement of IC 2217(4)(b)

³ Established by Board to track delivery of Technical Assistance hours to Districts

⁴ Developed to determine progress toward meeting state goals per Memorandum of Agreement between ISWCC and the Idaho Ground Water Appropriators, October 23, 2006 and subsequent agreements

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship



DRAFT FY 2023-2026 STRATEGIC PLAN

FY 2023 GOALS	FY 2023 OBJECTIVES	FY 2023 KEY PERFORMANCE MEASURES	FY 2023 PERFORMANCE TARGETS/BENCHMARKS
2. Provide Conservation Programs & Services (continued)	Resource Conservation & Rangeland Development Program (RCRDP) Encourage farmers and ranchers to improve water quality and conserve natural resources by providing low-interest conservation loans	Acres improved with implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) and facilitated by RCRDP funding ⁵	Implement BMPs on 600 acres facilitated by RCRDP funding
	Ground Water Quality/Nitrate Priority Areas Provide technical assistance in developing Ground Water Quality Improvement Plans within Nitrate Priority Areas; Maintain and improve ground water quality by promoting and supporting conservation projects through implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs)	Number of acres with BMPs implemented to maintain and improve ground water quality ⁵	Facilitate BMP implementation on 54,000 acres of cropland
	Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Implementation Planning Program Write plans to provide a framework for Conservation Districts, landowners and other partners to use to reach Idaho's non-point source water quality goals	Percentage of TMDL implementation plans completed within 18 months of the TMDL having been approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) ⁶	Complete 100% of TMDL implementation plans within 18 months of EPA approval and DEQ assignment to the Commission

⁵ As defined in Idaho Agricultural Best Management Practices Field Guide for Evaluating BMP Effectiveness (rev. April 2013)

⁶ Established in Idaho Nonpoint Source Management Plan 1999

DRAFT FY 2023-2026 STRATEGIC PLAN

FY 2023 GOALS	FY 2023 OBJECTIVES	FY 2023 KEY PERFORMANCE MEASURES	FY 2023 PERFORMANCE TARGETS/BENCHMARKS
3. Conduct Outreach & Communication	Conduct Outreach & Communication Keep the public, decision makers, Conservation Districts and others informed of the activities and experiences of partners participating in Conservation the Idaho Way	Increase the number of newsletter subscribers ⁷	Increase subscriptions by 20 annually
		Increase annual percentage of social media reach, likes, and follows ⁷	Increase social media reach, likes, and follows by 10% annually
4. Other Strategic Plan Requirements	Executive Order 2017-02 , adopt the NIST Cybersecurity Framework and implement CIS Critical Security Controls 1-5 (updated 05/26/2020)	As a technology customer of the Office of Information Technology Services (ITS) in the Governor's Office, we are using the cybersecurity systems and technical expertise in ITS to fulfill requirements related to Executive Order 2017-02. Staff from ITS were briefed on the NIST Core Framework, CIS Controls 1-5, and their plan for adoption of the NIST Cybersecurity Framework. We participate in DHR and ITS administered cybersecurity training, as awareness is a critical component of an effective cybersecurity program. As briefed by ITS staff, implementation of the CIS Controls 1-5 will be their responsibility for the systems they operate and, as technological tools applied to the computer systems, largely invisible to us as a customer. ITS, working through the multi-agency Incident Response Task Force, has developed an Incident Response Program in support of our agency.	

⁷ Established by ISWCC Board

⁸ Established to drive expansion of reporting on nonpoint source voluntary conservation projects in Idaho

Conservation the Idaho Way: Sowing the Seeds of Stewardship



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Board

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