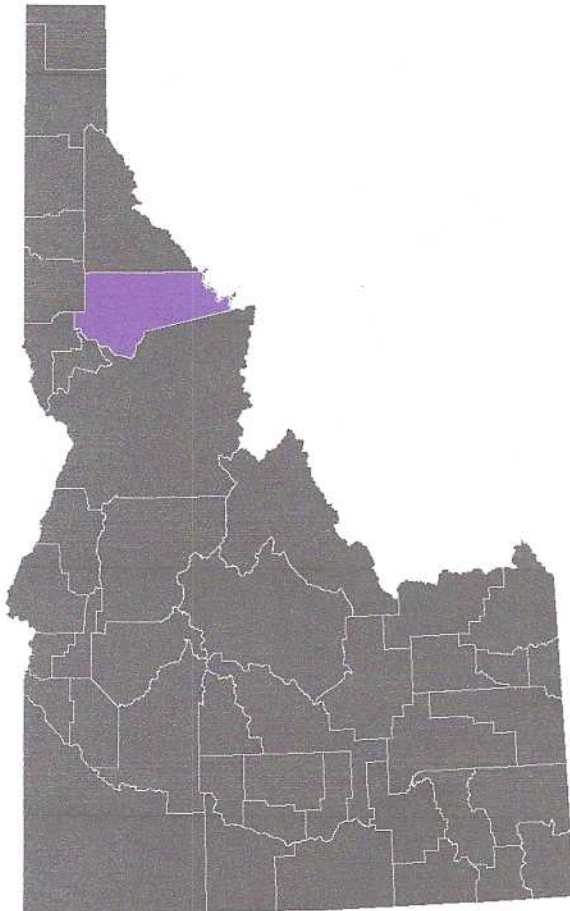




Five Year Plan of Work



Clearwater Soil and Water Conservation District

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Executive Summary

The Clearwater Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is one of 50 Conservation Districts in Idaho. Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Districts are political subdivisions of State government, but are not State agencies. Conservation Districts are charged with carrying out a program for the conservation, use, and development of soil, water, and other natural resources.

Conservation Districts 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. They are catalysts for coordinating and implementing conservation programs, channeling expertise from all levels of government into action at the local level. Programs are non-regulatory, providing science-based technical assistance, incentive-based financial programs, and informational and educational programs at the local level.

Both by legislation and by agreement, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Idaho State Soil and Water Conservation Commission provide technical assistance to landowners and land users through Conservation Districts. Each Conservation District in Idaho has a signed Mutual Agreement with the Secretary of Agriculture and the Governor of Idaho that establishes a framework for cooperation.

This Five-Year Resource Conservation Business Plan was developed not only to guide the Conservation District, but also to encourage cooperation among landowners, government agencies, private organizations, and elected officials.

Our Vision: To promote productive and sustainable natural resource management on farms, ranches, and timberland within Clearwater County.

Our Mission: To educate and assist the public with stewardship of soil, water, air, plant and animal resources, to promote strong conservation partnerships; to find practical, economical solutions to natural resource problems; and to coordinate implementation of these solutions.

This document identifies the resource needs within Clearwater County and presents a resource conservation action plan for meeting these needs.

Our supporting staff members are:

Tim Roehr, Conservation District Business Manager
Anne Connor, Conservation District Project Manager

Primary Technical assistance is from:

Eileen Rowan, Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission
Alex Arnold, NRCS Soil Conservationist


Certificate of Adoption

The Board of Elected Supervisors of the Clearwater Soil and Water Conservation District do hereby approve the following document known as the Five-Year Resource Conservation Business Plan, revision-March 2023. This plan will be in effect for the five-year period July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2028 and will be updated annually and/or amended as necessary.

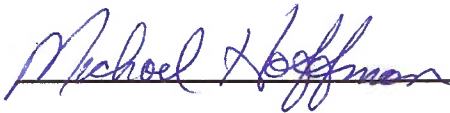
As evidence of our approval and adoption, we do hereby affix our signatures to this document.



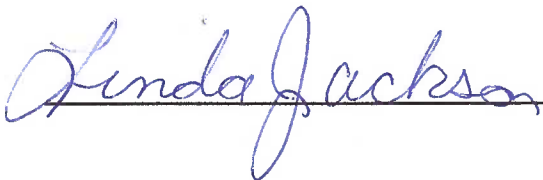
Chairman, Terry White



Vice Chair, Joyce Simonsen



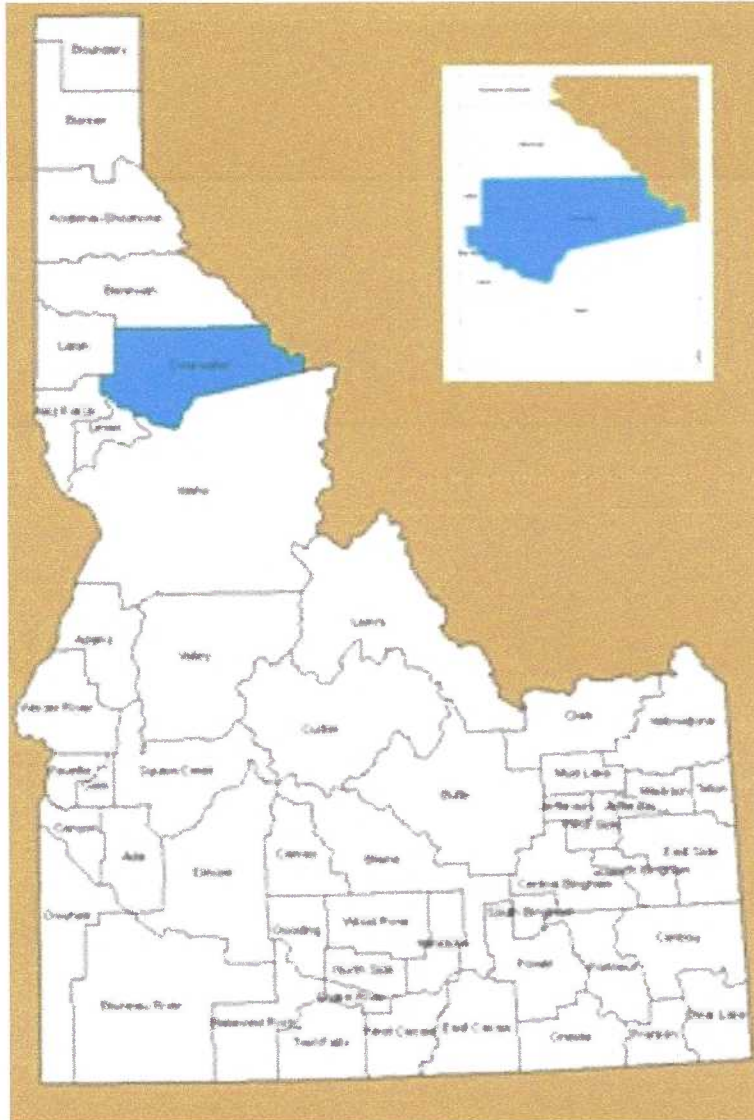
Treasurer, Michael Hoffman



Secretary, Linda Jackson

Section 1- Physical Characteristics of the District:

The boundary of the Clearwater Soil and Water Conservation District is concurrent with the boundary of Clearwater County.



Clearwater County Land Ownership and Land Use

The majority of Clearwater County is in public ownership with 54% being federal land (US Army Corps of Engineers, US Forest Service, US Fish & Wildlife Service and Bureau of Land Management) and 16% being state land. In addition, the Nez Perce Tribe owns 11,076 acres. Of the remaining 30% which is in private ownership, 63% is industrial forest, 16% is forested small ownerships, and 20% is agricultural land.

Clearwater County Land Ownership and Land Use				
	Ownership	Land use	Type	
Total Private	479,959			acres
Agricultural		108,077		acres
Cultivated			33,261	acres
Highly Erodible Land			28,210	acres
Irrigated land			17	acres
Non-Irrigated Cropland			21,331	acres
CRP			3,406	acres
Hay land			7,500	acres
Pasture			7,500	acres
Rangeland			6,852	acres
Forest		419,716		acres
Nonindustrial			82,236	acres
Industrial			337,480	acres
Urban, suburban, builtup		5,806		acres
Tribal land (mostly forest)	11,076			acres
State Land (mostly forest)	252,078			acres
Federal Land (mostly forest)	864,088			acres
Water		16,558		acres
Clearwater County	1,607,201			acres

GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

The eastern part of the District is characterized by deeply dissected mountain ranges and somewhat narrow valleys with abundant streams. The Clearwater Mountains are mostly granitic rock. Higher elevation valleys tend to be u-shaped from glaciation. The highest elevation is 7930 ft. at Rhodes Peak.

The southwest section of the District is a dissected basalt plateau drained by the Clearwater River. Topography in this section consists of rolling, broad upland sections separated by deep, narrow, steep canyons cut into the plateau. Many basalt flows make up this plateau which is capped with windblown soil and volcanic ash deposits that contribute to its productivity. The lowest elevation is 1,000 ft. along the Clearwater River.

CLIMATE

The sun shines about 75 percent of the time in summer and about 30 percent in winter when most of the precipitation falls. Cropland in the southwestern part of the county averages 26 inches of precipitation with an average of 120 growing degree days. Although Orofino may only have a few inches of snow at any one time, the cropland is typically covered for about 60 days each winter. The

forested part of the county has an average precipitation range from 40 to over 90 inches, increasing as you go north and eastward toward Montana. The annual snow depth on the mountain ridges over 6,000 ft. elevation is typically between 10 and 14 ft.

Soils Map

Legend:

SOILS ON STREAM TERRACES, DRAINAGEWAYS, FLOODPLAINS AND IN BASINS:

- 1 Teneb-Lewhand-Burntcreek-Hildebrand-Aquandic Endoaquepts: Very deep, poorly drained to well drained, nearly level to undulating soils formed in mixed alluvium
- 2 Narnett-Aquandic Cryaquepts-Jury: Very deep, very poorly to well drained, nearly level to hilly soils formed in mixed alluvium, loess and residuum from granite and or gneiss.

SOILS ON CANYON SIDES AND BENCHES:

- 3 Klickson-Agatha-Kettenbach: Shallow to very deep, well drained, undulating to very steep soils formed in loess and or colluvium and residuum from basalt.
- 4 Texas creek-Johnson-Whiskey creek-Jim Fords creek: Shallow to very deep, well to somewhat excessively drained, rolling to very steep soils formed in colluvium and residuum from granitic and metamorphic rocks with loess influence.

SOILS ON BASALT PLATEAUS:

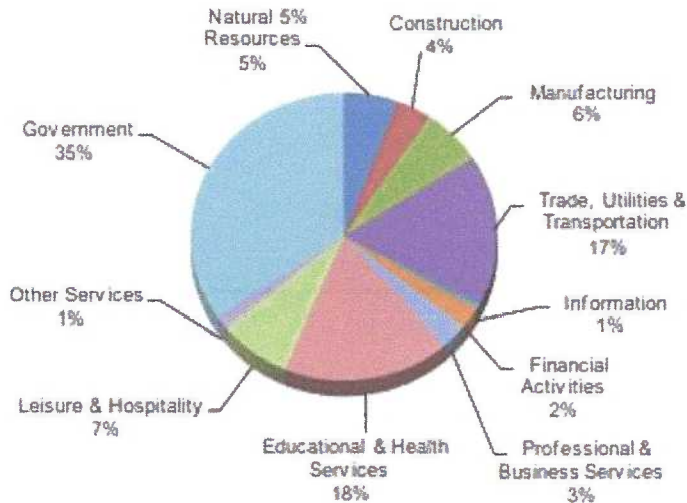
- 5 Taney-Carlinton: Moderately deep to a fragipan, moderately well to well drained, undulating to steep soils formed in loess and residuum from basalt.
- 6 Grangemont-Kauder-Riswold: Moderately deep to a fragipan and very deep, moderately well and well drained, undulating to very steep soils formed in a mantle of volcanic ash over loess, lacustrine sediments or loess and residuum and colluvium from basalt.

SOILS IN MOUNTAINS:

- 7 Kruse-Noil-Uvi: Deep and very deep, rolling to very steep soils formed in colluvium and residuum from granitic or metamorphic rocks.
- 8 Brodeer-Dullaxe-Mushel-Boulder creek: Deep and very deep, moderately well to well drained, undulating to very steep soils formed in a thin or thick mantle of volcanic ash over the following: loess, loess and residuum from granitic and metamorphic rocks or colluvium and residuum from granitic and metamorphic rocks.
- 9 Grandad-Rettig-Township: Deep and very deep, well drained, rolling to very steep soils formed in either a thin or thick mantle of volcanic ash over loess over material from metamorphic rocks high in mica, or a mantle of volcanic ash over material from metamorphic rocks high in mica.
- 10 Vaywood-Berthahill-Hucberit: Deep and very deep, well drained, undulating to very steep soils formed in a thick mantle of volcanic ash over colluvium and residuum from granitic or metamorphic rocks.
- 11 Water

Section 2 - Economic Conditions and Outlook:

Clearwater County borders the state of Montana in Northern Idaho. It is the state's twenty-sixth most populated county and the tenth largest in area. Historically, forest and wood products employment have driven the economy. Today, employment is heavily dependent on government (35%); however construction and manufacturing are on the increase and the economy is becoming more diversified.



Population:

During the early 1990s, Clearwater County's population grew, peaking at 9,232 in 1996. But hard economic times drove the population down 12 percent from 9,033 in 1999 to 8,546 in 2017, while U.S. population grew 12 percent and Idaho's population grew 21 percent. New registrations for driver's licenses and job registrations indicate that the few people who did move to Clearwater County came from other parts of the Pacific Northwest and California to enjoy the scenery, recreational opportunities and rural lifestyle. The county seat, Orofino, has a population of 3,038; Pierce, 485; Weippe, 431; and Elk River, 119.

Labor Force & Employment:

Clearwater County's strong tie to natural resource industries contributes to higher seasonally adjusted unemployment rate calculations. According to the Idaho Department of Labor, December 2018 unemployment in Clearwater County was 5.4%. This is an improvement over Clearwater County's historic average unemployment rate of 13.8% (1978 – 2008). Although unemployment is a significant factor in economic reporting we also pay close attention to the Civilian labor force numbers. The Civilian Labor force of the county has been in decline, although recent data for 2020 – 2021 seem to indicate a stabilization or slight increase to approximately 3000 in the County's labor force.

Civilian Labor Force - *Data Source US Census, American
 Community Survey and Region 2 ID Dept. of Labor Economist*

	2007- 2011	2012- 2016	2017- 2018
2000			

Clearwater County Labor Force	3603	3708	3053	2911
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The labor pool in Clearwater County is greying. Long term declines in the county population and the aging of the population reduces the number of people available to work. In 2018 20.6% of the Civilian Labor Force was ages 25-44 and only 13.5% of the population was 15 and younger. In 2014 Clearwater County began to see a positive net in-migration. This in-migration is a result of younger couples returning to their home communities to begin families and older folks looking for a place to retire with ready access to recreation and low crime rates.

Economically, Clearwater County has become more diverse since the closure of the Jaype Plywood Mill in 2000. Government remains a strong contributor. The federal government has a strong presence (US Army Corps of Engineers, US Forest Service, US Fish & Wildlife Service and Bureau of Land Management), and the State of Idaho (Orofino Correctional Institution, State Hospital North, Fish & Game, Department of Labor, Department of Health & Welfare, Vocational Rehab and National Guard), the County, and School District are also significant public sector employers. In the private sector, Nightforce Optics has expanded to over 150 employees and supports a diverse machining & fabrication cluster. The Clearwater Valley Hospital & Clinic is the second largest private sector employer and a small cluster of health care related businesses are growing slowly, but steadily. The 2017 closure of the Tri-Pro Cedar Mill was a blow to the local community but the property has been sold and a redevelopment plan is underway which will include a manufacturing component of some kind.

Clearwater County has struggled with high unemployment since the mid-1990s. Because of that, the county is an eligible labor surplus area, giving local businesses priority for government contracts. Clearwater County Economic Development and local officials are making efforts to strengthen and diversify the economy.

Agriculture Statistics:

Agriculture is a relatively minor land use in Clearwater County; occupying only approximately 7% of the land while timber occupies 90%. Thus, the majority of the Clearwater SWCD projects are focused on forest land and forest roads.

The most current data available from the National Agricultural Statistics Service is from 2017 on their website:

https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/AgCensus/2017/Full_Report/Census_by_State/Idaho/index.php.

The 2017 profile for Clearwater County (NASS, 2017) shows that there were 312 farms in Clearwater County at an average size of 181 acres. Approximately 44% of Clearwater County farmland was cropland, while another 29% was woodlands or small forest ownership. Less than 20% was in pasture. Most of the value of Clearwater County Farms was in either grains, oilseeds, dry beans and dry peas, or in cattle production. The top crop items were wheat, followed closely by forage land. Only 3% of farms use cover crops and 4% practices no till farming. Another 4% use reduced till. Family farms make up 97% of the farms in Clearwater County

Agriculture Economy:

Crop sales accounted for 47% of the market value of products sold from farms in Clearwater County in 2017; down from 75% in 2012. The other 53% of the market value of products sold come from

livestock sales. Agriculture in the County is not generally a lucrative business: 62% of farms had less than \$2,500 in sales in 2017. Only 6% had a sales value of over \$50,000. Correspondingly, the average net cash income per farm in 2017 was \$ 4,455.

Section 3 – Assessment:

Natural Resource Issues and Concerns:

Natural Disaster Hazard Mitigation	Pasture and Hay-land Condition
Watershed Health	Rangeland Health
Riparian Area Condition and Function	Land Use Planning and Conversions
Fish and Wildlife	Rural/ Urban Interface
Invasive Species / Pest Management	Air Quality
Water Quality and Quantity	Animal Waste Management
Information and Education	Outdoor Recreation
Forest Health and Productivity	Renewable Energy
Cropland Soil Quality and Stability	Conservation District Operations

Natural Resource Assessment and Objectives:

Natural Disaster Hazard Mitigation - Local residents have to be prepared for many natural hazards and disasters. Quite often there are land management practices that can reduce the impacts of disasters. The District needs to be active in advocating these with local leaders.

- a. Contact IDL, local fire districts and Clearwater RC&D to identify ways to promote “Fire Wise/Defensible Space” programs to reduce wildfire hazards.
- b. Work with County fire prevention agencies to provide information to rural residents on wildfire hazard reduction.
- d. Provide input to the County Emergency Management’s All- Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- e. Actively pursue flood hazard reduction projects on Orofino Creek and others.
- f. Provide assistance to the county for landslide hazard reduction associated with roads and other construction.

Identify and promote the replacement of stream crossing at risk of failure or the flood regularly.

Watershed Health - The most critical watershed problems are short peak spring runoff periods and the lack of sustained flows from streams in the late summer and early fall. A 150 year history of land use changes has contributed toward this. Low late summer stream flow results in higher stream temperatures than needed for survival of some fish species.

- a. Promote land management practices on uplands that maintain healthy plant communities and soil conditions.
- b. Promote tree establishment on logged areas and idle land.
- c. Promote wetland restoration and creation for improved groundwater levels.

- d. Promote riparian area vegetation, stable stream banks, grassed waterways and other buffers zones.
- e. Identify and promote the replacement of undersized or failing road/stream crossings which contribute, or have the risk of contributing, to watershed degradation.

Riparian Area Condition and Function - Land areas adjacent to streams and other water bodies are important buffer zones that require special management. Their ability to recover after disturbance is crucial in maintaining water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, cycling nutrients, providing natural floodplains, and other functions. Sometimes the competing land uses for roadways, logging, grazing, annual field crops, and even rural homes can compromise the ability of these buffer zones to function.

- a. Promote proper functioning riparian areas in all projects, programs and contracts the District enters into with landowners and managers.
- b. Promote riparian vegetation plantings where needed, with trees, shrubs and herbaceous materials.
- c. Sponsor workshops and information handouts on "Proper Function and Condition of Riparian Areas".

Fish and Wildlife - Land management practices can easily impact fish and wildlife populations. The District promotes ways to improve habitat and reduce negative impacts on fish and wildlife. This is also addressed in the assessment of Riparian Condition. Improving aquatic habitat and passage for threatened and endangered fish species as well as sensitive species is a focus for the district where these species exist.

- a. Promote habitat enhancement in all conservation programs and land treatments.
- b. Utilize IDF&G personnel, programs and species guides as resources to assist landowners.
- c. Provide resource information and program support for local problems with deer overpopulation, lack of winter range for elk and deer, and predator control.
- d. Actively pursue projects that promote fish and wildlife habitat especially in aquatic and riparian areas.
- e. Encourage and promote the replacement of road/stream crossings that are barriers to fish and other aquatic organisms.

Invasive Species / Pest Management - Weeds, insects, disease, damage from rodents and wildlife, including predator control, all impact forestry, agriculture, and the people of the county. Controlling 'pests', is often one of the most expensive and time-consuming land management practices. The District will promote up-to-date technical information for land managers for pest control that will have many beneficial impacts.

- a. Support the Clearwater Basin Co-op Weed Management Area so that Clearwater County invasive and noxious weeds will be listed by location and degree of problem.
- b. Develop a work plan with the Clearwater Basin Co-op Weed Management Area partners leading to a reduction in noxious weed species.

- c. Promote precision use and safe application of agricultural pesticides.
- d. Work with forestland managers to identify disease and insect areas that impact forest health and coordinate control efforts whenever possible.

Water Quality and Quantity - There is an abundance of water in this county with its high precipitation. Water quality is important and highly scrutinized because drinking water supplies are dependent on surface runoff. Clearwater County streams support populations of native fish populations, including bull trout and anadromous steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Other important and sensitive aquatic species include Chinook salmon, Pacific lamprey, westslope cutthroat trout, western pearlshell mussels, and Idaho giant salamanders. Summer water temperatures in small streams and excessive sediment are the most critical water quality issues.

- a. Annually meet with the Watershed Advisory Groups (WAG) to review work progress and future implementation tasks on streams with TMDLs.
- b. Look for future project needs through the locally led process.
- c. Provide information on snowpack, stream runoff predictions, and drought conditions as they apply to crop, forage and fiber production and management.
- d. Ensure water quality information gets out to county residents, including information on wellhead protection, septic system evaluations, nutrient and pesticide use, and other items, to protect surface runoff that enters drinking water systems.
- e. Support water quality monitoring efforts, especially on priority streams and reservoirs.
- f. Communicate regularly with DEQ and other agencies about water quality issues.
- g. Work with road management entities to replace road /stream crossings that impact water quality.

Information and Education - One of the most important things Conservation Districts can do is provide information on natural resources to local residents and governmental leaders. The Clearwater District needs to maintain these informational services for all age groups.

- a. Determine opportunities to coordinate outreach activities with all partners.
- b. Conduct environmental education programs and sponsor youth groups.
- c. Provide opportunities for schools to participate in the conservation poster contest, outdoor classrooms and tours of our natural resources and their management.
- d. Annually display a fair booth to educate the public on District programs.

Forest Health and Productivity - There are large acreages of prime forestland which have been cut over at least once in the past century. Some early logging practices were to hi-grade valuable saw logs and leave less desirable species of grand fir which now dominate many landscapes. There are also areas with root disease, insect infestations, or tall brush that prevent healthy tree growth.

- a. Promote active management of private forestland, using a minimum standard of removing dead, dying and diseased trees for proper sanitation and protection of the remaining trees.

- b. Participate in forest management plan discussions with federal, state, tribal and industrial forest landowners.
- c. Promote tree planting, reforestation, and control of tall brush that prohibit tree establishment. Promote fuel load reduction efforts to decrease fire risk levels.
- d. Provide information on forest road Best Management Practices (BMPs) to the public.

Cropland Soil Quality and Stability – Most Cropland soils in Clearwater County are cut-over forest soils that are not as deep, have less structure, more clay in the subsoil, a restrictive layer underneath the subsoil, and a higher erosion risk than prairie soils in surrounding counties. If an inch of topsoil is lost here, it is much more critical than losing an inch from deep prairie soils. All cropland greater than 3% slope is determined Highly Erodible. Farming trends have been to reduce tillage operations, leaving more surface crop residue for runoff protection. This trend must continue in order to meet erosion control objectives and reduce transport of sediment, nutrients, and pesticides to the numerous drainages and streams in this high precipitation area.

- a. Participate in planning meetings with local landowners, the NRCS and Idaho State SWC to identify priorities and alternatives for implementation.
- b. Promote no-till and other conservation tillage practices.
- c. Promote the use of cover crops and other regenerative agriculture practices
- d. Provide soil quality educational information and testing through the university.
- e. Promote operations that maintain proper pH levels and organic matter for agricultural crops.
- f. Promote the use of soil tests and precision agriculture to apply nutrients specific for crops and production goals.
- g. Promote the practice of split nutrient application, or use of slow-release fertilizers for grain crops planted in the fall.

Pasture and Hayland Condition - Pastures are dominated by cool season grasses. Adequate levels of nutrients and grazing management are most common issues. Hay-land is normally a mixture of alfalfa or clover with grass that is cut once per year. Because of the wet spring weather haying is usually delayed until July to get more tonnage, which is also past maturity of the grasses. Hay-land nutrient management and grazing on fall re-growth both need to be managed closely in order to sustain hay-land.

- a. Promote proper livestock stocking levels matched with plant growth and availability through grazing management plans.
- b. Promote vegetation improvement practices with management, seeding, nutrients, pest management and livestock control.
- c. Provide information on proper management through agency guides on pasture condition, livestock nutrition balancing and soil testing.

Rangeland Health - Rangelands in the District are predominantly on south slopes of the major canyons and drainages near the Clearwater River. They are ripe areas for invasive weeds. Soil compaction is a problem if grazed in wet conditions, as well as soil displacement from hoof action.

- a. Co-sponsor the Annual North Central Idaho Grazing Workshop each January with IASCD Div. II.

- b. Provide input on federal, state and private grazing lease programs to promote sustainable forage use while meeting other objectives of timber production, water quality, weed control, wildlife habitat, recreation and more.

Land Use Planning and Land Use Conversions – Many decisions made in local statutes for land use, can benefit from technical information the District and their conservation partner agencies provide. Improved communication with the Planning and Zoning Board and other local government services would be mutually beneficial to meet the District objectives.

- a. Reduce Impacts of Land Use Conversions to Rural Residences.
- b. Determine how to provide more input on County Planning and Zoning issues impacting natural resources.
- c. Provide the resource information that the County Planning and Zoning Board needs to make better informed decisions for land use planning and subdivisions of properties.
- d. Encourage road districts to reduce sediment and maintain grass cover on borrow ditches.

Rural-Urban Interface - Many rural homes are being developed with small acreage ownerships. Many of these landowners have not lived away from cities and want information on the natural resources they now own. They also need information on what to expect from their neighbors who are involved with production agriculture or forestry, on natural hazards, such as wildfire, and on what statutes they should be aware of for water quality, air quality, weed control, and more.

- a. Identify information methods to promote resource stewardship on small acreage properties.
- b. Join efforts to provide information to small acreage landowners by coordinating programs with the local Cooperative Extension System, NRCS, and Idaho State SWC

Air Quality - Air quality is generally excellent. There is limited agricultural burning, usually on fields planted for grass seed production that are burned in August when warm temperatures carry smoke high into the atmosphere. More abundant are the burning activities on forestland to clean up logging slash and/or improve habitat for big game. The forest burns start with the first rainy period in early fall and continue until heavy snowfall.

- a. Promote adherence to local restrictions on agricultural burning and forest slash burning through Clearwater-Potlatch Timber Protective Association, federal and state land management agencies and wildlife agencies, the Nez Perce Tribe, the University of Idaho, EPA, Idaho Dept. of Environmental Quality, Idaho Dept. of Agriculture, and the forest and agriculture producer groups.

Outdoor Recreation - Because of the large amount of public land in the county and the large amount of forested acreage, there are many diverse opportunities for outdoor activities. To reduce any negative impacts from user groups, there needs to be some organized areas for the various

outdoor enthusiasts.

- a. Provide stewardship information to the public concerning their impacts on water quality, the spread of noxious weeds, off-road vehicle impacts, and other issues.
- b. Provide input and support to expand uses of abandoned railroads for recreation.
- c. Promote hiking, skiing and equestrian trails around Dworshak Reservoir.

Conservation District Operations-The Clearwater SWCD has many needs to carry out its planning objectives. This includes an active Board of Supervisors who volunteer their time, administrative staff, technical assistance and financial assistance. The District is actively trying to maintain opportunities to address the natural resource issues identified for the county.

- a. Training for District Supervisors and staff on operational responsibilities and authorities. New Supervisor Training will be completed within their first 2 years.
- b. Maintain District infrastructure and efficient operations with long-range plans and budgets, annual plans and budgets, and effective personnel management.
- c. In cooperation with other Conservation Districts, carry out an effective legislative outreach program to provide information on the state's natural resource conditions.
- d. Conduct Conservation District Board elections in even years (2020, 2022, 2024). Maintain full Board membership of 5-Supervisors.
- e. Strengthen local technical assistance by participating in federal and state program development, regional assessments and commitments through mutual agreements.
- f. Actively pursue grants and other funding sources to carry out identified issues in the District plans, including administration and technical assistance, to landowners adopting conservation treatments, and public outreach with demonstration projects, workshops, and other information and education.

Section 4 - Identify and Prioritize Objectives

Conservation District Natural Resource Priorities:

1. Natural Disaster Hazard Mitigation – includes primarily mitigation for fire especially at the Wildland-Urban Interface and for flooding and landslides that affect roads and other properties. There is often a safety aspect to these projects
2. Water Resource and Water Quality – includes improving watersheds and waters with impairments or those that do not meet beneficial uses as well as protecting higher quality waters. Most commonly, we are focused on decreasing sedimentation, lowering temperatures or minimizing nutrient inputs to Clearwater County waters
3. Fish and Wildlife – Our county supports many native species of fish and wildlife. Of particular concern are species that are listed as threatened under the Federal Endangered Species Act.
4. Cropland Soil Quality and Stability – We would like to work with others to encourage the use of regenerative agriculture practices that increase soil health and have other benefits. Agriculture has been on the decline in Clearwater County but since 2012, we are seeing an increase in farmers and a decrease in farm size. Over 34% are characterized as “new and beginning farmers” (NASS,

2017).

5. Community Outreach: We plan to continue to work with Clearwater County residents of all ages to provide information on Natural Resource Management. We will continue to seek out opportunities to use youth on our projects and to do outreach in schools and other venues.

Section 5 - Water Quality Component:

Most of Clearwater County lies within the Clearwater River sub-basin, the North Fork Clearwater sub-basin (Upper and Lower) and the Lochsa River sub-basin, all of which flow into the Clearwater River. In addition, a small portion of Clearwater County in the furthest northwest corner of the county flows into the St Joe River (less than 10 square miles).

The federal Clean Water Act requires states to conduct a biennial comprehensive analysis of state waters to determine if water bodies meet state water quality standards and thus support beneficial uses, or if additional pollution controls are needed. Idaho's most recent approved version is its 2022 Integrated Report: [16619 \(idaho.gov\)](https://www.idaho.gov/16619).

The 2022 Integrated Report was developed by Idaho Department of Environmental Quality in accordance with § 305(b), § 314, and § 303(d) of the CWA, and incorporates data collected within the prior 5 years.

Categorization of Waters in the 2022 Integrated Report (Clearwater County)

Idaho DEQ has identified waters that do not meet water quality standards for beneficial uses and the pollutant(s) that cause the impairment. For many of these waters, Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) allocations for pollutants have been completed by IDEQ and approved by EPA (Category 4a). Waters that do not meet water quality standards but do not yet have TMDLs allocated make up the 303(d) list (also known as Category 5). Some waters in Clearwater County are impaired by either Flow regime alteration and/or Physical habitat alteration (also known as “pollution” rather than “pollutants”). These streams, though impaired, do not require a TMDL (Category 4c). In some cases, there is insufficient data to determine whether beneficial uses are being met (Category 3). All other waters have been found to fully support beneficial uses (Category 2) or are assumed to fully support beneficial uses because they are wholly located within a designated wilderness or are wholly within the 2008 Idaho Roadless Rule, Wild Land Recreation Theme (Category 1). The Idaho DEQ has developed an interactive map that shows all assessment units and their status in the 2022 Integrated Report: [Idaho DEQ FINAL 2022 Integrated Report](#)

Fisheries Component

Most Clearwater County streams support native fish populations. Much of the county is above Dworshak Dam on the North Fork of the Clearwater which is a complete barrier to anadromous fish (those that rear for at least part of their lives in the ocean and spawn in freshwater). Most tributaries to the North Fork support westslope cutthroat trout and the colder tributaries may support bull trout, which are listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Whiskey Creek and the lower 4.5 miles of Orofino Creek support ESA listed steelhead as well as westslope cutthroat. The waterfall at mile 4.5 limits anadromous fish use in the upper Orofino Creek watershed. The upper portion of the East Fork of the Potlatch River, in the northwest corner

the county, also supports steelhead and westslope cutthroat trout. Lolo Creek and many of its tributaries support spring/summer chinook, steelhead, and westslope cutthroat trout. The mainstream of the Clearwater River supports ESA listed fall chinook in addition to species listed above. Tributary streams to the Upper Lochsa River in Clearwater County (Crooked Fork, Boulder Creek) may support anadromous steelhead and spring/summer chinook salmon, as well as westslope cutthroat and bull trout. Other important and sensitive aquatic species present in Clearwater County waters include Pacific lamprey, western pearlshell mussels, and Idaho giant salamanders.

Section 6 - Identify and Prioritize Projects:

Natural Disaster Hazard Mitigation

Ongoing Projects

- Lolo Creek - Fuels Reduction Project.
 - Reduce fuels on private, nonindustrial forestland and wildland/urban interface in the Lolo Creek area, Clearwater County.
 - Western States Fire Management Grant Proposal accepted by IDL / USFS 2020
 - MOU with IDL under development
 - Partners: IDL, Private Landowners, Clearwater County
- Lower North Fork Clearwater – Garden Creek Culvert Replacement and Road Repair
 - Construction will occur summer/fall 2023
 - Rebuild the Garden Creek crossing that was washed out during spring flooding in 2012 and repair road fill failures on the Granddad Road, the main access between Elk River and Granddad Bridge. Rebuild 1.3 miles of the old road and close the 2.5 mile detour that's been in place for the last 10 years
 - Funded by: IWRB Flood Grant 2022
 - Partners: PotlatchDeltic,
- Orofino Creek hazard mitigation and flood control (Continue interface with the County Hazard Management Office to assist where possible)
- Continue the District Fire Wise Program to help publicize NRCS-Fuel Load Reduction programs and partner with the U of I Extension office for workshops.

Recently Completed Projects

- Bedrock Creek - Louse Creek Culvert Replacement. Completed fall 2022. Replaced an undersized culvert at a stream crossing in agricultural land that floods every couple years. The site required regular maintenance and is a source of sediment to a water quality limited stream.
 - Funded by: IWRB Flood Grant 2020; Water Quality Program for Agriculture (WQPA) 2022
 - Partners: Clearwater County; Idaho SWCC

- Jim Fords Creek – Heywood Creek Culvert Replacement. Completed summer/fall 2022. Replaced a problematic 5-culvert array with a bottomless arch culvert. The site required regular maintenance and was a source of sediment to a water quality limited stream.
 - Funded by: IWRB Flood Grant 2021 and WQPA 2022
 - Partners: Clearwater Highway District and Idaho SWCC
- Lower North Fork Clearwater - Culvert Replacements on Silver Creek and Swansons Loop. Construction completed fall 2022.
 - Replaced culverts along 3.8 miles of mostly stream adjacent road to prevent flooding of the road and culvert washouts. Included the replacement of 2 culverts in fish-bearing streams with fully passable culverts. Also includes resurfacing of the road.
 - Funded by: IWRB Flood Grant 2021
 - Partners: PotlatchDeltic, IDL

Water Resource and Water Quality:

Ongoing Projects

- Jim Ford Creek Watershed Regional Conservation Partnership Project.
 - Addresses the following issues: Temperature, streambank stabilization, fish habitat, and species of concern.
 - *Funded by: USDA-NRCS*
 - Partners: Many including NRCS, Agriculture producers, Clearwater Highway District, and National Park Service
- Lower North Fork Clearwater - East Fork Beaver Creek Culvert Replacements.
 - Replace 11 culverts that are undersized, sediment generating, passage barriers, flood issues, mostly in fish-bearing streams.
 - Construction will begin in 2023 and may continue during construction season 2024
 - EPA 319 grant proposal presented fall 2021
 - Partners: PotlatchDeltic

Potential Projects

- Lower North Fork Clearwater - Alder Creek Culvert Replacements.
 - Replace 3 culverts on the Silver Creek Road, two in Alder Creek and one in a tributary, Casey Creek. All three are drastically undersized, sediment generating, passage barriers, flood issues, and in fish-bearing streams.
 - EPA 319 grant proposal presented fall 2022
 - Partners: PotlatchDeltic
- Lolo Creek Watershed – Musselshell Road Improvement.
 - Upgrade drainage and pave the remaining 5.6 miles of the Musselshell Road from

- Weippe to Peterson's Corner. FLAP Proposal submitted to WFLHD, Jan 2022
- Musselshell Road Inventory and prelim design completed (Funded by RAC, Forest Service 2020)
- Partners: Clearwater County Transportation Group; Clearwater Highway District, Forest Service, Idaho Department of Lands
- Jim Ford Creek – Weippe Prairie Culvert Replacements. Potential future project.
 - Replace culverts that are undersized, sediment generating, passage barriers, flood issues. Route runoff to wetland and potential wetland areas. Includes replacing culverts in Jim Ford Creek and Heywood creek as well as others.
 - Partners: Clearwater Highway District, National Park Service, NRCS (partner project to Jim Ford RCPP)
- Lower North Fork Clearwater - Reeds Creek/ Calhoun Road Culvert Replacements.
 - Mitigate the chance of flooding at stream crossing sites in the Reeds Creek watershed of the lower North Fork Clearwater/ Dworshak Reservoir.
 - Partners: PotlatchDeltic, Idaho Dept of lands

Recently Completed Projects

- Orofino Creek Watershed - Rhodes Creek Road Realignment
 - Decommission/abandon 2.8 miles of road adjacent to Rhodes Creek and replaced access with 1.3 miles of new road and 1.3 miles of reconstruction of existing road.
 - Installed a 45' span bridge to replace an old undersized culvert and installed 18" culverts as needed.
 - Completed in 2022
 - Funded by: EPA 319
 - Partners: PotlatchDeltic

Fish and Wildlife:

Ongoing Projects

- Potlatch River – Bob's PALS (Beaver Dam Analogs / Post Assisted Log Structures)
 - Improve habitat for steelhead and other aquatic organisms by constructing BDAs and PALS in the East Fork near Bob's Creek.
 - Funded through PCSRF, fall 2022
 - Environmental work and permitting in 2023; Full implementation in 2024
 - Partners: IDL (landowner), and PCEI (labor force and source of volunteers)
- Elk Creek – Partridge Creek Culvert Replacements. Survey and design completed
 - Replace a stream crossings on Partridge Creek to allow fish passage to Forest Service land. Current culverts on the Elk City Loop Road are undersized and are flood hazards. The site is a sediment producer.
 - Partridge Creek Culvert Replacement Survey and Design was completed in 2022 and

- included a cultural resources survey ; Funded by RAC, Forest Service 2020
- Partners: Clearwater Highway District, Forest Service

Potential Projects

- Potlatch River – Future Large Wood additions,
 - Improve habitat for steelhead and other aquatic organisms by adding wood (trees with and without rootwads) to the East Fork in yet to be determined locations.
 - Propose to IOSC for PCSRF, fall 2023 or beyond
 - Partners: TBD
- Potlatch River – Future Culvert Replacements,
 - Improve passage and habitat conditions for steelhead and other aquatic organisms by replacing undersized or problematic stream crossings in the East Fork and its tributaries in yet to be determined locations.
 - Propose to IOSC for PCSRF, fall 2023 or beyond
 - Partners: TBD (PotlatchDeltic or IDL)
- Lower North Fork Clearwater – Beaver Creek Road 247 Fish Passage Culverts
 - Replace up to 10 culverts for maintenance and fish passage along an arterial Forest Service/ PotlatchDeltic Road, including Bingo Creek
 - Partners: PotlatchDeltic and Forest Service

Cropland Soil Quality and Stability:

- Cover Crops / Manure Management Idaho CIG
 - Work with a Clearwater County producer to do field trials for cover crops and manure (composted and not) to increase / improve soil health.
 - Idaho Conservation Innovation Grant, funded 2021 (NRCS)
 - Partners: Producer, Nez Perce Tribe, University of Idaho Extension, ISWC, NRCS,
- Regenerative Agriculture – Ongoing / Potential Future Project
 - Work with Clearwater County producers to do field trials for cover crops and other regenerative agriculture techniques to increase / improve soil health. Encourage producers to adopt these methods once we determine specific mixes, amendments and techniques that work locally.
 - Improving the ecological services of Nez Perce Lands through soil health management systems. NIFA grant to Nez Perce Tribe, funded 2020
 - Partners: Nez Perce Tribe (grantee); University of Idaho Extension; ISWC

Community Outreach:

- Work with the Forest Service and others to complete construction of and manage a “watershed trailer” for educational purposes.

- A hands-on educational tool consisting of a trailer (tow behind a pickup) with a large “sandbox”, a water tank, and pumps. Participants can build channels, cities, farms, stream crossings etc. from miniatures, then turn on the pumps and see the results of erosion and flooding.
- Funded through FS RAC and a CEDA grant
- Will be completed by May 2023
- This educational tool will be managed by CSWCD but available to entities in our five county area for soil and water educational events
- Partners: Forest Service, Orofino High School, Clearwater Economic Development Association, local businesses, and others
- Native Plantings at Orofino High School
 - Worked with the Forestry class and others (2nd graders) to plant native shrubs and trees around the OHS Ballfield
 - Included local natural resources personnel from IDL, Nez Perce Tribe, and Forest Service as well as CSWCD and ISWCC who gave talks about their career paths with the OHS students
 - One Tree Planted mini-grant
 - Partners: Many including Forestry teacher
- Complete “Youth Environmental Education Projects” annually, search for funding to reduce costs and encourage participation for K-12.
 - IASCD Poster and Speech Contests. (Yearly)
 - Earth Day activity with Clearwater County Schools (April, but inactive since COVID)
 - Support for 6th grade Forestry Tour (every July)
 - Tree planting on local properties with OHS Forestry Class (and others)
 - Work with local YCC groups on projects and education
- Conduct community outreach in conservation and land management annually (some activities may be cancelled or postponed due to Covid as they have been for the last 2 years)
 - Weed Management and Soil Health Training Programs at small landowner workshops series in-conjunction with the Other Division II Districts and U of I Extension office. (Yearly) *Conservation Commission District Capacity Building funds*
 - Arbor Day Activity and Community Cleanup in Orofino City Park (every April)

Section 7 – Implementation: Annual Work Plan 2023/24

Priority Number 1: Natural Disaster Hazard Mitigation

Project 1: Lolo Fuels Reduction, Funded by WSFM Grant through IDL and FS

Goal: Reduce fire frequency and severity in the Weippe to Greer area

Objective: Reduce fuels on private, nonindustrial forestland and wildland/urban interface in the Lolo Creek area, Clearwater County.

Actions:	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete fuels reduction contract for phase 1 on 2 properties, 59 Acres Meet with additional landowners, identify treatment acres, and let contract for phase 2, apx 100 acres 	Dec 3, 2023 Oct 30, 2023	CSWCD/ assisted by ISWCC

Project 2: Garden Creek Stream Crossing and Road Repair, funded by IDWR flood grant

Goal: Safe drivable road with limited impacts on soil and water quality

Objective: Reduce chronic flooding and soil erosion at stream

Actions:	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rebuild the Garden Creek crossing that was washed out during spring flooding in 2012 repair road fill failures and rebuild 1.3 mi of road on the Granddad Road, the main access between Elk River and Grandad Bridge. 	Oct 11, 2023	CSWCD/ PotlatchDeltic

Priority Number 2: Water Resource and Water Quality:

Project 3: Complete culvert replacements on East Fork Beaver Creek/ Browns Rock Road, Funded by EPA 319 Grant through IDEQ

Goal: Reduce sediment and temperature in EF Beaver and tributaries; Fish passage into Sheep Mountain Creek and throughout East Fork Beaver Creek; Safe drivable road with limited impacts on soil and water quality

Objective: Replace undersized culverts that are barriers to fish passage at 10 stream crossings in class one streams. Add one culvert in class 2 stream

Actions:	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible

Replace 11 culverts in the EF Beaver Creek watershed with updated structures that will pass all flows and fish where needed. Resurface three miles of road.	Sept. 30, 2025	CSWCD/ PotlatchDeltic
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Project 4: Jim Ford Creek Watershed Implementation Project, Funded by USDA – NRCS

Goal: Improve water quality and watershed conditions in Jim Ford Creek

Objective: To work with landowners toward meeting the Total Maximum Daily Load allocations for sediment and temperature.

Actions:	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Install necessary practices including: Streambank and Shoreline Protection; Forest Riparian Buffer; Forest Herbaceous Buffer; Nutrient and Pest Management; Herbaceous Weed Control; Livestock Watering Facility; Fencing; and Stream Crossings	2019 thru 2023	CSWCD/ NRCS /ISWCC

Project 5: Musselshell Road Upgrade; Support funded through FS RAC

Goal: Increased stability and trafficability of the Musselshell Road and decreased sedimentation and other impacts to adjacent streams

Objective: Obtain a FLAP grant from FHWA to reconstruct and pave Musselshell Road into a safe drivable road with limited impacts on soil and water quality

Actions:	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with IDL on easement for ROW • Cultural Heritage contract • FLAP application prepared for next Call for Projects 	Fall 2024	CSWCD/ CHD /FS

Priority Number 3: Fish and Wildlife:

Project 6: East Fork Potlatch Bob's PALS, Funded by PCSRF

Goal: to restore and enhance instream habitat for steelhead and other aquatic species by adding hand built wood structures to the East Fork of the Potlatch River near and at the confluence of Bob's Creek.

Objective: To build Post Assisted Log Structures (PALS) and Beaver Dam Analogs (BDAs) in the East Fork Potlatch River between the bridge at the County line and the bridge above Bob's Creek to increase habitat complexity and floodplain connectivity on 0.6 miles of stream in a 2-mile reach.

Actions:	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete required environmental work and permitting • Order materials (posts) and identify worksites • Potentially install prototype structures • Full implementation in 2024 	May 23 June 23 Sept 23 Summer 24	CSWCD/ PCEI/ IDL

Project 7: Partridge Creek Culvert Replacement

Goal: Allow free passage of fish and other aquatic organisms in Partridge Creek, a tributary to Elk Creek near Elk River, Idaho. Reduce flooding and sedimentation. Provide safe access year-round on Elk Creek Lane.

Objective: Replace a five culvert array on Partridge Creek near its confluence with Elk Creek. New culvert will allow Fish passage to and from Forest Service lands.

Actions:	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Work with Forest Service to obtain funds for construction contract and to let contract	2023 - 25	CSWCD/ FS/Clearwater Highway District

Priority Number 4: Cropland Soil Quality and Stability

Project 8: Cover Crops / Manure Management Idaho CIG

Goal: Continue to work with producers to expand the use of regenerative agriculture techniques including cover cropping and manure management and composting in Clearwater County

Objective: Evaluate field trials for several mixes of cover crops and the use of manure, composted and fresh, on hay crop.

Actions:	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Work with producer on establishing field trials, work with Nez Perce Tribe and University of Idaho to take soil samples and test them. Evaluate results Workshop to share results	September 2024	CSWCD/ Nez Perce Tribe Natural Resources Department/ University of Idaho Extension

Priority Number 5: Community Outreach

Project 9: Watershed Trailer

Goal: Sponsor and manage a “watershed trailer”, built by OHS seniors as a senior project, for use at natural resource educational events in a five county area.

Objective: Use the trailer and provide it for use by others as a hands-on educational tool to teach about erosion and flooding

Actions:	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete construction finding someone to finish welding (aluminum), some plumbing and electrical work • Become familiar with training materials, seek out opportunities for trailer use, and USE IT! • Reach out to other Conservation Districts and educational entities maximize use of this tool. • Train others in the use of the trailer. 	April 2022	CSWCD/ Forest Service/ local businesses/ others

Project 10: Youth Environmental Education program

Goal(s): Create a viable Youth Environmental Education program,

Objective: Complete “Youth Environmental Education Projects” annually, search for funding to reduce participation costs and encourage participation.

Actions:	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Sponsor and participate in the Sixth Grade Forestry and Natural Resource Tour	July	CSWCD/Extension Office/Forest Service/School District

Sponsor and participate in the Sixth grade Poster Contest	April	CSWCD
Sponsor and participate in Earth Day Tree Planting Event with Orofino High School Forestry Students. Prepare and submit grant to OneTreePlanted to sponsor event	April 24	CSWCD/ ISWC/ School District/ OHS students
Identify projects for youth and sponsor YCC or other groups to implement / combine with watershed education	summer	YCC / CEDA / FS
Identify opportunities such as "Dream it Do it" and Idaho Forestry Contest to sponsor and work with youth in natural resources	School year	YCC / CEDA / School District

Project 11: Adult Outreach

Goal(s): Coordinate with Landowners and U of I Extension Office to develop workshops

Objective: Develop engaging user friendly interactive workshops with landowners to identify and resolve problem areas.

Actions:	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Develop various workshop that focuses on landowner concerns with weeds, soil health and cover crops, seeds	On-going	Landowner/ISWCC Technical Staff/NRCS/CSWCD

District Calendar of Events

Regular monthly Board meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of every month

JULY

- Prepare financial records for annual audit (If expenditures are over \$150,000)
- Invoice Commission for next 12 months for Eileen's office space
- Expect new Fair Contract
- Office rent due Aug 1st – contact Valley Rentals for invoice
- 6th Grade Forestry Tour
- Begin preparation of Financial and Match Report
- Receive Base funding from Commission
- District Survey due to Commission July 31st (optional?)
-

AUGUST

- Submit Financial and Match reports – Aug 16th
- Prepare Audit materials for Auditors
- File Candidacy Requirements for Supervisor Elections -Sept 1 – even numbered years
- Begin planning District's county fair exhibit

SEPTEMBER

- Set up exhibit at Clearwater County Fair
- Review election materials and petitions (even numbered years)
- Declaration of Candidacy Sept 1st of even yrs, Sept 8-Last day to Certify Nominee
- IASCD and IDEA Award nominations due if any

OCTOBER

- IASCD Division II Fall meeting
- Discuss IASCD resolutions (if any) and appoint a voting delegate for the annual conference (*attending supervisor*)
- Notices of election published in legal section of newspaper (done by County)

NOVEMBER

- Conduct District Elections (even years) notify County Clerk how many supervisors to be elected in following years' election.
- IASCD Annual Conference
- Work on Commission Performance reports due in December
- Sam Renewal Deadline – Oct? Nov? Dec? allow 30 days to activate
- Receive Match Funds from Commission?
- Work on Registry Report for Dec?

DECEMBER

- Provide input for USDA's Locally Led Working Group on conservation priorities (NRCS)
- Central Registry Update Due in Dec? New budget and copy of Audit
- Employee Performance Evaluations Due by District Supervisors
- District Performance Report due to Commission-Dec 20th?
- Employee/District Health Reimbursement Agreement (HRA) pay raise review

JANUARY

- Elect new Officers for Board of Supervisors
- New Supervisor Training/Orientation
- North Central Idaho Grazing Conference, Lewiston
- NRCS Rent- Form SF270 to request rent for past 12 months.
- Small Acreage Land Stewardship Course Planning
- Dept of Labor Accident and Injury Report (they send us form to fill out and send back)
- Tax forms mailed out

FEBRUARY

- Election Cycle-Sups file C-1 form and Campaign Finance Report online – Due 2/10

- Review and Update 5-Year plan -Due March 31st
- Area wide Soil Health Conference in Orofino, Lewiston and Nez Perce

MARCH

- Expect Commission letter to exercise next 12 mos. office space for Eileen
- 5 Year Plan and Annual Plan due to Commission – March 31st
- Technical Assistance (TA) Request due to Commission – March 31st
- Verification of Surety Bond due to Comm 3/31 (ICRMT covers this automatically)
- Letter to County requesting RELEASE of donation requested in January
- Local Support Donations must be received by June 30 to get Match Funds!

APRIL

- 4th Grade Earth Day Activities
- Jr/Sr High school Forestry Project (Arbor Day Project)
- Clearwater County Community Cleanup Day/Arbor day
- Budget Hearing Request Due April 30

MAY

- Visit schools and hold the 6th Grade Conservation Poster Contest
- Soil Stewardship Week
- Local Support Donations must be received by June 30th to get Match Funds

JUNE

- Local Support Donations must be received by June 30th to get Match Funds
- Annual Conservation District Surveys for Commission (due by 31 July)

Conservation District Organization and Policies:

District Organization:

The Clearwater SWCD is a governmental subdivision of the State of Idaho, a public body corporate and politic, and authorized to exercise public powers. The governing body of the district is a board of five supervisors who are publically elected and who serve without pay. The District is dedicated to conserving renewable resources and using sound management practices. We promote clean water and productive soils. The district strives to ensure that local landowners make decisions on conservation problems at the local level.

The Clearwater SWCD willingly supports, accepts and promotes the responsibilities inherent to the Conservation Districts anti-degradation policy in order to preserve a locally administered voluntary approach addressing agriculture non-point source pollution.

The District will provide technical assistance to all landowners and operators in Clearwater County and provide information and guidance for local, state, federal and tribal programs.

The District will continue to provide effective local leadership for conservation programs and conduct well publicized supervisor elections.

The District will cooperate with units of local, state, federal and tribal government. The District reviews all programs and determines what progress has been made with improvements and determines any changes the District should make in implementing conservation programs.

The District will keep a personnel handbook and supervisors' handbook up-to-date and available to personnel and supervisors.

Guiding Principles:

Value and respect for the Idaho Conservation Partnership to make available technical, financial and educational resources to better manage the soil, water and related natural resources.

The planned management of natural resources, for the beneficial and sustainable use by all. To conserve natural resources and use practical, economical management practices. We encourage a strong public outreach program reaching students and adults.

Administration and Finance:

Idaho Soil Conservation Commission anti-degradation rules for agriculture – IDAPA 02.05.025 require each district to complete a five year plan and update it annually in order to receive matching funds from the state.

The mission of the District is largely, but not wholly carried out and its purpose and objectives are achieved in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding: with the NRCS, provides for the assignment of technical and other personnel to assist the District in carrying out its program. As additional "Agreement of Gratuitous Use of Benefits Available from Non-Federal Sources" sets forth the conditions under which the District may furnish personnel to further discharge of the duties and functions of the service.

Coordinated but separate lines of communication and channels of responsibility are united in the accomplishment of the missions of both District and the Service.

Board Members' tenure rotates with two vacancies being filled one year and three vacancies filled two years later. Elections are held on the first Tuesday succeeding the first Monday of November in even numbered years in conjunction with county elections. Supervisors elected

serve four-year terms, without pay, which commence on the second Monday of January next following the election.

Financing is received from Clearwater County, State of Idaho and the administration of grants. All District funds regardless of source are public funds and are accountable to the taxpaying citizens of Idaho.

Policies:

Local Governance:

To lead and support local conservation planning efforts by building strong conservation partnerships with landowners, operators, and managers to identify natural resource concerns, alternative solutions and funding sources to resolve priority issues.

Coordinated Implementation:

To lead voluntary implementation efforts with projects, grants, demonstrations and programs by coordinating the technical resources and incentives to meet long term economic, ecologic and social objectives.

Outreach:

The District encourages a strong, effective public outreach program reaching students and adults. The District conducts various forms of public outreach on an annual basis. The Clearwater Soil and Water Conservation District assists teachers with the development of outdoor classroom sites, provides educational materials and makes special presentations on soil and water conservation and natural resource management. The Clearwater Soil and Water Conservation District sponsors contest and award programs such as poster, essay and speech contests for local students. We have implemented a new "Fire Wise" Program that we foresee helping residents of Clearwater and neighboring counties becoming more informed and as a result decreasing the fuel load on their property that could feed a forest fire.

Conservation Partners:

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission
Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts
Idaho District Employee Association
Idaho Dept. of Environmental Quality
Clearwater Basin Advisory Group and Local Watershed Advisory Groups
Clearwater County, Planning & Zoning, Road Dep., Weed Dept., Econ development
Clearwater Highway District
Univ. of Idaho Cooperative Extension System
Idaho Dept. of Agriculture
Idaho Dept. of Lands
Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game
Idaho Office of Species Conservation
Clearwater-Potlatch Timber Protective Association
Clearwater Economic Development Association
Clearwater Basin Weed Management Area Steering Committee
Clearwater Basin Collaborative
Trout Unlimited
Idaho Dept. of Parks and Recreation
Idaho Dept. of Water Resources
US Forest Service
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Land Management
National Park Service
Environmental Protection Agency
Nez Perce Tribe Department of Fisheries, Department of Natural Resources
US Army Corps of Engineers
PotlatchDeltic
Private Land Owners
Agricultural Producers
NOAA Fisheries
Cities of Orofino, Pierce, Weippe, Elk River
Latah, Nez Perce, Lewis and Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Districts
Palouse Clearwater Environmental Institute

Other Partner Organizations:

Idaho Farm Bureau
Idaho Forest Owners Association
Christmas Tree Association
Idaho Nursery Association
Pacific NW Direct Seed Association
Idaho Cattlemen
Wool Producers
Grain Producers
Idaho Conservation League
Federal, State and Tribal Fish Hatcheries
Joint School District #171
Idaho Dept. of Transportation
Land Trusts
Friends of the Clearwater
The Nature Conservancy

Services Provided to Landowners:

Education on local natural resources
Providing Information on natural resource management

Services Provided to General Public:

School classroom talks
Poster & speech contests
Outdoor classrooms, tours, natural resource camps
Other youth activities
Library resources and activities
On-line resources
Newspaper articles
Radio announcements