

# Clearwater

## Soil and Water Conservation District Performance Report for FY- 2022



### Clearwater Soil and Water Conservation District

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Orofino, Idaho 83544  
208 476-5700

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Legislative District-One

#### Clearwater County:

Private Lands	479,959
Federal Lands	864,088
State Lands	252,078
Tribal Lands	11,078
Total	1,607,201 acres

<u>FY 2022 Revenue:</u>	State (ISWCC)	\$ 41,291.00
	County Gov't	10,000.00
	Corporate Donation	10,000.00
	Grants	<u>243,884.35</u>
		\$305,175.35

Clearwater County is 94% forestlands. In our grants we will continue to focus, along with our partners, Idaho Department of Lands, ID Department of Environmental Quality, PotlatchDeltic, and private landowners, on Forestry and Cropland Best Management Practices (BMP's), to improve habitat, water quality, fish passage, and sediment and temperature reduction in Class I & II Clearwater River tributaries.

#### Mission:

To provide local leadership to educate and assist the public on the wise stewardship and management of soil, water, air, plant and animal resources, and to promote strong conservation partnerships to find practical, economical solutions to natural resource problems and coordinate their implementation.

#### Contact Info:

Chairman of Board	Terry White	(208) 476-7343
Vice Chair	Joyce Simonsen	(208) 476-4758
Treasurer	Michael Hoffman	(208) 827-0030
Secretary	Linda Jackson	(208) 827-0738
Business Manager	Tim Roehr	(208) 476-5700
Project Manager	Annie Connor	(208) 476-5700

#### Projects

The District completed our 2 year Rhodes Creek Rehab Project near Pierce, by abandoning a stream adjacent road and resurfacing a new route that is located away from the riparian area. This DEQ/EPA 319 project with PotlatchDeltic involved building a new bridge and road, allowing the beavers to reclaim an incredible stream valley.

We had three IWRB Flood Grant projects that involved replacing worn out and undersized culverts. Louse and Heywood Creek projects, with Clearwater Co Rd Dept and Clearwater Highway District replaced undersized problematic crossings with large diameter (10+ft) culverts. Swanson's Loop with PotlatchDeltic was a combination of fish passage and multiple smaller culverts including a 180 foot long culvert under nearly 100' of fill. We were fortunate to receive WQPA grants to cover large Covid cost increases on Louse and Heywood projects.

We joined with the Orofino High School for two projects. One was to plant Idaho native trees and shrubs on campus with the aid of a One Tree Planted grant and other was to fund a watershed demonstration trailer for use by area educators. This was the Senior Project of two students. The High School, CSWCD, Forest Service, CEDA, and a local trailer manufacture joined together to fund, construct and permit the trailer.

We have two projects on the East Fork of Potlatch, aided by PCSRF, PCEI, AmeriCorps, and IDL, grants and assistance. One project just completed, added large wood to create more stream habitat diversity. Another project, just beginning, will add instream structures, Post Assisted Log Structures and Beaver Dam Analogs, to create diversity.

We were awarded a Western Fire Managers grant through IDL and the USFS to work with landowners in the Lolo area to decrease fuels and fire danger on their properties.

We will be continuing with our CIG Manure Management project near Weippe evaluating the results of using composted manure to fertilize various cover crop seed mixes/ treatments.

There are two projects in the Elk River area. One is to replace undersized and failing culverts where Partridge Creek enters Elk River. We have completed the survey, design, and cultural survey and are continuing with our Forest Service partner to complete funding and implementation of a replacement structure. The other is to join with our partner, PotlatchDeltic, to repair the slides and rebuild the stream crossing at the Garden Creek wash-out/detour on the Elk River to Grandad Bridge road.

We will also be working with PotlatchDeltic on replacing the fish passage structures on the East Fork of Beaver Creek – Brown's Rock Rd. This is an IDEQ/ EPA 319 project scheduled for Summer/Fall of 2023.

## Goal #1: Watershed Health- Improve Water Resources and Water Quality in Clearwater County

**Objective:** Address priority stream resource concerns

**Action Plan:**

Continue partnership with PotlatchDeltic, Idaho Department of Lands, NRCS, public agencies and private landowners for implementing BMP's to improve water quality and fisheries habitat and sediment reduction; with major culvert replacement, forestry, cropland and other projects in the Clearwater drainage.

Work with partners to implement and expand Jim Ford Creek watershed improvement projects.

**Value:**

By maintaining a strong bond with our partners, we are able to collaborate with multiple agencies and focus our grants on specific BMP's for water quality and agriculture production.

**Measurable Results (2022):**

- Successfully completed the **Rhodes Creek Project** where 2.8 miles of road have been moved away from a stream.
  - Complete the IWRB Flood Granted projects: **Louse Creek Culvert Replacement Project** with Clearwater County Road Department, **Heywood Creek Bridge Project** with Clearwater Highway District and **Swanson's Loop Culvert replacements** with PotlatchDeltic. All three projects involve replacing deteriorated and undersized culverts that frequently flood. All new structures are designed to pass fish and debris as well as high flows.
  - Continued **Jim Ford Creek Watershed Project (RCCP)** with NRCS for Jim Ford Creek stream and riparian improvements with initial participating land owners and recruit additional participants.
  - Contracted a survey and design for a bridge to replace the culvert array on the **Partridge Creek crossing** on the Elk River Loop Road.
  - Begin a three-year **Conservation Innovation Grant** for the regenerative agriculture practices of cover crops and manure application.
  - Secure funding for several additional projects in various stages of planning with our partners.
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## Goal #2: Continue to address Hazard Mitigation issues with the Community Hazard Mitigation Team.

**Objective:** Focus on strengthening the Fire Wise Community on forest lands.

**Action Plan:**

- Further develop a continuous workable Fire Wise program in conjunction with the Community Hazard Mitigation Team and the State Fire Wise program manager.
- Work with City and State entities to educate landowners on available programs that assist with the cost associated in fuel load reduction.
- Maintain an active presence on the Community Hazard Mitigation Board for input on fuel reduction measures, and restorative actions.
- Continue to work with private landowners on the Lolo Creek Fuels Reduction project to reduce fire risk on their properties.

**Value:** By partnering with the Hazard Mitigation Team in communications and planning efforts, the District will be more prepared and better informed regarding our valuable contributions towards soil and water conservation issues on forest, farm and rural/urban interface lands.

**Measurable Results:**

- A better informed landowner base, more knowledgeable in prevention and management of wildfires in our forest, farm and rural/urban interface lands.
  - Contract for thinning services on private properties in the Lolo Creek area to reduce crown spacing, masticate of slash and brush, and hand crews to limb trees, chip and pile slash on 155 acres.
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**Goal #3: Community Outreach**

**Objective:** Actively promote youth education in natural resources and encourage landowner participation in managing private resources using educational, hands-on forums.

**Action Plan:**

- Actively work with the U of I Extension and others, to conduct a variety of workshops and educational opportunities addressing issues of concern to local landowners in Clearwater County
- Co-Sponsor and participate in the Sixth Grade Forestry and Nature Resource Tour
- Participate in the Fourth grade - Earth Day Outdoor Classroom
- Participate and collaborate with groups on local natural resource issues as requested
- Assume responsibility for ownership, management, and monitoring use of a watershed trailer constructed as a senior project last year by two OHS students . This project is funded through the US Forest Service and the Clearwater Economic Development Association. The intent is to have the watershed trailer available for multiple agencies and organizations, including the CSWCD and other area Conservation Districts, to work with schools and educational programs across North Central Idaho.

Value: By taking an active part in the community we show a strong support for conservation initiatives as well as education of the public and our youth.

**Measurable Results:**

- Increased involvement in natural resource programs of community youth and home school groups.
- Mentored two high schoolers' senior project: building a "watershed trailer" with the high school shop program. The watershed Trailer will be a tool to teach all ages about erosion, water-road interaction, floodplains, and best management practices.
- Worked with the OHS forestry class and third graders, under a One Tree Planted grant, to plant native trees and shrubs on the school campus.
- Increased participation in District sponsored/partnered workshops i.e.: weed clinics, soil clinics, pasture management, and forest management, etc.
- Increased outreach to youth and others through the use of the watershed trailer. The Clearwater SWCD will schedule and track use of the trailer, as well as tracking the number and age group of students reached.

**IDAHO SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**PERFORMANCE  
REPORT  
CERTIFICATION**

**DISTRICT:** Clearwater

**FOR YEAR:**

FY 2022

**DUE :**

**December 20, 2022**

**CERTIFICATION**

On behalf of my local Board of Supervisors, I hereby certify that the attached Performance Report is true and accurate, and further submit said Report for the above named District and fiscal year.

A copy of this Performance Report shall be kept at the District office and is available for public inspection.

  
Board Supervisor Signature

**Michael Hoffman**

Printed Name

**12/15/2022**

Date

**208 476-5700**

District Telephone

**clearwater.swcd@gmail.com**

District Email Address

**FOR SWC USE ONLY:**

**DATE OF CONFIRMATION:**