

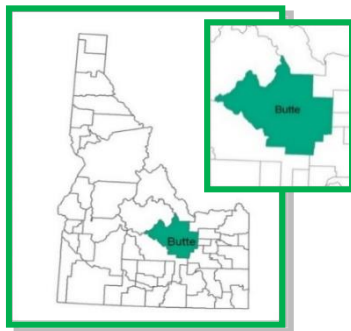
Butte Soil & Water Conservation District

Performance Report: January – December 2023

The Butte SWCD was founded in 1953 with the goal of “**setting high standards for conservation and making wise-use of our natural resources**”. This is still the goal of the Butte SWCD today.

The District covers all of **Butte County** and the Southern portion of **Custer County**. This area encompasses the cities of Arco, Butte City, Howe, Mackay and Moore.

Legislative Districts: 8 and 30



FY2023 Accomplishments

- The Butte SWCD received a fifth year of **NACD/NRCS Technical Assistance**



Conservation Tour

Grant funding to provide an employee for the Natural Resources Conservation Service

- Educational outreach activities** included sponsoring youth to attend Natural Resources

Camp, conducted the annual 6th grade Natural Resources Tour, provided outreach information and educational activities at county fairs, held a speech contest at the District level, and held a conservation tour near Moore

- Hosted a **local work group meeting** to provide the NRCS with direction for utilizing funding in 2024. The meeting was attended by landowners and conservation partners

- The District **received several grants**. A grant from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation will provide cost-share to landowners retrofitting fences to wildlife friendly specifications. A grant from the LOR



6th Grade Natural Resources Tour

Foundation was used to conduct research on reducing evaporation in stockwater tanks.

- A **WQPA award** was also received to improve water quality and quantity on a farm near Moore
- Rented the no-till drill** for use on 772 acres

FY2023 Funding:

Source	Amount
State	\$32,896.21
Counties	\$13,000.00
Grants	\$47,774.77
Contract Services	\$6,544.52
No-till drill rent	\$9,273.00
Water Quality Program for Agriculture (WQPA)	\$315,872.00
TOTAL	\$406,946.29

A special thanks for the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission for providing Capacity Building funds to help sponsor District activities and workshops

FY2023 NRCS Contract Load

The NRCS obtained **54 new contracts, benefiting 38,704 acres** and provided **\$6.8 million in financial assistance** for landowners. Contracts were obtained in the general EQIP, general CSP, and Regional Conservation Partnership Program-EQIP programs.



Educational public meeting



Speech Contest Winners



Annual Conservation Tour



TA Grant Employee Timothy Barnes



Natural Resource Camp campers



Fish Screens installed with District grant



NRCS funded gabion baskets in Butte County



Board Member Mark Telford and wife Paige won the Regional Hugh Hammond Bennett Award for conservation excellence in agriculture

Future Goals and Plans:

- **Promote landowner participation** in NRCS' programs to increase conservation practices in the District
- **Actively drive wise conservation decisions** in the District
- **Conduct educational outreach** activities for youth and adults
- **Support irrigation efficiency** conservation practices
- **Promote conservation** of wildlife habitat
- **Promote invasive weed removal** programs provided through NRCS and partner programs
- **Enhance relationships** with partner agencies to promote natural resource conservation
- **Follow the annual plan of work** developed by the District

Board of Supervisors

- Randy Purser.....Chairman
- Mark Telford.....Vice-Chairman
- Todd Perkes.....Treasurer
- Walt Johnson.....Member
- Hayden Isham.....Member



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