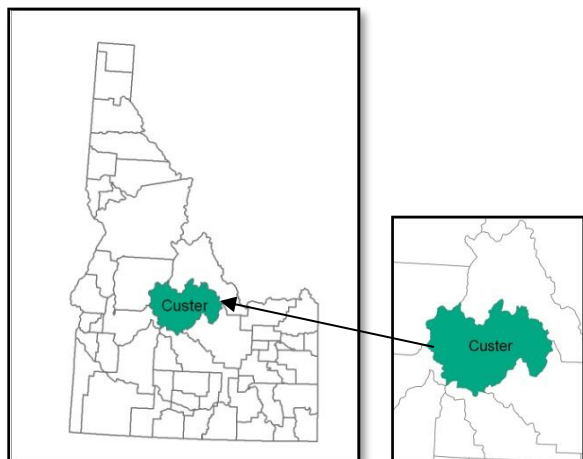


Custer

Soil and Water Conservation District



P. O. Box 305
Challis, Idaho 83226
PHONE: (208) 879-4428
FAX: (208) 879-5903

<http://www.custerdistrict.org>

SWCD Board Meetings: Second Thursday

Top 5 Natural Resource Concerns

1. Water Quality
2. Water Quantity
3. Endangered Species Act Mandates
4. Urban Development
5. Recreation use impacts

2022-2023 Revenues (not based on audit)

ISWCC - WQPA	\$ 70,000
State Funding - SWC	\$ 24,119
Local Funds For Programs	\$ 2,182
County/Local Funding	\$ 6,000
Federal Grants to Custer SWCD	\$ 524,528
Total Conservation Funding	\$ 626,829
NRCS	\$ 592,702
Landowner Match	\$ 267,810
Total Conservation Funding	\$ 1,487,341

Recent Projects

Conservation and Anadromous Fisheries Projects:

- Completed a fish passage barrier project on a remote property in Loon Creek, a private holding within the Frank Church Wilderness area. The Hydro, screen and headgate are now fully functional after a four-year effort.
- Completed an additional .8 miles of stream complexity and habitat improvement in mid-Pahsimeroi on Muddy Springs
- Completed a water conservation project on the Salmon River near Morgan Creek to address improved water management.
- Secured funding from ISWCC and completed a second WQPA project to address water conservation and irrigation in Pahsimeroi.
- Completed Phase I design of a Habitat Complexity project in the Upper Stanley Basin on Pole Creek to address approximately .8 miles of stream complementing past projects.
- Completed a County Wetland Mitigation project and revegetation plan on Garden Creek. Monitoring of the project will be ongoing by the Custer SWCD.
- Continued work with a landowner to improve fish passage on Warm Springs.

Results: Improved spawning, in-stream habitat and flow and removal of two passage barriers.





Annual 5th Grade Tour: JaNeal Parkinson with Students grinding wheat.

Educational Programs

- Sponsored the 5th and 6th grade poster contest for 49 students from Challis Elementary.
- Sponsored High School Speech contest.
- Held an annual 5th grade tour reaching approximately 32 students. This included a tour of a seed potato and grain farm to increase student's knowledge about agriculture. IDFG, NRCS and the U of I Participated.
- Co-sponsored Ag Week for Challis including a farm tour and hands on activities for each class. Sponsored a day for Home School also.
- Sponsored Two Natural Resource Awareness Days each for ages K-3rd and the second day for 4th-6th grades. Logging, mining, road and bridge maintenance, range management, agriculture and public lands management were all components of this year's event.
- Sponsored 4th grade class Bread in a Bag
- Sponsor field trip for the Ag students to the Pahsimeroi fish hatchery and visit project sites installed by the District and Partners.
- Held an election in the General Election for 2022. Two positions were up for election with three people running for these positions.
- Played an active role with the NRCS's Local Working Group prioritization process.



5th Grade Students during the Conservation tour.

Providing action and information at the local level for promoting wise and beneficial conservation of natural resources with an emphasis on soil and water.

Future Projects

Custer Soil and Water Conservation District continues to focus on the statutory requirement in their annual and 5-Year Plan. Water Quality and Water Quantity are the top resource concern in addition to the Endangered Species Act implications which are often intertwined with water quality and quantity.

Custer SWCD applied for, and received funding from the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission from their Water Quality for Agriculture program that will be implemented late summer 2023.

The Custer SWCD will continue to work with willing landowners to address agricultural projects related to fish recovery by addressing flows, fish barriers and stream restoration projects.

Natural Resources Conservation Service, Bonneville Power Administration, Bureau of Reclamation and Office of Species Conservation (PCSRF) continue to be important funding sources for the district's projects.

We have installed Phase II of Muddy Springs Habitat restoration. We have met with the landowner on Pole Creek and reviewed the draft design phase of a Habitat in-stream improvement on Pole Creek in the upcoming year. Seek funding for two riparian fence projects including stock-water.

An active youth information, education and outreach program will continue to be a focus of the Custer SWCD.



Garden Creek Wetland Mitigation Project 2023

Board of Supervisors & Staff

Wayne Baker, Chairman
 Julia Piva, Vice Chairman
 Dale Olson, Secretary
 Tori O'Neal, Treasurer
 Ryan Hughes, Member
 Karma Bragg, Office/Project Manager