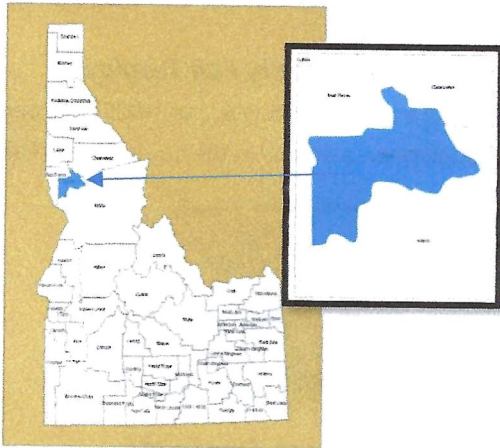


Lewis Soil Conservation District

FY 2023



521 Oak Street, Room 8
Nezperce, ID 83543
Phone: 208-937-2291x3
Facebook: Lewis District
Web Page:
Lewissoilconservationdistrict.weebly.com
Board meetings: First Tuesday of the month
Email: lewisscd@outlook.com

Top Priorities

1. Cropland
2. Rangeland/Pastureland
3. Forestland
4. Environmental Improvement/Mitigation/Protection
5. Wind and Water Erosion

Revenues

State Match	\$12,825.00
State Base Funding	\$8,500.00
County	\$8000.00
Contributions & Donations	\$2351.00
Grant Funding	\$677,936.00
Total:	\$715,612.00

Mission Statement

The Lewis Soil Conservation District (LSCD) is dedicated to conserving natural resources and promoting sound management practices that protect the environment and are economically feasible and productive.

Recent Activities

The LSCD received a grant from the **Idaho Department of Environmental Quality** in the amount of \$250,000.00 for a Phase 2 - Lewis County Soil Health BMPs - State Agriculture Grant Project. This grant is a continuation of a soil health study aimed at decreasing nutrient and herbicide inputs and decreasing soil erosion by implementing nutrient management practices on volunteer landowner farms that will address the historically high commercial fertilizer and herbicide rates. The first grant totaled \$237,508.42 and covered practices such as liming, Precision Agriculture, BioAgitive Emissions Technology, Bio-stimulants, split fertilizer application, and reverse osmosis water use on a total of 10,705.09 acres.



The LSCD was awarded a Water Quality Program for Agriculture grant from the **Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission** to supplement the Phase 2 - Lewis County Soil Health DEQ State Agriculture Grant. The Soil Health BMPs project will receive \$165,000.00 from the ISWCC to work with volunteer landowners to improve soil health and water quality in Lewis County by using nutrient management practices to decrease nutrient inputs, decrease herbicide inputs and decrease soil erosion. The first phase of grant funding totaled \$58,300.00. Nutrient management practices were used on a total of 2384 acres.

The Lewis Soil Conservation District was awarded funding in the amount of \$250,000.00 for a Big Canyon Implementations §319 Grant with the **Idaho Department of Environmental Quality**. Best management practices (BMPs) are being implemented on worksites in the Upper Big Canyon watershed that will reduce sediment and nutrients directly. This project is a small portion of a larger effort to decrease pollutants in the Big Canyon Creek Watershed. Other efforts are focusing on cover crops, flooding, and the impacts from city storm water systems.

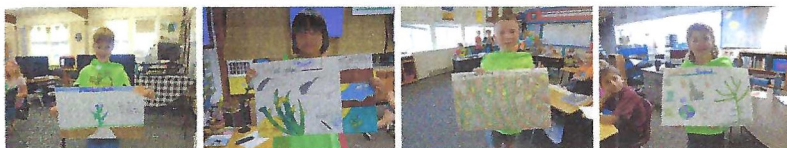
The LSCD has applied for a Lewis County Phase 3 - Western States Fire Managers Grant with the **Idaho Department of Lands**. The district has completed Phase 2, with an overall amount of 325.5 acres treated for fuels reduction in the Winchester and Forest areas. The award amount totaled \$243,306.91. The first Western Fire Manager's grant covered a total of 343.32 acres with a total amount of \$237,499.18 awarded by the grant. These projects provided funding to thin forests to improve forest health (decreasing stand densities) and reduce hazard fuel (dead, down, dying, and ladder fuels) which will provide protection for structures and improve ingress/egress for the cities of Winchester and Forest areas.

Information and Education

Soil Health Workshop

The District hosted their 9th Annual Soil Health Workshop January 24th at the Greencreek Community Hall. Topics included “Herbicide Resistant Weeds” by Doug Finkelnberg of the University of Idaho, “Weed Seed Control System” presented by Idaho County producer Brent Uhlorn. Clearwater County Grant Recipients Mike and Linda Jackson discussed their project “CAFO/Manure Spreading. “The Climate Smart Grant” was presented by Sanford Eigenbode of the University of Idaho. There were 67 attendees at the workshop.

Noxious Weed Poster Contest



The Lewis Soil Conservation District (LSCD) with assistance from Alyssa Brotnov, Lewis County Weed Extension Office, gave a “Noxious Weeds in Lewis County” presentation to 3rd grade students from Nezperce, Highland and Kamiah Elementary Schools. Each student was given a noxious weed to research and design a poster of. First place winners in each class received a t-shirt and had their posters displayed in the local newspapers. All participants received a mini frisbee. All posters were on display at the Lewis County Fair.

Farm & Forest Fair



4th and 5th graders throughout the area attended the Farm and Forest Fair at the Greencreek Community Hall in April. Eileen Rowan from the ISWCC and Janette Mendenhall from the LSCD presented a “Soil and Geology” station.

Winchester Lake State Park 6th Grade Field Day



The LSCD hosted the 50th Annual Sixth Grade Field Day at Winchester Lake State Park. This year, 6th Graders from Nezperce, Prairie, Kamiah, Highland, and St. John Bosco school districts attended. Stations included Soils and Geology, canoeing, fishing, a nature trail, fire control, air quality, and forestry.

Hatchery in the Classroom

The “Hatchery in the Classroom” Project has been going on for 9 years now. Students from local schools participated in a project made possible by a past grant from the Nezperce Tribe, and from continued support of the Dworshak National Fish Hatchery. Students from Highland and Nezperce

schools learned about the Steelhead lifecycle. They received eggs from the hatchery, which they hatched and cared for until their release into Lawyers Creek in the spring.

Lewis County Fair Display

The LSCD partnered with FSA and NRCS to enter and win first place on a display in the Lewis County Fair.



Future Projects

We will continue to encourage and assist landowners with projects to implement BMPs, have outreach and educational events that focus on protecting the lakes, rivers, forests, and soil of Lewis County.

LSCD will be hosting their 10th Annual Soil Health Workshop on Thursday, February 22nd. Special thanks to ISWCC, NRCS, IASCD and local businesses for assistance and funding to help sponsor this event.

We will continue to have an active information and education program. We will continue to work with the local schools and students, the County Weed Department, and other agencies to encourage the students to obtain the knowledge of the environment around them.

District Operations and Accomplishments

- Met with Lewis County Commissioners to discuss funding.
- Set up a display and funded a small animal trophy for the Lewis County Fair.
- Applied for, presented, and ranked on grants from DEQ, ISWCC, & IDL.
- Maintain website and Facebook page.

Lewis Soil Conservation District Board of Directors

Jonathan Rosenau	Chairman
Greg Branson	Vice-Chairman
Tyler Nelson	Sec-Treasurer
Drew Leitch	Member
Conner McLeod	Member

