OWYHEE CONSERVATION DISTRICT



FY 2023

250 N Bruneau Hwy Marsing, ID 83639 208-880-6284

OCD Board Meetings: 2nd Thursday each month Hours 12:00-1:00 p.m. Email: alib.ocd@gmail.com

Top Priorities

- 1. Water Quality
- 2. District Operations
- 3. Outreach & Education
- 4. Soils, Rangeland, Riparian & Crop

FY 2023 Revenue

Owyhee County	\$9,000.00
ISWCC	\$19,000.00
OTHER /GRANT	\$15,500.00
TOTAL	\$43,500.00

FY 2023 Accomplishments

Completed Two WQPA Grant Projects

26.9 Lateral Project replaced two miles of open ditch canal with 15,000 linear feet of pipeline. This change will reduce water loss by 42%.

This project was done in partnership and co-funded by South Board of Control, Natural Resources Service (NRCS) and a \$300,000 WQPA grant.

The two projects impacted approx. 700 acres of ag lands which run parallel, benefited 10 land users, as well as improving water quality in Jump Creek.

Junior Livestock Sales

Continued support of our local FFA Chapters by purchasing \$1,600 in livestock at the Owyhee Fair in August. We are always excited to support the community directly with our ability to help keep kids engaged with the AG lifestyle.

Natural Resource Camp

The Natural resource camp resumed this year through the University of Idaho extension office, and we offered up tuition payment for any middle schooler that would like to attend. We had two take us up on the offer, Emmett Roland and Gibson Rice. Both really enjoyed the experience and learned a few things not only about conservation, but about nature in general. We think the value of getting kids out in nature early, understanding what role they can play in our conservation, the better it is. We were excited to invest in two students in this way!

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Education/Outreach

Ag Scholarship Award

OCD chose to award three students with scholarships. Each received \$1,000 to further their ag based educations.

Ag Equipment Made Available to Land Users

OCD purchased an OTECO Track Filler to join the equipment yard alongside the Verminator.

These are available for a low rental fee to any who is in need.

Owyhee Fair Display

Participated in the August fair with a display featuring our partnership with NRCS. Conservation-focused posters were displayed with an emphasis on water and available funding options. We also displayed our Verminator and OTECO for the entirety of the fair to see and observe to garner more widely spread knowledge about its availability and effectiveness!

Annual Pesticide Class

The annual pesticide class and farmer appreciation luncheon were delayed due to scheduling issues. It was held in March 2023 rather than December 2022. Attendance was increased due to many being behind after the government mandated shutdowns of 2020/2021.

AG EXPO

OCD assisted and sponsored a high school senior project offering a community AG Expo. This event was open to elementary aged children and was attended by Homedale Elementary 1 – 4th grades as well as local home schoolers. OCD ran a booth alongside Tate Walters and Jordan Verbree with NRCS. Tate and Jordan gave a demonstration of soil impaction. While OCD had an activity in seed germination. The children assembled seeds in clear baggies with a wet paper towel. Their teachers took the children's experiments to the classroom to hang in the windows so the seed germination could be easily observed and used in their upcoming lessons.

Summer Tour

Planned for July 2023.
Tour of completed WQPA projects.

Future Projects

- Enhance environmental and agricultural outreach to youth and adults through a variety of projects
- Host a summer farm tour to see the results of the two WQPA grants we secured
- Continue to award ag scholarships
- Host annual pesticide class
- · Recruit members to district board

OWYHEE CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Andrea McRae, Chairman
Tim Volk, Secretary/Treasurer
John Cossel, Supervisor
Joe Mansisidor, Supervisor
Doug Hipwell, Supervisor
Ali Brezenski, Administrative Assistant