

Payette

Soil and Water Conservation District Performance Report 2023



Payette Soil and Water Conservation District is a political subdivision of the State of Idaho authorities, powers and structure contained in Soil Conservation District Law, Title 22, Chapter 27, and Idaho Code. Payette SWCD was organized in February 26, 1958 in order to make available technical, financial and educational resources, whatever their source, and focus or coordinate them so that they meet the needs of the local land manager with conservation of soil, water and related natural resources. The district serves all of Payette County which is located within legislative district 9 and includes the cities of Payette, Fruitland and New Plymouth.

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www.payetteswcd.org

Board meets: 3rd Wednesday
of each month

Our District Priorities

1. Information & Education
2. Water Quality
3. Irrigated Cropland
4. Fish & Wildlife
5. Rangeland

Funding 2022

Local Government	\$	7,000
ISWCC		23,862
Soil Health Symposium		6,809
Grants		230,942

TOTAL **\$268,613**

Board of Supervisors:

Jo Anne Smith, Chairman
Allen Schmid, Vice-Chairman
Jennifer Riebe, Supervisor
Art Filice, Supervisor
Pat Kelly, Supervisor

Employees:

Carie Bronson, Administrative Assistant

Mission of the Payette Soil and Water Conservation District

Payette Soil and Water Conservation District will work towards conserving and enhancing all natural resources for the economic and environmental benefit of present and future generations in Payette County using educational, financial, and technical assistance to promote voluntary resource conservation practices.

*Completed FY22 Federal 319 grant project
Little Willow Creek watershed
Payette County, Idaho*



*Payette SWCD staff viewing
completed project for WQPA,
State Ag BMP Grant funds
Payette County, Idaho*



2023 District Accomplishments

- **Annual Soil Health Symposium:** Over 120 people attended the 12th Annual 2023 Soil Health Symposium organized by Payette SWCD and partners Ada SWCD, Adams SWCD, Bruneau River SCD, Oregon State University, University of Idaho, and USDA NRCS. Featured speakers presented soil health topics, 2 local producer panels shared their experiences implementing soil health practices, and the “Climate Smart” Commodities Grant Program was introduced by U of I and OSU.
- **Lower Payette River, Mid-Snake Hells Canyon, and Little Willow Creek TMDLs:** One Federal 319 grant, one State Ag 319 grant, and one WQPA grant projects, that replaced surface irrigated ag lands with center pivots, were completed in 2023. The district facilitated IDEQ with a tour of the completed Federal 319 grant project in the Little Willow Creek watershed. An additional WQPA grant project was awarded to the district that will be completed in 2024. With continued assistance from ISWCC staff, the district applied for another Federal 319 grant to convert surface irrigated acreage to center pivot irrigation.
- **Outreach and Education:** Maintained district website www.payetteswcd.org District supervisors attended and provided input to USDA NRCS in a virtual Local Working Group meeting to identify local natural resource priorities for the federal agency. The district provided an educational display at the Payette County Fair in August. District supervisors updated their board on Payette County Planning & Zoning issues as related to local agriculture and natural resources.
- **District Operations:** The district maintained an independent, viable district office to provide efficient and effective service to the public. Supervisors attended IASCD Division III meetings, reviewed and approved their 5-Year Plan, and completed required district reports. The district hired and trained a new Administrative Assistant, and appointed a new supervisor to fill one vacancy.