

Canyon

Soil Conservation District

Performance Report July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024



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Canyon SCD Meetings: 1st Thursday after the first Tuesday of each month.

Top 3-5 Priorities

- Water Quality
- Urban Development/Farmland Preservation
- District Operations
- Irrigated Cropland
- Fish and Wildlife/Riparian Areas
- Information & Education/Soil Health



Recent FY 2024 Projects

The Canyon Soil Conservation District (SCD) worked with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) on projects involving pivot/sprinkler irrigation systems, drip irrigation systems, Irrigation Water Management (IWM), and Pasture improvement practices.

In FY 2024, Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) was provided to 7 different producers on 1100 acres. This included 1320 acres of No-Till Drill site visits, engineering designs, analysis, and recommendations for irrigation systems, including improved gravity systems, sprinklers, drip, POD systems, and Spring Development and flood irrigation using Alfalfa Valves.

The 319 Program 2024 funded 5 projects for a total of **\$ 409,000 on 670** acres.

(WQPA) Water Quality Program for Agriculture Canyon SCD was chosen for two projects: One Gravity to Drip irrigation in the Wilder area. BMP Cost Sharing **at 75%** for the drip project Matching Funds BMP Cost Sharing Participants **\$149,000.00** Total Project Costs **\$212,000.00** The other project on **135 acres** converted from gravity to 3 separate pivot sprinkler systems. BMP Cost-Sharing \$150,000 Total Costs **\$356,000.** Matching Funds BMP Cost Sharing Participants 319 Grant **\$139,027.00**

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Educational Programs Educational/Informational Outreach

Canyon SCD (CSCD) Outreach educates landowners, the public, and students on conservation awareness.

**Canyon SCD/Landowners/No-Till Drill planted 1355 acres of cover crops to improve Soil Health. The Great Plains model 1206 is 12 feet wide, and the John Deere model 1590 is 15 feet wide. The Sunflower model 9312 is 6 feet wide and works excellent for vineyards. The drills travel from New Plymouth, Marsing & Vale, including Canyon, Ada, Owyhee, Gem, Payette, and Valley counties.

**CSCD and NRCS are partnering with a CTA Agreement for Canyon Soil Conservation Technicians to help landowners with BMPs, soil Health Improvements, and Education/Information.

**Canyon SCD/319 Project Tour of Best Management Practices was held in September from 9 AM to 3:00 PM with 40 attendees.

**The Treasure Valley High Desert Local Work Group Meeting was held on September 17th, with 20 attendees at the U of I Caldwell Complex.

**Canyon SCD participated at the Canyon County Fair in July, with 200+ participants entering booths for fans, pencils, flower seeds, candy, and information/education brochures. Western Idaho Ag Expo was held on January 23rd and 24th. Over 500 people visited the Canyon SCD booth.

Future Projects

Canyon SCD has several projects in the works for FY 2025. We have three projects utilizing 319 funds and NRCS EQIP funding; one of these has additional WQPA funding associated with it. The projects total \$600,000.

We just funded two River Restoration projects totaling \$204,000.00. We are also trying to fund four new projects totaling 2.5 million. We are using \$539,000 of 319 Grants, with added EPA dollars and Idaho power grants.

Canyon SCD will continue to seek future projects for Agriculture Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Water Quality Improvements and the possibility of additional 319 funding. Without 319 funding, some irrigation evaluations may be done and used for demonstrations. Numerous projects are available for 319 funding if available. Center pivot sprinklers, wheel line sprinklers, annual drip systems, and permanent drip systems have been requested, and there is a continued interest in products utilizing this funding.

Continued efforts will be made with the assistance of a Conservation Technical Assistance Program. The Canyon SCD Resource Enhancement Project is designed to accelerate natural resource treatment and improvements. This project will address high-priority natural resource issues documented by Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) plans and Watershed Planning documents.

Canyon SCD will continue partnering with agencies and plan and seek funding to address resource concerns.

Canyon SCD will continue to promote natural resource conservation through outreach & education programs for youths and adults.

Canyon SCD will continue to help the landowners with vineyards and has purchased another No-Till Drill and trailer.