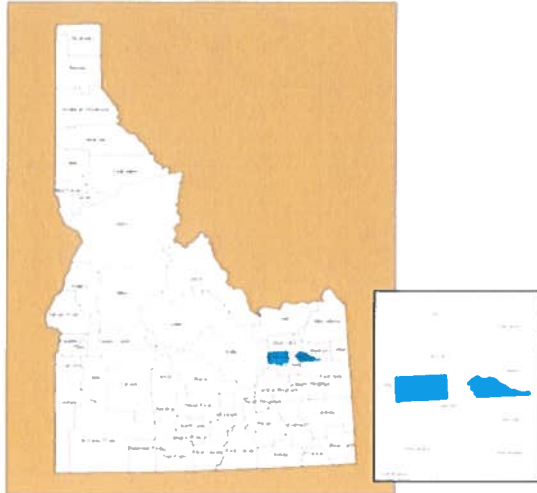


# Jefferson

Soil & Water Conservation District



210 S. 5<sup>th</sup> W. Rigby, ID 83442

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## Top 5 Natural Resource Concerns

1. Water Quality/Quantity
2. Irrigated Cropland
3. Weed Management
4. Wind Erosion/Windbreak Habitat
5. Information & Education

## FY 2023-2024 Revenue

State Funding	\$29,730.21
County Funding	\$ 9,500.00
No-till drill income	\$ 3192.00
Tree sales income	\$ 10,659.33
WQPA admin.	\$ 11,157.26

The fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30.

## Recent Projects

Jefferson SWCD paid out on two **Water Quality Projects for Agriculture** grants for geomembrane lining of irrigation canals. The projects address water loss from sink holes and impact 169 shareholders on about 12,000 acres. A grant for further lining on one of these canals was secured for FY 2024/25.

The district purchased and rented out a 15' **Great Plains no-till drill** from 2019 through 2024. It was used on 266 acres during fall 2023. Due to lessening demand, it was sold during the spring of 2024. Local use of low-till and no-till practices has increased over the 5 years the drill was available for rent.

August 2023 **Field Day**- Ditch to Pipeline, Hemp Crop, WET Stake Irrigation, Automated Head gates with electronic controls.

September 2023 **Urban Ag Tour** with NRCS state conservationist to see NRCS high tunnel projects.

Provided refreshments for **Farmer Appreciation Day** October 2023 at USDA Service Center.

Our **Annual Tree and Shrub Sale** provides wind break and landscape trees to farms and homes in the area. The district worked with a producer to plan and purchase trees specific to his property for a wind break and wildlife screen this last spring.



For **Arbor Day**, 80 juniper trees were donated to Hamer and Terreton Elementary 4<sup>th</sup> graders. The seedlings were distributed by the Lions club.

## Education & District Outreach

Dolly the Idaho Dairy Cow visited the **Mud Lake Fair and the Rigby Fair** in August 2023. 290 youth and 90 adults visited our booths at the two fairs. District activities and advertising for NRCS and FSA programs were on display.

**“One Water” Poster Contest**- October 2023. 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> were all from Ririe Elementary, Annabelle Nelson, Lila Romney, and James Coles.

**“One Water” Speech Contest** Bailee Ricks placed 1<sup>st</sup> in district, 2<sup>nd</sup> in division and 4<sup>th</sup> in state. Hunter Anderson placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in district and 3<sup>rd</sup> in division.

September 2023, the district employee taught 47 5<sup>th</sup> graders at Ririe Elementary a **lesson about the cycle of matter and energy**. They did an observational experiment of decaying cucumber pieces in dirt, in soil with compost, in actively composting matter, and just the cucumber. At the end of the week, their conclusion was “Living organisms in the soil make healthy soil”.

Jefferson SWCD participated in Rigby **FFA’s 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Field Day**, in May 2024, with a water cycle station. All county 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students visited the station over the course of two days.

The district employee is on the board for **Envirothon**, held in Challis. She helped with planning and execution of the contest. Jefferson District usually sponsors a team. Due to health issues, the local school did not have a team.

**Donations**- Idaho Ag in the Classroom, State Soil Judging, High Country RC&D Cloud Seeding and admin, NACD. IASCD, IDEA, Division VI. Rigby Fair board, Envirothon, U of I Natural Resource Camp, Scholarships.



Kevin Allred was named **Conservation Farmer of the Year** for 2024. He farms near Rigby. He was granted funds to change an open ditch to a pipeline for safety and efficiency. He was recognized at the **Farmers/Merchants Banquet** in March 2024.

**Scholarships** for Jefferson County high school seniors planning to major in agriculture-related fields were awarded to 4 Rigby HS students who will receive \$1,000 after attending at least one semester of college.



**Soil & Range Judging** of September 2023 took place at Ririe Idaho Crop Farm. Ririe’s soil team, advised by Jake Landon, placed first. North Gem, advised by Heather Hendren, took first in range. JSWCD aided NRCS with set up and catered lunch for the event.

Four scholarships were paid by the district for youth attendees at **University of Idaho Extension Natural Resource Camp** in June 2024.

## Board of Supervisors

Pat Hendren	Chairman	Lanny Burtenshaw	Supervisor
Joe Slagowski	Vice-Chairman	Bob Harrop	Supervisor
Allen Lovell	Secretary/Treasurer	Rulon Barlow	Supervisor
Ryan Holman	Supervisor	Linda Patterson	Administrative Assistant

## Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Summary

- Published the annual newsletter, "The Over-View" by email.
- Held an annual tree sale as a source of trees and bushes to those wishing to establish wind breaks and landscapes, along with landscape cloth and anchor staples as per NRCS guidelines.
- Helped two canal companies secure WQPA funding for their irrigation concerns, allowing for geomembrane lining of the canals, leading to improvements in water delivery and conservation.
- Fielded calls from homeowners about plant health, gardening, and irrigation concerns. Referred them to appropriate agencies.
- Provided an opportunity for cover crop establishment by renting a no-till drill to area farmers.
- Provided landscape cloth laying equipment to area landowners putting in wind breaks.
- Awarded scholarship monies to Jefferson County students who plan to attend college in agriculture-related fields.
- Dolly the Idaho Dairy Cow made visits to Mud Lake and Jefferson County Fairs.
- Provided information about NRCS and FSA programs at the Jefferson County Fair and Mud Lake Fair in a display of USDA/ NRCS services, as well as information about our Conservation District mission.
- Provided support for a Soil and Land Judging event by scheduling with the farm, coordinating with NRCS & BLM, helping with set up, catering a meal, and taking down after the event.
- Continually updated and expanded a web page promoting Jefferson SWCD and partners in conservation efforts.
- Jefferson SWCD acted as a working partner with East Side and West Side Conservation Districts as we coordinated in the Local Working Group and EQUIP ranking pool with NRCS,
- The district supported youth exposure to conservation messages through donations to or participation in events for FFA, Envirothon, U of I Extension Natural Resource Camp, 4-H, poster and speech contests, Jefferson County 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Ag Days, Jefferson County Farm Bureau Spring into Agriculture, Idaho Ag in the Classroom, DUP 4<sup>th</sup> grade History Days, and other school visits.
- Donated to High Country RC&D administrative support and cloud seeding.
- Donated to Idaho Association of Conservation Districts for legislative representation.
- Donate to other organizations such as NACD and IDEA for conservation district program support.

**IDAHO SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**PERFORMANCE  
REPORT  
CERTIFICATION**

**DISTRICT:** Jefferson SWCD

**FOR YEAR:**

2023- 2024

**DUE :**

**December 20, 2024**

**CERTIFICATION**

On behalf of my local Board of Supervisors, I hereby certify that the attached Performance Report is true and accurate, and further submit said Report for the above named District and fiscal year.

A copy of this Performance Report shall be kept at the District office and is available for public inspection.



Board Supervisor Signature

**Patrick Hendren**

Printed Name

**12/12/2024**

Date

**208-754-3210**

District Telephone

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District Email Address

**FOR SWC USE ONLY:**

**DATE OF CONFIRMATION:**