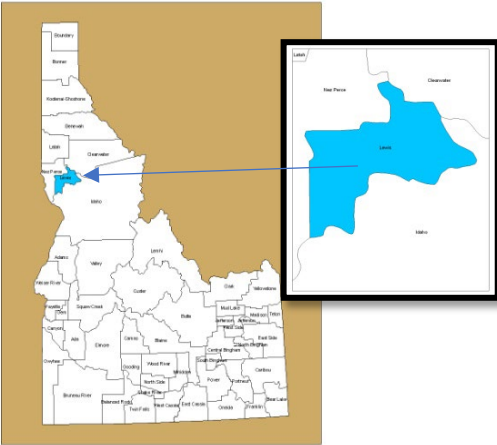


# Lewis Soil Conservation District

FY 2024



521 Oak Street, Room 8

Nezperce, ID 83543

Phone: 208-480-3042

Facebook: Lewis District

Website:

[lewissoilconservationdistrict.weebly.com](http://lewissoilconservationdistrict.weebly.com)

Board meetings: First Tuesday of the month

Email: [lewisscd@outlook.com](mailto: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	\$10,699.00
State Base Funding	\$8,500.00
County	\$8,000.00
Contributions & Donations	\$3,050.00
Grant Funding	\$506,075.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$542,324.00</b>

## 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

**Idaho Department of Environmental Quality | Non-Point Source §319 | Lewis County Water Quality Improvements** The district is collaborating with a minimum of eight private agricultural producers to establish practices in three key areas in Lewis County. Practices related to livestock agriculture will target nutrients, bacteria, and sediments, emphasizing water quality and manure management. Erosion control initiatives will concentrate on reducing sediment and nutrient pollution. Nutrient management practices will aim to address nutrient pollution. The total amount of funding for this grant is \$250,000.

**Idaho Department of Lands | FY24 Western State Fire Managers | Western Lewis County Phase 3 - Winchester** The LSCD has been approved for funding for the Western State Fire Managers Grant for Lewis County Fuels Reduction Phase 3 - Winchester. The district will receive \$230,000 in funding. Phase 2 was completed, treating a total of 325.5 acres in the Winchester and Forest areas for fuels reduction. The awarded amount totaled \$243,306.91. The first Western Fire Manager's grant covered 343.32 acres, with a total of \$237,499.18 awarded by the grant. These projects provided funds to thin forests, thereby improving forest health by decreasing stand densities and reducing hazardous fuels—dead, down, dying, and ladder fuels—which will protect structures and enhance ingress and egress for the cities of Winchester and Forest areas.

**Idaho Department of Environmental Quality | FY25 Source Water Protection | Regenerative Ag** The district was awarded \$24,000 for this grant. This initiative will focus on the source water areas surrounding Nezperce, Craigmont, and Winchester within the Clearwater Plateau Nitrate Priority Area. The project has a dual purpose: firstly, to demonstrate nutrient management and regenerative agriculture techniques that lessen reliance on synthetic nutrients; and secondly, to advocate for these practices and educate local producers about them. The strategy includes organizing tours, workshops, engaging through social media, and distributing postcards to communicate with producers in the region.

**Idaho Department of Lands | FY25 Western State Fire Managers | Kamiah Foothills Fuels Reduction - Phase 1** This grant aims to address fuel issues in the Kamiah Foothills and along the Clearwater River face drainages on Highway 12. The objectives include enhancing forest health and resilience by decreasing stand densities and reducing hazardous fuels such as dead, down, dying, and ladder fuels. The removal of these fuels will create defensible space around structures, as well as improve safety for ingress, egress, and emergency access in Kamiah. Should the proposal be accepted, the district could receive up to \$240,000 in funding to carry out fuel reduction projects in the Kamiah area.

**Idaho Department of Environmental Quality | Non-Point Source 319 | Big Canyon Implementations | Completed FY25** The Lewis Soil Conservation District was granted \$250,000 for Big Canyon Implementations project by the Department of Environmental Quality. This initiative involved the application of best management practices (BMPs) at worksites within the Upper Big Canyon watershed to directly reduce sediment and nutrient levels. This project represented a smaller segment of a broader campaign aimed at diminishing pollutant levels in the Big Canyon Creek Watershed. Complementary efforts included the utilization of cover crops, management of flooding, and addressing the effects of urban stormwater systems.

## Information and Education

### **Soil Health Workshop**

The 10th Annual Soil Health Workshop was hosted by the Lewis Soil Conservation District, Idaho Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Clearwater Soil and Water Conservation District. Featured speakers and topics included Mike Nestor, CCA & Regenerative Agronomist speaking about the “60 & 10 Paradigm Shift”; local producer Brent Uhlorn discussed his experience with the Harvest Weed Seed Control System & Reverse Osmosis Water. Brian Bohnhoff, Agronomist, Owner of Precision Bio, and Lewis County producers Eric Hasselstrom & Devon Zenner discussed “BioAgtiv Emissions and Biostimulants”. Mike and Linda Jackson, Clearwater County producers, talked about CAFO/Manure Management. Tom Gehring, Grangeville Agricultural Limestone Project discussed Lime Application & Soil Testing. Jared Everson, District Conservationist of the Natural Resources Conservation Service talked about “NRCS Programs”. There were 67 attendees at the workshop.

### **Noxious Weed Poster Contest**



The Lewis Soil Conservation District (LSCD) gave a “Noxious Weeds in Lewis County” presentation to 3<sup>rd</sup> 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**



4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Day**



The LSCD hosted the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Sixth Grade Field Day at Winchester Lake State Park. This year, a total of 98 6<sup>th</sup> Graders from, Prairie, Kamiah, Highland, and St. John Bosco school districts attended. Stations included Soils & Geology, canoeing, fishing, a nature trail, fire control, air quality, and forestry.

### **IASCD Poster Contest**

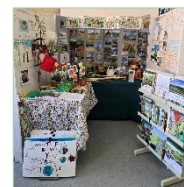
Local area students participated in the IASCD poster contest. The theme was *May the Forest be With You, Always*. The top winning posters for the district were from Highland Elementary School District. 1<sup>st</sup> place was Evia Osburn, 2<sup>nd</sup> place was True Thomason, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place Jaxon Chisley. They also received the same rankings for the Division poster contest.

### **Hatchery in the Classroom**

The “Hatchery in the Classroom” Project took place again this year. 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 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Soil Health Workshop on Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>. 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 & Support Team**

Jonathan Rosenau, Chairman  
 Greg Branson, Vice-Chairman  
 Tyler Nelson, Sec-Treasurer  
 Drew Leitch, Member  
 Conner McLeod, Member  
 Janette Mendenhall, Administrative Assistant  
 Eileen Rowan, ISWCC Water Quality Resource Conservationist  
 Jared Everson, NRCS District Conservationist  
 Amelia Patten, NRCS Resource Conservationist



**IDAHO SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**PERFORMANCE  
REPORT  
CERTIFICATION**

**DISTRICT:** Lewis

**FOR YEAR:**

2024

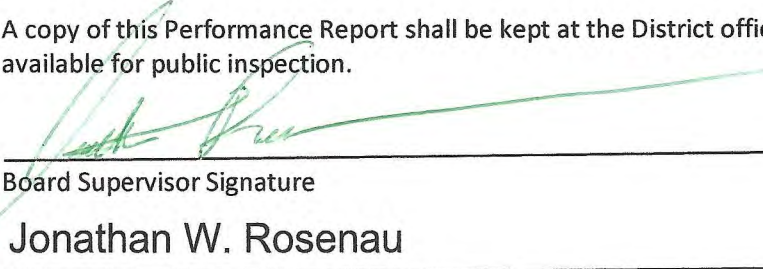
**DUE :**

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

**Jonathan W. Rosenau**  
\_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name

**12/03/2024**  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date

**208-480-3042**  
\_\_\_\_\_

District Telephone

**Lewisscd@outlook.com**  
\_\_\_\_\_

District Email Address

**FOR SWC USE ONLY:**

**DATE OF CONFIRMATION:**