

**ELMORE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
PO Box 1540/3080 Industrial Way
MOUNTAIN HOME, ID 83647**

**FIVE-YEAR RESOURCE CONSERVATION
BUSINESS PLAN**

JULY 1, 2025 – JUNE 30, 2030

Executive Summary or Forward

The Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District is one of 50 Conservation Districts in Idaho. Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Districts are political subdivisions of state Government but are not state agencies. Conservation Districts are charged with carrying out a program for the conservation, use and development of soil, water, and other natural resources.

Conservation Districts are the primary entities to provide assistance to private landowners and land users in the conservation, sustainment, improvement and enhancement of Idaho's natural Resources. They are catalysts for coordinating and implementing conservation programs, channeling expertise from all levels of government into action at the local level. Programs are non-regulatory; science-based technical assistance, incentive—based financial programs and informational and educational programs at the local level.

Both by legislation and by agreement the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service provides technical assistance to landowners and land users through Conservation Districts. Each Conservation District in Idaho has signed Mutual Agreement with the Secretary of Agricultural and the Governor of Idaho that establishes a framework for cooperation.

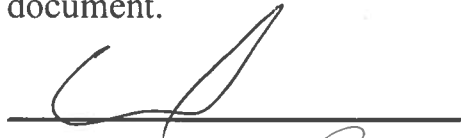
This Annual Plan/Five-Year Resource Conservation Business Plan was developed not only to guide the Conservation District, but also to encourage cooperation among landowners, government agencies, private organizations, and elected officials. Through knowledge and cooperation, all concerned can ensure a sustainable natural resource base for present and future generations in the Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District.

This document identifies the resource needs in the Conservation District and presents a resource conservation action plan for meeting these needs.

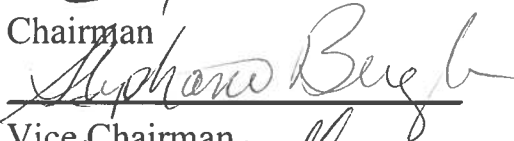
Certificate of Adoption

The Board of elected supervisors of the Elmore Soil and Water Conservation District this 11th day of March 2025, do hereby approve the following document known as the Resource Conservation Business Plan. This Plan will be in effect for a five-year period ending June 30, 2030, during which time it will be updated annually and/or amended, as necessary.

As evidence of our adoption and final approval, we do hereby affix our signatures to this document.



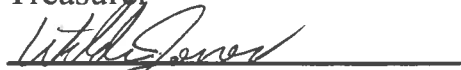
Chairman



Vice Chairman



Treasurer



Member



Member

Supporting Idaho Conservation Partners:

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission

Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts



5-Year Resource Conservation Plan Business Plan (2020 to 2025) Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

**For More Information Contact: Chris McDaniel, 208-301-1076
email: elmoreswcd@hotmail.com**

Organization of the Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District:

The ESWCD was officially organized June 7, 1940, the first supervisors were as of November 27, 1940, Oliver Lord, W. D. Clayville, James Russell, C. R. Slater and W. S. Lee. Several locations and name changes took place. Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District is the official name since 10/19/99.

Function of the Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

The Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District assists land managers with their conservation choices.

We Serve & Why

The Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District serves as the grass roots entity for the County of Elmore. The County of Elmore is diverse, and the supervisors prioritize the projects by importance that is deemed relative to our unique area.

Mission of the Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

The Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District is dedicated to working together with our partners and landowners to conserve Elmore County's natural resources.

Values of the Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

The trends and issues impacting conservation in Elmore County are Water Quantity and Quality—Declining Aquifer, Urban growth as it impacts agriculture, county infrastructure, water, sewer, and schools.

The Elmore Soil & Water Conservation plays a vital part in determining the goals and priorities.

2026 Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District assisting land managers with their conservation choices.

Natural Resource Priorities and Goals:

Water Quantity: Continue alternative measures upstream as given by engineers on the Canyon Creek Erosion control Project. To provide cooperators with technical and financial information for Water District 161. Bring to awareness the erosion concerns in Elmore County and implement remediation programs.

Water Quality: To continue efforts to assist landowners with nonpoint source pollution. To seek State and Federal programs to address water quality concerns including excess runoff and erosion in wildfire areas. Promote pollution free clean water.

District Operations: As required by Soil commission District Law, to operate effectively and efficiently as a subdivision of the State government. Assist landowners in applying for federal and state programs to address water conservation as well as other resource concerns. Elmore SWCD Conservation Grant Program.

District Operations/Information & Education: Implement adult and youth information & education programs. Increase the environmental outreach for Elmore County. Working with Veterans on a gardening and farming program.

Rangeland: Maintain and improve grazing land in Elmore County. Make plans to increase the effort to improve the quality and quantity of forage on private grazing lands. This is to include the introduction of more desirable species in historical as well as recent burn areas and the introduction of fire-resistant species to provide a fire break.

Woodland: To protect and improve woodland area on private land. To establish windbreaks and promote measures to reduce wildfire hazards to homes and forestland. To promote various practices which reduce the rapid spread of forest fires. Promote programs to restore forest regrowth.

Fish & Wildlife: Enhance and improve wildlife habitat areas in Elmore County. Promote programs and land management considerations with regards to candidates, threatened and endangered species. (ie- promote Sage Grouse programs).

Erosion: To seek programs to implement practices to reduce wind and water and fire erosion.

Mosquito Abatement Program: Provide assistance to maintain Mosquito Abatement.

Critical Geographic Areas: (attached map)

Information – Education Priorities and Goals:

- Conduct adult and youth presentations, display board, electronic display, social media platforms.
- Enhance environmental outreach efforts to Elmore County landowners and residents.
- Coordinate the poster and speech contests and the 9th Grade Conservation Field Day. Participate in Legislative Social/Display, Arbor Day and Elmore County Fair display

District Operations Priorities, Goals:

- ESWCD will hold 12 regular meetings.
- ESWCD supervisors will meet with elected officials to discuss conservation opportunities and accomplishments.
- ESWCD will conduct supervisor elections.
- ESWCD supervisors and staff will attend IASCD Division meeting and Annual Conference to keep abreast of developments affecting district operations and legislative issues that may require board action.

Trends Impacting Conservation in the Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

- Water quantity—Declining Aquifer
Water District 161
Irrigation Districts within Elmore SWCD
- Urban growth as it impacts the following:
Agriculture
County infrastructure
Water
Sewer
Schools

Strategies to Address Trends

- Seek local, state, and federal agencies support for flood control project.
- Promote irrigation water management practices for irrigated cropland.
- Provide support to cooperators seeking funding for irrigation equipment and practices. (EQIP, RCRDP Loans, Conservation improvement grants, and other sources)
- Partner with County Officials to provide support and help maintain the Mosquito Abatement program.
- Elmore County Mosquito Abatement program
- Partner with other agency to help provide technical and financial support to cooperators.
- Water District 161
- Irrigation District within Elmore SWCD boundaries – improvements and repairs infrastructure.
- Promote Elmore SWCD Community Grant.

Staffing Needs

Administrative Assistant

Annual Budget Needs (attached budget)

Key Decision Makers:

Chris McDaniel, Chairman
Stephanie Bergh, Vice Chairman
Steve Nemeth, Treasurer
Michael Connell, Supervisor
Wilder Jones, Supervisor



FY2025 (7/1/2025 – 6/30/2026) Annual Plan of Work Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Number 1: Water Quantity

Objective: To provide administrative, technical, and financial support to the Canyon Creek Erosion Control project and Water District 161

Goal: To prevent flooding from Canyon Creek and other Elmore County streams

Actions	Target	Individual(s)
	Date	Responsible
Seek local, state, and federal agencies support for the flood control project. Seek technical and financial support to help cooperators with flow meters.	On going	Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Seek local, state, and federal agencies support for remediation of fire damaged areas with concerns for erosion and excessive runoff.	On going	Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Promote irrigation water management practices for irrigated cropland. Provide help to improve Mountain Home Irrigation District infrastructure. Provide support to cooperators seeking funding for irrigation equipment and practices. (EQIP, RCRDP Loans, Conservation Improvement Grants, 319 Grant, Reclamation Grants, Water Smart grant, and other sources).	On going	Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Promote Water Conservation and potential for increased water quantity.	As needed	Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Review new HEL plans.	On-going	ESWCD Board & Newsletter
	As Needed	ESWCD Board Members

2026 Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District assisting land managers with their conservation choices.



FY2025 (7/1/2025 – 6/30/2026) Annual Plan of Work Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Number 2: Water Quality

Objective: Continue efforts to assist landowners with nonpoint source pollution control.

Goal(s): Promote pollution free clean water.

Actions	Target		Individual(s) Responsible
	Date		
Provide assistance and promote programs which minimize stream pollution due to runoff erosion especially due to recent fire events.	Ongoing		Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Recognize local natural resource problems and contribute to the NRCS by prioritizing corrective measures to address said issues through the LWG (Local Working Group)	Ongoing		Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
For anyone who does not qualify for EQIP payment rate, the ESWCD board and staff encourages the landowner to seek low interest loans or grants through WQPA, RCRDP or other agencies.	As requested		Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Promote Clean Water—Pollution Free. Help to provide educational information to Water District 161 and cooperators and partnerships	Quarterly		ESWCD Board & Newsletter
Look at prospective 319 projects	As needed		Elmore SWCD Board & ISWCC



FY2025 (7/1/2025 – 6/30/2026) Annual Plan of Work Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Number 3: District Operations

Objective: To operate effectively and efficiently as a subdivision of State government as required by Soil Commission District Law.

Goal(s): Seek State and federal programs to address water quality concerns; apply for programs to assist landowners

Actions	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Schedule and hold 12 Board Meetings	Monthly	Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Develop and submit Conservation District Annual Plan of Work	3/31/2025	Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Develop and submit Conservation District Budget	05/2025	Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Maintain financial management system using QuickBooks; submit reports, quarterly taxes	As needed	Treasurer & Admin Assistant
Seek and appoint new associate supervisors, or supervisors to run for election.	As needed	Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Conduct ESWCD election 4-year terms as needed. Internal elections yearly Annual Financial Review	As needed 07/2025	Admin Assistant Treasurer & Admin
Seek assistance from the Elmore County Commissioners by Chairman	Annually	Board Chairman



FY2025 (7/1/2025 – 6/30/2026) Annual Plan of Work Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Number 3A: District Operations/Information & Education

Objective: Enhance environmental outreach efforts to Elmore County

Goal(s): Implement adult and youth information & education programs.

Actions

	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Promote cooperator agreements clearly establishing conservation goals and practices	Monthly	ESWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Conduct poster and speech contests. Contact and encourage all school within Elmore County to participate in the speech and poster contest. Meet with school administrators and teachers annually.	Annually	Admin Assistant
Plan & conduct 9 th grade Conservation Field Day at a designated area approved by the ESWCD Board Supervisors	Annually	Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Provide Conservation news articles to local newspapers	Bi-annually	Admin Assistant
Edit and distribute a quarterly newsletter to approximately 300 recipients/contact sponsors for support.	Quarterly	Admin Assistant
Support NRC with partial tuitions, Support Envirothon, Forestry Contest, Support FFA & Ag in the Classroom.	Annually	ESWCD Board
Elmore SWCD Community Conservation Grant Program	Monthly	ESWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Mountain Home Community Garden Veteran Garden and Farm program	Quarterly	ESWCD Board & Admin Assistant

2026 Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District assisting land managers with their conservation choices.



FY2025 (7/1/2025 – 6/30/2026) Annual Plan of Work Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Number 4: Rangeland

Objective: Improve quality and quantity of forage on private grazing lands.

Goal(s): Maintain & improve grazing land in Elmore County

Actions	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Work with Cooperators to develop and implement grazing plans and practices.	As needed	Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Promote programs which include the introduction of more desirable species. Work with partner agencies to improve species and their habitat's (Fish & Wildlife)	On going	Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Promote the introduction of fire-resistant species as a method of establishing a natural fire break.	On going	Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Promote programs to minimize the effects of erosion due to fires. Establish Off-stream Livestock water.	On going	Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
To work cooperatively with other agencies to control and manage noxious weeds and undesirable species.	On going	Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant



FY2025 (7/1/2025 – 6/30/2026) Annual Plan of Work Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Number 5: Woodland

Objective: To fund & establish windbreaks through payment rate programs

Goal(s): Protect and improve woodland areas on private land.

Actions	Target	Individual(s)
	Date	Responsible
Assist landowners in seeking funding for establishing windbreaks and forestland improvements. Off-stream Livestock water.	As needed	Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Determine and promote measures to reduce wildfire hazards to homes and forestland. Decrease the effects of erosion after wildfires.	As Needed	ESWCD Board with RC & D
Community Outreach offering free Tree Seedlings in conjunction with stewardship week and arbor day.	Annually	ESWCD Board & Admin Assistant



FY2025 (7/1/2025 – 6/30/2026) Annual Plan of Work Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Number 6: Fish & Wildlife

Objective: Assist landowners with wildlife habitat concerns

Goal(s): Improve wildlife habitat areas in Elmore County

Actions	Target		Individual(s) Responsible
	Date		
Facilitate, store maps for Sage Grouse LWG	As needed		Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Sponsor Community Meeting through RC&D	As needed		Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Pursue possibilities of Partnering with organizations ie Rocky Mtn. Elk foundation, Pheasants/Quails Forever and agencies that protect and maintain fish and wildlife.	As needed		Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Promote programs and land management considerations with regards to candidates, threatened and endangered species: i.e., Sage Grouse and F&W partnerships	As needed		Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant



FY2025 (7/1/2025 – 6/30/2026) Annual Plan of Work Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Number 7: Erosion

Objective: To be aware of erosion concerns in Elmore County

Goal(s): Reduce wind, fire, and water erosion.

Actions	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Continue working with Farm Service Agency for Emergency Conservation Program projects emphasizing on erosion.	As needed	Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Review new HEL Compliance plans – sodbusting and general provisions.	As needed	Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Review sod buster & wetland plans	As needed	Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Assist landowners, partnering with Federal, State and County agencies to reduce erosion after wildfires.	As needed	Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant



FY2025 (7/1/2025 – 6/30/2026) Annual Plan of Work Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District

Conservation District Priority Number 8: Mosquito Abatement Program

Objective: Partner with Elmore County to maintain Mosquito Abatement

Goal(s): Provide assistance to maintain Mosquito Abatement

Actions	Target Date	Individual(s) Responsible
Partner and work cooperatively with Elmore County Officials: Mosquito Abatement program and water recharge	As needed	Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Partner and work cooperatively with Irrigation Districts; improvement to reservoirs, canal infrastructure and water recharge.	As needed	Elmore SWCD Board & Admin Assistant
Provide administrative support staff.	As needed	Admin Assistant
Collaborate with NACD, Bruneau River SCD and NRCS to provide an employee for the local area office to continue positive working relationship with landowners.	Quarterly	ESWCD & BRSCD board & Admin Assistants

**IDAHO SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**FIVE-YEAR (5) PLAN and
ANNUAL WORK PLAN
CERTIFICATION**

DISTRICT: Elmore Soil & Water
Conservation District

FOR FISCAL YEAR:

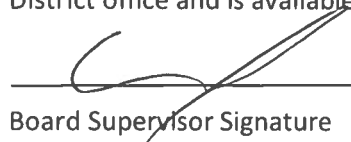
2026

DUE : 2025
March 31,

CERTIFICATION

On behalf of my local Board of Supervisors, I hereby certify that the attached Five-Year (5) Plan and Annual Work Plan is true and accurate, and further submit said Plan for the above named District and fiscal year.

A copy of this Five-Year (5) Plan and Annual Work Plan shall be kept at the District office and is available for public inspection.


Board Supervisor Signature

Chris McDaniel

Printed Name

March 11, 2025

Date

208-696-3090

District Telephone

elmoreswcd@hotmail.com/stefanie.kazyaka@id.nacdnet.net

District Email Address

FOR SWC USE ONLY:

DATE OF CONFIRMATION:
