

# Payette

## Soil and Water Conservation District

### Performance Report 2025

---



**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 on February 26, 1958, 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.

501 North 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
Suite #106  
Payette, ID 83661  
(208) 642-6129  
payetteswcd@gmail.com  
[www.payetteswcd.org](http://www.payetteswcd.org)

**Board meets** 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday  
of each month

#### **Our District Priorities**

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

#### **Funding 2025**

Local Government	\$ 8,000
ISWCC	24,000
Grants	38,600
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$70,600</b>

#### **Board of Supervisors:**

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

#### **Employees:**

Carie Bronson-District Manager

#### **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.

2025 Legislative Social and Display Day  
L-R: Kirsten Syme, Allen Schmid, Carie Bronson,  
Vicki Lukehart, Representative John Shirts



WQPA Underground Drain Replacement Phase II  
In FY2025 Phase II replaced a further 160' section  
of failing concrete pipe.



## 2025 District Accomplishments

- **Annual Soil Health Symposium:** Over 170 people attended the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Soil Health Symposium organized by Payette SWCD and partners Ada SWCD, Adams SWCD, U of I, Oregon State, and USDA NRCS. Payette SWCD was awarded a Source Water Protection Grant through the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality to educate Payette County residents about the Lower Payette Nitrate Priority Area. A Lower Payette Nitrate Priority Area brochure was created by the district and distributed at the event as well as the cities of Payette, Fruitland, and New Plymouth. USDA NRCS, Idaho State Water Quality Specialist, Maureen Pepper gave a presentation entitled “Understanding Nitrate Pollution in Payette County’s Groundwater.” Although the Source Water Protection Grant project was completed in 2025, it does not reflect in the FY2025 revenue.
- **Lower Payette River TMDLs:** Payette SWCD is working on a phased approach to update an aging drain that serves around 100 users and roughly 2300 acres, allowing drain water to be conveyed to alleviate ponding and sinkholes. Phase I updated a 140’ section of failing concrete pipe in FY2024. Phase II replaced a further 160’ section in FY2025.
- **Outreach and Education:** Maintained district website [www.payetteswcd.org](http://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 and sponsored a pollinator flower arrangement at the Payette County Fair in August 2025. District supervisors updated their board on Payette County Planning & Zoning issues 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. When revenues triggered an audit at the end of FY2024, the district completed the required audit in accordance with Idaho Code. Supervisors participated in IASCD Division III meetings, reviewed and approved the 5-Year Plan, and completed all required district reports. Additionally, three supervisors and the district manager attended the 81<sup>st</sup> Annual IASCD Conference in Boise, Idaho.

**IDAHO SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**PERFORMANCE  
REPORT  
CERTIFICATION**

**DISTRICT:** Payette Soil & Water  
Conservation District

**FOR YEAR:**

FY2025

**DUE :**

December 20, 2025

**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.

*Jo Anne Smith*

Board Supervisor Signature

**Jo Anne Smith**

Printed Name

**12/10/2025**

Date

**208-642-6129**

District Telephone

**payetteswcd@gmail.com**

District Email Address

**FOR SWC USE ONLY:**

**DATE OF CONFIRMATION:**