

2018 District Budget Hearing: Water Quality Project Needs Worksheet for FY 2020 Budget Request

District: <i>Lewis Soil Conservation District</i>
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Priority Water Quality Project Needs

Project Title: Soil Health in Lewis County	
<p><i>Description of Project:</i> This project would focus on improving soil health by assisting producers in Lewis County to implement lime application on 6000 acres, 3000 acres of split fertilizer applications, 100 ac cover crops, 300 ac micronutrient applications, 500 ac precision ag.</p> <p>This project would focus on improving soil health in Lewis County to target 303 (d) water bodies in Lapwai Creek, Mission Creek, Big Canyon, Little Canyon Holes/Long Hollow Creeks, Lawyer Creek, 5 Mile Creek, 6 Mile Creek and the Clearwater Plateau Groundwater priority area.</p>	
<i>Project Timeline:</i>	<i>Priority: 1</i>
<p><i>Resource Concern(s) Addressed:</i> Sediment, temperature, and nutrient loading for water quality in streams within Lewis County. Improve soil health by promoting nutrient management and improve groundwater.</p>	
<i>Available Funding (list all sources):</i>	
<i>Federal:</i>	\$0
<i>State:</i>	\$0
<i>District:</i>	\$0
<i>Other:</i>	\$0
<p><i>Notes:</i> The District would like funding to help producers in Lewis County which have asked for cost share funding. Applying lime to the soil with low pH has been proven to accomplish soil health productivity and the yields increase from application of lime. The purpose of this project is to demonstrate precision agriculture principles of right amount, right place, right time and right application method with respect to commercial fertilizer and lime applications to halt or reverse acidification, to improve pH levels for more productive crop and cover crop seeding. This is a great concern of producers in Lewis County.</p>	
Total State Funds Needed To Complete Project:	\$250,550

Project Title: Lewis County Forest Health	
<p><i>Description of Project:</i></p> <p><i>This project would work with landowners/operators to identify ways to voluntarily apply needed conservation practices. This funding would help with implementing 200 acres pre-commercial thinning, 100 acres tree/shrub plantings, and 2,000 acres of weed control.</i></p> <p><i>It would encourage producers to properly manage timber stands, and fire zones, while collaborating with public land management agencies in planning and implementing forest improvement practices.</i></p>	
<i>Project Timeline:</i>	<i>Priority: 2</i>
<p><i>Resource Concern(s) Addressed:</i></p> <p><i>Reduce sediment load, prevent or stop the spread of exotic insects and disease, and reduce wildfire hazard.</i></p>	
<i>Available Funding (list all sources):</i>	
<i>Federal:</i>	\$0
<i>State:</i>	\$0
<i>District:</i>	\$0
<i>Other:</i>	\$0
<i>Notes:</i>	
<i>Total State Funds Needed To Complete Project:</i>	\$355,000

Project Title: Fisher Fire / Big Canyon Creek Landscape Restoration	
<p><i>Description of Project:</i> This project would focus on the 2015 Fisher Fire area which burned approximately 15% of the Big Canyon Creek watershed. While even low burn severity areas have a higher risk of erosion and increased runoff immediately after the fire. The funds would help landowners replant trees, address weeds which the most concerned species include spotted knapweed, puncture vine, yellow star thistle, and Canadian thistle, after which will include re-seeding of grasses which will protect the soil from raindrop impacts, reducing the magnitude of erosion, flash floods, and debris flows risk in subsequent years.</p>	
<i>Project Timeline:</i>	<i>Priority: 3</i>
<p><i>Resource Concern(s) Addressed:</i> Sediment and nutrient delivered to Big Canyon Creek</p>	
<i>Funding (list all sources):</i>	
<i>Federal:</i>	\$0
<i>State:</i>	\$0
<i>District:</i>	\$0
<i>Other:</i>	\$0
<p><i>Notes:</i> 26% of the burned area is forestland. 71% of the area is privately owned (15,726 ac). 2,500 acres are identified for reforestation treatments on private lands. With funds would help to restore the Big Canyon and help soil erosion and improve water quality. Areas of high weed population are prone to soil erosion. Erosion control and associated improvements in stream quality will benefit land and water uses in the watershed, downstream areas and surrounding communities.</p>	
Total State Funds Needed To Complete Project:	\$250,000