



Canyon County FY2027 Funding Request Application

APPLICATION DUE BY APRIL 30, 2026

Organization Name: **Canyon County Soil Conservation District**

Address: **2208 Chicago Ave East, Caldwell, Idaho 83605**

Email: **admin@canyonsoilconservation.org**

Website: **www.canyonsoilconservation.org**

Contact Name: **Stan Haye** Title: **Soil Conservationist Technician**

Contact Address: **2208 Chicago Ave East, Caldwell, Idaho 83605**

Contact Phone: **208.731.9930** Email: **stan.haye@id.nacdnet.net**

Requested funding amount: **\$30,000**

Documents to be included with application, if not applicable please provide statement of why:

- o Proposed FY2027 budget
- o 3-year budget-to-actual history
- o Letters of commitment from any other funding sources
- o Letters of support
- o IRS determination letter for 501(c)(3) status and documentation that your organization is incorporated as an Idaho non-profit corporation

Send completed application and attachments to:
Canyon County – Attn: BOCC – 1115 Albany St. Caldwell, ID 83605
OR email to BOCC@canyoncounty.id.gov

**PLEASE NOTE: ONLY COMPLETED APPLICATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR A MEETING
WITH THE BOARD**

FY2027 CANYON COUNTY FUNDING REQUEST APPLICATION

Please answer the following questions; if additional space is required please attach additional pages as necessary.

1. Provide a detailed description of how the funding will be utilized:
We assist in providing at a low-cost implementation of No till drills for the use of cover crops and economic gain. Canyon County Soil Conservation District works hand in hand with NRCS employees to locate farms and ranches within Canyon County. Projects are sorted and picked then the Best Management Practices are used to reduce sediment and nutrients from getting into the Tributaries to the Boise and Snake Rivers. Canyon County SCD is constantly working to plan, design and help facilitate funding using 319 Grants from DEQ to piggyback with NRCS Programs such as the Environmental Quality Incentive Program, Regional Conservation Partnership Program, and the National Water Quality Incentive Program.
2. How does the program/organization benefit the citizens of Canyon County?
By educating these fine citizens in the use of innovated farming practices, technical assistance and new innovations.
3. Does your program/organization charge any fees for public or citizen use? If yes, please explain.
There are only fees for the use of our three No-Till Drills at \$15.00 per acre. No fees are charged to anyone that wants our help.
4. How is the program/organization available to the citizens of Canyon County?
Calls can be made through the USDA office located at 2208 Chicago Avenue in Caldwell or the Technician at 208-779-3446 or 208-731-9930.
Email to admin@canyonsoilconservation.org or Stan.haye@id.nacdnet.net
5. What are the regular hours of operation?
8am to 4pm Monday through Friday.

6. How is the program/organization publicized?

We are a five- member board with retired board members that meet monthly with NRCS Employees, Idaho Soil and Water Commission, and the Soil Conservationist Technician Earth Team Volunteer. Old and new ideas are shared among everyone with updates on how conservation is being spread out in Canyon County. From the use of three No-Till Drills to utilizing conversions from gravity to sprinkler or drip irrigation. Spreading the word on how and when to use soil health, minimum till cover crops, irrigation water management, and nutrient management. This Year we have had a broad news article and a radio talk show by the Boise State Broadcasting Show.

7. Total hours per year the program/organization is available to the public.

1,800 hours including Technical Assistance Board Appearances during Western AG Events, Cayon County Fair, and the Capitol. Weekend on calls, No-Till Drills, administrative assistant, temporary volunteers such as NRCS, FSA Employees Retired Board members, and Rich Simms Retired State Conservationist Earth Team Volunteer.

8. Number of citizens served each year?

500 to 1,000 including County Fairs, Ag Shows and Capitol Meet and Greets. Technical assistance Farm Tours, and out- reach programs.

9. How would our contribution reduce or eliminate costs to the County taxpayer?

The efforts that our Board of Directors and employees make not only reach the farming community but also the new citizens that have moved into the valley from out of state. They have many questions on how and why agriculture works in Idaho, which saves the taxpayers from hiring another county employee to do this job.

It is hereby mutually agreed and understood that if awarded the use of these funds will be for the purposes stated in this document only.



Signature of authorized representative



Printed name



Title



Date

Canyon Soil Conservation District			
Annual Budget			
July 2026 through June 2027			
Ordinary Income/Expense Income			
40000	Intrest Income- LGIP		\$930.00
41000	State Income		
41100	ISWCC State General		\$0.00
41200	ISWCC Base Funding		\$34,500.00
41300	ISWCC District Operations Fund		\$0.00
41400	ISWCC Dist. Capacity Bldg Grant		\$0.00
Total 41000 - State Income			\$35,430.00
42000	Canyon County		\$30,000.00
42500	Newsletter Ads		\$0.00
43000	Project 319 grant		\$43,720.00
43350	No-Till Drill-Deposits		\$14,000.00
43550	SWID RC&D Admin Assistance		\$0.00
43555	Div III Meeting Meals		\$0.00
43750	CTA Agreement		\$41,500.00
44000	WQPA		\$82,500.00
45000	Other Income		\$0.00
Total Income			\$247,150.00
Expense			
60000	Bank Charges		
60050	US Bank Service Charges		\$0.00
60051	DL Evans Service Charges		\$0.00
60055	Direct Deposit Fee		\$130.00
Total Bank Charges			\$130.00
61000	Dues		
61100	Div III Dues		\$35.00
61150	Id. Assn. of Conservation Dists.		\$1,800.00
61200	Id. Dist. Employee Assn		\$75.00
61250	Natl. Assn. of Cons. Dists		\$100.00
61300	Resource Conservation & Develop		\$50.00
61350	ID Ag in the Classroom		\$150.00

61360	Idaho Enviroth Des	\$0.00
61500	Other	\$0.00
Total 61000 Dues		\$2,210.00
61700	No-Till Drill Deposit Reimburse.	\$2,500.00
61702	Equipment Purchase and Repair	\$16,000.00
61900	Subcontract Expense	\$86,000.00
Employee - Payroll Expense		
62050	Administrative Assistant	
62051	Wages-Gross	\$6,500.00
62052	Soc. Sec. - Employer	\$325.00
62053	Medicare - Employer	\$10.00
62054	FUTA Employer Portion	\$10.00
62055	ST Unemploy Tax - Employer	\$15.00
62056	Parker Advisors Payroll Prep	\$800.00
62057	Mileage	\$600.00
62058	Retirement Contribution	\$0.00
62060	Workmans Comp	\$200.00
62662	ICRMP	\$900.00
Total 62050 Employee - Payroll Expense		\$9,360.00
62070	Soil Conservation Tech	
62071	Wages-Gross	\$0.00
62072	Soc. Sec. - Employer	\$0.00
62073	Medicare - Employer	\$0.00
62074	FUTA Employer Portion	\$0.00
62075	ST Unemploy Tax - Employer	\$0.00
62076	Parker Advisors Payroll Prep	\$0.00
62077	Retirement Contribution	\$0.00
62078	Workmans Comp	\$0.00
62077	ICRMP	\$0.00
62079	Milage & Cell Phone	\$0.00
Total 62050 Soil Conservation Tech		\$0.00
64000	Information & Education	
64100	Canyon County Fair	\$600.00
64150	Contests	
64151	Poster Contest	\$0.00
64152	Speech Contest	\$0.00
64200	Displays & Photography	\$1,000.00
64250	Education Materials	\$500.00
64300	Envirothon	\$0.00

64350	Newsletter		\$0.00
64400	Natural Resource Camp		\$700.00
64500	Other Information and Education		\$2,500.00
Total 64000 Information & Education			\$5,300.00
65500	Meetings		
65550	Division III Meeting		\$200.00
65600	IASCD Conference		\$500.00
65650	Tours		\$800.00
Total 65500 Meetings			\$1,500.00
66000	Office Expense		
66025	Booking Expense		\$3,000.00
66050	Office Supplies		\$500.00
66100	Quickbooks Consult		\$0.00
66150	QB Resources - financial audit		\$5,000.00
66200	Misc. Expense		\$400.00
Total 66000 Office Expense			\$8,900.00
66600	ICRIMP Coverage		\$2,000.00
66700	Utilities		
66710	Verizon Internet		
66720	Website		\$324.00
66730	Google Workspace		\$300.00
66740	Equipment		
Total 66700 Utilities			\$624.00
80000	WQPA Disbursements		\$75,000.00
90000	Capital Projects and Improvements		\$15,000.00
Total Expense			\$224,524.00
Net Income			\$22,626.00



PO Box 9205
Portland, OR 97207
www.thefreshwatertrust.org

April 17, 2026

Re: Letter of support

Dear County Commissioners,

This letter is in support of Canyon County Soil Conservation District's continuing work to implement Best Management Practices and conservation farming practices in Canyon County.

The Freshwater Trust (TFT) has a long history working to support producers and stakeholders with new funding for on-farm projects that reduce phosphorus loads to the Snake River. Canyon County Soil Conservation District is an important partner in that effort. With the leadership and outreach provided by Canyon County Soil Conservation District, the Lower Boise Technical Advisory Committee has been able to document sustained progress towards water quality objectives in the basin.

TFT strongly encourages continued support of the Canyon County Soil Conservation District.

Sincerely,

David Primozich
Vice President of Water

April 27, 2026

Re: Letter of support

Dear County Commissioners

This letter is in support of Canyon County Soil Conservation Districts work in Best Management Practices and continuing with conservation of farming in Canyon County. The Lower Boise Water Council works closely with Board members and employees of Canyon County Soil Conservation District projects that benefit the agricultural community and water quality.

Our board members have positive experience with outcomes in irrigation water resources and system infrastructure. With the soil conservation's help in the planning, design, and implementation of projects along the Lower Boise River, BMPs have substantially reduced nutrients over the last ten years. We want to continue this relationship to reduce sediment run-off into the ecosystem and to meet the TMDL for both the Boise and Snake Rivers. Our team is committed to bringing our local knowledge and experience to promote a simpler way to accelerate implementation of ag BMPs that accomplish these goals.

The Lower Boise Water Council has been and will continue to be positioned to work with Canyon County SCD collaborating to support this effort.

Sincerely,



Clint Dolsby, Chair
Lower Boise Water Council



CANYON SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

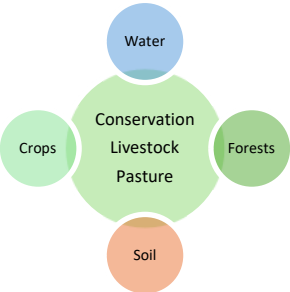
2208 E. CHICAGO, SUITE A, CALDWELL, ID 83605



FIVE-YEAR RESOURCES

CONSERVATION BUSINESS PLAN

January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2030



FORWARD

The Canyon Soil Conservation District (Canyon SCD) is one of 50 Conservation Districts in Idaho. These districts are local government subdivisions of the state, not state agencies. Their role is to conserve soil, water, and other natural resources.

Conservation districts assist private landowners to protect, improve, and manage their land. They coordinate conservation programs and connect local needs with expertise and resources from many partners. Programs are voluntary and science based. They include technical help, financial incentives, and educational outreach in the community.

By law and through formal agreements with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and the State of Idaho, Conservation Districts provide technical support to land users.

This Annual/Five-Year Resource Conservation Business Plan guides the district and supports landowners in using programs that keep natural resources healthy for current and future generations within the Canyon Soil Conservation District. It identifies local resource needs and outlines actions to address them.



CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION

We, the Board of Supervisors of the Canyon Soil Conservation District this 6th day of March 2026 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 December 31, 2029, 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.

Clay Erskine, Chairman

Chris Gross, Vice Chairman

Brad McIntyre Sec. /Treasurer

Alex Villifana, Supervisor

Tyson Meeks, Supervisor

Tate Walters
Treasure Valley High Desert Team Leader/District Conservationist

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I. Conservation District Structure and Governing Policies

A. Enabling Legislation, Legal Structure

The Canyon Soil Conservation District (Canyon SCD) is a legal subdivision of the State of Idaho. Its purpose is to help landowners conserve soil and water resources and coordinate conservation efforts within the district. The district partners with government agencies, private organizations, and landowners to promote the conservation, development, and responsible use of natural resources.

B. Powers and Authorities

The Canyon SCD was established in 1951 to address farm-related soil and water issues. It assisted farmers with land leveling, irrigation improvements, conservation cropping, and residue management, while also helping irrigation companies upgrade canals, diversions, and water measurement along the Boise River.

C. Current District Board & Associate Supervisors

Board Members - Jan/Feb 2025

- o Clay Erskin, Chris Gross, Brad McIntyre, Tyson Meeks, and Alex Villafana.

Associate Board Members

- o Mike Swartz, Rex Runkle, Rich Sims & Delwyne Trefz

D. District Administration and Operations

Canyon SCD is governed by a five-member board elected by Canyon County residents, serving staggered four-year terms, with four associate supervisors in advisory roles. The board holds regular monthly meetings and special meetings as needed.

The district provides a self-governing system that enables landowners to collaborate on conservation issues and access to support from local, state, and federal agencies.

Canyon SCD advises and assists landowners in developing and implementing conservation plans, emphasizing practices that increase productivity, reduce erosion, and improve water quality. It also supports local planning efforts and promotes conservation education.

Outreach efforts include local newspaper articles, youth contests, Envirothon participation, scholarships for natural resource education, and support for FFA and Envirothon programs at both local and state levels.

No-Till Drills: In June 2020, Canyon SCD purchased a No-Till Drill for landowner/operators to rent during the planting season. The ADA County 15 ft No-Till Drill has been utilized, and in February 2024, purchased a 6ft Drill for small scale farms. Today, average acres treated are about 1,500.



319 Project: In 2009 Canyon SCD formed a partnership with the Lower Boise Watershed Council (LBWC) by providing administration and technical assistance for the “Treasure Valley BMP Implementation 319 Project”. Owners and operators of agricultural lands can apply for the 319-grant funding to implement conservation practices that protect and enhance water quality.



Water Quality Program Agriculture (WOPA): Since 2022 when it was established Five projects have been developed and paid for under this program in Canyon County Total of \$696,900 for gravity to sprinkler, Gravity to Drip and Irrigation Water control. Acres Treated 550 Averaging 1925 Tons of sediment and 3850 lbs. Phosphorus.



Recent Projects:

319 Project off the Boise River converting 250 acres from gravity to sprinkler irrigated with 5 center pivots and 3 pump stations.



NRCS funded project to increase irrigation efficiency on 250 acres along Reynolds Creek.





Multiple sprinkler
conversion projects east of
Greenleaf.



Canyon SCD submitted a several 319 Sub State and Federal Grant proposals to the TAC and LBWC During the 2022- 2024 seasons with funding of said projects at \$1,066,200.00 averaging 40% with producers 60% or \$1,777,000.00 Total of \$2,843,200.00 that helped reduce the sediment loading on the Lower Boise River and Snake Rivers .Total Reductions during those periods were 5,667 Tons of Sediment and 11,334 lbs. of TP .

2022 – 2024 Five Water Quality Agriculture Programs were funded in Canyon County. Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) was provided to These producers on 450 acres. For Gravity to Drip Irrigation Gravity to Sprinkler and a structure for water control.

During that same time 4100 acres of No-Till Drill use from the Canyon Counties three Drills were accomplished making strides in Best Management Practices. Site visits, engineering designs, analysis, and recommendations for irrigation systems including improved gravity systems, sprinklers, drip, and POD systems

E. District Objectives

- Implement programs to improve soil and water management using available tools (e.g., no-till drills).
- Prioritize conservation programs that deliver long-term benefits, increased production, and efficient energy use.
- Promote strong education and outreach to cooperators, institutions, the public, and local officials, emphasizing water quality programs.
- Partner with agencies like Natural Resources Conservation Service, Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission, and Idaho Department of Environmental Quality to implement conservation initiatives.
- Collaborate with partner organizations (e.g., Freshwater Trust, Idaho Power).
- Support wildlife habitat, stream restoration, and sediment control efforts.
- Provide technical assistance for parks, greenbelts, and nature trails.

F. District Priorities

- Assist NRCS, ISWCC, and DEQ in applying conservation programs such as Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), National Water Quality Incentive (NWQI), and Water Quality Program Agriculture (WQPA).
- Oversee 319 Grants Both State and Federal to seek out, design, and certify for payment New Applications for Gravity to Sprinkler Conversions, Gravity to Drip Irrigation. Bank Stabilization for Rivers and Streams.
- Small farm acreage support through Government Programs

G. District Boundaries

The district was originally formed to serve willing farmers and ranchers while excluding those concerned about taxes and government control. It was established in 1951 as part of the Second Unit of the Black Canyon Irrigation Project. The South Canyon SCD was established in 1957 and in 1975, the two districts joined to form the present-day Canyon Soil Conservation District. The district encompasses all of Canyon County except for incorporated cities.

H. District Resources

1. Main Land Use: Early farmers transformed sagebrush desert into highly productive farmland through irrigation, giving Canyon County its agricultural advantage. Prime farmland is defined by ideal physical and chemical traits—reliable water supply, favorable climate, suitable pH, and

minimal rock content—along with good permeability, low erosion risk, and limited flooding or saturation. As of the 2022 Census, Canyon County had over 277,000 acres of prime farmland.

Unique farmland is land, other than prime farmland, suited for producing high value crops due to a specific combination of soil, location, climate, and moisture. When properly managed, it supports high yields of crops such as fruit orchards, nut trees, citrus groves, olives, cranberries, and vegetables.

In 1978, public meetings identified key land-use concerns, including loss of prime farmland to development, the need to tax agricultural land based on production value, and challenges with leased land limiting conservation decisions. Other issues included trespassing, top-soil loss and stream pollution, high costs of erosion control, and severe wind erosion in some areas.

2. Soil Health: A priority for Canyon SCD, soil health is promoted through education and practices such as cover crops, no-till, strip-till, and other best management practices to improve soil quality.
3. Soil Resources: Canyon County covers 587 square miles of mostly level to rolling terrain, with elevations ranging from 2,200 feet along the Snake River to 2,800 feet in the northeast. The Boise River runs east–west through the county, while the Snake River forms its southern and western boundaries; other streams include Indian Creek, Five Mile, Sand Hollow, and Willow Creek. The area’s geology reflects volcanic activity and flood events, with alluvial deposits near rivers and terrace gravels and occasional basalt formations in isolated areas.
4. Climate: Canyon County has a dry temperate climate with cool, wet winters and warm, dry summers. Temperatures vary widely, with extremes from 107°F to -30°F and an average annual temperature of 51°F. The frost-free season averages 150 days (May to October). Precipitation is low (6.5–11.7 inches annually), mostly in winter, with moderate humidity and prevailing southeast winds. These conditions, along with abundant sunshine, support highly productive and diverse agriculture.

I. Cooperating Conservation Partners

The Canyon Soil Conservation District is one of 50 in Idaho who partners with the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission and the Idaho Association of Conservation Districts. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service provides technical assistance, including conservation planning and resource management support for landowners.

J. Cooperating Agencies

Bureau of Land Management
Canyon County Commissioners
Caldwell Chamber of Commerce
Canyon Extension Service
Canyon Planner
Environmental Protection Agency
Idaho Association of Soil Conservation District
Idaho Department of Water Resources
Idaho Division of Environmental Quality
Idaho Fish and Game
Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission
Idaho State Department of Agriculture
National Fish & Wildlife Deer Flat Refuge
Natural Resources Conservation Service
USDA Farm Service Agency

II. Resource Conditions, Trends and Conservation Needs

A. Population

The population of Canyon County was referenced from the Canyon County Workforce Trends; July 2024 - 266,892 residents. The population has grown 35,776 or 13 % since April of 2020. Growth remains robust over the past year, posting a 3.1% gain, the highest since 3% in 2008. Nampa's population is 114,268, up from 93,590, in 2017 which is a 19% increase. Caldwell had a 26% increase to 73,466 - 2025 up from 54,660. Middleton, with a population of 11,016 is up from 7,439 growth at 33%. The population increase is in non-agricultural occupations. The number of full-time farmers is dropping with a shift to more part-time farmers who earn a substantial part of their income from off-farm activities.

Canyon County's total employment rose from 27,175 in 1969 to 123,935 in 2025,
for a net gain of 98,760, or 456%.

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2020</u>
Total covered employment	85,398	68,046
Agriculture	3,400	3,400
Mining & Natural Recourses	3,274	41
Construction	10,696	6,568
Manufacturing	11,053	10,468
Trade, Utilities & Transportation	20,091	13,235
Information	537	675
Financial Activities	2,045	1,806
Professional & Business Services	7,143	5,184
Educational & Health Services	17,841	9,281
Leisure & Hospitality	7,452	6,078
Other Services	2,192	1,797
Government	?	9,515

B. Agricultural Economy

In 2017, the district had approximately 2,289 farms averaging 120 acres ($\approx$ 275,000 total acres), producing row crops (e.g., sugar beets, potatoes, corn), specialty crops (mint, hops), seeds crops, orchards/vineyards, forage crops, and nursery products.

Livestock operations include dairy, beef, sheep, hogs, and some poultry, with larger operations being primarily confinement type feedlots and smaller operations being primarily pasture-based farms.

While historically farms have trended larger and fewer in number, smaller operations are reemerging with the number of dairy operations stabilizing in recent years. The area remains a leading producer of alfalfa and sweet corn seed.

Key challenges include rising production costs, labor shortages, regulations, market access, soil and water limitations, fuel costs, financing, disease control, and loss of ag-related businesses.

About 9,200 acres of rangeland remain in the district and consist largely of annual grass and scattered sage-brush type range. Most of the original bunchgrass has disappeared due to mismanagement and low rainfall makes re-seeding to improved perennial grasses difficult. Some of the private range is being converted to cropland or residential development.

Agriculture is supported by a strong agri-business sector, including plants for processing dairy, potatoes, sugar beets, hops, mint, and corn. As well as facilities for packaging and transporting fruit, vegetables, and other farm produce. Seed companies have facilities for processing the large volume of seed crops produced. There are also farm and irrigation equipment manufacturers and dealers, feed processing plants, seed, fuel, and chemical supplies. There are many financial institutions to support the industry's financial needs. All of which are essential to the local economy.

C. District Operations

1. Administration: The Canyon Soil Conservation District focuses on helping landowners reduce soil erosion and conserve water through practical, site-specific solutions. This is achieved by providing education, technical support, and financial assistance in partnership with the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Emphasis is placed on improving soil and water management to increase productivity, reduce erosion, and enhance water quality, guided by a mission of leadership, education, and responsible resource stewardship.
2. Financial: The District Board seeks funding from county, state, and federal sources, manages these funds responsibly, and develops budgets and reports for the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission.
3. Public Outreach: The district continues to support county and city officials with comprehensive land-use planning and works with partners to prevent and reduce pollution in both surface and groundwater.
The district sponsors conservation education programs, including poster and speech contests, Soil & Water Stewardship activities, and an Envirothon team. The district also provides scholarships for the Natural Resources Workshop and supports the State and Local land Judging Contests through FFA.
4. Technical Assistance: Technical assistance is provided through partnerships with the NRCS, IASCD, and ISWCC. Canyon SCD has been able to employ a Soil Conservation Technician since the first Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) agreement, originally signed in 2009.

Thus, strengthening efforts to improve soil health and water quality through education and best management practices. These efforts benefit landowners, operators, students, and the public by promoting stewardship of agricultural lands and natural resources.

D. Soil Resources

1. Present Condition and Trend: Most soils are medium-textured, well drained, and naturally fertile with high productivity. Localized issues include salinity, alkalinity, sandy soils, steep slopes, poor drainage, and shallow depth over gravel or hardpan.
2. Soil Erosion (Irrigation Induced Erosion): Approximately 260,000 acres in Canyon County are irrigated cropland, with most now using sprinkler or drip systems due to conservation efforts. Surface irrigation, especially on slopes over 1%, has led to significant erosion on over 100,000 acres, sometimes exposing subsoil layers. This erosion contributes sediment to waterways, reducing water clarity, damaging irrigation systems, increasing maintenance costs, and harming aquatic habitats. Agricultural runoff also carries nitrogen and phosphorus, which can promote excessive algae growth, lower oxygen levels, and clog water systems, though improved awareness has helped reduce impacts.
3. Soil Survey Status: A soil survey published in 1972 classified soils by depth, texture, slope, drainage, and other factors, grouping them into soil series and eight General Soil Associations for broad planning. This work was updated in the early 2000s when district staff member Keith Griswold mapped soil types.

SOIL SURVEY INTERPRETATIONS

An inventory of soil and water characteristics is essential for effective land-use planning, as factors like texture, slope, drainage, depth, and salinity determine suitability for agriculture, construction, and other uses. Soil survey data supports planning and zoning commissions, engineering, development, and education by helping assess site suitability, construction impacts, material resources, and land productivity. For detailed soil association information, refer to the 1972 Canyon County Soil Survey available in the district office or at the web soil survey @ <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov>.

E. Water Resources (Quantity)

1. Water Sources: Water remains a key issue. The Basin Advisory Group has completed a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Boise and Snake Rivers, requiring ongoing conservation efforts to reduce nutrients and sediment. Supporting farmers and landowners remains a district priority, while rapid population growth and new county ordinances continue to threaten prime farmland and impact agricultural practices.
2. Flooding and Drainage: Flooding is infrequent but can cause significant damage, typically in late winter or early spring when frozen soils prevent snowmelt from soaking in, leading to rapid runoff, erosion, and damage to infrastructure. Drainage is no longer a major issue, as most problem areas have been addressed, but ongoing maintenance is needed. Future drainage projects may be limited due to wetland protection efforts and their importance to wildlife.

F. Surface Water

Snowpack in the Boise and Payette River watersheds determines surface water supply. Upstream reservoirs support irrigation, flood control, and regulated flows, while organized irrigation districts—such as Black Canyon, Wilder, Pioneer, Farmers Co-op, Riverside, Nampa-Meridian, and Boise-Kuna—manage water distribution across most irrigated lands.

G. Ground Water Quality

Several hundred irrigation wells provide primary and supplemental water in the district, regulated by the Idaho Department of Water Resources. Groundwater pollution, particularly nitrates, is a major concern; the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality has implemented a nitrate management plan following extensive well monitoring. A 2002 TMDL study for the Lower Boise River identified key sources of contamination in the area.

WATER QUALITY OFFICIAL STREAM SEGMENTS OF CONCERN

Certain stream segments in the district were identified as impaired under the 303(d) list and have been monitored accordingly. Increased awareness and management efforts have helped reduce many impacts, though some issues persist. The list of impaired waters is periodically updated; current information is available in the 2012 Integrated Report from the Idaho DEQ which can be accessed at <http://www.deq.idaho.gov/water/data>.

IMPACTED WATERS

The following stream segments are listed as impacted waters by the Idaho DEQ:

- *Snake River King Hill to Marsing*--impacted by nutrients and pesticides from irrigated cropland.
- *Indian Creek from New York Canal to Boise River*--impacted by nutrients, sediment, organic enrichment, and petroleum products from irrigated cropland, pastures, feedlots, construction, storm sewers and land disposal areas.
- *Boise River Star to Notus*--impacted by nutrients, sediment and organic enrichment from irrigated cropland, pastureland, feedlots, construction, and hydrologic modification.
- *Mason Creek headwaters to Boise River*--impacted by nutrients, sediment and organic enrichment from irrigated cropland, pastureland, and feedlots.
- *Boise River Notus to Snake River*--impacted by nutrients, sediment, organic enrichment, and pathogens from irrigated cropland, pastureland, rangeland, feedlots, construction and hydrologic modification.
- *Sand Hollow Creek headwaters to Snake River*--impacted by nutrients, sediment and organic enrichment from irrigated cropland and pastureland.
- *Snake River Boise River to Weiser River*--impacted by nutrients and sediment from irrigated cropland and pastureland.

WATER QUALITY CONCERNS

Another water quality concern in the county is Lake Lowell. This lake is recognized as one of the best bass fisheries in the state and was severely impacted by irrigation return flows.

WATER QUALITY STATEMENT

The Canyon Soil Conservation District willingly accepts the responsibility inherent to Districts to address agricultural nonpoint source pollution as set forth in Section 319 of the 1987 Water Quality Act; the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1986; and the Clean Water Act of 1972 Section 208. The Canyon Soil Conservation District accepts this responsibility to preserve a locally administered voluntary approach for the control and abatement of agricultural nonpoint source pollution and to protect and enhance the quality and value of water resources of the State of Idaho.

H. Land Uses

- Animal Waste Management: The U.S. EPA regulates large facilities. Most local operations manage waste properly to prevent pollution.
- Cropland:
 - o Irrigated: Due to economic conditions farming is row-crop focused. The Canyon Soil Conservation District promotes soil conservation through best practices (e.g., erosion control, crop rotation, improved irrigation). Many of the farmers have switched to surge, drip, and sprinkler irrigation.
 - o Non-Irrigated: Essentially nonexistent; some land may be temporarily dry cropped due to water shortages.
- Pasture and Alfalfa: Soil-conserving uses encouraged on problem soils and slopes.
- Rangeland: Minor use, mainly for seasonal grazing.
- Urban: Growth has converted farmland to residential, commercial, and industrial uses. Current focus is preserving agriculture. Urbanization increases runoff and pollution, requiring coordinated planning.
- Water Resources: Generally good but facing increased demand for higher quality. Used for domestic, agricultural, business, and recreation. The district supports balanced improvement efforts.
- Land Preservation: The district promotes programs to maintain agricultural land.
- Wetlands: Restoration projects are underway (e.g., CB Springs Ranch). Many wetlands are tied to irrigation systems, making classification difficult.
- Fish and Wildlife: Habitat loss and water quality issues have reduced populations. The district promotes conservation practices, habitat restoration, and partnerships with agencies.
- Recreation: Growing demand for improved facilities. The district supports development and maintenance efforts with state and local agencies.
- Riparian Areas: Vary in quality; used for grazing and recreation. The district works with landowners on improvements.
- Lake Lowell: Improving return flows is a priority under existing water quality plans.
- Woodlands: Limited to areas like the Upper Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge and Boise River corridor. The district supports windbreak planting and collaborates with managing agencies.

SUMMARY: Canyon County Soil Conservation District will continue to assist NRCS staff with technical assistance in the field with Irrigation Design work. Co-op partnerships with joint ventures applying NRCS contracts alongside 319 Grant work in areas of need of soil and water conservation. While reducing sediment loading along the Snake River Boise River Lake Lowell, and Tributaries.

Canyon County Soil Conservation District will continue to work closely with the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission with program development such as (WQPA) Water Quality Program for Agriculture.

Canyon County Soil Conservation District will continue to work with the (TAC) Technical Advisory Committee, and the (LBWC) Lower Boise River Watershed Council; to locate, develop, design and implement projects within canyon county. These projects are used for State and Federal Grants that reduce sediment loading that affects the Tributaries of the Snake River system.

Canyon County Soil Conservation District will work with the Fresh Water Trust, and Idaho Power in support of the Colombia basin EPA TMDL reduction in Mercury within the Snake River and its tributaries within Canyon County

Canyon County Soil Conservation District will continue to implement its three No till Drills including the Ada County Drill for an average of 1,500 acres each year.

Canyon County Soil Conservation District will continue to participate in County and State Outreach programs.



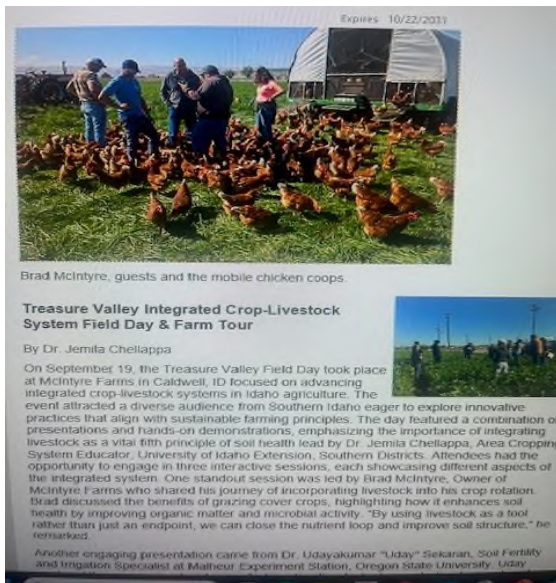
Renewed interest in sustainability and small acreage farms. Canyon County Soil Conservation District is poised to help the Modern Farmer.



The Future of Idaho Farming is forever adapting, and Canyon County Soil Conservation District is changing with the times.

New Ideas to grow vegetables and flowers for resale have blossomed.





Pasturing Chickens behind
Cattle in an innovative way to
graze, aerate and fertilize,
getting the most out of your
pastures.
(Brad McIntyre Farm)



Chickens following cattle
Southeast of Marsing

Cattle grazing on a five to thirteen - way cover
crop depending on formula. Using hairy veg,
an assortment of grains to include whole oats,
radish, turnips, millet, mustard, flax, lentil,
and black-eyed peas



III. Annual Plan of Work: Canyon Soil Conservation District FY 2026 (7/1/25 – 6/30/26)

- Conservation District Priority #1: Continue partnerships with NRCS, LBWC, TAC, TFWT, and Idaho Power.
- Conservation District Priority #2: Continue using the three No-Till Drills.
- Conservation District Priority #3: Information & Education Objective – Increase public awareness of farmer stewardship of the land.

In the Plan for the 2026 Irrigation Season, our budget for Canyon County Soil Conservation District will reduce on the average 2,125 Tons of sediment and 4,250 lbs. Total Phosphorus within the county boundaries.

We are on track to reduce the sediment going into the tributaries of the Boise and Snake Rivers by 10,625 Tons and 21,250 lbs. of Total Phosphorus over the next 5 years.

A reflection on where we are headed with Total Maximum Daily Loads that the EPA set for the State of Idaho for both the Snake River and its tributaries. The regulations had a reduction level to meet on the Lower Boise by 2070 at the rate of loading reductions we have seen in the past five-ten years, we will meet the goal between 2025 and 2050.

			July 2022 - June 2023		July 2023 - June 2024		July 2024 - June 2025		July 2025 - June 2026		July 2026 - June 2027		
			Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	
Income													
	Interest Income - LGIP		-	-	-	-	1,145.74	930.00	430.37	450.00			
	State Income						90.00						
		ISWCC State General	24,047.69	24,047.69	-	-	32,551.64	-	26,916.68	27,000.00			
		ISWCC Base Funding	8,500.00	8,500.00	34,561.29	34,000.00	22,000.00	34,500.00	14,500.00	14,500.00			
		ISWCC District Operations Fund	6,000.00	6,000.00		-	-	-	-	-			
		ISWCC Dist. Capacity Bldg Grant				-	-	-	-	-			
	Total State Income		38,547.69	38,547.69	-	34,561.29	34,000.00	54,641.64	34,500.00	41,416.68	41,500.00	-	
	Canyon County		15,000.00	15,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00			
	Project 319 Income		20,000.00	8,959.72	29,606.82	44,686.00	32,141.00	43,720.00	-	43,720.00			
	No-Till Drill		14,000.00	18,382.75	13,430.00	17,000.00	22,515.00	14,000.00	15,455.00	14,000.00			
	CTA Agreement		33,000.00	33,000.00	24,941.81	41,500.00	37,250.00	41,500.00	47,725.00	20,750.00			
	SWIDRC&D Admin Assist Funds		1,600.00	2,162.54	369.22	-	-	-	-	-			
	DIV III Meeting Meals		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
	Other		-	1,492.13	-	-	1,634.14	-	5,158.17	-			
	WQPA		25,479.00	25,479.00	15,000.00	7,500.00	243,172.09	82,500.00	86,120.06	-			
Total Income			149,226.69	144,623.83	-	137,909.14	164,686.00	412,499.61	242,150.00	221,305.28	145,420.00	-	
	Expense												
	Bank Charges												
		DL Evans Service Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.23	-			
		Direct Deposit Fee	91.00	85.75	109.50	130.00	81.00	130.00	40.00	130.00			
	Total Bank Charges		91.00	85.75	-	109.50	130.00	81.00	130.00	40.23	130.00	-	
	Dues												
		Div. III Dues	35.00	35.00	-	35.00	45.00	35.00	30.00	35.00			
		Id. Assn. of Conservation Districts	1,800.00	-	25.00	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,800.00			
		Id. Dist. Employee Assn.	60.00	60.00	-	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	75.00			
		Natl. Assn. of Cons. Districts	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	-	-			
		Resource Conservation & Develop.	50.00	50.00	-	50.00	50.00	50.00	-	50.00			
		ID Ag in the Classromm	-	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	-	150.00			
		Idaho Enviroth. Dues.	-	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Other	-	1,800.00	50.00	-	1,000.00	-	50.00	-			
	Total Dues		2,045.00	2,295.00	-	325.00	2,195.00	3,205.00	2,195.00	1,940.00	2,110.00	-	
	No-Till Drill Deposit Reimbursement		2,500.00	6,894.36	1,700.00	10,000.00	1,912.50	2,500.00	812.50	1,500.00			
	Equipment Purch. & Repair		-	-	-	-	2,151.14	16,000.00	-	-			
		Purchase	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Repairs and Maint.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,000.00			
	Subcontract Expense		-	-	-	-	52,800.00	86,000.00	66,086.64	80,480.00			

[illegible]

	Information & Education								
	Canyon County Fair	350.00	430.00	-	450.00	646.34	600.00	584.16	600.00
	Displays & Photography	103.00	-	-	103.00	-	1,000.00	268.18	500.00
	Education Materials	48.00	-	-	500.00	-	500.00	-	-
	Envirothon	100.00	-	-	100.00	-	-	-	-
	Natural Resource Camp	235.00	-	-	235.00	-	700.00	-	700.00
	Other Information & Education	-	50.00	75.00	1,100.00	75.00	2,500.00	250.00	2,500.00
	Total Information & Education	4,336.00	744.00	- 75.00	2,788.00	721.34	5,300.00	1,102.34	4,300.00 -
	Insurance								
	Workers Compensation - Board M	400.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total Insurance	400.00	-	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
	Meetings								
	Division Meeting	200.00	372.68	867.32	200.00	339.63	200.00	1,204.12	200.00
	IASCD Conference	500.00	-	-	500.00	-	500.00	-	500.00
	Tours	300.00	1,622.53	(49.66)	300.00	1,060.54	800.00	1,211.10	800.00
	Meetings - Other	-	79.06	462.50	-	1,427.40	-	-	700.00
	Total Meetings	1,000.00	2,074.27	- 1,280.16	1,000.00	2,827.57	1,500.00	2,415.22	2,200.00 -
	Office Expense								
	Accounting Program	2,700.00	3,536.87	2,880.98	3,600.00	2,634.76	3,000.00	1,489.98	1,380.00
	Office Supplies	300.00	394.74	7.13	500.00	-	500.00	792.96	800.00
	Quickbooks Consult	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	QB Resources - Financial Review	1,700.00	-	-	5,000.00	-	5,000.00	-	-
	Misc. Exp	400.00	294.03	150.97	400.00	906.75	400.00	527.97	600.00
	Total Office Expense	5,100.00	4,165.64	- 3,105.08	9,500.00	3,541.51	8,900.00	2,810.91	2,780.00 -
	Supervisors	225.00	-	-	400.00	-	2,000.00	-	-
	Utilities								
	Website Costs	300.00	278.95	558.95	1,000.00	578.95	324.00	365.95	370.00
	Google Workspace			-	-	-	300.00	-	317.00
	Equipment			-	-	-	-	-	-
	Verizon - Internet	481.00	(13.71)	-	481.00	-	-	-	-
	Total Utilities	781.00	265.24	- 558.95	1,481.00	578.95	624.00	365.95	687.00 -
	Other Expenses				-	-	-	464.99	-
	WQPA Disbursements	-	-	-	-	221,950.00	75,000.00	75,000.00	-
	Capital Projects and Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	15,000.00	-	-
	Total Expense	124,956.70	115,102.11	- 96,155.04	138,672.70	329,149.52	222,999.00	159,026.64	130,832.00 -
	Net Income	24,269.99	29,521.72	- 41,754.10	26,013.30	83,350.09	19,151.00	62,278.64	14,588.00 -