



Adams Soil and Water Conservation District



ASWCD Website



Council Education Resource Crew

- Council Ranger District of the Payette National Forest launched the CERC program in 2010, providing high school students work experience while completing resource projects both on and off the Payette NF.
- ASWCD supports the CERC by providing funding each year for one week's work during the summer (~\$2800.00)
- During the summer of 2024, CERC
 1. Dug and bagged 987 Mediterranean sage (*Salvia aethiopis*) plants from about 125 acres of private land.
 2. Completed Pacific Northwest Bumble Bee Atlas surveys at four locations in Adams County, capturing 42 bumble bees, representing 6 different species.
 3. Evaluated water quality at five locations, two on the Little Salmon River and three along the Weiser River near Council.
 4. The Water Quality Index ranged from 74 to 89, meaning the water quality was “good” at the time of sampling at all 5 sites.



Two-form Bumble Bee (*Bombus bifarius*) on Sticky purple geranium (*Geranium viscosissimum*).



The 2024 CERC crew pauses at a Bumble Bee Atlas site near Council, Idaho.

Other Accomplishments in 2024

- District's Esch no-till drill was available for rent by area landowners and we promoted benefits of no-till practices on our website as well as in the local newspaper.
- Collaborated with the Payette SWCD and other districts to host the 13th Soil Health Symposium, a valuable one-day educational event on regenerative agriculture for area producers.
- Co-sponsored the weed tour with the Adams CWMA and Adams County Weed Control to educate landowners about noxious weeds.
- Partnered with Adams County to replace a failing culvert on Thorn Creek through a Flood Management Grant from Idaho Water Resource Board.



Contact Information

203 S. Galena St.
P.O. Box 26
Council, ID 83612
208-253-4668
aswcdidaho@gmail.com
adamsconservationdistrict.org

Board Members & Staff

Wendy Green, Chairman
Judy Dietch, Vice-chair
Kris Stone, Supervisor
Charlie Munden, Supervisor
Julie Burkhardt, Supervisor
Holden McKee, Admin. Assistant

Top Five District Priorities:

1. District Operations
2. Public Outreach
3. Water Quality & Quantity
4. Pasture & Hay Land
5. Rangelands

FY 2024 Revenue

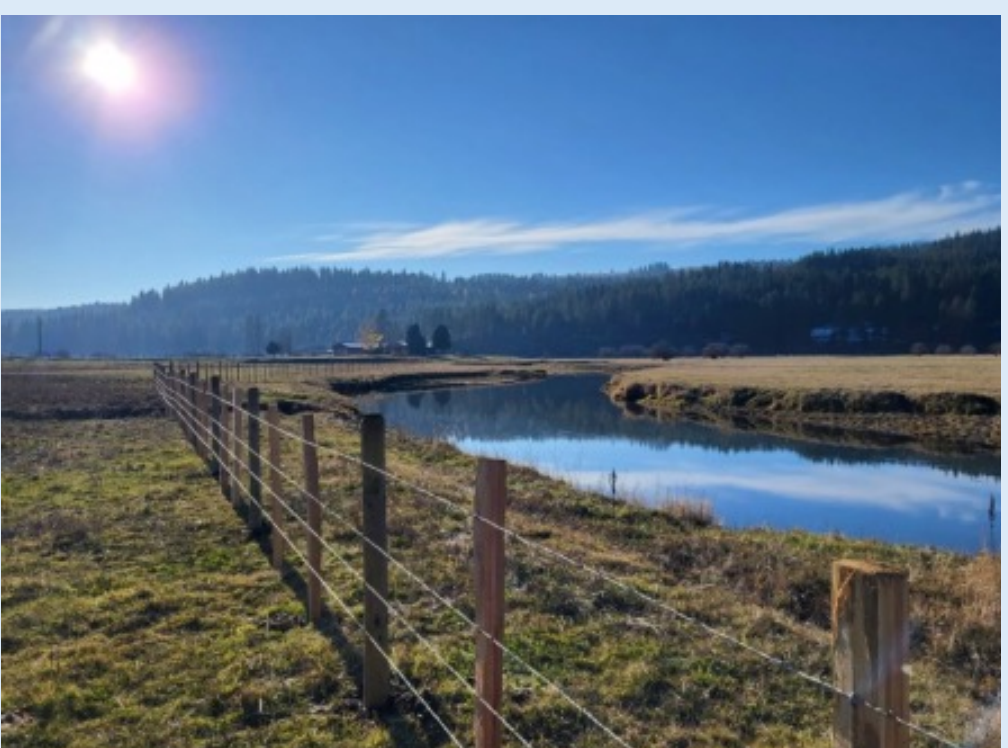
- State \$ 23,728
- Adams County \$ 4,000
- City of Council \$ 500
- WQPA Grant \$ 29,159
- IWRB Grant \$ 27,126

Our Mission

To use the educational, fiscal and technical resources at our disposal to assist landowners, especially agricultural producers, in putting voluntary resource conservation into practice.

Restoring the Little Salmon River

- The Little Salmon River flows north for 45 miles from its headwaters south of New Meadows to its confluence with the main Salmon River near Riggins.
- The Upper Little Salmon River in Meadows Valley does not fully support beneficial uses due to temperature, bacteria and nutrients.
- ASWCD partnered with two Meadows Valley landowners to reduce agricultural impacts and restore beneficial uses of the Little Salmon River.
- The district received a Water Quality Program for Agriculture (WQPA) grant to help build riparian fence to protect and stabilize eroded banks.
- Riparian fencing created livestock buffer areas along 2 miles of the river and will allow more sustainable grazing management and safeguard existing wetlands on both properties.
- Idaho Department of Environmental Quality estimates that this fencing project will reduce sediment load by 79 tons/year, nitrogen by 254 pounds/year, and phosphorous by 127 pounds/year.
- Shrubs will be planted in the riparian zone to provide shade to help lower water temperatures.



Looking ahead to 2025

We plan to partner with Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Commission staff, Water Conservation Commission, and other entities to procure grant funds to assist local landowners in implementing best management practices to conserve soil and water resources.

The District remains committed to public information and resource education. We support Idaho Envirothon, the Forestry Contest, Ag in the Classroom, UI Natural Resources Camp, and Land and Soil Evaluation competition.

Other plans for 2025 include:

- Co-hosting the 14th Soil Health Symposium
- Promoting the use of the no-till drill
- Reaching out to landowners to encourage and assist with fuels reduction projects on private timber lands
- Offering \$1000 scholarships to local students who are pursuing post-secondary education in agriculture or natural resources