

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Helping People

Help the Land



James Eller
District Conservationist
Caldwell Field Office
(208) 454-8684 x 130

NRCS

- Who are we?
 - The NRCS partners with Conservation Districts and other organizations to provide technical and some cost-share assistance to private landowners.
- Our Mission
 - Protect, enhance, and preserve our soil, water, air, plants, and animals using sound science and expertise. Participation in our programs is voluntary. We are non regulatory

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NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service

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Local Service Centers

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RC&D

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Watershed Assessments

Find a Service Center


Welcome to the NRCS **Idaho** state web site.




NRCS Announces Special Initiatives for Fiscal Year 2012
The Natural Resources Conservation Service is offering conservation assistance to Idaho agricultural producers and landowners through three special initiatives: the On-Farm Energy Initiative, Organic Initiative and Seasonal High Tunnel Initiative. NRCS accepts applications for assistance on a continuous basis throughout the year. There will be three ranking periods for these special initiatives ending on February 3, March 30 and June 1, 2012.
[... News Release](#)




Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) Cut-off Date is December 16, 2011
Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program applications received by December 16, 2011 will be considered for funding in Fiscal Year 2012. While an application may be filed at any time, only applications received by December 16, 2011 will be evaluated for this specific round of funding.
[... News Release](#)



NRCS Announces Brucellosis Animal Health Initiative
NRCS Idaho has funding available to assist agricultural producers in the Greater Yellowstone Area with projects that will help reduce the interaction between wildlife and domestic livestock during winter feeding/calving season. The purpose of this initiative is to prevent the spread of brucellosis.
[... News Release](#)
[... Attached Map](#)



Cutoff Date for Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Applications - December 16, 2011
A cutoff date of December 16, 2011 has been set for Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) applications. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis, but only applications received by December 16th will be considered for the first period of funding in Fiscal Year 2012. Applications received by this date will be evaluated and then awarded based on available funds. In 2011, approximately 39% of application were funded.
[... News Release](#)



Notice to Hispanics or Women Farmers and Ranchers

Information About:

Soils

Water

Air

Plants

Animals

Information For:

Communities

Farmers and Ranchers

Homeowners

Idaho NRCS Employees

State Office Staff


Policy Makers

Teachers and Students

Volunteers

GREATER SAGE-GROUSE

SPECIAL INITIATIVE



75 Years A Legacy of Conservation

start

Inbox - Microsoft Out...

Idaho NRCS - Windo...

Microsoft PowerPoint ...

Local intranet

100%

12:54 PM

[http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/natio
nal/soils/health](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/soils/health)

Help the Land

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Soil Health

Unlock the Secrets in the Soil

Soil – a living and life-giving substance, without which we would perish.

As world population and food production demands rise, keeping our soil healthy and productive is of paramount importance. So much so that we believe improving the health of our Nation's soil is one of the most important endeavors of our time.

By focusing more attention on soil health and by educating our customers and the public about the positive impact healthy soils can have on productivity and conservation, we can help our Nation's farmers and ranchers feed the world more profitably and sustainably – now and for generations to come.

The resources on this soil health section of our site are designed to help visitors understand the basics and benefits of soil health – and to learn about Soil Health Management Systems from farmers who are using those systems.

So whether you're a farmer, a researcher, a conservationist or an interested citizen, the information on this site will help you "Unlock the Secrets in the Soil."

Voices of Soil Health

Share More info[Soil Health Theater](#)[Dig A Little, Learn A Lot](#)[Grow With It](#)[Media: Get The Dirt On It](#)



You are here: Web Soil Survey Home

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- ▶ [Soil Series Extent Mapping Tool](#)
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- ▶ [Soil Geochemistry Spatial Database](#)
- ▶ [Soil Quality](#)
- ▶ [Soil Geography](#)
- ▶ [Geospatial One Stop](#)

The simple yet powerful way to access and use soil data.

START WSS

Welcome to Web Soil Survey (WSS)

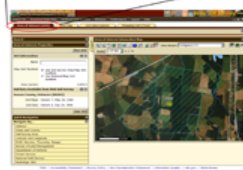


Web Soil Survey (WSS) provides soil data and information produced by the National Cooperative Soil Survey. It is operated by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and provides access to the largest natural resource information system in the world. NRCS has soil maps and data available online for more than 95 percent of the nation's counties and anticipates having 100 percent in the near future. The site is updated and maintained online as the single authoritative source of soil survey information.

Three Basic Steps

1 Define.

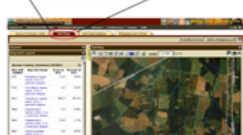
Area of Interest (AOI)

Use the **Area of Interest** tab to define your area of interest.

Click to view larger image.

2 View/Explore.

Soil Map



Click the **Soil Map** tab to view or print a soil map, or click the **Soil Data Explorer** tab to access soil data for your area and determine the suitability of the soils for a particular use. The items you want saved in a report can be added to your shopping cart.

I Want To...

- [Start Web Soil Survey \(WSS\)](#)
- [Know the requirements for running Web Soil Survey](#)
- [Know whether Web Soil Survey works in my web browser](#)
- [Know the Web Soil Survey hours of operation](#)
- [Find what areas of the U.S. have soil data](#)

Announcements/Events

- [Web Soil Survey Release History](#)

I Want Help With...

- [How to use Web Soil Survey](#)
- [How to use Web Soil Survey Online Help](#)
- [Known Problems and Workarounds](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Citing Web Soil Survey as a source of soils data](#)



Financial Assistance Programs

- Once you have evaluated your conservation options, you may chose to seek financial assistance.
- Farm Bill Programs
 - Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
 - Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)
 - Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
- NRCS accepts applications for financial assistance on a continuous basis throughout the year.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

- The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary program that provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers.
- Contracted 1.4 million in cost-share funds in 2012
- Idaho - Sign-up deadline is November 16th, 2012**
 - See NRCS booth or visit the Caldwell Field Office if interested.
- Oregon – Sign-up deadline is December 21st, 2012**



Common Conservation Practices



Agronomic Practices



No Till/ Strip Till



Residue Mgmt./ No Till



**Residue management/
Mulch Till**



Cover Crop/ radish

Agronomic Practices



Windbreak



**Conservation Crop
Rotation**



Mulching



**Nutrient
Management**

Irrigation Practices



- **Irrigation pods (pasture)**



- **Center Pivot**



- **Microirrigation**



- **Wheel lines**

Irrigation System Components



- **Water control structures**



- **Irrigation water conveyance**



- **Pumps**



- **We do not cost-share power**

Grazing Practices



- **Prescribed (rotational) Grazing**



- **Cross Fencing**



- **Livestock pipelines**



- **Watering Facilities**

How to determine which conservation practices you are qualified for...

- **Contact NRCS**

- James Eller, District Conservationist
- Caldwell Field Office
- (208) 454-8684 x 130

- **Complete Conservation Planning Packet**

- Objectives
- Land information
 - Acres, farm & tract #'s, Deed or lease agreement
 - Best Management Practices that you have already installed
- Crop rotation
- Tillage operations (for each crop)
- Irrigation system
- Nutrients & Pesticides applied

Organic Initiative

- NRCS helps certified organic growers and producers working to achieve organic certification install conservation practices for organic production.



On-Farm Energy Initiative

- NRCS and producers develop Agricultural Energy Management Plans (AgEMP) or farm energy audits that assess energy consumption.
- NRCS then uses audit data to develop energy conservation recommendations.
- The audits assess power usage for equipment, farming processes, and farm headquarters including efficiencies in livestock buildings, grain handling operations, and similar facilities that support the farm operation.



Seasonal High Tunnel Pilot Initiative

- NRCS helps producers plan and implement high tunnels, steel-framed, polyethylene-covered structures that extend growing seasons in an environmentally safe manner.



- High tunnel benefit plant and soil quality and reduce nutrient and pesticide use. This initiative is available statewide and is not restricted to organic producers as it was last year.

EQIP Special Initiatives

- NRCS accepts applications for assistance on a continuous basis throughout the year.
- **Idaho** - Application deadline for Initiatives – November 16th
 - Contact : James Eller
 - 1-208-454-8684
 - James.eller@id.usda.gov
- **Oregon** deadline for Initiatives is December 21st, 2012
 - Contact: Lynn Larsen
 - 1-541-889-9689
 - Lynn.larsen@usda.gov

Additional Info...

- All programs are competitive
 - Your application will be ranked and prioritized for funding.
 - 50% - 75% Cost-share rates are set by the National Office.
 - Rates are based on average cost scenario.
 - No minimum farm size
 - Must be an agricultural producer
 - Must have irrigation history
 - Irrigated 2 of past 5 years

Questions?

www.id.nrcs.usda.gov



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