

# Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts

*Representing Idaho's conservation districts as the primary entities to coordinate voluntary, locally-led efforts to sustain & enhance Idaho's natural Resources.*

A Monthly Newsletter

Issue No. 3 - Mar/April 2012

**Meet The New IASCD President**

President Kit Tillotson introduces the new Board members. Please read his thoughts and the challenge to your district!

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**Notes From Division V**

Districts in Division V are collaborating on many different projects and ideas.

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**State Legislature Wraps Up.**

How busy was IASCD in the state capitol this year? Find out more about our committee presentations!

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**Jointed Goatgrass Eradication**

Learn more about Weiser River SCD's efforts. Page 3



**Idaho To Host SW Pacific Regional Meeting**

The IASCD Board of Directors agreed to host the NACD SW Pacific Regional meeting in Boise. The date will be determined, but should be the 3rd or 4th week of September. More details to follow next month!

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## JFAC Passes SWC Budget; Includes \$37,900 for NRCS Office Space

On March 6, 2012, the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee (JFAC) took up the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission budget. Debate began at 8:40am, and Representative Marv Hagedorn (R-District 20) carried the budget.

Representative Hagedorn's motion included \$18,500 for a change in employee compensation, \$100,900 from RCRDP loan interest to enhance the program, \$60,000 in one-time federal funds for the technical assistance grant, \$37,900 for NRCS office space charges, and \$20,000 in one-time



**HB 669 was signed into law by Gov. Otter on April 3rd. IASCD thanks Rep. Hagedorn for carrying the Commission's budget this session!**

spending for technical assistance cost recovery.

Chairman Dean Cameron allowed Representative Hagedorn to speak further on the motion. "It makes sense to keep our field staff co-located with the NRCS staff whenever possible, and this helps the

Commission to pay its share of those costs," said Hagedorn.

Senator Bert Brackett (R-District 23) spoke on the motion, and expressed his disappointment for the district match not being fully funded, and hoped it would be in future budgets. Representative Shirley Ringo (D-District 6) agreed with Brackett's comments, and said JFAC should try and include the full two-to-one match in future budgets.

Chairman Cameron then called for the vote, and the motion passed unanimously (20-0-0).

The bill (HB 669) passed the House on March 20 by a vote of 69-0-1. It passed the Senate by a vote of 32-1 on March 26th. The legislation was signed into law on Tuesday, April 3rd by Governor Butch Otter.

## New Board Members & My Challenge To You

*This past week, Randy Purser resigned as president of IASCD. The Board of Directors held a conference call on April 4th, 2012 and I was voted in to serve as your new president. Billie Brown will now serve as your vice-president, and Rick Rodgers was elected as your Secretary. Finally, Mr. Lynn Bagley assumed the duties as the new Division VI director, and Mr. Lynn McKee is now the new Division III director. We want to welcome the two new Lynns onto the Board!*

*I want to ensure a seamless transition with the Board, and continue to work with all of you to build a stronger association. Over the next few months, I will do my best to attend as many of your district meetings as time allows. It is vital that you and I build a new relationship, and that I learn more about the uniqueness of each of our conservation districts.*

*The work we do each day for Idaho is indispensable. We're ensuring our favorite fishing spot on a local river will still be there for our kids, grandkids, and for some of you, your great-grandkids.*

*As leaders, we also have the task of ensuring districts recruit and retain young, talented new supervisors. My challenge to each of you is to bring a potential new supervisor or associate supervisor to your meeting.*

*I am sure you can look around your church or civic group and see potential in a young man or young woman. Now is the time to ask them to learn more about locally-led, voluntary, non-regulatory conservation in their state. They can make a positive impact on your board!*

Sincerely,



Kit Tillotson

IASCD President

## College Scholarships Available

Both the Snake River and Twin Falls Conservation Districts are offering scholarships to students who are pursuing college degrees in agriculture or natural resources.

The Twin Falls SWCD scholarship is for graduates of Filer High School and is for \$500.

The Snake River SWCD scholarship provides up to \$1,500 for students attending an Idaho college or university. As part of the scholarship requirement, the recipient must serve 15 hours community service and 15 hours as an Earth Team volunteer.



Both scholarship applications are available at the conservation district office or at [www.tfconservation.org](http://www.tfconservation.org). If you have questions, you can contact Chris with the Twin Falls SWCD at 733-5380 ext. 101 or DeeAnn with the Snake River SWCD at 733-5380 ext. 123.

## IASCD Presents Before Four Committees

The 2012 state legislative session wrapped up on March 30, 2012. IASCD spent a countless number of hours meeting with legislators, and was given the opportunity to make a presentation before four legislative committees.

"I was very happy we were able to present before both Senate and House ag committees, as well as a new opportunity to present before the resources committees in both chambers," said IASCD Treasurer Steve Becker. "Also, our video gave us an edge over other presentations."

IASCD gave their first presentation to the House Agricultural Affairs Committee on January 24, 2012. Later that week, IASCD and member districts held a legislative display on the 4th floor of the capitol rotunda. The



next presentation was before the Senate Resources and Environment Committee on February 10th, followed by Senate Agricultural Affairs on February 16th, and finally House Resources and Conservation on March 1st.

"Spending the summer, fall, and winter meeting with state representatives and senators made presenting this year a breeze," said Bret Rumbeck. "IASCD is getting to be on a first-name basis with many of the forty-five legislators we've met with. It's nice to be in the capitol and have a Senator ask me how the day is going, and the latest district project."

## District Helping District

Division V has recently been having quarterly staff meetings with Commission and IASCD staff. The staff meetings are designed for information sharing with a focus on education and outreach projects.

Franklin SWCD is hosting their first ever "Water Fair". Through the coordination efforts facilitated by these meetings Chris Hatch, Administrative Assistant for FSWCD, was able to utilize many of the District V staff members to help with this event.

So far it has been so beneficial not to just the hosting districts by having extra ideas and hands on deck, but for resource and information sharing.

We are building a great working relationship with not only each other but also with our conservation partners. The positive things that one district does are getting shared with other districts. We know that every district is run a little differently and each have places where their district shines. These meetings have been able to showcase that.



Krystal Harmon with the Portneuf SWCD learns how to milk the farm bureau cow at Bannock County Ag Days.

# From the Weiser River SCD: Invasive Species Inventory & Control Project



The Weiser River Soil Conservation District has been running an invasive species inventory and control project since last year. The primary purpose of this project is to inventory, quantify, prioritize, and start the control and containment of jointed goatgrass and other noxious weeds within the West Central Sage Grouse Planning Area. This includes portions of Payette, Adams, and Washington Counties.

The project has been a joint application between the Weiser River SCD and Lower Weiser River Cooperative Weed Management Area. Some of the milestones reached in the last year have been:

- Over 420 miles of county roads and trails were inventoried in the spring/summer of 2011 for jointed goatgrass, Mediterranean sage, and whitetop.
- In the fall of 2011, there were over 122 miles inventoried for dyers woad, dalmation toadflax, yellow toadflax, spotted knapweed, Russian knapweed, diffuse knapweed, and yellow starthistle.
- Maps were generated from points of noxious weed infestation and roads were assigned different colors according to the degree of infestation. Priority was given to the roads with proximity to the forest and sage grouse lek/nesting areas.
- Also in the fall, 183 miles of roads were sprayed, with additional spray rounds scheduled for the spring and fall of 2012.
- Reseeding trial plots are also planned for 2012 along some of the priority roads.
- Presentations, displays, articles, and newsletters have been distributed for public outreach and education. These have been very effective tools for local awareness of jointed goatgrass and other noxious weeds.

Close-ups of jointed goat grass. Goatgrass is a problem in winter wheat producing areas across the Great Plains and Pacific Northwest.



Jointed goatgrass can grow to 50cm tall.

## Five Minute Supervisor Training

### *Robert's Rules of Order*

The first edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* was published in February 1876 by US Army Colonel Henry Martyn Robert. The full title was *Pocket Manual of Rules of Order for Deliberative Assemblies*. The procedures in the book came from those used on the floor of the US House of Representatives, but they were adapted to be used in other deliberative bodies.

As a district chairman, it is your duty to keep your meeting running smoothly and maintain order. *Robert's Rules of Order* is a parliamentary procedure that protects the rights of all: the majority, minority, individual members, and absent members.

#### How to Present a Motion

1. Obtain the Floor
2. Make the motion; always state a motion affirmatively. Say, "I move that we..." rather than "I move that we do not..."
3. Wait for a second; If there is no second, the motion is lost.
4. The Chairman states the Motion; the membership can either debate it, or move directly to a vote. A motion cannot be changed without consent of the members.
5. Expand on the Motion; the maker of the motion is always allowed to speak first; he/she may speak again only after other speakers are finished unless called upon by the Chairman.
6. Put the Question to the Membership; Chairman asks for the affirmative and negative votes.

## IASCD Board of Directors

**Kit Tillotson** — President  
**Billie Brown** — Vice President  
**Steve Becker** — Treasurer  
**Rick Rodgers** — Secretary  
**Lynn Bagley** — Director  
**Lynn McKee** — Director

**Nancy Weatherstone** — Executive Assistant  
**Bret Rumbek** — Executive Director

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