



# Latah Soil & Water Conservation District

## ANNUAL WORK PLAN

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**Fiscal Year 2023**

(July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023)

Version 23.0

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### **Supervisors**

David Huggins, Chairman  
Josh Jones, Vice Chairman  
Kevin Meyer, Treasurer  
Jen Elliott, Secretary  
Kyle Hawley, Supervisor  
Andy Hill, Supervisor  
Kirk Nelson, Supervisor  
Cody Anderson, Associate  
Lee Hawley, Associate  
Tom Trail, Associate

### **Staff**

Brenda Erhardt, Resource Conservation Planner  
Kenneth Stinson, District Manager  
George Zamora, Field Operations Manager  
Resource Conservation Planner (RCP), To be Hired  
Assistant Resource Conservation Planners (ARCP), To be Hired

## Mission Statement

Lead local efforts to promote the stewardship of natural resources through the development of comprehensive plans and the implementation of strategies for economic and ecological sustainability, on behalf of our citizens, through the coordination of leadership, information and funding.

## Goals

**Local Governance** - Lead and support landowner, land user, local community, and government agency efforts to collectively identify natural resource issues of concern, review alternative solutions to address these issues, and undertake local efforts to resolve priority issues using voluntary mechanisms.

**District Capacity** - Develop and maintain the political and organizational capacity to fully exercise Latah Soil and Water Conservation District's rights and responsibilities.

**Community Outreach** - Promote efforts to enhance local community understanding of ecological systems, the social systems directly dependent upon these natural systems, and the political and organizational systems developed for management of natural resources within Latah County.

**Comprehensive Planning** - Promote individual, local, regional, state, tribal and national planning efforts that recognize, and manage for, the interconnected elements of natural systems and seek sustainable management approaches for the natural resources within the Latah SWCD while providing for the long-term natural resource conservation objectives of landowners and land users, strengthening the long-term health of local economies and protecting the long-term public interest of the community.

**Coordinated Implementation** - Lead the voluntary implementation of conservation efforts that seek to simultaneously protect and enhance the long-term productivity of the Latah SWCD's natural resource base while providing for the long-term natural resource conservation objectives of landowners and land users, protecting the established rights of individual landowners and land users, strengthening the long-term health of local economies, and protecting the long-term public interest of the community.

## Overview of Annual Work Plan

The Annual Work Plan delineates current Latah Soil and Water Conservation District (Latah SWCD) priorities as derived from the Latah SWCD's Five-Year Resource Conservation Plan. The Annual Work Plan is comprehensive *only with regard to specific tasks to be completed during the current fiscal year (FY)*. Annual tasks listed in this plan are proposed for completion with existing financial and technical resources. Where applicable, tasks are assigned a lead district supervisor. District staff members responsible for implementing each task are also identified, with the lead staff member listed first. For example, if Huggins is the lead supervisor and Erhardt is the lead staff with support from Zamora, it will appear as (Huggins/Erhardt, Zamora). In FY23, policy leadership is assigned to the Board, as a whole, until newer board members become more familiar with their individual roles on the Board of Supervisors.

The companion Five-Year Resource Conservation Plan was developed to serve as a comprehensive document. It thoroughly identifies Latah SWCD objectives and strategies as they pertain to each of the five Latah SWCD goals. The Five-Year Plan includes a complete list of tasks that Latah SWCD could accomplish over the next five years should adequate technical and financial resources become available. Furthermore, it provides overviews of the Latah SWCD (history, law, structure and financing), Latah County (area, watersheds, land use, transportation and infrastructure, demographics, and economics), natural resources within Latah County, and interagency collaboration.

Each task within the Five-Year Resource Conservation Plan and the Annual Work Plan begins with a specific "action word" described as follows:

- Coordinate:** Coordination implies an active leadership role for the design, development and implementation of a given task.
- Participate:** Participation implies that another entity or individual assumes the lead coordination role and the Latah SWCD serves in an active advisory or supporting role.
- Facilitate:** Facilitation assumes a temporary leadership role with primary roles eventually assumed by other parties. The facilitation role of the Latah SWCD is to link interested individuals with existing agencies and community resources.
- Review:** Reviews include the identification and summation of resource conservation concerns within Latah County and an outline of the Latah SWCD's potential future role.
- Monitor:** Monitoring implies a passive role that simply keeps the Latah SWCD alert to resource conservation issues that may affect Latah County.
- Inform:** Inform refers to the dissemination of readily available resource conservation information.
- Sponsor:** Sponsorship implies financial contributions in the form of membership dues or project/event donations.
- Endorse:** Endorsement implies explicit support for individual conservation strategies developed by other agencies and organizations. The Latah SWCD does not have an active role within the proposed strategy.

## Organization of Annual Work Plan

The Annual Work Plan is divided into five separate work plans which correspond to the five Latah SWCD Goals:

- Local Governance
- District Capacity
- Community Outreach
- Comprehensive Planning
- Coordinated Implementation

Within each of the five work plans, tasks are grouped into categories. The Coordinated Implementation Work Plan is subdivided according to eight categories known as Resources of Community Concern (ROCCs). These include:

- Agricultural Lands
- Fisheries
- Forest Lands
- Public Health
- Range and Pasture Lands
- Special Status Species
- Threatened Ecosystems
- Wildlife

*Note: Water quality resource concerns are addressed throughout the above-listed resource concerns.*

**Local Governance Work Plan**

**Goal:** Lead and support landowner, land user, local community, and government agency efforts to collectively identify natural resource issues of concern, review alternative solutions to address these issues, and undertake local efforts to resolve priority issues using voluntary mechanisms.

The local governance work plan is categorized according to:

- 1) Latah SWCD Governance
- 2) Local Governance

<b>Latah SWCD Governance Tasks</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coordinate directly with federal, tribal, state and local agencies to develop and/or revise conservation policies and management practices to improve the Latah SWCD’s ability to fulfill the conservation goals, objectives, strategies, and tasks as outlined in the Resource Conservation Plan. (All staff)</li> <li>2. Coordinate directly with other elected officials to address common natural resource management concerns. (Board/Stinson)</li> <li>3. Coordinate with the signatories of the Mutual Agreement and the Cooperative Working Agreement to make necessary revisions to the agreements, as needed. (Board/Stinson)</li> <li>4. Coordinate Latah conservation breakfast meetings with the Latah Board of County Commissioners and Idaho State Legislators. (Stinson)</li> <li>5. Participate with the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation District/Division II collaborative efforts within North Central Idaho (Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis and Nez Perce conservation districts). (Board/Stinson)</li> <li>6. Coordinate monthly Latah SWCD Board meetings so that they are easily accessible to the public. (Stinson)</li> <li>7. Participate in the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts’ annual conference. (Board)</li> <li>8. Participate with other conservation district boards and staff with developing policy, management and technical capacity, as requested. (Board/All staff)</li> </ol>	

<b>Local Governance Tasks</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Participate in public forums on topics of local interest. (Board/All staff)</li> <li>2. Participate in the annual Palouse Basin Water Summit. (Stinson)</li> </ol>	

**District Capacity Work Plan**

**Goal:** Develop and maintain the political and organizational capacity to fully exercise Latah SWCD rights and responsibilities.

The district capacity work plan is categorized according to:

- 1) Board Leadership
- 2) Professional Staffing
- 3) Organizational Infrastructure

<b>Board Leadership Tasks</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coordinate Latah SWCD elections in concert with Latah County’s general election. (Stinson)</li> <li>2. Coordinate the recruitment of interested landowners and agricultural operators that might have an interest in serving as supervisors or associate supervisors. (Board)</li> <li>3. Participate in local, regional, state, tribal and federal intergovernmental processes that address issues relevant to the Latah SWCD’s mission, goals and objectives. (Board/Stinson)</li> <li>4. Participate in the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts (IASCD). (Board)</li> <li>5. Sponsor the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD). (Board)</li> <li>6. Participate in district capacity training for district supervisors. (Board/Stinson)</li> </ol>

<b>Professional Staffing Tasks</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coordinate and maintain a salary schedule and employee benefits package comparable to peer positions within state and federal agencies. (Board/Stinson)</li> <li>2. Coordinate staff training. (Stinson, All staff)</li> <li>3. Coordinate technical and management assistance to other conservation districts, as requested. (Stinson, All staff)</li> <li>4. Maintain membership in the Idaho District Employees Association (IDEA). (Board)</li> </ol>

<b>Organizational Infrastructure Tasks</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coordinate a central Latah SWCD filing system. This filing system will include historical and current information. (Stinson)</li> <li>2. Coordinate the development and maintenance of a computer network; update computer software and hardware necessary for the effective delivery of Latah SWCD programs. (Zamora, Stinson)</li> <li>3. Coordinate the development of a district geographic information systems (GIS) database and perform technical data analyses. (Zamora)</li> <li>4. Coordinate field monitoring programs to collect and analyze resource information through a variety of protocols and changing technologies. (All staff)</li> <li>5. Coordinate a professional accounting system to manage Latah SWCD funds in accordance with standard accounting policies while maintaining the security of the personnel and program participant’s sensitive information. (Stinson)</li> <li>6. Coordinate annual indirect rate negotiations with the US Department of Interior. (Stinson)</li> </ol>

7. Coordinate annual independent audits. (Stinson)
8. Coordinate updates to the Latah SWCD's personnel policies, as needed. (Stinson)
9. Coordinate updates to the Latah SWCD's mission, goals, objectives, etc. (Stinson)
10. Coordinate the purchase, lease and maintenance of district vehicles, field equipment and office/shop/storage facilities. (Zamora, Stinson)

**Community Outreach Work Plan**

**Goal:** Promote efforts to enhance local community understanding of ecological systems, the social systems directly dependent upon these natural systems, and the political and organizational systems developed for management of natural resources within Latah County.

The community outreach work plan is categorized according to:

- 1) General Community Outreach
- 2) Youth Outreach
- 3) Landowner/Land User Outreach
- 4) University Outreach

<b>General Community Outreach Tasks</b>	
1.	Coordinate maintenance of distribution lists for distributing Latah SWCD announcements and publications. (All staff)
2.	Coordinate the development/maintenance of the Latah SWCD website. (Zamora)
3.	Coordinate the development and distribution of Latah SWCD press releases and updates. (All staff)
4.	Coordinate community educational forums to discuss natural resource management programs within Latah County. (ARCP)

<b>Youth Outreach Tasks</b>	
1.	Coordinate the annual Conservation Awareness Days for area schools. (ARCP)
2.	Sponsor Envirothon, Forestry Contest, Land and Soil Evaluation Event, and Idaho Ag in the Classroom up to the historical amounts. (Board/Stinson)
3.	Coordinate assistance for teams to participate in Envirothon, Idaho State Forestry Contest, and Land and Soil Evaluation Event. (Board/ARCP)
4.	Coordinate classroom presentations, as requested. (All Staff)

<b>Landowner/Land User Outreach Tasks</b>	
1.	Coordinate the annual Latah Conservation Stewardship Award banquet and field tour. (ARCP)
2.	Participate in the annual North Idaho Grazing Workshop sponsored by IASCD/Division II. (All staff)
3.	Coordinate field and farm tours to highlight new and innovative technologies and practices. (All staff)

<b>University Outreach Tasks</b>	
1.	Participate in formal and field presentations and forums as board and staff time permits. (All staff)



**Comprehensive Planning Work Plan**

**Goal:** Promote individual, local, regional, state, tribal, and national planning efforts that recognize, and manage for, the interconnected elements of natural systems and seek sustainable management approaches for the natural resources within the Latah SWCD while providing for the long-term natural resource conservation objectives of landowners and land users, strengthening the long-term health of local economies and protecting the long-term public interest of the community.

The comprehensive planning work plan is categorized according to:

- 1) Landowner and Land User Conservation Planning
- 2) Watershed Planning
- 3) Community/Economic Development Planning
- 4) Land-Use and Transportation Planning

<b>Landowner and Land User Conservation Planning Tasks</b>	
1.	Coordinate the development and maintenance of an efficient and effective Latah SWCD process for planning and contracting services between the Latah SWCD and individual landowners and land users. (All Staff)
2.	Coordinate the identification and development, if needed, of appropriate professional standards and specifications for conservation practices. (All Staff)
3.	Coordinate conservation planning assistance to partner state and federal conservation agencies when staff resources are available, and the assistance is mutually beneficial to Latah SWCD and affected parties. (All Staff)
4.	Review state and national planning policies that may affect the ability of the Latah SWCD to provide conservation planning assistance to landowners and land users. (All Staff)

<b>Watershed Planning Tasks</b>	
Columbia and Snake Rivers	
1.	Monitor watershed planning processes to determine possible effects on the Latah SWCD’s ability to provide resource conservation services. (Stinson)
Clearwater River	
1.	Participate with the Clearwater Technical Group coordinated by IOSC. (All staff)
2.	Monitor Clearwater River watershed planning efforts to determine possible effects on the Latah SWCD’s ability to provide resource conservation services. (All staff)
Potlatch River	
1.	Coordinate continued updates to the Latah SWCD’s Potlatch River Watershed Management Plan. (Stinson)
2.	Participate in the Potlatch Implementation Group. (All Staff)
3.	Participate in the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality’s (IDEQ) Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) processes related to the Potlatch River watershed. (Stinson)
4.	Review IDFG’s Potlatch River fisheries monitoring program. (All staff)

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| 5. Review USDA Forest Service and Idaho Department of Lands' (IDL) planning efforts within the Potlatch River watershed to determine opportunities for collaborative conservation on private and public lands within the watershed. (All staff) |
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<b>Palouse River</b>
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| 1. Review the Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee's (PBAC) planning efforts to protect and improve water quality and quantity of local groundwater systems. (Stinson)       |
| 2. Review IDEQ's water quality monitoring programs throughout the watershed. (Stinson)  |
| 3. Participate with the Palouse River Watershed Advisory Group and associated state agency's efforts to develop a TMDL implementation plan for the watershed. (Stinson) |

<b>Community/Economic Development Planning Tasks</b>
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| 1. Review economic opportunities associated with agricultural crop production, livestock production and forest management within Latah County and the greater Palouse region. (Stinson) |
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<b>Land Use and Transportation Planning Tasks</b>
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## Coordinated Implementation Work Plan

**Goal:** Lead the voluntary implementation of conservation efforts that seek to simultaneously protect and enhance the long-term productivity of the Latah SWCD's natural resource base while providing for the long-term natural resource conservation objectives of landowners and land-users, protecting the established rights of individual landowners and land-users, strengthening the long-term health of local economies, and protecting the long-term public interest of the community.

The coordinated implementation work plan is subdivided according to eight primary Resources of Community Concern (ROCCs) for planning and management purposes. These include:

Agricultural Lands  
 Fisheries  
 Forest Lands  
 Public Health  
 Range and Pasture Lands  
 Special Status Species  
 Threatened Ecosystems  
 Wildlife

*Note: Water Quality Resource Concerns are addressed throughout the above-listed ROCCs.*

A ROCC is defined as an individual issue, or grouping of issues, that is inherently valuable to members of the community. This community value is strong enough to warrant a voluntary community commitment of time, energy and/or financial resources. A unique conservation goal pertains to each ROCC. Each of the eight primary ROCCs is divided into secondary ROCCs. Annual Work Plan tasks within the Coordinated Implementation Work Plan are organized according to secondary ROCCs.

There are common tasks applicable to all eight primary Resources of Community Concern. Tasks common to all ROCCs include:

1. Coordinate and participate in inter-agency efforts relevant to the fulfillment of each ROCC's goal and objectives. (All staff)
2. Facilitate landowner and land user access to technical resources, financial resources and educational resources (e.g., handbooks, resource guides, demonstrations, tours, roundtables, competitions, etc.) relevant to the fulfillment of each ROCC's goal and objectives. (All staff)
3. Endorse federal, tribal, state, local and non-governmental efforts to implement management plans and practices that are consistent with the Latah SWCD's mission statement and will significantly enhance the fulfillment of each ROCC's goal and objectives. (Board/All staff)
4. Endorse land use planning efforts consistent with Latah SWCD's mission statement and each ROCC's goal and objectives. (Board/Stinson)
5. Endorse research and monitoring efforts consistent with Latah SWCD's mission statement and each ROCC's goal and objectives. (Board/All staff)
6. Review program development opportunities consistent with each ROCC's goal and objectives. (Stinson, All staff)

*Agricultural Lands – Due to anticipated staffing reductions, the identified tasks associated with the Agricultural Lands ROCC will simply serve as placeholders until Latah SWCD can reevaluate staffing needs.*

**Agricultural Lands Resource Conservation Goal:** Maintain and improve long-term soil productivity on agricultural lands while providing voluntary opportunities for the long-term preservation of working agricultural lands in Latah County.

The agricultural lands ROCC is categorized according to two secondary ROCCs:

- 1) Soil Productivity
- 2) Agricultural Land Preservation

**Soil Productivity Goal:** Maintain and improve long-term soil productivity on agricultural lands through development, adoption, promotion, and demonstration of practices that benefit inherent and dynamic soil properties associated with productivity potential within the framework of economic and social needs.

<b>Soil Productivity Tasks</b>
<p><b>Soil Health/Quality Deficiencies</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coordinate on-farm research trials designed to address producer-based management issues. (Board)</li> <li>2. Coordinate soil erosion and water quality control practices to manage concentrated flow affecting agricultural lands. (Board)</li> <li>3. Facilitate outreach and adoption of appropriate strategies to halt or reverse soil acidification. (Board)</li> <li>4. Facilitate ability of agricultural producers to evaluate achievement of goals through yield monitoring, soil testing, plant testing, and soil health monitoring/assessment. (Board)</li> <li>5. Participate with NRCS to develop and/or modify Best Management Practice (BMP) standards and specifications while also informing landowners and land users of NRCS programs. (Board)</li> <li>6. Endorse research evaluating direct linkages between productivity and soil biology response to management practices. (Board)</li> <li>7. Coordinate mitigation practices for sensitive areas. (Board)</li> <li>8. Monitor advances in soil fertility testing and nutrient management planning to improve understanding of individual agroecosystems (Board)</li> </ol>
<p><b>Precision Management Deficiencies</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coordinate synthesis of existing knowledge on current topics of high priority (e.g., the relationship between cropping system, soil organic matter, soil health, nutritional value of food, and human health). Draw from local expertise/experience, extension publications, relevant research, etc. (Board)</li> <li>2. Facilitate programs targeting adoption of precision agriculture principles and/or technology. (Board)</li> <li>3. Coordinate increased understanding of how precision agriculture impacts economic and environmental sustainability of agroecosystems. (Board)</li> </ol>

**Agricultural Land Preservation Goal:** Maintain productive agricultural lands within Latah County through the implementation of voluntary strategies that support profitable family farms and rural economies.

Limiting factors affecting agricultural land preservation include: loss of productive agricultural lands, loss of rural amenities, and crop predation by animals.

<b>Agricultural Land Preservation Tasks</b>	
Loss of Productive Agricultural Lands	
1.	Review programs designed to support continued commercial agricultural production in Latah County. (Board)
Loss of Rural Amenities	
Crop Predation by Animals	
1.	Review programs to increase public awareness of crop predation by wildlife. (Board)

**Fisheries**

**Fisheries Resource Conservation Goal:** Preserve and restore fish habitat for the benefit of resident and anadromous fish.

The fisheries ROCC is categorized according to two secondary ROCCs:

- 1) Resident Fish
- 2) Anadromous Fish.

**Resident Fish Goal:** Protect and restore resident fish habitat throughout Latah County in a way that is consistent with habitat protection and restoration needs of other fish and wildlife species.

<b>Resident Fish Tasks<sup>1</sup></b>
Degraded Water Quality
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coordinate local riparian restoration efforts, including streamside plantings, fenced cattle exclosures and off-stream watering developments, control of invasive vegetation, and stream system restorations.</li> <li>2. Coordinate local restoration efforts designed to stabilize known sources of sediment input (e.g. eroding gullies, bare streambanks, and forest roads).</li> </ul>
Extreme Fluctuations in Water Quantity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coordinate meadow and wetland protection and restoration efforts to moderate the Palouse and Potlatch River hydrographs.</li> </ul>
Degraded In-Stream Habitat Conditions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coordinate conservation planning with agricultural producers, including the use of conservation programs designed to encourage protection of prairie, wetland, and riparian areas and highly erodible lands.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> In FY23, projects undertaken that benefit resident fish will be accomplished as a complementary component to projects focused on restoration of anadromous fish habitat. Staff leads for these tasks are identified within the anadromous fish tasks.

**Anadromous Fish Goal:** Protect and restore anadromous fish habitat in the Potlatch River Watershed as outlined in the Potlatch River Watershed Management Plan consistent with habitat protection and restoration needs of other native fish and wildlife species.

Limiting factors affecting anadromous fish include: high water temperatures, flashy stream flows, low summer base flows, lack of stream complexity, barriers to migration, and sedimentation. These issues are addressed in the Potlatch River Watershed Management Plan and in the associated 2019 Amendment.

<b>Anadromous Fish Tasks</b>
<p>1. Coordinate the implementation of best management practices as outlined in the Potlatch River Watershed Management Plan.</p> <p>The majority of funding managed by the Latah SWCD are grants and contracts secured from various state and federal funding sources for implementation of Latah SWCD’s Potlatch River Watershed Management Plan. FY23, efforts seek to address several limiting factors that affect the production and distribution of wild steelhead within the Potlatch River. Highlighted below are the projects, organized by subwatersheds within the Potlatch River drainage, which will be managed by Latah SWCD in FY23.</p> <p><b>Big Bear Creek</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upper Big Bear Meadow Restoration Projects (Erhardt, RCP, Zamora)</li> <li>• Riparian Plantings/Vegetation Monitoring (Erhardt, Zamora)</li> <li>• Culvert Inventory (Erhardt, RCP, Zamora)</li> <li>• Stream Assessment (Erhardt, RCP, Zamora)</li> <li>• Beaver Dam Analogs (Zamora, ARCP)</li> </ul> <p><b>Corral Creek</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IDL/Private Upper Tee Meadow Restoration (Erhardt, Zamora, ARCP)</li> <li>• IDL West Fork Meadow Restoration (Erhardt, RCP, Zamora, ARCP)</li> <li>• Vegetation Monitoring (Erhardt, ARCP)</li> </ul> <p><b>Hog Meadow Creek</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Riparian Plantings (Zamora, ARCP)</li> </ul> <p><b>East Fork Potlatch River</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• USFS Meadow Restoration (Erhardt, Zamora, ARCP)</li> <li>• IDL Fry Creek Meadow Restoration (Erhardt, Zamora, ARCP)</li> </ul> <p><b>Little Bear Creek</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nora Creek Meadow Restoration (Erhardt, Zamora, ARCP)</li> <li>• Vegetation Monitoring (Erhardt, ARCP)</li> </ul>

**Forest Lands**

**Forest Lands Resource Conservation Goal:** Preserve and restore forest productivity on private and public lands while providing voluntary opportunities for the long-term preservation of working forest lands in Latah County.

The forest lands ROCC is categorized according to two secondary ROCCs:

- 1) Forest Productivity
- 2) Forest Land Preservation

**Forest Productivity Goal:** Protect and enhance forest conditions that maintain ecosystem functions and processes, support water quality, and provide for habitat and species diversity, while enhancing the future production potential of private forests.

<b>Forest Productivity Tasks</b>
Forest Health
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Facilitate landowner access to technical resources and educational opportunities to develop forest management plans and related BMPs for forest stand improvements. BMPs may address fuels reduction, insects and disease, invasive plants, stand diversity and stocking. (Stinson)</li> </ul>

**Forest Land Preservation Goal:** Preserve working forest lands within Latah County through the implementation of voluntary strategies that support sustainable timber extraction consistent with natural processes and the protection of water quality and habitat for fish and wildlife.

<b>Forest Land Preservation Tasks</b>
Resource Conflicts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Facilitate the delivery of multi-disciplinary forest planning information to landowners. (Stinson)</li> <li>2. Facilitate landowner access to information about conservation easements. (Stinson, Erhardt, RCP)</li> </ul>
Unsustainable Harvest
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Monitor forest products and practices that may improve the ecological and economical sustainability of working forest lands. (Stinson)</li> </ul>



**Public Health**

**Public Health Resource Conservation Goal:** Support the management of natural resources in a manner that protects the public health of citizens of Latah County and the Palouse region while simultaneously providing for long-term economic sustainability of private working lands in Latah County.

The public health ROCC is categorized according to five secondary ROCCs:

- 1) Air Quality
- 2) Global Climate Change
- 3) Drinking Water Quantity
- 4) Drinking Water Quality
- 5) Surface Water/Recreational Contact

**Air Quality Goal:** Protect air quality throughout Latah County.

<b>Air Quality Tasks</b>
Agricultural Field Burning
1. Monitor existing agricultural field burning laws and policies. (Board)

**Global Climate Change Goal:** Reduce carbon emissions and support self-sustaining carbon sequestering land management practices.

<b>Global Climate Change Tasks</b>
Profitable Carbon Sequestration Opportunities
1. Participate in carbon sequestration programs at local, state and national levels that show a likely impact at an appropriate geographic and temporal scale. (Stinson)

**Drinking Water Quantity Goal:** Safeguard drinking water supplies.

<b>Drinking Water Quantity Tasks</b>
Limited Aquifer Recharge
1. Participate in water conservation planning undertaken by local governments. (Stinson)

**Drinking Water Quality Goal:** Protect the health of Latah County citizens by safeguarding clean drinking water supplies.

<b>Drinking Water Quality Tasks</b>
Contamination of Shallow Aquifers
1. Participate in local efforts to identify and protect aquifer recharge zones. (Stinson)
Contamination of Surface Water Supplies
1. Participate in local efforts to identify and protect surface drinking water protection zones. (Stinson)

**Surface Water/Recreational Contact Goal:** Protect the health of Latah County citizens by safeguarding surface water quality for recreational use.

<b>Surface Water/Recreational Contact Tasks<sup>2</sup></b>
Bacteria
1. Participate in revisions of TMDLs and associated Implementation Plans for the Potlatch River and Palouse River watersheds. (Stinson)
2. Coordinate local riparian restoration efforts, including: streamside plantings, fenced cattle enclosures and off-stream watering developments.
Nutrients
1. Participate in revisions of TMDLs and associated Implementation Plans for the Potlatch River and Palouse River watersheds. (Stinson)
2. Coordinate local riparian restoration efforts, including: streamside plantings, fenced cattle enclosures and off-stream watering developments.

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<sup>2</sup>In FY23, many of the implementation projects undertaken that affect public health will be accomplished as a complementary component to projects focused on restoration of anadromous fish habitat. Staff leads for these tasks are identified within the anadromous fish tasks.

**Range and Pasture Lands**

**Range and Pasture Lands Resource Conservation Goal:** Preserve and restore range and pasture land productivity for the benefit of wildlife and livestock while providing voluntary opportunities for the long-term preservation of working rangelands in Latah County.

The range and pasture lands ROCC is categorized according to two secondary ROCCs:

- 1) Range and Pasture Productivity
- 2) Rangeland Preservation

**Range and Pasture Productivity Goal:** Protect and restore natural productivity to range and pasturelands for the benefit of livestock and wildlife.

<b>Range and Pasture Productivity Tasks</b>
Invasive Plants
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Facilitate landowner access to programs that may assist them in weed control efforts. (Erhardt)</li> <li>2. Inform landowners regarding the identification and effective control of invasive weeds. (Erhardt)</li> </ul>

**Rangeland Preservation:** Maintain productive rangelands within Latah County through the implementation of voluntary strategies for the benefit of livestock and wildlife.

<b>Rangeland Preservation Tasks</b>
Loss of Range and Pasture Lands
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review voluntary land protection programs that focus on maintaining the viability of range and pasture lands. (Stinson)</li> </ul>

**Special Status Species**

**Special Status Species Resource Conservation Goal:** Protect and restore habitat for the survival of individual special status animal and plant species within Latah County and the Palouse region.

The special status species ROCC is categorized according to two secondary ROCCs:

- 1) Animal
- 2) Plant

**Animal Goal:** Protect special status animal species and preserve and restore the habitats, landscape connectivity, and ecosystem processes necessary to sustain these populations in Latah County.

<b>Animal Tasks<sup>3</sup></b>
Habitat Degradation and Fragmentation
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coordinate the implementation of monarch butterfly and pollinator habitat restoration and outreach efforts to include: pollinator and milkweed plantings, control of invasive vegetation, and protection of existing monarch butterfly and pollinator habitat. (Erhardt)</li> <li>2. Coordinate local riparian and wetland restoration efforts, including: floodplain reconnection, streamside plantings, control of invasive vegetation, fenced cattle exclosures, and off-stream watering developments.</li> </ol>

<sup>3</sup> In FY23, implementation projects undertaken that affect special status animal species will be accomplished as a complementary component to projects focused on restoration of anadromous fish habitat. Staff leads for these tasks are identified within the anadromous fish tasks.

**Plant Goal:** Protect special status plants by preserving and restoring the habitats necessary to sustain these populations in Latah County.

<b>Plant Tasks</b>
<b>Habitat Loss, Fragmentation and Degradation</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coordinate Palouse Prairie, canyon grassland, mature forest protection and riparian/wetland restoration efforts. (All staff)</li> <li>2. Coordinate Spalding’s catchfly recovery efforts according to the Spalding’s catchfly recovery plan within Latah County and focusing within the Paradise Ridge-Gormsen Butte Key Conservation Area. (Erhardt, ARCP)</li> <li>3. Inform interested landowners regarding protection and restoration opportunities. (Erhardt)</li> <li>4. Inform landowners regarding the identification and effective control of invasive weeds. (Erhardt)</li> </ol>

**Threatened Ecosystems**

**Threatened Ecosystem Resource Conservation Goal:** Protect and restore threatened ecosystems in Latah County and the Palouse region on a scale that supports the self-sustaining function of these ecosystems.

The threatened ecosystem ROCC is categorized according to five secondary ROCCs:

- 1) Camas Meadows
- 2) Canyon Grasslands
- 3) Palouse Prairie
- 4) Ponderosa Pine
- 5) Wetlands

**Camas Meadows Goal:** Protect and restore camas meadows in Latah County on a scale that supports the self-sustaining function of these ecosystems.<sup>4</sup>

**Canyon Grasslands Goal:** Protect and restore canyon grassland ecosystems in Latah County on a scale that supports the self-sustaining function of these ecosystems.

**Palouse Prairie Goal:** Protect and restore Palouse Prairie ecosystems in Latah County and the Palouse region on a scale that supports the self-sustaining function of these ecosystems.

<b>Palouse Prairie Tasks</b>
Land Conversion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coordinate planning efforts to identify potential sites for protection and/or restoration. (Erhardt)</li> <li>2. Coordinate Palouse Prairie restoration projects. (Erhardt, Zamora, ARCP)</li> <li>3. Endorse research to identify effective restoration methods. (Board/Erhardt)</li> <li>4. Facilitate the use of CRP and other state and federal programs available to landowners for prairie restoration. (Erhardt)</li> <li>5. Inform landowners regarding protection and restoration options for Palouse Prairie. (Erhardt)</li> </ul>
Invasive Plants
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coordinate Palouse Prairie restoration efforts that include the control of invasive weeds. (Erhardt)</li> <li>2. Facilitate landowner access to programs that may assist them in weed control efforts. (Erhardt)</li> <li>3. Inform landowners on the identification and effective control of invasive weeds. (Erhardt)</li> </ul>

**Ponderosa Pine Goal:** Protect and restore ponderosa pine habitat in Latah County on a scale that supports the self-sustaining function of these ecosystems.

<sup>4</sup> In FY23, implementation projects undertaken that affect camas meadows will be accomplished as a complementary component to projects focused on restoration of anadromous fish habitat. Staff leads for these tasks are identified within the anadromous fish tasks.

**Wetlands Goal:** Protect and restore wetland ecosystems in Latah County on a scale that supports the self-sustaining function of these ecosystems.

<b>Wetlands Tasks<sup>5</sup></b>
<b>Restoration and Protection of Wetlands</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coordinate local stream/wetland restoration efforts, including: floodplain reconnection, constructed wetlands, channel realignment, native plantings, and livestock exclusion. (All staff)</li> <li>2. Coordinate the installation of instream wood structures, such as beaver dam analogues or log clusters, to increase floodplain connectivity to rehydrate degraded wetlands (All staff).</li> <li>3. Inform landowners regarding wetland protection and restoration opportunities. (All staff)</li> <li>4. Facilitate access to programs that assist in the protection and restoration of wetland communities. (All staff)</li> <li>5. Coordinate the trapping and relocation of resident beavers to enhance wetland and meadow restoration efforts. (Zamora, ARCP)</li> <li>6. Inform landowners regarding land trusts and conservation easements. (All staff)</li> </ol>

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<sup>5</sup> In FY23, wetland projects will be accomplished as a complementary component to projects focused on restoration of anadromous fish habitat. Staff leads for these tasks are identified within the anadromous fish tasks.

**Wildlife**

**Wildlife Resource Conservation Goal:** Protect, create and/or enhance wildlife habitats and populations to sustainable levels for aesthetics, organic cultural pursuits, and environmental/biological diversity.

The wildlife ROCC is categorized according to two secondary ROCCs:

- 1) Game Species
- 2) Non-Game Species

**Game Species Goal:** Protect viable, balanced and sustainable populations of game species for wildlife diversity; aesthetics; and organic cultural pursuits such as hunting, viewing, photography, etc.

<b>Game Species Tasks</b>
Habitat Loss, Degradation and Land-use Conversions <sup>6</sup>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Facilitate the use of programs such as Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Continuous Conservation Reserve Program (CCRP) and State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) that provide valuable wildlife habitat within agricultural settings. (Erhardt)</li> <li>2. Inform landowners regarding cost-share programs, land trusts, conservation easements, and other options that may be available to protect critical habitat on private lands. (All staff)</li> <li>3. Inform landowners regarding agricultural practices that benefit game species. (All staff)</li> <li>4. Coordinate local riparian restoration efforts, including: streamside plantings, fenced cattle exclosures and off-stream watering developments, control of invasive vegetation, and stream system restoration. (All staff)</li> <li>5. Coordinate local wetland protection and restoration efforts. (All staff)</li> </ol>

<sup>6</sup> In FY23, riparian habitat and wetland restoration projects will be accomplished as a complementary component to projects focused on restoration of anadromous fish habitat. Staff leads for these tasks are identified within the anadromous fish tasks.



**Nongame Species Goal:** Maintain healthy populations of nongame wildlife throughout Latah County to support ecosystem functions, economic, cultural, and aesthetic values.

<b>Nongame Species Tasks</b>
Habitat Loss, Degradation and Land-use Conversions <sup>7</sup>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Facilitate the use of programs such as CRP, CCRP and SAFE that provide valuable wildlife habitat within agricultural settings. (Erhardt)</li> <li>2. Inform landowners regarding cost-share programs, land trusts, conservation easements, and other options that may be available to protect critical habitat on private lands. (All staff)</li> <li>3. Inform landowners regarding agricultural practices that benefit nongame species. (All staff)</li> <li>4. Coordinate local riparian and wetland restoration efforts, including: floodplain connectivity, streamside plantings, fenced cattle exclosures and off-stream watering developments, and control of invasive vegetation. (All staff)</li> <li>5. Coordinate local wetland protection and restoration efforts. (All staff)</li> </ol>

<sup>7</sup> In FY23, riparian habitat and wetland restoration projects will be accomplished as a complementary component to projects focused on restoration of anadromous fish habitat. Staff leads for these tasks are identified within the anadromous fish tasks.

## Acronyms and Abbreviations

<b>AgPlan</b>	Idaho Agricultural Pollution Abatement Plan
<b>ARCP</b>	Assistant Resource Conservation Planner – Latah SWCD
<b>BAG</b>	Basin Advisory Group
<b>BDA</b>	Beaver Dam Analog
<b>BiOp</b>	Biological Opinion
<b>BLM</b>	Bureau of Land Management
<b>BMP</b>	Best Management Practices
<b>BOCC</b>	Board of County Commissioners
<b>BPA</b>	Bonneville Power Administration
<b>BURP</b>	Beneficial Use Reconnaissance Project
<b>CBAG</b>	Clearwater Basin Advisory Group
<b>CCRP</b>	Continuous Conservation Reserve Program
<b>CFR</b>	Code of Federal Regulations
<b>CNF</b>	Clearwater National Forest
<b>COE</b>	Corps of Engineers
<b>Council</b>	Northwest Power and Conservation Council
<b>CRP</b>	Conservation Reserve Program
<b>CSP</b>	Conservation Security Program
<b>CWA</b>	Clean Water Act
<b>EPA</b>	Environmental Protection Agency
<b>EQIP</b>	Environmental Quality Incentive Program
<b>ESA</b>	Endangered Species Act
<b>FPA</b>	Forest Practices Act
<b>FSA</b>	Farm Services Agency
<b>FWS</b>	Fish and Wildlife Service
<b>FY</b>	Fiscal Year
<b>GIS</b>	Geographic Information System
<b>I&amp;E</b>	Information and Education
<b>IASCD</b>	Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts
<b>IDAPA</b>	Idaho Administrative Procedures Act
<b>IDEA</b>	Idaho District Employees Association
<b>IDEQ</b>	Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
<b>IDFG</b>	Idaho Department of Fish and Game
<b>IDL</b>	Idaho Department of Lands
<b>IDWR</b>	Idaho Department of Water Resources
<b>IOSC</b>	Idaho Office of Species Conservation
<b>ISDA</b>	Idaho State Department of Agriculture
<b>ISWCC</b>	Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission
<b>ITD</b>	Idaho Transportation Department
<b>Latah SWCD</b>	Latah Soil and Water Conservation District
<b>NACD</b>	National Association of Conservation Districts
<b>NLCHD</b>	North Latah County Highway District
<b>NMFS</b>	National Marine Fisheries Service

<b>NOAA</b>	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
<b>NPT</b>	Nez Perce Tribe
<b>NRCS</b>	Natural Resources Conservation Service
<b>NWPCC</b>	Northwest Power and Conservation Council
<b>PBAC</b>	Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee
<b>PCSRF</b>	Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund
<b>RCP</b>	Resource Conservation Planner – Latah SWCD
<b>ROCC</b>	Resource of Community Concern
<b>SAFE</b>	State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement
<b>SCD</b>	Soil Conservation District
<b>SDWA</b>	Safe Drinking Water Act
<b>SLHD</b>	South Latah Highway District
<b>SWCD</b>	Soil and Water Conservation District
<b>TMDL</b>	Total Maximum Daily Load
<b>UI</b>	University of Idaho
<b>USDA</b>	United States Department of Agriculture
<b>USDI</b>	United States Department of the Interior
<b>USFWS</b>	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
<b>USGS</b>	United States Geological Survey
<b>WAG</b>	Watershed Advisory Group
<b>WQPA</b>	Water Quality Program for Agriculture
<b>WRIA</b>	Water Resource Inventory Area
<b>WSU</b>	Washington State University