



CLEARWATER RC&D COUNCIL

FY 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

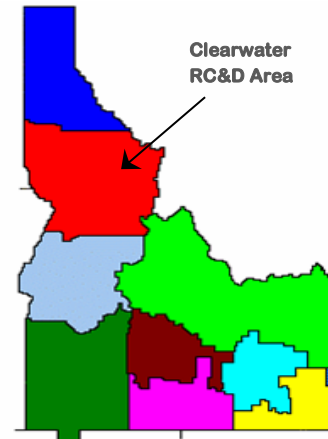
Providing leadership in building local collaborations for sustainable community and resource development that will improve the quality of life for residents of north-central Idaho.

CLEARWATER RC&D COUNCIL – 2014

Overview

WHAT IS THE CLEARWATER RC&D COUNCIL?

The Clearwater Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization established and run by volunteer elected and civic leaders who plan and carry out projects for resource conservation and community development in Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis, and Nez Perce counties. These volunteers represent counties, towns, the Nez Perce Tribe, conservation districts, grassroots organizations, economic development organizations, and the community at large. The mission of the Clearwater RC&D Council is to provide leadership in building local collaborations for sustainable community and resource development that will improve the quality of life for residents of north-central Idaho.



WHAT WE OFFER

The Clearwater RC&D Council offers fiscal sponsorship services to citizens, organizations, and other government entities. Fiscal sponsorship is a cost-effective way to implement new programs, bring together groups to collaborate on an issue, and test new approaches. Our fiscal sponsorship services include:

- Operation under our 501(c)3 umbrella
- Back-office support for financial, administrative, human resources, and grants management services
- Advisory consultation to build an efficient and cost-effective project

This is ideal for individuals, organizations, and social entrepreneurs that:

- Need 501(c)3 status,
- Could use the back-office support of an accountable and well-managed nonprofit,
- Want to bring together groups to collaborate on an issue or have time-limited goals, or
- Are looking for financial or administrative help.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Clearwater Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc.

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P.O. Box 9576 Moscow, Idaho 83843

Tel: 208.669.0975/ **Email:** info@clearwaterrcd.org

A Community of Support

SPONSOR ORGANIZATIONS FOR FY 2014

The Clearwater RC&D Council is grateful for the 26 contributions received for FY 2014. Sponsoring entities and organizations for 2014 included:

- City of Cottonwood
- City of Craigmont
- City of Culdesac
- City of Elk River
- City of Grangeville
- City of Kooskia
- City of Lapwai
- City of Lewiston
- City of Moscow
- City of Nezperce
- City of Peck
- City of Potlatch

- Clearwater County
- Idaho County
- Latah County
- Lewis County
- Nez Perce County

- Clearwater Soil & Water Conservation District
- Idaho Soil & Water Conservation District
- Latah Soil & Water Conservation District
- Lewis Soil Conservation District
- Nez Perce Soil & Water Conservation District
- Clearwater Economic Development Association
- Port of Lewiston
- Clearwater County Economic Development Council
- Ida-Lew Economic Development Council

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FY 2014 Financial Summary

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

		ASSETS
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash		\$247,487
Grants Receivable		\$2,100
Total Assets		<u>\$249,587</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable		\$16,726
Accrued Liabilities		\$2,247
Total Current Liabilities		<u>\$18,973</u>
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted		\$95,434
Temporarily Restricted		\$135,180
Total Net Assets		<u>\$230,614</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets		<u>\$249,587</u>

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT		
Grant Revenue		\$1,033,793
Membership Dues		\$30,587
Total Revenue		<u>\$1,064,380</u>
EXPENSES		
Program Services		
Land Management		\$970,618
Water Management		\$0
Community Improvement		\$3,133
Total Program Services		<u>\$973,751</u>
Supporting Services		
Administration		\$69,708
Total Expenses		<u>\$1,043,459</u>
Increase in Net Assets		\$20,921
NET ASSETS, Beginning of Year		\$209,693
NET ASSETS, End of Year		\$230,614

Condensed financial information for the year ending September 30, 2014 obtained from audited financial statements.

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Council Leadership

FY 2014 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Officers

President –	Tera King
Executive VP –	Dick Hodge
Vice President –	Jacqui Gilbert
Treasurer –	Alan Martinson
Secretary –	Ivy Dickinson

County Representatives

Clearwater County –	Loren Whitten-Kaboth
Nez Perce County –	Bob Tippet
Lewis County –	Greg Johnson
Latah County –	Alan Martinson
Idaho County –	Clyde Hanson

FY 2014 MEMBERS AT-LARGE

Malcolm Dell
Ken Roberts
Ivy Dickinson
Tera King
Lorrie Higgins

STAFF

Drew Blankenbaker – Executive Director

The Clearwater RC&D Council was pleased to announce the appointment of Drew Blankenbaker as its inaugural Executive Director. Drew was appointed as the Executive Director for the Council in January of 2013, and he is responsible for the general operations, communications, and fiscal management of the organization. You can contact him at: director@clearwaterrcd.org



Drew Blankenbaker had the honor of being recognized by the Western RC&D Association's with its Outstanding Staff Leadership Performance Award.

CONGRATULATIONS DREW!

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Sponsored Projects

PROJECTS SPONOSORED FOR FY 2014

The Council sponsored a total of 18 projects throughout FY 2014.

- Bio-Control Development
- Clearwater Basin Collaborative
- Clearwater Basin Cooperative Weed Management Area
- Fire Mitigation Coordinators Program
- Forest and Fun Camp
- Greater Palouse Meat Producers
- Habitat Group
- Idaho Firewise
- Inland Northwest Food Hub
- Inland Northwest Food Network
- Musselshell Pollinator Garden
- North Central Idaho Critical Incident Stress Management Team
- North Central Idaho Fire Prevention Cooperative
- Palouse Cooperative Weed Management Area
- The Pearl Theater
- Tri-State Cooperative Weed Management Area
- Two Degrees Northwest
- Youth Fire Education Program



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PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

CLEARWATER BASIN COLLABORATIVE – FINDING SOLUTIONS



Clearwater Basin Collaborative
finding solutions

For too long, conflict and controversy have been the catchwords that have defined public forests of the Clearwater Basin. But that's starting to change.

Leading the charge to change that dynamic is a diverse set of individuals who were convened by U.S. Senator Mike Crapo in 2008. The Clearwater Basin Collaborative (CBC) is made up of 21 members who represent the interests of Clearwater and Idaho Counties, conservation, the Nez Perce Tribe, timber, motorized recreation, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, outfitters, rural economic development, wildlife, and the public at-large.

The CBC works collaboratively to enhance and protect the ecological and economic health of the forests, rivers and communities by working across a diversity of interests. The CBC provides recommendations concerning the use and management of lands within the Clearwater Basin. With two-thirds of the entire basin under the management of the U.S. Forest Service, much of the efforts have appropriately focused on management activities in the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest.

One of the significant accomplishments of the CBC has been the successful implementation of the Selway-Middle Fork Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration project. Since 2010, the project has attracted over \$10 million in direct federal investments, along with over \$3.5 million in matching funds from partner organizations. The project has created or sustained over 126 full and part-time jobs and has resulted in over 47,149 acres that have been managed to reduce fire risk, restore native vegetation, improve watershed condition, and deliver logs to local mills. More than 11 million board feet of timber is currently expected off the Selway-Middle Fork project, with more to come.

In addition, the CBC is providing comments and collaborative input on 17 different Forest Service management projects across the Basin. Field trips occur regularly during the summer and fall to evaluate the projects on the ground.

Yet the work of the CBC expands beyond the forest boundary, by working to support each other's goals, the group has promoted efforts around the Basin to:

- Keep the Dworshak State Park open for business,
- Attract the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe program to Pierce,
- Develop a 242-mile North-South ATV Route between Avery and Elk City,
- Promote wildlife habitat restoration,
- Ensure support for counties, and
- Advocate for education and job-training opportunities

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Finally, as part of an effort to settle long-standing disputes over land management, the CBC is considering recommendations regarding new Wilderness, Wild and Scenic Rivers, and a National Recreation Area designation for some special places like the Mallard-Larkins, Kelly Creek, and Meadow Creek.

The full CBC meets monthly, usually the 4th Wednesday of the month at the Idaho Department of Fish and Game Clearwater Region Office at 3316 16th St. in Lewiston. Regular meetings of the Landscape Health and Function, Rural Economies, Land Allocation and Recreation Subcommittees occur between the full CBC meetings. All meetings are open to the public and input is encouraged.

IDAHO FIREWISE – WHAT’S IN IT FOR YOU?

The prevention messages of Smokey Bear have changed and evolved into a new refrain: Fire in the Wildland/Urban Interface! Today, as more people build in the forests and rangelands of Idaho, they become part of the ever-increasing landscape where the urban environment meets the wild.

And while the prevention messages of old still hold true today, each time fire educators engage with individuals or communities, we decrease the challenges and costs of managing fires across Idaho.



Being a resident of the wildland/urban interface has benefits as well as risks. Those that choose to live in or near a wildland environment have a higher associated risk and personal responsibility for the safety of their families as well as their property, pets, and livestock. Understanding the wildland environment you are a part of is a large part of being firewise. Let Idaho Firewise help you become part of a growing firewise culture!

What’s In It For You?

- Become part of a growing statewide “firewise” culture
- Understand the role that fire plays in Idaho’s wildlands
- Become a nationally recognized Firewise Community
- Gain access to fire education resources and materials

INLAND NORTHWEST FOOD HUB



An analysis of our local resources conducted at a University of Idaho seminar funded by a grant that was written by Clearwater Economic Development Association, identified a weakness that we were not utilizing our natural resources; one being our growing season and growing produce to feed ourselves. Evident from other research conducted by various organizations, have outlined issues of food security, food blight and a real need to know where our food sources come from.

In the space of a few weeks after the seminar, local food entrepreneurs were presenting themselves to community development in Lewiston, requesting business licenses in the food or catering industry; there was a pattern. Those folks requiring business licenses wanted to know where they could get access to a

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commercial kitchen. The only registered commercial kitchen in Lewiston is the one at Lewiston Community Center. This kitchen is specifically used for the seniors program, but the community center does allow others to use the kitchen when it is not being used for the program.

These folks are food entrepreneurs who are starting small with a great idea or product. We have nowhere for them to get the help they need locally to become successful. These small businesses are our future and if we can help them succeed they will create jobs and provide a sustainable environment in the future for our young people, plus help the local food chain.

Project Update

The food incubator or now known as the Inland Northwest Food Hub is more than just a commercial kitchen. It's about providing an environment for small startup food specialty businesses to process food going through the steps they need to take their product to market, making large enough volumes to provide a product that is high quality and "priced right" for the local consumer.

The task force started meeting February 2011, and depending on subject matter meet once or twice a month. We started to scope out what type of facility we should have and began on the business plan. With the help of the ID and WA SBA, U of I Extension, North Central District - Public Health, and some very keen entrepreneurs we have formulated somewhat of a plan. First was to scope an outline of what we thought was needed, then we started to work on a vision and mission statement and now we are at the awareness campaign stage to drive food entrepreneurs to a website to complete a survey that will help us gauge what type of facility is needed and who will use it.

Funding will probably be from a variety of sources ranging from grants, community partners, private business investment and the folks that use the facility. All would play an important part in building and sustaining the facility. That's why a robust business plan along with set milestones and goals will need to be in place before we start investing funds.

Key to Success

Key to success is by collaborating with partners in other communities who have interests in this project and food sustainability as a whole. Strong links with education establishments to support the needs of the project and its users. Clear united messages coming from the leadership team that support the vision and mission of the Inland Northwest Food Hub. Last but not least, finance capital to support the project and ongoing needs.

TWO DEGREES NORTHWEST – WHERE ART MEETS THE LAND

2DNW is...

A pilot program of University of Idaho Extension. Because Extension is statewide in Idaho and so are the 2DNW program director's responsibilities, the intent is to either expand the geographical scope of 2DNW or help other regions in Idaho start their own programs focused on developing cultural industries. For now, we are



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concentrating efforts in the north central part of the state.

Our Region

Based in north central Idaho and southeastern Washington, and the places between 45 and 47 degrees latitude, our region stretches from the Plummer/Worley area of Idaho south to Riggins. From east to west, it encompasses towns such as Uniontown, Colfax, and Palouse in southwestern Washington State and across to the Wieppe-Pierce area in Idaho, near the Montana border.

Our Mission

We believe the arts and handmade goods are central to a strong and vibrant place-based rural economy. Therefore, we work to support and create opportunities for art and food-based economic development; to cooperatively market the region's artists and artisans; and to promote our region's arts and fine crafts along with other locally made products such as foods, wines, unique sites, services, and experiences.

Our History

At the 2005 Idaho Governor's Conference on Recreation and Tourism, Becky Anderson, director of North Carolina's HandMade in America described her organization's novel approach to rural economic development – a strategy that helps communities identify, enhance and market their unique sites, heritage, culture and products, developing trails, guides and services for very rural communities. The idea appealed to many who strive to identify effective solutions to economic change in rural Idaho.

In 2006, a group of Idaho agencies formed the Uniquely Idaho Steering Committee to support cultural tourism. Later that year, a small group of committed professionals in the Clearwater area of north central Idaho, an arts group in St. Maries, and the Coeur d'Alene Tribe developed proposals in response to the Idaho Commission on the Arts and Uniquely Idaho's request for information about interest in cultural tourism. The Uniquely Idaho committee suggested the groups work together. An enthusiastic, region-wide response to the directive combined with interest from Washington communities and resources provided by University of Idaho Extension led to the creation of Two Degrees Northwest: Where Art Meets the Land. Many thanks to the original group that helped launch the program: Kathleen Burns (Moscow, ID), Sherry Klaus (Tensed, WA), Anne McCormack (Pullman, WA), Laura Laumatia (Plummer, ID), Keri Wilson (Clarkston, WA) & Elizabeth Carney (Moscow, ID).

Our Funders

University of Idaho Extension, Idaho Commission on the Arts, USDA Rural Development, City of Moscow, Idaho Community Foundation, Latah County Community Foundation, Moscow Food Co-op. Funding also comes in the form of fees for services, such as inclusion in the trail guide and workshops.

LOOKING AHEAD

The Clearwater RC&D Council thanks all of its funders, sponsors, contributors, and projects, and is looking forward to another successful year in 2015. For more information, visit: www.clearwaterrcd.org