

2006

Bear River Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc., 2006 Annual Report

Bear River RC&D, Inc

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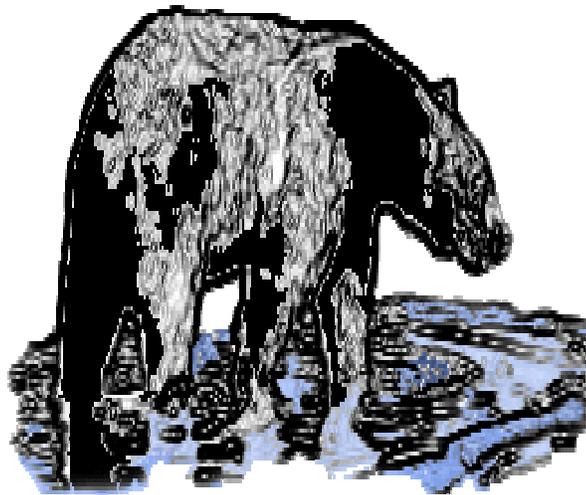
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Bear River Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc.

2006 Annual Report



Mission: *The mission of the Bear River RC&D Council, Inc., is to develop local solutions to sustain and improve communities through partnership building and conservation of natural and human resources.*

Vision: *The Bear River RC&D Council, Inc., will be a recognized leader in the promotion of conservation, development and utilization of natural and human resources to improve the local economy and to enhance the quality of life in all the communities of the Bear River RC&D area.*

Designated October 15, 1966, the Bear River RC&D Council, Inc, is a locally led 501©(3) not for profit organization that addresses natural resource conservation and development issues in Oneida, Caribou, Franklin and Bear Lake counties in Southeastern Idaho and Box Elder, Cache, and Rich counties in Northern Utah. The RC&D area represents most of the Bear River Basin – 12,519 square miles (8,012,160 acres).

Some 2006 Bear River RC&D Council accomplishments:

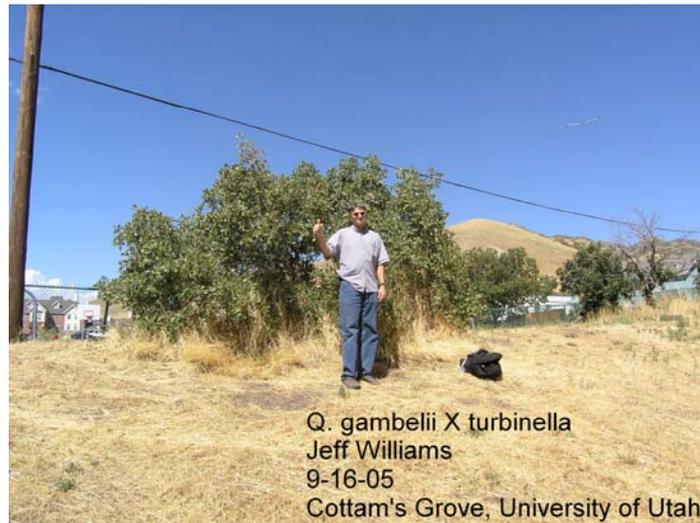
- **NRCS goals** for wildlife habitat improvement acres through weed control were for Idaho: 1,000 acres goaled for Oneida County – 1,200 acres accomplished, 1,500 acres goaled for Franklin County – 1,250 acres accomplished = 98% completed. Jobs created goal of four, four were achieved = 100% completed.
- Invited to make a **presentation at the National RC&D meeting** held in Savannah, Georgia in June (Suzanne Rees - on the RC&D Youth Camp road renovation).
- **Revised** the five year **Area Plan**.
- **Revised and updated** the Council's **Constitution and By Laws**.
- **86% participation by Council members** at regularly held RC&D meetings (all counties except **Rich**).
- Propagated **180 Cottam's Oak seedlings** in **13 varieties** ready for sales in **2007**.
- Provided outdoor camping experiences for over 500 youth and their families at the **Bear River RC&D Youth Camp** (special use permit on the Caribou-Targhee National Forest, Emigration Canyon – Franklin County Idaho).
- Secured \$39,000 to **reduce hazardous fuels** from summer homes in **Cub River Canyon** in Franklin County, Idaho (funding from Idaho Dept. of Lands).
- Secured \$8,000 in funding to improve range conditions on 630 acres of USFS and private land (in Oneida County Idaho).
- The Council is providing \$1000 per year for five years to the Panhandle Lakes RC&D (in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho) for research into the **bio control of Dyer's Woad**.
- Entered into a joint project with **Utah State University** to promote the development and propagation of **water efficient** plant materials for urban landscape use – **dwarf conifers** primarily.
- Provided support to other conservation groups such as the **Bear River Heritage Area**, the **Cutler Reservoir/Bear River Advisory Committee**, and the **Agricultural Advisory Board** (open space preservation in Cache Valley), and the **Idaho Resource Conservation and Development Association**, etc.
- Employed **Technical Service Provider** personnel to assist the NRCS Field Offices in Tremonton and Logan by employing three individuals to implement several of the Farm Bill Programs available to area **farmers and ranchers**.
- Acted as **fiscal agent** various conservation-oriented groups, with income (combined with grants acquired) of over \$461,000 for the year (the Bear River RC&D charges a 5% handling fee which allows the employment of quality bookkeeping services).

Utah Weed Supervisors Association



The Utah Weed Supervisor Association accomplished a tremendous amount of weed control throughout Utah this past year. Through the grants program and help from the RC&D the association has accomplished projects from southern Utah to southern Idaho. The program treated over **19,951 acres** while funding \$221,383 dollars worth of noxious weed projects and generated over \$766,809 dollars of cost share.

Walter Cottam's Oaks



Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project (Idaho)



During the past two years, the RC&D has applied for and has been awarded funds to remove hazardous fuels from around human habitations within the urban-wildland interface area. Within the Bear River RC&D area, these structures are mostly summer homes and associated structures within or near the National Forest in Franklin, Caribou and Bear Lake Counties. Above is a photo of the before and after treatments at **Boy Scout Camp Bartlett** in Bear Lake County.

Utah-Idaho Cooperative Weed Management Area



The Utah-Idaho CWMA consists of 6.5 million acres in Bannock, Franklin and Oneida counties in Southeastern Idaho and Cache and Box Elder counties in Northern Utah. Prior to 1997, there was no cooperative effort to control noxious and invasive weeds between the two states. This cooperative is an ongoing project between 15 land management and county entities in Utah and Idaho, with the RC&D acting as fiscal agent and supplying grant writing and management services as well. In 2006, the Utah-Idaho CWMA **treated 21,565 acres within the area.**

Bear River RC&D Youth Camp



For over 20 years the RC&D has held a Special Use Permit with the United States Forest Service for the three acres wooded campground located at the summit of Emigration Canyon on the Caribou-Targhee National Forest in Franklin County, Idaho. Located in dense timber, the camp offers a sizable amphitheater and A-frame building for group instruction, as well as a half dozen camp sites. Last year, the Youth Camp was host to over **500 youth and their families** who experienced an outstanding outdoor experience. The camp does generate user fees – approximately \$600 in 2006. The camp is jointly maintained by the RC&D staff and the Box Elder County Extension Service. For more information, call Lyle Holmgren in Brigham City at 435-734-9958 EXT 261.