



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Soil
Conservation
Service

3244 Elder St.
Room 124
Boise, Idaho 83705-4711

February 18, 1994

Dear Conservation Partner:

Under the leadership of the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts (IASCD) and the Idaho Resource Conservation and Development Association (IRCDA), an initial partnership meeting to explore the interest in forming an Idaho Agroforestry Initiative (Coalition) was held in Boise on Friday, February 11, 1994. Attached is a copy of the discussion points from that meeting that I agreed to develop and distribute from the flip-chart notes recorded by our facilitator, Dr. Richard Gardner.

It is important to note that all agency/organizational representatives present at the February 11 meeting agreed that the formation of an Idaho Agroforestry Initiative (Coalition) was worth pursuing. There seemed to be a strong consensus that an Initiative (Coalition) could improve agency coordination, enhance landowner awareness as to the benefits of agroforestry, better define the tangible benefits of agroforestry to Idahoans, and perhaps lead to increased incentives for landowner implementation of agroforestry practices.

It was agreed at our first meeting to hold another meeting on Thursday, March 24, 1994 to further define the focus of the Initiative (Coalition) and develop action steps for moving forward. Moreover, it was stressed that agencies or organizations that could not attend the February 11 meeting would be welcome and encouraged to participate in the March 24 meeting.

The Thursday, March 24 meeting will be held at the USDA (ASCS, FmHA, SCS) State Office Building, 3244 Elder Street, Boise, Idaho from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. An agenda for this meeting will be sent to each of you a few weeks before to serve as a reminder.

I know that the leadership of both the IASCD and IRCDA look forward to good participation in the March 24 meeting. A realistic and meaningful action plan can be developed only with participation from all partner groups.

Thank you for your interest in, and support of, this effort. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 334-1053 should you have questions concerning the March 24 meeting.

Sincerely,

THOMAS W. CHRISTENSEN
Assistant State Conservationist

Attachment

cc: (w/attachment)

Art Beal, President, Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts, P.O. Box 9, Sweet, ID 83670

Harry Lee, President, Idaho Resource Conservation & Development Association, 1017 N. Almon, Moscow, ID 83843

Paul H. Calverley, State Conservationist, SCS, Boise, ID

Gary Kuhn, Forester, SCS, Boise, ID



The Soil Conservation Service
is an agency of the
Department of Agriculture

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

AGROFORESTRY IN IDAHO

Discussion Points from the February 11, 1994 Partnership Meeting to Explore Interest in Forming a Statewide Agroforestry Initiative/Coalition

PARTICIPANTS:

Art Beal, Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts
Tom Christensen, USDA Soil Conservation Service - Idaho
Dick Gardner, Idaho Rural Development Council
Hank Berntsen, Idaho Resource Conservation and Development Association
Lloyd French, Idaho Farm Bureau Federation (Forestry Committee)
John Ehrenreich, University of Idaho, Professor of Agroforestry
Lyn Townsend, USDA Soil Conservation Service - WNTC, Portland
Jean Greear, USDA Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service - Idaho
Gary Kuhn, USDA Soil Conservation Service - Idaho
Russ Manwaring, West Central Highlands RC&D Area
John Sterling, Idaho Nursery Association
Bob Bolte, Gooding Soil Conservation District
Tom Hemker, Idaho Department of Fish and Game
Amos Garrison, Southwest Idaho RC&D Council
Dan Ogle, USDA Soil Conservation Service - Idaho
Gary Young, USDA Soil Conservation Service - Idaho
Roger Vega, Idaho Department of Agriculture
Kerry Gee, High Country RC&D Council
Kirk David, Idaho Department of Lands
Ed Frandsen, USDA Forest Service - Region IV
Kurt Lyon, Idaho Department of Lands

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND PURPOSE OF MEETING:

Art Beal, President of the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts, welcomed everyone to the meeting, proceeded with self-introductions, and stated the purpose of the meeting--to explore the interest in forming a partnership approach to promote the greater application of proven agroforestry systems in Idaho to address conservation needs, improve wildlife habitat, enhance aesthetics, and increase income opportunities.

HISTORICAL VIEW - TREES AND PRODUCTION AGRICULTURE:

Ed Frandsen, USDA Forest Service (Region IV), provided an overview of his agency's delivery mechanisms, explained the importance of trees in combination with production agriculture, and reviewed the reasons for the decline in the use of agroforestry systems since the onset of large-scale production agriculture. He also stated the commitment of the Forest Service to agroforestry and this partnership effort in Idaho.

AGROFORESTRY - WHAT IS IT AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO IDAHO?

Gary Kuhn, USDA Soil Conservation Service State Staff Forester (Idaho), defined what agroforestry is and why it is important to Idaho. He explained the need to accelerate the planting and use of trees and shrubs, integrated into sustainable land use systems, to increase agricultural productivity, improve natural resource conservation, and enhance natural and human environments.

AGROFORESTRY IN THE WEST - WHAT IS HAPPENING? WHAT IS PLANNED?

Lyn Townsend, USDA Soil Conservation Service Regional Forester (Portland, OR), gave an overview of agroforestry in the West - past, present, and future. His presentation discussed the types of agroforestry used in the West, reviewed the results of a preliminary evaluation of agroforestry for solving resource problems, shared thoughts on the potentials for the greater application of agroforestry systems in the West and Idaho, and illustrated some technology transfer strategies. He also provided thoughts on a framework for action for Idaho's Agroforestry Initiative and concluded with a strong statement about the benefits of agroforestry. Lyn Townsend also stated that he felt living snowfences, field windbreaks, and riparian buffer/filter plantings offered the greatest potential for agroforestry application in Idaho.

AGROFORESTRY - WHAT ARE THE BARRIERS TO OVERCOME? WHAT ARE THE NEEDS?

Dick Gardner, Executive Director of the Idaho Rural Development Council, facilitated a discussion around the questions stated above. Discussion leaders included the following:

- . Lloyd French - Agricultural Production
- . Tom Hemker - Wildlife Habitat Improvement
- . Gary Kuhn - Conservation and Environmental Enhancement
- . John Ehrenreich - Income Opportunities
- . John Sterling - Tree/Shrub Nursery Industry

Barriers to Overcome:

- . Lack of coordination between agencies and with organizations and the private sector
- . Agricultural lenders may see agroforestry practices as a distraction from crop/livestock production and a threat to the crop production base
- . Application of pesticides/herbicides through aerial spray techniques could damage trees used in agroforestry systems
- . Land tenure - absentee landowners may not want to make the investment in long-term agroforestry systems; renters of agricultural land may not have leases that are long enough in term to enable them to make the investment in agroforestry systems
- . Resistance to change - there may be resistance to adopt agroforestry systems because they are not in the current paradigm for most Idaho producers
- . Confidence of technical staff - agency personnel assisting producers may lack the confidence to effectively promote agroforestry systems
- . High maintenance (time and cost) during first five years of agroforestry system's establishment
- . Lack of landowner awareness regarding the benefits of using agroforestry systems

What are the needs?

- . Agroforestry system cost and revenue information that is directly applicable to Idaho - effects on crop yields, livestock production (milk, weight gain); apply existing information from other states and countries to Idaho

- . Demonstration sites to show agroforestry benefits
- . Greater awareness of agroforestry system benefits
- . Management requirements to maintain agroforestry systems
- . Continued training of the trainers and transfer of knowledge to landowners
- . Improved coordination between agencies, key farm organizations, and private sector
- . Monetary incentives - especially where land is lost to crop production and irrigation of trees/shrubs is needed
- . Greater exploration of the intermediate products that can be produced for income through thinnings
- . More applied research to demonstrate benefits in Idaho - an example would be field windbreak trials with potatoes
- . Promote agroforestry as "building a savings account" or "building an estate"
- . Use of tree species that are compatible with a producer's existing watering system/regime
- . Improved advance notice to private nurseries as to what tree/shrub species will be in demand, where, and when

PROGRAMS AND ASSISTANCE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE IN IDAHO:

Dick Gardner facilitated a discussion on the programs and assistance currently available in Idaho to assist with agroforestry system planning and application. Discussion leaders were as follows:

- . Jean Greear - Agricultural Conservation Program, Forestry Incentive Program, Conservation Reserve Program
- . Kirk David - Stewardship Incentive Program
- . Tom Hemker - Habitat Improvement Program
- . Tom Christensen - Conservation Technical Assistance

Agricultural Conservation Program:

- . County committee determines allowable practices and cost-share rate (up to 75 percent)
- . Need to present agroforestry needs to county committees at annual conservation review group meetings (June to September)
- . Available agroforestry practices (or compatible practices) through ACP include: field windbreaks, farmstead or feedlot windbreaks, permanent vegetative cover, riparian buffer strips, forestry plantations, permanent wildlife habitat

Forestry Incentive Program:

- . Cost-share available for larger tree plantings (up to \$10,000 per farmer per year)

Conservation Reserve Program:

- . CRP conversion program available - convert part of acreage to any forest practice and receive a 5-year extension of CRP contract payments; also, receive assistance with conversion costs; "window of opportunity" only exists until 1995 Farm Bill

Stewardship Incentive Program:

- . Agroforestry - one of nine practices for which assistance is available; approximately \$100,000 per year provided to Idaho for cost-share assistance for all nine practices
- . Agroforestry (windbreaks) - 1993 resulted in \$77,000 in requests for assistance; 1994 brings target of 25 percent of Idaho's SIP allocation for use in installing windbreaks

Habitat Improvement Program:

- . Successful effort to enhance wildlife habitat improvement; compatible with Agroforestry Initiative
- . Experience with Habitat Improvement Program - publicize the program with the end-user

Conservation Technical Assistance:

- . Soil Surveys - windbreak soil suitability information
- . Plant Materials Program - trials, demonstrations, technology transfer
- . RC&D Program - collaboration/facilitation mechanism, grantwriting, fundraising
- . Conservation Technical Assistance Program - SCS technical assistance effort through partnership with soil conservation districts; one-on-one assistance to landowners and groups

Other Sources of Agency Support:

- . Forest Service - potential for financial commitment through National Forest System general fund and/or specific line item(s)
- . Cooperative Extension System - group training and delivery of research-based education; role in developing written materials
- . Idaho Department of Transportation - ISTEAs monies

IDAHO AGROFORESTRY INITIATIVE (COALITION)

Dick Gardner facilitated a discussion on broad goals for the Initiative (Coalition); they were delineated as follows:

- . Coordination of Agencies/Organizations
 - . Role clarification
 - . Strategic marketing and targeting
- . Increase Incentives for Landowners

. Increase Education/Awareness

- . Identify tangible benefits for landowners
- . Aim at landowner interests (economics, environmental benefits, wildlife habitat improvement, etc.)

NEXT STEPS FOR THE INITIATIVE (COALITION):

Dick Gardner facilitated a discussion on what commitment existed among the participants to proceed to form an Idaho Agroforestry Initiative (Coalition) and enter a strategic planning process to move the effort forward. Every agency and organization present (see list of participants at the beginning of these notes) expressed interest in proceeding ahead, starting with a meeting to further define the focus of the Initiative (Coalition).

The next meeting will be held as follows:

**ASCS/FmHA/SCS State Office Building
Large Conference Room
3244 Elder Street
Boise, Idaho**

Thursday, March 24, 1994 (9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon)

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP) CONFERENCE DRAWS LARGE CROWD

2/10-2/11/94 - Arlington, Virginia

The national conference entitled "The Future of the CRP," hosted by the Soil and Water Conservation Society, was described as a huge success by U.S. Senator Richard Lugar (IN), USDA Deputy Secretary Richard Rominger, and others. The CRP helped to stabilize farm income, reduce government commodity program costs, reduce soil erosion, and has been of immense value to wildlife. Now that the CRP has served its purpose as a transition program, the challenge is to retain some of the key benefits through a scaled-back program featuring critical practices, such as filter strips, windbreaks, wetlands, and to convert suitable acres of grasses to trees for long-term retention.

Provided by: Ed Frandsen, USDA Forest Service, Region IV, Ogden, Utah
Taken from: USFS Cooperative Forestry Weekly Information Summary - Electronic (WISE) - No. 94-20, Washington, D.C., February 14, 1994

**LIST OF AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN MARCH 24,
1994 MEETING**

- Richard R. Rush, State Executive Director, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, 3220 Elder St., Boise, ID 83705
- Laura B. Ferguson, Director, State & Private Forestry, USDA-Forest Service, 324 - 25th St., Ogden, UT 84401
- Bill Boettcher, Assistant Director, Cooperative Forestry & Pest Management, USDA-Forest Service, Region I, P. O. Box 7669, Missoula, MT 59807
- Del Vail, State Director, Bureau of Land Management, USDI, 3380 Americana Terrace, Boise, ID 83706
- Charles H. Lobdell, State Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4696 Overland Rd., Boise, ID 83705
- Jerry M. Conley, Director, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, 600 S. Walnut, Boise, ID 83707
- Stanley F. Hamilton, Director, Idaho Department of Lands, 1215 W. State, Boise, ID 83720-7000
- Robert Hull, Chair, Idaho Soil Conservation Commission, 1497 S. Hull's Crossing, Preston, ID 83263
- Wayne Faude, Administrator, Idaho Soil Conservation Commission, 1215 W. State St., Boise, ID 83720-7000
- LeRoy D. Luft, Director, Idaho Cooperative Extension System, University of Idaho, College of Agriculture, Moscow, ID 83844-2338
- David Lockwood, Pheasants Forever, 5525 Randolph Dr., Boise, ID 83705
- Jack T. Coe, Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, 3050 N. Lakeharbor Lane, Ste. 126, Boise, ID 83703
- Richard L. Gardner, Ph.D., Executive Director, Idaho Rural Development Council, Rm. 122, Statehouse, Boise, ID 83720
- Tom Geary, President, Idaho Farm Bureau Federation, P. O. Box 167, Boise, ID 83701
- Jack Shaffer, Chair, West Central Highlands RC&D Council, P. O. Box 32, Indian Valley, ID 83632
- Everett "Buck" Ward, Chair, Wood River RC&D Council, 1246 E., 1220 N., Richfield, ID 83349
- John Hiler, President, Southwest Idaho RC&D Council, P. O. Box 688, Mountain Home, ID 83647
- Norm Dayley, President, Mid-Snake RC&D Council, 295 N. Overland, Burley, ID 83318
- Kent Rudeen, Chair, Three Rivers RC&D Council, 612 Calder, American Falls, ID 83211
- Bill Stanger, Chair, High Country RC&D Council, P. O. Box 172, Iona, ID 83427
- Ray Delay, Chair, Panhandle Lakes RC&D Council, Route 1, Box 37, Athol, ID 83801
- Jay Baker, Chair, Bear River RC&D Council, 116 S. Main St., Malad, ID 83252
- Joe Nagel, Administrator, IDHW-Division of Environmental Quality, 1410 N. Hilton St., Boise, ID 83706
- M. Lynn McKee, Assistant Regional Administrator for Idaho, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 422 W. Washington St., Boise, ID 83702
- Andy Brunelle, Special Assistant for Natural Resources, Governor's Office, Statehouse, Boise, ID 83720
- Mike Mount, President, Idaho Nursery Association, 2104 Floating Feather Rd., Eagle, ID 83616
- Paul Combe, President, Idaho Mint Growers' Association, 6030 W. Moon Valley Rd., Eagle, ID 83616
- Chris Yamamoto, President, Idaho Onion Growers' Association, P. O. Box 430, Parma, ID 83660
- Ray Walsh, President, Idaho-Oregon Fruit & Vegetable Assoc., Inc., P. O. Box 909, Parma, ID 83660
- Jack Parks, Chairman, Idaho Potato Commission, P. O. Box 1068, Boise, ID 83701
- Glenn Stewart, Executive Director, Idaho Conservation League, P. O. Box 844, Boise, ID 837801

W. Greg Nelson, Director, Idaho Department of Agriculture, P. O. Box 790, Boise, ID 83701
David Blew, President, R. N. Irving Chapter, Soil and Water Conservation Society, 3160 Elder St., Boise, ID 83705
Cindy Lunte, Nature Conservancy, P. O. Box 165, Sun Valley, ID 83353
Richard Juengling, Executive Director, Idaho Wildlife Federation, P. O. Box 6426, Boise, ID 83707
Paul Moroz, President, Wildlife Society, Idaho Chapter, 2081 N.W. 8th St., Meridian, ID 83642
Bob Sears, Executive Vice President, Idaho Cattle Association, P. O. Box 15397, Boise, ID 83715
Jack Davis, President, Idaho Dairymen's Association, 1365 N. Orchard, Ste. 203, Boise, ID 83706
Dave Wenny, Forest Research Nursery, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83844-1137
Bob Bolte, Wood River RC&D Council, 1590 E., 1800 S., Gooding, ID 83330
Nate Fisher, Executive Director, Idaho Council on Industry and the Environment, P. O. Box 255, Boise, ID 83701
Bill Lewis, Chair, Idaho Soil Improvement Committee, c/o Plant Foods, Inc., P. O. Box 727, Filer, ID 83328
Artey J. Weaver, Master, Idaho State Grange, P. O. Box 367, Meridian, ID 83680
Greg Gendall, President, Idaho State Horticultural Society, 29603 U of I Lane, Parma, ID 83660
Brent Olmstead, Director of Natural Resources, Idaho Association of Commerce & Industry, P. O. Box 389, Boise, ID 83701
Donald W. Jacklin, President, Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc., 1641 S. Curtis Rd., Boise, ID 83705-2706
L. DeVere Burton, State Advisor, Idaho Future Farmers of America Association, Division of Vocational Education, 650 W. State, Rm. 324, Boise, ID 83720
Robert Pace, Executive Director, Idaho Soil Fertility and Crop Protection Association, 10350 Elmorado Ct., Boise, ID 83709-4020
Myron Huettig, President, Idaho Sugarbeet Growers' Association, 1109 Main St., Ste. 560, Boise, ID 83702
James W. Radford, President, Idaho Agricultural Chemical Association, P. O. Box 131, Caldwell, ID 83605
Larry Fischer, Idaho Irrigation Equipment Association, 2178 Centurion Place, Boise, ID 83709
Bruce Malmberg, Chair, Idaho Alfalfa Seed Commission, P. O. Box 688, Homedale, ID 83628
Tom Iverson, District 1, Idaho Barley Commission, 1109 Main, Ste. C., Boise, ID 83702
Gerwin Woodland, Chair, Idaho Bean Commission, P. O. Box 9433, Boise, ID 83707
Dave Orcutt, Chair, Idaho Mint Commission, P. O. Box 576, Caldwell, ID 83606
John Carter, Chair, Idaho Pea & Lentil Commission, 5071 Hwy. 8 W., Moscow, ID 83843
Edward R. Frandsen, Coordinator, Cooperative Forestry Program, USDA-Forest Service, Region 4, 324 - 25th St., Ogden, UT 84401
Lyn R. Townsend, Forester, WNTC, SCS, Portland, OR
Tom Hemker, Wildlife Game & Research Mgr., Idaho Department of Fish and Game, 600 S. Walnut, Boise, ID 83707
G. Kirk David, Stewardship & Service Forestry Coord., Idaho Department of Lands, P. O. Box 670, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816-0670
Ron Mahoney, State Extension Forester, College of Forestry, University of Idaho, Fisheries and Wildlife, Moscow, ID 83844
Jean Greear, Program Specialist, ASCS, 3220 Elder St., Boise, ID 83705
Jerry Nicolescu, Operations Manager, Idaho Soil Conservation Commission, 1215 W. State St., Boise, ID 83720-7000
Bob Jackson, Executive Director, Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts, P. O. Box 2637, Boise, ID 83701
Steve Churchillo, Acting Vice-President, CANOPI, Boise Urban Forestry, Boise Parks and Recreation, 1104 Royal Blvd., Boise, ID 83706
Michael Brady, CANOPI, Urban and Community Services Coordinator, Idaho Department of Lands, P. O. Box 670, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816-0670
Mary Jane Marlow, Boise Urban Forestry, Boise Parks & Recreation, 1104 Royal Blvd., Boise, ID 83706

Rich Hahn, Idaho Power Company, P. O. Box 70, Boise, ID 83707
Carol Hunter, Economic Development Manager, Idaho PacifiCorp, Electric Operations, 201 S.
Main, Ste. 2200, Salt Lake City, UT 84140
Bill Miller, PacifiCorp, 920 Southwest 6th Ave., 380 PFSC, Portland, OR 97204
Carolyn Sanko, PacifiCorp, 920 Southwest 6th Ave., 380 PFSC, Portland, OR 97204
Lloyd French, Chair, Idaho Farm Bureau Federation Forestry Committee, P.O. Box 4848,
Pocatello, ID 83205-4848
Hank Berntsen, Treasurer, IRCDA, 1553 Sunset Drive, Emmett, ID 83617-9584
John Ehrenreich, Professor of Agroforestry, University of Idaho, College of Forestry, Moscow,
ID 83844-1140
John Sterling, Idaho Nursery Association, 1081 N. Mitchell, Boise, ID 83704
Amos Garrison, Southwest Idaho RC&D Council, 3773 Cayuga Place, Boise, ID 83709
Dr. Roger R. Vega, Idaho Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 790, Boise, ID 83701
Kerry Gee, High Country RC&D Council, 2364 E. Highway 33, Sugar City, ID 83448
Kurt Lyon, Private Forestry Specialist, Idaho Department of Lands, 8355 W. State, Boise,
ID 83703
Tony Bennett, Water Quality Program Specialist, IDHW-DEQ, 1420 N. Hilton, Boise, ID 83705
Dan Ogle, Plant Materials Specialist, ESD, SCS, Boise, ID
Gary Young, Plant Materials Center Manager, SCS, Aberdeen, ID

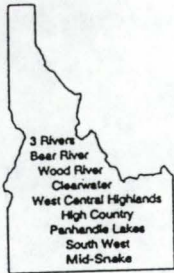


IDAHO

Association

SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

CONSERVATION—DEVELOPMENT—SELF GOVERNMENT



IDAHO
Resource Conservation
and Development Association

3244 Elder Street, Room 124
Boise, ID 83705-4711

December 13, 1993

Dear Sir/Madam:

The Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts (IASCD) and the Idaho Resource Conservation and Development Association (IRCD) are leading a statewide collaborative effort to establish an Idaho Agroforestry Initiative. We would like to request your agency/group to participate in the planning and implementation of this important cooperative effort. Your experience, expertise, and knowledge are important to the successful establishment of an Idaho Agroforestry Initiative.

Agroforestry is the planting and management of trees and/or shrubs as an integral part of production agriculture. These plantings can be classified as working trees and/or shrubs which, with proper planning, will make a landowner's investment pay off in more efficient, energy-saving operations, more productive lands, and new income opportunities. Principal agroforestry practices include windbreaks, riparian and critical area plantings, wildlife habitat plantings, and tree plantings for income diversification.

The Idaho Agroforestry Initiative will be a collaborative partnership approach and involve multiple agencies, organizations, and private groups, to garner more funds, enhance programs, and concentrate technical assistance to help landowners plan and implement agroforestry systems. The attached paper titled "Idaho Agroforestry Initiative" provides further information regarding the proposed Initiative.

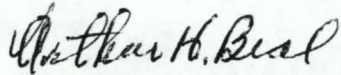
We will be hosting a partnership meeting on Friday, February 11, 1994 to discuss the formulation of the Idaho Agroforestry Initiative and develop a steering committee for this endeavor. The meeting will be held in the large conference room at the Best Western Vista Inn at the Vista Avenue exit off Interstate 84, Boise, Idaho. The partnership meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude by 3:30 p.m. An agenda is attached for your review.

Please select an individual (or individuals) from your agency/group to attend this meeting and help the IASCD and IRCD begin formulating the Idaho Agroforestry Initiative. This individual should be prepared to offer insight into how his/her agency/group could provide assistance in furthering the Initiative. Please advise us by January 21, 1994 who will represent your agency/group.

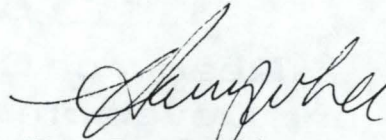
If you have any questions regarding the Idaho Agroforestry Initiative, please contact one of the two individuals who are providing initial staff support for this effort: SCS Assistant State Conservationist Tom Christensen (208-334-1053) or SCS Forester Gary Kuhn (208-334-1610).

We look forward to working closely with your agency/group in this needed effort.

Sincerely,



Art Beal, President
Idaho Association of Soil
Conservation Districts



Harry Lee, President
Idaho Resource Conservation
and Development Association

Attachments

LIST OF AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE

- Richard R. Rush, State Executive Director, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, 3220 Elder St., Boise, ID 83705
- Laura B. Ferguson, Director, State & Private Forestry, USDA-Forest Service, 324 - 25th St., Ogden, UT 84401
- Bill Boettcher, Assistant Director, Cooperative Forestry & Pest Management, USDA-Forest Service, Region I, P. O. Box 7669, Missoula, MT 59807
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- Charles H. Lobdell, State Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4696 Overland Rd., Boise, ID 83705
- Jerry M. Conley, Director, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, 600 S. Walnut, Boise, ID 83707
- Stanley F. Hamilton, Director, Idaho Department of Lands, 1215 W. State, Boise, ID 83720-7000
- Robert Hull, Chair, Idaho Soil Conservation Commission, 1215 W. State St., Boise, ID 83720-7000
- Wayne Faude, Administrator, Idaho Soil Conservation Commission, 1215 W. State St., Boise, ID 83720-7000
- LeRoy D. Luft, Director, Idaho Cooperative Extension System, University of Idaho, College of Agriculture, Moscow, ID 83843
- Dan Chadwick, Executive Director, Idaho Association of Counties, P. O. Box 1623, Boise, ID 83701
- Scott McDonald, Director, Association of Idaho Cities, 3314 Grace, Boise, ID 83703
- Al Ames, Economic Development Representative, Economic Development Association, 304 N. 8th St., Ste. 441, Boise, ID 83702-5836
- David Lockwood, Pheasants Forever, 5525 Randolph Dr., Boise, ID 83705
- Jack T. Coe, Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, 3050 N. Lakeharbor Lane, Ste. 126, Boise, ID 83703
- Richard L. Gardner, Ph.D., Executive Director, Idaho Rural Development Council, Rm. 122, Statehouse, Boise, ID 83720
- Honorable Larry Craig, U. S. Senate, 313 Hart Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510
- Honorable Dirk Kempthorne, U. S. Senate, 367 Dirksen Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510
- Honorable Mike Crapo, House of Representatives, 437 Cannon Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515
- Honorable Larry LaRocco, House of Representatives, 1117 Longworth Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20215
- Tom Geary, President, Idaho Farm Bureau Federation, P. O. Box 167, Boise, ID 83701
- Dr. David Carter, Location Coordinator, USDA-Agricultural Research Service, 3793 N. 3600 E., Kimberly, ID 83341
- Jack Shaffer, Chair, West Central Highlands RC&D Council, P. O. Box 32, Indian Valley, ID 83632
- Everett "Buck" Ward, Chair, Wood River RC&D Council, Richfield, ID 83349
- John Hiler, President, Southwest Idaho RC&D Council, P. O. Box 688, Mountain Home, ID 83647
- Norm Dayley, President, Mid-Snake RC&D Council, 295 N. Overland, Burley, ID 83318
- Kent Rudeen, Chair, Three Rivers RC&D Council, 612 Calder, American Falls, ID 83211
- Bill Stanger, Chair, High Country RC&D Council, P. O. Box 172, Iona, ID 83427
- Ray Delay, Chair, Panhandle Lakes RC&D Council, Route 1, Box 37, Athol, ID 83801
- Jay Baker, Chair, Bear River RC&D Council, 116 S. Main St., Malad, ID 83252
- Joe Nagel, Administrator, IDHW-Division of Environmental Quality, 1410 N. Hilton St., Boise, ID 83706
- M. Lynn McKee, Assistant Regional Administrator for Idaho, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 422 W. Washington St., Boise, ID 83702

Andy Brunelle, Special Assistant for Natural Resources, Governor's Office, Statehouse,
Boise, ID 83720

Mike Mount, President, Idaho Nursery Association, 2104 Floating Feather Rd., Eagle, ID 83616

Paul Combe, President, Idaho Mint Growers' Association, 6030 W. Moon Valley Rd., Eagle, ID
83616

Chris Yamamoto, President, Idaho Onion Growers' Association, P. O. Box 430, Parma, ID 83660

Ray Walsh, President, Idaho-Oregon Fruit & Vegetable Assoc., Inc., P. O. Box 909, Parma, ID
83660

John Carter, Chairman, Idaho Pea & Lentil Commission, 5071 Hwy. 8 W., Moscow, ID 83843

Jack Parks, Chairman, Idaho Potato Commission, P. O. Box 1068, Boise, ID 83701

Glenn Stewart, Executive Director, Idaho Conservation League, P. O. Box 844, Boise, ID 837801

W. Greg Nelson, Director, Idaho Department of Agriculture, P. O. Box 790, Boise, ID 83701

Tony Bennett, President, R. N. Irving Chapter, Soil and Water Conservation Society, 1420 N.
Hilton St., Boise, ID 83706

Cindy Lunte, Nature Conservancy, P. O. Box 165, Sun Valley, ID 83353

Richard Juengling, Executive Director, Idaho Wildlife Federation, P. O. Box 6426, Boise, ID 83707

Paul Moroz, President, Wildlife Society, Idaho Chapter, 2081 N.W. 8th St., Meridian, ID 83642

Bob Sears, Executive Vice President, Idaho Cattle Association, P. O. Box 15397, Boise, ID 83715

Jack Davis, President, Idaho Dairymen's Association, 1365 N. Orchard, Ste. 203, Boise, ID 83706

Dave Wenny, Forest Research Nursery, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83844-1137

Steve Churchillo, Boise Urban Forestry, 1104 Royal Blvd., Boise, ID 83706

Mary Jane Marlow, Boise Urban Forestry, Boise Parks & Recreation, 1104 Royal Blvd., Boise, ID
83706

Bob Bolte, Wood River RC&D Council, 1590 E., 1800 S., Gooding, ID 83330

Don Heikkila, Idaho Soil Conservation Commission, Rt. 1, Box 29, Harrison, ID 83833

Nate Fisher, Executive Director, Idaho Council on Industry and the Environment, P. O. Box 255,
Boise, ID 83701

Bill Lewis, Chair, Idaho Soil Improvement Committee, University of Idaho, P. O. Box 1827, Twin
Falls, ID 83301

Don Johnson, Master, Idaho State Grange, P. O. Box 367, Meridian, ID 83680

Greg Gendall, President, Idaho State Horticultural Society, 29603 U of I Lane, Parma, ID 83660

Larry Cope, Chair, Idaho Association of Commerce & Industry, P. O. Box 389, Boise, ID 83701

Donald W. Jacklin, President, Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc., 1641 S. Curtis Rd., Boise,
ID 83705-2706

L. DeVere Burton, State Advisor, Idaho Future Farmers of America Association, Division of
Vocational Education, 650 W. State, Rm. 324, Boise, ID 83720

Robert Pace, Executive Director, Idaho Soil Fertility and Crop Protection Association, 10350
Elmorado Ct., Boise, ID 83709-4020

Myron Huettig, President, Idaho Sugarbeet Growers' Association, 1109 Main St., Ste. 560, Boise,
ID 83702

James W. Radford, President, Idaho Agricultural Chemical Association, P. O. Box 131, Caldwell,
ID 83605

Larry Fischer, Idaho Irrigation Equipment Association, 2178 Centurion Place, Boise, ID 83709

Bruce Malmberg, Chair, Idaho Alfalfa Seed Commission, P. O. Box 688, Homedale, ID 83628

Tom Iverson, District 1, Idaho Barley Commission, 1109 Main, Ste. C., Boise, ID 83702

Gerwin Woodland, Chair, Idaho Bean Commission, P. O. Box 9433, Boise, ID 83707

Dave Orcutt, Chair, Idaho Mint Commission, P. O. Box 576, Caldwell, ID 83606

John Carter, Chair, Idaho Pea & Lentil Commission, 5071 Hwy. 8 W., Moscow, ID 83843

Edward R. Frandsen, Coordinator, Cooperative Forestry Program, USDA-Forest Service,
Region 4, 324 - 25th St., Ogden, UT 84401

Lyn R. Townsend, Forester, WNTC, SCS, Portland, OR

Tom Hemker, Wildlife Game & Research Mgr., Idaho Department of Fish and Game, 600 S.
Walnut, Boise, ID 83707

G. Kirk David, Stewardship & Service Forestry Coord., Idaho Department of Lands, P. O.
Box 670, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816-0670

Ron Mahoney, State Extension Forester, College of Forestry, University of Idaho, Fisheries and Wildlife, Moscow, ID 83844

Jean Greear, Program Specialist, ASCS, 3220 Elder St., Boise, ID 83705

Jerry Nicolescu, Operations Manager, Idaho Soil Conservation Commission, 1215 W. State St., Boise, ID 83720-7000

Bob Jackson, Executive Director, Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts, P. O. Box 2637, Boise, ID 83701

Paul H. Calverley, State Conservationist, SCS, Boise, ID

Thomas W. Christensen, Assistant State Conservationist, SCS, Boise, ID

Gary Kuhn, State Forester, SCS, Boise, ID

*Response Form
For*

**IDAHO AGROFORESTRY INITIATIVE
PARTNERSHIP FORMULATION MEETING**

When: Friday, February 11, 1994
Where: Best Western Vista Inn, Vista Avenue Exit, I-84
(Boise Airport, Boise, Idaho)

Agency/Group Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

_____ Our agency/group will be represented at the February 11, 1994 meeting by

_____ Our agency/group cannot send a representative to the February 11, 1994 meeting
but please keep _____
informed about future meetings.

_____ Our agency/group cannot participate in formulating the Idaho Agroforestry
Initiative at this time.



Please return this form to:

**Thomas W. Christensen, Assistant State Conservationist (P&RD)
USDA-Soil Conservation Service
3244 Elder St.
Boise, Idaho 83705**

AGROFORESTRY IN IDAHO
"FORMING A STATEWIDE INITIATIVE"

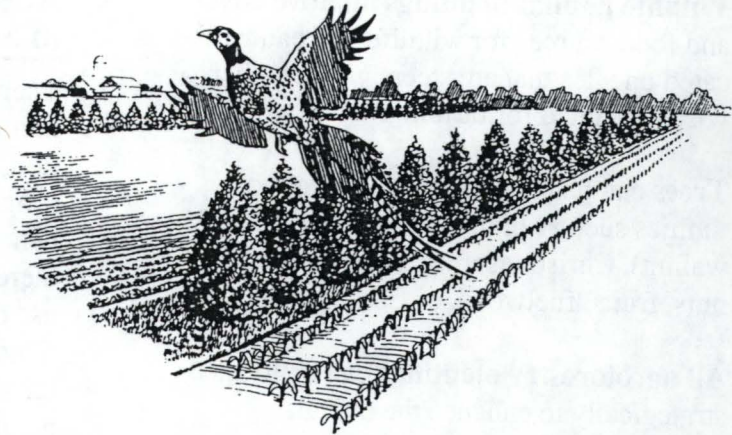
Friday, February 11, 1994
 Best Western Vista Inn
 Large Conference Room
 Vista Ave. Exit, I-84, Boise, Idaho

Draft Agenda

9:00 a.m.	Welcome, Introductions, Purpose of Meeting	Art Beal
9:15 a.m.	Historical View - Trees and Production Agriculture	Ed Frandsen
9:30 a.m.	Agroforestry - What is it and why is it important to Idaho?	Gary Kuhn
10:00 a.m.	Agroforestry in the West - What is happening? What is planned?	Lyn Townsend
10:30 a.m.	Break	
10:45 a.m.	Agroforestry - What are the needs? What are the benefits? What are the barriers to overcome?	
	<u>Panel Discussion - Perspectives</u>	<u>Richard Gardner (Facilitator)</u>
	Agricultural Production	To be determined
	Wildlife Habitat Improvement	Tom Hemker
	Conservation and Environmental Enhancement	Gary Kuhn
	Income Opportunities	Ron Mahoney
	Tree/Shrub Nursery Industry	To be determined
11:30 a.m.	Programs and Assistance Currently Available in Idaho	
	<u>Panel Discussion</u>	<u>Richard Gardner (Facilitator)</u>
	Agricultural Conservation Program	Jean Greear
	Stewardship Incentive Program	Kirk David
	Habitat Improvement Program	Tom Hemker
	Conservation Technical Assistance Program	Tom Christensen
12:00 noon	Lunch Break	
1:15 p.m.	Forming a Statewide Initiative	
	<u>Panel Discussion</u>	<u>Richard Gardner (Facilitator)</u>
	Leadership, Programs and Funding, Information and Education, Technology Transfer, Training	
3:00 p.m.	Wrap Up - Where do we go from here?	Tom Christensen
3:15 p.m.	Closing Remarks	Art Beal
3:20 p.m.	Adjourn	

Art Beal, President, Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts
 Ed Frandsen, Coordinator, Cooperative Forestry Program, Forest Service
 Richard Gardner, Ph.D., Executive Director, Idaho Rural Development Council
 Jean Greear, Program Specialist, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service
 Lyn Townsend, Regional Forester, Soil Conservation Service
 Tom Christensen, Assistant State Conservationist (Programs and Rural Development), Soil Conservation Service
 Gary Kuhn, State Forester, Soil Conservation Service
 Kirk David, Stewardship and Service Forestry Coordinator, Idaho Department of Lands
 Tom Hemker, Wildlife Game & Research Manager, Idaho Department of Fish and Game
 Ron Mahoney, Forester, Idaho Cooperative Extension System
 _____, Agricultural Producer
 _____, Nursery Industry Representative

Idaho Agroforestry Initiative



Agroforestry Defined

Agroforestry is the planting and management of trees and/or shrubs as an integral part of production agriculture. These plantings can be classified as working trees and/or shrubs which, with proper planning, will make a landowner's investment pay off in more efficient, energy-saving operations, more productive lands, and new income opportunities. Principal agroforestry practices include windbreaks, riparian and critical area plantings, wildlife habitat plantings, and tree plantings for income diversification.

Why Agroforestry is Important to Idaho

Agroforestry plantings can address many conservation needs:

- Reduce soil erosion by wind and water
- Conserve energy
- Improve crop yields
- Increase public road safety
- Stabilize streambanks
- Improve downstream water quality
- Stabilize steep slopes
- Reduce downstream flooding
- Improve wildlife habitat
- Enhance aesthetic values
- Increase income opportunities

In many areas of Idaho, cropland occurs on sites with steep slopes, high winds, and/or erodible soils, and along denuded riparian areas. Using properly designed agroforestry plantings in these cropland situations can enhance the long-term sustainability of traditional agricultural production.

Field windbreaks provide long-term protection to soil and crops, increase crop yields, improve irrigation efficiency, prevent hazardous driving conditions (blowing dust and snow), and increase wildlife habitat.

Farmstead and livestock windbreaks produce energy savings by reducing home heating and livestock feeding costs, reduce wind damage to farm buildings and snow removal costs around farmsteads and feedlots, and improve aesthetics...creating a more pleasant living and working environment.

Living snowfences catch and store blowing snow, thereby reducing snowdrift onto roads, lower snow removal costs and increased road safety.

Filter strip plantings along riparian areas improve water quality by removing and storing excess nutrients, preventing entry into water courses.

Wildlife habitat plantings improve cover and food sources for wildlife and can be located on sites that are steep, wet, or otherwise not suited for farming.

Trees can be planted for income opportunities such as high value lumber (black walnut), Christmas trees, nursery stock, nuts, fruits, fuelwood, or fiber (pulp).

All agroforestry plantings can be located strategically to enhance the overall profitability of the agricultural system.

Status of Agroforestry in Idaho

Currently, most of the agroforestry application in Idaho has been directed to accelerating windbreak plantings.

- Agency personnel have been trained in windbreak technology to increase their skills and confidence in windbreak planning. For example, in 1992 the USDA-Soil Conservation Service sponsored a comprehensive windbreak technology course for agency personnel. Another course is planned for 1994.
- Statewide windbreak workshops have been conducted to inform landowners about windbreak planning and technical/financial assistance programs available.
- Windbreak technology has been advanced by using new windbreak designs and establishment methods. For example, fabric mulch for weed control and moisture conservation is being used extensively in new windbreak plantings. Drip irrigation systems are also seeing increasing use for windbreak establishment.
- Establishment of windbreak planting services. For example, the emergence of two private windbreak planting contractors is increasing the demand for windbreaks.

Accelerating Use of Agroforestry in Sustainable Land Use Systems

There is a lack of concentrated and sustained technical assistance, limited coordination, under-utilization of some incentive programs, and minimal awareness of the benefits of agroforestry. Because of this, there is a need to accelerate the planting and use of trees and shrubs, integrated into sustainable agricultural land use systems, to increase agricultural productivity, improve natural resource conservation, and enhance natural and human environments.

These practice characteristics must be communicated in a planned, systematic, and focused manner to encourage more landowners to adopt agroforestry :

- Advantages over conventional farming systems
- Compatibility with existing values and management needs
- Ease in implementation
- Demonstrations that can be used on a limited basis.
- Observability of results that accrue

Ongoing Programs

A number of programs administered by various agencies provide technical and/or financial assistance to private landowners for the implementation of agroforestry practices. These programs include:

- Stewardship Incentive Program (SIP) - administered by the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL)
- Agricultural Conservation Program (ACP) - administered by the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS)
- Habitat Improvement Program (HIP) - administered by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG)
- Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) Program - administered by the Soil Conservation Service (SCS)

In Federal fiscal year 1993 (October 1, 1992 to September 30, 1993), the amount of financial assistance provided to private landowners in Idaho to help them establish windbreaks totaled \$126,750. The financial assistance provided, by program, is shown in the table below.

The demand for cost-sharing assistance to facilitate the establishment of windbreaks is much greater than the funding currently allocated for this purpose. For example, while \$26,000 was made available to landowners through SIP for practice SIP-4 (Windbreak and Hedgerow Establishment, Maintenance, and Renovation), the demand documented by applications for SIP assistance was over \$70,000 during fiscal year 1993.

Windbreaks represent only one facet of the existing and potential demand for agroforestry. Present technical and financial assistance will not be able to satisfy the demand for agroforestry assistance once landowners are more fully introduced to the benefits.

Financial Assistance by Program

	Idaho's Allocation	Amount Spent on Windbreaks	% of Program Budget
Stewardship Incentive Program	\$ 113,000	\$ 26,000	23.0
Agricultural Conservation Program (includes annual program and long-term agreements)	3,325,000	52,750	1.6
<u>Habitat Improvement Program</u>	<u>80,600</u>	<u>48,000</u>	<u>59.6</u>
Total Financial Assistance	\$3,518,600	\$126,750	3.6

An Agroforestry Initiative in Idaho

An Idaho Agroforestry Initiative would provide the mechanism to garner more funds, enhance programs, and concentrate technical assistance to help landowners plan and implement agroforestry systems.

Leadership

- Formation of an Idaho Agroforestry Steering Committee involving representatives from farmers, agribusiness, agencies, conservation and wildlife groups, etc., to develop a strategic plan to lead an Idaho Agroforestry Initiative

Programs and Funding

- Improve coordination of incentive programs to maximize available funds for cost-sharing with landowners to implement agroforestry

Information and Education

- Greater awareness of benefits by landowners, emphasizing the conservation and economic dimensions of agroforestry
- Increase recognition of agroforestry benefits by agencies and organizations

Technology Transfer

- Improve communication, cooperation, and collaboration among research agencies and institutions, delivery agencies, agribusiness, and users of technologies
- Improve accessibility of technology by landowners
- Increase pilot and demonstration projects to promote farmer adoption

Training

- Increase training opportunities for landowners aimed at implementing agroforestry using new technology
- Training for both private and public sector technical personnel to improve their skills in planning and installing agroforestry practices

Initiative Leadership

The Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts (IASCD), representing the state's 51 soil and water conservation districts, advocates the wise use and management of Idaho's soil, water, and related natural resources.

The Idaho Resource Conservation and Development Association (IRCDA) seeks to improve the quality of life in Idaho through resource development and conservation, community improvement, and economic development.

In partnership, these two organizations have assumed co-leadership for the Idaho Agroforestry Initiative. The purposes of the IASCD and IRCDA match the focus of the proposed Initiative, and their experience and leadership abilities will help them guide the effort.

With their broad membership and statewide coverage, both the IASCD and IRCDA have the ability to garner broad-based grassroots support which will be important to the successful development and implementation of the Initiative. Both organizations have a close working relationship with key state and federal agencies that administer resource conservation and cost-sharing programs in support of the Initiative's objectives.

Agroforestry

Working trees for agriculture

Imagine for a moment a farm product that could control wind erosion, increase crop yields, and reduce home energy costs. What if it could also protect livestock from cold winter winds and hot summer heat, improve weight gain, and increase milk production? And what if this product could increase water-use efficiency, protect wildlife, absorb water-polluting runoff, improve water quality, keep winter roads clear of snow, and at the same time provide long-term profits for farmers? Most of us would rush out to purchase it!

Of course, no such product exists. However, there is an agricultural program that has contributed its share to doing these very things for decades. It's agroforestry — putting trees to work for agriculture. *Working trees.* Agroforestry's goal is to use working trees to help make agriculture sustainable by conserving natural resources, increasing crop and livestock production, and improving human environments.

Agroforestry puts trees and shrubs to work in both rural areas and communities. Working trees are conservation trees planted in the right place, in the right design, for a specific purpose. The tree plantings can be designed to serve as a windbreak, living snowfence, buffer strip to protect water resources, high-value crop, enclosure for livestock, fuelwood plantation, or wildlife habitat.

The ultimate success of agroforestry depends on the willingness of landowners to care for the land and pass on profitable and sustainable natural resources to future generations.



...For Conservation

A major goal of agroforestry's working trees is to help conserve natural resources and assist modern agriculture in becoming more sustainable. Field windbreaks minimize wind erosion and loss of valuable topsoil. They also serve as natural waterways to assist with surface runoff from heavy rains.

The roots of trees and shrubs along rivers, streams, and ditches filter contaminated shallow groundwater and harmful surface runoff laden with sediments, nutrients, and chemicals before they reach the water course. This helps to keep our water clean and more suitable for recreational use, domestic water use, and fish and wildlife habitat.

...To Diversify the Environment

Agroforestry practices may use only five percent of the productive land area of a farming system yet account for over 50 percent of the biodiversity. Agroforestry practices provide habitat and improve water quality. Trees and shrubs grown near crops and gardens harbor birds and beneficial insects that feed on pest insects and mammals.

Populations of valuable wildlife species also increase with the addition of trees and shrubs into agricultural areas. This increase provides opportunities for both hunting and nonconsumptive uses. Finally, tree-induced biodiversity adds variety to the landscape and the environment and improves aesthetics.

...To Enhance the Environment for People

People and communities are an important part of agroecosystems. Agroforestry addresses human needs by improving quality of life, health, comfort, enjoyment, security, and recreation. Agroforestry practices not only apply to rural farms, but communities as well. In fact, many agroforestry practices are fully adaptable for use in cities and communities. These practices protect soil, water, wildlife, roads, buildings, and recreational areas.



Most agroforestry practices can be supported by cost-share incentives provided by the government through programs like the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Agriculture Conservation Program (ACP), and the Stewardship Incentives Program (SIP). Contact your State Forester or the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) for information about the various incentives presently available.

Prepared by: USDA Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, Center for Semiarid Agroforestry (CSA), East Campus - UNL, Lincoln, NE 68583-0822. For more information on the Center, contact Jerry Bratton, 402-437-5178.

CSA's Mission: The Agroforestry Center integrates the activities of the Research, State and Private Forestry, and International Forestry branches of the USDA Forest Service. The Center's programs focus on the needs of conservation forestry in agroecosystems.

Our purpose is to conduct research, develop technologies, establish demonstrations, and transfer technologies and information to natural resource professionals for improving agricultural productivity and sustainability, mitigating the environmental impacts of agriculture, and enhancing environments for people and wildlife.

The Center works through cooperation and partnerships with federal and state agencies, universities, and conservation organizations. Partnerships provide an avenue for cooperative ventures between agencies and organizations to share resources and expertise to attain common goals.

CSA is administered through the Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, headquartered in Fort Collins, Colorado.

USDA policy prohibits discrimination because of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or handicapping condition. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any USDA-related activity should immediately contact the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250.




Agroforestry...

...For Profit

Fluctuating markets, unpredictable weather patterns, and international competition are all a part of today's modern agricultural world. Diversification can make the difference between success and failure for a farming or ranching enterprise. Agroforestry practices can provide a long-term safety net for landowners by providing them with additional income when the value of traditional farm products is low. Fuelwood and hardwood plantations can provide a diversified income for a farm or ranch while still working every day to increase crop yields and conserve natural resources.

Valuable products that can be harvested from agroforestry plantings include sawlogs, fuelwood, woodchips, landscaping chips, fruits and nuts, animal bedding material, Christmas trees, and high-value timber products such as furniture-quality wood and veneer logs.



...To Enhance Productivity

Studies show that farm productivity can be increased substantially when agroforestry practices are introduced. Windbreaks protect crops and livestock, provide shelter for feedlots, and filter out harmful chemicals that pollute sensitive waterways.


Livestock protected by trees show improved weight gains of as much as 10 percent and require up to 50 percent less feed. Milk production can increase by 8 to 20 percent and survival rate of newborn lambs can increase by 90 percent when compared to open lambing in a treeless environment.

Furthermore, tree systems can successfully protect sensitive crops such as vegetables, vines, orchards, herbs, and soft fruits and flowers from cold wind and weather damage.

During severe weather years, tree windbreaks have increased crop productivity by as much as 33 percent. Alfalfa yields have increased by 12 percent and native tall grass yields by 100 percent!

...To Conserve Energy

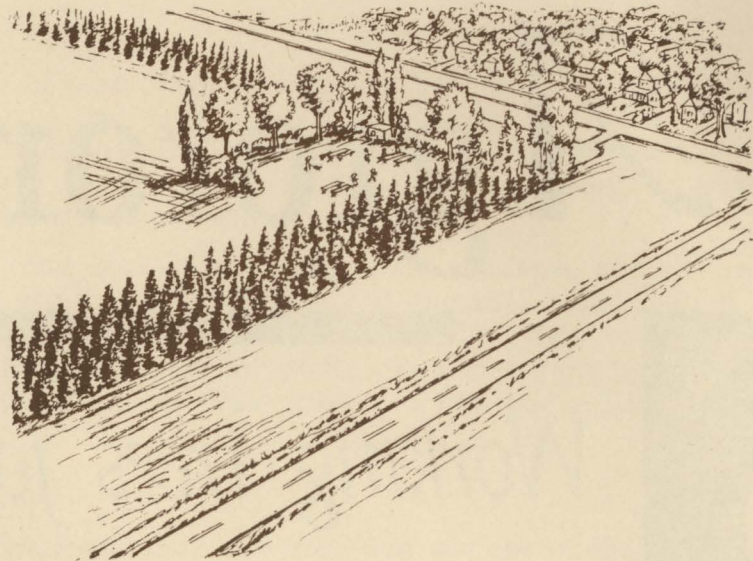
Agroforestry practices can reduce energy use significantly. For example, woodlots provide an alternate source to farm fuel. Living snowfences reduce the need for snow removal, thus saving fuel and field windbreaks improve crop water-use efficiency thereby reducing irrigation costs.



Shade trees reduce energy costs. Homes protected by windbreaks can expect heating costs to be cut by as much as 30 percent, especially in the high wind, low temperature regions of the United States.

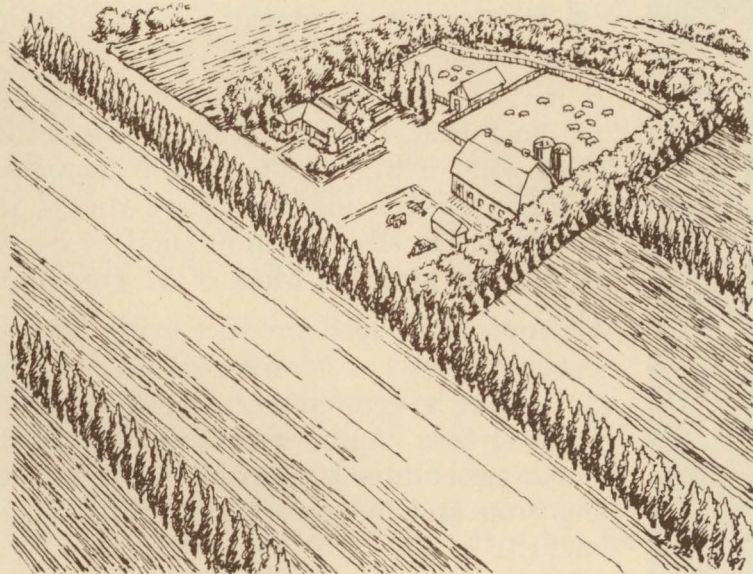
Living Snowfences

Rows of trees near roads reduce dangerous crosswinds, limit snow drift onto roads, lower snow removal costs, and increase driving safety. A living snowfence can also be designed to distribute snow evenly across a field. This will provide uniform soil moisture in the spring.



Field, Farmstead, and Livestock Windbreaks

Narrow rows of trees spaced at regular intervals throughout a field minimize wind erosion and increase crop yields. Rows of trees near the farmstead provide wind protection, catch blowing snow, reduce home heating and cooling costs, and improve aesthetics. Windbreaks located near feedlots and calving areas protect livestock from harsh, cold winds and hot, summer heat. Feed costs can be reduced by 10 to 50 percent.

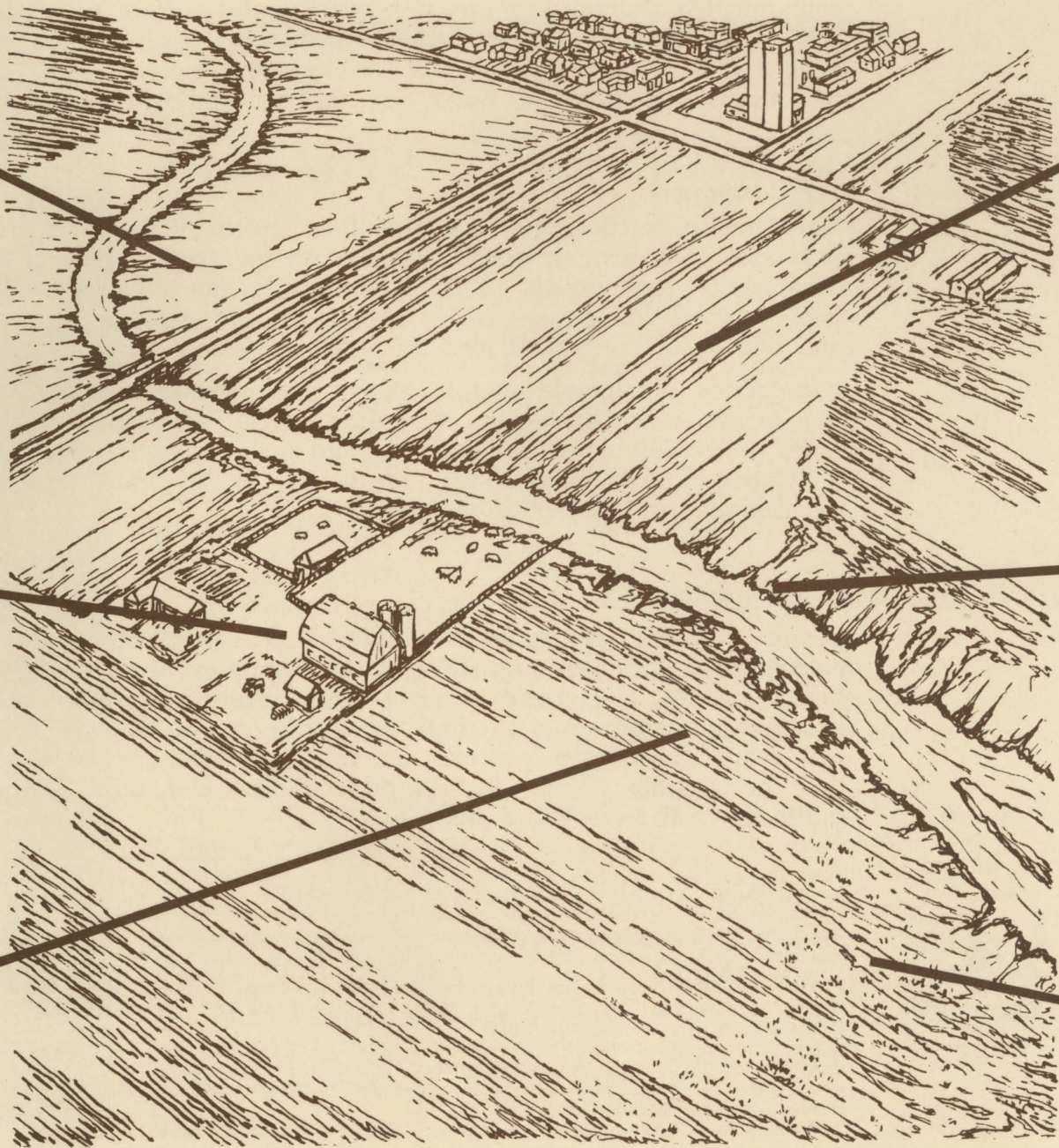


Filter Strips and Riparian Areas

Natural or re-established streamside forests made up of trees, shrubs, and grass plantings buffer pollution of streams and rivers from adjacent land, reduce bank erosion, protect aquatic environments, enhance wildlife, and increase biodiversity.



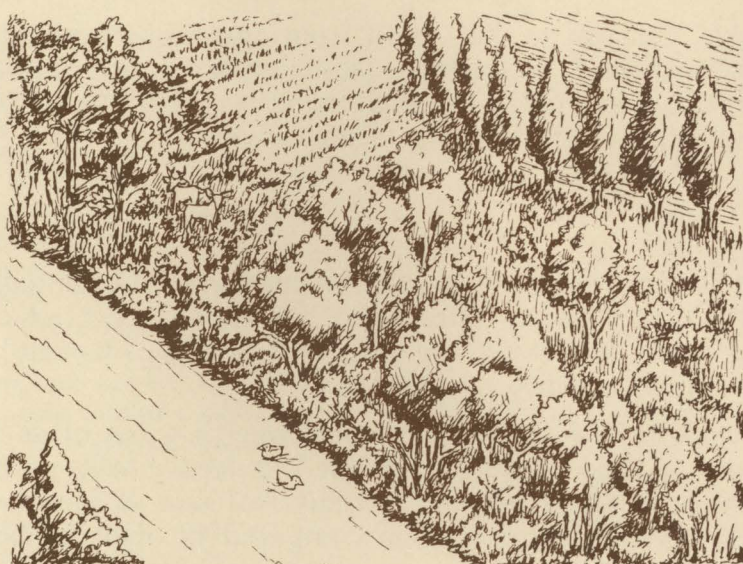
Agroforestry Practices



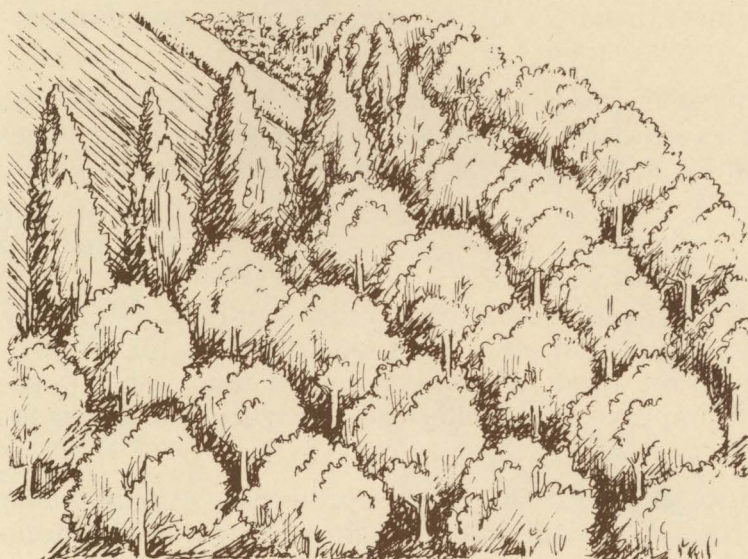
A land area without trees, like the one above is not cost efficient, not environmentally friendly, and not aesthetically pleasing. Applying appropriate agroforestry practices to this particular area, as shown in the illustrations to each side, will increase agricultural productivity, promote natural resource conservation, and enhance natural and human environments.



Alley Cropping
An agricultural crop is grown simultaneously with a long-term tree crop to provide income from the land while it's being converted to woodland. Fine hardwoods like oak, ash, and walnut are favored species in alley cropping systems and can potentially provide substantial income if harvested for lumber or veneer logs.



Wildlife Habitat
Well designed plantings of trees, shrubs, grasses, and feedgrains provide havens for wildlife, especially in areas dominated by agriculture. Vegetation provides necessary food, shelter, and breeding and nesting sites.



Woodlots and Fuelwood Plantations
Unsuitable cropland can be planted with evergreens or fine, sought-after hardwoods like walnut, ash, or oak to provide products such as lumber logs, fine-quality furniture wood, and fuelwood, or specialty items such as Christmas trees, wild nuts, and fruits. Tracts of hardwood trees can also be grown for solid fuelwood or woodchips. The decline in timber production and logging from public forestland will soon result in increased demands for forest products produced on private land.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Soil
Conservation
Service



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10



December 22, 1993

Dear Conservation Partner:

Natural resource problems and challenges often are treated as a collection of unrelated issues, addressed by a variety of programs and through a wide array of conservation plans. The conservation plans that are developed with landusers tend to deal with each issue separately, sometimes resulting in duplication, conflicting recommendations, and inefficient use of time. A unified, site-specific farm conservation plan may offer the opportunity to address all of the interrelated resource needs of a landuser in a more efficient and effective manner.

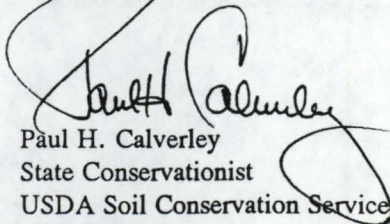
The "One Plan" concept offers state and federal agencies, organizations, and groups the opportunity to work together to combine their individual expertise to eliminate conflicting recommendations among plans, make information easily accessible to landusers, help avoid errors and unnecessary visits, and integrate the necessary information for compliance regulations into a single plan. The plan also could serve as the document needed by a landuser to apply for participation in the various financial assistance programs. We believe the "One Plan" concept is worth exploring and request your participation in a scoping session to discuss the opportunities to work toward integrating today's many plans into a unified plan.

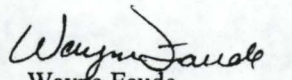
Attached is an agenda for the scoping session that will be held on Thursday, March 10, 1994 at the ASCS/FmHA/SCS State Offices Building to begin a dialogue about the concept of one unified farm conservation plan. The session will begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 3:30 p.m.

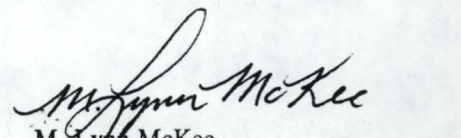
Please indicate on the attached response form the individuals from your agency/organization who will participate in the March 10, 1994 scoping session. Please return this form by February 25, 1994 to the Soil Conservation Service, 3244 Elder St., Room 124, Boise, Idaho 83705, (Attention: Thomas W. Christensen, Assistant State Conservationist).

Should you have questions regarding the March 10, 1994 meeting, or concerning the "One Plan" concept, please do not hesitate to contact any of us at the phone number indicated below our signatures.

We hope to work with your agency/organization to explore the "One Plan" concept. We believe it has merit and may help to ease the burden on landusers posed by today's multiple plans and the confusion they can create.


Paul H. Calverley
State Conservationist
USDA Soil Conservation Service
3244 Elder Street
Room 124
Boise, Idaho 83705
(208) 334-1601


Wayne Faude
Administrator
Idaho Soil Conservation
Commission
1215 W. State St.
Boise, Idaho 83720
(208) 334-0210


M. Lynn McKee
Assistant Regional Administrator
for Idaho
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
422 W. Washington, St.
Boise, Idaho 83702
(208) 334-1166

Attachments

ONE COMPREHENSIVE FARM CONSERVATION PLAN

"EXPLORING THE OPPORTUNITIES TO INTEGRATE TODAY'S MANY PLANS
INTO A SINGLE PLAN"

Thursday, March 10, 1994

ASCS/FmHA/SCS State Offices Building
Large Conference Room
3244 Elder Street, Boise, Idaho

Agenda

9:00 a.m.	Welcome, Introductions, Purpose of Meeting	Paul Calverley
9:15 a.m.	Evolution of Farm Conservation Planning	Paul Malone
9:45 a.m.	Today's Farm Conservation Plans - What Plans Are Developed? For What Purpose(s)? Who Provides Assistance? (An Open Discussion)	Tom Christensen (Facilitator)
10:30 a.m.	The Farmer's Perspective - Farm Conservation Plans	Rayola Jacobsen
10:45 a.m.	Break	
11:00 a.m.	One Unified Farm Conservation Plan - When Is One Needed? What Are the Advantages? What are the Barriers to Overcome? (An Open Discussion)	Jerry Nicolescu (Facilitator)
12:00 noon	Lunch Break	
1:15 p.m.	Developing a Pilot "One Plan" Effort in Idaho (An Open Discussion)	John Gleim (Facilitator)
3:15 p.m.	Wrap Up - Where do we go from here?	Lynn McKee
3:30 p.m.	Adjourn	

Paul Calverley, State Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service
Tom Christensen, Ass't. State Conservationist (Programs and Rural Development), Soil Conservation Service
Paul Malone, State Resource Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service
Lynn McKee, Ass't Regional Administrator for Idaho, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Rayola Jacobsen, Ass't. Director, Public Affairs, Idaho Farm Bureau Federation
Jerry Nicolescu, Operations Manager, Idaho Soil Conservation Commission
John Gleim, District Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service

Participant Response Form

ONE COMPREHENSIVE FARM CONSERVATION PLAN

"EXPLORING THE OPPORTUNITIES TO INTEGRATE TODAY'S MANY PLANS INTO A SINGLE PLAN"

Thursday, March 10, 1994

***ASCS/FmHA/SCS State Offices Building
Large Conference Room
3244 Elder Street, Boise, Idaho***

Agency/Organization: _____

Address: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

_____ Our agency/group will be represented at the March 10, 1994 meeting by

_____ Our agency/group cannot send a representative to the March 10, 1994
meeting but please keep _____
informed as to the outcome of the meeting and future meetings/activities.

Please return this form to:

**Thomas W. Christensen, Assistant State Conservationist (P&RD)
USDA-Soil Conservation Service
3244 Elder St.
Boise, Idaho 83705**

LIST OF AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE

Honorable Cecil D. Andrus, Governor, State of Idaho, Statehouse, Boise, ID 83720
Art Beal, President, Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts, P. O. Box 9, Sweet, ID 83670
Harry Lee, President, Idaho RC&D Association, 1017 N. Almon, Moscow, ID 83843
Sherl Chapman, Executive Director, Idaho Water Users' Association, 410 S. Orchard, Ste. 144, Boise, ID 83705
Dr. J. Ross Wight, Acting Location Leader, Northwest Watershed Research Center, USDA-ARS, 800 Park Blvd., Plaza IV, Ste. 105, Boise, ID 83712-7716
Richard R. Rush, State Executive Director, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, 3220 Elder St., Boise, ID 83705
Del Vail, State Director, Bureau of Land Management, USDI, 3380 Americana Terrace, Boise, ID 83706
Charles H. Lobdell, State Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4696 Overland Rd., Boise, ID 83705
Jerry M. Conley, Director, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, 600 S. Walnut, Boise, ID 83707
Stanley F. Hamilton, Director, Idaho Department of Lands, 1215 W. State, Boise, ID 83720-7000
Robert Hull, Chair, Idaho Soil Conservation Commission, 1215 W. State St., Boise, ID 83720-7000
Wayne Faude, Administrator, Idaho Soil Conservation Commission, 1215 W. State St., Boise, ID 83720-7000
LeRoy D. Luft, Director, Idaho Cooperative Extension System, University of Idaho, College of Agriculture, Moscow, ID 83843
David Lockwood, Pheasants Forever, 5525 Randolph Dr., Boise, ID 83705
Richard L. Gardner, Ph.D., Executive Director, Idaho Rural Development Council, Rm. 122, Statehouse, Boise, ID 83720
Honorable Larry Craig, U. S. Senate, 313 Hart Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510
Honorable Dirk Kempthorne, U. S. Senate, 367 Dirksen Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510
Honorable Mike Crapo, House of Representatives, 437 Cannon Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515
Honorable Larry LaRocco, House of Representatives, 1117 Longworth Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515
Tom Geary, President, Idaho Farm Bureau Federation, P. O. Box 167, Boise, ID 83701
Dr. David Carter, Location Coordinator, USDA-Agricultural Research Service, 3793 N. 3600 E., Kimberly, ID 83341
Jack Shaffer, Chair, West Central Highlands RC&D Council, P. O. Box 32, Indian Valley, ID 83632
Everett "Buck" Ward, Chair, Wood River RC&D Council, Richfield, ID 83349
John Hiler, President, Southwest Idaho RC&D Council, P. O. Box 688, Mountain Home, ID 83647
Norm Dayley, President, Mid-Snake RC&D Council, 295 N. Overland, Burley, ID 83318
Kent Rudeen, Chair, Three Rivers RC&D Council, 612 Calder, American Falls, ID 83211
Bill Stanger, Chair, High Country RC&D Council, P. O. Box 172, Iona, ID 83427
Ray Delay, Chair, Panhandle Lakes RC&D Council, Route 1, Box 37, Athol, ID 83801
Jay Baker, Chair, Bear River RC&D Council, 116 S. Main St., Malad, ID 83252
Joe Nagel, Administrator, IDHW-Division of Environmental Quality, 1410 N. Hilton St., Boise, ID 83706
Stephen P. Mealey, Forest Supervisor, Boise National Forest, USDA-Forest Service, 1750 Front St., Boise, ID 83702
John W. Keys, Regional Director, USDI-Bureau of Reclamation, 1150 N. Curtis Rd., Boise, ID 83706
R. Keith Higginson, Director, Idaho Department of Water Resources, 1301 N. Orchard, Boise, ID 83706
Andy Brunelle, Special Assistant for Natural Resources, Governor's Office, Statehouse, Boise, ID 83720
Loren Nelson, State Director, Farmers Home Administration, 3232 Elder St., Boise, ID 83705
Paul Combe, President, Idaho Mint Growers' Association, 6030 W. Moon Valley Rd., Eagle, ID 83616
Chris Yamamoto, President, Idaho Onion Growers' Association, P. O. Box 430, Parma, ID 83660

Ray Walsh, President, Idaho-Oregon Fruit & Vegetable Assoc., Inc., P. O. Box 909, Parma, ID 83660

Jack Parks, Chairman, Idaho Potato Commission, P. O. Box 1068, Boise, ID 83701

Glenn Stewart, Executive Director, Idaho Conservation League, P. O. Box 844, Boise, ID 83701

W. Greg Nelson, Director, Idaho Department of Agriculture, P. O. Box 790, Boise, ID 83701

Tony Bennett, President, R. N. Irving Chapter, Soil and Water Conservation Society, 1420 N. Hilton St., Boise, ID 83706

Cindy Lunte, Nature Conservancy, P. O. Box 165, Sun Valley, ID 83353

Richard Juengling, Executive Director, Idaho Wildlife Federation, P. O. Box 6426, Boise, ID 83707

Paul Moroz, President, Wildlife Society, Idaho Chapter, 2081 N.W. 8th St., Meridian, ID 83642

Bob Sears, Executive Vice President, Idaho Cattle Association, P. O. Box 15397, Boise, ID 83715

Jack Davis, President, Idaho Dairymen's Association, 1365 N. Orchard, Ste. 203, Boise, ID 83706

Nate Fisher, Executive Director, Idaho Council on Industry and the Environment, P. O. Box 255, Boise, ID 83701

Bill Lewis, Chair, Idaho Soil Improvement Committee, University of Idaho, P. O. Box 1827, Twin Falls, ID 83301

Don Johnson, Master, Idaho State Grange, P. O. Box 367, Meridian, ID 83680

Larry Cope, Chair, Idaho Association of Commerce & Industry, P. O. Box 389, Boise, ID 83701

Donald W. Jacklin, President, Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc., 1641 S. Curtis Rd., Boise, ID 83705-2706

L. DeVere Burton, State Advisor, Idaho Future Farmers of America Association, Division of Vocational Education, 650 W. State, Rm. 324, Boise, ID 83720

Robert Pace, Executive Director, Idaho Soil Fertility and Crop Protection Association, 10350 Elmorado Ct., Boise, ID 83709-4020

Myron Huettig, President, Idaho Sugarbeet Growers' Association, 1109 Main St., Ste. 560, Boise, ID 83702

James W. Radford, President, Idaho Agricultural Chemical Association, P. O. Box 131, Caldwell, ID 83605

Larry Fischer, Idaho Irrigation Equipment Association, 2178 Centurion Place, Boise, ID 83709

Bruce Malmberg, Chair, Idaho Alfalfa Seed Commission, P. O. Box 688, Homedale, ID 83628

Tom Iverson, District 1, Idaho Barley Commission, 1109 Main, Ste. C., Boise, ID 83702

Gerwin Woodland, Chair, Idaho Bean Commission, P. O. Box 9433, Boise, ID 83707

Dave Orcutt, Chair, Idaho Mint Commission, P. O. Box 576, Caldwell, ID 83606

John Carter, Chair, Idaho Pea & Lentil Commission, 5071 Hwy. 8 W., Moscow, ID 83843

Edward R. Frandsen, Coordinator, Cooperative Forestry Program, USDA-Forest Service, Region 4, 324 - 25th St., Ogden, UT 84401

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Ron Mahoney, State Extension Forester, College of Forestry, University of Idaho, Fisheries and Wildlife, Moscow, ID 83844

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Warren McFall, Chief, Water Section, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 422 W. Washington, Boise, ID 83702

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