



78TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts Annual Conference

November 15-17, 2022

Tomorrow's Agriculture - Today's Reality Check

Sage Grouse Initiative



Joshua Uriarte serves as the Terrestrial Species Program Manager and Policy Advisor for OSC. He works on the sage grouse policy, mitigation and habitat restoration, wolf-livestock loss compensation, and recovery planning efforts/policy for grizzly bear, lynx, woodland caribou, yellow-billed cuckoo and slick spot peppergrass. Josh also worked with the Sage Grouse Initiative (SGI) for four years.



Charles (Charlie) Sandford is a wildlife biologist with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and Bureau of Land Management. He enjoys working with and across multiple federal, state, and local agencies, and is passionate about finding the balance between agriculture and wildlife.

Today's Water Issues



Scott Bedke has spent his entire life in the livestock industry and has a keen interest in preserving and protecting Idaho's vast natural resources. He has developed an extensive background in many diverse natural resource issues, most notably water adjudication and endangered species. In 2014-15, he spent 18 months mediating the conflicting interests of surface water and ground water users, eventually helping to reach a compromise beneficial to both sides as well as to the state of Idaho. He has also played a leading role in the creation of the state's sage grouse management plan.

Powers/Responsibilities of Supervisors



Steve Miller grew up on a dryland farm in camas county graduating from camas county high school then attaining a bachelor of science degree from the University of Idaho. He returned to Fairfield in 1972 and has remained on the family farm and ranch ever since. Steve has served as a P&Z member, county commissioner, soil conservation District Supervisor, president of the Idaho Association of Conservation Districts, secretary/Treasurer of the National Association of Conservation Districts and 3 terms in the Idaho House of Representatives.

Supervisor Training :

- ❖ Recruiting new Districts Histories
- ❖ board members
- ❖ Employee recruiting
- ❖ Retention



Wendy Pratt

The Science of Cows

Wendy and her husband Mark operate a fifth generation ranch in the Blackfoot area. She

currently serves as a supervisor with the Central Bingham Conservation District and as a

commissioner with the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission.

Wendy tells the story of conservation ranching at her blog: The Pastoral Muse. Her 2019

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Breakfast**

