

## **Marsh Creek Watershed Project: A Phased Approach**

Christopher Banks  
Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts  
Soda Springs, ID  
(208) 547-4396  
banks.chris08@gmail.com

Kelsey Flandro  
Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts/Three Rivers RC &D  
Pocatello, Idaho  
(208) 237-4628  
flankels@yahoo.com

In 2002, the Portneuf River total maximum daily load identified 112 animal facilities in the Marsh Creek drainage, with 35 of these facilities directly impacting Marsh Creek. The Portneuf Soil and Water Conservation District (PSWCD) began a phased approach for addressing water quality issues in the Marsh Creek drainage, with a Phase I \$319 grant project in 2007. This project had a goal of addressing 4 of the animal facilities impacting Marsh Creek. In December 2008, the PSWCD applied for a Phase II \$319 grant with a goal of focusing on 10 more of the 35 animal facilities, as well as 3 contracts with the State of Idaho's Water Quality Program for Agriculture. In June 2009, the PSWCD applied for Phase III of the Marsh Creek Watershed project which included projects on the middle reach of the Portneuf River. The Phase III project began in October 2010. Phase I is currently in its final year and has proven to be very successful in addressing and treating issues on animal facilities. Phases II and III include water quality monitoring at twelve sites on Marsh Creek. Weekly monitoring visits began in June 2009 and will continue through fall of 2015. There are two continuous monitoring sites and 10 discrete monitoring sites. Parameters being monitored include pH, specific conductivity, dissolved oxygen, temperature, turbidity and velocity. These data will be used to inform future implementation planning.