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GRANT PROGRAM SEEKS INNOVATIVE RESOURCE CONSERVATION PROJECTS FOR AGRICULTURE

Boise, Idaho, April 1, 2014 – The Natural Resources Conservation Service in Idaho set aside \$150,000 for the 2014 Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG) program which funds projects that demonstrate new ways to conserve resources on agricultural lands. Pre-proposal applications are due to the Idaho NRCS State Office by 4 p.m. on April 25, 2014.

“This grant program funds progressive, on-the-ground conservation projects on agricultural land,” said Jeff Burwell, Idaho NRCS State Conservationist. “It offers an opportunity for organizations or individuals to get funding for one- to three-year projects that work on solutions to specific agricultural related resource problems.”

“We are looking for proposals that lead to creative conservation techniques or technologies that producers can adopt,” said Burwell. “They should take methods that have been shown to work and apply them to field demonstration or pilot projects.”

The application process has two-phases: a pre-proposal application followed by a full proposal package for selected applicants. Grants will be awarded through a statewide competitive process. The maximum amount may not exceed \$75,000.

Projects must take place in Idaho and address resource concerns related to soil health, nutrient management, energy conservation, wildlife or other resource concerns. Complete application requirements, along with application materials, are posted on the Idaho NRCS Web site at <http://www.id.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/cig/state.html>. Information on past years’ projects are also posted.

Applications that best meet the grant criteria and address state priorities will be selected for funding consideration. Selected applicants will be notified by May 9, 2014 and must develop and submit a comprehensive proposal to the Idaho NRCS State Office by 4 p.m. on June 6, 2014.

Pre-proposal applications must be received by 4 p.m. on April 25, 2014 at the Idaho NRCS State Office, 9173 W. Barnes Drive, Suite C, Boise, Idaho, 83709 or electronically through <http://www.grants.gov>. For specific information contact Denise Adkins at (208) 685-6991.

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