

USDA



Rural
Development

Committed to the future of rural communities.

Idaho —Rural Housing Service

Community Building

Lapwai Valley Waste Treatment Plant Serving Nez Perce Reservation Creates New Jobs

Outline Of Need:

The City of Lapwai's existing aerated lagoon and land application basin were at capacity and could no longer meet the land application permit requirements. It has been long suspected that the discharge of this old inadequate system has adversely impacted the water quality of Lapwai Creek, which runs the length of the Lapwai Valley. Additionally, many of the homes in the area used septic tanks and drain fields potentially increasing the risk of contamination.

How Rural Development Helped:

For many years USDA Rural Development has worked with the Nez Perce Tribe, the City of Lapwai, and the State of Idaho to plan for a regional wastewater treatment plant. Recently completed, the plant has two components: a wastewater pumping system and the treatment facility. Roughly 30,000 feet of pipe will collect



Completed Lapwai Valley Waste Treatment Plant.

and deliver wastewater to the plant in Lapwai, north to Spalding and south to CULDESAC. Rural Development, through its Water and Environmental Program (WEP), provided \$2.3 million in loan and \$1.8 million in grant funding, along with a Community Block Grant for \$0.5 million, Idaho Dept of Environmental Quality Grant for \$20,000 and the \$28,000 of the cities operating budget for the project.

The Results:

In addition to supporting the tribe to ensure the well being of the Tribe's water, wastewater, and solid waste through tribal capacity development and future planning, the project directly contributed to jobs in rural areas of Idaho. Previously, the area never had a facility resulting in up to three new long term jobs being created to operate the facility.

Granite Excavation, a locally owned and operated, large scale commercial and residential excavating contractor in rural Cascade, Idaho was one of the general contractors. Progressive Engineering Group of Lewiston, was the engineering and design firm.

Fast Facts

Program: Water and Environmental Programs

Investment: \$2.3 million Loan and \$1.8 million Grant

Partners: Nez Perce Tribe, City of Lapwai, State of Idaho contributing \$550,000 in leverage

Congressional District: ID-01

Demographics:

Serving rural communities located on Nez Perce Reservation

Impact:

- 3 permanent full-time jobs created
- Rural businesses created rural jobs in counties nearly double national unemployment rates during construction of facility

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