



...improving the quality of life for residents of north-central Idaho
 ...building local partnerships for sustainable community and resource development



Clearwater RC&D Council

Two Degrees Northwest: Where Art Meets the Land

Historically, the rural economy of north central Idaho depended on its forest and agricultural industries. Recently, the character of the economy has changed and communities find themselves considering ways to diversify and sustain economic development in a region rich in natural, cultural, recreational and historical resources. Enhancing tourism opportunities is one such avenue. In 2008, Council member, Project Director and University of Idaho Faculty, Dr. Lorie Higgins submitted a proposal to the Board requesting that the Council provide fiscal agent support to the Two Degrees Northwest (2DNW) Project. The Council agreed. The Board of Directors includes representatives from cities in the region and neighboring southeastern Washington, art councils, the University of Idaho and the Nez Perce Tribe. Dr. Higgins has successfully secured funding from the Idaho Commission on the Arts, Idaho Community Foundation, University of Idaho Extension, and USDA Rural Development.. Accomplishments include: a pilot storefront and business incubator to conduct coop-



Example Artisan Trail Map

erative marketing of local artisans and niche food products; asset identification of local heritage, arts and foods; 9 entrepreneurship workshops; intern experience for 14 University students; membership of 50 regional artists. In the works: Development of an Artisan Trail Map (above) to lead residents and visitors to the unique assets of the region.



Our goal, as a nonprofit organization, is to help artists and artisans gain the skills they need to sell their work and to reach diverse markets. We are excited to be able to offer this opportunity to promote our wonderful region and the many talented people who live here.

The Goal

