



REVISED
12/21/05

Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Number	Meeting	Resolution Title	Committee
05-01	Passed	Work to develop a non-AFO/CAFO technical and financial assistance program for livestock producers.	Livestock
05-02	Passed	Conservation Districts and the Livestock Nutrient Management Act.	Livestock
05-03	Passed	Livestock Watering	Livestock
05-04	Passed as amended	Amendment of Washington State water rights rules to allow for off-stream watering without threat of water right abdication.	Livestock
05-05	Passed	The Role of Conservation Districts in support of current and future Columbia River mainstem irrigation water users.	Irrigated Agriculture
05-06	Passed	The Role of Conservation Districts in support of current and future Columbia River withdrawals to supply irrigation water to the Odessa Sub-area.	Irrigated Agriculture
05-07	Passed	The role of conservation districts in support of local and regional irrigation water projects.	Irrigated Agriculture
05-08	Passed as amended	Assistance for Forest Land Owners	Forestry
05-09	Passed	Conservation Security Program (CSP)	Farm Bill
05-10	Passed as amended	RUSLE: Tillage Operations for the Pacific Northwest	Farm Bill
05-11	Passed as amended	Bi-Fuel Crop Production	Alternate Energy
05-12	Passed	On-Farm Energy Production Task Force	Alternate Energy
05-13	Passed	NRCS Cultural Resource Review Process	CREP
05-14	Passed	Revised access for Conservation Districts to Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Priority Habitat and Species Data	CREP
05-15	Passed	Extending the grant cycle for Washington Conservation Commission water quality grants	District Operations
05-16	Failed	FY07 Water Quality Financial Assistance Program	District Operations
05-17	Passed as amended	Assessment maximum increase for Conservation Districts in counties to a maximum of \$10 per parcel.	District Operations
05-18	Passed as amended	Election of Conservation District Supervisors	District Operations



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Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Number	Meeting	Resolution Title	Committee
05-19	Failed	District Reporting	District Operations
05-20	Failed	Expanding the exceptions offered by RCW 42.23.030 for prohibited interest in contracts for municipal officers.	District Operations
05-21	Passed as amended	Develop funding for district staff responding to Ecology water quality complaints	District Operations
05-22	Passed as amended	WACD and Conservation Districts to Become Involved in the Implementation of the WDFW's Land Acquisition and Land Management Policies.	Urban
05-23	Passed	Office of Farmland Preservation	Urban
05-24	Passed	Purchase Development Rights Funding	Urban
05-25	Failed	Resolution Procedures	WACD Officers & Directors
05-26	Passed	WACD Operational Funding	WACD Officers & Directors
05-27	Passed	Support for the Veterans Conservation Corps	District Operations
05-28	Passed	Expanding Ecology's BMP List	District Operations
05-29	Passed	Special Assessment	WACD Officers & Directors
05-30	Failed	WDFW Land Acquisition	WACD Officers & Directors
05-31	Passed	Protection for Prairie Grouse Species in the Western United States	
05-32	Passed	National Priority Areas for the Protection of Federally Listed Threatened and Endangered Species on Private Lands	
05-33	Passed	Small Farm Program Needs	



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-01

Title: Work to develop a non-AFO/CAFO technical and financial assistance program for livestock producers.

Problem:

There are hundreds if not thousands of livestock operations that are likely adversely affecting water quality but do not meet the definition of an animal feeding operation (AFO). These operations are under significant scrutiny by regulators of the Department of Ecology and the US Environmental Protection Agency.

Presently funds are almost exclusively dedicated to operations or those portions of operations that meet the definition of an animal feeding operation. Other operations are eligible but they are the lowest priority operations and not likely to be funded. This arrangement is limiting Conservation Districts' ability to respond to a large volume of water quality concerns.

Recommendation:

WACD work with a broad coalition of producer and environmental groups, agencies, and the Washington State Legislature to develop a cost-share and technical assistance program funded through Districts to assist livestock producers with water quality resource concerns.

Fred Colvin, Thurston CD, moved. Sharon Call, Kitsap CD, seconded the Motion.
Motion passed.

RECOMMEND DO PASS.

Fred Colvin, Thurston CD moved. Tom Doran, Okanogan CD seconded the motion.
The motion passed.

PASSED.

* Presented by the Okanogan Conservation District. Approved at the North Central Area Meeting on October 3, 2005.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-02

Title: Conservation Districts and the Livestock Nutrient Management Act.

Problem:

WHEREAS, conservation districts have decades of experience in working with producers to develop and implement conservation plans according to proven, science-based standards and specifications, and

WHEREAS, conservation district success in implementing the Dairy Nutrient Management Act demonstrated how conservation districts can play a key role in helping producers comply with Clean Water Act and State Water Quality Act requirements, and

WHEREAS, it is critical to our state's livestock producers and the natural resources of the state that federal and state mandates are met in a way that considers industry needs as well as resource protection, and

WHEREAS, conservation districts are currently the only entities with the expertise to achieve those goals:

Recommendation:

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the WACD work to maintain an involved and active level of conservation district participation in the development and implementation of any legislation forthcoming regarding a Washington State Livestock Nutrient Management Act and programs resulting thereof.

Lynn Brown, Kittitas CD, moved. John McLean, Foster Creek CD, seconded. The motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS.

Fred Colvin, Thurston CD, moved. 2nd Lynn Brown, Kittitas CD. The motion passed.

PASSED.

* Presented by Foster Creek Conservation District. Approved at the North Central Area Meeting on October 3, 2005.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-02b

Title: Conservation Districts and the Livestock Nutrient Management Act.

Problem:

WHEREAS, conservation districts have decades of experience in working with producers to develop and implement conservation plans according to proven, science-based standards and specifications, and

WHEREAS, conservation district success in implementing the Dairy Nutrient Management Act demonstrated how conservation districts can play a key role in helping producers comply with Clean Water Act and State Water Quality Act requirements, and

WHEREAS, it is critical to our state's livestock producers and the natural resources of the state that federal and state mandates are met in a way that considers industry needs as well as resource protection, and

WHEREAS, conservation districts are currently the only entities with the expertise to achieve those goals:

Recommendation:

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the WACD work to maintain an involved and active level of conservation district participation in the development and implementation of any legislation forthcoming regarding a Washington State Livestock Nutrient Management Act and programs resulting thereof.

John McLean, Foster Creek [CD](#), moved and Chris Heitstuman, Palouse [CD](#), seconded ~~to~~ the motion to merge 05-02b, c, d, and e into 05-02a. The motion passed.

RECOMMEND DO PASS.

(Duplicate resolution. Same as Resolution 05-02a)

* Submitted at the request of Lynn Brown, WACD Livestock Development and Oversight Committee Representative. Approved at the Northwest Area Meeting on September 29, 2005



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-02c

Title: Conservation Districts and the Livestock Nutrient Management Act

Problem:

WHEREAS, conservation districts have decades of experience in working with producers to develop and implement conservation plans according to proven, science-based standards and specifications, and

WHEREAS, conservation district success in implementing the Dairy Nutrient Management Act demonstrated how conservation districts can play a key role in helping producers comply with Clean Water Act and State Water Quality Act requirements, and

WHEREAS, it is critical to our state's livestock producers and the natural resources of the state that federal and state mandates are met in a way that considers industry needs as well as resource protection, and

WHEREAS, conservation districts are currently the only entities with the expertise to achieve those goals:

Recommendation:

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the WACD work to maintain an involved and active level of conservation district participation in the development and implementation of any legislation forthcoming regarding a Washington State Livestock Nutrient Management Act and programs resulting thereof.

(Duplicate resolution. Same as Resolution 05-02a)

* Submitted at the request of Lynn Brown, WACD Livestock Development and Oversight Committee Representative. Approved at the South Central Area Meeting on October 4, 2005.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-02d

Title: Conservation Districts and the Livestock Nutrient Management Act

Problem:

WHEREAS, conservation districts have decades of experience in working with producers to develop and implement conservation plans according to proven, science-based standards and specifications, and

WHEREAS, conservation district success in implementing the Dairy Nutrient Management Act demonstrated how conservation districts can play a key role in helping producers comply with Clean Water Act and State Water Quality Act requirements, and

WHEREAS, it is critical to our state's livestock producers and the natural resources of the state that federal and state mandates are met in a way that considers industry needs as well as resource protection, and

WHEREAS, conservation districts are currently the only entities with the expertise to achieve those goals:

Recommendation:

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the WACD work to maintain an involved and active level of conservation district participation in the development and implementation of any legislation forthcoming regarding a Washington State Livestock Nutrient Management Act and programs resulting thereof.

(Duplicate resolution. Same as Resolution 05-02a)

* Submitted at the request of Lynn Brown, WACD Livestock Development and Oversight Committee Representative. Approved at the Southeast Area Meeting on October 12, 2005.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-02e

Title: Conservation Districts and the Livestock Nutrient Management Act

Problem:

WHEREAS, conservation districts have decades of experience in working with producers to develop and implement conservation plans according to proven, science-based standards and specifications, and

WHEREAS, conservation district success in implementing the Dairy Nutrient Management Act demonstrated how conservation districts can play a key role in helping producers comply with Clean Water Act and State Water Quality Act requirements, and

WHEREAS, it is critical to our state's livestock producers and the natural resources of the state that federal and state mandates are met in a way that considers industry needs as well as resource protection, and

WHEREAS, conservation districts are currently the only entities with the expertise to achieve those goals:

Recommendation:

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the WACD work to maintain an involved and active level of conservation district participation in the development and implementation of any legislation forthcoming regarding a Washington State Livestock Nutrient Management Act and programs resulting thereof.

(Duplicate resolution. Same as Resolution 05-02a)

* Submitted at the request of Lynn Brown, WACD Livestock Development and Oversight Committee Representative. Approved at the Southeast Area Meeting on October 12, 2005.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-03

Title: Livestock Watering

Problem:

Livestock owners are currently allowed to provide stream access for livestock watering from waters of the state. However, this may provide a potential for pollution or habitat damage. Therefore, they are encouraged to provide off-channel watering for their animals as a best management practice, for which state and federal agencies provide cost-share. Conversely, withdrawing water for stock may be viewed by some as an illegal water withdrawal. The problem has been discussed for several years, but there has never been final resolution, which place livestock owners and the resources of the state at risk.

Recommendation:

That the WACD work with the Washington Conservation Commission and appropriate stakeholders to provide final resolution including legislative remedy to address livestock watering issues. The remedy would include introduction of legislation to solve the problem.

Sharon Call, Kitsap CD moved. John McLean, Foster Creek seconded the motion.

Lynn Brown, Kittitas CD moved to pass the amendment. Sharon Call, Kitsap, seconded the motion. The amended motion passed.

RECOMMEND DO PASS AS AMENDED.

Fred Colvin, Thurston CD. 2nd John McLean, Foster Creek CD. The motion passed.

PASSED.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-04

Title: Amendment of Washington State water rights rules to allow for off-stream watering without threat of water right abdication.

Problem:

Current water rights rule stipulate that producers with livestock water rights (rights allowing the watering of cattle through direct consumption of surface waters) may not divert water through mechanical means (i.e. pipe, ditch, etc.). Furthermore, water quality law allows for strict penalties to livestock producers that allow unrestricted access to surface waters or that allow water quality degradation to occur. Additionally, many livestock producers have been unwilling to fence livestock away from surface waters because they fear losing their valid livestock water right through relinquishment rules. Ecology developed policy to allow livestock watering via diverted/piped water (POL-1025 revised 12/2/94) but industry representatives have reported that livestock producers are concerned nonetheless; therefore they continue with traditional watering practices.

Recommendation:

WACD work with a broad coalition of producer and environmental groups and the Washington State Department of Ecology to make necessary legislative changes to water rights law that allows producers with livestock water rights to mechanically withdraw water from surface water without relinquishing their riparian water rights for the purpose of stock water. And that WACD pursue cost share and technical assistance for off-stream watering and related facilities.

Tom Duran, Okanogan CD moved. Chris Heitsuman, Palouse CD seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chris Heitsuman, Palouse CD moved to accept the amendment. Gail Thorton, North Yakima CD, seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS AS AMENDED.

Fred Colvin, Thurston CD, moved. 2nd Chris Heitstuman, Palouse CD. The motion passed as amended.

Amendment: Sherry Penney, Underwood CD moved. 2nd Nora Mena, Thurston CD. Amendment passed.

PASSED AS AMENDED.

* Presented by Okanogan Conservation District. Approved at the North Central Area Meeting on October 3, 2005.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-05

Title: The Role of Conservation Districts in support of current and future Columbia River mainstem irrigation water users.

Problem:

WHEREAS, many current Columbia River irrigation water users are classified as interruptible and are subject to being shut off during the growing season if instream flows reach a predetermined level of 60,000 cubic feet per second at McNary Dam, and

WHEREAS, new applications for irrigation water use have not been permitted due to a “No Net Loss” policy by state and federal agencies, and

WHEREAS, the current position of the State adopts a policy of “No Net Loss Plus” for future allocations of water rights from the Columbia River, and

WHEREAS, a healthy, growing agricultural economy is important to the entire State of Washington:

Recommendation:

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the WACD adopt a policy position regarding allocation of water rights from the mainstem Columbia River with the following provisions:

- If the “No Net Loss” policy is to be adopted there must be specific statutory authority granted by the legislature first.
- The “No Net Loss Plus” is not an acceptable policy due to the lack of scientific integrity and because of the expense to the State and private sector that will be incurred by its adoption.
- Allocation of water rights from the Columbia River should be based on “Regional Initiatives” under a voluntary setting.
- Conservation Measures tied to interruptible to uninterruptible conversion and new water rights should be voluntary.
- Mitigation fees for interruptible to uninterruptible conversion and new water rights should be based on measurable, non-arbitrary items.
- Conservation measures should be funded with a mix of public and private resources.
- Conservation Districts are the most appropriate entity to facilitate, plan, and implement conservation measures associated with interruptible or new water rights.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-05

Dale Wentworth, Grant CD, moved to merge resolutions 05-05a and 05-05b into a single resolution. Motion was seconded and carried.

Dale Wentworth, Grant CD, moved to pass resolution 05-05 as amended. Motion was seconded. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS AS AMENDED.

Dale Wentworth, Grant CD moved. 2nd Don Underhill, Warden CD. The motion passed.

| ~~resolution~~ **PASSED.**



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-06

Title: The role of conservation districts in support of current and future Columbia River withdrawals to supply irrigation water to the Odessa Sub-area.

Problem:

WHEREAS, there is a serious and extreme ground water decline in the Odessa Sub-area, and

WHEREAS, The State legislature established the Odessa Sub-Area in 1967 as an interim measure while awaiting the delivery of irrigation water from the Columbia River through the Federal Columbia Basin Project, and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government failed in their promise to deliver irrigation water to the Odessa Sub-area, and

WHEREAS, The delivery of Columbia River water to the Odessa Sub-area has not been permitted due in part to a “No Net Loss” policy by state and federal agencies, and

WHEREAS, the current position of the State adopts a policy of “No Net Loss Plus” for delivery of Columbia River water to the Odessa Sub-Area:

Recommendation: **NOW THEREFORE**, be it resolved, that WACD shall support organizations working to develop strategies for delivery of water from the Columbia River to the Odessa Sub-area with the following provisions:

- If the “No Net Loss” policy is to be adopted there must be specific statutory authority granted by the legislature first.
- The “No Net Loss Plus” is not an acceptable policy due to the lack of scientific integrity and because of the expense to the State and private sector that will be incurred by its adoption.
- Allocation of water from the Columbia River should be based on “Regional Initiatives” under a voluntary setting.
- The Odessa Sub-area problem should be addressed as purely a water management issue since water rights for this delivery area already exist.
- The state should facilitate and significantly fund reasonable immediate and long-term solutions.
- Water efficiency measures should be applied to ensure that new water will be used efficiently and existing groundwater will be stretched as far as possible. Only those wanting to benefit from new water should be affected by such measures. Measures should be conducted in consultation and approval of either a local conservation district or the local irrigation district of jurisdiction.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Conservation Districts are the most appropriate entity to facilitate, plan, and implement conservation measures associated with delivery of surface water to the Odessa Sub-Area.

Paul Stoker, Othello CD, moved to merge resolutions 05-06a and 05-06b into a single resolution by striking 05-06a. The amendment was seconded and carried.

Dale Wentworth, Grant CD, moved to pass resolution 05-06 as amended. Motion was seconded. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS AS AMENDED.

| Dale Wentworth, Grant CD, moved. 2nd Nicole Berg, Benton CD. The ~~resolution-motion~~ passed.

PASSED.

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- Presented by the WACD Irrigation Issues Committee. Approved at the South Central Area Meeting on October 4, 2005.
 - Presented by the WACD Irrigation Issues Committee. Approved at the North Central Area Meeting on October 3, 2005.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-07

Title: The role of conservation districts in support of local and regional irrigation water projects.

Problem:

WHEREAS, there is a need to resolve many irrigation water issues in Washington State including but not limited to the Odessa Sub-aquifer area, mainstem Columbia water storage, irrigation systems infrastructure improvements, and

WHEREAS, local grassroots solutions enjoy a much greater rate of success than a one-size-fits-all top-down approach, and

WHEREAS, conservation districts are recognized as efficient and effective local entities for facilitation, planning, and implementation of irrigation conservation programs.

Recommendation:

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the WACD work to maintain an involved and active level of local conservation district participation in the development and implementation of local and regional irrigation water projects including but not limited to; the Odessa Sub-aquifer area, mainstem Columbia and tributary water storage, and irrigation systems infrastructure improvements.

Dale Wentworth, Grant CD, moved to merge resolutions 05-07a and 05-07b into a single resolution 05-07. The motion was seconded and carried.

Dale Wentworth, Grant CD, moved to pass resolution 05-07 as amended. Motion was seconded. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS AS AMENDED.

Dale Wentworth, Grant CD, moved. 2nd Lee Hemmer, Foster Creek CD. [The motion](#) passed.

PASSED.

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- Presented by the WACD Irrigation Issues Committee. Approved at the North Central Area Meeting on October 3, 2005.
 - Presented by the WACD Irrigation Issues Committee. Approved at the North Central Area Meeting on October 3, 2005.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-08

Title: Assistance for Forest Land Owners

Problem:

Privately owned forestlands are a critical component of the natural resource infrastructure of Washington State. However, conservation related financial and technical assistance to non-industrial private landowners continues to decrease. The smallest landowners, those with less than twenty acres, are some of the most underserved cooperators due to a lack of funding at the state and federal level. With proper funding and staffing, conservation districts would be able to provide assistance to these landowners.

Recommendation:

That WACD work with the Washington Conservation Commission, the Department of Natural Resources, and appropriate stakeholders to develop, fund, and implement a comprehensive program package, including a funding strategy, to provide conservation technical, educational, and financial assistance, including but not limited to FireWise and Community Wildfire Protection Planning, to the non-industrial forestland and woodlot owners of Washington State.

Mark Hitchcock, Skagit CD, moved to approve as amended. Jerry Hendrickson, Asotin CD, seconded. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS AS AMENDED.

Albert Roberts, Okanogan CD, moved. 2nd Norm McClure, Okanogan CD. [The motion passed.](#)

PASSED.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-09

Title: Conservation Security Program (CSP)

Problem:

CSP was to be an entitlement program and open to all agricultural conservation producers and was sold as a replacement program for the current farm program payments. Limited funding and rules were written to discourage payments to excellent conservation farmers. The obstacles such as soil tests 2 out of 5 yrs on the exact definable land and 5-10 yrs control of the land has destroyed the CSP program and the green concept to reward innovative conservation farmers. The appeals process is cumbersome and misses leading.

Recommendation:

~~Let WACD work to eliminate (toward full funding of the CSP program), or return the funds to the USDA farm program or totally rewrite the CPS program (or return the funds back to the CSP program) so all~~ Let WACD and NACD work with NRCS and Legislators to improve the CSP program as it was originally envisioned, such as fully funding the program, with the following ideas to be considered: farmers receive a base conservation payment for ongoing conservation practices. Additional conservation practices can be added to increase conservation payments. The CSP appeals process needs to be rewritten and run through the local and state offices. Entity and payment rules should mimic other farm bill programs administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to maintain consistency and verifiability for farms. Once a watershed has been selected and approved for signup, continuous annual signup should be available.

Eddie Johnson, Lincoln CD moved to pass as amended. Lee Hemmer, Foster Creek CD, seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS AS AMENDED.

Chris Herron, Franklin CD, moved. 2nd Larry Cochran, Palouse CD. The [resolution motion](#) passed.

PASSED.

* Presented by: Lincoln County Conservation District. Approved at the Northeast Area Meeting on October 11, 2005.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-10

Title: RUSLE: Tillage Operations for the Pacific Northwest

Problem:

Pacific North West common tillage operations are not included in the RUSLE program and inaccurate soil index numbers are being calculated.

1. Wide space subsoiling: 6ft-10ft wide between shanks, 16+ inch depth
2. Skew treading
3. Harrowing: spring wet conditions: 2500-3000 ft elevation
4. Residue: residue and nutrient reduction / spring barley and spring wheat residue production

Recommendation:

WACD requests NRCS adjust the RUSLE program to accurately represent the soil conditioning index in the Pacific Northwest, and specifically include answers to the following: Pacific Northwest common tillage operations are not included in the RUSLE program and inaccurate soil index numbers are being calculated.

1. Wide space subsoiling: 6ft-10ft wide between shanks, 16+ inch depth
2. Skew treading
3. Harrowing: spring wet conditions: 2500-3000 ft elevation
4. Residue: residue and nutrient reduction / spring barley and spring wheat residue production

WACD and NACD request NRCS **and ARS** to continue research into the RUSLE 2 equation to be able to more accurately assess the value of, but not limited to, the preceding practices so that it more accurately reflects agronomic practices in the Pacific NW.

Eddie Johnson, Lincoln CD, moved. Dixie Riddle, Spokane CD, seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Larry Cochran, Palouse CD moved to pass the amendment. Jim Druffel, Palouse CD, seconded. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS AS AMENDED.

* Presented by the Lincoln County Conservation District. Approved at the Northeast Area Meeting on October 11, 2005.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-10

Chris Herron, Franklin CD, moved. 2nd Nicole Berg, Benton CD. [The motion passed as amended.](#)

Amendment: Larry Cochran, Palouse CD. 2nd Chris Heitstuman, Palouse CD. [The motionAmendment](#) passed.

PASSED AS AMENDED.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-11

Title: Bi-Fuel Crop Production

Problem:

There is a need for economically viable alternative crops to be included in crop rotations in the grain production areas of ~~Eastern~~ Washington if the advances made in environmental quality through the implementation of direct seeding and conservation practices are to continue. Recent efforts by various entities have shown that oilseed crops that would supply feedstock for a bio-fuel industry can be grown in the ~~Eastern~~ Washington region but at the current commodity price to the producer these are not economically feasible and sustainable. In addition to reducing our dependency on fossil fuel energy, production of these crops would contribute to improved soil and water quality and enable wider adoption of direct seeding practices.

Recommendation:

That the Washington Association of Conservation Districts support at all levels of government, legislation that provides economic incentive to produce low residue crops that are suitable for bio-fuel production and support research leading to the economical and sustainable production of these crops. We also support market development research for bio-fuel production co-products.

Oliver Call, Kitsap CD, moved to pass. Tracy Erickson, Palouse Rock-Lake CD, seconded. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS.

Paul Stoker, Grant CD, moved. 2nd Doug Rushton, Thurston CD. The mMotion passed as amended.

Amendment: Lynn Brown, Kittitas CD, moved to amend the motion. 2nd Ollie Call, Kitsap CD. The motionAmendment passed.

PASSED AS AMENDED.

* Presented by the Columbia Conservation District. Approved at the Southeast Area Meeting on October 12, 2005.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-12

Title: On-Farm Energy Production Task Force

Problem:

With increasing fuel and energy prices now at a crisis state for agriculture, having the option of including on-farm energy production may make the difference between having a viable farming operation or having to sell the farm. Farmers need to know that those options are available and viable. There is a need for accurate information and technical assistance for the farmers interested in producing energy in the form of feedstocks for biodiesel and ethanol, wind and solar power generation and biomass power generation as one of their options. Further, there is a pressing need for the support of policy and legislation that would further the cause of producing and utilizing alternative forms of energy.

Recommendation:

WACD re-designate the recently formed On-Farm Energy Production task force as a standing committee of WACD and through that committee, formulate an energy policy and legislative policy that serves the needs of farmers and landowners in Washington State.

Keith Kopf, Palouse CD, moved. Oliver Call, Kitsap CD, seconded. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS.

Paul Stoker, Grant CD, moved. 2nd Nicole Berg, Benton CD. The [motion resolution](#) passed.

PASSED.

* Presented by the Spokane County Conservation District. Approved at the Northeast Area Meeting on October 11, 2005.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-13

Title: NRCS Cultural Resource Review Process.

Problem:

Over the past two years, the WA NRCS has assumed an increased level of responsibility with the cultural resource review process. Due to the increased requirements, NRCS has a tremendous backlog of practices awaiting cultural resource review. This backlog has prevented cooperators from applying conservation measures in a timely manner, which in turn has resulted in increased material costs. In addition, the backlog has caused the NRCS field office personnel extra work in preparing documentation and modifying contracts when practices are delayed. This workload is expected to increase with each new program sign up.

Recommendation:

NRCS should reduce their level of review to the minimum required to meet their National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) obligations.

NRCS should continue to negotiate agreements with the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation that streamline the process and facilitate a quicker turn around response on consultation of undertakings.

WACD should lobby state and National congressional delegations, and NRCS at the state and national levels for increased funding to support personnel and TSP contracts that address the cultural resource workload, or alternatively, to establish more cost effective and timely ways to fulfill NHPA requirements.

Tom McKern, Stevens CD, moved. Joyce Jimerson, Whatcom CD, seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS.

Paul Stoker, Grant CD, [moved](#). [2nd](#) Jerry Hendrickson, Asotin CD. [The motion](#)
[p](#)Passed.

PASSED.

* Presented by the Ferry Conservation District. Approved at the North East Area Meeting on October 11, 2005.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-14

Title: Revised access for Conservation Districts to Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Priority Habitat and Species Data

Problem:

Many State and Federal grant programs require knowledge of Priority Habitats and Species an official database currently maintained by WDFW in the area affected by the grant deliverables. Currently access to this information is limited to individual sites and/or species by request only. Grant deadlines and time constraints often prevent effective grant applications because Priority Habitats and Species information is not readily available. The current system also makes it impossible to actively research species, specific habitat improvement projects in a specific sub-basin or area of concern because Priority Habitats and Species information is only given for specific requests.

Recommendation:

WACD request improved access for Conservation Districts to Priority Habitats and Species information for district wide conservation planning, and habitat protection and improvement project planning/implementation.

Tom McKern, Stevens CD, moved. John Boulton, Jefferson CD, seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS.

Paul Stoker, Grant CD, [moved](#). 2nd Lee Hemmer, Foster Creek CD. [The motion](#) passed.

PASSED.

* Submitted by the Pend Oreille Conservation District. Approved at the Northeast Area Meeting on October 11, 2005.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-15

Title: Extending the grant cycle for Washington Conservation Commission water quality grants.

Problem:

Currently Washington Conservation Commission water quality grants operate on the state fiscal calendar and conclude within one biennium. For example the 06 grant cycle will begin July 1, 2005 and end June 31, 2007. The regular stream-side and in-stream work window begins July 1 and ends August 31.

The current biennium based funding cycle and short work window put undue constraints on implementation projects. As most water quality projects require engineered drawings, the first work window upon receiving a WCC grant is spent surveying, engineering, permitting and contracting leaving only one work window to complete all construction deliverables. Many problems may arise requiring an additional field season to complete the work and if the funding is rescinded before the work can be completed many quality projects may be lost, landowners inconvenienced and preliminary work wasted.

Recommendation:

WACD request all future Washington Conservation Commission water quality grants be funded with budgets which can be spent over three or more fiscal years like those used for SRFB, and Department of Ecology grants.

Ron Juris, East Klickitat [CD](#), moved. Howard Jaeger, Cowlitz [CD](#), seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS.

Sherry Penney, Underwood [CD](#), [moved](#). 2nd George Mahoney, Clark [CD](#). [The motion pPassed](#).

PASSED.

* Submitted by the Pend Oreille Conservation District. Approved at the Northeast Area Meeting on October 11, 2005.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-16

Title: FY07 Water Quality Financial Assistance Program

Problem:

Over the last five Biennial Budgets, the Department of Ecology's Centennial Clean Water grant funding has been greatly reduced. For the 2005-07 Biennium, the Department of Ecology Centennial Grant funding is only \$7.5M but the Department still maintains a large number of grant managers throughout the state. In contrast, the Conservation Commission is a relatively small, efficient organization which is better suited to manage these new funding levels. Moving the Centennial Clean Water Grant Program from the Department of Ecology to the Conservation Commission would centralize the management of the Program, reduce the redundant administrative oversight, and provide taxpayers a cost effective/efficient system.

Recommendation:

WACD should support legislative action to move the Non-Point Agricultural portion the Centennial Clean water Grant funding management responsibility from the Department of Ecology to the Conservation Commission.

Ron Juris, East Klickitat moved. Sharon Call, Kitsap CD seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO NOT PASS.

Sherry Penney, Underwood CD, [moved](#). 2nd Lee Hemmer, Foster Creek CD. The [resolution-motion](#) failed.

FAILED.

* Presented by the Stevens County Conservation District. Approved at the Northeast Area Meeting on October 11, 2005.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-17

Title: Assessment maximum increase for Conservation Districts ~~in counties~~ to a maximum of \$10 per parcel.

This resolution is intended to provide an additional source of revenue to Conservation Districts whose County legislative authorities have deemed it necessary.

Problem:

Services requested by constituents and jurisdictional partners of Conservation Districts may make it necessary to enact a resource conservation assessment of more than the current maximum of \$5 per parcel.

Recommendation:

Be it resolved that the Washington Association of Conservation Districts actively and uniformly advise and assist the legislators of Washington State, the Washington Conservation Commission and other interested parties in securing the passage of legislation to increase the maximum per parcel assessment to \$10.

Paul Nee, Pierce CD moved. Howard Jaeger, Cowlitz CD seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS.

Sherry Penney, Underwood CD, moved. 2nd Paul Nee, Pierce CD. The motion passed as amended.

Amendment: ~~by~~ Monte Marti, Snohomish CD, moved to amend the motion. 2nd Paul Nee, Pierce CD. The aA Amendment passed.

PASSED AS AMENDED.

* Presented by the Pierce Conservation District. Approved at the Northwest Area Meeting on September 29, 2005.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

The resolution passed as amended.

Resolution No: 05-18

Title: Election of Conservation District Supervisors

This resolution is intended to change the requirement for filing to appear on the Conservation District ballot from the current 15 days prior to the election, to the same in all other public elections in the State of Washington.

Problem:

With one exception, the 'by-mail' ballot procedure approved by the Conservation Commission can be a cost-effective and relatively inexpensive method to ensure broad public access to Board Supervisor elections. The current provision for candidates to deliver petitions to appear on the ballot up to 15 days before Election Day is inadequate, given the logistics involved in 'by-mail' elections. Districts which use the 'by-mail' ballot procedure face extreme difficulty in preparing and mailing ballots in a timely enough fashion to allow voters adequate time to research candidates, and mark and return their ballots before the deadline.

Recommendation:

Be it resolved that the Washington Association of Conservation Districts advise and assist the Washington Conservation Commission in revising the election standards in the filing for election as a Conservation District Supervisor to follow the same filing deadlines established for other public elections in Washington State to a maximum of 56 days and a minimum of 48 days between candidate filing and Election Day, in **all** Conservation Districts **elections** where the "by-mail" election procedure is used.

Paul Nee, Pierce CD moved. Ron Juris, East Klickitat seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS.

Sherry Penney, Underwood CD, moved. 2nd Paul Nee, Pierce CD. The motion passed as amended.

Amendment: Paul Nee, Pierce CD, moved to amend the motion. 2nd Doug Rushton, Thurston CD. The amendment passed.

* Presented by the Pierce Conservation District. Approved at the Northwest Area Meeting on September 29, 2005.



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PASSED AS AMENDED.



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| ~~The motion passed as amended.~~



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-19

Title: District Reporting

Problem:

Conservation districts operate programmatically and financially on a variety of fiscal “years”, developing annual plans and associated reports that best fit the needs of their district. Districts are required to prepare an Annual Plan of Work and Report of Accomplishments. The Conservation Commission, however, requires the submittal of an Annual Plan and Report of Accomplishments based on the Washington State Fiscal Year. This result is that some districts have to complete two of each, with the set submitted to the Commission having no other purpose other than standardization. With many districts pressed for staff time and/or funding, this may not be the best use of resources

Recommendation:

That the WACD work with the Washington Conservation Commission to review and possibly amend the reporting requirements to allow districts to submit required Annual Plans and Reports of Accomplishments utilizing the fiscal year the reporting district actually uses.

Doug Rushton, Thurston CD moved to pass as amended. Howard Jaeger, Cowlitz CD seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS AS AMENDED.

| Sherry Penney, Underwood CD, [moved](#). 2nd Doug Rushton, Thurston CD. The motion failed.

FAILED.

* Presented by the Skagit Conservation District. Approved at the Northwest Area Meeting on September 29, 2005.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
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Resolution No: 05-20

Title: Expanding the exceptions offered by RCW 42.23.030 for prohibited interest in contracts for municipal officers.

Problem:

Conservation District Supervisors volunteer their time to further the mission of conserving natural resources within their District's. Conservation District Supervisors tend to have a vested interest (private business) in natural resource management. Due to being municipal officers, supervisors are prohibited from having interest in contracts. This prohibition can result in the district's inability to obtain, or keep, high quality volunteers if the prohibition is in direct conflict with their personal enterprises.

RCW 42.23.030 provides some exceptions to the Interest in Contracts prohibition. There appears to be room for consideration of additional exceptions.

A Conservation District recently experienced this dilemma as a project sponsor for the Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP). An associate supervisor received cost share through the FFFPP. The associate supervisor had an agreement with a supervisor's business entity for forest management activities. Regardless of this agreement, the project was planned to be awarded through competitive bid. Due to appearance of a conflict of interest issue, the supervisor resigned in order for the business entity to compete on the project. Additionally, the associate supervisor resigned to avoid the cost share restrictions on municipal officers.

Recommendation:

Request that; WACD consider and possibly initiate legislative action to revise the exception offered by RCW 42.23.030. Additional exceptions could include:

1. Competitive Bid Process – CD municipal officers and deputies supervisors abstaining from any decisions regarding a potential contract should be allowed to compete in a bid process.
2. Pass through funds – Conservation Districts often serve as a sponsor for other agency funding. Decisions regarding grant awards and contracts are made by the originating agency. Conservation District Supervisors municipal officers and deputies are not part of the decision making process other than whether or not the district will serve as a sponsor.

* Presented by: Cowlitz Conservation District / supported by Wahkiakum Conservation District. Approved at the Southwest Area Meeting on September 28, 2005.



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Resolution No: 05-20

3. Landowner Contractor – If a landowner has a contractual agreement with a supervisor's business entity; and the landowner is responsible for selecting their contractor for a project; the supervisor should not be penalized for volunteering their time to the District.

| Howard Jaeger, Cowlitz CD, moved to pass as amended. George Mahoney, Clark CD, seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS AS AMENDED.

| Sherry Penney, Underwood CD, [moved](#). 2nd Howard Jaeger, Cowlitz CD. The motion failed.

FAILED.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-21

Title: Develop funding for district staff responding to Ecology water quality complaints.

Problem:

Conservation Districts in Washington have agreed to respond as mitigating and solution-oriented parties to water quality complaints received by the Washington Department of Ecology. Districts are not financially equipped to perform this function without incurring negative impacts upon existing priorities.

Recommendation:

WACD communicate this problem to Ecology, [Department of Ag, the WA Conservation Commission and appropriate agencies](#) and develop a collaborative working agreement for the purpose of securing funds to pay District staff for implementation of the aforementioned agreement.

NO RECOMMENDATION FROM COMMITTEE (due to lack of second).

Paul Stoker, Grant CD [moved](#). 2nd Dale Wentworth, Grant CD. [The motion passed as amended.](#)

Amendment: Wade Troutman, Foster Creek CD, [moved to amend the motion](#). 2nd Lee Hemmer, Foster Creek CD. The [amendment-motion](#) passed.

PASSED AS AMENDED.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

~~The resolution passed as amended.~~

Resolution No: 05-22

Title: WACD and Conservation Districts to Become Involved in the Implementation of the WDFW's Land Acquisition and Land Management Policies.

Problem:

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) have been on a fast track of land acquisition for the past 15 years. This has been possible because of the state WRRP bond funds made available to the Department by the legislature and because these funds have also served as match for federal land acquisition monies...providing a great advantage for Washington over the many states that have not provided the required matching funds. Furthermore, state bond funds can only be used for capital expenditures with the result that recent Department acquisitions have not been accompanied with funding for operations and maintenance of facilities or for management of the land to maintain ecosystem health and the habitat values for which the lands were purportedly purchased. WDFW Lands Division folks themselves have conceded that the Department has been 'stretched to the breaking point', in terms of its capability to meet its stewardship responsibilities for the 850,000 acres currently under its ownership and management.

Public and county government concerns have been voiced about the kind and amount of land shifting from private to public ownership. Boards of county commissioners are particularly concerned about the negative impacts of these purchases on; 1) agriculture operations, 2) the range livestock industry, and 3) the economic viability of rural communities. Many of these purchases have been made in counties that are already very largely publicly owned...e.g. Okanogan 70% and Chelan 87%. This prompted the legislature in the 2005 session to require state land management agencies to develop a clear rationale for their land acquisition and land disposition policies.

In response, WDFW Director Jeff Koenings appointed a broad based group of folks to assist in the formulation of a lands policy for the Department. The results of their efforts have been compiled and published in a document titled "Lands 20/20, a Clear Vision for the Future". This document commits the Department to function effectively in three areas regarding its portfolio of owned and managed lands; 1) Provide benefits to fish and wildlife, 2) Provide benefits to the public, and 3) Fulfill its lands vision through Operational Excellence.

A major first step in implementing the new lands vision is underway by requiring the revision and update of Land Management Plans for every one of the Department's Wildlife Management Areas. Citizen Advisory Groups (CAGs) have been formed in



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each area to assist in the development of these plans and many are well on the way to completion. Draft plans are open to public review, however, and adopted plans will be



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updated annually, providing an opportunity for continued involvement by conservation districts and the public.

Recommendation:

That WACD work with the director of the WDFW and the WDFW Commission to assure that Conservation Districts have the opportunity to effectively work with managers of wildlife areas to assist the Department ~~call upon the WDFW to fulfill its commitment~~ to provide a high level of stewardship for the lands under its ownership and management and to be good neighbors to adjacent land owners and operators. That WACD provide to conservation districts contact information (names, addresses, and phone numbers) for all Wildlife Areas in the state. That WACD encourage all conservation districts to become knowledgeable and, to the extent possible, actively engaged in this effort by the WDFW to fulfill its new Lands Vision. ~~Three~~ Four courses of action for conservation districts to take at this time are suggested below:

1. To open dialogue immediately with the managers of Wildlife Areas that include lands within the District's boundaries and with the Citizen Advisory Groups (CAGs) currently assisting in the revision and updating of management plans for these lands...challenging both the area managers and the members of their CAGs to fulfill their mandate to implement the new Lands 20/20 vision with expertise and expediency.
2. To offer technical and administrative assistance to these efforts to the full extent of district capability.
- ~~3. For local Conservation Districts to contact their local cattlemen's association leadership to guide the rewriting of wildlife area plans.~~
3. To request Conservation Districts representation on the CAGs for the wildlife area within district boundaries.
4. To join with local Cattleman's Association leadership or other agricultural entities in strengthening the benefit to the public parts of the Wildlife Area Plans with particular emphasis on maintaining access to these lands for traditional agricultural and domestic livestock grazing activities.

Norm McClure, Okanogan CD, moved to pass as amended. Allison Deets, Skagit CD, seconded. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS AS AMENDED.

* Presented by the Okanogan Conservation District. Approved at the North Central Area Meeting on October 3, 2005.



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Resolution No: 05-22

Dean Longrie, Clark CD, moved. 2nd Jerry Hendrickson, Asotin CD. [The motion passed as amended.](#)

Amendment: Norm McClure, Okanogan CD, [moved to amend the motion.](#) 2nd Jerry Hendrickson, Asotin CD. The [amendment motion](#) passed.

Amendment 2: Fred Colvin, Thurston CD, [moved to amend the motion.](#) 2nd Lynn Brown, Kittitas CD. The [amendment motion](#) failed.

Amendment 3: John McLean, Foster Creek CD, [moved to amend the motion.](#) 2nd John Preston, Warden CD. The [amendment motion](#) passed.

Amendment 4: Lynn Brown, Kittitas CD, [moved to amend the motion.](#) 2nd Norm McClure, Okanogan CD. The [amendment motion](#) passed.

PASSED AS AMENDED.



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~~The motion carried as amended.~~

Resolution No: 05-23

Title: Office of Farmland Preservation

Problem:

Agricultural lands in Washington State are under constant pressure for conversion to non-agricultural use. There are currently efforts being made across the state by many different organizations all working toward a common goal – that of farmland preservation. However, there is no state level coordination or funding of these programs, and the result has been inefficiency in program delivery.

Recommendation:

That WACD work with the Washington Conservation Commission and appropriate partners to promote the development, staffing, and supporting budget for an official Office of Farmland Preservation within Washington State Conservation Commission to coordinate program delivery.

Paul Blau, Skagit CD, moved. Monte Marti, Snohomish CD, seconded. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS.

Dean Longrie, Clark CD moved. 2nd Alison Deets, Skagit CD. The motion passed.

PASSED.

* Presented by the Skagit Conservation District. Approved at the Northwest Area Meeting on September 29, 2005.



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Resolution No: 05-24

Title: Purchase Development Rights Funding

Problem:

In 2002 the Washington Conservation Commission received legislative authority to create and fund a state conservation easements program. However, there is still no viable program, nor have any monies ever been appropriated to this account.

Recommendation: •

That WACD work with the Washington Conservation Commission to enact the following RCWs and fulfill the legislative intent:

RCW 89.08.530

Agricultural conservation easements program.

(1) The agricultural conservation easements program is created. The state conservation commission shall manage the program and adopt rules as necessary to implement the legislature's intent.

(2) The commission shall report to the legislature on an on-going basis regarding potential funding sources for the purchase of agricultural conservation easements under the program and recommend changes to existing funding authorized by the legislature.

(3) All funding for the program shall be deposited into the agricultural conservation easements account created in RCW [89.08.540](#). Expenditures from the account shall be made to local governments and private nonprofits on a match or no match required basis at the discretion of the commission.

(4) Easements purchased with money from the agricultural conservation easements account run with the land.

[2002 c 280 § 2.]

NOTES:

Intent -- 2002 c 280: "Among the rising costs that are increasingly driving Washington farmers out of business is the cost of land. Many of our oldest, well-established farms, often on the fringes of established communities, are under growing pressure to be sold for

• Presented by the Skagit Conservation District. Approved at the Northwest Area Meeting on September 29, 2005.



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uses other than agriculture. In the face of these rising land costs, new farmers are finding it increasingly difficult to be able to afford to purchase farmland.

At the same time, the conversion of these prime farmlands to development costs our communities open and green space, reduces our access to local quality food, diminishes our cultural and historic roots, often represents a fiscal loss for governments, and frequently results in environmental costs including reduced flood detention, loss of surface water filtration, diminished aquifer recharge, loss of habitat and connective wildlife migration corridors, and loss of opportunities to protect riparian lands.

These concerns, among others, are leading the federal government and local jurisdictions around our state to provide funding for local programs to purchase agricultural conservation easements that help keep farmers in farming and farmland in agriculture. It is the intent of the legislature to create a Washington purchase of agricultural conservation easements program that will facilitate the use of federal funds, ease the burdens of local governments launching similar programs at the local level, and help local governments fight the conversion of agricultural lands they have not otherwise protected through their planning processes." [2002 c 280 § 1.]

RCW 89.08.540

Agricultural conservation easements account.

(1) The agricultural conservation easements account is created in the custody of the state treasurer. All receipts from legislative appropriations, other sources as directed by the legislature, and gifts, grants, or endowments from public or private sources must be deposited into the account. Expenditures from the account may be used only for the purchase of easements under the agricultural conservation easements program. Only the state conservation commission, or the executive director of the commission on the commission's behalf, may authorize expenditures from the account. The account is subject to allotment procedures under chapter [43.88](#) RCW, but an appropriation is not required for expenditures.

(2) The commission is authorized to receive and expend gifts, grants, or endowments from public or private sources that are made available, in trust or otherwise, for the use and benefit of the agricultural conservation easements program.

[2002 c 280 § 3.]

NOTES:

Intent -- 2002 c 280: See note following RCW [89.08.530](#)



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Resolution No: 05-24

Allison Deets, Skagit CD, moved. Bill Gillespie, North Yakima, seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS.

| Dean Longrie, Clark CD, [moved](#). 2nd Albert Roberts, Okanogan CD. The motion passed.

PASSED.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-25

Title: Resolution Procedures

Problem:

The current process for bringing resolutions to WACD and the respective committees and task forces requires action from the district boards, passing to the area meetings and then passing to the annual convention for action by the entire voting body. Unfortunately, in recent years, that process has been side-stepped with some issues that have gone through the process, been voted down and yet are assigned for action by committee or task force. Such action negates the proscribed process as described in the WACD by-laws and nullifies the action taken at the district, area and state wide levels.

Recommendation:

Take appropriate action as directed by the majority vote only on those resolutions that have gone through the entire process and have been correctly assigned to a task force or committee. Do not allow issues that have not gone through the process or those that have been voted down by the majority at any level of the process to have action taken on them by committee or task force. Further, the Officers and Board of directors shall not have the authority to take action on a resolution that has been voted down by the majority at any level of the process.

| Wade Troutman, Foster Creek CD, [moved](#). 2nd Ollie Call, Kitsap CD. The motion failed.

| **FAILED.**

* Presented by the Spokane County Conservation District. Approved at the Northeast Area Meeting on October 11, 2005.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-26

Title: WACD Operational Funding

Problem:

The increased activity of WACD during the last few years has resulted in expenses outpacing revenues. The addition of a WACD Legislative Consultant and a WACD Executive Director has materialized into success for the Conservation Districts in the state, but with increased operational costs for WACD

Recommendation:

That WACD, by motion of the WACD Officers and Directors, request from the membership of WACD a bylaws change to the dues structure at the 2005 WACD Annual Meeting. The change would be an increase in each of the eight (8) dues tiers of \$1,000.

~~The change in formula would be an increase to each dues tier allocated on a percentage rate (50%) based on funds needed (\$46,000).~~

Wade Troutman, Foster Creek CD moved. 2nd Chris Herron, Franklin CD ~~seconded the motion~~. The motion passed.

Amendment: Karen Krug, Whidbey Island CD, moved to amend the motion. 2nd Len Engle, Whidbey Island CD. The amendment failed.

PASSED.

* Presented by the WACD Officers and Directors. Approved at the Northwest Area Meeting on September 29, 2005.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-26b

Title: WACD Operational Funding

Problem:

The increased activity of WACD during the last few years has resulted in expenses outpacing revenues. The addition of a WACD Legislative Consultant and a WACD Executive Director has materialized into success for the Conservation Districts in the state, but with increased operational costs for WACD

Recommendation:

That WACD, by motion of the WACD Officers and Directors, request from the membership of WACD a bylaws change to the dues structure at the 2005 WACD Annual Meeting. The change would be an increase in each of the eight (8) dues tiers of \$1,000.

[\(Duplicate resolution. The same as 05-26a\)](#)

* Presented by the WACD Officers and Directors. Motion tied and moved forward with no recommendation at the South Central Area Meeting on October 4, 2005.



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Resolution No: 05-26c

Title: WACD Operational Funding

Problem:

The increased activity of WACD during the last few years has resulted in expenses outpacing revenues. The addition of a WACD Legislative Consultant and a WACD Executive Director has materialized into success for the Conservation Districts in the state, but with increased operational costs for WACD

Recommendation:

That WACD, by motion of the WACD Officers and Directors, request from the membership of WACD a bylaws change to the dues structure at the 2005 WACD Annual Meeting. The change would be an increase in each of the eight (8) dues tiers of \$1,000.

[\(Duplicate resolution. Same as 05-26a\)](#)

* Presented by the WACD Officers and Directors. Approved at the Southwest Area Meeting on September 28, 2005.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
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Resolution No: 05-26d

Title: WACD Operational Funding

Problem:

The increased activity of WACD during the last few years has resulted in expenses outpacing revenues. The addition of a WACD Legislative Consultant and a WACD Executive Director has materialized into success for the Conservation Districts in the state, but with increased operational costs for WACD

Recommendation:

That WACD, by motion of the WACD Officers and Directors, request from the membership of WACD a bylaws change to the dues structure at the 2005 WACD Annual Meeting. The change would be an increase in each of the eight (8) dues tiers of \$1,000.

* Presented by the WACD Officers and Directors. Approved at the Southeast Area Meeting on October 12, 2005.



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| [\(Duplicate Resolution. The same as 05-26a.\)](#)



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-26e

Title: WACD Operational Funding

Problem:

The increased activity of WACD during the last few years has resulted in expenses outpacing revenues. The addition of a WACD Legislative Consultant and a WACD Executive Director has materialized into success for the Conservation Districts in the state, but with increased operational costs for WACD

Recommendation:

That WACD, by motion of the WACD Officers and Directors, request from the membership of WACD a bylaws change to the dues structure at the 2005 WACD Annual Meeting. The change would be an increase in each of the eight (8) dues tiers of \$1,000.

(Duplicate resolution. Same as 05-26a.)

* Presented by the WACD Officers and Directors. Approved at the North Central Area Meeting on October 3, 2005.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
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Resolution No: 05-27

Title: Support for the Veterans Conservation Corps

Problem: The Washington State Legislature in 2005 passed Senate Bill 5539 creating the Veterans Conservation Corps. Currently, the program is under funded and overseen by the WA Department of Veterans Affairs and is partnered with the IAC – For Outdoor Recreation as well as the Salmon Recovery Board. This is not the most effective way to best utilize the program for utilizing eligible veterans to accomplish conservation projects.

Recommendation: That WACD work with the Washington Conservation Commission and the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation and the DVA to fund, implement and utilize this program for conservation district projects across the state.

Scott Wallace, King CD moved. Mark Winterhalter, Snohomish CD seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS.

John Preston, Warden CD, [moved to bring the motion to the floor](#). 2nd Dale Wentworth, Grant CD. The motion ~~-carried to bring to floor~~[passed](#).

John Preston, Warden CD, [moved](#). 2nd Dale Wentworth, Grant CD. The motion passed.

PASSED.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

Resolution No: 05-28

Title: Expanding Ecology's BMP List

Problem: Under RCW 98.48, the Department of Ecology (Ecology) has jurisdiction to control and prevent the pollution of the "waters of the state". "Waters of the state" include lakes, rivers, ponds, streams, inland waters, underground waters, salt waters and all other surface waters and water courses within the State of Washington. This includes waters on private and public lands. Ecology has asked private landowners to clean up the waters of the state that run through their property and may use enforcement actions.

Ecology has grants and loans available that will assist with nonpoint pollution control, however the only BMPs that are eligible to be installed on private land under the grant program are stream bank revegetation or fence construction. Ecology acknowledges that off-stream water must be installed if exclusion fence is installed to provide the same amount of water to livestock as traditionally used and will allow those BMPs under their grant program. But, there are other BMPs that can be installed to reduce nonpoint source pollution before it reaches the stream and will cost less to install than to remediate the problem after nonpoint pollution reaches the stream. These BMPs are currently eligible under the State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan program, however there are two major constraints on districts and landowners to utilize these funds. First, a district must have an assessment before they can qualify for an SRF loan, which most districts don't have and second a landowner must repay the loan amount to install the BMPs. The problem with this is that most conservation practices don't net landowners an immediate financial return so there is no way to pay back the money as a result of installation.

Recommendation:

1. WACD work with Ecology to recognize the investment private landowners make toward water quality improvements on their land.
2. WACD work with Ecology to continue to allow the following BMPs to be grant eligible practices.

Fence (382)	Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
Pipeline (516)	Water Well (642)
Pumping Plant (533)	Watering Facility (614)
Spring Development (574)	Bridges (Livestock only)



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
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3. WACD work with Ecology to expand their grant eligible BMP list to include practices on the following list that reduce erosion and fecal coliform levels before they reach the “waters of the state”.

Animal Trails & Walkways (575)
Channel Bank Vegetation (322)
Composting Facility (317)
Conservation Cover (327)
Critical Area Planting (342)
Diversion (362)
Filter Strip (393)
Grassed Waterway (412)
Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
Manure Transfer (634)
Nutrient Management (590)
Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
Roof Runoff Structure (558)
Sediment Basin (350)
Waste Storage Facility (313)
Direct Seed (777)
No-Till (329A)

Ron Juris, East Klickitat CD, moved. Sharon Call, Kitsap CD, seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS.

~~To bring to floor:~~ Mark Moore, Kittitas CD, moved to bring the motion to the floor. 2nd Chris Heitstuman, Palouse CD. The motion ~~carried to the floor~~ passed.

Chris Heitstuman, Palouse CD, moved. 2nd Dale Wentworth, Grant CD. The resolution motion passed.

PASSED.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
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Resolution No: [05-29](#)

Title: Special Assessment Intent and Process

Problem: There is a misunderstanding and confusion about the intent and process of adopting special assessments in RCW 89.08.40 Special Assessment for Natural Resource Conservation.

Recommendation: Therefore, be it resolved that WACD supports the following position and interpretations of RCW 89.08:

1. Conservation Districts are independent governmental units that are governed by the Board of Supervisors.
2. The Board has the responsibility and authority to adopt a conservation district's budget **and work plan**.
3. The system of assessment as used in RCW 89.08.400 refers only to the assessment rate per acres or per parcel, which lands are subject to the assessment, and the number of years that the assessment will be imposed.
4. The county legislative authority only has authority to approve, or modify and approve the system of assessment, and does not have the authority to establish a district budget, annual plan or long range plan.
5. The phrase activities of a conservation district (RCW 89.08.400) refers to only those activities that a district has identified in its annual or long range plans.

Lynn Brown, Kittitas CD moved to bring [the motion](#) to the floor. 2nd Nicole Berg, Benton CD. The motion passed ~~to bring for discussion~~.

Lynn Brown, Kittitas CD, moved ~~to pass the motion~~. 2nd Nicole Berg, Benton CD. [The motion passed as amended](#).

Amendment: Nora Mena, Thurston CD [moved to amend the motion](#). 2nd Doug Rushton, Thurston CD. [The motion Amendment](#) passed.

PASSED AS AMENDED.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
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~~The resolution passed as amended.~~

Resolution No: 05-30

Title: WACD and Conservation Districts to Become Involved in the Implementation of the WDFW's Land Acquisition and Land Management Policies.

Problem: The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has been on a fast track of land acquisition for the past 15 years. This has been possible because of the State WRRP bond funds made available to the Department by the legislature and because these funds have also served as match for federal land acquisition monies. . . . providing a great advantage of Washington over the many states that have not provided the required matching funds. Furthermore, State bond funds can only be used for capital expenditures with the result that recent Department acquisitions have not been accompanied with funding for operations and maintenance of facilities or for management of the land to maintain ecosystem health and the habitat values for which the lands were purportedly purchased. WDFW Lands Division folks themselves have conceded that the Department has been 'stretched to the breaking point,' in terms of its capability to meet its stewardship responsibilities for the 850 acres currently under its ownership and management.

Public and county government concerns have been voiced about the kind and amount of land shifting from private to public ownership. Boards of county commissioners are particularly concerned about the negative impacts of these purchases on (1) agriculture operations, (2) the range livestock industry and (3) the economic viability of rural communities. Many of these purchases have been made in counties that are already very largely publicly owned...e.g. Okanogan 70% and Chelan County 87%. This prompted the Legislature in the 2005 Session to require state land management agencies to develop a clear rationale for their land acquisition and land disposition policies.

In response, WDFW Director Jeff Koenings appointed a broad based group of folks to assist in the formulation of a lands policy for the Department. The results of their efforts have been compiled and published in a document titled "Lands 20/20, a Clear Vision for the Future." This document commits the Department to function effectively in three areas regarding its portfolio of owned and managed lands: 1) provide benefits to fish and wildlife, 2) provide benefits to the public, and 3) fulfill its lands vision through Operational Excellence.

A major first step in implementing the new lands vision is underway by requiring the revision and update of Land Management Plans for every one of the Department's Land management Areas. Citizen Advisory Groups (CAGs) have been formed in each area to assist in the development of these plans and many are well on the way to completion.

* Presented by Okanogan Conservation District



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Draft plans are open to public review however, and adopted plans will be updated annually, providing an opportunity for continued involvement by Conservation Districts and the public. The Washington Governor's Office has joined the Washington Cattlemen's Association (WCA) leadership in calling on the

WDFW to make more of purchased lands available for domestic livestock grazing. This is greatly needed to maintain the economic viability of range livestock operations historically dependent on these recently purchased lands. Where appropriate, these lands should also provide additional commercial opportunities import for the continued health of rural economics.

Recommendation: That WACD call upon the WDFW to fulfill its commitment to provide a high level of stewardship for the lands under its ownership and management and to be good neighbors to adjacent land owners and operators. That WACD provide copies of the WDFW's new "Lands 20/20 – A Vision for the Future" document to all conservation districts along with contact information (names, addresses and phone numbers) for all Wildlife Areas in the State. That WACD encourage all conservation districts to become knowledgeable and, to the extent possible, actively engaged in this effort by the WDFW to fulfill its new Lands Vision. Three courses of action for conservation districts to take at this time are suggested below:

1. Open dialogue immediately with the managers of Wildlife Areas that include lands within the District's boundaries and with the Citizen Advisory Committees (CAGs) currently assisting in the revision and updating of management plans for these lands...challenging both the area managers and the members of the CAGs to fulfill their mandate to implement the new Lands 20/20 Vision with expertise and expediency.
2. Seek representation for the district board on the CAGs functioning within district boundaries and offer technical and administrative assistance to these efforts to the full extent of district capabilities.
3. The Washington Cattlemen's Association (WCA) passed a similar resolution at the Association's Annual Meeting recently and the county cattlemen's Association are encouraged to connect with conservation district Board of Supervisors and Staff in this effort. Conservation Districts are also encouraged to connect with local cattlemen and leadership and to work together in this endeavor wherever possible and to good advantage.

| Paul Stoker, Grant CD [moved](#). 2nd Mark Hitchcock, Skagit CD. The motion failed.

FAILED.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
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Resolution No: 05-31

Title: Protection for Prairie Grouse Species in the Western United States

Problem: Several species of Prairie Grouse (Greater sage, Columbian sharp-tailed, Gunnison, Atwater) are found in the 11 western states (Colorado, California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, Montana, North & South Dakota) and two Canadian Provinces. Within the United States, Federal and state lands are managed for wildlife purposes, but the management of private lands must include economic considerations that may not specifically benefit Prairie Grouse.

This protection would come in the form of USDA programs rewarding private landowners for conservation efforts through the Conservation Reserve Program, the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, the Conservation Security Program and other Farm Bill conservation programs.

This would give the Prairie Grouse continued protection in an effort to avoid listing under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in the future.

Recommendation: Petition the USDA to include in the 2007 Farm Bill, national priority areas to emphasize protection of the several species of Prairie Grouse on private lands.

Lee Hemmer, Foster Creek CD moved. James O'Brien, South Douglas CD seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS.

~~Motion to bring to the floor.~~ Chris Heitsutman, Palouse CD, moved to bring the motion to the floor. 2nd Lee Hemmer, Foster Creek CD. ~~The motion was brought to the floor.~~
The motion passed.

Chris Heitsutman, Palouse CD, moved. 2nd Lee Hemmer, Foster Creek CD. The motion passed.

Amendment: Nicole Berg, Benton CD. 2nd Lynn Brown, Kittitas CD. The amendment motion failed.

PASSED.

* Presented by Foster Creek Conservation District



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~~The motion passed.~~

(Cora has notes indicating this was tabled and then brought back onto the table because we were about at the end of the resolutions.)

Lee Hemmer, Foster Creek CD, moved to table the motion. 2nd Lynn Brown, Kittitas CD. The motion passed.

Christ Heitstuman, Palouse CD, moved to return the motion to the table. 2nd Dale Wentworth, Grant CD. The motion passed.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
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Resolution No.: 05-32

Title: National Priority Areas for the Protection of Federally Listed Threatened and Endangered Species on Private Lands

Problem:

Recommendation:

That WACD petition NACD and the USDA to include in the 2007 Farm Bill, national priority areas to emphasize protection of the federally listed threatened and endangered species on private lands.

~~Moved to bring to the floor by~~ Tom McKern, Stevens CD, moved to bring the motion to the floor. 2nd Nicole Berg, Benton CD. The ~~motion carried and went to the floor~~ motion passed.

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Tom McKern, Stevens CD, moved. 2nd Nicole Berg, Benton CD. The motion passed.

PASSED.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2005 Proposed Resolutions

| [FYI](#)

| Resolution No: [05-33](#)

Title: Small Farm Program Needs

Problem:

Recommendation:

WACD shall work with the Washington Conservation Commission and other groups to develop a strategy to deal with small farm issues.

WACD Urban, Community and Coastal Resources Committee will work to identify a potential legislative budget package to fund a small farm program within Washington.

The Urban Community and Coastal Resources Committee shall report back to the WACD Officers and Directors in May of 2006 with an action plan.

Monte Marti, Snohomish CD, moved. Bobbi Lindemulder, King CD, seconded. Motion carried.

RECOMMEND DO PASS.

| ~~The motion to bring to the floor by~~ Scott Walz, Clark CD, moved to bring the motion to the floor. 2nd Ollie Call, Kitsap CD. The motion ~~carries and is brought to the floor.~~ passed.

| Allison Deets, Skagit CD, moved. 2nd Nora Mena, Thurston CD. The motion passed.

PASSED.

| Resolution came forth from Committee meeting held on 11/29/05.