



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2006 Passed Resolutions

#	Resolution Title	Committee
06-01	Make AmeriCorps program more accessible to districts.	WACD Operations
06-02	WACD quarterly update.	WACD Operations
06-05	WACD Leadership Involvement in Columbia River Water Management Program.	Irrigation
06-06	Washington State Conservation Commission to facilitate discussion of the roles and responsibilities of FSA, NRCS and Conservation Districts in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program for each CREP District.	CREP
06-07	Funding for agricultural & forestland conservation easements.	CREP
06-08	Wetland mitigation banks and natural resource lands.	CREP
06-09	Allow agricultural producers issued a Farm Road Steam Gravel JARPA Permit(s) to use gravel not only for farm roads but for restoration projects within the individual watershed the permit is issued within.	CREP
06-10	Request rolling of peas and lentils not be considered full width tillage.	Farm Bill
06-12	Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) county acreage limitation waivers.	Farm Bill
06-13	Expanding Ecology's BMP list redux.	Conservation Operations
06-14	FSA cost-share rate review.	Conservation Operations
06-15	Secure funding for Conservation District committee participation.	Conservation Operations
06-16	Conservation District access to General Administration (GA) Motor Pool.	Conservation Operations
06-17	Establishment of training fund at the conservation commission.	Conservation Operations
06-18	Technical Assistance funds for local resource needs.	Conservation Operations
06-19	Ensure equitable distribution of Clean Water and Salmon Recovery funds to all deserving WRIA's (Water Resource Inventory Areas) in the state.	Conservation Operations
06-20	Grant consolidation and efficiencies.	Conservation Operations
06-21	Continue and increase cost share funding for fuels reduction thinning on private forestlands.	Forestry
06-22	Option to increase DNR forest practices permits to 15 years in length.	Forestry
06-23	Scale appropriate regulations for small and micro dairies.	Livestock
06-24	Opening Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife lands to grazing.	Livestock
06-25	Access to Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) and Association of Washington Cities (and similar entities) workshops for newly elected officials.	District Operations
06-26	Expanding the cost share exemption offered by RCW 89.08.220(4) to include associate supervisors and staff.	District Operations
06-28	WACD and the WA Conservation Commission support forestry titles and funding in the 2007 Farm Bill.	Farm Bill



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Resolution No: 06-01

Title: Make AmeriCorps program more accessible to districts.

Problem:

Districts lack adequate staff resources to perform the diversity of services we provide or additional services we would like to provide. The AmeriCorps program has proven to be a **cost-effective** (<\$5,000 for one full-time equivalent for 11 months) means of securing additional staff to assist with delivery of District programs. Currently, the AmeriCorps program in Washington is administered by numerous organizations and agencies resulting in inconsistent availability and administration. Access to the program is also limited by region and by type of AmeriCorps service being offered. Because of this inconsistency, there is not an equal opportunity for District's to secure the type of AmeriCorps member they need (i.e. restoration, education, etc.).

Recommendation:

WACD request that the WA Conservation Commission apply for and administer the AmeriCorps grant program statewide, giving Districts a central and consistent point of contact to meet their AmeriCorps needs. This would increase Districts' capacity to serve our customers and get more conservation on the ground.

Presented by: Palouse Conservation District. Approved at the Southeast Area Meeting on October 12, 2006.

Recommend DO PASS.

Motion by Joe Shulke, Cowlitz CD. Second by Tom Hargraeves, Spokane CD. Motion carried.

Moved to approve by Fred Colvin, Thurston CD
2nd Nicole Berg, Benton CD

Passed.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
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Resolution No: 06-02

Title: WACD Quarterly Update.

Recommendation:

WACD to provide quarterly updates on all passed resolutions brought to past WACD State Meetings.

Presented by: Pierce Conservation District. Approved at the Northwest Area Meeting on October 25, 2006.

Recommend DO PASS.

Motion by Lee Hall, Ferry CD. Second by Tom Hargraeves, Spokane CD. Motion carried.

Moved to approve by Fred Colvin, Thurston CD
2nd by Lynn Brown, Kittitas CD

Passed.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
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Resolution No: 06-05

Title: WACD Leadership Involvement in Columbia River Water Management Program.

Problem:

The Columbia River Water Management Program is one of the single most important issues currently being developed in Eastern Washington. This program has the potential to bring \$68,000,000 worth of water conservation projects to the Columbia Basin, the ability to begin allocating new water rights from the Columbia River, and provides a source of surface water to replace ground water pumping within the Odessa sub-area.

The WACD Irrigation Issues Committee has placed a high priority for participation of Conservation Districts in development and implementation of this program and has requested assistance from WACD leadership in furthering the goals of the Committee.

Recommendation:

The WACD Executive Director and Lobbyist should work directly with the Irrigation Issues Committee to identify those tasks and responsibilities that Conservation Districts are uniquely qualified to perform in the development and implementation of the Columbia River Water Management Program. WACD leadership should direct the WACD Executive Director and Lobbyist with support from WSCC leadership and staff to actively educate the Policy Advisory Group, Department of Ecology, and other appropriate stakeholders on the role Conservation Districts could perform in the Columbia River Water Management Program.

The WACD Irrigation Committee should educate and solicit the support of all Conservation Districts involved in this issue.

Presented by: Franklin Conservation District. Approved at the South Central Area Meeting on October 18, 2006.

Recommend DO PASS.

Motion by Mark Moore, Kittitas CD.
Seconded by Dave Satdelaman, Grant CD.
Motion carried.

Moved to approve by Mark Moore, Kittitas CD
2nd Chris Herron, Franklin CD

Amendment by Wade Troutman, Foster Creek CD
2nd Bob Playfair, Stevens Co CD.
Amendment passed..

Passed as amended.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
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Resolution No: 06-06

Title: Washington State Conservation Commission to facilitate discussion of the roles and responsibilities of FSA, NRCS and Conservation Districts in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program for each CREP district.

Problem:

The CREP program is a shared responsibility between FSA, NRCS and Conservation Districts. The roles and responsibilities of each agency are defined in the existing CREP agreement between the USDA and State of Washington. However, these are only generalized definitions leaving much gray area up for interpretation. Each agency operates independently of one another and as a result, conflicts can arise over misunderstandings in areas where responsibilities overlap. This problem is confounded because the FSA County Committees, Conservation District Boards of Supervisors and NRCS District Conservationists are often not aware of these overlaps and potential misunderstandings because they are not communicating with each other. While the Washington State Conservation Commission can bridge the communication gap between agencies and help everyone understand their role in this program, they are usually not called upon until a crisis erupts.

Recommendation:

WACD should request the Commission to facilitate discussion of agency roles and responsibilities for the CREP program and ensure the existence of an adequate line of communication. The FSA County Committee, Conservation District supervisors and the NRCS DC should be the focus of this process. The intent is not to force a one-size-fits-all template on the program; rather, it is to ensure that cooperating agencies work together to define how CREP operates in their county. The outcome of the meeting would be:

- Within the framework of the broader statewide CREP agreement, clearly defined roles and responsibilities for CREP as it is administered in each CREP district.
- Improved communication between agencies
- A direct line of communication between the FSA County Committee and District Board of Supervisors in each CREP district.

Presented by: Walla Walla County Conservation District. Approved at the Southeast Area Meeting on October 12, 2006.

Recommend DO PASS.

Motion by Steve Keirn, Clark CD. Second by Ron Scheibe, Asotin CD. Motion carried.

Moved to approved by Bob Barker, Whatcom CD
2nd Steven Keirn, Clark CD

Passed.



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Resolution No: 06-07

Title: Funding for agricultural and forestland conservation easements.

Problem:

The United States and in particular Washington State are losing close to 4,000 acres of prime farm and timber ground per day! Although many private and sub-government organizations are providing conservation easement programs that purchase development rights from landowners, the funding is nowhere close to the need. The loss of resource lands is a severe threat to our nation's food security and the entire economic underpinning of rural Washington.

Resolution:

WACD support legislation to ~~implement a land purchase transaction fee or some~~ for some source of designated funding in Washington State to be used to purchase conservation easements on Ag and forest lands for sustained use.

Presented by: Okanogan Conservation District. Approved at the North Central Area Meeting on October 19, 2006.

Recommend DO NOT PASS.

Motion by Steve Keirn, Clark CD. Second by Ann Tuning, Lewis County CD.

Moved to approve by Bob Barker, Whatcom CD
2nd Ollie Call, Kitsap CD

Amendment by Dean Longrie, Clark CD
2nd Paul Stoker, Grant CD
Amendment Passed.

2nd Amendment Gale Thornton, N Yakima
2nd by Bill Gillespie, N Yakima
2nd Amendment Passed.

Passed as amended.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
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Resolution No: 06-08

Title: Wetland Mitigation Banks and Natural Resource Lands.

Problem: The Washington State Department of Ecology is currently reviewing the draft rule (WAC 173-700) regarding the statewide wetland mitigation banking program. Wetland mitigation banks are created to compensate for the off-site destruction of wetlands, most frequently within an urban growth area. Under the current draft rule, several wetland mitigation banks have been proposed that will take large tracts of prime agricultural lands out of production. This permanently converts prime soils; therefore, a primary resource is being destroyed to off-set the destruction of another primary resource. Secondary consequences include negative impacts to local rural economies and a disproportionate inflation of natural resource land values. The result is a net loss of ecological values, as natural resource lands function as important components of a healthy watershed.

Recommendation:

Be it resolved, that the Washington Association of Conservation Districts membership supports the restriction of wetland mitigation bank creation on forestry and agricultural lands of long term significance

Presented by: Skagit Conservation District. Approved at the Northwest Area Meeting on October 25, 2006.

Recommend DO PASS.

Motion by Steve Keirn, Clark CD. Second by Ron Scheibe, Asotin CD. Motion carried.

Moved to approve by Bob Barker, Whatcom CD
2nd Scott Wallace, King CD

Motion passed.



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Resolution No: 06-09

Title: Allow Agricultural Producers issued a Farm Road Stream Gravel JARPA Permit(s) to use gravel not only for farm roads but for restoration projects within the individual watershed the permit is issued within.

Problem:

The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife allows Agricultural producers to remove up to 50 yards of stream gravel per year under a 5 year JARPA permit. If the landowner does not use the materials for farm roads, the gravel cannot be used for other beneficial purposes such as restoration projects. The use of gravel within the permitted watershed would lead to further restoration within individual watersheds and keep the natural gravels within the system.

Recommendation:

~~That WACD recommend that WDFW allow Agricultural and Forestry Producers the opportunity to continue to use JARPA permitted gravel removed for farm road and allow producers the opportunity to use permitted gravel removal for restoration projects within the permitted gravel removal watershed. This will allow producers the ability to restore habitat within the watershed at a limited cost.~~

That WACD recommend to WDFW that JARPA permits allow gravel removal in the watershed for restoration purposes within the watershed.

Presented by: Pacific Conservation District. Approved at the Southwest Area Meeting on October 26, 2006.

Recommend DO PASS.

Motion by Steve Keirn, Clark CD. Second by Alan Stromberger, Lincoln CD. Motion carried.

Moved to approve by Bob Barker, Whatcom CD
2nd by Mike Naylor, Skagit CD

Amendment by Doug Rushton, Thurston
2nd Scott Wallace, King CD
Amendment Passed.

2nd Amendment by Bob Barker, Whatcom CD
2nd Doug Rushton, Thurston CD
2nd Amendment Passed.

Motion passed as amended.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
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Resolution No: 06-10

Title: Request Rolling of Peas and Lentils not be considered Full Width Tillage.

Problem:

The new Direct Seed Standard does not allow Full Width Tillage. It is our opinion Rolling of Peas and Lentils is not Full Width Tillage. NRCS specs show Rolling leaves 80 to 90% of the residue on the surface. Experience shows direct seeding of Peas and Lentils is a great way to manage erosion while keeping low residue crops in rotations. Today's technology is not acceptable to harvest these crops without rolling.

Recommendation:

WACD and the Local Work Group's (LWGs) work with NRCS to change the direct seed standard to allow "rolling" of crops (i.e. peas, lentils, brassicas, etc.).

Presented by: Palouse Conservation District. Approved at the Southeast Area Meeting on October 12, 2006.

Recommend DO PASS.

Motion by Jerry Scheele, Spokane CD. Second by Larry Cochran, Palouse CD. Motion carried.

Moved to approved by Jerry Scheele, Spokane Co CD
2nd by Chris Herron, Franklin CD
Motion passed.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
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Resolution No: 06-12

Title: Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) County Acreage Limitation Waivers.

Problem:

The Conservation Reserve Program continues to provide significant wildlife habitat in addition to addressing soil erosion, water and air quality concerns. However, counties are only allowed to exceed the statutory limit of 25% of croplands enrolled in CRP with an acreage limitation waiver. Waivers were granted for highly erodible lands as well as other environmental concerns. Changes in Farm Bill policy have eliminated the "other environmental concerns" language and now only allow county acreage waivers for erodible lands. Counties currently operating under acreage limitation waivers granted for other environmental concerns, such as sensitive wildlife species, stand to have their acreages reduced back down to 25%, losing tens of thousands of acres of productive wildlife habitat.

Recommendation:

That WACD request USDA policy to include the following definition for county acreage limitation waivers, "wildlife-species of concern, candidate, threatened and endangered species per the Federal Endangered Species Act" as an additional reason to granting a waiver in the next Farm Bill.

Presented by: Foster Creek Conservation District. Approved at the North Central Area Meeting on October 19, 2006.

Recommend DO PASS.

Motion by Jerry Scheele, Spokane CD. Second by Lee Hemmer, Foster Creek CD. Motion carried.

Moved to approve by Jerry Scheele, Spokane Co CD
2nd by Mike Naylor, Skagit CD
Motion passed.

Moved to reconsider Resolution 06-12 by Jerry Scheele, Spokane Co CD
2nd Eddie Johnson, Lincoln CD
motion passed.

Motion was reopened.

Amendment by John McLean, Foster Creek CD
2nd Lee Hemmer, Foster Creek CD
Amendment fails.

Resolution stands as passed.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
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Resolution No: 06-13

Title: Expanding Ecology's BMP List Redux.

Problem:

WACD membership approved a resolution at the 2005 WACD Convention to work with Ecology to expand their BMP list of eligible practices under their grant program. At this time the only BMPs that are eligible to be installed on private land under the grant program are stream bank revegetation or fence construction. The WACD resolution described 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.

Ecology has published a white paper, available on their website and attached to this resolution that recommends some of the BMPs identified in the 2005 resolution, but not all of them. Ecology will be going through the rulemaking process to amend their grant and loan program. Public meetings will begin in January 2007 and the changes will be effective for fiscal year 2009.

Recommendation:

1. 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)
Mortality Composting (316)



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2. WACD and WSCC attend the meetings of the Ecology Financial Assistance Council and provide input that supports the goals of districts.
3. WACD encourage all districts to participate in the public comment period during Ecology's rulemaking process to provide input on needs of districts.

Presented by: Asotin County Conservation District. Approved at the Southeast Area Meeting on October 12, 2006.

Recommend DO PASS AS AMENDED.

Motion by Mark Whitmore, Palouse CD. Second by Joe Shulke, Cowlitz CD. Motion carried.

Moved to approve by Fred Colvin, Thurston CD
2nd Jerry Hendrickson, Asotin CD

Motion passed.



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Resolution No: 06-14

Title: FSA Cost-Share Rate Review.

Problem:

With the increasing costs associated with farming, established cost-share rates for FSA programs have not always kept up with inflation. CRP cost-share rates were amended in March 2006 and are more reflective of current costs. However, the previous review of those costs was in 2003. A lot can change in the economy over three years.

Recommendation:

WACD work with Farm Service Agency and NRCS to review cost-share rates annually to ensure that programs are matching the current financial conditions.

Presented by: Asotin County Conservation District. Approved at the Southeast Area Meeting on October 12, 2006.

Recommend DO PASS.

Motion by Mark Whitmore, Palouse CD. Second by Joe St. John, Pine Creek CD.
Motion carried.

Moved to approve by Fred Colvin, Thurston CD
2nd Jerry Hendrickson, Asotin CD

Amendment by Nicole Berg, Benton CD
2nd Eddie Johnson, Lincoln CD
Amendment Passed.

Motion passed as amended.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
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Resolution No: 06-15

**Title: Secure Funding for Conservation District Committee and Task Force
Participation.**

Problem:

The Washington State Conservation Commission and the forty seven conservation districts of Washington State have jurisdiction to enter into agreements in order to carry out programs for conservation of renewable natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Conservation Commission and the forty seven conservation districts of Washington State are developing and implementing common natural resource enhancement, restoration, and protection programs; and

WHEREAS, working cooperatively on these programs can greatly aid in their overall quality, efficiency and economy; and

WHEREAS, a lack of stable, dedicated funding to support conservation district participation in planning and development efforts of these programs is a great impediment to reaching these common goals:

Recommendation:

That the Washington State Conservation Commission and the Washington Association of Conservation Districts, representing the forty-seven conservation districts of Washington State, work together to develop and implement a long term stable funding strategy to ensure the ability and continuation of conservation district participation in the planning and implementation of programs of mutual state-wide, regional, and national significance.

Presented by: WACD Officers. Approved at the Southeast Area Meeting on October 12, 2006.

Motion to combine 15a-15f. Motion by Mark Whitmore, Palouse CD. Second by Tom Hargraeves, Spokane CD. Motion carried.

Recommend DO PASS.

Motion by Lee Hall, Ferry CD. Second by Mark Whitmore, Palouse CD. Motion carried.

Moved to approve by Fred Colvin, Thurston CD
2nd by Mike Naylor, Skagit CD

Amendment Monte Marti, Snohomish CD
2nd Lynn Brown, Kittitas CD
Amendment passed.

Motion passed as amended.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
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Resolution No: 06-16

Title: Conservation District access to General Administration (GA) Motor Pool.

Problem:

Conservation Districts have the ability to be a cooperative member of the General Administration (GA) as a political subdivision of state government. General Administration uses the volume of co-op members' purchases and their competitive procurement practices to secure vendor contracts with advantageous prices and terms. These cost saving help us stretch our funds further.

Over the past several years, the Thurston Conservation District has utilized the State Motor Pool to rent vans for tours and mass transit of staff to meetings and trainings. The average cost of the vans run about \$12-\$20 per day compared to \$55 - \$85 through a rental car company.

During a state audit earlier this year, the Motor Pool was informed that they their charter does not extend to political subdivisions. Therefore, Conservation Districts no longer have access to this service.

Recommendation:

WACD and the Conservation Commission should work with General Administration and the State Motor Pool Offices to investigate the possibility of amending the rules so that political subdivisions, such as Conservation Districts, may have access to the Motor Pool.

Presented by: Thurston Conservation District. Approved at the Southwest Area Meeting on October 26, 2006.

Recommend DO PASS.

Motion Mark Whitmore, Palouse CD. Second Joe St. John, Pine Creek, CD. Motion carried.

Moved to approve by Fred Colvin, Thurston CD
2nd by Doug Rushton, Thurston CD

Motion passed.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
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Resolution No: 06-17

Title: Establishment of Training Fund at the Conservation Commission.

Problem:

Most Conservation Districts lack the funds to provide adequate training for staff. Currently, most districts write training into Commission grants due to the fact that other granting agencies don't typically allow training costs as an eligible grant cost. The Commission needs to invest more dollars into training CD board members and employees. Many Conservation Districts have skilled staff and board members that can be utilized to provide training to others. A couple districts have qualified staff that can capture training sessions on video; however they cannot provide these services within the scopes of their grants.

Recommendation:

That WACD work with the Conservation Commission to create a training fund for Conservation Districts. Districts would apply for funding for CD staff and board to attend conferences and workshops, as well as developing training videos for CDs across the state.

Presented by: Thurston Conservation District. Approved at the Southwest Area Meeting on October 26, 2006.

Recommend DO PASS.

Motion Tom Hargraeves, Spokane CD. Second Joe St. John, Pine Creek, CD. Motion carried.

Moved to approve by Fred Colvin, Thurston CD
2nd Doug Rushton, Thurston CD
Motion passed.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
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Resolution No: 06-18

Title: Technical assistance funds for local resource needs.

Problem:

The number of programs within the WSCC is on the rise. The recent budget estimate requested by WACD asked Districts to identify funding needs for what could be viewed as additional programs. It appears that Districts are becoming program driven however these programs often encompass the common goal of clean water. We commend WSCC/WACD on their ability to obtain and allocate grant funds, but programs do not necessarily translate into "meeting local resource needs". Districts are being asked to anticipate their program needs and then be allocated limited technical assistance funds to administer that program.

Cowlitz and Wahkiakum Conservation Districts attempt to meet the local resource need by assisting landowners to resolve their resource issues. We provide this assistance both individually and on a comprehensive watershed basis. The landowners we work with rarely have a single resource concern that can be addressed through a single program. We do work regularly with individuals and groups to find solutions for a larger, more encompassing set of resource concerns which generally include clean water and endangered species issues. It may take a combination of program funds, grant funds, and local contributions to completely address the overriding issue we are trying to resolve. We truly do work with landowners to coordinate the delivery of available technical, educational, or financial assistance, whatever the source, to resolve local resource issues. The programs (CREP/Livestock) made available to us are, and should be viewed as, tools in our toolkit to help resolve local resource issues.

It is difficult for a district to offer a WSCC program locally if the district cannot provide and sustain suitable staff to work with landowners. District staff has always been creative at juggling opportunities in an attempt to make things work. An excellent example of this is partnering with neighboring districts to justify a full time staff position to deliver a program. This creativity bolsters the program but does not necessarily aid the individual district in advancing their local mission. The burden on the Districts needs to be alleviated to help districts develop and implement their local missions that will not only meet local resource needs but dovetails with the state and national issues that are driving programs. It should be noted that although clean water and endangered species are high priority local issues, but they are only two of many local resource concerns that our conservation district is attempting to address through our long range and annual planning process.

We need to make funding available to districts that will assist them with delivery of their local plans. In our case, this entails funding that can be used to work with communities and individual landowners to identify resource needs and opportunities. This type of assistance is needed upfront and should result in the foundation by which districts apply for program funds. WSCC programs have provided upfront funding in most instances to



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promote the program or conduct an assessment. Technical assistance funds are readily available once a landowner has committed to participating in the program.

Without an established and effective local technical assistance mechanism, individual program delivery is difficult. Conservation should be given to the notion that some program funds should be delivered upfront to districts as a part of doing business. These funds would help ensure that technical assistance is available to the local land users to address their resource concerns. As districts work with local land users, the use of available programs will result. These "costs of doing business" funds could be delivered to districts through the Water Quality implementation grant. This source still provides some latitude in its use while encouraging accountability by districts in the delivery of their local mission. Program implementation and cost share funds should remain as stand along programs that districts apply for as needed.

It is relatively easy to secure program implementation funds. It is increasingly difficult to find funding sources that will fund planning, survey, and design work without it being an element of construction costs. Yet to put forth good sound project proposals, Districts need access to upfront technical assistance funding.

Recommendation:

Be it resolved that WACD and WSCC seek opportunities to secure funds to help districts maintain their ability to provide technical assistance to meet local land users need.

A specific area of opportunity would be seeking the authorization to use a portion of program funds as unencumbered funds that could be routed to districts through basic funding or WQ Implementation. The technical assistance funds to implement a program project and the actual cost share funds would remain as stand alone program funds that districts would apply for as needed.

Presented by: Cowlitz Conservation District. Approved at the Southwest Area Meeting on October 26, 2006.

Recommend DO PASS.

Motion Joe Shulke, Cowlitz CD. Second Lee Hall, Ferry CD. Motion carried.

Moved to approve by Fred Colvin, Thurston CD
2nd by Joe Shulke, Cowlitz CD

Motion passed.



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Resolution No: 06-19

Title: Ensure equitable distribution of Clean Water and Salmon Recovery funds to all deserving WRIA's (Water Resource Inventory Areas) in the state.

Problem:

The partnership for Puget Sound, commissioned by Governor Gregoire in 2005, states in a preliminary report that ecosystem based management must be used to solve natural resource problems in the Puget Sound trough. They have developed needs and a budget of over 4 billion dollars for the next 15 years for clean water, salmon recovery and other projects.

Geographically focused and costly programs in the politically powerful Puget Sound region constitute a budget diversion threat to accomplishing deserving natural resource objectives elsewhere in the state.

Clean water and endangered species problems are well documented across all 62 WRIA's in all 39 counties in the state. Billions of dollars set aside for only the Puget Sound region area a clear threat to the environmental health of the balance of the state where degradation has not been allowed to occur on such a scale.

Rational and balanced government support for comprehensive state conservation programs should include discussion and resolution on such topics as:

1. Cost/benefit decisions on the degree of restoration of watershed health when headwaters and tributaries are storm water ponds at people infrastructure places like malls, housing developments, and industrial parks.
2. Huge salmon recovery dollar outlays on behalf of threatened runs while mandating the harvest of those same runs.
3. Dealing with strong population growth and its attendance environmentally damaging infrastructure while mindlessly financing habitat restoration projects that are overwhelmed by people activity.

Recommendation:

Encourage WACD to participate in appropriate and effective high level government processes to ensure fair and balanced funding of natural resource programs across all deserving WRIA's.

Encourage strong WACD efforts to keep non-point water pollution programs in the hands of the WSCC.

Presented by: Cowlitz Conservation District. Approved at the Southwest Area Meeting on October 26, 2006.



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Recommend DO PASS.

Motion Mark Whitmore, Palouse CD.
Second Joe Shulke, Cowlitz, CD. Motion carried.

Moved to approve by Fred Colvin, Thurston CD
2nd Joe Shulke, Cowlitz CD

Amendment Nora Mena, Thurston
2nd Lee Hall, Ferry CD
Amendment passed.

Motion passed as amended.



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Resolution No: 06-20

Title: Grant Consolidation and Efficiencies.

Problem:

During a recent round of meetings with our local legislators, we were encouraged to keep in mind that “there is no new money”. This was conveyed to us as to get more money to districts, the legislature would need to cut something or we need to find efficiencies to free up money. With this in mind, we offer the following.

The number of sources of grant funds is increasing with a disproportionate increase in total available funds. Each of these grants programs has its own administration and process to ensure “best” application of the funds. One of two issues is driving the majority of these grant funds. These issues are the “Clean Water Act” or the Endangered Species Act which in general results in common goals amongst the grant programs.

Conservation Districts are a perfect example of an entity situated where “the rubber meets the road”. We are often forced to wade through a myriad of funding opportunities to piecemeal together up to a half a dozen of these funding sources in order to fund a project; or apply to multiple sources in order to reach the funding sources that believes the project is a good fit with “their” program.

In the salmon recovery realm, a project proposal must pass through multiple layers of review and scrutiny before it can be considered for funding. Salmon Recovery in the State of Washington started off with an emphasis on grass roots solutions. There are numerous sources of funds for fish recovery which may focus on a specific species, region, or recovery issue.

It seems logical that opportunities exist to consolidate funds and utilize adopted salmon recovery strategies as a mechanism to review and award project funding. Along these lines it seems that it may be more efficient to award project funding based on the local technical review committee. These folks are intimately familiar with the recovery strategy and are quite knowledgeable with local watersheds. Assurances for proper use of funding could be achieved by having source agencies and state committee representatives participate in the local review rather routing a proposal through layers.

Please keep in mind that the examples above are brought forward from a salmon recovery perspective. Opportunities for consolidation and efficiencies likely exist in all natural resource arenas.

Please keep in mind that we are not advocating that all grant funding be routed through a single entity. We simply believe that opportunities must exist to make more efficient use of limited resources.

Potential savings include:



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- Time spent by applying entities on multiple grant applications, tracking, and lobbying.
- Reduced administration/overhead of multiple agencies to administer grants if consolidated (office jobs to field jobs)
- Time spent by grant recipient vouching and reporting to meet multiple entities grant program requirements.
- A reduction complexity of grant review processes minimizing time involved by both grant applicant and grantor.

Recommendation:

Be it resolved that WACD assess the opportunities to promote efficiencies and consolidation in the delivery of state and federal grant funds.

Presented by: Cowlitz Conservation District. Approved at the Southwest Area Meeting on October 26, 2006.

Recommend DO PASS.

Motion Joe Shulke, Cowlitz CD. Second Lee Hall, Ferry, CD. Motion carried.

Moved to approve by Fred Colvin, Thurston CD
2nd Joe Shulke, Cowlitz CD
Motion passed.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2006 Passed Resolutions

Resolution No: 06-21

Title: Continue and increase cost share funding for fuels reduction thinning on private forestlands.

Problem:

The forestlands in private ownership, and all other forestlands, need significant fuels reduction thinning to increase forest health and to reduce wildfire suppression costs. Although many people desire to thin their ~~lands~~ forests, many are not able to bear the costs, or the trees removed will not pay for the removal of small diameter trees.

Recommendation:

WACD would ~~support~~ coordinate with DNR to support the legislature to increase cost share funding through DNR via CDs and others to treat more private forested acres in Washington State.

Presented by: Okanogan Conservation District. Approved at the North Central Area Meeting on October 19, 2006.

Recommend DO PASS AS AMENDED.

Motion Ivan Oberg, Okanogan CD. Second Bob Playfair, Stevens Co, CD. Motion carried.

Moved to approve by Albert Roberts, Okanogan CD
2nd Lee Hemmer, Foster Creek CD
Motion passed.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2006 Passed Resolutions

Resolution No: 06-22

Title: Option to increase DNR Forest Practices permits to 15 years in length.

Problem:

Washington Department of Natural Resources currently issue Forest Practices permits for a maximum length of 2 years, which sometimes have an option of 5 years, to perform forest practices operations. Any extra activities (roads, culverts etc.) and market price fluctuations cause too short a timeline to perform operations.

Recommendation:

WACD should support legislative action to allow the DNR to issue Forest Practices permits up to 15 years in length for landowners who develop an approved long term forest management plan.

Presented by: Okanogan Conservation District. Approved at the North Central Area Meeting on October 19, 2006.

Recommend DO PASS AS AMENDED.

Motion Ivan Oberg, Okanogan CD. Second by Dixie Riddle, Spokane, CD. Motion carried.

Moved to approve by Albert Roberts, Okanogan CD
2nd Jerry Hendrickson, Asotin CD
Motion passed.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2006 Passed Resolutions

Resolution No: 06-23

Title: Scale appropriate regulations for small and micro dairies.

Problem:

Current regulation requires infrastructure and equipment used in large-scale dairies, (100+ cows) for small and micro dairies. Small dairies that milk animals other than cows, and in numbers under 50 animals, are unduly burdened with equipment requirements that are overly large and economically excessive in size to the amount of product produced. In particular, regarding pasteurization, alternative equipment and testing procedures that meet the intent of the law need to be acceptable in operations.

The unprecedented need for farmers to stay economically viable, with the ability to diversify their operations and to have the flexibility to capture emerging markets is also driving the need to change these regulations.

Recommendation:

WACD, in partnership with the Dairy Federation and other dairy interests, will support legislative action to increase WSDA flexibility in regulations for small and micro dairies to become licensed, WSDA be encouraged to make license requirements more clear.

Presented by: Okanogan Conservation District. Approved at the North Central Area Meeting on October 19, 2006.

Recommend DO PASS.

Motion by Jim O'Brien, South Douglas CD. Second by Wiard Groeneveld, Snohomish CD. Motion carried.

Moved to approve by Denny Downs, Benton CD
2nd Eddie Johnson, Lincoln CD

Amendment by Dean Longrie, Clark CD
2nd Sharon Call, Kitsap CD
Amendment passed.

2nd Amendment by Nora Mena, Thurston CD
2nd by Eddie Johnson, Lincoln CD
2nd amendment passed.

Motion passed as amended.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2006 Passed Resolutions

Resolution No: 06-24

Title: Opening Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife lands to grazing.

Problem:

Many lands managed by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife are closed to grazing even though a growing number of these acres were successful private ranches. The need for additional public land grazing continues to grow as the number of acres available declines on some public lands due to changing policies and the need for rehabilitation following fires.

Recommendation:

WACD ~~should~~ shall work with Washington ~~Cattleman's Association~~ livestock producers and associations and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Commission and staff to increase the number of acres available for livestock grazing using best management practices ~~by livestock producers in Washington.~~

Presented by: Okanogan Conservation District. Approved at the North Central Area Meeting on October 19, 2006.

Recommend DO PASS AS AMENDED.

Motion by Gail Thornton, North Yakima CD. Second by John Preston, Warden CD.
Motion carried.

Moved to approve by Danny Downs, Benton CD
2nd Lynn Brown, Kittitas

Amendment by Gale Thornton, N Yakima CD
2nd by Bob Playfair, Stevens CD
Amendment passed.

2nd Amendment Danny Downs, Benton CD
2nd by Gale Thornton, N Yakima CD
2nd Amendment passed.

3rd Amendment by Jerry Hendrickson, Asotin CD
2nd John McLean, Foster Creek CD
3rd amendment failed.

4th amendment by Bob Barker, Whatcom CD
2nd by Sharon Call, Kitsap CD
4th Amendment passed.

5th amendment by Jim Druffel, Palouse CD



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2006 Passed Resolutions

2nd Bob Playfair, Stevens CD.
Amendment failed.

6th amendment by Lee Hall, Ferry CD
2nd by Albert Roberts, Okanogan CD
Amendment passed.

Motion passed as amended.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2006 Passed Resolutions

Resolution No: 06-25

Title: Access to Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) and Association of Washington Cities (and similar entities) workshops for newly elected officials.

Problem:

Newly elected officials are sometimes unaware of Conservation District presence and roles within their communities. These two organizations (and probably similar organizations) host workshops for newly elected officials. Every two years, the Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) hosts a workshop in four locations around the state for newly elected officials. The workshop brings these officials up to speed on roles & responsibilities, essential principles of, and strategies for effective local government leadership. There are currently no presentations on Conservation Districts at these workshops.

Recommendation:

WACD and the Conservation Commission make contact with the Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) and Association of Washington Cities (AWC) to offer presentations on Conservation Districts at their Newly Elected Officials Workshops. WACD/WCC should request of these two entities to have a slot on their agendas to help the newly elected officials understand conservation district organization, operations, and partnering opportunities.

Presented by: Thurston Conservation District. Approved at the Southwest Area Meeting on October 26, 2006.

Recommend DO PASS.

Motion by Howard Jaeger, Cowlitz CD. Second by Rose Ehert, Pierce, CD. Motion carried.

Moved to approve by Sherry Penney, Underwood CD
2nd by Doug Rushton, Thurston CD
Motion passed.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2006 Passed Resolutions

Resolution No: 06-26

Title: Expanding the cost share exemption offered by RCW 89.08.220(4) to include associate supervisors and staff.

Problem:

Considerable effort was undertaken to obtain a cost share exemption for supervisors through RCW 89.08.220(4). The exemption appears to apply only to supervisors, not to staff, and not to associate supervisors. The result is that RCW 42.23.030 applies to associate supervisors, prohibiting them from receiving more than \$1,500.00 a month in financial assistance.

Additionally, it is unclear as to whether the financial assistance restrictions are for funds routed through the conservation district or any form of financial assistance originating at the local, state or federal level that may be passed through the Conservation District.

Recommendation:

Be it resolved that WACD review and bring forth recommendations to resolve conflicts with associate supervisors and staff's cost share in the context of the exemption offered to supervisors by RCW 89.08.220(4).

Presented by: Cowlitz Conservation District. Approved at the Southwest Area Meeting on October 26, 2006.

Recommend DO PASS.

Motion by Howard Jaeger, Cowlitz CD. Second by Rose Ehert, Pierce, CD. Motion carried.

Moved to approve by Sherry Penney, Underwood CD
2nd Howard Jaeger, Cowlitz CD
Motion passed.



Washington Association of Conservation Districts
2006 Passed Resolutions

Resolution No: 06-28

Title: WACD and the WA Conservation Commission support forestry titles and funding in the 2007 Farm Bill.

Problem:

It has come to our attention that other state conservation organizations have joined together in supporting a forestry title and funding in the 2007 Farm Bill. Recognizing that well managed healthy forests are important to all citizens of the United States and, therefore, should be willing to provide cost-share funding to partially cover the maintenance of these forests.

Recommendation:

That WACD request the assistance of the WA Conservation Commission and NACD in consolidating support of other conservation organizations to encourage ~~the Washington State~~ US Senators and Representatives to secure retention of the current forestry titles in the 2007 Farm Bill and funding for these programs.

Presented by: Okanogan Conservation District.

Recommend DO PASS.

Motion Bob Playfair, Stevens Co CD. Second by Mike Naylor, Skagit, CD. Motion carried.

Motion to consider resolution 06-28 by Chris Herron, Franklin CD
2nd by Mike Naylor, Skagit CD
Motion passed.

Moved by Albert Roberts, Okanogan CD
2nd Mike Naylor, Skagit CD

Friendly Amendment by Albert Roberts, Okanogan CD
2nd by Mike Naylor, Skagit CD

Amendment by Monte Marti, Snohomish CD
2nd by Bob Playfair, Stevens Co CD
Amendment passed.

Motion passed as amended.