



WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

**Resolution 2019-07** Community Forest Bill

**SPONSOR CD:** Central Klickitat CD

**AREA:** NW SW NC SC NE SE

**RESOLUTION TYPE:**

- Policy
- Position Statement
- Recognition
- Study

**RESOLUTION ACTION AGENCY**

- WACD
- WSCC
- OTHER STAGE AGENCY \_\_\_\_\_
- NRCS \_\_\_\_\_
- NACD \_\_\_\_\_
- NON-STATE/FEDERAL PARTNER \_\_\_\_\_

**BACKGROUND/PROBLEM STATEMENT:**

During the 2019 legislative session CKCD learned of Community Forest Bill to fund acquisitions of forest lands for local ownership and management in support of rural communities, natural resource conservation and habitat conservation. CKCD spoke with several legislators and drafted language to help ensure community forest projects would be managed with a working lands ethic, that CD's would be eligible and that an open funding announcement process would provide broad opportunity to solicit projects with the most benefit and likelihood for success.

**RESOLUTION LANGUAGE:**

WACD supports the Community Forest bill to include conservation district eligibility and working lands philosophy, its passage, and implementation by the WA Legislature that will foster equity and inclusion in community forest funding opportunities. The resulting program shall be developed to foster local leadership and management in rural communities.

**TYPE OF TEXT OF RESOLUTION** (check all boxes that apply):

- Technical (changes address grammar, punctuation, sentence flow and makes **NO** substantive change(s) to the existing policy.
- Substantive change to existing policy. If in doubt, check the box.
- New policy.

**IS THERE A BUDGET IMPLICATION TO IMPLEMENT THE POLICY?**

- NO
- YES (briefly explain): This could improve project funding availability to CD's.