



WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

**Resolution 2019-19** Local Work Group Emphasis in WA Conservation

**SPONSOR CD:** Central Klickitat Conservation District

**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:** Since the inception of Conservation Districts nationwide, a founding mantra has been 'locally led' conservation. When NRCS took more of a leadership role in federally funded conservation initiatives, the 'locally led' aspect was supported by reliance on local input to program priorities via the 'Local Work Group (LWG)' concept. Historically, LWG's, usually led by Conservation Districts, have worked in Washington State to ensure NRCS programs fit the local needs and opportunities for participation and are rolled out in a fair manner. Regressively, in the recent past USDA/NRCS from the national level is eroding the use and initiative of the LWGs and thus locally led conservation. LWG/locally led seems to be less and less of a focus for USDA.

**RESOLUTION LANGUAGE:** WACD supports working with NRCS and local leadership on local workgroups in implementing conservation programs.

**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):