



Washington Association of Conservation Districts

1219 11th Ave SE, Suite 103, Olympia, WA 98501

2020 Resolutions

Resolution	Title	Author/District
2020-01	WACD Revolving Fund to Build CD Capacity	Whatcom CD
<p>Resolution: Resolved, WACD shall investigate the advisability of establishing a revolving fund to provide lines of credit to districts with demonstrated need for funds to capture grant or contract funding. It shall report back by September 1, 2021.</p>		
2020-02	Support SCC operating and capital budget requests for FY21-23 biennium	Palouse CD
<p>Resolution: WACD will work closely with all conservation districts statewide, SCC and other partners, to fully support the SCC operating and capital budget requests for the FY21-23 biennium through contacts with the Governor’s Office of Financial Management and Legislators.</p>		
2020-03	Extending Electronic Training Resources	Okanogan CD
<p>Resolution: WACD supports the increased use of electronic and remote learning opportunities as a part of training programs for conservation districts that is provided by state conservation agencies and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.</p>		
2020-04	Rural Broadband Internet Access	South Central Area
<p>Resolution: WACD supports increased rural broadband internet and cell phone access, infrastructure, and affordability for all working lands and residents.</p>		
2020-05	Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Statement & Work Plan Development	Pierce & Clark CDs
<p>Resolution: WACD will convene a committee to develop a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion policy recommendation by September 2021. This recommendation will be provided to all Conservation Districts for consideration at their Area Meetings with action by the WACD at its annual meeting.</p> <p>The Task Force will also provide information, suggested resources, and guidance for districts that are interested in developing their own diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives.</p>		
2020-06	Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Statement	King CD
<p>Resolution: WACD will create a DEI Committee that will consider the following actions and develop any recommendations by September 2021 to all Conservation Districts for consideration at their Area Meetings for possible action by the WACD at its annual meeting.to include but not limited to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Commission and WACD help conservation districts to work with underrepresented communities in their service area to understand what natural resource concerns are important to them and to find ways to incorporate those natural resources concerns into the conservation district’s book of business. 2. To encourage conservation districts to prioritize equity in the services they offer and in employment decisions. 		



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<p>3. That the Commission and WACD organize annual diversity, equity, and inclusion seminars that are made available to all Conservation District Supervisors and Managers.</p> <p>4. That WACD and the Commission work with districts to make elections more public and to ensure that communities of color are engaged around elections.</p> <p>5. That the commission recruits and retains a diversity, equity, and inclusion officer that will work with the election's officer to promote engagement of communities of color across the state and address the disparity gap around services and elections.</p> <p>6. That WACD asks conservation districts and the Washington State Conservation Commission to take actions to encourage more diversity in conservation district supervisor positions both elected and appointed.</p>		
2020-09	WACD Member Services Review	Pierce CD
<p>Resolution: WACD to engage the Association's membership to understand the possible need for more shared services resources or different services resources from the Association and then research ways of providing important support to conservation districts.</p>		
2020-10	Conservation District Election Improvements	King CD
<p>Resolution: WACD is committed to working with the Legislature and Washington State Conservation Commission on election issues.</p>		

2019 Resolutions

2019-02	Grazing CRP as a Mid-Management Practice	Whitman CD
<p>Resolution: To rejuvenate CRP stands and reduce fuel loads, proscribed grazing should be added as an eligible mid-contract maintenance practice.</p>		
2019-03	Loss of Crop Protection Products	Palouse CD
<p>Resolution: NACD supports retaining crop protection products until suitable replacements are found coupled with education on the benefits of these products.</p>		
2019-04	Identifying on-farm renewable energy development/use & soil health practice adoption as high priority goals.	Whatcom and Spokane CDs
<p>Resolution: The Washington Association of Conservation Districts supports increased adoption of soil health systems as well as the development and use of renewable energy sources by farmers and other landowners within the State of Washington. The WACD Board, Executive Director and Lobbyist shall participate in discussions likely to lead to legislation or WSCC funding packages to ensure that conservation districts are integral to the delivery of technical and financial assistance, on a voluntary basis, implement soil health practices; and develop and use on-farm renewable energy sources.</p>		



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2019-05	Support legislation to restrict out of basin water transfers.	Okanogan CD
Resolution: WACD shall support legislation, rulemaking, and agency policy that restricts, inhibits, or denies the transfer of water rights outside of the Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) in which they are originally located.		
2019-06	Support legislation to authorize rangeland fire protection districts.	Okanogan CD
Resolution: WACD shall support legislation that authorizes and supports the creation of rangeland fire protection districts in Washington State.		
2019-07	Community Forest Bill	Central Klickitat CD
Resolution: 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.		
2019-08	Improving Association & District Governance Processes	Whatcom, King, Spokane CDs
Resolution: The WACD Board shall identify an effective model of governance and work to implement it completely. Further, WACD shall advocate to the WSCC that it supports all districts interested in improving district governance and additionally provide continuing education to supervisors and managers in its implementation to attain and maintain a high level of competency and performance.		
2019-11	Improve Hydraulic Permit Approval Statute	King, Okanogan, and Mason CDs
Resolution: Resolved, WACD shall work with WDFW, WSCC, conservation districts, and legislators to support the passage of this bill as a top priority of the Association.		
2019-12	Support CD funding for implementing Community Resiliency Programs	Okanogan and Skagit CDs
Resolution: WACD shall work with the Governor and the Washington State Legislature to support funding to conservation districts for implementing community resiliency programs, fire fuels reduction, forest health, and fire recovery work that is carried out in partnership with the Washington Department of Natural Resources and other partners.		
2019-13	Addressing State Policy on Water Quantity and Availability	Cowlitz CD
Resolution: WACD and WSCC to designate a person to track the implementation of R.C.W. 90.94 and communicate to all 45 Washington State Conservation Districts the status in each W.R.I.A. to the Conservation District or multiple Conservation Districts in that watershed. This needs a coordinated approach to this statewide issue, which can be different by watershed.		
2019-14	WSCC Criteria for Allegations Against Supervisors	Thurston CD
Resolution: WACD work with WSCC to draft a policy for consideration by the WSCC establishing criteria and process to timely address allegations brought to WSCC about supervisors, both spurious and non-spurious, in order to address them quickly and equitably.		



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2019-15	Sustainable funding for State Conservation Commission	Thurston CD
Resolution: WACD shall work with WSCC and the Long-term Sustainable Funding Committee to recommend a sustainable funding option for the Conservation Commission and the Legislature to support CD services, such as revenue from a dedicated fee or direct authority for Rates and Charges.		
2019-19	Local Work Group Emphasis in WA Conservation	Central Klickitat CD
Resolution: WACD supports working with NRCS and local leadership on local workgroups in implementing conservation programs.		
2019-22	CD Eligibility for RCO Grants	Eastern Klickitat CD
Resolution: WACD shall work with RCO and legislators to implement policy revisions to allow CDs to compete more fully in RCO grant categories.		
2019-23	Conservation District Status as Government Entities	Eastern Klickitat CD
Resolution: WACD will work to clarify in RCW and WAC that CDs are recognized as tax exempt local units of Washington state government.		
2019-24	Community Project Funding	Underwood CD
Resolution: WACD supports SCC Commission to help create a modified NRI or capital funding stream that allows Districts to act as the contractual recipient and spend funds for specific projects involving multiple landowners in a single area with a common purpose regardless of district priority.		
2019-26	RCW 89.08.405 3(a) Maximum Annual per Parcel Rate	Benton and Franklin CDs
Resolution: WACD shall explore Changing RCW 89.08.405 sub 3(a) in the following manner: RCW 89.08.405 (3)(a) The system of rates and charges may include an annual per acre amount, an annual per parcel amount, or an annual per parcel amount plus an annual per acre amount. If included in the system of rates and charges, the maximum annual per acre rate or charge shall not exceed ten cents per acre. The maximum annual per parcel rate shall not exceed fifteen dollars.		

2018 Resolutions

2018-03	Feasibility study to simplify annual WACD dues calculations and rankings	Lewis CD
Resolution: To simplify dues assessment, WACD should study the feasibility of making the dues structure more accurate and equitable. The study would be completed in time to report to the membership by the 2019 WACD meeting.		
2018-04	Addressing State Policy on Water Quantity and Availability	Cowlitz CD
Resolution: WACD and WSCC to each designate a person to track the implementation of this R.C.W. and communicate to all 45 Washington State Conservation Districts the status in each W.R.I.A to the Conservation district or multiple Conservation Districts in that watershed. This needs a coordinated approach to this statewide issue, which can be different by watershed.		



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2018-05	Fully staff local Natural Resource Conservation Services offices	South Douglas CD
Resolution: WACD shall work with State NRCS to urge them to fully staff local offices for technical support for Conservation Districts to complete natural resource programs.		
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Resolution: WACD shall work with State NRCS to urge them to fully staff local offices for technical support for Conservation Districts to complete natural resource programs.		
2018-06	Allow Local Foods to be Purchased for Public Meeting Refreshments	Okanogan CD
Resolution: WACD shall work with the Washington State Conservation Commission, other agencies as they deem appropriate, and the Governor's office to make this support of locally grown agriculture possible.		
2018-07	Allow Dike Maintenance without Emergency Declaration	Okanogan CD
Resolution: WACD shall work with the Washington State Conservation Commission and the necessary regulatory agencies to ensure private landowners may conduct normal annual maintenance of existing dikes without the need of an emergency declaration.		
2018-08	Amend the method for determining EQIP funding levels for each area	Okanogan CD
Resolution: WACD shall work with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service to evaluate and amend the allocation formula for EQIP in Washington State with input from each local work group and adjust said formula as appropriate.		
2018-09	Supporting Funding for the Fire Adapted Communities, Forest / Rangeland Health Program	Okanogan, Skagit and Underwood CDs
Resolution: WACD shall support state budget legislation that proposes to effectively fund Conservation Districts, through the Conservation Commission, to implement the program as outlined in the Washington State Conservation Commission Fire Adapted Communities, Forest / Rangeland Health budget decision package. WACD work with the Conservation Commission and partners to advance this position with the Governor during his budget development, and with the Legislature in the 2019 legislative		
2018-10	Allow Increased NRCS Attendance at Conservation District Board Meetings	Okanogan CD
Resolution: WACD shall work with NACD to urge, in the strongest terms possible, that USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service should revise this policy to increase instead of limiting or restricting participation at these meetings.		
2018-11	Allow Programmatic Funding in Commission's Natural Resource Investment	Okanogan CD
Resolution: WACD shall work with the Conservation Commission and interested Washington conservation districts to develop criteria for programmatic applications for the Commission's Natural Resource Investment funds.		



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2018-13	Support for Regional Conservation Planning Training	Grant County CD
<p>Resolution: WACD work with the SCC/Center for Technical Development, WADE, NCDEA, and neighboring states to urge NACD to support flexibility for holding additional conservation planning boot camps, or similar, training sessions on a state level scale each year. These boot camps/trainings would utilize NRCS-provided curriculum and trainers for quality, consistent training while still allowing for specific regional needs to be addressed. Training event coordination and logistical coordination would be supplied by state level partners.</p>		
2018-14	Support for Regional Conservation Planning Training	Palouse CD
<p>Resolution: WACD work with the WA Conservation Commission, other interested parties, WA Conservation Districts, WADE, NCDEA, neighboring states, and state conservation agencies to urge NACD to support flexibility for holding additional conservation planning boot camps, or similar, training sessions on a regional scale each year. These boot camps/trainings would utilize NRCS-provided curriculum and trainers for quality, consistent training while still allowing for specific regional needs to be addressed. Training event coordination and logistical coordination would be supplied by regional partners.</p>		
2018-15	Conservation Practices on Prevented Planting Acres	Palouse CD
<p>Resolution: WACD and WSCC to support the development of a Washington growers collaborative effort to address the needs of Washington growers to effectively and efficiently enhance the implementation of conservation practices on prevented planting acres in an effort to protect future soil productivity and past conservation investments to improve soil health and water quality by minimizing soil erosion on prevented planting acres. WACD to work with NACD and RMA at a national level to enhance the implementation of conservation practices on prevented planting acres.</p>		
2018-16	Funding allocation to conservation districts	Palouse CD
<p>Resolution: WACD to work with WSCC and other interested parties to develop objective allocation criteria for all operating and capital funding available to conservation districts. Consideration should be given to developing funding/grant application processes to include publishing allocation and ranking criteria at the time the request for proposals is announced.</p>		
2018-17	Conservation Impacts of Straw Removal and Transportation	Palouse CD
<p>Resolution: WACD to work with WSCC, WSU, USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS), and other interested parties to research and disseminate information on potential natural resources conservation issues related to agricultural biomass removal and transportation.</p>		
2018-18	CRP Soil Rental Rates and Soil Productivity Factors	Asotin County CD
<p>Resolution: Work with NACD and FSA at a national level to review the methods used to determine Soil Rental Rates. Develop alternative methods that more accurately reflect soil value and considers the environmental benefits provided by the CRP programs.</p>		



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2017 Resolutions

2017-03	Prioritizing Washington State's Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)	Spokane CD
Resolution: WACD supports NRCS making RCPP programs an equitable priority by utilizing funding from the program to find, select, and hire qualified staff and to streamline the job approval process.		
2017-04	CRP Mid-Management Considerations During Natural Disasters Such as Drought, Fires, Floods, etc.	Benton CD
Resolution: WACD supports the Farm Service Agency in changing or enhancing CRP mid-management conservation practices in the case of natural disasters that severely damage previously established CRP standards.		
2017-05	CRP Bid Points for \leq 12 Inch Precipitation Zones	Benton CD
Resolution: WACD supports the allocation of higher bid points to CRP for farmland that are located in 12 inches or below precipitation zones to address air quality concerns.		
2017-07	Addressing State Policy on Water Quantity and Availability	Cowlitz CD
Resolution: Propose a resolution for WACD and WSCC to create a recommendation and support a legislative solution to ensure water availability through reliable, predictable, equitable processes.		
2017-09	Changing Washington State Conservation Commission Grant Addendum Signatory	Okanogan CD
Resolution: WACD will work with the Washington State Conservation Commission and all Washington Conservation Districts to improve grant submission and management processes. Specific attention will be paid to districts authority to designate authorized representatives to submit grant addendums, better notification of authorization to proceed and incur expenses, and document of receipt of grant administrative files.		
2017-10	Incentives and State Water Quality Law	Stevens County CD
Resolution: WACD will work with WSCC, ECY, and the Legislature and amend the current state water quality statute to include a policy statement regarding the role of agricultural water quality incentive programs and the Conservation Commission to be the lead for voluntary non-regulatory programs protecting water quality.		
2017-11	Eliminate taxation on Conservation District owned Real Property	North Yakima CD
Resolution: WACD will work with WSCC to enforce the real property tax exemption that all municipal corporations are entitled to by state constitution.		
2017-12	Support Secure Rural Schools Re-Authorization Act	Okanogan CD
Resolution: WACD supports the passage and full funding of the Secure Rural Schools Re-Authorization Act in both the US House of Representatives and Senate to facilitate the maintenance of wildfire control funds.		



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2016 Resolutions

2016-05	Restore WSCC Capacity Building grants.	Clark CD
Resolution: WACD encourage and support WSCC in seeking to increase funding Capacity Building grants to Conservation Districts.		
2016-07	Public Disclosure Request Reform	San Juan Islands CD
Resolution: WACD to work with conservation districts, Washington State Conservation Commission, and the state legislature to improve the Public Records legislation to considering recommendations made by the State Auditor’s Office, including but not limited to:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Differentiating requesters and requests by their purpose • Recovering costs associated with disclosing records: material and personnel time • Developing a statewide alternative dispute resolution program • Addressing complexities in public records laws 		
2016-08	Associate Supervisor Cost Share Authorization	Grays Harbor CD
Resolution: WACD should support legislative action to allow all benefits of District Programs available to Supervisors be available to Associate Supervisors.		
2016-09	Dropping population criteria under RCW 89.08405(3)(a)	Thurston CD
Resolution: WACD to work with conservation districts, Washington State Conservation Commission, others, and the legislature to make changes to Chapter 89.08 RCW to drop the population criteria in section 405(3)(a) to allow districts to have the option of a rate of up to \$15 to be pursued after the 2017 legislative session.		
2016-10	Joint Chiefs Funding, Cultural Resource System Enhancement	Stevens CD
Resolution: WACD appreciates the seriousness of landowner’s forest health issues and encourages NRCS to expedite cultural resource reviews on critical fuels reduction, practices and contracts affecting forest health:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend prioritize cultural resource reviews of projects with extraordinary fire danger and/or drought • Develop a timeline to respond to probability of cultural resource activity (high, medium, low) • Develop a system to notify all entities involved in the Cultural Resource process at the same time. (similar to the water quality permit JARPA application) 		



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2016-12	Action to keep Continuous CRP acres separate from the General CRP cap	Foster Creek CD
Resolution: WACD and NACD should ask the Agriculture Committees of Congress to keep language in the 2018 Farm Bill allowing Continuous CRP and SAFE acres to be counted separate from the General CRP cap.		
2016-14	Utilize Washington conservation district resources to assist with livestock and wildlife conflicts.	Okanogan CD
Resolution: WACD shall work with interested conservation districts to engage the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to incorporate willing districts as a tool to assisting ranchers and landowners with implementing practices to reduce wildlife and livestock/crops conflicts through voluntary, incentive-based practices.		
2016-15	Aging wheat varieties are not keeping up with current quality or quantity problems	South Douglas CD
Resolution: WACD should support research to replace the older varieties with new cultivars that are adaptable to the current environmental challenges in unique, geographical areas of Washington State.		
2016-16	Approaches to fuel load reductions on SAFE acres	Foster Creek CD
Resolution: WACD will work to encourage the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to provide for fuels load reductions on SAFE acres.		
2016-18	Without a conservation plan or measure in place, a potential resource concern exists as CRP contracts expire and land is converted back to production agriculture	Spokane CD
Resolution: WACD requests a new process by which landowners will be asked to engage conservation district and NRCS planners in developing a transition plan when bringing CRP back into crop production. (Perhaps this could be part of the CRP contract in the first place for new contracts.) WACD further requests that NRCS and FSA, at the national and state levels, recognize the transition from CRP acreage to crop production as a resource concern enabling producers to qualify for conservation programs beginning in the first year of production.		