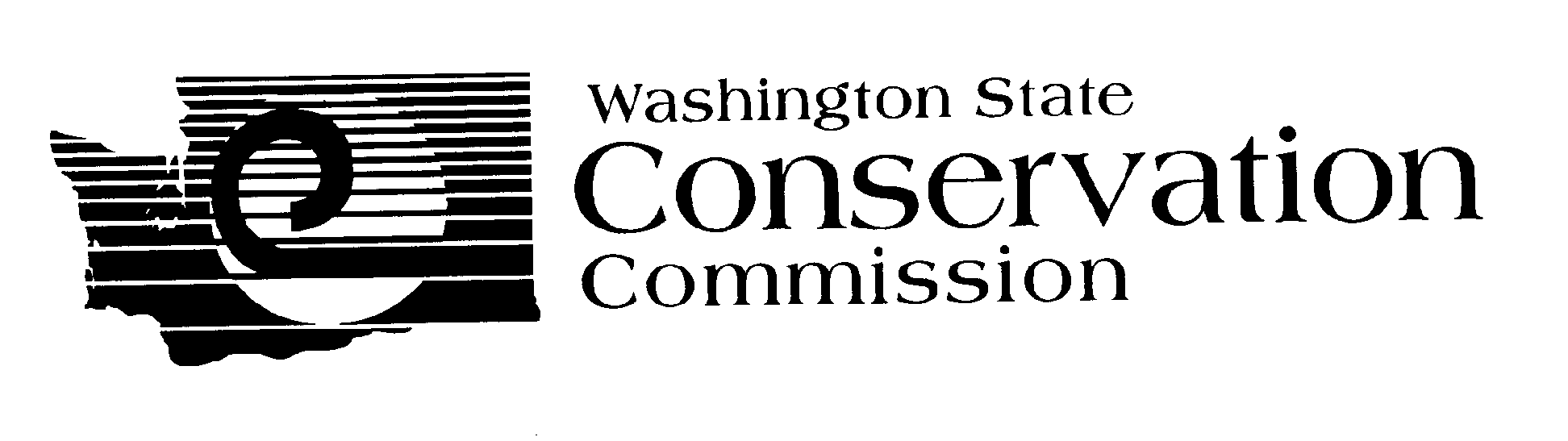
#### 

#### FY2025 (7/1/24 – 6/30/25)



#### Annual Work Plan Eastern Klickitat Conservation District

For More Information, Contact: Loren Meagher, 509-773-5823 ext. 5, [LorenM@centralcd.org](mailto:LorenM@centralcd.org)

**Mission of the Eastern Klickitat Conservation District**

As supervisors and staff, more importantly as neighbors, we, feel that it is our obligation to our rural community, our way of life, and future generations to: take available technical, financial and educational resources (whatever their source) to aid, support, focus and help coordinate them so that, all available resources can be presented to land/ property managers.

Sustainable agriculture requires smart stewardship of the lands we manage. The EKCD’s duty is to assist our community members with their soil health, water, cropping, range, and timber lands challenges.

**Natural Resource Priorities:**

* Enhance natural resources through the planning and application of an economically and environmentally sound conservation approach.
* Offer opportunities for landowners to sell development rights to protect farmland and keep farms operating in the traditional and natural manner while protecting habitat and wildlife. Work with Office of Farmland Preservation for funding and prioritization.
* Support the local community interests in management of EKCD’s publicly owned forest and range land.
* Utilize a commonsense management approach with emphasis on maintaining and improving water quality conditions within the District Boundaries.
* Maintain leadership in watershed planning, salmon recovery processes, and future watershed actions including habitat enhancement, water quality improvement and water quantity conservation.
  + Participate in WRIA 31 management, planning and implementation as opportunity allows.
* Offer and facilitate programs to involve cooperators in adopting conservation practices.
* Be engaged in local and state political processes to represent local values and support programs to assist landowners.

Natural Resource Priority Program Area: **Farmland Preservation**

Goal(s): Protect high-quality agricultural land, wildlife habitat, and riparian areas from development for uses that will diminish their current availability for food and fiber production, or their habitat and water quality functions. Actively work with SCC to develop OFP programs that meet CD needs across the state.

Natural Resource Measurable Result Objective:

Provide education and outreach to develop future agricultural easement opportunities.

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective:

Complete the Lazy Cross agricultural easement monitoring.

Funding Source(s): WSCC Implementation; Office of Farmland Preservation

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Activities for FY2024 | Target Dates | Person  Responsible | Time(Days) Required | Estimated Funding |
| Work with SCC OFP coordinator and interested landowners to develop new easement projects and seek approval for CD’s to be easement holders. | On-going | Loren Meagher | 2 | $3,000 |
| Work with SCC to complete annual easement monitoring on existing easements. | June 2025 | Loren Meagher | 5 | $5,000 |
| Work with OFP and landowners to complete funded easement project | June 2026 | Loren Meagher  Eric Schuh | 29 | $30,000 |

Natural Resource Priority Program Area: **Habitat**, **Water Quality and Water Quantity**

Goal(s): Maintain or improve water quality conditions in the district; continue progress toward improving water quality and quantity throughout EKCD. Provide technical assistance to support landowners interested implementing irrigation efficiencies.

Natural Resource Measurable Result Objective:

Protect and/or restore riparian areas and reduce surface water contamination by designing, permitting and constructing spring enhancements and off-channel livestock watering sources. Improve habitat for native salmonids in Rock Creek, Pine Creek and other EKCD streams by designing, permitting, and implementing instream habitat and riparian improvement projects. Develop a landowner equipment loan program for soil moisture monitoring. Set up soil moisture monitoring systems for improved irrigation management.

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective:

Provide cost share for two water quality livestock BMPs; provide technical assistance to 3 landowners. Identify and develop 2 projects for future funding. Complete an alternatives analysis for the fish passage barrier at the mouth of Pine Creek and advance preferred alternative to a conceptual design level. Partner with Yakama Nation and BNSF to apply for funding for complete design and construction.

Funding Source(s): WSCC Implementation, EKCD Rates and Charges, RCO SRFB, SCC Irrigation Efficiencies Program, PE Program

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Activities for FY2024 | Target Dates | Person  Responsible | Time(Days) Required | Estimated Funding |
| Re-evaluate WQ program January 2025 | On-going | Loren and Board | 1 | $1,200 |
| Maintain presence on WRIA 31, and other water quality related committees as opportunity presents | On-going | Loren Meagher | 2 | $2,500 |
| Work with irrigators to develop irrigation efficiencies projects. | On-going | Loren Meagher  Eric Schuh | 12 | $9,000 |
| Work with consultant to complete Pine Creek Passage alternatives. | June 2024 | Loren Meagher | 5 | $160,000 |

**Natural Resource Priority Program Area:**  **Rangeland, Farm, Forest, & Habitat Management**

Goal(s): Improve forest and rangeland health and protect natural resource values and functions through sound management practices.

Manage land in the Simcoe Mountains to demonstrate conservation stewardship and working lands management that results in natural resource conservation and productive working lands.

Natural Resource Measurable Result Objective:

Adaptively manage working lands owned by EKCD.

Implement forest health and fuels reduction projects on public and private lands.

Utilize secured funding to implement private landowner conservation projects utilizing cost share or DIP’s with the conservation crew.

Develop farm plans that assist landowners with identifying conservation opportunities and assist EKCD with implementing conservation.

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective:

* Conduct outreach to inform residents of available technical and financial assistance.
* Utilize funding from legislature to provide wildfire recovery support.
* Support staffing of project implementation crew through CKCD.

Funding Source(s): SCC Implementation, EKCD Rates and Charges, SCC Forest Health Funding, SCC PE Funding

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Activities for FY2024 | Target Dates | Person  Responsible | Time(Days) Required | Estimated Funding |
| Identify and prioritize wildfire protection projects throughout Klickitat County as funding and time allows. | On-going | Loren Meagher  Others as assigned | 19 | $14,000 |
| Implement forest health and fuels reduction projects on public and private lands. | On-going | Loren Meagher  Eric Schuh  Diane Simonds  Crews | 235 | $370,000 |
| Adaptively manage EKCD’s working lands and update management plan for long term management of forest and range lands under a working lands conservation strategy. | On-going | Loren Meagher | 5 | $5,000 |
| Conservation planner training and farm plan development. | On-going | Eric Schuh  Drew Bowdish | 35 | $20,000 |
| Implement $500,00 of fire recovery projects. |  | Loren Meagher  Eric Schuh  Crews | 20 | $530,000 |
| Provide livestock technical assistance. |  | Loren Meagher  Eric Schuh | 11 | $17,000 |

District Program Area: **Education and Outreach**

Goal(s): Increase awareness of natural resource issues within the District. Increase public awareness of the District and its programs, especially ACEs, water quality and the importance of riparian areas, and forest management practices to reduce fire danger and improve water quality.

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective:

Hold Annual Meeting in February; hold annual plant sale. Conduct outreach to people interested in conservation.

Establish a presence in the Bickleton area with the purchase of land and building that can be utilized for meetings, workspace and equipment storage.

Funding Sources: WSCC Implementation, EKCD Rates and Charges

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Activities for FY2024 | Target Dates | Person  Responsible | Time (Days) Required | Estimated Funding |
| Conduct annual tree sale | March 2024 | Kirsten Schilling  Others as assigned | 15 | $15,000 |
| Continue to add content to new website as time allows | On-going | All staff, consultant | 4 | $8,000 |
| Maintain relationship with county commissioners and provide updates as needed. | On-going | Loren Meagher  Staff | 2 | $2,000 |
| Presentation on virtual fence at annual meeting or separate. | Winter 2024 | Loren Meagher  Staff | 2 | $2,500 |
| Land/building purchase | Summer 2024 | Loren Meagher | 4 | $100,000 |

District Program Area: **District Operations**

Goal(s): Develop and maintain effective and efficient office operations, including accounting, and grant vouchering, supervisor elections and appointments, at least quarterly meetings, training and development, annual planning and reporting. Maintain WSCC “District in Good Standing” designation. Work to develop and opportunity to obtain CD owned property and shop/office space to support operations.

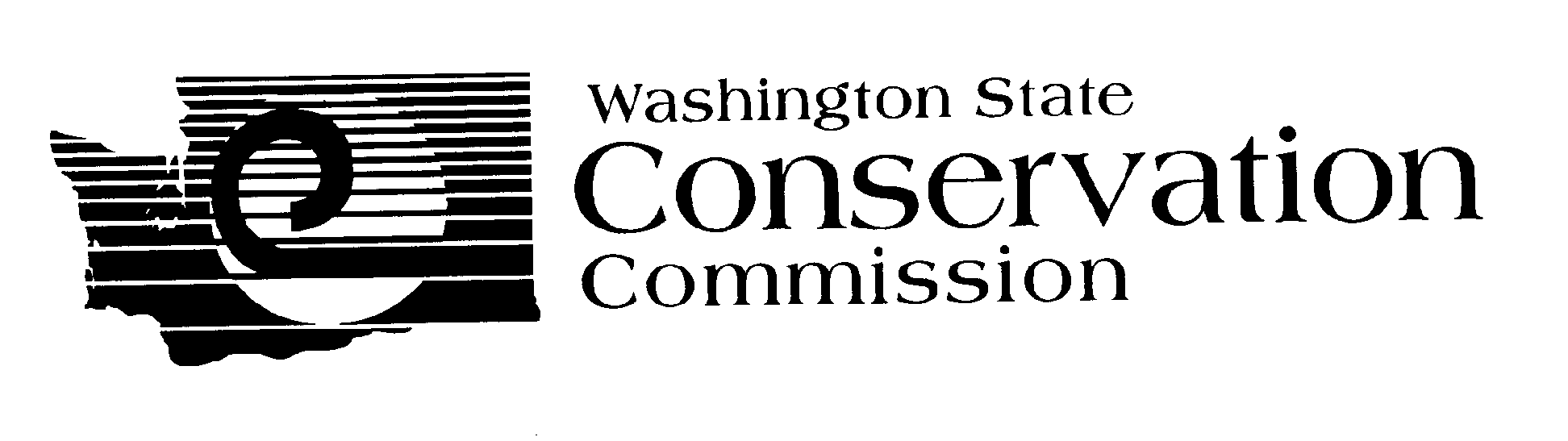
Programmatic Measurable Result Objective:

Hold regular board meetings. Timely completion and submission of the Annual Financial Report and Schedule 22 to State Auditor; Annual Plan of Work to WSCC; monthly WSCC grant vouchers; and grant reporting. Update and develop good governance policy for board. Review and update MOU’s and Interlocal Agreements. Update MOU with CKCD.

Funding Source(s): WSCC Implementation, EKCD Rates and Charges

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Activities for FY2024 | Target Dates | Person  Responsible | Time(Days) Required | Estimated Funding |
| Manage district operations. Solicit new sources of funding. Develop new conservation project opportunities. | On-going | Loren Meagher  Kirsten Schilling | 50 | $75,000 |
| Do all reporting, planning and other office operational procedures as required  for all grants and funding sources. | On-going | Kirsten Schilling  Loren Meagher | 50 | $75,000 |
| Plan and hold EKCD Annual Meeting (providing as many pesticide credits as possible) | February 2024 | Loren Meagher  Kirsten Schilling  Other staff as assigned | 15 | $8,000 |
| Hold timely and efficient supervisor election in a manner that will include the maximum number of voters in a cost effective way. | February 2024 | Kirsten Schilling  Loren Meagher  Others as assigned | 5 | $3000 |
| Maintain regular communication with WSCC, WACD, Klickitat BOCC and other legislators | On-going | Loren Meagher | 2 | $5,000 |

#### FY2025 Annual Budget



#### EASTERN KLICKITAT Conservation District

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Income** | | **Expenses** | |
|  |  |  |  |
| Implementation/Basic Allocation | $204,000 | Wages & Benefits | $650,000 |
| WSCC WWRP OFP Funds | $100,000 | Professional Services | $95,000 |
| Pine Creek Fish Passage | $160,000 | Comm. & Advertising | $8,000 |
| SCC Irrigation Efficiencies | $2,000 | Travel | $8,000 |
| NRI | $125,000 | Supplies, Tools & Equip. | $300,000 |
| WSCC PE Grant | $83,333 | Insurance | $10,000 |
| Rates and Charges | $40,000 | Training, Dues, Licenses | $25,000 |
| SCC Forest Health | $800,000 | Projects and Cost Share payments | $750,000 |
| Wildfire Recovery | $530,000 | Land Acquisition | $100,000 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Total | $2,044,333 | Total | $1,946,000 |