



FY2014 (7/1/13 – 6/30/14) Annual Work Plan Clark Conservation District

**For More Information Contact: Denise Smee, (360) 883-1987 X 100,
dsmee@clarkcd.org**



Mission of the Clark Conservation District

Mission of the Clark Conservation District is to assist land users and others to protect, conserve, and manage water quality, soils, and natural habitat areas of the District to benefit present and future generations.

Natural Resource Priorities

In general, urban growth and development, construction of residential homes, industry, schools, etc., along with the associated support systems of roads, parks and utilities, are increasing pressure on the resources of this county. Land users will need educational and technical assistance in conserving natural resources for a rapidly changing landscape.

Trends Impacting Conservation in the Clark Conservation District

- Decreasing agricultural land
- Increasing value of agricultural land
- Increase need for statistics on type, and use of agricultural land
- Decrease in land management experience among land owners/managers
- Increase in development and population growth
- Increase restrictions on funding sources including restrictions on administrative/infrastructure costs
- Increase in interest for buying locally grown produce & increase in farmers market
- Declining water quality
- Increase in “city” influence in agriculture and natural decision making
- Increase in community support agriculture

Water Resources and Water Quality (stormwater, water leaving property, infiltration issues, contaminants, septics, sediments)

There are sixteen separate drainage basins and more than 100 ponds and lakes within the District. Livestock waste and septic system leaks to storm drains, ditches, and creeks exist in much of Clark County. TMDL assessments show non-compliance for fecal coliform in Gibbons and Salmon Creeks, and East Fork of the Lewis River watersheds, including numerous other sites on the 303(d) list. There are numerous State and County parks within the basins as well that are being influenced by poor water quality, reducing the recreational uses of these systems.

Vancouver Lake County Park which has boat launches, swimming areas, and fishing beaches was closed twice in the last year to recreational uses due to poor water quality and algae bloom.

Supported by:

- Salmon Creek Watershed Bacteria and Turbidity TMDL Detailed Implementation Plan, Dept. of Ecology, March 2005;
- Salmon Creek Temperature TMDL Water Quality Improvement Report and Implementation Plan, Dept. of Ecology, Oct. 2011;
- Washington’s Water Quality Management Plan to Control Nonpoint Sources of Pollution, Dept. of Ecology, June 2005;
- Quality Assurance Project Plan for East Fork Lewis River Temperature and Fecal Coliform Bacteria TMDL, Dept. of Ecology, June 2005;
- Final Support Document for Sole Source Aquifer Designation of the Troutdale Aquifer System, US EPA, July 2006
- Abridged Groundwater Management Plan, Groundwater Management Commission for Clark County, April 1993

Strategies

- develop an outreach effort to reach 120 animal agriculture producers per year
- work with the health department to identify failing septic systems for grant support
- Work with the local land trust and WRIA planning unit to develop a grant funding program for conservation grants
- develop water quality parameter baseline

Potential Partners:

- Clark County ESA Program
- Clark County Conservation Lands
- Clark Public Utilities
- Clark County Public Health

Habitat

Clark County is in the Lower Columbia Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU), Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIA) 27 and 28. Within the borders of the County, sixteen rivers, creeks or stream basins provide spawning grounds for populations of steelhead, coho salmon, Chinook salmon, chum salmon and bull trout, listed as threatened under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA). Searun cutthroat trout and river lamprey are also within the basins and are listed as a species of concern.

Wildlife is an important renewable resource of the District. Habitat is continually lost by land use conversion from natural characteristics to urban and suburban development, along with damage to wetlands and prairies from siltation, land filling, and excessive human traffic. Also, approximately half the District is currently in woodland use, either commercially or otherwise. Of this woodland, more than 80 percent is in private ownership.

Supported by:

- Lower Columbia Salmon Recovery and Fish & Wildlife Subbasin Plan, Salmon-Washougal and Lewis Rivers (WRIAs 27-28) Watershed Management Plan, LCFRB, Dec. 2004;
- Salmon and Steelhead Limiting Factors Analysis, WA State Conservation Commission, Report for WRIA 27 and WRIA 28;
- Statewide Strategy to Recover Salmon, Washington State Joint Natural Resources Cabinet, Sept. 1999

Strategies:

- Identify key riparian habitats for improvement and implement restoration projects
- Identify 50 acres critical upland habitat and find funding to protect, enhance, or restore the habitat

Potential Partners:

- Clark County ESA Program
- Clark County Conservation Lands
- Clark Public Utilities
- Clark County Public Health
- WA Dept of Fish & Wildlife
- Clark County Wildlife Club
- USFW
- Army Corp of Engineers
- BPA
- Clark County ESA Program
- Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board

Land Use (open space, open lands, farm land & forest land preservation, soil productivity, intensive land use, development issues, maximize the working lands capacity)

Supported by:

- Clark County Agriculture Preservation Strategies Report, Clark County, Oct. 2009
- Clark County Unified Development Code 40.440.040 Agricultural Uses, Including Animal Husbandry and 40.260.235 Urban Livestock Strategies:
 - Work with the county conservation lands office on the collection of data on land use
 - Develop a farmland preservation program that meets the needs of local land owners and partners
 - Work with county on the Whipple Creek data on farmland
 - Develop priority criteria in the program regarding which land owners to approach
 - Gather information on farmland, verify the information and fill gaps
 - Hold community meetings
 - Research funding sources and program options

Potential Partners:

- Clark CD Board
- Board of County Commissioners
- Clark County Conservation Lands
- Columbia Land Trust
- Food Systems Council

Education- Information

- Develop a comprehensive information and educational program to inform citizens about natural resource capabilities and limitations, existing resource programs, conservation by incentive, and proper use and treatment of resources.
- Stimulate appreciation of the value of a strong resource base with renewable, natural resources, particularly among those who do not directly manage land. Both students and adults will be addressed.
- By February 2014 reach 400 citizens annually with conservation education activities

Strategies:

- Fair booth displays – changing and adding technology – interactive
- Workshops increased and tailor topics to targeted groups
- New ways to connect to public – going to businesses and hosting questions and answer activity

Potential Partners:

- Board and staff of specific of community groups – Naturally Beautiful Backyards, Naturescaping, Native Plant Society emphasis on plants, native plants



FY2014 (7/1/13 – 6/30/14) Annual Work Plan

Clark Conservation District

Natural Resource Priority Program Area: Conservation Planning and Assistance, Animal Agriculture, Engineering

Goal(s):

Water Quality (stormwater, water leaving property, infiltration issues, contaminants, septics, sediments)

- By February 2014 will have demonstrated improvement in any water quality parameters in major streams and tributaries in Clark County including a measurable improvement in Salmon Creek; through assistance to 30 septic tank owners, 165 engineering services provided, 50% of the animal agriculture landowners assisted, 1500 conservation practices voluntarily applied, and all the owners of properties on or adjacent to Salmon Creek and its major tributaries have been contacted and offered assistance from our programs

Habitat (loss or changes in critical & unique habitats, connectivity, native wildlife & plants, wetland)

- By February 2014 find or create a program with funding for upland wildlife habitat restoration and protection on 50 acres; riparian area enhancement on 5 miles of stream including fisheries habitat in multiple mile reaches (highest priority private & county ownership) in the East Fork Lewis River for steelhead spawning, rearing and holding areas.

Land Use (open space, open lands, farm land & forest land preservation, soil productivity, intensive land use, development issues, maximize the working lands capacity)

- By February 2014 all farmland is accurately inventoried with 6 farms approximately 400 acres enrolled in a farmland preservation program;

Funding Source(s):

Activities for FY2014	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time(Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
<i>Clark Agricultural Water Quality</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Plan development BMP Cost share Displays, tours, fairs 	Begins Jan. 1, 2014	Staff		\$10,000	Grant award confirmed by 7/1/13
<i>CREP Grant</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landowner assistance and cost-share 	7/1/13-6/30/14	Staff		\$2,000	Grant award confirmed by 7/1/13
<i>Clear Choices, Clean Water</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Plan development BMP Cost share Displays, tours, fairs 	Begins Jan. 1, 2014	Staff		\$10,000	Grant award confirmed by 7/1/13
<i>SC 2012 BMP Implementation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streambank stabilization Conservation Plan development BMP Cost share 	Ends June 30, 2014	Staff		\$160,000	Received

<i>Implementation Grant</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Landowner assistance and cost-share 	7/1/13-6/30/14	Staff		\$25,000	Grant award confirmed by 7/1/13
<i>Family Forest Fish Passage Program(FFFPP)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MacRae ▪ Cocklin 	Construction season 2013	Staff		\$17,500	Received
<i>USDA Crop Survey</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Windshield survey of crop land and update GIS database 	7/1/13-9/3/13	Staff		\$3,000	Received
<i>Engineering</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Clackamas SWCD 	7/1/13-6/30/14	Doug Becky		\$20,000	Agreement amount will be confirmed by 7/1/13

District Program Area: District Operations; Information & Education

Goal(s):

Clark County natural resources are under pressure through development and population increases. According to the 2008 WA State Population survey, Clark County is 2nd in WA State in population density and has the 4th most populous city. It is also the fastest growing County with the population increasing an average of almost 3% a year which equates to about 10,000 people. Large populations are moving into formerly rural areas wanting a “country” lifestyle but without the knowledge and ability to properly manage their land. Our long range plan states “Land users will need education and technical assistance in conserving natural resources for a rapidly changing landscape.” District operations funding is necessary to provide technical, financial, and educational resources to the community and coordinate them to meet the needs of the local landowner and others for the conservation of the natural resources. Operations funding provides for district-wide activities such as being available to landowners for general customer service and assistance, utilities, elections, and meetings. This funding allows the District to conduct the annual native plant sale which provides thousands of native plants to residents and enables the District to participate in the SW Regional Envirothon competition for students.

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective:

- Assist over 200 people with natural resource conservation information and/or education
- Provide over 8000 native trees and shrubs to the community
- Conducting monthly and quarterly meetings
- Host and increase participation in the 2014 SW Regional Envirothon event
- Conduct successful district elections
- Attend at least 4 county-wide outreach events and provide volunteer opportunities at events

Funding Source(s):

Activities for FY2014	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time(Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
<p><i>Annual Elections/Appointments</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prepare Supervisor Elections ▪ Review and Advertise Appointed and Elected Supervisor Positions ▪ Submit Proper Forms to the Commission ▪ Conduct Annual Board meeting/Election of Officers 	<p>March January Dec.-March April</p>	<p>Becky/Denise Board Members</p>		<p>\$12,500</p>	<p>Grant award confirmed by 7/1/13</p>
<p><i>WACD Activities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dues ▪ WACD Annual Meeting ▪ Various meetings 	<p>July December Throughout the year</p>	<p>Board Becky Denise</p>			
<p><i>Conduct Regular Monthly Meetings</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ District Administration ▪ Review Minutes ▪ Send minutes and Treasure's Report to WSCC ▪ Approve Expenditures ▪ Review Activities ▪ Guest Speakers- Invite citizens to participate or be Assoc. members ▪ NRCS Report and Participation 	<p>First Thurs. of every month Monthly</p>	<p>All staff Board NRCS staff</p>			
<p><i>District Planning</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Review and Prepare Annual Plan of Work and Long Range Plan ▪ Prepare Annual Report of Accomplishments ▪ Send Annual Plan and Long Range Plan to WSCC ▪ Send Annual Report of Accomplishments to WSCC 	<p>April Sept May Sept</p>	<p>Denise Board</p>			
<p><i>Educational/ Outreach Activities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regional Envirothon ▪ Washington State Envirothon ▪ Workshops ▪ Website, displays, tours, fairs ▪ Organize and conduct plant sale 	<p>March May On-going Oct-Feb</p>	<p>All staff and Board</p>		<p>\$14,884</p>	
<p><i>Financial Activities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ State Audit ▪ Schedule 22 	<p>Oct April</p>	<p>Becky Denise</p>			

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Monthly Financial Reports ▪ Basic Funding Application and reports ▪ Grant Applications ▪ Vouchering 	Monthly April As Needed April Monthly	Board			
<i>Legislative Activities</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue communications about District activities 	As Needed	Board			



FY2014 Annual Budget Clark Conservation District

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income

FFFPP	17,500
Crop survey	3,000
SC BMP Implementation	160,000
Engineering	20,000
CREP	2,000
Basic Funding	12,500
Implementation	39,884
Nursery Stock	11,000
Interest Earned	10
Sales Tax	780
Total Income	<u>266,674</u>

Expense

Salary and Benefits	176,200
Office and Operating	7,020
Travel	2,200
Advertising	1,700
Insurance (Liability)	4,000
Dues/Registration	5,600
Cost Share	40,000
Truck Maintenance & Fuel	2,000
Information & Education	4,000
Nursery Stock	9,500
State Sales Tax	780
Total Expense	<u>253,000</u>