



FY2014 (7/1/14 – 6/30/15) Annual Work Plan Underwood Conservation District

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Phase 2 of Little Wind River
Habitat Restoration Project

Mission of Underwood Conservation District

- ❖ *The mission of Underwood Conservation District is to enhance natural resources and stewardship in Skamania County and western Klickitat County.*

Natural Resource Issues of Concern (alphabetical):

- ❖ *Aquatic and Riparian Habitat*
- ❖ *Farm and Ranch Lands*
- ❖ *Forest Lands*
- ❖ *Invasive Species*
- ❖ *Irrigation Efficiency and Water Conservation*
- ❖ *Orchards and Vineyards*
- ❖ *Upland Wildlife Habitat*
- ❖ *Water Quality*
- ❖ *Wildfire Risk Reduction / Firewise Communities*

Program Area: Natural Resources

Goals:

- ❖ *Through 2017, coordinate with other agencies to create Firewise communities and empower them to implement Firewise projects and principles.*
- ❖ *Through 2017, assist forestland owners in forest management plans, technical recommendations, implement those plans through district cost share agreements as well as state and federal grants/cost share, and serve as a liaison between the landowner and regulatory agencies.*
- ❖ *Through 2017, assist farmers and ranchers, both small and large-scale, with farm plans, nutrient management plans, cost share and grant applications, technical assistance on site specific projects, and serve as a liaison between the landowner and regulatory agencies.*
- ❖ *Through 2017, assist irrigation districts, ditch companies, and Coordinated Resource Management Areas through facilitation and project sponsorship.*
- ❖ *Through 2017, conduct active outreach to orchardists and vineyard operators to identify needs and how we can be of assistance.*
- ❖ *By 2017, identify and complete at least 5 pollinator or wildlife habitat enhancement projects.*

- ❖ Through 2017, assist water users in the district with water conservation practices.
- ❖ Through 2017, assist landowners and land managers to improve and protect water quality.
- ❖ Through 2017, continue to establish and improve riparian buffers.
- ❖ Through 2017, maintain invasive species control by working with County and state natural resource agencies and local landowners.
- ❖ Through 2017, maintain a prioritized list of projects that support watershed health. Review this list annually.
- ❖ Through 2017, in coordination with others, implement ways to fill data gaps identified in watershed plans.

Funding Sources: WA DNR, Skamania County, NRCS, WA ECY, RCO SRFB, USFWS, BPA F&W, Clark-Skamania Fly-Fishers, WSCC
(see glossary for acronym definitions)

Activities for FY2014	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding Needed	Actual Funding Secured
<i>Pursue successful implementation of Firewise Program by assisting with landowner education and fire hazard reduction.</i>	<i>July 2014- June 2015</i>	<i>Dan Richardson</i>	<i>Year-round project</i>	<i>\$135,000</i>	<i>\$46,000</i>
<i>Identify, design, and provide technical assistance for forestland improvement projects on private lands.</i>	<i>July 2014- June 2015</i>	<i>Jim White</i>	<i>Year-round project</i>	<i>\$20,000</i>	<i>\$3,000*</i>
<i>Identify, design, and provide technical assistance for livestock management projects, water quality improvements, and riparian buffer projects with cooperating landowners. This includes work under WSCC Category 3 and Dept. of Ecology's Clean Water Grant for the White Salmon River.</i>	<i>July 2014- June 2015</i>	<i>Carly McNeil</i>	<i>Year-round project</i>	<i>\$350,000</i>	<i>\$357,000</i>
<i>Continue to work with irrigation groups to identify, pursue funding for, design and implement irrigation improvement projects.</i>	<i>July 2014- June 2015</i>	<i>Tova Tillinghast</i>	<i>Year-round project</i>	<i>\$20,000</i>	<i>\$12,000</i>
<i>Assess needs and gain public input on how we can assist orchardists and vineyard owners/operators.</i>	<i>July 2014- June 2015</i>	<i>Carly McNeil</i>	<i>Year-round project</i>	<i>\$2,000</i>	<i>\$1,000*</i>
<i>Continue to plan and implement steelhead habitat enhancement/restoration work in Wind River, via BPA F&W contract and other funding sources. This includes the completion of Phase 3 of Little Wind River Community Habitat Enhancement project.</i>	<i>July 2014- June 2015</i>	<i>Tova Tillinghast</i>	<i>Year-round project</i>	<i>\$165,000</i>	<i>\$93,600</i>
<i>Pursue successful completion of projects such as Buck Creek Irrigation Improvement, Trout Lake Irrigation Improvement, Rattlesnake Creek Stream Enhancement, Mill Creek Culvert Replacement, and Cannavina Road Culverts Replacement.</i>	<i>July 2014- June 2015</i>	<i>Tova Tillinghast</i>	<i>Year-round projects</i>	<i>\$500,000+</i>	<i>\$310,000</i>
<i>Plan and conduct a land use inventory of the District, assessing natural resource needs of District and ways UCD can fulfill those needs.</i>	<i>July 2014- June 2015</i>	<i>Tova Tillinghast</i>	<i>30 days</i>	<i>\$4,000</i>	<i>\$1,000*</i>

Continue work with the WSRWMC and WRWC, as time and funding allow, to keep up-to-date a WS and WR Watershed Enhancement Project List and Work Plan.	July 2014- June 2015	Tova Tillinghast	20 days	\$2,000	\$1,000*
Develop and maintain a Watershed Enhancement Project List outside of the Wind River and White Salmon River watersheds.	July 2014- June 2015	Tova Tillinghast	30 days	\$2,000	\$1,000*
Maintain a project and water quality geodatabase for the district.	July 2014- June 2015	Carly McNeil	Year-round project	\$2,000	\$2,000*
Continue to participate in WRIA 29A & 29B planning processes when possible, and as data gaps are identified and prioritized, assist in securing funding and gathering data; participate in WRIA 28 & 30 planning efforts where possible as well.	July 2014- June 2015	Tova Tillinghast	Year-round project	\$1,000	\$1,000*
Conduct Fish Passage Inventory for as many fish-bearing streams as possible in the District, developing projects with willing landowners where possible.	July 2014- June 2015	Tova Tillinghast	Year-round project	\$115,000	\$115,000

*funding may come from WSCC

Program Area: Information and Education

Goals:

- ❖ Through 2017, raise awareness of UCD and our services throughout the district. Through 2017, educate the district's school students on natural resource issues, and promote the Envirothon program.
- ❖ Through 2017, provide forestry, livestock, horticulture and water conservation training to the public on an annual basis.
- ❖ Through 2017, educate and assist landowners and managers on natural resource stewardship, utilizing a multi-disciplinary and holistic conservation approach.
- ❖ Through 2017, provide education and outreach to landowners and managers to reduce water consumption and solid waste.
- ❖ Through 2017, increase education and outreach to minority populations.

Funding Sources: WA DNR, Skamania County, WA ECY, WSCC (see glossary for acronym definitions)

Activities for FY2014	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding Needed	Actual Funding Secured
Plan UCD 75th Anniversary series of activities and celebrations, including a review of UCD-related local history and visioning for the future. Recruit local historian and visioning facilitator for these efforts.	July 2014- June 2015	Tova Tillinghast	Year-round project	\$7,000	\$5,000*
Increase public outreach about the District and invite more input in Annual Planning and Long Range Planning Process.	July 2014- June 2015	Tova Tillinghast	Year-round project	\$1,000	\$1,000*

Conduct programs, tours, site visits, and educational activities throughout the District.	July 2014- June 2015	Tova Tillinghast	Year-round project	\$4,000	\$1,000*
Improve UCD's outreach and education structure to provide clear messaging to the public about UCD services. This may include developing a holistic land and water stewardship program.	July 2014- June 2015	Tova Tillinghast	Year-round project	\$5,000	\$1,000*
Continue partnering with USFWS, MCFEG, YN, CGEI, other partners, and school districts to educate students on natural resource issues, including WaterJam, the Envirothon, and pursuing funding for either an education/outreach position or internship or to adopt state-wide CD program such as Salmon in the Classroom, Water on Wheels, and Wheat Week.	July 2014- June 2015	Carly McNeil	Year-round project	\$15,000	\$1,000*
Pursue funding for and provide educational opportunities and technical assistance for livestock, forest, horticulture, and natural resource management.	July 2014- June 2015	Carly McNeil	Year-round project	\$3,000	\$1,000*
Continue participating in Coordinated Resource Management Planning groups.	July 2014- June 2015	Carly McNeil	5 days	\$1,000	\$1,000*
Conduct an annual native plant and noxious weed identification tour in partnership with Klickitat and Skamania Counties.	July 2014- June 2015	Dan Richardson	5 days	\$1,000	\$1,000*
Integrate outreach and education about aquatic and terrestrial invasive species into general UCD educational materials, as well as continued participation in the Columbia Gorge Coordinated Weed Management Area meetings.	July 2014- June 2015	Dan Richardson	Year-round project	\$1,000	\$1,000*
Pursue funding to reprint and distribute Landowner Handbook, and contact both counties to refresh online posting and distribution.	July 2014- June 2015	Carly McNeil	3 days	\$3,000	\$1,000*
Continue annual Plant Sale and Arbor Day event, and continue to extend these events to the West-end of Skamania County.	Nov. 2014- March 2015	Tova Tillinghast	4 months	\$15,000	\$15,000**
Continue to improve and update UCD website.	July 2014- June 2015	Tova Tillinghast	Year-round project	\$1,000	\$1,000*
Update UCD brochure and develop a Spanish version of it as an invitation to minority populations to work with UCD.	July 2014- June 2015	Carly McNeil	Year-round project	\$1,000	\$1,000*

*funding may come from WSCC

**funding may come from plant sale revenue

Program Area: District Operations

Goals:

- ❖ By 2017, have all needed staffing and staff training to implement the Long Range Plan.
- ❖ Through 2017, pursue funding and practice fiscal prudence to retain staff and provide district services into the future.
- ❖ Through 2017, establish and maintain positive solid relationships with Klickitat County and Skamania County.

- ❖ *By 2017, have all facilities, vehicles, equipment to meet the needs of the district.*
- ❖ *Through 2017, work with neighboring districts and other entities to share resources and information.*

Funding Sources: *WSCC (see glossary for acronym definitions)*

Activities for FY2014	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding Needed	Actual Funding Secured
<i>Keep UCD staff grants/time-tracking up-to-date and work to balance staff workload, including identification of additional staffing, staff training, or funding needs.</i>	<i>July 2014- June 2015</i>	<i>Tova Tillinghast</i>	<i>Year-round project</i>	<i>\$3,000</i>	<i>\$3,000*</i>
<i>Plan UCD 75th Anniversary year of activities and celebrations, including a “Dream District” planning session with staff and supervisors. This will include an update of the Long-Range Plan.</i>	<i>July 2014- June 2015</i>	<i>Tova Tillinghast</i>	<i>Year-round project</i>	<i>\$2,000</i>	<i>\$2,000*</i>
<i>Raise awareness of UCD projects and services by requesting to meet with Skamania and Klickitat County Commissioners on a regular basis, identifying ways to meet county needs, and compiling landowner/stakeholder letters of support.</i>	<i>July 2014- June 2015</i>	<i>Tova Tillinghast</i>	<i>Year-round project</i>	<i>\$2,000</i>	<i>\$1,000*</i>
<i>Continually assess office, vehicle, and equipment needs, and pursue improvements.</i>	<i>July 2014- June 2015</i>	<i>Tova Tillinghast</i>	<i>Year-round project</i>	<i>\$20,000</i>	<i>\$1,000*</i>
<i>Provide supervisor and staff training and equipment improvements/upgrades as needed to sustain capable staff and work environment. Develop a training schedule and structure for staff to review conservation-related topics and BMPs.</i>	<i>July 2014- June 2015</i>	<i>Tova Tillinghast</i>	<i>Year-round project</i>	<i>\$10,000</i>	<i>\$10,000**</i>
<i>Regularly update the board of supervisors with budget picture and potential changes.</i>	<i>July 2014- June 2015</i>	<i>Tova Tillinghast and Ann Gross</i>	<i>Year-round project</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>	<i>\$5,000*</i>

*funding may come from WSCC

**funding may come from overhead accrual account, per UCD Training Policy.



FY2014 Annual Budget Summary Underwood Conservation District

Underwood Conservation District budget for FY2014 (7/1/14 – 6/30/15)

Funding Source	Amount
<i>BPA F&W – Wind River</i>	\$ 88,700
<i>DNR Fish Passage Inventory</i>	\$ 115,000
<i>DNR Klickitat Chipper</i>	\$ 10,000
<i>DNR Firewise CWPP Implementation</i>	\$ 45,000
<i>ECY Fecal Coliform Water Quality</i>	\$202,000
<i>RCO SRFB – Buck Creek</i>	\$ 54,000
<i>RCO SRFB – Mill Creek</i>	\$ 50,000
<i>RCO SRFB – Rattlesnake Creek</i>	\$ 75,000
<i>Skamania County General Funding</i>	\$ 4,000
<i>Skamania County Title III – Firewise*</i>	\$ 85,000
<i>USFWS – Cannavina Fish Passage</i>	\$ 75,000
<i>USFWS – Fish Screen Project</i>	\$ 12,000
<i>USFWS – Indian Creek</i>	\$ 4,000
<i>USFWS – Mill Creek</i>	\$ 45,000
<i>WSCC Livestock TA**</i>	\$ 12,000
<i>WSCC Category 1 District Operations**</i>	\$ 25,000
<i>WSCC Category 2 Implementation**</i>	\$ 45,000
<i>WSCC Category 3 (non-shellfish) Projects</i>	\$154,900
<i>WSCC Basic Funding**</i>	\$ 12,500
Total	\$1,114,100



BEFORE
Strom Heavy Use Area
Cost Share Project



AFTER
Strom Heavy Use Area
Cost Share Project

*Skamania County Title III Firewise funds have not yet been allocated for FY14, hence this is an estimate based on our proposal.

**WSCC funds are not yet allocated for FY14, hence these are estimates based on FY13 allocations.

Washington Conservation Districts - assisting land managers with their conservation choices.

Glossary of Acronyms:

BPA F&W – Bonneville Power Administration’s Fish and Wildlife Division subcontracts with UCD to conduct steelhead restoration work in the Wind River

NRCS – Natural Resources Conservation Service, a division of US Dept. of Agriculture, is UCD’s federal partner in conservation work. Formerly, the Soil Conservation Service.

PCSRF/YN – Yakama Nation has Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Funding that has been subcontracted to UCD for various projects

RCO SRFB – Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office, Salmon Recovery Funding Board, has funded numerous projects for UCD

Skamania County – Under Title III of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Act, counties such as Skamania County are authorized to allocate federal funding to help pay for programs related to Firewise.

South Central WA RC&D – South Central Washington Resource Conservation and Development Council

USFWS – US Fish and Wildlife Service

WA DNR – Washington Department of Natural Resources has “Western States” funding that has then been subcontracted to UCD for various projects including Firewise work and a fish passage inventory.

WA ECY – Washington Department of Ecology has funded UCD to conduct livestock and water quality projects in the White Salmon River watershed.

WSCC – Washington State Conservation Commission, UCD’s state-level guiding agency, provides funding on an annual basis