

Jefferson County Conservation District

Dana Ecelberger, District Manager
205 W Patison Street Port Hadlock, WA 98339
(360) 385-4105 | dana@jeffersoncd.org | www.jeffersoncd.org
Board Chair: Roger Short



State Legislative District #24
Congressional District #6

2014 Feature Accomplishment: Restoring riparian habitat and managing beaver impacts

RESOURCE CHALLENGE Administered by the Farm Service Agency and the Washington State Conservation Commission, the Conservation Resource Enhancement Program (CREP) offers landowners financial incentives for restoring and protecting riparian habitat (areas in and around rivers and streams) on their property. CREP riparian plantings on Chimacum Creek have also re-created an ideal habitat for beaver, resulting in extensive tree damage, flooding, and landowner unhappiness. Jefferson County Conservation District (JCCD) is working to address issues in a non-lethal manner to save time, money, and the beaver.



Enterprising beavers!

PROJECT SUMMARY AND RESULTS JCCD assessed all CREP buffers for plant loss and beaver impacts. We then replanted riparian areas, protecting new plantings with beaver barriers made from re-purposed materials to keep costs down. Outreach to landowners, beaver experts, WA Department of Fish and Wildlife, WA Department of Transportation, and our local Public Works resulted in a broad-based partnership for solutions suitable to our unique geography. The District has bridged the gap between regulatory agencies and landowners to negotiate the often emotional, conflicting objectives. As this process continues, we will install flow-through devices and culvert protection fencing as public training events. This District also will monitor the sites with wildlife cameras.



Interns learn about beaver and how to protect trees.

KEY PARTNERS: WADepartment of Transportation; Jefferson County Public Works; Department of Fish and Wildlife; Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program; Benjamin Dittbrenner; and Mike Callahan of Beaver Solutions.

Other Accomplishments



Volunteers learn about Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program and help re-plant one of our biggest buffers.

Photo Credit: Ashlyn Brown



Many hands make light work!

More Work to Do!

This year we look forward to an increased number of farm plans, involvement in the Critical Areas Ordinance update process, a number of new CREP enrollments, two comprehensive water quality reports, another meander project, and continuing beaver related flood management.