

Asotin County Conservation District

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State Legislative District #9
Congressional District #5

2015 Feature Accomplishment: Livestock manure management projects



Before construction of feed pads and waste storage, facility manure was piled in feeding areas with no way to properly prepare it for field application.

Credit: Megan Stewart

possible, relocating feeding areas will reduce livestock impacts on the streams and water quality conditions.

PROJECT SUMMARY AND RESULTS Asotin County Conservation District worked with six landowners to install feeding pads and waste storage facilities during the 2014-15 biennium. Concrete feed pads allow manure to be collected in waste storage facilities until it's applied to agriculture fields for fertilizer. This reduces manure concentration near streams while improving soil conditions in fields. Each feeding operation has a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) that provides a guide for operation and maintenance for the landowner. To date there are 19 CNMPs completed, and 14 landowners are on a waiting list for cost-share to implement manure management projects.

KEY PARTNERS: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service; Bonneville Power Administration; Washington State Department of Ecology; Private landowners

RESOURCE CHALLENGE There are multiple livestock operations in Asotin County that winter animals adjacent to streams. Fencing off riparian (stream-side) areas and excluding livestock access to the stream protects the stream banks and reduces in-stream sedimentation levels. However, the concentration of manure in close proximity to the riparian zone still impacts fecal coliform levels in streams. Improving and, when



Construction of the feed pads and waste storage facilities are complete and manure is collected and stored for future field application.

Credit: Megan Stewart

Other Accomplishments



Prior to the removal of a fish barrier and installation of a bottomless arch culvert.

Credit: Casey Scott



Bottomless arch culvert installed allowing Endangered Species Act-listed fish access to approximately four stream miles of habitat.

Credit: Casey Scott



Providing alternative water developments are essential to the success of riparian exclusion projects and increased pasture utilization. Credit: Courtney Smith, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

More Work to Do!

- Headgate Dam on Asotin Creek is listed as a fish barrier and will be modified so it is no longer a barrier.
- Pipe culvert on Rattlesnake Creek at Highway 129 was identified as fish barrier. Asotin County Conservation District and the Washington State Department of Transportation have secured funds to remove the barrier to increase fish passage.
- A watershed and geomorphic assessment will be conducted during the next two years to identify critical areas and future projects to address resource concerns.