



State Legislative District #13  
Congressional District #8

# Kittitas County Conservation District

Anna Lael, District Manager  
2211 W Dolarway Road, Ste 4 Ellensburg, WA 98926  
(509) 925-3352 | a-lael@conservewa.net | www.kccd.net  
Board Chair: Mark Moore

## Other Accomplishments



A pump station and fish screen was installed on Cherry Creek as part of the Irrigation Efficiencies Program (IEP). This is one of two IEP projects in FY15.



In cooperation with Kittitas County Fire District No. 7, offered a roving chipper to landowners as they work to reduce wildland fire risk.



Worked with the Wagon Wheel Community to replace a culvert with a 40' x 14' steel bridge through the Family Forest Fish Passage Program.

## 2015 Feature Accomplishment: Protecting water quality and quantity with sprinkler conversion projects



Installing the irrigation water mainline for the sprinkler system.

**RESOURCE CHALLENGE** Water quantity and water quality are the highest priority resource concerns identified by the Kittitas County Conservation District (KCCD) Board of Supervisors. KCCD is working toward meeting the 2016 goals of the Upper Yakima River Suspended Sediment TMDL (water clean-up plan) and reducing demand for irrigation water. Croplands have been primarily irrigated with rill irrigation systems. Rill irrigation is less efficient than sprinklers and result in tailwater that can transport sediment and nutrients, impacting water quality.

### PROJECT SUMMARY AND RESULTS

KCCD assembled a list of landowners interested in converting to sprinkler systems. The list included dozens of landowners and thousands of acres. Using water quality funding from the Washington State Conservation Commission, KCCD completed seven projects in FY14 and another seven in FY15, involving a total of 950 acres. This impact was significant, particularly given the drought emergency in 2015. The list of landowners and potential projects remains high, and KCCD continues to search for additional funding sources to work toward the 2016 TMDL goals and to assist landowners effected by the drought conditions.



The completed center pivot sprinkler system.

**KEY PARTNERS:** Washington State Conservation Commission

## More Work to Do!

- Convert irrigation systems to more efficient sprinkler systems on 110 acres using water quality funds from the Washington State Conservation Commission.
- Implement Irrigation Efficiencies Program projects on 100 acres, resulting in 300 acre-feet in the Trust Water Rights program.
- Construct a fish passage and fish screen project with Ellensburg Water Company on Coleman Creek to correct two fish passage barriers and screen 15 cubic feet of water per second.
- Complete wildfire fuels reduction projects with 10 landowners.