

Snohomish Conservation District

working together for better ground since 1941



FY2017 (7/1/2016-6/30/2017) Annual Work Plan

For More Information Contact: Monte Marti, 425-377-7001, monte@snohomishcd.org

Mission of the SNOHOMISH Conservation District

- Snohomish Conservation District's mission is to work cooperatively with others to promote and encourage conservation and responsible use of natural resources.
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Natural Resource Priorities

- To assist landowners and land managers (regardless of parcel size) in the consistent implementation of management practices that address:
 - Water quality and quantity resource concerns
 - Soil health resource concerns (e.g., compaction and infiltration)
 - Maintenance and restoration of natural habitats
 - To partner with a diverse set of landowners/managers, tribes, groups, and agencies that value the complexity of our heritage and natural resources, and that strive to work together to address common goals and desired outcomes
 - To educate the public in the importance of a local and domestic food supply that is safe, and the importance of maintaining health and productive natural resources
 - To support an agricultural industry that is profitable and viable, and is a good steward of the natural resources that it controls
 - To recognize comprehensive natural resource management plans as important tools to address the complex resource management issues faced throughout the District
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Program Areas:

Natural Resource Programs

- Farm Planning and Rural Resource Management
- Community Conservation (residential/urban conservation)
- Habitat Conservation

District Programs

- Outreach and Education
- District Operations

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Natural Resource Priority Program Area: Farm Planning and Rural Resource Management

Goal(s):

- Support efforts to reduce the amount of farmland being converted to other uses in Snohomish County and on Camano Island.
- Help agricultural producers to be viable in Snohomish County and on Camano Island.
- Educate urban, suburban and rural residents (including youth) in Snohomish County and on Camano Island on the importance of local agriculture, and the value of farmland preservation.

Natural Resource Measurable Result Objective:

- Reduce nutrient and pathogen inputs in water bodies and support the implementation of water quality and other resource specific plans

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective:

- Work with, provide technical assistance to, develop farm plans for, and follow-up with 750 landowners and implement 300 BMPs

Funding Source(s):

- Dept. of Ecology, Assessments, Stillaguamish Clean Water District, Conservation Commission, NOAA

| Activities for FY2017 | Target Dates | Person Responsible | Time(Days) Required | Estimated Funding | Notes |
|---|--------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| Continue to focus work in high priority areas to target specific natural resource concerns and build community. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ French Creek – implement NEP grant focused on water retention and water quality ➤ Lower Stillaguamish – implement Stilly PIC subcontract from County and Conservation Commission shellfish funds ➤ Snohomish/Skykomish/Woods Creek RCPP ➤ Church Creek – implement BMPs to reduce water quality pollution ➤ Skagit Flats – implement BMPs to reduce water quality pollution | June 2017 | Natural Resource Program Manager | 312 | \$150,000 | \$50,000 Project Costs |
| On an ongoing basis, promote natural resource program, projects, and goals through press releases, fair participation, website content (BetterGround.org and Snohomishcd.org) and articles in Nexus and in local papers/magazines. | June 2017 | Natural Resource Program Manager | 46 | \$35,000 | |

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| Continue to grow community building efforts to include signs, stewardship plans, branding, communicating goals, and better approaches for reaching people. | June 2017 | Natural Resource Program Manager | 46 | \$15,000 | |
| Provide consistent and timely technical assistance to landowners through variety of products: Site Visits, Technical Assistance Letters and/or BMP Implementation Plans, Farm Conservation Plans, Restoration Plans | June 2017 | Natural Resource Program Manager | 328 | \$105,000 | |
| Promote proper soil management practices: cover cropping, conservation tillage, composting, and nutrient management. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Develop coordinated approach to promoting these practices. Consolidate or create outreach materials, incorporate into future grant proposals, etc. ➤ Refine and continue soil testing program. | June 2017 | Natural Resource Program Manager | 21 | \$7,000 | |
| Continue and expand manure and nutrient management efforts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Continue implementation of the Stillaguamish digester project ➤ Continue to work with Snohomish County on PIC programs to reduce fecal contamination. ➤ Continue to provide manure spreader to producers. ➤ Promote ARM to livestock owners. ➤ Implement nutrient balance pilot project in the lower Stillaguamish River. ➤ Complete implementation of several Commission funded Shellfish and Non-Shellfish projects. | June 2017 | Natural Resource Program Manager | 445 | \$285,000 | \$150,000 Project Costs |
| Continue to promote Sound Horsekeeping program and secure funding. | June 2017 | Natural Resource Program Manager | 78 | \$25,000 | |
| Continue to implement research focused on producer needs and natural resource concerns. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Continue to partner with WSU Extension on compost research project. Begin to develop strategy to promote compost use County-wide. | June 2017 | Natural Resource Program Manager | 93 | \$45,000 | \$15,000 Project Costs |
| Continue to build our presence in the dairy community. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Promote cost-share funding sources from NRCS and the Commission to implement manure and nutrient management BMPs. ➤ Provide dairy nutrient management plans and updates | December 2016 | Natural Resource Program Manager | 90 | \$230,000 | \$200,000 Project Costs |

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| Respond to water quality referrals from DOE and Counties by providing technical assistance and cost-share to landowners. Support Snohomish County's business inspection program through training of County staff and technical assistance to landowners. | June 2017 | Natural Resource Program Manager | 15 | \$5,000 | |
| Work with other Puget Sound conservation districts to explore, develop, and implement effective and efficient multi-county programs, products, and efficiencies. | June 2017 | Natural Resource Program Manager | 56 | \$20,000 | |
| Establish a vegetable producer/seller and food policy advisory group. | January 2017 | Program Manager – District Operations | 28 | \$10,000 | |
| Work with ag producers to explore on-farm resource recycling systems such as rainwater harvesting and composting. Support opportunities for landowners to actively pursue recycling of on-farm hazardous materials and plastics (ag bags, oil, pots, batteries, etc.). Work with Puget Sound Partnership and EConet on farm recycling efforts. Look for possible funding or grant opportunities. | June 2017 | Program Manager – District Operations | 69 | \$25,000 | |
| Work with the County and other partners on the SAEDAT report updates, and how best to move forward to meet new identified needs as it relates to ag sustainability. Work with WSU, Snohomish County Growers Alliance and other partners on infrastructure needs and opportunities for ag communities. | June 2017 | Program Manager – District Operations | 69 | \$25,000 | |
| Continue to work with WSU to support Cultivating Success and Business Entrepreneurships programs. | June 2017 | Program Manager – District Operations | 28 | \$10,000 | |
| Begin implementation of an Agricultural Resilience Plan for the County through collaboration with the Sustainable Lands Strategy that identifies agricultural land preservation priorities and strategies for mitigating the effects of flooding and drought. | June 2017 | Natural Resources Program Manager | 156 | \$50,000 | |
| Evaluate program effectiveness and develop work plans that are consistent with the 5-Year plan and input from the Citizen Advisory Committee. Produce quarterly and annual report of accomplishments. | June 2017 | Natural Resource Program Manager | 42 | \$15,000 | |

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Natural Resource Priority Program Area: Community Conservation (residential/urban conservation)

Goal(s):

- Provide technical services to urban and suburban landowners.
- Support cities in natural resource conservation efforts and in the implementation of their National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits.
- Develop partnerships with private organizations and public entities to meet the needs of residents and to support a viable agricultural community.

Natural Resource Result Objective:

- Stormwater runoff and non-point source pollution will be reduced.

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective:

- 300 landowners will be assisted and 100 practices will be implemented

Funding Source(s):

- Assessment, Department of Ecology, Conservation Commission, Stillaguamish Clean Water District, Interlocal agreements with cities

| Activities for FY2017 | Target Dates | Person Responsible | Time(Days) Required | Estimated Funding | Notes |
|--|--------------|--|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| Participate in and facilitate high-level dialogue on stormwater initiatives with Puget Sound partners, Local Integrating Organization (LIO), Department of Ecology, external funders, and jurisdictions. | June 2017 | Community Conservation/ Outreach Program Mgr | 125 | \$45,000 | |
| Provide leadership within the PSCD Caucus Regional Stormwater Action Team, with at least one implementation project located in a target watershed within another district. | June 2017 | Community Conservation/ Outreach Program Mgr | 31 | \$10,000 | \$3,000 Project Costs |
| Collaborate with partners to provide informational and technical workshops, tours, and publications for low impact development (LID), natural yard care, urban agriculture, shoreline living, and others. | June 2017 | Community Conservation/ Outreach Program Mgr | 97 | \$35,000 | |
| Provide technical and financial stormwater assistance to cities and to urban residents, with a focus on clustered or neighborhood-scale projects in key watersheds. Plan and implement at least 3 replicable demonstration projects, | June 2017 | Community Conservation/ Outreach Program Mgr | 501 | \$240,200 | \$60,200 Project Costs |
| Explore how existing programming can incorporate urban | June 2017 | Community | 41 | \$25,000 | \$10,000 |

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| climate change resiliency. Continue to distribute rain barrels through 3 annual sales (goal of 300 barrels) | | Conservation Mgr | | | |
| Work with the private sector through green business partnerships, contractor training, and installations. Explore technical assistance and engagement strategies for commercial properties and partners. | June 2017 | Community Conservation/ Outreach Program Mgr | 27 | \$10,000 | |
| Monitor the effectiveness of projects and services. Follow up accordingly with past cooperators. Evaluate program effectiveness and develop work plans that are consistent with the 5-Year plan and input from the Citizen Advisory Committee. Produce quarterly and annual report of accomplishments. | June 2017 | Community Conservation/ Outreach Program Mgr | 36 | \$13,000 | |

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Natural Resource Priority Program Area: Habitat Conservation

Goal(s):

- Water temperature reduction, fecal coliform reduction, and improved salmon habitat in target watersheds
- Improve partnerships and increase capacity

Natural Resource Measurable Result Objective:

- Decrease water temperature as a result of planting (will be realized in the long-term) in Woods Creek and Pilchuck River. Reduction in fecal coliform counts in South Skagit Flats, Church Creek, and French Creek sub-basins. Improved in-stream habitat for salmon focusing in Woods Creek, and Church Creek.

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective:

- 75 acres of riparian forest will be planted, 2000 feet exclusion fencing, 150 site visits

Funding Source(s):

- CREP, Dept. of Ecology, Assessment, Stillaguamish Clean Water District, Conservation Commission, Plant Sale, US Fish and Wildlife, NOAA, RCO

| Activities for FY2017 | Target Dates | Person Responsible | Time(Days) Required | Estimated Funding | Notes |
|---|--------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| <p>Continue to focus work in high priority areas to target specific natural resource concerns and build community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Woods Creek – implement DOE grant to plant 20 acres. Partner with Adopt-a-Stream Foundation to install large wood in stream. Partner with Wild Fish Conservancy and Snohomish County to assess and correct passage barriers. Implement RCPP with the Commission and Puget Sound Natural Resource Alliance. ➤ South Skagit Flats – implement DOE grant focused on water quality ➤ Church Creek – implement DOE grant focused on water quality | June 2017 | Natural Resource Program Manager | 390 | \$250,000 | \$125,000 Project costs |
| Develop Riparian Stewardship Plans in the Stillaguamish River confluence area, Pilchuck River, and French Creek that prioritized riparian planting areas and develop targets. Promote NEP Riparian Easement program to landowners. | June 2017 | Natural Resource Program Manager | 156 | \$80,000 | \$30,000 Project costs |
| Implement Free Trees pilot program in French Creek (NEP | November | Natural | 40 | \$13,000 | |

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| funds). | 2016 | Resource Program Manager | | | |
| Continue to provide technical assistance and cost-share where available to communities with NGPAs. | June 2017 | Natural Resource Program Manager | 21 | \$7,000 | |
| Plant 75 acres riparian forest through CREP and grants. | June 2017 | Natural Resource Program Manager | 78 | \$250,000 | \$165,000 Project costs |
| Maintain full-time crew. Build crew training program to provide diverse opportunities. | June 2017 | Natural Resource Program Manager | 42 | \$15,000 | |
| Continue to develop and implement in-stream salmon habitat projects. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Kristoferson crossing – Complete design and permitting ➤ Moga – Complete construction ➤ Sanders – Complete design of removal and construct ➤ Secure funding to replace priority fish passage barriers in Woods Creek ➤ Identify future stream crossing replacement opportunities | June 2017 | Natural Resource Program Manager | 156 | \$400,000 | \$350,000 Project costs |
| Continue to maintain relationship with County for management of nursery. Refine approach to using plants for match. | June 2017 | Natural Resource Program Manager | 62 | \$20,000 | |
| Continue to grow and improve Plant Sale, including outreach opportunities available on sale day. | March 2017 | Program Integration Manager | 78 | \$100,000 | \$75,000 Project costs |
| Work with Snohomish County SWM, Puget Sound Natural Resource Alliance, tribes, SLS Technical Design and Implementation team, and other partners to prioritize restoration efforts using available water quality data, TMDL plans, salmon recovery plans, and SLS packages. Develop Action Plans for target basins that identify project goals and bring together partners to help implement goals. | June 2017 | Natural Resource Program Manager | 47 | \$15,000 | |
| Participate in salmon recovery planning, TMDL development, Puget Sound Partnership, Sustainable Lands Strategy and other natural resource conservation planning efforts. Develop | June 2017 | Natural Resource Program | 28 | \$15,000 | |

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| and chair sub-basin working groups in priority watersheds. | | Manager | | | |
| Pursue partnerships and funding opportunities that drive toward net benefits to agriculture and other natural resources. Partner with other Puget Sound conservation districts to efficiently deliver programs. Work with the Local Integrating Organization (LIO), Puget Sound Natural Resource Alliance, NEP leads, WACD, Commission, Puget Sound Partnership, The Russell Family Foundation, SLS, and others. | June 2017 | Natural Resource Program Manager | 84 | \$30,000 | |
| Evaluate program effectiveness and develop work plans that are consistent with the 5-Year plan and input from the Citizen Advisory Committee. Produce quarterly and annual report of accomplishments. | June 2017 | Natural Resource Program Manager | 42 | \$15,000 | |

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District Program Area: Outreach and Education

Goal(s):

- Increase recognition of Snohomish CD, Puget Sound CDs, and state CDs through Better Ground campaign.
- Increase environmental awareness in target watersheds
- Increase youth education participation and service learning opportunities, especially for underrepresented audiences
- Increase stewardship actions of adults through educational resources.
- Continue to engage new audiences through social media, newsletters, and web content.

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective:

- Adult education will be provided through 30 events and will reach 1200 people; youth education will achieve serve at least 13,000. Web and social media activity will double.

Funding Source(s):

- CREP, Dept. of Ecology, Assessment, Stillaguamish Clean Water District, Conservation Commission, Plant Sale, City ILAs

| Activities for FY2017 | Target Dates | Person Responsible | Time(Days) Required | Estimated Funding | Notes |
|--|--------------|--|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| Work with local and regional partners to provide information on natural resource conservation topics specific to Camano Island, the Stillaguamish, Snohomish and the Puget Sound region. | June 2017 | Community Conservation/ Outreach Program Mgr | 69 | \$25,000 | |
| Develop an agriculture engagement strategy, in concert with other initiatives like RCPP and Floodplains by Design. | June 2017 | Community Conservation/ Outreach Program Mgr | 167 | \$60,000 | |
| Develop and implement the Better Ground campaign and website, and serve as project facilitator to PSCD and WSCC. Compile, create and share high-quality resources at the regional level. | June 2017 | Community Conservation/ Outreach Program Mgr | 125 | \$80,000 | \$35,000 Project Costs |
| Develop and implement a new strategy for print newsletter and e-newsletters. Publish final 'Special Edition' 75th Anniversary Nexus. | June 2017 | Community Conservation/ Outreach Program Mgr | 61 | \$60,000 | \$38,000 Project Costs |
| Prepare and submit at least 45 articles and/or public service | June 2017 | Community | 71 | \$60,000 | |

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| announcements about district programs to area newspapers. Engage new publications like regional magazines, HOA newsletters, and business resources. | | Conservation/ Outreach Program Mgr | | | |
| Strengthen and expand environmental education opportunities with WSU Extension programs (e.g., 4-H, Master Gardeners, Beach Watchers), the Wildlife Habitat Stewardship programs (Snohomish and Island counties), Snohomish County, Tribes, and other groups. | June 2017 | Community Conservation/ Outreach Program Mgr | 42 | \$15,000 | |
| Serve as triage for cooperator intake, documentation in database, and follow-up with respective technicians and partners. | June 2017 | Community Conservation/ Outreach Program Mgr | 70 | \$25,000 | |
| Continue to implement and explore outreach strategies at community fairs, farmers markets and city events. | June 2017 | Community Conservation/ Outreach Program Mgr | 55 | \$20,000 | |
| Implement a k-12 youth education program that focuses on watersheds, water quality and LID. Engage diverse youth via in-class education and extra-curricular activities (e.g., FFA, 4-H, scouts, service learning). Sponsor Wheat Week in Snohomish County | June 2017 | Community Conservation/ Outreach Program Mgr | 167 | \$75,000 | \$15,000 |
| Implement an adult education program that uses a wide spectrum of outreach/engagement strategies. Develop flagship events including Better Ground Showcase, Plant Sale, Rain Barrel Truck Sales, etc. | June 2017 | Community Conservation/ Outreach Program Mgr | 139 | \$55,000 | \$5,000 Project Costs |
| Produce a quarterly and annual report of accomplishments. Develop high-level material for legislators, other agencies, and support to WSCC as needed. | June 2017 | Community Conservation/ Outreach Program Mgr | 19 | \$10,000 | \$3,000 |
| Evaluation: Continually monitor program effectiveness and adaptively manage programs. | June 2017 | Community Conservation/ | 28 | \$10,000 | |

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District Program Area: District Operations

Goal(s):

- Manage the financial resources entrusted to the District effectively and efficiently
- Meet all financial and legal requirements
- Fully engage the public and other entities in District programs
- Maintain a professional office environment and working conditions
- Secure funding for the Ag and Conservation Innovation Center

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective:

- Maintain “district in good standard”
- Complete all audit and financial reporting on-time
- No lost time due to on-the-job injuries
- Funding secured for the Ag and Conservation Innovation Center

Funding Source(s):

- CREP, Dept. of Ecology, Assessment, Stillaguamish Clean Water District, Conservation Commission, Plant Sale, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, NOAA, Interlocal agreements with cities

| Activities for FY2017 | Target Dates | Person Responsible | Time(Days) Required | Estimated Funding | Notes |
|--|--------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Manage financial, legal, and operational requirements. | June 2017 | District Mgr | 410 | \$140,000 | |
| Facilitate public and other entity engagement. | June 2017 | District Mgr | 132 | \$50,000 | |
| Administer public records requests, policies, and audits. | June 2017 | District Mgr | 93 | \$35,000 | |
| Work with Legislators, WACD, Commission and other partners to secure funding for the Ag and Conservation Innovation Center. Work with an Architect to design facility. | June 2017 | District Mgr | 78 | \$50,000 | \$25,000 Project Costs |
| Manage facilities, operation and maintenance, and technology requirements. | June 2017 | District Mgr | 93 | \$190,000 | \$180,000 Operating Costs/Leases |

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|---|-------------|--------------------|
| STILLAGUAMISH CLEAN WATER DISTRICT FUNDS | \$210,000 | |
| TOTAL SNOHOMISH COUNTY ASSESSMENT FUNDS | \$1,100,000 | |
| TOTAL CAMANO ISLAND ASSESSMENT FUNDS | \$68,000 | |
| TOTAL STATE FUNDS | \$1,635,200 | |
| TOTAL OTHER FUNDS | \$592,000 | |
| TOTAL FY2017 FUNDING (ALL SOURCES) | | \$3,605,200 |