



FY2017 (7/1/16 – 6/30/17) Annual Work Plan Spokane Conservation District

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Mission of the Spokane Conservation District

- *To promote the sustainable use of our natural resources.*

As a result of our efforts, citizens of Spokane Conservation District will be able to:

- *Identify sustainable stewardship and conservation practices, protecting natural resources.*
- *Utilize the District as their local source of natural resource management assistance.*
- *Illustrate the purposes and benefits of conservation practices and policies resulting in informed decision making regarding natural resources.*
- *Implement conservation plans, programs, projects and systems resulting in sustainable, regenerative natural resources.*

Natural Resource Priorities:

- Increase public participation in natural resource conservation and regenerative efforts.
- Improve soil health through increased applications of direct seed, reduced till, no-till and cover cropping.
- Offer low interest loan program(s) regionally, addressing impacts to water quality and quantity in shared watersheds.
- Reduce loss of property and lives to wildfire through implementation of the County Wildfire Protection Plan for fuel reduction and the Firewise Program.
- Promote best management practices of both rural and urban forest through technical assistance, site assessments, evaluations and workshops.
- Provide comprehensive watershed management planning, facilitation and implementation.
- Expand outreach and education efforts to increase recognition of the District and its' programs and natural resource concerns and priorities, including the new Vets on the Farm initiative.
- Provide technical assistance, site assessments/evaluations, workshops, demonstration practices and services to small acreage landowners. Provide financial and technical assistance for on-site septic connections, replacements and repairs in Spokane County.
- Provide soil testing services including testing of nitrogen, phosphates, phosphorus, potassium and sulfur levels and percentage of organic matter.
- Work in partnership to research and develop conservation practices to address drought management and other local climate change activity.
- Develop community partnerships and establish a conservation model farm or Veteran's learning farm.
- Address critical area issues on agricultural lands through participation in the Voluntary Stewardship Program.

Washington Conservation Districts assisting land managers with their conservation choices



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Natural Resource Priority Program Area: PRODUCTION AGRICULTURE

Goal(s): Promote sustainable agricultural practices focusing on soil health and reduction of erosion for the benefit of water quality.

Natural Resource Measurable Result: Maintain and/or increase the current acreage of direct seed, no-till, and/or minimum tillage operations in Spokane County and partner counties.

Programmatic Measurable Result: Programming will be developed to educate and inform landowners, offering technical assistance, site assessments/evaluations and workshops and financial assistance to transition from conventional methods to more sustainable practices of direct seed and no-till drilling.

Funding Source(s): Grants, Loans

Activities for FY2017	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time(Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
Coordinate field tours emphasizing Direct Seed technology and equipment, cover cropping, and livestock practices with riparian buffers.	FY17	T. Meyer/ V. Carter	Ongoing	Assessment, Sponsors, WSCC, PNDSA	Partners: PRLCD, PNDSA, WSCC, WACD
Promote and implement Farmed SMART certification program and partnership in RCPP programs.	FY18-18	T. Meyer	Ongoing	Grant(s), Matching contributions	NRCS, SCD, PRLCD, DOE, PNDSA
Administer and promote programs and resources available to assist cooperators/producers for transition and implementation of direct seed and/or no-till practices.	FY17	T. Meyer	Ongoing	Assessment, 319	WA DOE, SRF, Custom operators, demos
Promote and implement demonstration practices utilizing cutting edge technology.	FY17	T. Meyer	Ongoing	Assessment, SRF, Landowner Contributions	WA DOE, SRF, Custom operators, demos
Partner with PNDSA and Farm Forum on Annual Direct Seed Conference, Farm Forum Conference, Ag tours and grower meetings.	FY17	T. Meyer	Ongoing	Assessment, Grants	PNDSA, Farm Forum, PRLCD

Natural Resource Priority Program Area: SMALL ACREAGE

Goal(s): Increase knowledge base and access to resources for small acreage landowners and users.

Natural Resource Measurable Result: Provide technical assistance, site assessments/evaluations and workshops, resource planning, information/education to help landowners/users in the 1-150 acre range.

Programmatic Measurable Result: Programming and projects will be developed to educate and inform landowners/users, offering technical assistance and services, site assessments/evaluations and financial assistance to improve natural resource stewardship, and increase sustainable and regenerative practices.

Funding Source(s): Grants, assessment, private donations

Activities for FY2017	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time(Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
Coordinate on-site small farm tours demonstrating efficiency, cost effectiveness, and proper management.	FY17	P. Munts S. Gail	60-90 days	WSU, Assessment	WSU and other resource agencies
Hold/host workshops, forums and/or conferences with small acreage suppliers and speakers offering technical assistance and expertise. Develop and coordinate Farm and Food Expo focusing on new and beginning farmers and ranchers as well as Veterans.	FY17	P. Munts S. Gail	60-90 days	WSU, Assessment	INW Small Farms Conf; Food Council
Deliver curriculum in partnership with WSU and SCC to provide certification to Vets on the Farm initiative.	FY17	P. Munts S. Gail	90 days	Assessment, grants, private donations	WA DoA, WSU, SCC, NWFCs
Promote and assist in regenerative soil practices by developing a service based program including manure spreader, no-till drill, sprayer, mower and chipper. Incorporate into Vets on the Farm initiative.	FY17	P. Munts W. Edelen T. Meyer S. Gail	60 days	WSSC, Assessment, Landowner fees	VoTF, SCC, WSU, landowners
Host/develop pasture/weed management education and technical assistance workshops, site assessments, and evaluation program.	FY17	S. Gail	90-120 days	Grant, Assessment, WSU	L&L program, WSU, Spokane County Weed Board
Conduct cover crop and commodity agriculture relationship research through test plots.					Liberty Lake Gun Club, Sheppard's Grain

Natural Resource Priority Program Area: WATER RESOURCES

Goal(s): Address water quality and quantity resource issues within Spokane County by increasing awareness and implementation of best management practices.

Natural Resource Measurable Result: Provide landowners/users with technical assistance, site assessments/recommendations and financial assistance to address water resource issues throughout watersheds of Spokane County.

Programmatic Measurable Result: Programming, projects, and demonstration sites will be developed to educate and inform landowners to provide more sustainable or regenerative best management practices.

Funding Source(s): WSCC, WA DOE, WA RCO, NRCS, Assessment, Private donations

Activities for FY2017	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time(Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
Develop and coordinate upland habitat and shoreline restoration and stabilization projects throughout Spokane County	FY17	W. Edelen D. Ross C. Peterson	60-120 days	Assessment, Landowners, DOE Grant	HOAs, DOE, RCO, WSCC, DOT
Promote and implement livestock and land projects to improve producer operations and water quality.	FY17	W. Edelen	120-180 days	Assessment, Landowner fees, Grants	Cost-share, DOE, WSCC
Conduct Riparian Restoration Program in Spokane County	FY17	W. Edelen L. Chutas S. Flanders	Ongoing	Grant, Landowner	DOE
Operate and maintain new stream flow gauging stations in priority watersheds.	FY17	W. Edelen C. Peterson	120 days	Assessment, Private	USGS, Whitworth Water Dist, CDA Tribe
Continue regional fish barrier inventory of Spokane County, identifying barriers and prioritizing basins. Implement barrier passage removal projects in Spokane County to increase instream fish habitat accessibility.	FY17	W. Edelen D. Ross	30-90 days	Grants	RCO, Tribes, Multi-CD
Continue operation of groundwater well monitoring network.	FY17	W. Edelen L. Chutas C. Peterson	Ongoing	Assessment,	WRIA Partners
Continue to act as coordinator/facilitator for joint WRIA Implementation Team (55/57, 56 and 54).	FY17	W. Edelen L. Chutas	Ongoing	Grant(s), Assessment	WRIA Partners
Seek funding to implement irrigation efficiency and water conservation projects throughout Spokane County WRIAs.	FY17	W. Edelen L. Chutas	Ongoing	Contracts	WRIA Partner
Coordinate and implement the Spokane River RCPP program to address WQ issues with innovative buffer compensation program for producers. Additionally,	FY17-FY21	W. Edelen C. Peterson	Ongoing	Assessment, NRCS, Partner Match	Multiple Partners

work with Whitman Co. CDs on WRIA 34 RCPP activities.					
Continue implementation and seek continued funding of On-site Septic System low-interest loan/grant program throughout Spokane County.	FY17	W. Edelen B. Tee	Ongoing	Grants, Loans, Assessment, Landowner	DOE, Spokane County, City of Spokane Valley
Implement and coordinate Spokane River mitigation and access projects.	FY17	W. Edelen C. Peterson L. Chutas	Ongoing	Grant, Match	Spokane River Forum, WDFW
Conduct Farmed SMART certification audits.	FY17	W. Edelen C. Peterson L. Chutas	180 days	Grant	PNDSA
Conduct monitoring and biological survey of Bear Creek demonstration site. (SCC partner)	FY17-FY21	W. Edelen S. Flanders D. Ross	Ongoing	Assessment	SCC, landowner
Coordinate and participate in the Spokane County Voluntary Stewardship Program.	FY17-FY19	W. Edelen S. Flanders	Ongoing	Grant	Consultant, County, WSCC

Natural Resource Priority Program Area: FORESTRY

Goal(s): Promote healthy trees and forests throughout Spokane County.

Natural Resource Measurable Result: Increase the urban forestry canopy and promote sustainable management of the forest resources in Spokane County.

Programmatic Measurable Result: Programming and projects will be developed to educate and inform landowners/users, offering technical assistance, site assessments/evaluations and financial assistance, provide assessments, implementation, and plantings.

Funding Source(s): WSCC, DNR, FWS, Assessment

Activities for FY2017	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time(Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
Utilize the County Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) to perform implementation of Firewise activities and fuels reduction projects in Spokane County.	FY17	G. Davis	30 days	Assessment, FEMA Grant, DNR, WSCC	DNR, WSCC, USFS, Firewise, City of Spokane Urban Forestry
Promote large tree program through energy conservation tree planting projects to reduce temperatures and energy consumption and storm water mitigation.	FY17	G. Davis	30 days	Avista, Assessment	Avista (100 trees per year)
Identify and assist regional communities to qualify for Tree City USA status, expanding through plantings, inventory, and management plans.	FY17	G. Davis	60-80 days	DNR	TCUSA, cities & towns, Avista, FAFB
Provide low-cost tree and shrubs for reforestation and wildlife habitat plantings as well as native and drought tolerant plants for rural and urban landscaping.	FY17	G. Davis	180 days	DNR, Assessment, Landowners	PMC, Multi-CD
Provide technical assistance, site assessments/evaluations for forest landowners and tree owners, both public and private.	FY17	G. Davis	60-90 days	Assessment, WSCC	DNR, Spokane Co, Spokane Urban Forestry
Provide technical tree school workshops to educate arborists, foresters and forest landowners .	FY17	G. Davis	60 days	Assessment	Private contractors

Act as a consulting forester and arborist for Spokane County.	FY17	G.Davis	Ongoing	Assessment/Reciprical Agreement	Spokane Co.
Post fire assessments and management plans	FY17	G. Davis E. Choker	60 days	WSCC	
Pursue Landscape Scale Restoration funding to provide education, cost-share and create demonstration sites.	FY17	G. Davis	30 days	Assessment	WSU, DNR

Natural Resource Priority Program Area: SOIL SCIENCE

Goal(s): Improve soil health in Spokane County through increased land user knowledge base.

Natural Resource Measurable Result: Improve the soil health through interpretations of the soil survey, soil testing, and technical assistance, site assessments/evaluations for land users.

Programmatic Measurable Result: Programs and projects will be developed to educate and inform land users, offering technical assistance, site assessments/evaluations through workshops, site tours, land judging contests, and soil testing.

Funding Source(s): NRCS, WSU, Assessment

Activities for FY2017	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time(Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
Provide land users site specific soil interpretations using the updated Spokane County Soil Survey.	FY17	E. Choker	60-90 days	Assessment	NRCS, Spokane County, local
Provide technical assistance to staff and certified planners to assist with resource plans and projects	FY17	E. Choker	60-90 days	Assessment	SCD, local planning agencies
Provide basic soils tests for small acreage and urban land users.	FY17	E. Choker	180 days	Assessment, Landowner	
Coordinate and host annual land judging contest/opportunities as educational events, and provide assistance to other county events.	FY17	E. Choker	30 days	Sponsors, Assessment	Multi-CD
Develop presentations for workshops, conferences, and meetings addressing: How to take soil samples, Interpreting Soil Sample Results, Nutrient Management, and soil health issues.	FY17	E. Choker	90 days	Assessment, Landowner Fees	WSU-MG, SCC, ISA, WSU Ext. State/Fed BAER
Provide technical assistance to regional partners to promote soil knowledge and health in Washington State. Provide technical and field assistance for wildfire response to State, tribal and private land.	FY17	E. Choker	15 days	Assessment, Sponsors	Multi-CD; WSU
Coordinate and implement site visits to initiate projects with land users and partners; update GIS master list of demonstration sites, and incorporate into NRI website.	FY17	E. Choker	30-60 days	WSCC, FEMA, Grants, Assessment	Multi Agencies-

Natural Resource Priority Program Area: EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Goal(s): Provide K-14, teachers and adults balanced and objective environmental and conservation education.

Natural Resource Measurable Result: Increase the knowledge base for citizens to make informed choices and decisions regarding natural resources.

Programmatic Measurable Result: Programming and activities will be developed to educate and inform the public about relevant environmental topics and basic natural resource knowledge.

Funding Source(s): WAWG, WSCC, Assessment, DOE

Activities for FY2017	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time(Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
Partner with Franklin CD to bring "Wheat Week," to Spokane County.	FY17	S. Selcho	270 days	FCD	
Provide Backyard Conservation Stewardship program annually.	FY17	S. Selcho	30 days	Landowner Fees, Assessment	Various partners & presenters
Provide activities and information at special events throughout Spokane County.	FY17	S. Selcho E. Johnson	Ongoing	Assessment	Multiple Agency partners
Provide adult workshops, tours, educational events to expand knowledge base of natural resources, issues and concerns.	FY17	All Departments	Ongoing	Assessment	Partner agencies and organizations
Increase education and outreach through partnerships with other organizations and agencies.	FY17	S. Selcho	Ongoing	Assessment	GreenZone, The River Mile, Enviro Kids, SYSC
Provide educational assistance, activities and use of materials in grades K-14 regarding natural resources. This will include teacher training and workshops.	FY17	S. Selcho	Ongoing	Grant, Assessment	Teachers, Partners
Through the Green Zone provide sustainable landscape education, workshops and demonstrations; including the rain barrel retrofit program.	FY17	S.Selcho	Ongoing	Assessment	Green Zone, WSU MG
Coordinate and support the River Mile, Envriokids, Trout in the Classroom, Kids in the Hills, Project TREE and other regional educational programs.					

District Program Area: District Operations

Goal(s): Develop and maintain an infrastructure to support the projects and programs of SCD.

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective:

Obtain and maintain efficient and sufficient staff, provide a safe/stable work environment, stay current in technology and training.

Funding Source(s): WSCC, WACD, DOE, Assessment

Activities for FY2017	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time(Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
Secure adequate funding to carry out SCD activities, programs, projects, and events. Identify and apply for grants/loans and other funding to leverage the annual assessment. This may also include rates and charges, donations, investment programming, etc.	FY17	V. Carter	Ongoing	Assessment, grants, donations	
Seek and provide employee and board training and development opportunities including WADE, WACD, and other agency trainings, including mandatory training in ethics, public records, and public meetings.	FY17	V. Carter	60 days	Assessment, WSCC, WACC	All Staff & Board
Maintain the physical infrastructure and grounds as well as vehicle fleet to support and insure a safe, productive atmosphere to carry out day-to-day operations.	FY17	V. Carter	Ongoing	Assessment	Equipment upgrades, vehicle replacement or maintenance, safety meetings
Maintain and update capital asset inventory to use as evaluation tool for replacement, safety, obsolescence, etc.	FY17	V. Carter	Ongoing	Assessment	Annual
Recruit and/or hire qualified staff to carry out SCD objectives including 8-10 interns through the Vets on the Farm initiative. Explore Farm Program Specialist and a Volunteer Coordinator position.	FY17	V. Carter	Ongoing	Grant	Seasonal/ Temp hires 2016-17
Promote legislation that promotes conservation issues and operational efficiencies.	FY17	V. Carter/Board	30-60 days	Assessment	WACD, WSCC

District Program Area: Communication, Outreach & Public Relations

Goal(s): Serve as the primary source for natural resource information and management to inspire champions of conservation.

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective:

Develop outreach strategies and resources to reach all Spokane County residents regarding the mission of SCD.

Funding Source(s): WSCC, WACD, DOE, Assessment

Activities for FY2017	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time(Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
Develop advertising and promotional campaigns, outreach services and activities specific to SCD programs, services, projects, and events.	FY17	V. Carter E. Johnson	Ongoing	Grants, Assessment	L&L, Cons Champions, Direct Seed,OSS, FW
Use media sources to inform and educate about SCD activities, events, programs, and projects; send press releases regarding new projects and programs.	FY17	V. Carter E. Johnson	Ongoing	Assessment	FB, Radio, TV, print, Blue Sky Marketing
Pursue and maintain effective governmental relationships to promote conservation policies. Provide targeted education/information to elected officials.	FY17	V. Carter E. Johnson	Ongoing	Assessment	WACD, leg dist: 3,4 6, 7, 9
Develop and continue web-based natural resource information distribution through SCD website, E-blasts and other social media	FY17	All Staff	Ongoing	Assessment	Spokane County, USGS
Make periodic presentations to chamber, town councils, and civic organizations to inform decision makers of local issues.	FY17	All Staff	Ongoing	Assessment	By request and project or need
Pursue and strengthen working relationships, MOUs, MOAs, etc. with local tribes, non-profits, conservation districts and other community organizations.	FY17	V. Carter E. Johnson	Ongoing	Assessment	All staff
Coordinate and participate in community action projects based on resource availability and need.	FY17	V. Carter E. Johnson	Ongoing	Assessment	Willow Warriors, VOTF,
Maintain database for volunteers and activities.	FY17	Ross/Flanders	Ongoing	Assessment	All volunteers
Recognize stewardship efforts of landowners and agency partners as champions of conservation.	FY17	All Staff	Ongoing	Assessment	Annual Meeting/Event



FY2017-16 Annual Budget

Spokane Conservation District

FY2017-17 (1/1/16 – 12/31/16)

Budget: \$1,620,500.00

Expenses:

Salaries/Benefits/Taxes	\$1,310,000.00
General Operating Expenses	\$ 174,400.00
Staff Travel/Meeting Expense	\$ 12,500.00
Board Travel/Training	\$ 7,500.00
Insurance	\$ 22,500.00
Services & Charges	\$ 500.00
Public Outreach Misc.	\$ 2,000.00
Soil Lab Supplies	\$ 2,000.00
Forestry/Tree Sales	\$ 65,550.00
Production Ag Supplies/Misc	\$ 1,250.00
Water Resources Supplies/Misc	\$ 5,850.00
Small Acreage Supplies/Misc.	\$ 1,000.00
Environmental Education Misc.	\$ 1,500.00
Excise/Use Tax	\$ 1,500.00
Vehicle Loan Expense	\$ 2,500.00
Capital Lease Expense	\$ 10,000.00
Total Expenses:	\$1,620,500.00