



State Legislative District #3,4,6,7,9
Congressional District #5

Spokane Conservation District

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Board Chair: Jerry Scheele

Other Accomplishments



We are providing long-term pasture solutions to small acreage landowners with our new custom spray, direct seed, and mow operation.



Vets on the Farm program is proud to have a learning farm just south of Spokane to host educational events and provide practical experience for interns.



We will install 9-1-1 official address signs as part of Firewise Homesite Assessments. This makes properties safer for firefighters to find.

2016 Feature Accomplishment

Farmed Smart provides certainty for farmers and Ecology

RESOURCE CHALLENGE Regulating producers to take land out of production without compensation for the benefit of clean water has been a point of contention in farm communities of eastern Washington for years. Conservation district programs are voluntary, but potential cooperators want a guarantee that their investment in conservation will be honored by regulators. Spokane Conservation District worked with Pacific Northwest Direct Seed Association to create and maintain a program that fosters trust, certainty, and results to all parties.



Pacific Northwest Direct Seed Association President Douglas Poole and Department of Ecology Director Maia Bellon sign the Farmed Smart agreement.

PROJECT SUMMARY AND RESULTS

Farmed Smart certified 14 farms, and over 35 more are awaiting certification. This represents 110,000 acres of cropland. The certification evaluates producers on how their practices help protect and improve water, air, soil health and quality, economic viability, wildlife habitat, and energy conservation. Certified farms receive a letter of Environmental Compliance from the Department of Ecology stating that they meet water quality standards. Farmed Smart has Spokane Conservation District (SCD) staff members on contract to perform third party certifications. Farmed Smart labeling also allows consumers to choose food products that are made with sustainable Farmed Smart ingredients.

KEY PARTNERS: Pacific Northwest Direct Seed Association; Washington Department of Ecology; Palouse-Rock Lake Conservation District; Foster Creek Conservation District; Washington State University; producers from eastern Washington

More work to do!

- Lead the Voluntary Stewardship Program to develop a plan to enhance the viability of agriculture and protect critical areas in our county.
- Implement new \$47,000 grant to build an urban agricultural network and increase conservation in urban agriculture.
- Implement 120,000 acres of conservation tillage and the innovative commodity buffer that compensates producers for the crop value in a buffer in the Spokane River Watershed Regional Conservation Partnership Program.