

# Asotin County Conservation District

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State Legislative District #9  
Congressional District #5

## 2016 Feature Accomplishment

### Wildfire damage assessment helps streamline recovery assistance



The Gilmore Gulch Fire moved rapidly due to wind conditions and burned extremely hot with 100 foot flames.

Credit: Blue Mountain Fire District #1

**RESOURCE CHALLENGE** During the summer of 2015, Asotin County suffered multiple fires that burned approximately 10,000 acres of range, riparian, and cropland. Fires destroyed and damaged conservation projects, fences, crops, riparian vegetation, and range grass. The Asotin County Conservation District and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) worked with landowners to assess and inventory the fire damage and identify the actions needed to address impacted natural resources.

### PROJECT SUMMARY AND RESULTS

Information from these site evaluations and damage assessments has resulted in 11 landowners receiving over \$1 million in funding from the Farm Service Agency, Washington State Conservation Commission, NRCS, and Bonneville Power Administration for projects that address natural resource concerns. This includes tree and rangeland plantings, and construction of fencing and livestock water developments. This coordination and partnership between local, state, and federal agencies makes it possible for landowners to implement projects that protect and restore natural resources that were impacted by the fires.



Approximately 10,000 acres of rangeland, riparian zones, and cropland was burned in Asotin County in the summer of 2015.

Credit: Blue Mountain Fire District #1

**KEY PARTNERS:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service; USDA Farm Service Agency; Washington State Conservation Commission; Bonneville Power Administration

## Other Accomplishments



Feed and waste pads are installed to improve manure management in livestock feeding areas.



Riparian planting project completed in conjunction with the Asotin Creek Intensively Monitored Watershed Program.



Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) stream and buffer project that will be re-enrolled in October 2016.

## More work to do!

- Headgate Dam Notching Project will result in the removal of a juvenile fish passage barrier.
- Completion of the Voluntary Stewardship Program planning process and Geomorphic Assessment will provide direction for future projects and priorities.
- Re-enroll eight Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) contracts that will expire in 2018. Continued conservation efforts on these riparian corridors and streams is critical for endangered salmon and steelhead.