



ADAMS CONSERVATION DISTRICT

District Manager: Cara Hulce Board Chair: Curtis Hennings
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Legislative District: 9 Congressional District: 4

Other accomplishments:



Local 5th graders participated in our field day to learn about bees, soil, recycling, weather monitoring, weeds, and wildlife.



Winners of the 6th grade essay contest read their papers on “the importance of pollinators” at our annual meeting.



Over 230 students from 18 schools participated in the FFA Land Judging Contest hosted by Adams Conservation District.

2017 FEATURE ACCOMPLISHMENT

LIVESTOCK WATERING FACILITIES SUPPORT RANGELAND HEALTH



This solar panel can be rotated seasonally to follow the sun, and the watering tank is designed to reduce ice buildup.

Resource challenge

Healthy rangeland provides habitat and food for wildlife and domestic livestock. A diverse mixture of grasses, forbs, and shrubs provide shelter and nutrients. The sagebrush-steppe areas in Adams Conservation District provide rangeland for many producers. If rangeland is overgrazed, desirable native vegetation may be replaced by invasive species. Weedy invasive species often out-compete natives, which results in decreased plant diversity and less forage opportunity for livestock and wildlife.

Project summary and results

In order to expand livestock grazing capabilities, Adams Conservation District provided assistance to install two wells and four watering facilities in rangeland pastures. The watering facilities are solar powered and include panels, pumps, and troughs. Water availability now allows the operators to include those pastures in their grazing rotation, which reduces grazing pressure on the rest of their property. Moving livestock frequently and between multiple pastures ensures native plants aren’t overgrazed, reduces the risk of weedy invasion, and supports plant diversity and habitat.



Livestock watering facility on rangeland east of Ritzville.

Key Partners: Washington State Conservation Commission

MORE WORK TO DO

- ▶ Provide operators with assistance to implement reduced tillage practices and install livestock watering facilities.
- ▶ Work with landowners and partners to improve riparian and wetland habitat.
- ▶ Expand outreach efforts to educate our community and land operators and address their needs.