



# PACIFIC CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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Legislative District: 19 Congressional District: 3

## Other accomplishments:



Installed over 1,000 feet of beach nutrient recruitment and habitat protection, which also protects homes.



Naselle River Restoration Phase 2 - Partnering with the Willapa Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group.



Pacific County Voluntary Stewardship Program work plan is approved and ready to roll out!

## 2017 FEATURE ACCOMPLISHMENT

### PROTECTING FARMS AND SHELLFISH FROM POLLUTION AND FLOODS



Coastal erosion and risk of drainage failure puts natural resources and communities at risk.

#### Resource challenge

Sixty-three family farms depend on a stormwater drainage system of dikes and tide gates provided by Pacific County Drainage District No. 1. The cranberry industry in the Grayland area farms 816 acres, with an estimated value of \$20-50 million. If the dike and tide gates fail, water would rush from Willapa Bay to Grays Harbor — bringing contaminants from the Grayland Ditch with it — and kill the local cranberry industry.

#### Project summary and results

Pacific Conservation District worked with partners to construct a 650-foot buried retaining wall to defend the dike and tide gates against wave erosion, which seemed inevitable. If left unprotected and the tide gates fail, water could back flow from Willapa Bay, flood the cranberry bogs, and contaminants from the Grayland Ditch would be carried all the way to the Elk River in Grays Harbor. The three constructed retaining wall sections will prevent this and protect vital shellfish beds and the natural environment. Much more work needs to be done, and Pacific Conservation District continues work with partners on solutions.



Retaining wall construction nearly complete. Next steps – finish cover and plant vegetation.

**Key partners:** Pacific County Drainage District No. 1; Shoalwater Bay Tribe; Washington Department of Transportation; Pacific County; Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife

## MORE WORK TO DO

- ▶ Complete Rue Creek Washington Coastal Restoration Initiative project, opening nearly 17 square miles of salmon habitat.
- ▶ Complete Naselle Smith Creek project, opening up estuarine acreage and freshwater runs for salmon.
- ▶ Finish treatment of Loomis Lake for aquatic invasive weeds.