



Draft...FY2018 (7/1/17 – 6/30/18) Annual Work Plan Whitman Conservation District

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Mission of the Whitman Conservation District

The Mission of the Whitman Conservation District is to promote the wise, ethical and sustainable use of natural resources by leadership in the education and assistance of all people in the District. The Whitman Conservation District will promote the implementation of the best available conservation measures and provide a forum for local input on natural resource issues.

Natural Resource Priorities

(see long range plan for data and information on natural resource priorities)

- Soil Health & Erosion Control
- Water Quality
- Plant Health & Weed Management
- Wildlife Habitat
- Conservation Education
- District Operations

Natural Resource Priority Program Area:

Water Quality

Goal(s): Goal:

By June 2020 have a demonstrated increase in: participation by livestock and farming operators to have a plan in place addressing water quality issues; riparian areas along streams managed efficiently, runoff from livestock feeding areas eliminated; reduction in erosion and related sedimentation from cropland, increase awareness of CREP and CCRP programs to buffer waterways; reduction of most regulatory concerns in the District.

Natural Resource Measurable Result Objective:

- Controlling sediment loading to streams along 2 miles of stream/rivers
- Increase participation in monitoring for temperature and turbidity in district streams by 2 landowners

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective:

- 3 producers with Conservation Plans completed w/ at least one including incorporating livestock practices with Cover crops

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- Landowners interested in alternatives to managing riparian areas for undesirable plant species on 2 farms
- Land managers and officials with information on creek flows, runoff, working buffers
- Assist 2 producers with water quality monitoring practices
- Reduce regulators' concerns on well managed operations

Funding Source(s): WSCC Funding, Cost-Share Grants, NRCS-CCRP, CREP, EQIP grants, RCO, Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, WDFW, Elks Foundation, Bonneville Power Company, Snake River Salmon Recovery Board.

Activities for FY2018	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time(Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
Provide technical assistance for the planning and implementation of Best Management Practices / Principles (3 cooperators)	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	18	\$4,200	\$30.41 composite rate
Assistance with producers that have received letters from Department of Ecology			10	\$1,600	
Develop and implement a producer-led water quality sampling, monitoring and management program for addressing non-point source water quality issues (3 Cooperators)	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	5	\$1,600	
Cost-Share for doing conservation practices with options identified through evaluation with the producer, (5 practices)	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	18	\$20,000	Includes cost share (\$4,000 per application)
Implement structures on Penawawa for Salmonid habitat including permitting	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	10	\$1,600	
Complete Harder livestock water quality project	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	10	\$1,600	
Education program for land managers and officials about creek flows, runoff, working buffers, different practices	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	10	\$1,600	
Continue participation in Voluntary Stewardship Program activities including implementation	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	30	\$4,200	
CREP miles made available in Whitman CD	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	10	\$1,600	
Collect information on working buffers, CREP, and riparian buffers and host a tour	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	10	\$1,600	

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Assistance with producers on CRP takeout with conservation systems	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	5	\$500	
Totals			136	\$40,100	

Natural Resource Priority Program Area:

Plant Health & Weed Management

Goal(s):

Natural Resource Measurable Result Objective:

Programmatic Measurable Result Objectives:

- Assist 2 producers with plant health and/or weed management practices

Funding Source(s): WSCC Funding, Cost-Share Grants, NRCS-CCRP, CREP, EQIP, RCPP grants

Activities for FY2018	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time(Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
Meet with County Weed Control Board regarding joint projects of common interest	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	3	\$500	
Assist land owners with plant health issues including black locust tree beetle control	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	3	\$500	
Examine markets for weed products			1	\$100	
			7	\$1100	

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**Natural Resource Priority Program Area:
Soil Health & Erosion Control**

Goal(s):

By June 2020 have a demonstrated increase in soil health including: producers transitioning from a conventional tillage system to direct seed/mulch till system; promote cover crops as an alternative to chemical fallow; promoting livestock grazing on cropland acres; facilitating shop talks covering topics relating to cover crops to benefit soil health and weed suppression; increase public perception of the positive aspects of farming on private lands; alternatives to agriculture burning; alternatives for CRP takeout practices

Natural Resource Measurable Result Objective:

- Improve soil health on 2,000 acres
- 2 practices implemented to reduce/eliminate use of chemical sprays and fertilizer to control undesirable pests (plants & insects)

Programmatic Measurable Result Objectives:

- Increase soil testing by producers to demonstrate improvements in soil health
- 2 producers involved in monitoring programs on sediment movement
- Continue education and research and improved funding sources on alternative CRP takeout program
- Demonstrate to producers the benefits of planting multispecies cover crops by cost sharing on 2 acres planted to cover crops working with researchers on demonstration areas
- Increase public participation in district supported programs
- Promote alternatives to burning residue (dormant season grazing, direct seed)
- Participate in the Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP) with Whitman County

Funding Source(s): WSCC Funding, Cost-Share Grants, NRCS-CCRP, CREP, EQIP, VSP, RCPP grants

Activities for FY2018	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time(Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
Provide technical assistance and service for the Burn Permit Program including alternatives to burning stubble	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	20	\$3,200	
Provide technical assistance and/or cost share for the implementation of BMP's with 3 producers	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	5	\$800	
Negotiate and complete Technical Service Provider Agreements with NRCS for Farm Bill program implementation	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	5	\$800	

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Find out what is working in Whitman CD, promote soil health systems implementation including educational events and breakfast meetings and tour (May) - for information sharing among producers based on ongoing information collection & exchange suitable for this area	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator & Supervisors	5	\$800	
Precision Farming promotion coupled with conservation tillage (partner with local equipment dealers - JTI)	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	5	\$800	
No-Till, Direct Seed Cost-Share Mentoring Program Grant: Participate with another district	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	5	\$800	
Direct seed systems ongoing study of what drills are doing and soil health changes	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	5	\$800	
Work with county engineer to figure out a monitoring systems and county ditch cleaning baseline to demonstrate improvement in erosion control from various conservation systems	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	5	\$800	
Continue Agreement with Spokane Co CD for SRF Low Interest Loans	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	1	\$100	
Provide technical assistance and service for the Annual Plant Sale	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	5	\$800	
Erosion control through plantings, cover crop planting, canola grazing trial, grazing cover crop ie. CRP lands or set asides – cosponsor cover crop trails, field day,	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	5	\$800	
			66	\$10,500	totals

**Natural Resource Priority Program Area:
Conservation Education**

Goal(s):

By June 2020 have a demonstrated increase in: agriculture related jobs, agriculture and conservation education programs in schools, fairs, libraries and other local events; thriving economy; great place to live, work, play and raise a family; positive community support & feedback; participation in district supported programs; increase interest in locally grown produce.

Natural Resource Measurable Result Objective:

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective:

- Present conservation education in schools, fairs, library and local events
- 10 participants participating in district supported programs
- 20 young participants in conservation work
- Reduction of regulatory interventions both in rural and urban areas

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- Increase in participants in growing food crops
- Demonstrated support for agricultural activities, new technology use, and agricultural culture

Funding Source(s): WSCC Funding, Cost-Share Grants, NRCS-CCRP, CREP, EQIP, RCPP, Snake River Salmon Recovery grants, RCO, WDFW

Activities for FY2018	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time(Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
Co-sponsor the legislative relations session with the other SE Area Districts	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	2	200	
Update website and post activities on Facebook, other social media	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	10	1000	
Host and assist in sponsorship of a booth at the Palouse Empire Fair	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	2	200	
Provide youth conservation education programs to 2 classes	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	4	1000	
Assist with the County High School Envirothon/ Land Judging Contest	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	4	1000	
Participate in direct seed breakfasts	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator & Supervisors	4	500	
			26	3900	

Natural Resource Priority Program Area:

Wildlife Habitat

Goal(s):

By June 2020 have a demonstrated increase in habitat returned that produces more game.

Natural Resource Measurable Result Objective:

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective:

Funding Source(s): WSCC Funding, Cost-Share Grants, NRCS-CCRP, CREP, EQIP, RCPP, Snake River Salmon Recovery grants, RCO, WDFW

Activities for FY2018	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time(Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
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Meet with WDFW habitat staff on projects for Whitman CD	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	4	400	
Co-sponsor with WDFW and other partners projects results in habitat returned that produces more game, increase upland bird habitat and bird by finding producers willing to plant needed habitat and do hatch out birds	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator	4	400	
			8	800	

District Operations:

Goal(s):

Goals: By June 2020 have a demonstrated increase in: high quality employees that are appreciated, happy Board Supervisors, steady CAPP Tier 1 placement, clean audits & compliances, additional funding through grants, easily accessible office space

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective:

- Employee longevity
- CAPP Tier 1 placement annually
- Annual excellent audit reports
- 20% increase in funding through grants
- By the end of June each year have completed effective and efficient operations including accounting, grant vouchering, personnel management, Supervisor elections & appointments, training & development, annual planning and reporting.
- Participate in the Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP) with Whitman County and the RCPP Partnership program

Funding Source(s):

Activities for FY2018	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time(Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
Attend other districts meetings, bring back results, establish contacts with other districts	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator			
Work with partners to make signups & implementation easier for producers	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator			
Explore mitigation funding for conservation projects	7/17 – 6/18	Natural Resource Coordinator			
Prepare and complete monthly Board meetings which include review of district law, rules, regulations on an annual basis	As Required	Supervisors & District Manager			Volunteer
Organize and host Annual tour and BBQ	Annually	Supervisors & District Manager			

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Complete monthly Board meeting financial reports using the BARS Accounting System and annual financial requirements which include AP/AR, grant vouchers, taxes, year-end financial report, district budget	<i>As Required</i>	<i>District Auditor District Financial Contractor</i>			<i>Contract</i>
Organize and host Annual Stakeholders meeting	<i>Annually</i>	<i>Supervisors & District Manager</i>			<i>Volunteer</i>
Complete grant applications & reports as required by all funding entities	<i>As Required</i>	<i>Natural Resource Coordinator</i>			<i>Contract</i>
Complete review and report requirements –Schedule 22; Annual Plan of Work; Annual Report of Accomplishments	<i>As Required</i>	<i>Supervisors & District Manager</i>			<i>Volunteer</i>
Conduct district appointments and elections as required and assist other districts as requested	<i>As Required</i>	<i>Supervisors & District Manager</i>			<i>Volunteer</i>
Review and update when needed the district policy book, equipment inventory, MOU's, policies and procedures, employment posters and	<i>Annually</i>	<i>Supervisors & District Manager</i>			<i>Volunteer</i>
maintain/rent equipment as needed					
Annually complete staff personnel reviews; provide supervisor and staff training as needed	<i>Annually</i>	<i>Supervisors & District Manager</i>			<i>Volunteer</i>
Attend WADE, SE Area Mtg; Professional Engineering Mtg; WACD Convention; Direct Seed Conference; Annual Cattlemen's Assoc Mtg; new supervisor orientation; regional tours; VSP meetings; RCPP meetings and other seminars/meetings that relate to priority concerns of the district and/or its operations	<i>Annually</i>	<i>Supervisors & District Manager</i>			<i>Volunteer</i>
As directed by the Board, apply for and secure funding for priority concerns within the district; explore opportunities to create district programs, fee for products, county funding and/or private funding	<i>As Requested</i>	<i>Supervisors & District Manager</i>			<i>Volunteer</i>
					totals

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FY2018 Annual Budget Whitman Conservation District

(Insert district budget for FY2018 (7/1/17 – 6/30/18))

Estimated Budget July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018 information will be collected estimated funding in columns has been updated

Revenue:

Grant Income	\$ 70,899.36
Technical Service Provider	\$ 8,000.00
Account Interest	\$ xx
District Programs	<u>\$ 23,000.00</u>

Total Revenues \$101,899.36

Expenses:

Salaries/Benefits/Taxes	\$ 63,739.36
Office/Grant/Program Supplies	\$ 10,000.00
Cost-Share Program	\$ 20,000.00
Insurance/Dues	\$ 5,960.00
Training/Travel	<u>\$ 2,200.00</u>

Total Expenses \$ 101,899.36

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