



Eastern Klickitat Conservation District

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Legislative District: 14, 15 Congressional District: 3, 4

Other Accomplishments

- ▶ Obtained a grant from the Department of Ecology to treat Eurasian Watermilfoil in the mouth of Rock Creek. The watermilfoil is an invasive weed that harbors predators of juvenile salmonids, clogs boat motors, and spreads easily to other waterbodies through fragmentation.
- ▶ Provided cost share to a landowner to improve water quality Rock Creek. A spring was enhanced to reduce runoff and pipe clean water directly to the stream.
- ▶ Designed three projects to improve water quality in the headwaters of Rock Creek and provide water to livestock and wildlife.

2018 FEATURE ACCOMPLISHMENT

Partnerships for Healthy Forests

Resource Challenge

The prevalence and intensity of wildfires in Klickitat County is steadily increasing. Not only are homes threatened, but valuable timber, wildlife habitat, and grazing lands are being destroyed. The annual precipitation in Eastern Klickitat Conservation District (EKCD) in the Simcoe Mountain Range is between 12- 20 inches. When these valuable resources are destroyed, it takes decades for this area to recover from a high intensity fire.

Project Summary and Results

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has purchased several thousand acres in the Simcoe Mountain Range east of Highway 97. As co-managing partners, EKCD has been working with WDFW, local ranchers, and other entities to develop a project management plan for the land to maintain healthy, fire-resilient forests that support wildlife and grazing through a Coordinated Resource Management (CRM) process. WDFW and EKCD hosted the annual CRM Executive Committee Meeting and tour to discuss the CRM process in the Simcoe Unit. The meeting was well attended by CRM groups all over the state.

Key Partners

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife; Washington State Conservation Commission



The Simcoe Unit is a unique transition zone from ponderosa pine to oak savannah habitat.



Burn scar of the Mile Marker 28 Fire in 2012 on the upper end of the Simcoe Unit.

Priorities for 2019...

- ▶ Thousands of acres of rangeland rehabilitation in EKCD to create more fire-resilient ecosystems.
- ▶ Watershed assessments in Pine Creek and Alder Creek to determine water storage projects, instream habitat enhancement projects, and fish passage projects.
- ▶ Sustain a source of base funding to support district operations and pursue grant funding.