



Foster Creek Conservation District

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Legislative District: 12 Congressional District: 4

Other Accomplishments



The District opened its 3rd Department of Ecology grant for reducing erosion by providing cost share to producers for converting to direct seed systems.



Implementation of the Multiple Species General Conservation Plan is progressing, with the site plan format in final draft.



The District is leading the formation of A Cooperative Weed Management Area for Douglas County.

2018 FEATURE ACCOMPLISHMENT

Voluntary Stewardship Program Work Plan Approved

Resource Challenge

Douglas County contracted with Foster Creek Conservation District to lead the coordination and planning of the Douglas County Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP) Work Plan. VSP provides a non-regulatory, incentive-based method of critical area protection on lands that intersect agricultural activities. It's an alternative to the more traditional methods to protect critical areas, which is to enforce regulations adopted under Critical Area Ordinances of the Growth Management Act.

Project Summary and Results

On April 30, 2018, Douglas County's VSP plan was approved by the State of Washington. This was the culmination of 18 months of planning undertaken by local farmers, ranchers, orchardists, state and federal agencies, and agricultural and environmental groups. The hard work of those who donated their time to participate in the local work group ensures that this plan will be feasible for the agricultural community and provide protection for critical areas. Now underway with VSP implementation, FCCD is currently completing site plans for local farmers to help implement conservation activities.

Key Partners

Washington State Conservation Commission



Wheat field, Douglas County. Photo by Amanda Ward



Volunteers help implement the VSP plan by planting riparian vegetation along West Foster Creek. Photo by Aaron Rosenblum

Priorities for 2019...

- ▶ Secure funding to provide cost share for 30+ operators who annually purchase biological weed control agents.
- ▶ Enroll an additional 6-8 operators into our Direct Seed Program.
- ▶ Expand provision of technical assistance to over 300 tree fruit growers.
- ▶ Secure funds to assist with fire recovery on over 77,500 acres in Northern Douglas County.