



Lewis Conservation District

District Manager: Bob Amrine Board Chair: Dave Fenn
1554 Bishop Road, Suite 100 Chehalis, WA 98532
(360) 748-0083 | bob.amrine@wa.usda.gov | lewisconservation.wordpress.com
Legislative District: 19, 20 Congressional District: 3

Other Accomplishments



Installation of a new fish screen on a local farmer's property. Photo by Marguerite Abplanalp

- ▶ Completed one fish passage project.

- ▶ Completed 11 irrigation plans and 11 farm plans.

- ▶ Installed three livestock pads.

2018 FEATURE ACCOMPLISHMENT Irrigation Fish Screening Project

Resource Challenge

Since 2015, the Lewis Conservation District (LCD) has worked with over 40 irrigators to develop management plans. The majority of the water users had homemade fish screens on diversion intakes that were not compliant with state standards. When the farmers were informed of this, most of them were interested in installing compliant fish screens. Some irrigators get their water from wells but the greater number get it from the Chehalis River and tributaries where fish can be abundant.

Project Summary and Results

The District was able to install 13 fish screens in the past two years. Jack Myrick, Irrigation Efficiencies Specialist with the Washington State Conservation Commission, assisted with designing and ordering screens. He worked alongside the farmers and LCD staff to wrangle the screens into place. The farmers were initially worried that the water spray bars that helped clean the screens would steal water from the system. They were pleasantly surprised that the pumps actually worked more efficiently in addition to not trapping fish. The district is applying for a grant to install 15 more screens.

Key Partners

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Rose Foundation



Fish screens waiting to be delivered to various farms.



Self-cleaning fish screen installation in the Chehalis River.

Photos by Kelly Verd

Priorities for 2019...

- ▶ Continue to install fish screens as needed, if funding is received.
- ▶ Complete four fish passage projects.
- ▶ Construct a livestock pad.
- ▶ Construct two dry stacks and fencing for over 3,000 feet of stream protection from livestock access.