



# Columbia Conservation District

District Manager: Terry Bruegman Board Chair: Cody Chapman  
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Legislative District: 16 Congressional District: 5

## Other Accomplishments



1st place team, Garfield/Pomeroy for local FFA Land Evaluation contest hosted by CCD. Photo by Debra Nordheim



Half of the group of students heading to their assigned soil pit for evaluation. Photo by Justin Pearson



CCD staff getting ready to measure pH in 1" increments on 1' soil samples. This is year six of soil health studies in the county. Photo by Adrienne Rosamond

### 2018 FEATURE ACCOMPLISHMENT

## Tucannon River Habitat Restoration for Fish and Farms

### Resource Challenge

The Tucannon River lacks critical habitat features, floodplain connectivity, large woody debris, habitat complexity/diversity, and habitat for juvenile salmonids for salmon recovery. About 70 percent of the river is on private lands, and habitat restoration projects can be a challenge. Columbia Conservation District (CCD) was able to enhance habitat conditions for ESA-listed species, while addressing landowner concerns about flooding impacts to agricultural production grounds. This type of cooperation with landowners is not uncommon in the watershed.

### Project Summary and Results

Salmon habitat restoration in the Tucannon River has been a focus of Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and CCD since the mid-1990s. Enhanced BPA funding, supported with Salmon Recovery Funding Board funds and development of the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan, have expedited habitat restoration efforts. Phase 2 of 3 was completed in 2017, which constructed 40 large wood structures and installed 45 single rootwad trees on two miles of river. These efforts have enhanced floodplain connectivity, instream complexity, and side channel development while maintaining agricultural viability.

### Key Partners

Bonneville Power Administration; Salmon Recovery Funding Board and Recreation Conservation Office; Snake River Salmon Recovery Board; Washington State Conservation Commission



Before picture of site placement for channel spanning structures for salmon habitat project. Photo by Justin Pearson



After photo of channel spanning structures. Photo by Justin Pearson

## Priorities for 2019...

- ▶ Serve as the technical lead for Columbia County Voluntary Stewardship Program implementation.
- ▶ Facilitate Tucannon River Conceptual Restoration Plan Update.
- ▶ Implement Tucannon River salmon habitat recovery projects.