



Washington State  
Conservation District  
Supervisor's  
Pocket Reference

April 2011

Preamble

You have been selected by local citizens or the Conservation Commission to serve in one of the 265 Conservation District Supervisor positions available in Washington State. An honor following a proud history of conservation work in Washington State that has been completed and will be completed because of the dedication of the women and men that serve as Conservation District Supervisors.

Please call on the Conservation Commission staff and members for assistance in carrying out your responsibilities.

Mark Clark  
Executive Director

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## Table of Contents

1	table of contents
2	welcome
3	function of a conservation district history of conservation districts
4	relationships between WSCC & conservation districts
6	example general policies structure
7	supervisor role & responsibilities
8	time required benefits of being a supervisor conservation district law
10	conservation district & supervisor powers
11	corporate status & powers of district
19	conservation district partners & assistance
20	federal agencies
22	state agencies
26	county & local government
27	conservation district associations
30	websites
32	abbreviations & acronyms
41	numbers
42	WSCC staff contact information

## Welcome

Welcome to your position as a Conservation District Supervisor. As a public official you have roles and responsibilities that may be different than other organizations you belong to.

As a district supervisor, you have a unique niche among entities managing Washington's natural resources. You serve as a grass roots representative of landowners and general public in your community, providing leadership and direction in natural resource conservation programs.

Upon taking the oath of office you agree to carry out the responsibilities of your position in accordance with the Washington Conservation District Law (RCW Title 89). This pocket reference has important information for your use. Additional references and website addresses are provided for more information on topics.

### Function of a Conservation District

To take available technical, financial and education resources, regardless of the source, and focus or coordinate them so that they meet the needs of the local land user for conservation of soil, water, and related resources.

(Adapted from Dr. Peter Nowak's presentation "The Conservation District Official: Villain or Victim?")

### History of Conservation Districts

During the 1930's, the Dust Bowl made the need to conserve natural resources, particularly soil, very clear. Agencies ranging from Land Grant Universities to the Federal Emergency Relief Administration researched and implemented conservation practices throughout the nation.

Eventually, the Soil Conservation Service (SCS), now the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), was created as a result of the Soil Conservation Act of 1935 to develop and implement soil erosion control programs.

Local leadership was needed to coordinate soil erosion control programs and tie them into local conditions and priorities. Because of this, USDA developed a model Conservation District law for consideration by state governments.

In 1939, the State Legislature passed RCW 89.08 which enabled the creation of conservation districts and the Conservation Commission (WSCC) in Washington. It defines conservation districts as able to direct programs protecting local renewable natural resources. Washington State now has forty-seven conservation districts in thirty-nine counties.

#### Relationship between the WSCC and Districts

Since the establishment of the Conservation Commission in 1939, the state agency has provided direct services to assist conservation districts with their programs, including funding, invoicing, budgeting, fiscal operations, auditing, planning, reporting, policy development, administration,

accountability, training, capacity building, district operations, and state level public outreach. The Commission also appoints two supervisors to each district board.

Once every two years the agency compiles the biennial budget requests of all districts, combines them with the agency budget, and submits the full budget proposal to the Governor and legislature for funding consideration. Once the legislature passes a budget, the Commission allocates funding to the districts.

State law also directs the Commission to serve an important role in monitoring the accountability of districts, and working with them to help districts stay compliant with state and federal laws.

The Commission is an important partner with conservation districts, joining together for effective and efficient on-the-ground conservation in the state.

## Example General Policies for Conservation Districts

- § Conservation efforts should be led by local people.
- § Final responsibility for conservation lies with the landowner.
- § Conservation districts are responsible to landowners and the community as a whole.
- § Every parcel of land located within a conservation district's boundaries is eligible to receive service from a conservation district.

## Structure

Conservation districts are subdivisions of state government, much like school districts. Each conservation district is governed by a board of five supervisors. Supervisors are local residents who serve voluntarily without pay. Three are elected by local citizens and two are appointed by the Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC).

Supervisors may come from many different occupations, but by law, three of the five supervisors must be landowners or farm operators.



## Supervisor Role & Responsibilities

- § Identify local conservation needs and develop, implement, and evaluate programs and services to meet the needs.
- § Educate and inform landowners, and citizens within the district as well as local, state and federal legislators on conservation issues and programs.
- § Supervise paid staff and other volunteers working with the district; coordinate with any cooperating agency personnel.
- § Administer the district by delegating tasks through a structure of board officers, members, committees, manager and staff.
- § Manage and seek revenue to implement conservation needs and report on activities to the community within the conservation district boundaries.
- § Coordinate assistance and funding from federal, state, and local government; district associations; and private groups.
- § Set policy for staff to implement

### Time Required

Your term of office is three years. You are expected to attend the 12 regularly scheduled board meetings as well as committee and other special meetings. An average time commitment is approximately 20 days/year.

### Benefits of Being a Supervisor

- § Satisfaction in seeing natural resources conservation practices applied in the community.
- § Interaction with others interested in natural resource conservation.
- § Direct input into local, state, and federal conservation programs.
- § Training through Washington State Conservation Commission, Washington Association of Conservation Districts (WACD) and Washington Association of District Employees (WADE).

### Conservation District Law

Conservation District Law - Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 89.08, describes the powers and authorities of

conservation districts including, but not limited to;

- § Conduct investigations and research relating to conservation of natural resources;
- § Conduct educations and demonstration projects;
- § Carry out improvements to conserve natural resources
- § Cooperate or enter into agreements with others, including other districts
- § Acquire property, donations, gifts and contributions;
- § Make available to land occupiers equipment and materials to assist them in conserving natural resources;
- § Prepare and keep current a long-range conservation plan and an annual work plan;
- § Administer any conservation project or program within the district boundaries;
- § Sue and be sued; and
- § Hold public hearings, annual meetings, and perform other actions to keep citizens and agencies informed.

## Conservation District & Supervisor Powers

For the entire Conservation District Law  
go to website link

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=89.08&full=true>

### RCW 89.08.210 - Powers and duties of supervisors

District supervisors may employ a secretary, treasurer, technical experts, and such other officers, agents, and employees, permanent and temporary, as they may require, and determine their qualifications, duties, and compensation. It may call upon the attorney general for legal services, or may employ its own counsel and legal staff. The supervisors may delegate to their chairman, to one or more supervisors, or to one or more agents or employees such powers and duties as it deems proper. The supervisors shall furnish to the commission, upon request, copies of such internal rules, regulations, orders, contracts, forms, and other documents as they shall adopt or employ, and such other information concerning their activities as the commission may require in the performance of its duties under chapter 184, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. The supervisors shall provide for the execution of surety bonds for officers and all employees who shall be entrusted with funds or property.

The supervisors shall provide for the keeping of a full and accurate record of all proceedings,

resolutions, regulations, and orders issued or adopted. The supervisors shall provide for an annual audit of the accounts of receipts and disbursements in accordance with procedures prescribed by regulations of the commission.

The board may invite the legislative body of any municipality or county near or within the district, to designate a representative to advise and consult with it on all questions of program and policy which may affect the property, water supply, or other interests of such municipality or county. The governing body of a district shall appoint such advisory committees as may be needed to assure the availability of appropriate channels of communication to the board of supervisors, to persons affected by district operations, and to local, regional, state and interstate special-purpose districts and agencies responsible for community planning, zoning, or other resource development activities. The district shall keep such committees informed of its work, and such advisory committees shall submit recommendations from time to time to the board of supervisors.

#### **RCW 89.08.220 - Corporate status and powers of district**

A conservation district organized under the provisions of chapter 184, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. shall constitute a governmental subdivision of this state, and a public body corporate and politic exercising public powers, but shall not levy taxes or issue bonds and such district, and the supervisors thereof, shall have the following

powers, in addition to others granted in other sections of chapter 184, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess.:

(1) To conduct surveys, investigations, and research relating to the conservation of renewable natural resources and the preventive and control measures and works of improvement needed, to publish the results of such surveys, investigations, or research, and to disseminate information concerning such preventive and control measures and works of improvement: PROVIDED, That in order to avoid duplication of research activities, no district shall initiate any research program except in cooperation with the government of this state or any of its agencies, or with the United States or any of its agencies;

(2) To conduct educational and demonstrational projects on any lands within the district upon obtaining the consent of the occupier of such lands and such necessary rights or interests in such lands as may be required in order to demonstrate by example the means, methods, measures, and works of improvement by which the conservation of renewable natural resources may be carried out;

(3) To carry out preventative and control measures and works of improvement for the conservation of renewable natural resources, within the district including, but not limited to, engineering operations, methods of cultivation, the growing of vegetation, changes in use of lands, and the measures listed in RCW 89.08.010, on any lands within the district upon obtaining the consent of the occupier of such lands and such

necessary rights or interests in such lands as may be required;

(4) To cooperate or enter into agreements with, and within the limits of appropriations duly made available to it by law, to furnish financial or other aid to any agency, governmental or otherwise, or any occupier of lands within the district in the carrying on of preventive and control measures and works of improvement for the conservation of renewable natural resources within the district, subject to such conditions as the supervisors may deem necessary to advance the purposes of chapter 184, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. For purposes of this subsection only, land occupiers who are also district supervisors are not subject to the provisions of RCW 42.23.030;

(5) To obtain options upon and to acquire in any manner, except by condemnation, by purchase, exchange, lease, gift, bequest, devise, or otherwise, any property, real or personal, or rights or interests therein; to maintain, administer, and improve any properties acquired, to receive income from such properties and to expend such income in carrying out the purposes and provisions of chapter 184, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess.; and to sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of any of its property or interests therein in furtherance of the purposes and the provisions of chapter 184, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess.;

(6) To make available, on such terms, as it shall prescribe, to land occupiers within the district, agricultural and engineering machinery and equipment, fertilizer, seeds, seedlings, and such other equipment and material as will assist them

to carry on operations upon their lands for the conservation of renewable natural resources;

(7) To prepare and keep current a comprehensive long-range program recommending the conservation of all the renewable natural resources of the district. Such programs shall be directed toward the best use of renewable natural resources and in a manner that will best meet the needs of the district and the state, taking into consideration, where appropriate, such uses as farming, grazing, timber supply, forest, parks, outdoor recreation, potable water supplies for urban and rural areas, water for agriculture, minimal flow, and industrial uses, watershed stabilization, control of soil erosion, retardation of water run-off, flood prevention and control, reservoirs and other water storage, restriction of developments of flood plains, protection of open space and scenery, preservation of natural beauty, protection of fish and wildlife, preservation of wilderness areas and wild rivers, the prevention or reduction of sedimentation and other pollution in rivers and other waters, and such location of highways, schools, housing developments, industries, airports and other facilities and structures as will fit the needs of the state and be consistent with the best uses of the renewable natural resources of the state. The program shall include an inventory of all renewable natural resources in the district, a compilation of current resource needs, projections of future resource requirements, priorities for various resource activities, projected timetables, descriptions of available alternatives,



and provisions for coordination with other resource programs.

The district shall also prepare an annual work plan, which shall describe the action programs, services, facilities, materials, working arrangements and estimated funds needed to carry out the parts of the long-range programs that are of the highest priorities.

The districts shall hold public hearings at appropriate times in connection with the preparation of programs and plans, shall give careful consideration to the views expressed and problems revealed in hearings, and shall keep the public informed concerning their programs, plans, and activities. Occupiers of land shall be invited to submit proposals for consideration to such hearings. The districts may supplement such hearings with meetings, referenda and other suitable means to determine the wishes of interested parties and the general public in regard to current and proposed plans and programs of a district. They shall confer with public and private agencies, individually and in groups, to give and obtain information and understanding of the impact of district operations upon agriculture, forestry, water supply and quality, flood control, particular industries, commercial concerns and other public and private interests, both rural and urban.

Each district shall submit to the commission its proposed long-range program and annual work plans for review and comment. The long-range renewable natural resource program, together with the supplemental annual work plans,

developed by each district under the foregoing procedures shall have official status as the authorized program of the district, and it shall be published by the districts as its "renewable resources program". Copies shall be made available by the districts to the appropriate counties, municipalities, special purpose districts and state agencies, and shall be made available in convenient places for examination by public land occupier or private interest concerned. Summaries of the program and selected material there from shall be distributed as widely as feasible for public information;

(8) To administer any project or program concerned with the conservation of renewable natural resources located within its boundaries undertaken by any federal, state, or other public agency by entering into a contract or other appropriate administrative arrangement with any agency administering such project or program;

(9) Cooperate with other districts organized under chapter 184, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. in the exercise of any of its powers;

(10) To accept donations, gifts, and contributions in money, services, materials, or otherwise, from the United States or any of its agencies, from this state or any of its agencies, or from any other source, and to use or expend such moneys, services, materials, or any contributions in carrying out the purposes of chapter 184, Laws 1973 1st ex. sess.;

(11) To sue and be sued in the name of the district; to have a seal which shall be judicially noticed; have perpetual succession unless

terminated as hereinafter provided; to make and execute contracts and other instruments, necessary or convenient to the exercise of its powers; to borrow money and to pledge, mortgage and assign the income of the district and its real or personal property therefore; and to make, amend rules and regulations not inconsistent with chapter 184, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and to carry into effect its purposes;

(12) Any two or more districts may engage in joint activities by agreement between or among them in planning, financing, constructing, operating, maintaining, and administering any program or project concerned with the conservation of renewable natural resources. The districts concerned may make available for purposes of the agreement any funds, property, personnel, equipment, or services available to them under chapter 184, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess.;

Any district may enter into such agreements with a district or districts in adjoining states to carry out such purposes if the law in such other states permits the districts in such states to enter into such agreements. The commission shall have authority to propose, guide, and facilitate the establishment and carrying out of any such agreement;

(13) Every district shall, through public hearings, annual meetings, publications, or other means, keep the general public, agencies and occupiers of land within the district, informed of the works and activities planned and administered by the district, of the purposes these will serve, of the

income and expenditures of the district, of the funds borrowed by the district and the purposes for which such funds are expended, and of the results achieved annually by the district; and

(14) The supervisors of conservation districts may designate an area, state, and national association of conservation districts as a coordinating agency in the execution of the duties imposed by this chapter, and to make gifts in the form of dues, quotas, or otherwise to such associations for costs of services rendered, and may support and attend such meetings as may be required to promote and perfect the organization and to affect its purposes.

## Conservation District Partners & Assistance

Conservation districts establish priorities and direct action on local natural resource concerns by developing long range and annual plans. Districts often work together on multi-district conservation activities, such as watershed projects. In all cases, districts rely on cooperative assistance and funding from federal, state, and local governments; district associations; and private organizations and businesses. Many agencies and organizations have a strong interest in the same natural resources you are working with. It is important to involve them in your planning and implementation activities.

Assistance is set up formally through a Cooperative Agreement, or a Memorandum of Understanding, Districts can also involve groups more informally by appointing their representatives as associate supervisors, advisors, or committee members.

## Federal Agencies

Farm Service Agency (FSA)

Website: [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

Phone: 509.323.3000

The FSA administers cost-sharing programs to farmers implementing conservation. It also provides aerial photos for conservation work; assistance for land treatment and development, and natural disaster relief.

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

Website: [www.bpa.gov](http://www.bpa.gov)

Phone: 800.282.3713

The BPA markets hydroelectric power in the Pacific Northwest.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

Website: [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov)

Phone: 800.344.WILD(9453)

USFWS is responsible for wild birds, mammals (except certain marine mammals), and inland sport fisheries. The USFWS conducts research activities, conducts environmental impact assessments, and manages wildlife

refuges. In some cases, USFWS provides funding for habitat restoration projects.

Forest Service (USFS)

Website: [www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us)

Phone: 800.832.1355

USFS has federal responsibility for forestry. The USFS sponsors cooperative programs through state forestry agencies, the Natural Resources Conservation Service and conservation districts to control fires, stabilize gullies, improve forest growth, plant trees, and control forest pests.

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries

Website: [www.noaa.gov](http://www.noaa.gov)

NOAA Fisheries is responsible for providing programs to try to save the marine endangered species of the United States. Their actions affect the Columbia River and Snake River watersheds of the Northwest.

Natural Resources Conservation Service  
(NRCS)

Website: [www.wa.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.wa.nrcs.usda.gov)

Phone: 509.323.2900

NRCS has a long and extensive tradition of work with conservation districts. The NRCS provides personnel, equipment, office space, and counsel to districts. It also provides free technical assistance with soils, conservation practices, and planning to land users and others.

#### State Agencies

Washington State Conservation  
Commission (WSCC)

Website: <http://www.scc.wa.gov/>

Phone: 360.407.6200

The Washington State Conservation Commission has ten members. The Commission and its staff provide administrative and program assistance and guidance to districts, disseminate information on statewide conservation activities, collect and share natural resource conservation data, and seek sources of funding to aid in conservation district projects, programs and operations.



Department of Agriculture (WSDA)

Website: <http://agr.wa.gov>

Phone: 360.902.1887

Washington State Department of Agriculture administers state laws protecting agricultural producers from diseases, insects, predators, and weeds. The WSDA regulates fruit, seed and other agricultural product grading. The WSDA also issues and approves licenses for nursery dealers, pesticide operators, and applicators; and issues labeling permits for products used by agricultural producers such as seed, fertilizer, pesticide, etc... The WSDA is also involved in water resources, transportation, farm labor, and other matters related to the production, distribution and sale of agricultural commodities.

Department of Ecology (ECOLOGY)

Website: [www.ecy.wa.gov](http://www.ecy.wa.gov)

Phone: 360.407.6000

Ecology programs address air pollution, water pollution, solid waste, hazardous waste, noise pollution, litter and resource recovery, water resources,

and shoreline and coastal zone management.

Ecology is both an administrative and a regulatory agency with authority to enforce the state's environmental laws. Ecology monitors all major waterways, administers grants for wastewater treatment facilities, and issues permits for all waste dischargers. Ecology also issues grants to reduce non-point water pollution.

Office of Financial Management (OFM)

Website: [www.ofm.wa.gov](http://www.ofm.wa.gov)

The OFM provides oversight of WSCC and all financial activities including oversight of the funds allocated by WSCC to the conservation districts. OFM provides budget planning and fiscal administration for state agencies. OFM also monitors agency spending, maintains the statewide accounting system, and forecasts state population.

Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

Website: <http://wdfw.wa.gov>

Phone: 360.902.2200

WDFW enforces state fish and game laws; classifies and monitors wildlife species, numbers, and habitat; improves hunting and fishing access; and advises individuals and groups on ways to minimize man-made impacts to wildlife.

Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

Website: [www.dnr.wa.gov](http://www.dnr.wa.gov)

Phone: 360.902.1000

DNR manages and protects state-owned lands. DNR foresters also assist private landowners with the Agriculture Conservation Program (ACP) and the Forestry Incentive Program (FIP) and provide other limited free technical forestry assistance. DNR administers the Forest Practices Act, a Washington state law regulating practices such as timber harvest.

Washington State University  
Cooperative Extension (WSU)

Website: <http://ext.wsu.edu>

Phone: 509.335.3564

Assistance from WSU is commonly found through the WSU Cooperative Extension. Extension agents ("county agents") and specialists are available to counsel, educate and train conservation districts in economics, engineering, agronomy and soils, animal sciences, entomology, food science and technology, forestry and range management, home economics, horticulture, plant pathology, sociology, veterinary science, and many other areas. Most counties have an Extension office which serves as the local contact for conservation districts to request Extension assistance.

#### County & Local Government

Nearly all conservation districts in Washington are along county lines, and while there is no legal relationship between the two, counties can be helpful in several ways. Counties can provide: office space; funding; co-sponsorship for watershed projects and responsibility for operation and maintenance; bridge and culvert replacement; use of county earthmoving equipment; cooperation

on county parks and other county owned land; funds for soil survey. County contacts include: commissioners, council, auditor, treasurer, recorder, engineer, assessor, highway superintendent, health officer, planning commission, parks and recreation department, weed district and others. Similar assistance can be available for city & municipal governments.

### Conservation District Associations

Washington Association of Conservation Districts (WACD)

Website: [www.wadistricts.org](http://www.wadistricts.org)

Phone: 360.754.3588 x125

WACD is a non-profit, nongovernmental organization of the 47 conservation districts in Washington State. WACD is made up of six area associations of conservation districts and serves as a state voice for conservation districts on state policy, legislation, communication, and funding for conservation activities. WACD also provides forums to inform, train and educate supervisors and recognize

outstanding district individuals and programs. WACD has standing committees on research, district operations, education, finance, forestry, land-use planning, legislation, public and private rangelands, pollution, recreation, water resources, resolutions, soil stewardship.

National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD)

Website: [www.nacdnet.org](http://www.nacdnet.org)

Phone: 202.547.NACD (6223)

NACD is a non-profit, nongovernmental organization representing over three thousand conservation districts and their state associations in the fifty states, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

NACD lobbies for federal conservation legislation and funding in Congress. It also provides brochures, reports, conservation films, training, and education.

Washington Association of District  
Employees (WADE)

Website: <http://wade.scc.wa.gov>

Phone: 360.754.3588

WADE was formed in 1986 to develop conservation district employees' abilities through continuing education, recognition and a network of professional support. WADE provides training and support for district employees to increase their ability to deliver quality conservation assistance to local land occupiers.

National Conservation District  
Employees Association (NCDEA)

Website: <http://ncdea.org>

Phone: 202.547.6223 x230

The NCDEA was formed in 1992 to strengthen conservation district programs, provide assistance, information and support to conservation district boards and their employees. The association also promotes the professional development of conservation district employees and will assist any agency, association, organization, municipality, group, or individual who supports conservation

districts in the spirit of cooperation, sound conservation practices, and proper land use.

#### Contact Information

Consult the Conservation District Directory for additional contact information for conservation districts, partner agencies and organizations. The web link is

<http://www.scc.wa.gov/index.php/34-Conservation-District-Directory/View-category.html>.

#### Websites

Important websites for additional information on important topics;  
Annual & long range planning

<http://www.scc.wa.gov/index.php/152-Annual-and-long-range-planning/View-category.html>

#### Audits & Auditing

<http://www.scc.wa.gov/index.php/227-Audits-and-auditing/View-category.html>

#### Elections & Appointment Procedures

<http://www.scc.wa.gov/index.php/153-Election-of-conservation-district-supervisors/View-category.html>



### Personnel Management

<http://www.scc.wa.gov/index.php/167-Personnel-management/View-category.html>

### Open Public Meetings

<http://www.scc.wa.gov/index.php/178-Open-public-meetings/View-category.html>

### Executive Sessions (closed session)

<http://www.atq.wa.gov/OpenGovernment/InternetManual/Chapter4.aspx>

### Public Records

<http://www.scc.wa.gov/index.php/170-Public-records-and-disclosure/View-category.html>

### Special Assessments

<http://www.scc.wa.gov/index.php/169-Special-assessments/View-category.html>

## Common Abbreviations and Acronyms

ABC - Activity Based Costing  
AC - NRCS Area Conservationist (oversees DC)  
ACR - Acreage Conservation Reserve  
ACS- Alternative Conservation System  
AG - Attorney General (Washington State)  
AFO - Animal feeding operation  
AFW - Ag, Fish & Water  
AGR - Department of Agriculture  
APW - Annual Plan of Work  
ARS - Agricultural Research Service (USDA)  
AWEP - Agriculture Water Enhancement Program

BARS - Budgeting Accounting and Reporting System  
BIA - Bureau of Indian Affairs  
BLM - Bureau of Land Management  
BMP - Best Management Practices  
BOR or USBR - Bureau of Reclamation  
BPA - Bonneville Power Administration

CAFO - Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations  
CAHE - College of Agriculture & Home Economics (WSU)  
CAO - Critical areas ordinance  
CBFWA - Columbia Basin Fish & Wildlife Authority  
CCWF - Centennial Clean Water Fund  
CD - Conservation District  
CDE - Conservation District Employee  
CE - Cooperative Extension  
CED - County Executive Director (FSA)  
CMT - Conservation Management Tool  
CIG - Conservation Innovation Grants  
Commission - Washington State Conservation Commission

Cooperator Agreement - Agreement between landowner and conservation district that allows staff access to the landowner's property  
Corps - Corps of Engineers  
CPO - Conservation Plan of Operation  
CREP - Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program  
CRIFC - Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission  
CRITFC - Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission  
CRP - Conservation Reserve Program  
CRM - Coordinated Resource Management  
CRMP - Coordinated Resource Management Planning  
CSP - Conservation Stewardship Program  
CU - Conservation Use acres  
CWA - Clean Water Act or Cooperative Working Agreement  
CWPP - Community Wildfire Protection Plan  
CZM - Coastal Zone Management

DC - District Conservationist (NRCS)  
DIST - Conservation District  
DNR - Department of Natural Resources, Washington State  
DOH - Department of Health  
DOE - Department of Energy (US)  
DOT - Department of Transportation, Washington State  
DU - Ducks Unlimited

EA - Extension Agent  
EBI - Environmental Benefits Index  
ECOLOGY - Ecology, Washington State Department of

EDA - Economic Development Administration  
EE - Environmental Education  
EI - Erodibility Index  
EIS - Environmental Impact Statement  
EPA - Environmental Protection Agency  
EQIP - Environmental Quality Incentives Program  
ESA - Endangered Species Act  
ESAC - Ecosystem Advisory Committee  
ESCS - Economic Statistics & Cooperative Service  
ESHB - Engrossed Substitute House Bill  
ESL - English as a Second Language  
EWP - Emergency Watershed Protection

FAC - Funding Advisory Committee  
FCIC - Federal Crop Insurance Corporation  
FEMA - Federal Emergency Management Agency  
FEMAT - Forest Ecosystem Assessment Team  
FIFRA - Federal Insecticide, Fungicide &  
Rodenticide Act  
FFA - Future Farmers of America  
FFFPP - Family Farm Forestry Partnership Program  
FIP - Forestry Incentives Program  
FLSA - Fair Labor Standards Act (29USC201)  
FmHA - Farmers Home Administration  
FOCS - Field Office Computing System  
FONSI - Finding of No Significant Impact  
FOTG - Field Office Technical Guide  
FPA - Forest Practices Act  
FPP - Farmland Protection Program  
FQPA - Food Quality Protection Act  
FRMC - Forms and Records Management Council  
FSA - Farm Service Agency (USDA)  
FSA - Food Security Act  
FSL - Field Support Leader  
FSOS - For the Sake of the Salmon  
FTE - Full Time Equivalent

FW - Firewise

GCEE - Governor's Council on Environmental Education

GIS- Geographic Information Systems

GMA - Growth Management Act

GPA - Geographic Priority Area

GPS - Global Positioning System

GS - Government Service

GSA - General Services Administration

GWMA - Groundwater Management Area

HCP - Habitat Conservation Plan

HCRS - Heritage Conservation & Recreation Service

HEL - Highly Erodible Land

HPA - Hydraulic Project Approval

IAREC - Irrigated Agriculture Research & Extension Center

ID - Irrigation District

IFM - Integrated Farm Management

IGWC - Interagency Groundwater Committee

IMPACT - International Marketing Program for Agricultural Commodities and Trade

IPA - Interagency Personnel Agreement

IPM - Integrated Pest Management

IRC - Intergovernmental Resource Center

JLRC - Joint Legislative Review Committee

JNRC - Joint Natural Resources Cabinet (Governor's)

LCSCI - Lower Columbia Steelhead Conservation Initiative

LID - Low Impact Development

L&I - Labor and Industries, Washington State  
LTA - Long-Term Agreement  
LWG - Local Work Group

MA - Management Agency  
MAIS - Management Agency Implementation  
Statement  
MIP - Model Implementation Project  
MOA - Memorandum of Agreement  
MOU- Memorandum of Understanding  
MRC - Marine Resources Committee

NACD - National Association of Conservation  
Districts  
NCDEA - National Conservation District Employees  
Association  
NAFTA - North American Free Trade Agreement  
NASCA - National Association of State  
Conservation Agencies  
NCA - Normal Crop Acres  
NCDEA - National Conservation District Employees  
Association  
NEAP - Northwest Emergency Assistance Plan  
NEPA - National Environmental Policy Act  
NIPFIC - Nonindustrial Private Forestry Interagency  
Committee  
NMFS - National Marine Fisheries Service  
NMP - Nutrient management plan  
NOAA - National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration  
NPDES - National Pollution Discharge Elimination  
System  
N-P-K - Nitrogen Phosphorus Potassium  
NPS - Nonpoint Source  
NPSP - Non-point source pollution

NRCS - Natural Resources Conservation Service  
(formerly Soil Conservation Service)  
NRDC - Natural Resources Defense Council  
NRI - Natural Resources Inventory  
NRYC - Natural Resources Youth Camp  
NSF - National Science Foundation  
NTU - Neophelometric Turbidity Unit  
NWCAA - Northwest Clean Air Agency  
NWIFC - Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission  
NWSC - Northwest Straits Commission

OCS - Outer Continental Shelf  
OFM - Office of Financial Management  
OFP - Office of Farmland Preservation  
OMB - U.S. Office of Management and Budget  
OPMA - Open Public Meetings Act  
OSHA - Occupational Safety and Health Act  
(29USC15)

PAC - Policy Advisory Committee  
PAM - Polyacrylamide  
PARKS - Washington State Parks and Recreation  
Commission  
PBNERR - Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research  
Reserve  
PE - Professional Engineer  
PFEC - Pacific Fisheries Enhancement Committee  
PFPS - People for Puget Sound  
PIE - Public Information and Education  
PL - Public Law  
PLT - Project Learning Tree  
PMC - WACD Lynn Brown Plant Materials Center  
POG- Priorities of Government  
PPL - Pacific Power and Light  
PSI - Pounds per square inch  
PSP - Puget Sound Partnership

PSWQAT - Puget Sound Water Quality Action Team

PUD - Public Utility District

QA/QC - Quality Assurance/Quality Control

QAPP - Quality assurance project plan

RCA - Resources Conservation Act

RCAT - Rural Community Assistance Team

RC&D - Resources Conservation and Development

RCO - Recreation and Conservation Office

RCW - Revised Code of Washington

RCWP - Rural Clean Water Program

RD - Rural Development

Ref. - Referendum

RFP - Request for Proposals

RM - Regional Manager - WSCC

RMZ - Riparian Management Zone

RNRIA - Rural Natural Resources Impact Area

ROA - Report of Accomplishments

RUSLE - Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation

SAO - State Auditor's Office

SARE - Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education

SEA - Science & Education Administration

SEA/AR - Science & Education Administration, Agricultural Research

SEA - FR - Science & Education - Federal Research

SEPA - State Environmental Policy Act

SIP - Stewardship Incentive Program

SL - Soil Loss

SPA - WA Shoreline Protection Act

SRF - State Revolving Fund



SRFB - Salmon Recovery Fund Board  
SRSC - Skagit River System Cooperative  
STEEP - Solutions to Economic and Environmental Problems  
Superfund - Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation & Liability Act  
SWCD - Soil And Water Conservation District  
SWCS - Soil & Water Conservation Society  
SWIS - State Wetlands Integration Strategy

T - Soil Loss Tolerance (USDA's)  
TA - Technical assistance  
TFW - Timber, Fish and Wildlife  
TMDL - Total Maximum Daily Load  
TNC - The Nature Conservancy  
TSP - Technical Services Provider  
TSS - Total Suspended Solids

USACE - US Army Corps of Engineers  
USBR or BOR - US Bureau of Reclamation  
USDA - United States Department of Agriculture  
USFS - United States Forest Service  
USFWS - United States Fish & Wildlife Service  
USGS - US Geological Service  
USIT - Upper Skagit Indian Tribe  
USLE - Universal Soil Loss Equation  
UTC - Utilities and Transportation Commission  
UW - University of Washington

WAC - Washington Administrative Code  
WACD - Washington Association of Conservation Districts  
WADE - Washington Association of District Employees  
WCC - Washington Conservation Commission  
WCC - Washington Conservation Corps

WEC - Washington Environmental Council  
WDFW - Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife  
WEQ - Wind Erosion Equation  
WFFA - Washington Farm Forestry Association  
WHIP - Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program  
WIF - Washington Irrigation Forecaster  
WMS - Washington Management Service  
WQ - Water Quality  
WQA - Water Quality Act  
WQC - Water Quality Committee  
WQFAC - Water Quality Financial Advisory Committee  
WQIP - Water Quality Incentive Program  
WQM - Water Quality Management  
WQMA - Water Quality Management Area  
WQMP - Water Quality Management Plan  
WRC - Washington Rangeland Committee  
WRDA - Water Resources Development Act  
WRIA - Water Resource Inventory Area  
WRP - Wetlands Reserve Program  
WSCC - Washington Conservation Commission  
WSDA - Washington State Department of Agriculture  
WSE - Washington State Envirothon  
WSU - Washington State University  
WSU Extension - Washington State University Cooperative Extension & Research  
WWF - World Wildlife Fund

YACC - Young Adult Conservation Corps  
YIN - Yakama Indian Nation

## Numbers

2514 – ESHB 2514- WA Watershed Planning Act

2496 – ESHB 2496- WA Salmon Recovery Act

RCW 89.08 – Conservation Districts Enabling  
Legislation

RCW 49.60 – WA Freedom from Discrimination Act

RCW 42.52 – State Ethics in Public Service

RCW 49.17 – State Industrial Safety & Health

RCW 42.17 – State Public Disclosure Act

319 – Section 319 of Clean Water Act addressing  
Nonpoint Source Pollution – grants

305(b) – Section 305(b) of Clean Water Act  
requiring states to submit a report every other  
year describing the water quality of the waters  
within its borders for the preceding year

303(d) – Section 303(d) of Clean Water Act  
creating list of states' impaired waters and TMDLs

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