

THE CASCADIA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

CONSERVATION QUARTERLY

WINTER 2007



60 YEARS OF SERVICE

Happy 2008 from the Board and Staff of the Cascadia Conservation District! We are proud to announce that this year marks our sixtieth year of service to our district members in Chelan County. Throughout the year we will be using our quarterly newsletter to celebrate our rich history and the people who have contributed to our longevity and success. The following is our first installment in the year-long series. Enjoy!

Conservation Districts: What They Are and How They Came to Be

In the early 1930s, along with the greatest depression this nation ever experienced, came an equally unparalleled ecological disaster known as the Dust Bowl. Following a severe and sustained drought in the Great Plains, the region's soil began to erode and blow away, creating huge black dust storms that blotted out the sun and swallowed the countryside. Thousands of "dust refugees" left the black fog to seek better lives.

But the storms stretched across the nation. They reached south to Texas and east to New York. Dust even sifted into the White House and onto the desk of President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

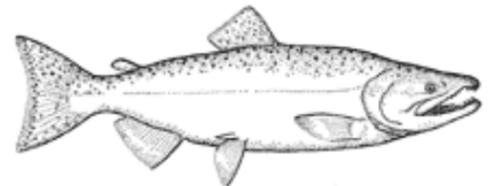
On Capitol Hill, while testifying about the erosion problem, soil scientist Hugh Hammond Bennett threw back the curtains to reveal a sky blackened by dust. Congress unanimously passed legislation declaring soil and water

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LOCAL EFFORTS KEY TO BRINGING FISHING BACK TO THE ENTIAT RIVER

Like many other waterways in the area, the lower Entiat River has been closed to salmon and steelhead fishing for a number of years. Local landowners involved in the Entiat Watershed Planning Unit have invested a substantial amount of time and effort in helping to restore habitat and re-open a viable fishery in their watershed. The Planning Unit was recently informed that their proposal to allow fishing for Chinook salmon in the lower Entiat River is supported by the necessary state and federal agencies. As in previous years, late-run Chinook salmon are expected to return to the Entiat River this summer and fall. Unlike previous years, however, folks may be able to fish for them. Similar programs for spring-run hatchery Chinook and steelhead are also being considered by state and federal fishery managers.

The federal and state agencies who manage the fishing season in Washington will open the lower Entiat River, up to the city limit sign, for late-run Chinook fishing. In addition, the National Marine Fisheries Service is considering a fishing season for hatchery Spring Chinook in the Entiat River up to the fish hatchery bridge. Area landowners are also working with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to enhance cutthroat trout fishing above Entiat Falls. Local, state, and tribal fishery staff have been supportive of their proposal thus far.



A rendering of a Chinook salmon.

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POSTAL CUSTOMER

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Now Accepting Orders for the...



2008 PLANT SALE

...see page 3 for details.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PAIRS EDUCATION WITH CONSERVATION

The Cascadia Conservation District works to ensure that effective, mutually beneficial projects “get on the ground”, and we believe that education plays an important role in the success and continuation of these efforts. Last fall, we teamed up with the Washington State University Chelan County Extension 4-H Forestry Education Program in an endeavor to establish and cultivate productive partnerships with area educators. The goal was to incorporate a unique model into the classroom, referred to as the ‘Experiential Education Model’. This model provides educational opportunities that help students connect the classroom to the real world. Students benefit by engaging in hands-on learning experiences.

*“Tell me and I will forget.
Show me and I may remember.
Involve me and I will understand.”*
- Chinese proverb

Entiat High School tenth grade biology teacher Daniel Durr was enthusiastic when his class was presented with the opportunity to participate in a riparian restoration

project with the Conservation District. He wanted his students to understand first hand the importance and applicability of science to real world experiences. Durr’s students helped Conservation District staff establish photo point and survival monitoring plots along one landowner’s stretch of revegetated stream bank. Each year for ten years, students from his class will return and collect further data from these established plots.

The data collected will be used to document project success, as well as to allow students to perform further data analysis back in the classroom. *“My hope is that my students’ interest in and appreciation of science will grow and that as a result of the project a few of my students will consider science as a career.”* said Durr.

The Conservation District would like to thank both Mr. Durr’s tenth grade biology class for their help and the Entiat valley landowner that was willing to allow the students access to their property to perform project monitoring activities. Thanks to their involvement and cooperation the environment and the youth of Chelan County will continue to grow and flourish.

- The Cascadia Conservation District is continually seeking new and innovative ways to cultivate relationships with like-minded organizations, educators and citizens committed to conservation and education in Chelan County. If you are interested in partnering or participating in a similar educational conservation project give us a call at (509) 664-0275.



Students from Daniel Durr’s 10th grade biology class work to establish photo point and survival monitoring plots at a riparian restoration site along the Entiat River.



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
CHELAN COUNTY EXTENSION

FOREST STEWARDSHIP PLANNING SHORT COURSE

If you own forest land you won’t want to miss the upcoming “Coached” Forest Stewardship Planning Short Course. From February 4 through March 31 area forestry professionals from the WSU Chelan County Extension, Washington State Department of Natural Resources, Forest Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Washington Farm Forestry Association are teaming up to offer an informational, hands-on educational opportunity for family forest owners at Cascade High School in Leavenworth, Washington.

Through a series of nine sessions participants will learn how to assess the health of their forest and effectively manage their property. Topics such as forest ecology, wildfire risk, sustainable timber harvesting, native plant identification and weed control will be covered as each landowner is guided and coached through the development of an individualized Forest Stewardship Plan for their property. Completed plans that are approved by the Washington Department of Natural Resources qualify a property for recognition as a Washington State “Stewardship Forest” and permit landowners to apply for cost-share assistance for forest stewardship projects. A completed plan may also qualify a parcel for a reduced “current use” property tax rate.

If you are interested in learning more about the natural resources on your property, identifying potential problems, and developing solutions that meet your personal ownership goals then this is the program for you. The registration fee is \$150 per person, family, or land parcel and includes a Forest Stewardship Handbook, reference documents, aerial photos and maps of your property, growth and visualization software, measurement tools, and an on-site visit with a professional forester or wildlife biologist.

Space is limited to the first 30 ownerships on a first-come, first-served basis so don’t delay - sign up today! For more information or to obtain a registration brochure contact Andy Perleberg at (509) 667-6540 or visit the WSU Chelan County Extension website at www.ncw.wsu.edu.

Other Participating Agencies:



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources



ANNUAL PLANT SALE



The Cascadia Conservation District is now accepting orders for our annual plant sale. This year we will be offering eleven different plant species suitable for a wide range of planting projects.

All of the species we are offering are native to eastern Washington. These plants are well adapted to the local climate and resistant to native pests and diseases. Once established they require less water and resources (fertilizers, chemicals, etc.) than most non-native species.

The plant species we selected are also considered fire-resistant by the Oregon State University Extension Service and make excellent choices for your FireWise landscaping plans. Fire-resistant plants are not fire proof plants. Instead, they are plants that don't readily ignite. They may be damaged or killed by fire, but their foliage and stems don't contribute significantly to fuel loading. Most fire-resistant

plants have the following characteristics in common 1) their leaves are moist and supple, 2) the plants have little dead wood and tend not to accumulate dry, dead material within themselves and 3) the sap is water-like and does not have a strong odor.

Our high quality conservation grade plants are available in five different stock sizes depending on the plant species selected. Stock sizes include one and two-year-old bare root stock (1-0 and 2-0), plug plus one year transplant stock (P-1), plugs, or unrooted cuttings.

Plants are sold in bundles of 10 stems with the exception of the Ponderosa pine, and the upland and riparian mix options. The Ponderosa pine are offered in either bundles of 10 stems or bags of 200 stems. The upland or riparian mixes include 5 stems of each of the four associated plant species for a total of 20 stems per mix.

For more information and color photos of the plant species we are offering visit our website at www.cascadiacd.org or call our office at (509) 664-0275 to request a brochure.

All orders must be received by February 22. A minimum 50% deposit is required to guarantee your order. An order form is offered below and is also available via our website. The plants will be arriving in March. We will notify you when your order arrives to set up a pickup date and location. Quantities are limited so don't wait—get your order in today!

CASCADIA CONSERVATION DISTRICT 2008 PLANT SALE ORDER FORM

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Bring or Mail Your Order Form and Payment by February 22, 2008 to:

Cascadia Conservation District
301 Yakima Street, Room 307
Wenatchee, WA 98801



Plant	Stock	Sold As	Quantity Ordered	Price/Quantity	Order Price	
<i>Conifers:</i>						
Ponderosa Pine	P-1	bundle(s) of 10	_____	@ \$15.00 each =	_____	
Ponderosa Pine	P-1	bag(s) of 200	_____	@ \$120.00 each =	_____	
<i>Upland Plants:</i>						
Golden Currant	1-0	bundle(s) of 10	_____	@ \$15.00 each =	_____	
Serviceberry	1-0	bundle(s) of 10	_____	@ \$15.00 each =	_____	
Mock Orange	2-0	bundle(s) of 10	_____	@ \$15.00 each =	_____	
Tall Oregon Grape	2-0	bundle(s) of 10	_____	@ \$15.00 each =	_____	
Upland Mix (5 stems of each of the above)			_____	@ \$25.00 each =	_____	
<i>Riparian Plants:</i>						
Water Birch	2-0	bundle(s) of 10	_____	@ \$15.00 each =	_____	
Red Osier Dogwood	1-0	bundle(s) of 10	_____	@ \$15.00 each =	_____	
Rocky Mt. Maple	1-0	bundle(s) of 10	_____	@ \$15.00 each =	_____	
Coyote Willow	cuttings	bundle(s) of 10	_____	@ \$10.00 each =	_____	
Riparian Mix (5 stems of each of the above)			_____	@ \$22.00 each =	_____	
<i>Other Offerings:</i>						
Woods Rose	1-0	bundle(s) of 10	_____	@ \$15.00 each =	_____	
Kinnikinnik	plug	bundle(s) of 10	_____	@ \$20.00 each =	_____	
Total Order					=	_____

A minimum 50% deposit is required to guarantee your order.
Fully prepaid orders are greatly appreciated.
All prices include 8% Washington state sales tax.

