



CASCADIA
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

CONSERVATION QUARTERLY

SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

Program Highlights from 2024

AGRICULTURE

- \$32,500 reimbursed across four cost-share projects
- 10 million gallons of water conserved annually
- 3,000 native plants installed, in partnership with the Xerces Society
- 66 on-farm, technical site visits
- 25 farm plans developed



EDUCATION & OUTREACH

- Provided about 6,500 students with natural resources education through Wheat Week, Kids in the Creek, Kids in the Forest, Kids in the Snow, Salmon Festival, Summer Camp, After School Program, Salmon Releases, orchard visits, hatchery visits, stream restoration projects, statewide competition & more.
- Quarterly newsletter sent to over 39,200 residents
- Exhibited at 35 community events and hosted workshops
- Educated 75 community members per week during Native Planting 101 workshop
- Nature photo contest and stewardship calendars
- Website & Facebook page
- Spanish outreach: quarterly digital newsletter, 2025 calendar, social media posts, print media, community events



CASCADIA PRESCRIBED BURN ASSOCIATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 6 burns implemented
- 18 acres treated with prescribed fire
- 2 Learn & Burn events
- 3 biochar/pile burning workshops
- 1 Burn Plan writing workshop



FOREST HEALTH AND WILDFIRE RESILIENCE

- 115 site visits
- 13 Forest Management Plans written
- 158 acres treated for fuels reduction
- 301 acres of post-fire restoration
- 14 Home Hardening projects
- 15 Fuels Crew projects
- 8 wildfire preparedness events



STREAM RESTORATION

- 5,030 plants installed
- 15 acres treated
- 91 in-stream structures installed
- 6,580 stream ft treated
- Partnered with over 70 federal, state, tribal, & local agencies and organizations (across all program areas)



POSTAL CUSTOMER
LOCAL

Cascadia Conservation District
1350 McKinnick St, Ste B
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Non-Profit Org.
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT # 40
Wenatchee, WA
EORWSS

JOIN US FOR OUR
CONSERVATION FAIR
TUESDAY PYBUS MARKET,
MARCH 25 WENATCHEE

Schedule of Events

- 2:00-8:30: Board of Supervisors Election
- 3:00-6:00: Conservation Fair with fun family activities
*Refreshments provided!
- 7:00-8:30: Prescribed Fire Class through Pybus U

For more information:
cascadiacd.org or (509) 436-1601



Cascadia Receives Multiple Partnership Awards

from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)



Nada Wentz, Ryan Williams, and Valerie Hampton with Cascadia's District Partnership Award

Elizabeth Jackson with the Employee Partnership Award



Orchardist Survey

Your opinion matters!

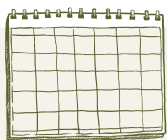
Take our 10 minute, anonymous survey to identify your priority growing strategies. Your responses will guide future project funding opportunities to support the long-term viability of our tree fruit community.



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CascadiaQR>



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CascadiaQREsp>



Meetings & Events

CASCADIA CD BOARD MEETINGS

- Feb 21, Mar 21, Apr 18, 1:30-4:00 pm. Watch our website or call (509) 436-1601 for updates. Call-in/Zoom options are available.

ENTIAT WATERSHED PLANNING UNIT MEETING

- Feb 12, 4:00-7:00 pm, Entiat Fire Station, 2200 Entiat Way. Food provided. Call/Zoom available. Call (509) 436-1601 for details.

MORE EVENTS ON OUR EVENTS CALENDAR AT CASCADIACD.ORG

NATIVE PLANTING 101 WORKSHOP



Wednesdays in March from 7:00-8:00 pm via Zoom. Details at cascadiacd.org. Use QR or link to register:



rebrand.ly/ocyp6ef



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS 2025 ELECTION

Apply to be a candidate by Feb 21, 2025 at 4:00 pm. Details and forms available at cascadiacd.org or call (509) 436-1601.

Your Vote Counts!

Mail-in ballots available. Contact valerieh@cascadiacd.org. Deadline to request mail-in ballot is February 21, 2025 @ 4:00 p.m. In-person voting is on March 25 at Pybus Market in Wenatchee from 2:00-8:30 p.m.

WELCOME CHACE!

Seasonal Technician

Chace grew up in the Wenatchee Valley; hiking, fishing, and exploring and developing a love for its landscapes, wildlife, and people. Chace has worked as a stream survey technician, surveying streams in the Wenatchee and Entiat watersheds for salmon and trout habitat quality. With Cascadia, Chace is eager to help in the restoration of our natural habitats and to gain more field experience and knowledge.



WELCOME CINDY!

Finance and Operations Director

Cindy has a degree in Accounting from the University of Colorado and has held financial positions for over 30 years, with the last 15 years specific to nonprofit work, as well as property management for commercial and residential properties. Cindy and her husband Doug have 3 sons and an adorable dog. In her free time, she enjoys being outdoors, in the water, wine tasting, baking, knitting, or volunteering for school and sports events.



WELCOME ELLY!

NRCS Resource Specialist

Elly grew up on a family pear orchard in Cashmere and developed an early passion for the outdoors. She has a B.S. in Environmental Science and Sustainability from the University of Montana. After graduation she worked a variety of seasonal positions in wildlife research and conservation. Elly is thrilled to be providing landowners with planning & technical assistance for conservation work.



WELCOME VERONICA!

Education & Outreach Technician

Verónica was born in Michoacán, México, and moved to Washington at the age of four. Growing up in the Wenatchee Valley instilled a genuine gratitude for natural resources and the hardworking people of the community. She attended Washington State University, where she earned a dual bachelor's degree in Political Science and Foreign Languages (Spanish). With Cascadia, she looks forward to making a positive impact on the community, and inspiring others to share in the responsibility and joy of protecting our shared home.





IN MEMORIAM

Tribute to Phil Archibald and Bob Knippel

Written by: Kurt Hosman, Phylisha Olin, and Rick Edwards

Cascadia CD would like to recognize Phil Archibald and Bob Knippel, who both passed away in November 2024. Phil and Bob both worked for the USDA Forest Service, based out of the Entiat Ranger District. Bob worked directly for Cascadia CD for a time as well.

Phil, as the fisheries biologist for the Entiat and Chelan Ranger Districts, played a major role in a wide range of land management activities, from habitat improvement projects to long-term planning efforts that will impact aquatic resources for years to come.

As a member of the Entiat Watershed Planning Unit, Phil was instrumental in building trust both between members and for the planning process itself. His highly professional approach to data gathering, analysis and public presentation nurtured an atmosphere of support for use of the best available science in the Entiat Watershed Plan. His work on the Holden Restoration and the FERC relicensing teams for both



Phil Archibald with his wife Kim Lohse

the Chelan and Rocky Reach dams resulted in actions that will influence aquatic habitat management for decades to come. Phil was a true naturalist whose vast knowledge and experience were invaluable at so many levels.

In retirement, Phil remained an active "of council" asset and advocate for the Entiat through the C-D Land Trust (e.g., Stormy Preserve), in addition to many other natural resource activities as a volunteer.

"Phil was a highly respected and reliable advisor to so many of us," stated Bob Bugert, Interim Executive Director of the Land Trust. "He was thoughtful, knowledgeable, and pragmatic in his recommendations to our organization---and many others. We will truly miss his quiet and sage demeanor."



Bob Knippel with his faithful companion Clementine

Bob, as the Hydro-Tech for the Entiat and Chelan Ranger Districts, was instrumental in implementing a wide range of projects. He helped to re-establish and maintain the Entiat Basin stream gaging network. He conducted a District-wide road condition inventory on the Entiat, and then played a major role in implementing many of the highest priority road improvements based on that survey. Bob was the lead Forest Service person working with the Washington Conservation Corps crews based out of Entiat.

Robert Milner, a former WCC crew boss, said recently: "No matter the project, the weather or any other hardship, Knippel always found a way to keep positive...He had a heart of gold when it came to his job...He loved what he did and my crews loved working with him."

His experience and keen love of the outdoors coupled with his great attitude and humorous take on life made hard---and sometimes dangerous work---seem like fun. In retirement Bob continued to explore the National Forest lands that he so loved, keeping an ever-vigilant eye on his many projects. His claim to fame was the discovery of a fresh water spring, which was declared "Knippel's Trickle".

Both Phil and Bob made significant and lasting contributions to natural resources on the Wenatchee-Okanogan National Forest and surrounding lands. They will both be greatly missed.

Beaver Dam Analogue Restoration Supports Amphibians

Did you know that frogs and salamanders eat mosquito larvae? That's right, amphibians are critical components of their ecosystems, acting as both predators of invertebrates and prey to larger animals. Amphibians live in ponds, but, unfortunately, ponds are much more rare on the landscape than they once were. In part, that's because of a decline in beavers, a keystone species and ecosystem engineer who dams streams and creates ponded habitat. To restore wetland habitat for a variety of species, Cascadia Conservation District installed structures that mimic beaver dams, called beaver dam analogues.



New research shows that Pacific chorus frogs lay their eggs more often in sites restored with beaver dam analogues compared to sites without restoration.

Long-toed salamanders also lay their eggs in ponds created by beaver dam analogues in Chelan County.



Other amphibian species, including the Columbia spotted frog, western toad, and rough-skinned newt also live in Chelan County and benefit from beaver ecosystem engineering.



Article and research by Julianna Hallza, Ph.D. Candidate at Washington State University. Learn more about Julianna's research by scanning the QR code!





From the WA Grown Activity Book
KIDS CORNER

Dairy In 2023, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the state of Washington produced 724 million gallons of milk. That's enough to cover all of Olympia in 2 inches of milk!

Dairy is a group of foods that come from the milk made by mammals like cows, goats, and sheep. Dairy includes things like milk, ice cream, yogurt, and cheese. What is your favorite dairy product?

Refrigerator scavenger hunt
Color in the fridge and freezer and the food inside! Can you spot the following dairy products?

- Butter
- Cheese
- Cottage cheese
- Cream
- Cream cheese
- Ice cream
- Ice cream sandwiches
- Milk
- Ranch dressing
- Sour cream
- Whipped cream
- Yogurt

(Learn more at www.wagrown.com)



FUNDING WATCH
Grants & Cost-Share Available

AGRICULTURE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- Reimbursement up to 60% for conservation practices; including irrigation upgrades, cover crops, pollinator seeding, livestock management, and more. Contact (509) 436-1601, MarcyB@cascadiacd.org, or KellyL@cascadiacd.org.

FOREST HEALTH COST SHARE

- Can cover up to 80% of the cost of forest health and fuels reduction treatments. Contacts: IsobelW@cascadiacd.org or (509) 312-8555 or JoeH@cascadiacd.org or (509) 306-8189.

FUELS REDUCTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

- Cascadia is partnering with a local crew, Leavenworth Fire District 3 and Lake Wenatchee Fire and Rescue to make fuels reduction more accessible to community members in the Cashmere, Leavenworth and Lake Wenatchee areas. Contact: IsobelW@cascadiacd.org or (509) 312-8555.

HOME HARDENING INCENTIVE PROGRAM

- Residents of Chelan County are eligible for up to a \$600 incentive payment for preparing their homes/structures for wildfire. Contacts: IsobelW@cascadiacd.org or (509) 312-8555 or JoeH@cascadiacd.org or (509) 306-8189.

Board & Staff

Staff Members

Administration:

Kathleen Deason, Finance Specialist II
Cindy Goodell, Finance & Operations Director
Valerie Hampton, Financial Coordinator
Nada Wentz, Office Assistant

Agriculture:

Marcy Bartelheimer, Resource Specialist I
Kelly Luebbering, Resource Specialist I
Elly McManus, NRCS Resource Specialist

Archaeology:

Mark Amara, Archaeologist
Kim Lancaster, Archaeologist

Education & Outreach:

Kirk Beckendorf, Environmental Educator
Amanda Newell, Education & Outreach II
Laura Rivera, Bilingual Education & Outreach II
Verónica Arroyo-Perez, Edu & Outreach Tech

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Joe Hill, Forest & Community Resilience
Isobel Woolner, Forest & Community Resilience

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Elizabeth Jackson, Program Director

Stream Restoration:

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Lucas Lachica, Resource Technician II
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Josh Koempel, Associate

The Conservation Quarterly is published on a quarterly basis by Cascadia Conservation District and reaches over 38,720 households in Chelan County.

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Please Recycle

Monthly ENEWS Coming Soon!

Sign up here:



CASCADIA
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

A local hub of natural resource funding and expertise for all people in Chelan County.



We're non-regulatory. We work with landowners and community members as partners to conserve natural resources.



We provide funding and expertise that empowers people to practice conservation where they are, whether on a farm or in their own backyard.



We offer educational programming and resources for teachers, K-12 students and adults that strengthen connections to our natural world.

1350 McKittrick Street, Wenatchee, WA 98801

509-436-1601

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