

# CASCADIA CONSERVATION DISTRICT 2026 ELECTION

## CANDIDATE STATEMENT



### **Jerrid Higgins – Candidate for Cascadia Conservation District Supervisor**

I operate a regenerative produce farm in Chelan with my wife and our three children. We grow heirloom tree fruit and vegetables using IPM and soil conservation practices. The condition of our land and water shapes the future of farms like ours and the broader community we serve.

Our farm participates in NRCS conservation programs, including native plant restoration and high tunnel implementation. I understand how conservation funding and technical assistance function in practice and how to keep them effective and accessible for landowners.

Earlier in my career, I worked with Placer Land Trust on the Doty Ravine Habitat Restoration Project, supporting irrigation installation and native habitat restoration efforts. That experience shaped how I think about working lands and ecological systems together.

I later spent seven years with the Washington State Department of Agriculture, including serving as Produce Safety Program Inspection Supervisor. Food safety depends on clean irrigation water, healthy soils, responsible wildlife management, and sound risk assessment. These same principles guide effective conservation planning.

I hold a degree in Sustainable Agriculture from UC Davis and a master's degree in Sociology from Washington State University focused on rural life and food systems. I also serve on the Chelan County Noxious Weed Board.

The Conservation District should remain locally led, science-based, and fiscally responsible. I am prepared to support practical conservation that protects water and strengthens working lands in Chelan County.