



DRAFT 5-Year Plan (2018 to 2023)

Clallam Conservation District

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Organization of the Clallam Conservation District

A political subdivision of State of Washington – authorities, powers and structure contained in RCW 89.08.

- Established in 1959.
- Territory includes all of Clallam County, including the cities of Forks, Port Angeles and Sequim.

Function of the Clallam Conservation District

To make information, technical and financial resources available, whatever their source in order to achieve our mission of resource conservation and ecosystem restoration through collaborative partnerships with Clallam County landowners, land managers and other organizations.

Who We Serve & Why

The District provides programs and services to the landowners/managers within Clallam Conservation District boundaries in order to help them realize their land-use objectives, while maintaining a healthy, functioning environment so future generations may also realize their land-use objectives.

Our Mission

To provide landowners/managers with information, technical assistance, and when necessary, financial assistance in order to wisely use and conserve the natural resources of Clallam Conservation District.

Vision of the Clallam Conservation District

A productive, sustainable land base that is in harmony with a healthy environment, providing multiple community, ecological and economic benefits.

Values of the Clallam Conservation District include:

- The rights of all citizens, present and future, to live in a healthy environment
- The rights of all land users to realize the diversity of values from the lands they manage
- Working lands for their diverse contributions to society
- Community based cost effective common sense solutions
- Voluntary participation in District programs
- The role of sound scientific data as a basis for decision making
- Education and understanding as essential for management of renewable natural resources
- Our role as a liaison between private land managers and other government agencies
- Collaborative partnerships with land users, and other agencies and organizations

Purpose of the 5-Year Plan

This plan outlines the goals and priorities for renewable natural resource conservation that Clallam Conservation District has identified to pursue over the next five years. Most of the actions listed are those that are within the authority and current or anticipated capacity of Clallam Conservation District. However, several proposed actions fall under the purview of other agencies and organizations. Where this is the case, Clallam Conservation District has identified the action as a priority and will “promote” it through outreach and “support” and “advocate” for it.

Criteria for Selecting Goals and Priorities

- Documented research, reports, local knowledge and data that identify specific conservation needs
- Long term impacts and benefits
- Funding availability
- Opportunities to partner and leverage resources to address multiple needs and concerns.

Natural Resource Goals and Priorities to Achieve by 2023

Abundant, Healthy Water Quality

➤ **Goal: Reduce Consumptive Use of Water**

Outcome: Water availability meets demands for in-stream habitat and various human needs.
Geographic priority area: Dungeness Water Rule Area.

Annual Measures of Success:

- ✓ Complete at least one irrigation ditch piping project to improve conveyance efficiency and thus reduce irrigation water diversions from the Dungeness River.
- ✓ Assist at least one farm operator with irrigation water management in order to conserve water.
- ✓ Continue to make progress toward construction of the Dungeness Off-Channel Reservoir at River Road, with target construction date of 2023.
 - Land acquired for reservoir
 - Final reservoir design approved
 - Management plan finalized for reservoir
- ✓ Implement at least one shallow aquifer recharge project.

➤ **Goal: Improve and Protect Water Quality**

Outcome: Water quality meets standards for safe shellfish harvesting.
Geographic priority area: Sequim-Dungeness Clean Water District

Annual Measures of Success:

- ✓ Continue to partner with Clallam County Environmental Health and other partners on implementation of Pollution Identification & Correction Program Plan.
- ✓ Assist at least 10 farm operators with planning and implementation of practices that improve or protect surface water.
- ✓ Provide financial assistance for repair/replacement of failing on-site septic systems (referred by Clallam County Environmental Health).

Outcome: Groundwater quality meets standards for safe drinking.
Geographic priority area: Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas

Annual Measures of Success:

- ✓ Assist at least 10 farm operators with planning and implementation of practices that improve or protect groundwater.
- ✓ Continue to offer soil testing program and provide information and technical assistance to aid in proper nutrient management.

Outcome: Water quality improvements to impaired waterways on the 303(d) list for bacteria outside the Clean Water District result in de-listings.

Geographic priority area: Lees Creek, Ennis Creek, Tumwater Creek, Mill Creek

Annual Measures of Success:

- ✓ Assist at least 2 farm operators with planning and implementation of practices that improve or protect surface water.

➤ **Goal: Reduce Stormwater and Flooding Impacts**

Outcome: Stormwater in irrigation water conveyance system is eliminated or properly managed.
Geographic priority area: City of Sequim and vicinity

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Annual Measures of Success:

- ✓ Divert stormwater runoff from west Happy Valley into proposed River Road reservoir.

Protected & Restored Habitat

➤ **Goal: Enhance and Restore Fish and Wildlife Habitat**

Outcome: Ecological functions are restored to riparian buffers in the agricultural landscape.

Annual Measures of Success:

- ✓ Restore ecological functions to at least 0.5 mile of stream buffers by providing technical and financial assistance to landowners.

Outcome: Floodplain functionality is restored along the Dungeness River.

Geographic priority area: Lower three miles of Dungeness River

Annual Measures of Success:

- ✓ Support efforts to set back Army Corps of Engineers levee.

Outcome: Habitat impacts from forest roads are corrected.

Annual Measures of Success:

- ✓ Remove at least one forest road barrier to fish passage.
- ✓ Provide design assistance to US Forest Service for road upgrades in Sitkum basin to reduce risk of mass wasting and erosion.
- ✓ Sponsor grant to implement US Forest Service for road upgrades in Sitkum basin.

Outcome: Shoreline and nearshore ecosystems are restored.

Geographic priority area: Dungeness delta

Annual Measures of Success:

- ✓ Support efforts to protect and restore Dungeness delta shoreline and nearshore ecosystems.
- ✓ Support efforts to increase resilience of Dungeness delta area to present and future flood impacts.

Healthy Soil

➤ **Goal: Conserve Farmland**

Geographic priority area: east WRIA 18

Outcome: Agriculture remains viable and less susceptible to conversion.

Annual Measures of Success:

- ✓ Support efforts to purchase development rights on prime farmland.
- ✓ Provide information and technical assistance that supports small acreage food production. For example: soil testing program, collaboration with WSU Extension and organizations on farm-related outreach and educational.
- ✓ Support buy-local programs.
- ✓ Provide assistance for next-generation farmer programs and activities, including Future Farmers of America and 4-H.
- ✓ Promote efforts to control noxious weeds, such as outreach and education.

➤ **Goal: Conserve Forestland**

Outcome: Forestry remains viable and forests are less susceptible to pests, diseases, invasive vegetation, wildfire and conversion.

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Annual Measures of Success:

- ✓ Support efforts to purchase development rights on forestland.
- ✓ Promote and assist with forest stewardship planning.
- ✓ Provide assistance for next-generation forestland management.
- ✓ Support efforts to control noxious weeds, including outreach and education.
- ✓ Promote wildfire prevention efforts, including promotion of FireWise communities and dissemination of FireWise information.

Outreach & Education

➤ **Goal: Instill a Conservation Ethic**

Outcome: District residents are good stewards of renewable natural resources and look to the Conservation District as a reliable, valued and trusted source of information and assistance.

Annual Measures of Success:

- ✓ Keep website up to date and continually enhance it as a tool for sharing information.
- ✓ Partner with other Puget Sound CDs on *Better Ground* website.
- ✓ Increase quarterly newsletter distribution by 10% each year.
- ✓ Produce, maintain and distribute publications and press releases relevant to local conservation needs.
- ✓ Increase general public awareness by participating in community events with booths and displays.

Outcome: Small acreage horse and livestock owners practice good land and water stewardship.

Annual Measures of Success:

- ✓ Conduct at least five workshops and/or tours promoting good land and water stewardship.
- ✓ Give presentations on small acreage livestock land and water stewardship at other events.
- ✓ Produce, maintain and distribute horse and livestock information through various media.
- ✓ Promote good land and water stewardship with booths and displays at community events.

Outcome: Residential landscaping provides environmental benefits, such as wildlife habitat, water conservation, reduced pesticide use, better stormwater management, while contributing to homeowner quality of life.

Annual Measures of Success:

- ✓ Conduct *Natural Landscaping* course each spring and fall.
- ✓ Offer *Landscaping with Native Plants Field Workshop* each spring and fall.
- ✓ Give presentations on sustainable landscaping topics at other events.
- ✓ Produce, maintain and distribute sustainable landscaping information through various media.
- ✓ Promote sustainable landscaping with booths and displays at community events.
- ✓ Continue to conduct native plant sale.

Outcome: Youth will develop an appreciation for our environment and understand how to conserve renewable natural resources.

Annual Measures of Success:

- ✓ Support elementary school science education through water and watershed education.
- ✓ Continue to work with Sequim High School Agricultural Science program to promote local agriculture and teach each new class about agricultural conservation planning and practices.
- ✓ Cultivate relationships with all Clallam County school districts in order to develop ongoing conservation education programs throughout the county. Assistance may include partnerships with organizations like the Feiro Marine Science Center, Nature Bridge, and the Dungeness Audubon River Center.

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➤ **Goal: Keep Key Decision-Makers Informed**

Outcome: District continues to receive the recognition and funding necessary to carry out programs and activities.

Annual Measures of Success:

- ✓ Continue to provide legislators, county commissioners, and other key decision-makers with timely and relevant information about District accomplishments and needs.

District Operations

➤ **Goal: Secure Adequate Funding**

Outcome: Long-term stable funding is secured for basic district operations.

Annual Measures of Success:

- ✓ Seek approval of stable local funding by December 2023.

Outcome: Grant funding is secured for implementation of conservation projects.

Annual Measures of Success:

- ✓ Pursue grant funding for specific projects that lead to fulfillment of Five-Year Plan.

➤ **Goal: Employ Qualified Staff**

Outcome: Staff are proficient and effectively and efficiently implement of Five-Year Plan.

Annual Measures of Success:

- ✓ Hire and retain qualified staff.
- ✓ Develop and implement individual training and development plans.

➤ **Goal: Maintain Effective and Efficient Operations**

Outcome: Operational policies are in place and proper procedures are followed.

Annual Measures of Success:

- ✓ Complete *Policies & Procedures Manual* by 2019.
- ✓ Regularly update *Policies & Procedures Manual*.
- ✓ Adopt new policies and procedures, as necessary, to guide all programs, operations, and personnel management.
- ✓ Adhere to proper accounting, grant reimbursement and reporting procedures.
- ✓ Adhere to timely and proper election and appointment procedures.
- ✓ Prepare effective annual plans and reports.

➤ **Goal: Collaborate with other organizations**

Outcome: Partnerships are fostered in order to effectively and efficiently utilize resources and District learns about new needs and opportunities.

Annual Measures of Success:

- ✓ Participate in Puget Sound Conservation Districts caucus and partner with other districts.
- ✓ Participate in North Pacific Coast and North Olympic Peninsula lead entities for salmon recovery.
- ✓ Participate on Dungeness River Management Team.
- ✓ Participate in Puget Sound Partnership local integrating organization.

Clallam Conservation District 2018-2023 Renewable Resources Program

Clallam Conservation District Budget*

Estimated Annual Operational Budget Needs

Program Area	Staff (FTEs)	Salaries & Benefits	Goods & Services	TOTAL
Abundant, Healthy Water Quality				
Reduce Consumptive Water Use	25%	\$29,000	\$40,000	\$69,000
Improve & Protect Water Quality	35%	\$40,000	\$5,000	\$45,000
Reduce Stormwater & Flooding Impacts	5%	\$6,000	\$5,000	\$11,000
Abundant, Healthy Water Quality TOTAL				\$125,000
Protected & Restored Habitat				
Enhance & Restore Fish & Wildlife Habitat	40%	\$40,000	\$4,000	\$44,000
Healthy Soil				
Conserve Farmland	10%	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000
Conserve Forestland	5%	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
Healthy Soil TOTAL				\$15,000
Outreach & Education				
Instill a Conservation Ethic	30%	\$25,000	\$7,000	\$32,000
Keep Decision-Makers Informed	5%	\$7,000	\$1,000	\$8,000
Outreach & Education TOTAL				\$40,000
District Operations				
Secure Adequate Funding	5%	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$12,000
Employ Qualified Staff	5%	\$6,000	\$1,000	\$7,000
Maintain Effective & Efficient Operations	60%	\$60,000	\$30,500	\$90,500
Collaborate with Other Organizations	15%	\$18,000	\$20,500	\$20,500
District Operations TOTAL				\$130,000
TOTALS	2.4	\$252,000	\$102,000	\$354,000

Estimated Annual Capital Budget Needs

Program Area	Staff (FTEs)	Salaries & Benefits	Goods & Services	Financial Assistance	TOTAL
Abundant, Healthy Water Quality					
Reduce Consumptive Water Use	15%	\$18,000	\$1,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,028,000
Improve & Protect Water Quality	30%	\$34,000	\$6,000	\$100,000	\$140,000
Reduce Stormwater & Flooding Impacts	0%	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Abundant, Healthy Water Quality TOTAL					\$1,168,000
Protected & Restored Habitat					
Enhance & Restore Fish & Wildlife Habitat	15%	\$15,000	\$1,500	\$150,000	\$166,500
Healthy Soil					\$0
Outreach & Education					\$0
District Operations					\$0
TOTALS	0.6	\$67,000	\$17,500	\$1,250,000	\$1,334,500

*These estimates are for Clallam Conservation District funding needs only.

ESTIMATED ANNUAL FUNDING NEEDS GRAND TOTAL = \$1,688,500.