



Kittitas County Conservation District



Annual Work Plan for 2024
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Acronym Guide

BPA	Bonneville Power Administration	NACD	National Association of Conservation Districts
CID	Cascade Irrigation District	NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
DNR	Washington Department of Natural Resources	OFP	Office of Farmland Preservation
DOE	Washington Department of Ecology	RCP	Regional Conservation Partnership Program
EQIP	Environmental Quality Incentives Program	SRFB	Salmon Recovery Funding Board
EWC	Ellensburg Water Company	USDA	US Department of Agriculture
FBRB	Brian Abbot Fish Barrier Removal Board	VSP	Voluntary Stewardship Program
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency	WDFW	Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife
KCCD	Kittitas County Conservation District	WRCD	Washington Resource Conservation & Development Council
KCT	Kittitas Conservation Trust	WSSC	Washington State Conservation Commission
KCPW	Kittitas County Public Works	YBIP	Yakima Basin Integrated Water Management Plan
KCWP	Kittitas County Water Purveyors	YTAHP	Yakima Tributary Access & Habitat Program
KFACC	Kittitas Fire Adapted Communities Coalition		
KRD	Kittitas Reclamation District		
MCF	Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group		

Mission

- Provide leadership, technical, educational and financial assistance to landowners and land users in their utilization and management of natural resources.

Vision

- The Kittitas County Conservation District is recognized by all private landowners as a source of financial, technical and education assistance in Kittitas County; and by local state and federal authorities as the organization of choice to implement on-the-ground stewardship activities.

Natural Resource Priorities

The KCCD's focus is on creating and maintaining resilient landscapes across Kittitas County. This effort addresses natural resource concerns and priorities detailed below. Most of the KCCD programs work across these resource concerns, as resilient landscapes are not limited to a single resource issue or concern.

Water Quantity (Insufficient Water)

- *Drought resiliency and efficient use of irrigation water is the highest priority in Kittitas County. Nearly all streams are over allocated, creating low flows supply irrigation needs and support resident and anadromous fisheries as well as streamside and floodplain vegetation. The [KRD](#), encompassing 59,000 acres, is pro-rated during water short years. CID, Ellensburg Water Company, Westside Irrigating Company and other smaller water purveyors may have non-pro-ratable rights, but they depend highly on return flows from KRD and so are also significantly impacted in water short seasons. Water use efficiency is a high priority of the USDA [NRCS](#) whose [2012 State Resource Assessment](#) ranked "Inefficient use of irrigation water" the number one priority in the area. The [Irrigation Efficiencies Program](#) has contracted projects on 2,800 acres of cropland placing 4,529 acre-feet in the [Washington Trust Water Rights Program](#) in 11 streams since 2002. The 30-year Yakima River Basin Integrated Water Resource Management Plan ("YBIP") is being implemented by [US Bureau of Reclamation](#) and [DOE](#) in conjunction with the Yakama Nation and Yakima River basin stakeholders (including KCCD). YBIP's benefits include "Providing more water for stream flows that fish need to survive" and "Providing greater water supply reliability for farmers and communities."*

Forest Health

- *Fuel loads, insect damage and development into the wildland urban interface in combination with topography and the weather patterns have created substantial resource concerns in forestland as documented in the [Kittitas County Wildfire Protection Plan](#) (2018). Approximately 75,000 acres of high to extreme fire hazard areas are identified on private lands in that plan. In addition, the NRCS 2012 State Resource Assessment identified "undesirable plant productivity and health", "degraded habitat condition", "excessive plant pest pressure", and "wildfire hazard, excessive biomass accumulation" on forestland as priority resource concerns. The [NRCS](#), [DNR](#), [Washington Fire Adapted Community Learning Network](#), local fire districts and [Kittitas County](#) are working on these issues as well. Home sites and communities within the wildland urban interface are of particular focus and efforts are necessary to establish [fire adapted communities](#) who accept fire as part of the natural landscape and work continuously to improve the resiliency of the landscape. Collaboration with [Teanaway](#)*

Community Forest Advisory Committee has occurred through the RCPP program to assist with grazing and water quality concerns, as well as habitat restoration opportunities, both of which crossover into the Water Quality and Fish & Wildlife concerns.

Water Quality

- More than 700 miles of streams and rivers flow through forestland, rangeland, irrigated agricultural lands and urban lands in Kittitas County. Water quality is important in these waterways to ensure public health, provide irrigation water, and as habitat for salmonids and resident fish species as well as upland wildlife species. Water quality degradation is a Priority Resource Concern in the 2012 State Resource Assessment. The assessment describes both sediment and nutrients in ground water and surface water in crop, forest and other associated agricultural lands. In Kittitas County, the water quality degradation- “excessive sediment” priority involves 63,500 acres and the “excessive nutrients” involves 15,000 acres, within the 63,500 acres. In addition, the Department of Ecology is responsible for several Water Cleanup Plans (TMDLs) addressing chlorine, ammonia-N, BOD (5-day), fecal coliform/bacterial contamination, temperature; organochlorine pesticides, suspended sediments, and turbidity. WSU Extension Kittitas County is working to assist producers with water quality and livestock management in order to protect and improve water quality by reducing the potential for bacterial contamination. They have produced a water quality risk assessment tool that explains the relationships among livestock grazing effects, riparian condition, and surface water quality and helps farmers determine the relative risk of negatively affecting water quality. The KCCD and NRCS are working with irrigated agriculture producers to assist with conversions to more efficient irrigation systems thereby reducing the potential water quality impacts of tailwater on rill irrigated lands. The KCWP works to monitor water quality in canals and streams across Kittitas County providing important data. MCF, KCT, Kittitas County Flood Control Zone District and the Yakama Nation are implementing habitat projects that address water quality as well.

Range Health

- Rangelands provide a diversity of ecosystems and also provide diverse and significant economic benefits. Livestock grazing occurs on private and state-owned range areas. NRCS’s 2012 State Resource Assessment identified “undesirable plant productivity and health”, “degraded habitat condition”, and “excessive plant pest pressure” on rangeland as priority resource concerns. The NRCS, WSU Extension Kittitas County, DNR, WDFW, and Kittitas County Noxious Weed Control Board are working to assist with range monitoring as well as providing technical and/or financial assistance to landowners and users.

Soil Quality & Health

- Soil quality and health impacts agricultural production, particularly in the 90,000 acres of irrigated crop and pastureland in Kittitas County. Soil quality, including nutrients and the prevention of soil erosion are important resource concerns. The NRCS 2012 State Resource Assessment identified soil erosion (“sheet, rill and wind erosion”) as the number one resource concern in the state and the Central area ranked it the #2 priority resource concern. The NRCS and WSU Extension Kittitas County are also working on soil erosion and nutrient concerns, as is the Organization of Kittitas County Timothy Hay Growers & Suppliers.

Fish & Wildlife

- Species that are listed under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) or listed by Washington State as threatened or endangered or species of concern are priority resource

issues. Mid-Columbia Summer Steelhead, Bull Trout, and Greater Sage Grouse are all listed as threatened species under ESA and by the State. The Gray Wolf is listed as endangered under ESA and by the State. NRCS's 2012 State Resource Assessment identifies "Inadequate Habitat for Fish and Wildlife" as a priority resource concern in the state, including Kittitas County. The [2009 Yakima Steelhead Recovery Plan](#) was written locally and was formally incorporated into NOAA's Middle Columbia River Steelhead Recovery Plan (2009). The [Yakima Bull Trout Action Plan](#), September 2012, complements and supports the pending US Fish & Wildlife Service Bull Trout Recovery Plan by providing detailed population information and proposing actions to benefit bull trout in the Yakima basin. [YTAHP](#) has been working on fish passage and fish screen projects since 2003. KCCD is a founding member of the Core Team and a major project sponsor. Base funding is provided through [BPA](#) via [WRCD](#) and matched primarily through the [SRFB](#), [FBRB](#), and local partners. The Yakima Basin Integrated Plan includes the goals of "Protecting over 200,000 acres of currently unprotected forest, shrub steppe, and river habitat" and "Enhancing habitat along the Yakima River and its tributaries" an effort intended to benefit fish and wildlife. Other KCCD partners also working to address fish recovery goals include the [Yakama Nation](#), [MCF](#), [KCT](#), and the [Kittitas County Flood Control Zone District](#). The [South Central Washington Shrub Steppe/Rangeland Partnership](#) is also focusing on Sage Grouse habitat in a 2.7-million-acre landscape that includes eastern Kittitas County.

Working Lands Protection

- An assessment of tax parcels within the KCCD boundaries indicates that between 2016 and 2021, there was an increase of nearly 11% indicating subdivision of larger parcels. The tax parcels classified as residential with improvements valued greater than \$50,000 increased by 30% in that same time period reflecting the home building boom. From 2010 to 2019, Kittitas County's population grew 17.2%, exceeding the state's 13.2% growth rate during the same time. Rapid population growth in the County accelerated as the pandemic allowed telework. This growth is a significant challenge to working landscapes in Kittitas County. The loss of agricultural land is a substantial concern to the viability of agriculture in Kittitas County. Work to enhance and protect agricultural land and operations is vital to improving the resiliency of remaining working lands.

Disaster Response

- Natural hazards are common in Kittitas County including flood, fire, and weather (snow, rain, wind, drought). Recent events have caused millions of dollars in damages including the 2009 and 2011 floods, wildfires (Taylor Bridge, Jolly Mountain, etc.), and droughts. It's imperative that partners (local, state, federal) work together to continuously build capacity to improve resiliency in the face of natural disasters. High priorities include wildfire resiliency for homes, protecting public infrastructure, and evacuation routes; and drought resiliency (covered under Water Quantity).

Program Areas

Natural Resource Priority Program Area: Water Quantity

Goal(s): Improve irrigation water delivery and use efficiencies and improve instream flow conditions in Yakima River tributaries.

Natural Resource Measurable Result Objective: 80 acres treated with efficient irrigation systems; 0.75 cubic feet per second of irrigation and stock water entered into the Trust Water Rights Program; one season of stream flow diversion monitoring completed

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective: 80 landowners contacted; one sign-up for RCPP resulting in 20 applications; one mid-year and one annual report for RCPP 2326 and one final report for RCPP 1672; 8 conservation plans

Funding Source(s): WSCC, DOE, NRCS RCPP Funds, and KCCD Local Funds

Water Quantity Activities for FY2023	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
Complete the RCPP project "Yakima Basin Integrated Plan - Toppenish to Teanaway" with WSCC contribution funds.	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	DM, PM, FM, RT, NPM	3.8	\$14,534	Funded by WSCC RCPP Contributions
Conduct Small Project Cost Share sign-up and implement 4 to 6 contracts to improve water use efficiency.	Jul 2023 to May 2024	CP, PM, DM, PE, RT	28.0	\$41,027	WSCC Natural Resource Investment
Together with the Yakama Nation, implement RCPP project 2326 "Middle Columbia Steelhead Partnership", including contracting of irrigation efficiency projects	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	DM, PM, FM, RT, NPM	128.0	\$133,632	Funded by WSCC and NRCS Supplemental Agreement
Implement one (1) irrigation efficiency improvement project with a Trust water components and develop cost share contracts for 1 to 3 new projects	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	CP, PE, DM	33.5	\$142,462	Funded by DOE YBIP and/or WSCC Irrigation Efficiencies
Work with stock water right holders and Trout Unlimited Washington Water Project to acquire stockwater and/or convert to groundwater sources in order to reduce winter diversions from Manastash Creek	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	PM, DM	7.1	\$571,616	Funded by Ecology Manastash Restoration Grant
Monitor stream flow in Manastash Creek and assist with the operation of the irrigation water diversions.	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	PM, DM	66.0	\$33,517	Interlocal Agreement with KRD
Attend meetings and monitor activities under the YBIP to identify opportunities to partner with other stakeholders and for funding to implement KCCD priorities.	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	DM, PM	6.0	\$3,986	

Work with the NRCS to provide assistance with the surveys and reports associated with Section 106 consultations.	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	DM, PM, FM, RT, NPM	47.5	\$23,699	<u>NACD Technical Assistance Grant</u>
Assist USDA NRCS Ellensburg Field Office to provide technical assistance to Kittitas County producers and KRD for EQIP-WaterSMART and Classic EQIP	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	PM, CP, PE, DM	16.0	\$7,324	
Seek funding through the USDA NRCS Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (PL-566) program to address water conservation and fish habitat projects with CID, KRD and Westside Irrigating Company.	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	DM, Consultants	35.0	\$35,627	
Continue to promote, plan, implement and monitor projects to improve water use efficiencies where ag practices intersect critical areas as part of VSP	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	NPM, DM, RT	84	\$32,777	WSCC VSP via Kittitas County
Continue participation in the Kittitas County Water Conservancy Board	Ju 2023 to Jun 2024	CP	3.0	\$1,259	
Implement the "Heritage Gardens" program funded through the Municipal Subcommittee of YBIP	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	DM, RT	78.0	\$33,849	Agreement with Benton CD

Natural Resource Priority Program Area: Water Quality

Goal(s): Meet the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) goals in Kittitas County

Natural Resource Measurable Result Objective: Reduce tailwater returns to TMDL compliance points by converting 80 acres to sprinkler irrigation; reduce sediment and nutrient movement to waterways by applying PAM to 900 acres; improve riparian habitat on 12 acres

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective: 60 producers contacted resulting in 8 applications to RCPP, 12 VSP assessments and 6 conservation plans; maintenance of 6 acres of riparian planting along Wilson Creek, Cooke Creek, Coleman Creek and Naneum Creek; and install planting on 8 acre riparian planting along the Yakima River.

Funding Source(s): WSCC, DOE, RCPP Funds, and KCCD Local Funds

Water Quality Activities for FY2024	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
Continue to develop and maintain a project list and seek funding for on-farm irrigation system improvements (e.g. sprinkler conversions) to work toward TMDL goals	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	DM, CP, PM	9	\$3,994	<u>KCCD Local Funds</u>
Improve water quality by reducing soil erosion and transport to waterways -	Jul 2023	RT, FM, DM	9	\$6,438	Partner with KCPW

Continue to offer the PAM Cost Share program	to Jun 2024				
Support MCF's restoration of riparian habitat along the Yakima River, Sorenson Creek, Wilson Creek and the development of additional projects	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	DM, PM, Crew	15	\$56,683	WSSC Riparian Funding or VSP
Continue to promote, plan, implement and monitor projects to improve water quality conditions where agricultural practices intersect critical areas as part of VSP	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	NPM, DM, RT	84	\$49,422	WSSC VSP via Kittitas County
Coordinate with the groups/agencies currently monitoring water quality- Meet with KCWP and DOE to coordinate activities as needed	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	DM	6	\$7,839	

Natural Resource Priority Program Area: Fish & Wildlife

Goal(s): Increase the quantity and quality of fish and wildlife habitat in Kittitas County.

Natural Resource Measurable Result Objective: Three (3) fish passage barriers removed, four (4) irrigation diversions screened

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective: 12 meetings of the YTAHP Core Team, 6 design reports, 4 bid ready designs, 12 VSP assessments, 2 applications to RCPP-EQIP, and one Easement Monitoring Report

Funding Source(s): BPA, DOE, WSSC, RCO-Salmon Recovery Funding Board, RCO- Fish Barrier Removal Board, and RCPP Funds

Fish & Wildlife Activities for FY2024	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
<i>YTAHP - Continue to participate in the Core Team and develop projects with irrigators/ landowners</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>DM, CP, PE, RT, FM, NPM</i>	<i>62.0</i>	<i>\$29,596</i>	<i>Funded by BPA Funds via <u>WRC&D</u></i>
<i>YTAHP - Maintain riparian planting areas associated with current and past fish screen and passage projects</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>RT, WCC Crews</i>	<i>22.0</i>	<i>\$10,137</i>	<i>BPA Funds via <u>WRC&D</u></i>
<i>Complete 1 acre cottonwood planting on Swauk Creek</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>RT, WCC Crews</i>	<i>18.0</i>	<i>\$19,558</i>	<i>Funded by <u>SRFB</u></i>
<i>Finalize design, secure permits and construct fish passage and screening projects associated with four irrigation diversions on Coleman Creek, Naneum Creek, and Swauk Creek</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Apr 2024</i>	<i>DM, CP, PE, Consultants</i>	<i>122.0</i>	<i>\$844,119</i>	<i>Funded by <u>FBRB</u> and BPA Funds via <u>WRC&D</u></i>
<i>Secure permits and construct to remove decommissioned irrigation diversion structure on Coleman Creek.</i>	<i>September 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>DM, CP, PE, Consultants</i>	<i>69.0</i>	<i>\$119,170</i>	<i>Funded by <u>SRFB</u> and BPA Funds via <u>WRC&D</u></i>

Continue work with the Cascade Irrigation District on plans and designs for their canal intersections with Naneum, Coleman and Caribou Creeks	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	DM, CP, PE, Consultants	60.0	\$118,936	FBRB and BPA Funds via <u>WRC&D</u>
Complete the design for the Naneum Creek - Ellensburg Water Company intersection for fish passage.	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	DM, CP, PE, Consultants	57.0	\$76,801	Funded by USFWS, <u>SRFB</u> and YTAHP
Completed design for screening and passage on two diversions in Cooke Creek and initiate designs for fish passage barrier on Naneum Creek.	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	DM, CP, PM, PE, Consultants		\$58,773	BPA Funds via <u>WRC&D</u>
Together with the Yakama Nation, implement RCPP project 2326 "Middle Columbia Steelhead Partnership", including fish screen, fish passage and riparian planting projects	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	DM, PM, FM, RT, NPM	26.5	\$21,203	Funded by WSCC and NRCS Supplemental Agreement
Monitor stream flow in Manastash Creek and assist with the operation of the three fish screens facilities.	Jan 2024 to Jun 2024	PM, DM	66.5	\$36,958	KRD Agreement
Replace compressors at fish screen facilities on Manastash Creek to improve operations.	Jul 2023 to Mar 2024	DM, PM	15.0	\$65,437	BPA Funds via <u>WRC&D</u>
Work with the KRD to coordinate projects and activities in priority areas and stream reaches	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	PM, DM	6.0	\$2,902	Funded by <u>KCCD Local Funds</u>
Monitor Wild Horse Wind and Solar Facility Conservation Easement in the spring and the fall and produce a report	Sept 2023 to Apr 2024	RT, FM	17.5	\$6,780	PSE 5-year Agreement
Continue to promote, plan, implement and monitor projects to improve upland, riparian, & instream habitat where agricultural practices intersect critical areas as part of VSP	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	DM, PM, CP, FM, RT, NPM	93.5	\$68,040	WSCC VSP via Kittitas County

Natural Resource Priority Program Area: Soil Quality & Health

Goal(s): Maintain soil productivity and health to meet or exceed NRCS soil quality criteria

Natural Resource Measurable Result Objective: Irrigation induced soil erosion reduced by 1,500 - 2,000 tons on 1200 acres, explore crop nutrient management through chlorophyll monitoring

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective: 20 landowners will be contacted resulting in 5 cost share agreements and 10 VSP assessments;

Funding Source(s): KCPW, WSCC, and KCCD Local Funds

Soil Quality & Health Activities for FY2024	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
<i>Reduce Irrigation Induced Soil Erosion - Continue to offer the PAM Cost Share program to producers to reduce soil erosion</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>RT, FM</i>	<i>8.5</i>	<i>\$5,010</i>	<i>Partner with KCPW</i>
<i>Offer agronomy expertise to local growers- Coordinate with NRCS and other technical partners to facilitate direct assistance to producers, especially in the use of cover crops</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>DM, CP</i>	<i>3.0</i>	<i>\$1,422</i>	<i>Funded by <u>KCCD Local Funds</u></i>
<i>Develop Cover Crop cost share program to incentive use of cover crop systems for soil health improvements</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>NPM, DM, RT</i>	<i>27.0</i>	<i>\$33,410</i>	<i>WSCC Sustainable Farms & Fields or VSP</i>
<i>Continue to promote, plan, implement and monitor projects to improve soil health where agricultural practices intersect critical areas as part of VSP</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>NPM, DM, RT</i>	<i>12.0</i>	<i>\$7,131</i>	<i>WSCC VSP via Kittitas County</i>
<i>Explore opportunities to acquire a no-till drill to rent to producers in Kittitas County</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>DM, CP, NPM</i>	<i>7.0</i>	<i>\$3,273</i>	<i>WSCC Sustainable Farms & Fields or VSP</i>

Natural Resource Priority Program Area: Forest Health

Goal(s): Increase resiliency of forest lands in Kittitas County

Natural Resource Measurable Result Objective: Fuels reduction will occur on 14 acres in high-risk areas of Kittitas County

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective: Attend 12 KFACC meetings, 5 Landowners/land managers contacted resulting in three (3) cost share agreements

Funding Source(s): KCCD Local Funds, DNR, FEMA, WSCC

Forest Health Activities for FY2024	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
<i>Continue to secure funding for fire adapted communities' strategies including fuels reduction and forest health practices with private landowners cooperation with KFACC</i>	<i>Jul 2023- Jun 2024</i>	<i>DM, RT, NPM</i>	<i>6.0</i>	<i>\$2,840</i>	<i><u>KCCD Local Funds</u></i>
<i>Implement 10 acres of fuels reduction and forest health practices as part of the Collaborative Landscape and Community Resilience in the Cle Elum Priority Landscape Project.</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Dec 2023</i>	<i>RT, DM, FM</i>	<i>17.0</i>	<i>\$57,275</i>	<i>USFS via DNR</i>

<i>Provide financial assistance to two landowners on 4 acres to implement fuels reduction and forest health practices</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Nov 2023</i>	<i>DM, RT</i>	<i>6.0</i>	<i>\$9,879</i>	<i>Funded by FEMA Grant 4188</i>
<i>Assess 50 acres of private forestland in cooperation with DNR's local Landowner Assistance Forester. Assessments will focus on forest health and wildland fire risks.</i>	<i>Jul 2023-Jun 2024</i>	<i>NPM, RT</i>	<i>8.0</i>	<i>\$3,535</i>	
<i>Investigate US Forest Service Community Wood Grant Program for opportunities to complete a feasibility study of potential new markets for wood products and renewable wood energy.</i>	<i>Jul 2023-Jun 2024</i>	<i>DM</i>	<i>3.0</i>	<i>\$1,193</i>	

Natural Resource Priority Program Area: Range Health

Goal(s): By 2024, document positive trend (health) on rangeland in Kittitas County

Natural Resource Measurable Result Objective: Assistance will be provided to three livestock producers

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective: Attend two meetings; and assist with two days of field monitoring activities; contact 5 landowners resulting in 3 VSP assessments.

Funding Source(s): WSCC and KCCD Local Funds

Range Health Activities for FY2024	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
<i>Support and coordinate with NRCS and WSU Extension's efforts to provide technical and financial assistance to rangeland operators.</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>CP</i>	<i>3.5</i>	<i>\$1,582</i>	
<i>Support and coordinate with WSU Extension's monitoring of the grazing plan for the Wild Horse CRM.</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>CP, RT</i>	<i>4.0</i>	<i>\$1,588</i>	
<i>Continue to promote, plan, implement and monitor projects to improve range health where agricultural practices intersect critical areas as part of the Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP)</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>NPM, DM, RT</i>	<i>8.0</i>	<i>\$3,583</i>	<i>WSCC VSP via Kittitas County</i>
<i>Work with livestock operators to establish or improve stock watering facilities on rangeland.</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to May 2024</i>	<i>RT, DM</i>	<i>5.0</i>	<i>\$2,958</i>	

District Program Area: Working Lands Protection

Goal(s): Preserve heritage and natural resource value of working lands in Kittitas County

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective: Initiate one farmland preservation conservation easement with the Office of Farmland Preservation; participate in four (12) partner meetings; and investigate funding opportunities for local USDA processing facilities, biochar and carbon markets

Funding Source(s): WSCC, KCCD Local Funds

Development and Natural Resource Impacts Activities for FY2024	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
<i>Implement farmland preservation grant for 600-acre conservation easement in the Swauk watershed in partnership with WSCC OFF</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>DM, NPM</i>	<i>15.0</i>	<i>\$57,825</i>	<i><u>RCO WWRP-Farmland</u></i>
<i>Continue to develop conservation easement options for interested producers including working with WSCC OFF, KCT, NRCS and other partners</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>DM</i>	<i>5.0</i>	<i>\$3,316</i>	
<i>Through implementation of VSP, continue to work on issues to maintain and enhance agricultural viability (e.g. options for mobile livestock slaughter units, carbon markets, biochar, etc.).</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>DM</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>\$3,189</i>	<i>WSCC VSP via Kittitas County</i>

District Program Area: Disaster Response

Goal(s): Continuously build community capacity to improve resiliency in the face of natural disasters

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective: Participate in 12 meetings of KFACC; participate in four (4) partner meetings; Install four (4) backup generators; conduct chipping program with Upper Kittitas County Fuels Crew serving 120 landowners and 10 communities.

Funding Source(s): FEMA, WSCC, DNR, KCCD Local Funds

Development and Natural Resource Impacts Activities for FY2024	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
<i>Work with City of Cle Elum, Kittitas County Fire District #1 and Kittitas County Fire District #6 to construct back-up generators community wildfire resiliency.</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>DM, RT</i>	<i>24.0</i>	<i>\$308,721</i>	<i>FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant</i>
<i>Partner with Upper Kittitas County Fuels Crew to conduct chipping program in Kittitas County to assist at least 10 communities/ neighborhoods and 120 landowners.</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>DM, RT, UKC Fuels Crew</i>	<i>188.0</i>	<i>\$62,795</i>	
<i>Begin "Kittitas County Resilient Landscapes", a Community Wildfire Defense Grant Project focused on cross-boundary prescribed burning, hardened evacuation routes, and potential control lines (PCLs) on private and municipal roads.</i>	<i>Sept 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>DM, WP, NPM, Consultant</i>	<i>85.0</i>	<i>\$203,430</i>	<i><u>USFS funding via WA DNR</u></i>
<i>Continue to participate in and facilitate (as needed) KFACC and work to implement the Plan of Work</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>DM, RT</i>	<i>20.5</i>	<i>\$11,771</i>	

District Program Area: Education/Outreach

Goal(s): Provide educational opportunities for students (K-12), landowners, land managers and the general public regarding natural resource priorities and improving landscape resiliency.

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective: 14,000+ landowners contacted and provided information resulting in 20-30 individual program referrals; 60,000 attendees at the Kittitas County Fair reached; 3 grower/landowner meetings; maintenance of on-line resources (website, etc); and 600 elementary students contacted and provided information.

Funding Source(s): KCCD Local Funds, WSCC, Donations

Education/Outreach Activities for FY2024	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
<i>Complete annual newsletter with circulation of 14,000 and occasional electronic newsletters as needed</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>DM, FM, PM, RT</i>	<i>12.5</i>	<i>\$13,282</i>	
<i>Manage and maintain website and social media sites for public outreach and information about KCCD projects and programs</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>DM, OA, NPM, Contractor</i>	<i>12.5</i>	<i>\$9,414</i>	
<i>Organize and host Agriculture Appreciation Day at Kittitas County Event Center (~400 3rd Grade Students) including coordinating stations and providing materials to students.</i>	<i>Apr 2024</i>	<i>CP, RT, OA, FM, Volunteers</i>	<i>35.0</i>	<i>\$11,171</i>	
<i>Contribute to youth education through "Water on Wheels" with Franklin CD, Ag in the Classroom, Kittitas County Cattlewomen, etc.</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>DM, FM, Franklin CD</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>\$1,340</i>	
<i>Assist KEEN and MCF with youth education activities (e.g Salmon Days, 4th Grade Camp, Summer Camp)</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>RT</i>	<i>3.5</i>	<i>\$1,341</i>	
<i>Continue to implement the VSP Outreach Plan to ensure the agricultural community and other interested parties are informed</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>DM, CP, NPM, RT</i>	<i>12.0</i>	<i>\$6,767</i>	<i>WSCC VSP via Kittitas County</i>
<i>Annual presentations at Producer Group meetings</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>DM</i>	<i>8.0</i>	<i>\$4,225</i>	
<i>Assist with Wildfire Awareness Day events including workshops, materials and coordinating presentations</i>	<i>Feb 2024 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>NPM, RT</i>	<i>5.0</i>	<i>\$2,430</i>	<i>Partner with KFACC</i>
<i>Small Acreage Management Program- Reinvigorate educational program offering technical assistance to small acreage landowners</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>DM, OA, CP</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>\$12,271</i>	<i>Partner with WSU Extension</i>

<i>Kittitas County Fair- Community Education Booth to reach 30,000 attendees</i>	<i>Sept 2023</i>	<i>DM, NPM, FM</i>	<i>9.0</i>	<i>\$3,436</i>	
<i>KCCD Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner</i>	<i>Feb 2024</i>	<i>All Staff, Board of Supervisors</i>	<i>11.5</i>	<i>\$5,003</i>	

District Program Area: District Operations

Goal(s): Complete operations in a time and fund efficient manner consistent with Washington State Conservation Commission guidelines.

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective: 12 -16 Board meetings conducted, positive results for Conservation Accountability and Performance Program, and successful completion of financial reports and audits; multiple landowners contacted in 5 conservation districts to assist engineering/design; and maintaining system of Rates & Charges

Funding Source(s): All grants indirect charges, KCCD System of Rates & Charges, Washington State Conservation Commission, Tenant Leases

District Operations Activities for FY2024	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding	Notes
<i>Complete 12 monthly meetings and 4 special meetings of the Board of Supervisors</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>DM, FM, OA, Board of Supervisors</i>	<i>74.0</i>	<i>\$26,672</i>	
<i>Complete Supervisor elections and appointments, and recruit one new Associate Supervisor</i>	<i>Nov 2023 to Mar 2024</i>	<i>DM, FM, Board of Supervisors</i>	<i>24.5</i>	<i>\$9,454</i>	
<i>Complete financial and administrative functions including monthly accountant reports, meeting minutes, payroll, tracking funding and expenditures, vouchering for all grant sources, maintaining district files & documents and manage inventory</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>DM, FM, OA, Board of Supervisors</i>	<i>154.0</i>	<i>\$76,877</i>	
<i>Complete Annual Financial Report, Annual Plan of Work, and Annual Report of Accomplishments.</i>	<i>August 2023 to May 2024</i>	<i>DM, FM, OA, Board of Supervisors</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>\$13,632</i>	
<i>Complete financial and accountability audit for calendar years 2020-2022</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to September 2023</i>	<i>DM, FM, OA, Board of Supervisors</i>	<i>42.0</i>	<i>\$30,350</i>	
<i>Review and update KCCD Operations Handbook (Purchasing & Contracting, Personnel, Cost Share policies) as needed.</i>	<i>Jul 2023 to Jun 2024</i>	<i>DM, OA, Board of Supervisors</i>	<i>4.0</i>	<i>\$1,278</i>	

Complete employee evaluations and review of salaries/wages	Mar 2023 to May 2024	DM, Board of Supervisors	8.0	\$3,696	
Complete Annual Report of Activities for KCCD System of Rates & Charges and conduct an annual meeting with the Kittitas Board of County Commissioners to discuss on-going programs and projects	February - Jun 2024	DM, Board of Supervisors	11.5	\$4,814	
Complete tax rolls with Kittitas County Assessor for KCCD System of Rates & Charges	Dec 2023 to Jan 2024	DM	3.0	\$1,900	
Meet regularly with Roslyn and Cle Elum City Council and/or staff to prioritize technical assistance and develop natural resource related projects and programs	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	DM, Board of Supervisors	5.0	\$2,112	
Provide Engineering Services to North Central Engineering Cluster (Okanogan, Cascadia, South Douglas, & Foster Creek CDs) for various natural resource projects	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	PE, DM, FM	99.0	\$169,754	<u>WSCC Professional Engineer Grant</u>
Staff training (WADE, Conservation Planning, Public Works Contracting, Firewise/Fire Adapted Communities, etc.)	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	All Staff	24	\$12,589	
Supervisor training (WADE, WACD, etc.)	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	Board of Supervisors	12.0	\$2,227	
Maintain and operate District office facilities including financial records (receiving rent, utilities payments, etc.), lawn care, building maintenance, etc.	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	DM, FM, RT, Board of Supervisors	36.0	\$98,641	KCCD Indirect Funds USDA Lease WSCC Lease
Manage leases of office space for the USDA Service Center and WSCC Regional Manager	Jul 2023 to Jun 2024	DM, Board of Supervisors	7.0	\$4,363	

Budget

The Kittitas County Conservation District budget for Fiscal Year 2024 (Jul 1, 2023 – Jun 30, 2024) is below displayed as both program budgets and an object budget. These budgets are a guide to income and expenditures in FY2024 and may change significantly based on grant awards, actual program implementation and project construction.

Object	Budget
Salaries & Wages	\$540,857
Personnel Benefits	\$220,629
Supplies	\$126,228
Office & Operating Supplies	\$83,521
Fuel Consumed	\$6,500
Small Tools & Minor Equipment	\$15,400
Repairs and Maintenance (Vehicles)	\$20,807
Services	\$2,096,913
Professional Services	\$602,487
Travel	\$7,500
Insurance	\$16,500
Utilities	\$29,961
Property Taxes	\$7,314
Rates & Charges Collection	\$8,716
Staff & Board Training	\$4,648
Miscellaneous	\$9,627
Project Construction	\$1,410,160
Debt Repayment	\$83,332
Building Loan	\$81,252
Copy Machine Contract	\$2,080
Cost Share	\$843,600
Contingency	\$45,000
TOTAL	\$3,956,559

Fund Source	Ending Date (mo/year)	Total Grant/Program Budget	Expected Income in FY 2024
Direct Federal Funds			
USDA NRCS - RCPP Supplemental Agreement TA	Dec-25	\$175,000	\$85,000
USDA NRCS - 10 Year Lease & TI	Annual	\$74,747	\$74,747
Indirect Federal Funds			
Yakima Tributary Access & Habitat Program (BPA via RC&D)	Mar-24	\$316,855	\$282,150
Yakima Tributary Access & Habitat Program (BPA via RC&D)*	Mar-25	\$270,500	\$26,689
RCO SRFB -- Swauk Creek Screening & Passage	Dec-23	\$268,691	\$18,000
NACD Technical Assistance Grant	Sep-23	\$61,388	\$20,000
FEMA- Kittitas County Fuels Reduction Project	Nov-23	\$246,094	\$9,900
FEMA - KCCD Defensible Space & Infrastructure	Mar-25	\$411,298	\$317,471
USFS DNR -- Landscape Scale Restoration	Jul-25	\$59,525	\$59,525
USFS DNR -- Community Wildfire Defense Grant*	Sep-28	\$10,000,000	\$203,430
State Funds			
WSSC Implementation Grant	Jun-24	\$117,823	\$117,823
WSSC Natural Resource Investment	Jun-25	\$116,000	\$75,000
WSSC Irrigation Efficiencies	Jun-25	\$13,000	\$13,000
WSSC Professional Engineering	Jun-24	\$200,000	\$200,000
WSSC Community Wildfire Resiliency*	Jun-24	\$30,000	\$30,000
WSSC RCPP Contribution (K1847)	Jun-24	\$1,669,600	\$25,000
WSSC RCPP Contribution (22-28-RP)	Jun-25	\$430,931	\$190,000
WSSC Salmon Restoration Funding^	Jun-25	\$50,000	\$50,000
WSSC Voluntary Stewardship Program	Jun-25	\$238,000	\$116,000
WSSC - Office of Farmland Preservation*	Jun-25	\$70,000	\$57,825
WSSC - Sustainable Farms and Fields^	Jun-25	\$90,000	\$90,000
WSSC - Regional Mgr Rent	Oct-24	\$3,300	\$3,300
WA ECY -- Manastash Pipelines Project	Dec-23	\$2,141,165	\$573,625
WA ECY -- Upper Yakima RCPP Efficiency Improvement	Jun-25	\$400,000	\$209,010
RCO-SRFB --- Yakima Targeted Investments	Mar-24	\$883,088	\$826,500
RCO-BAFBRB -- EWC at Naneum Creek	Jun-25	\$844,406	\$5,658
RCO-BAFBRB -- Cascade ID at Coleman Creek	Jun-25	\$1,481,227	\$2,000
RCO-BAFBRB -- Naneum Creek at McCullough*	Jun-26	\$205,300	\$1,000
Local/Private Funds			
Kittitas Reclamation District	Biennial	\$112,868	\$56,434
Benton Conservation District - Heritage Garden Program (Ecology)	Dec-23	\$90,100	\$33,849
Kittitas County Road Funds- PAM Cost Share	Annual	\$5,000	\$2,500
Kittitas County Local Funds (Rates & Charges)	Annual	\$174,317	\$174,317
Puget Sound Energy Wild Horse Conservation Easement	Annual	\$7,500	\$5,214
Donations for Agriculture Appreciation Day	Annual		\$1,150
Interest Income	Annual		\$442
TOTAL		\$21,257,722	\$3,956,559

*Grants not formally contracted but expected in FY24

^Grants to be applied for in FY24