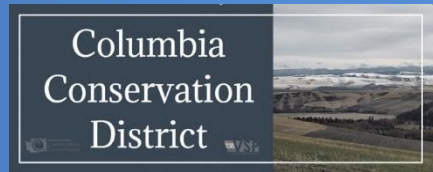


District Manager Report



October 2024

Highlights of September 2024-

Seasonal Workers/Job Announcement – The district has 2 new seasonal workers to help with the greenhouse! Debra Bledsoe and Eli Lanum. They will help with day to day clean up and moving plants out of the greenhouse to harden. Then will help plant the next batch of 3000 in November. They are at the school right now, Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 9-12pm which could change depending on their schedules with other jobs. This has been a great help already!

A job announcement will go out in this week's paper for an Admin Specialist. I am still fine tuning the job description but will have it ready to go by Thursday. If you know anyone that is willing to do primarily desk work, let them know to reach out to me!

Greenhouse/School ILA – Jeremy Wheatley and I have been working on the ILA for the greenhouse. I spoke with the state about amount of years we need to use the greenhouse to get the benefit from it and it needs to be 5 year (wind tunnel NRCS live), so the ILA will be a 3 year contract (we've used it for 2), after which we will revisit the contract. This contract will be in the board packet for review and approval.

HR/Policies – A 1st reading of District Equipment Usage Policy – Public, will be discussed and part of the board packet. We had an instance in which the SRSRB was wanting to utilize out side by side for a meeting on the Tucannon to drive legislatures around. I think we should have a policy around this for liability and insurance reasons. Tye was at the meeting this time, but wanting to discuss the usage/rental otherwise.

SE Area Meeting: Clay and Zane will be attending the SE Area meeting October 17, 2024 in Pullman. This will be great to have 2 of our board members there!

River Projects – PA 26 is almost complete. Rubenser needs to create a pond for Hovrud's pumpsite and move the pump station. He will also move logs from the downstream area. There will be an amendment to his contract to approve the additional construction and materials. Lance will be working on as-builts. The bridge on PA 34 will now be completed Summer of 2025, and we will look to have bids are behind schedule. We will look to have them out November and back to the board at Decembers meeting. Anchor provide preliminaries for MS-15 and I set up a meeting with the county, city, Anchor and White Bluff for November's board meeting.

Next projects to look at will include Tucannon PA 27, Touchet MS-14, and Tucannon PA 44. 1 Touchet and Tucannon Project per year. We may have 2 going on (1 in each watershed) but will try to only have 1 per year to keep the district from being overloaded.

NRI/IE/CREP/VSP Programs – There are 2 IE projects in the works on the Tucannon. Should have these done by November. 1 NRI project which is Fundak Streambank Stabilization – this project will need to be reallocated to FY26 biennium and will need to find a project to utilize these funds before June 2025. I will look into what can be done and make a proposal at Novembers meeting. We have multiple VSP projects including a streambank stabilization, watering facility, fencing, and soon to be wireless fencing, nutrient management, spring development, sediment basin and others. As the projects are completed, I am slowing



the intake to see what will work best for Lance and I. Burn is finishing up. I only expect 1 more permit. We have burned roughly 75% of what's been permitted.

Committees – I am included the drafted language for the WACD Renewable Energy Workgroup Paper. This is up for final review. Clay is also on this committee but I know its been tough to attend. I wanted you all to get a chance to look at this and see if anything is glaring out at you. The group is looking to find and educate the state about real positives and negatives to each classified renewable energy source and add hydro power to the renewable resource list. This will be attached with the packet.

Post Office lease – The post office lease it up again. Needing to figure out if there are other options available or if we are willing to sign another 3-year lease. I will be asking if we can sign a year-year lease, but this opens us up to price increases. Would like to revisit the idea of buildings on main street, or purchasing ground and building. Possible using an investor who is looking for a short-term investment.

CREP – CREP audit has been completed. We are now waiting to see how many contracts have pulled. All contracts were impacted in one way or another. I'm estimating between 50-75% have been voluntarily canceled.

As always, I hope you are all having a good week so far and look forward to seeing you on Thursday.

Aneesha