



The Dirt is intended to provide a monthly summary of recent activities and inform you of upcoming events and important information. We have other mailing lists that target specific land uses or topics and communications are sent throughout the year. If you are interested in receiving additional information from ACCD, please contact us at info@asotincd.org or 509-552-8117.

❖ **NEW EMPLOYEE: KEATON MARTIN, MONITORING SPECIALIST**

My name is Keaton Martin, and I am excited to be working for ACCD as the new Monitoring Specialist. I was born in Montana and had the privilege of spending my childhood living around the western part of the state. In March of 2020, I graduated from Western Washington University with a degree in Environmental Science, working on projects encompassing water quality, wetland function, and glacial recession. My working experience includes conservation technical assistance in Butte, Montana, water quality monitoring in Polson, Montana, and regulatory compliance up in Spokane. Having lived in Spokane for the last two years, I am excited to move down to the LCV with my fiancé as we start our next chapter. We look forward to hiking and kayaking with our dog in this beautiful area and integrating into the community.



❖ **ACCD 5-YEAR PLAN**

The purpose of this long-range plan is to guide the work of ACCD over the next five years. This is intended to be a working plan, which will continue to evolve as necessary to ensure ACCD responds to changing needs. The plan also identifies current obligations that have already been committed to which will take place during the five-year period covered by the plan.

ACCD invites the public to submit comments on the draft of the 2024-2028 Five Year Plan. Comments can be submitted to info@asotincd.org

- *Comments are due by November 6th at 4:30 pm*
- Link to the [5-Year Plan for ACCD](#)

❖ **WSSC TOUR**

On September 20th, representatives from WSSC (WA State Conservation Commission), WACD (WA Association for Conservation Districts), NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service), and other Conservation Districts attended a tour of several projects. Four of ACCD's newest projects were showcased on the tour; trommel screen for manure, Cougar Creek fish passage barrier correction, a forest health thinning & pruning site, and an instream fish habitat improvement site. The goal of the tour was to showcase the natural resource benefits of completed and ongoing conservation projects to the Commissioners, WSSC Staff, and partners.

❖ **FOREST HEALTH & COMMUNITY WILDFIRE RESILIENCY GRANT**

The frequency and severity of wildfires in Washington, historical forest management practices, and increasing populations in rural and suburban areas make it vitally important that private landowners steward forest land for improved health and resilience and be prepared for wildfire. Improving forest health for climate and wildfire resiliency is critical at the same time as rural populations are growing and forest parcels are becoming smaller and more numerous.

ACCD is thrilled to announce we have secured funding for outreach, education, and technical and financial assistance are needed to assist new and long-time forest land managers alike to manage their forest lands for better health and wildfire resiliency.

This funding will also be used to help Asotin County get a much-needed updated CWPP (Community Wildfire Protection Plan). Landowner involvement will be a key to a successful CWPP update in 2024!

❖ **EQUIPMENT RENTAL**

Whether your project is big or small, ACCD has equipment available to rent! We were able to secure funding to purchase three pieces of equipment and to put a rental program in place. The goal is to assist producers with manure management.

- Large-scale manure trommel
- Large-scale manure spreader
- Small-scale manure spreader

To learn more about our equipment and how to rent, contact tony@asotincd.org or 509-552-2615

UPCOMING DATES

- **ACNWCB Board Meeting: October 17th at 6pm**
- **ACCD Board Meeting: November 9th at 12pm**
- **ACCD Closed: November 10th – Veteran’s Day Observed**

FUN FACT!

Farms operated by producers with military service sold \$41 billion in agricultural products in 2017, with 53% (\$22 billion) in crop sales and 47% (\$19 billion) in sales of livestock and livestock products. These farms accounted for 11% of total U.S. agriculture sales. A total of 13% of producers in WA state have military service. (Source: USDA NASS, 2017 Census of Agriculture)



Large-scale manure trommel in operation



WSCC Tour attendees got a firsthand look at the new Cougar Creek Fish Passage