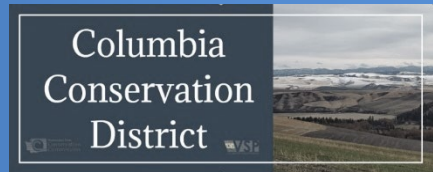


# District Manager Report



June 2024

## Highlights of June 2024-

Annual Producer Tour – Crystal did a great job pulling together the annual tour with such a short amount of time. With 22+ attendees, great discussion and great food this event was a huge success. There is always room for improvement and noted some areas to address for next year but over all I think this was a great way to show of Crystal's skill set for her 1<sup>st</sup> outing.

Greenhouse – Belanna, SCC grant manager of the RPP grant program, came to the greenhouse on May 1<sup>st</sup> and saw all of the work that has gone into revitalizing and utilizing the space! She was very impressed and happy to see the program is able to help in such a vast way. She is very eager to spread the word on how we have joined riparian plantings with education of the youth and is hopeful other districts will do this as well. Irrigation is almost completed and then all major components will be completed.

The 5<sup>th</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> period class won the butterfly journal competition! WE celebrated with a luau party to finish out the school year, played some fun games and had a water balloon fight! The students were super excited and had a great time.

HR/Policies –Will look at polices moving forward and will bring you all 2 policies each month September – December to make sure we are keeping things up to date.

Resolutions: Keep in mind resolution updates! Please let me know if there is something the board would like to put forth in this years WACD legislative process!

River Projects –We will be completing PA 26 this summer. The bridge on PA 34 will now be completed Summer of 2025, and we will look to have bids out and to the board September/October of 2024. We are working with Anchor on MS-15 and the NF/SF Touchet Confluence. We will have conceptual designs-2 by the end of August and preliminary's by the end of November for MS-15. MS-15 was pulled from the RCO grant round due to some land owners pulling out of the project. Since last meeting this project is moving forward with 4 landowners involved. If you have questions about this project please let me know!

NRI/IE/CREP/VSP Programs –There is 1 IE project completed and awaiting invoices. Should have this by the board meeting for final approval. 1 NRI project which is Fundak Streambank Stabilization and have \$19,500 available in funding. 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, Crystal and I. Burn is finishing up with Pomeroy's help and soil samples will start in done in the fall due to lack of time available to get them done in the Spring.

Committees –I begun working with the Community Engagement Committee. We are doing first edits of the Plan and I am finding some things very concerning. My goal is to help provide the balance needed to the plan so that things do not swing too far one way and cause harm to districts that do not need to take extra measures to reach out as indicated in the plan.



Funding – This is the end of the FY for some grants, and while we have most budgets spent the Implementation funding still has a pot left due to not having nutrients put on the ground this year. I had anticipated applying lime to a field along side NRCS funding, but with the current situation we are left waiting to see how that all plays out and the funding still sitting there. We need to have this money spent by June 30<sup>th</sup>. I will have a list of ideas at the board meeting to go over, but anything thoughts from the boards end is helpful as well.

CREP – I listened in to the most recent meeting for a CREP update. There really wasn't much noted except that the SE Area has not been completed yet. There are 199 contracts in the SE area. 22 will be terminated automatically and the rest need to be reviewed to see if onsite visits will be needed. According to John Weis, NRCS and the conservation districts can be involved in writing the next plans but only if they were not involved in writing the originals. So there is talk of having neighboring districts help each other write the plans or NRCS will higher outside of the state to help. There was a time extension til June 30. Landowners will need to make a decision of either yes or no in continuing wit the process. Unless a landowner is adamant about not continuing, the request is to have all landowners answer yes, and then they will have 60 days to figure out whether they want to continue in the program or not based off the information in the new plan. We are also supposed to be having weekly meetings now to keep us updated. We have not heard back on when these will start.

Audit - We need to find time to finish the 2023 audit! Please let me know when 2 of you are available.

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

Aneesha