

WHITMAN CONSERVATION DISTRICT

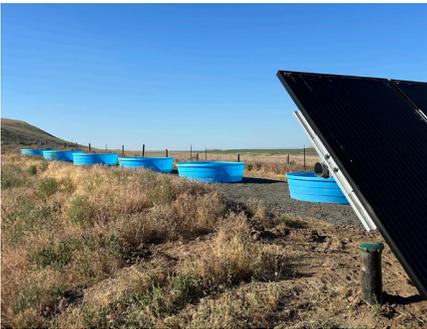
2024-25 Featured accomplishments



Elberton stream restoration

Whitman Conservation District partnered with a visionary Elberton landowner to restore a stream to its natural pre-settlement state. This multiyear effort nears completion, serving as a model for collaboration. In the 2023–2025 biennium, the District planted 33,281 native trees and shrubs, restoring 22,309 feet of stream to improve water quality and habitat.

Photo Caption: Overview shot of the project site in Elberton, WA.



Well installations

Whitman Conservation District provided \$100,000 to install three wells in LaCrosse, WA (WRIA 35), enabling prescribed grazing on 2,400 acres. Improved water access allows better herd distribution and residue management, supporting a shift to no-till farming. The project is estimated to reduce 804 metric tons of CO₂ while enhancing soil health and sustainable ag practices.

Photo Caption: One of the three water sites, with six water troughs and the solar panel to power the pump.



Palouse river cleanup

The District, with state partners, led a Palouse River cleanup removing 70+ tons of waste. They restored 25 acres and 2,566 feet of streambank, removed debris from 650 feet, added 1,444 tons of gravel for stabilization, and planted 4,421 native plants. The project aims to improve water quality by reducing pollutants and restoring riparian function.

Photo Caption: Action shot of the trash clean up in progress.

Other accomplishments

- Used \$796,000 of state-allocated funds to help 17 landowners restore 30 miles of fence and seed one acre of pasture, addressing post-fire resource concerns.
- Assisted nine landowners with equipment upgrades (including GPS technology, sprayer technology, and fertilizer application upgrade) to reduce emissions and improve efficiency totaling \$47,069, through a Sustainable Farm and Fields grant.
- Hosted 30+ education and outreach events including holding a community plant sale to provide a greater understanding of water quality, farming practices, and general habitat restoration.
- Continuwa to develop web content for the District website to reach a broader audience showcasing projects and funding opportunities.