

# STEVENS COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

## 2024-25 Featured accomplishments



### Forest health education

Educating the community on safe practices in forestry and wildfire prevention is essential for maintaining forest health. We utilized funds from the Washington State Conservation Commission's Forest Health & Community Wildfire Resiliency Program to purchase forestry tools and create education kits for hands-on training. These kits can be used in schools, outdoors, community workshops, and events. They will also be available for other community educators to use.

*Photo Caption: Ready-to-go Forestry Education and Training Kit. Photo credit: SCCD.*



### Wildfire fuels reduction

Stevens County is at an elevated risk for wildfires. Aiming to reduce wildfire fuels and promote alternatives to burning, Stevens County Conservation District partnered with local agencies to offer free drop-off and chipping of slash. Over 100 tons of clean wood waste was brought to these events and eliminated from becoming fuel for wildfires. The community responded with enthusiasm and requested more fuels reduction assistance.

*Photo Caption: Just one day of slash drop-off in April 2025 at a Stevens County Solid Waste Management site. Photo credit: Stevens County Solid Waste Management.*



### Riparian plants thrive with exclusionary fenced areas

New riparian plantings fight to overcome invasive grass and are also susceptible to damage from wildlife. Healthy riparian areas are essential to filter pollutants, stabilize stream banks and reduce erosion, provide crucial habitat, and regulate water temperature. The District tested the use of exclusionary fenced areas around new plantings along the Colville River. The concept has produced a thriving riparian area and will now be used in future projects.

*Photo Caption: Pilot study site for EFAs along the Colville River; Photo credit: SCCD.*

## Other accomplishments



Assisted landowners with disaster and wildfire recovery.



Provided technical assistance to landowners for agricultural water quality protection, stream bank stabilization, windrow application, forage seeding, and hedgerow application projects.



Engaged in youth education with hosting local and state forestry competitions, both in and out of classroom teachings, and our unique annual Big Tree Contest at the NEWA Fair.

📍 Congressional district 5    📍 Legislative district 7

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