

ROCK LAKE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2024-25 Featured accomplishments



Solar livestock wells

Rock Lake Conservation District through the Natural Resource Investment program, supported two landowners in installing solar-powered wells where no running water was available. One rancher now supplies water to nine cattle without hauling, cutting fossil fuel use and improving herd health. Another farmer uses a well to water native plants and shrubs and create a fire-resistant habitat, while also providing a water source for firefighting.

Photo Caption: Solar livestock well for local ranch outside Lancaster. Photo by LeAnn Thomas, District Manager.



Fire recovery fencing

The District, through Fire Recovery and Natural Resource Investment programs, helped three landowners replace 3.7 miles of fencing lost in recent wildfires. Restored pasture borders allow ranchers to maintain grazing rotations, avoid overgrazing, and reduce wildfire risk from invasive weeds. The project eased financial and labor burdens, supporting both operations and long-term conservation goals.

Photo Caption: Cattle on the Maya & Jake Aune ranch. Photo by Sydney Nelson.



Community outreach

Over the past two years, RLCD has expanded outreach to connect with local landowners, farmers, and ranchers. Efforts included tabling at fairs and festivals, engaging youth in conservation education and volunteering, and strengthening partnerships. The District also invested in displays and materials to make these interactions more engaging and educational.

Photo Caption: Local elementary school students participated in the 'Fish in the Classroom' program with District staff. Photo by Josilyn Watson.

Other accomplishments



Helped landowners reduce the use of fossil fuels, protect native habitats, and mitigate future fire risk.



Our community outreach included a "Fish in the Classroom" project, where students raised trout and learned about local ecosystems.



Reinforced our commitment to conservation and environmental stewardship in the Rock Lake region.

📍 Congressional district 5 📍 Legislative district 9

☎ (509) 648-3680

✉ admin@rocklakecd.org

🌐 rocklakecd.org