

WASHINGTON CONSERVATION SOCIETY

2019 Report of Accomplishments

OUR MISSION

The mission of Washington Conservation Society is to promote natural resource conservation efforts in Washington State by providing a philanthropic center for investments in citizen-led, voluntary-based conservation projects, activities, education, and outreach efforts.

WHAT WE DO

- ❖ Support educational opportunities for youth by sponsoring Conservation Education Programs in Washington State.
- ❖ Support conservation of natural resources by utilizing our 501 c (3) status and acting as a pass through entity for district's seeking grants.
- ❖ Honor the life-long dedication and service of notable Washington State conservationists by including them in our Leaving a Legacy booklet.

EDUCATION

2019 Conservation Education Mini-Grant

Washington State Envirothon



The 2019 Washington State Envirothon Competition took place at Camp Don Bosco in Carnation, WA from May 22nd – 23rd. Teams from 8 high schools across Washington gathered together for competition. The winning team was Ingraham High School from Seattle.

EDUCATION

2019 Conservation Education Mini-Grant

Underwood CD ~ Environmental Education Support



The annual 'WaterJam' event – now in its eleventh year-- brings together, over two days, 400 students from up to 8 different schools to learn all about water. Students spend a full day at the Spring Creek Fish Hatchery in Underwood, WA, cycling through eight different 'stations', each with an activity to learn about water and how we are connected to it both locally and globally.

EDUCATION

2019 Conservation Education Mini-Grant

Benton CD ~ Salmon Summit



Over 3,000 students attended Benton Conservation District's Salmon Summit. Every student released a salmon into the Columbia River that had been hatched and raised at a local school. Afterwards, students attended a selection of 54 learning stations and activities. During Salmon Summit, at the fish tagging station, 425 salmon were tagged and released. Over 100 of these fish were detected migrating downstream.

EDUCATION

2019 Conservation Education Mini-Grant

Snohomish CD~ Envirothon Resource Trunk



Through careful research and knowledge of past competitions, our education team worked to develop bins to support students prepare for Envirothon competitions. Envirothon, a natural resources competition for high school students, includes tests on aquatics, forestry, soils, and wildlife. We focused our purchases on these topics and aimed for both user-friendly and professional-level equipment.

Conservation Education Mini-Grant Applications FY20

4 Applications Were Received & Ranked by the Subcommittee:

- ❖ Benton CD ~ Student Salmon Releases
- ❖ Envirothon ~ WA State Envirothon Competition Support
- ❖ Lincoln County CD ~ 6th Grade Conservation Day
- ❖ Underwood CD ~ Environmental Education Program Support

Pass Through Funds

- ❖ Pierce CD, Whole Foods 5% Day Giving Campaign- \$3,365.87

LEAVING A LEGACY

- ❖ Created to honor conservationists for their outstanding dedication and service to our natural resources.
- ❖ 2 New Inductees
- ❖ Book is Available Electronically

Edward “Eddie” Johnson

Lincoln County Conservation District
January 29, 1945 – December 4, 2018

Edward Joseph Johnson was born on January 29, 1945, eldest son of Leonard and Margaret (Dolan) Johnson of Wilbur, WA, and raised on a homestead ranch north of Wilbur. He graduated from Wilbur High School, and then from Washington State University with a degree in Agronomy and Soils.

Eddie Johnson served as a Supervisor for the Lincoln County Conservation District for 38 years. He was also a representative on the WACD Board of Directors for the last six years, having just been unanimously re-elected in October 2018. He served on several WACD committees during his time. Eddie was an educator and lobbyist on behalf of these causes at both a state and national level.

As all farmers are, he was deeply connected with nature and weather patterns with a mix of scientific familiarity and almost superstitious curiosity. In short, he took his relationship to the land seriously, with understanding that the practice of providing food for others and protecting the natural resources in your care are both a secular and sacred duty not to be taken lightly.

Eddie is survived by his daughter Ann Marie Johnson, son Leonard (Leo) Johnson, son-in-law Larry Johnson, granddaughters Kayla and Araya Johnson and multiple relations.



Eddie’s work, and his passion, was farming. He was conservative in his world view, but assertively progressive in his stewardship of the land.

Bruce Maurice Kyllo

Whitman Conservation District
April 16, 1927 - November 2, 2019

Bruce was born one of seven children to John and Juliette Kyllo in Moscow, Idaho. He attended school in LaCrosse, Washington, where he excelled in basketball and football. He married Ruth Elaine Morasch on April 16, 1949 and for several years they made their home on an irrigation farm in Pasco. The family returned to LaCrosse where Bruce farmed on the family farm before opening Kyllo's Grocery Store in 1962. Later, he took a position as custodian and grounds keeper in the LaCrosse School District where he worked until his retirement in 1990.

Bruce served as a supervisor of the West Whitman Conservation District from 1961 – 1964. As a member of the Selbu Lutheran Church he spent many hours planting trees in what was later called Bruce's Forest. In 1997 he was honored with the Citizen Stewardship Award by the Whitman Conservation District for planting over 3,000 trees in and around LaCrosse. In 2010 Bruce's Forest was featured in author Martha Mullen's book, "Reflections on the Road."



Bruce was so dedicated to his trees that one day when he found a moose wandering through the property, he jumped out of his pickup truck and chased it away at eighty-seven years of age.

Current Board of Directors

- ❖ North Central ~ John McLean
- ❖ South Central ~ Heather Wendt
 - ❖ Northeast ~ Jerry Scheele
 - ❖ Northwest ~ Larry Davis
- ❖ Southeast ~ Jerry Hendrickson
 - ❖ Southwest ~ Doug Rushton

Current Officers

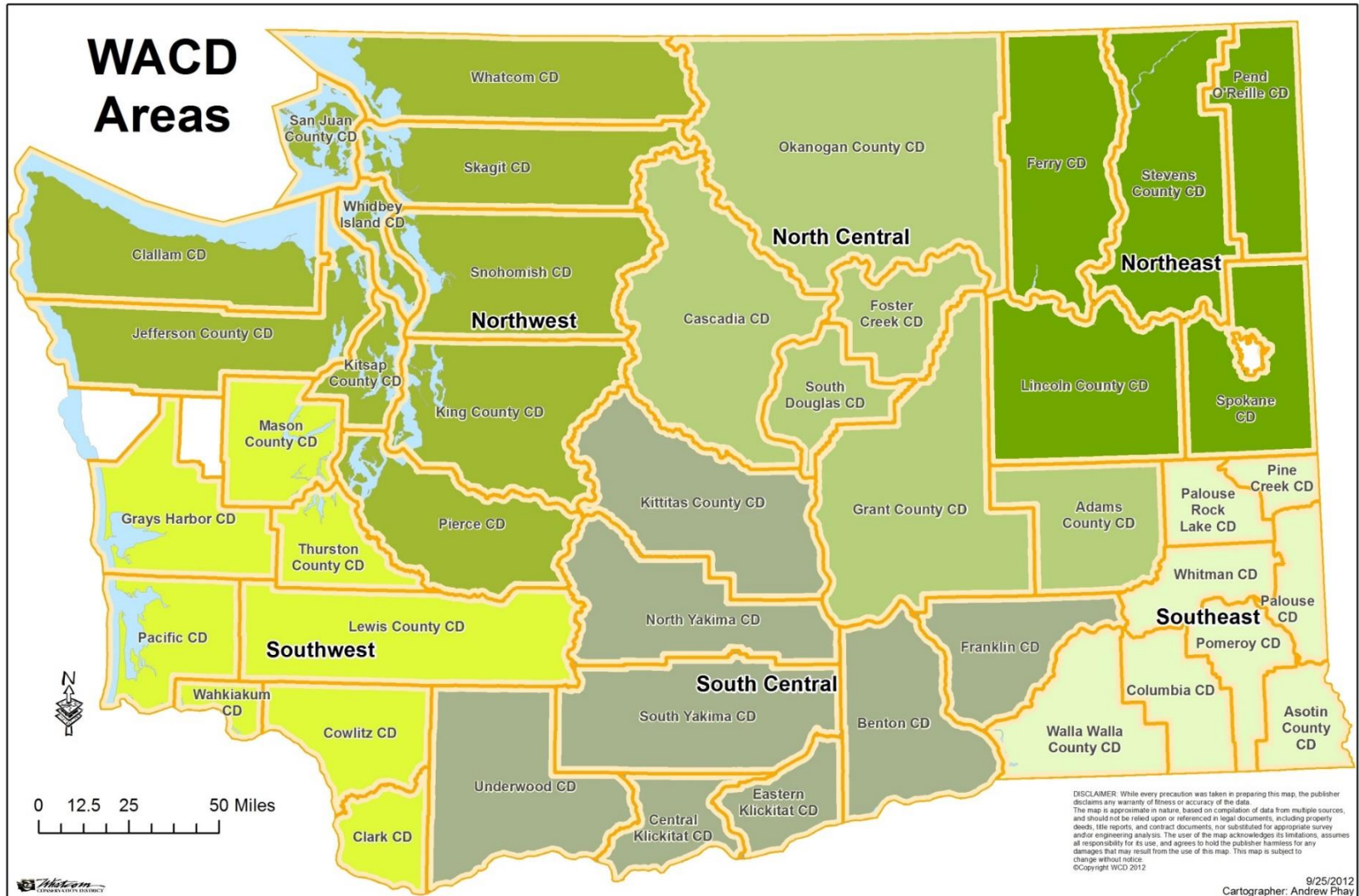
- ❖ President ~ Larry Davis
- ❖ Vice President ~ Doug Rushton
- ❖ Secretary – Treasurer ~ Heather Wendt

Election of Officers

President ~

Vice President ~

Secretary – Treasurer ~



FUTURE GOALS AND PROJECTS

- ❖ Continue partnering with CD's as a grants pass through
- ❖ Promote donations through Combined Find Drive
- ❖ Time for another Strategic Planning Session?