

**King Conservation District Board of Supervisors Meeting
Agenda Action Briefing/Report
Meeting Date: July 26, 2021**

ACTION ITEM: 21-052 THE COST SHARE AND LABOR RATE RESOLUTION

SUBJECT:

Establishing by Resolution 21-052, a cost-share policy to guide cost-share ratios and labor rates in association with Washington State Conservation Commission, King Conservation District and other funding sources.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no new fiscal impact for the Conservation District if the Board approves the recommended action. The action will positively affect the implementation rate of resource conservation practices. The action will not change the approved work plan or budget for calendar year 2021.

POLICY CONSIDERATION

The WSCC Master Grant Program was amended by WSCC Policy No. 13-5 *Cost-share Assistance Policy* to allow conservation districts to establish cost-share ratios in excess of 50%-75% when such cost-share ratios are likely to increase the participation of land occupiers to implement natural resource management practices consistent with USDA NRCS standards. Cost-share ratios established by individual conservation districts can be applied to WSCC grant programs, including Implementation, Shellfish, Natural Resource Investment and RCPP grant funding. CREP, Irrigation Efficiencies and any other grant programs have programmatically prescribed cost-share limitations established by the WSCC. Additionally, considerations regarding equity and fairness are addressed by the consistent application of cost-share policy across all District funding sources.

STAKEHOLDER INTERESTS

- Commercial livestock producers
- Non-commercial livestock owners
- Landowners with freshwater and marine aquatic resources
- Landowners with forest and open space resources
- Agency and organization partners
- Stakeholders party to the development and approval of the King CD 5-Year Implementation Plan (2020-2024)

BACKGROUND

WSCC Cost-share Funding

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WSSC Policy No. 13-5 titled *Cost-share Assistance Policy* provides that conservation districts must adopt by resolution cost-share ratios and labor rates for management practices implemented with WSSC funding.

The King Conservation District utilizes a number of WSSC grant programs to provide cost-share funding for implementation of landowner or producer natural resource management practices. WSSC Policy No. 13-5 applies to the Implementation, Shellfish, Natural Resource Investment and RCPP grant programs, which do not include WSSC prescribed cost-share limitations.

KCD LIP Cost-share Funding

The KCD LIP was established in 2008, and funds 15 core resource management practices that protect and enhance water quality, conserve soil, and protect and enhance aquatic and forest resources. Resolution 19-004. provides additional policy level guidance to the KCD LIP related to labor rates and cost-share ratios for demonstration projects and replacement planting projects. Prior adopted KCD LIP policies and procedures remain in effect.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

If approved, this Motion becomes effective August 2, 2021.

OPTIONS

None presented

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the below motion

MOTION

_____ Moved, _____ Seconded; Passed unanimously Resolution 19-004, establishing a cost-share policy to guide cost-share ratios and labor rates in association with Washington State Conservation Commission, King Conservation District and other funding sources.