



Bulkhead to removed along the Allyn shoreline.

Mason Conservation District

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State Legislative District #35

Congressional District #6

Board of Supervisor Monthly Summary of Activities

February 2017

Engineering Team Update

The Allyn Shoreline enhancement design is nearly complete. Washington Recreation and Conservation Office funded this design only project, it offers a plan for removing 100 feet of existing bulkhead and restoring large woody debris and buffer planting to approximately 380 feet of shoreline in Allyn. The design process included a number of proposed methods for anchoring the large wood to the shore line and locations on the beach where the wood should be located. Our final plan places a portion of the wood well above the high water line to act as ballast for the portion of the log that will be placed on the beach and experience the forces from wave action and buoyancy. Additional anchoring redundancy is provided by partially burying the root wad well above high water and driving posts just above the root wad to secure the log. Once this plan is accepted, we will begin looking for implementation funds.

Katrinka is moving through the steps to achieve her Professional Engineering License. She is signed up to take the test on April 21st and appreciates the district's support for the test preparation course she will be taking in March and April.

Rodney has been focusing on the FFFPP projects, Leonard and Stevens, so we can get those out to bid earlier this year. For Leonard, Rodney performed design work and ordered geotech drilling to determine abutment possibilities,

and for Stevens, we are working with Pat Powers and the permitting agencies to determine the best arrangement of structure sizing and placement. For our partner CD's, Rodney currently has 2 designs out for review. The Thomas project is a WSS and drainage project for KCD and the Cannon project is a WSS and HUA for TCD. Design was adjusted for the Huelsdonk bridge project for JCD and revisions were sent to Kelly Cahill for review/approval. Finally, Rodney is in the process of updating our outdated AutoCAD standards to reflect the modern norms of our partners (DNR, WDFW, RCO, etc) and the industry in general.

Voluntary Stewardship Program

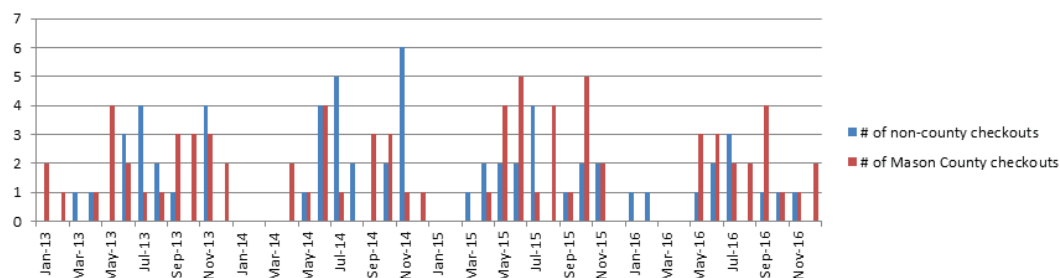
The VSP Work Group is anticipating its 3rd meeting on February 28, 2017 at 6pm in the Mason County Public Works Building. The Group is getting familiar with the components of this new Program together with learning the overall agricultural landscape of the County. At the upcoming meeting, there will be a discussion on what Mason County's critical areas are and how they are designated. In future meetings more information will be provided on the intersection of critical areas with agriculture and farm lands, and what impacts they may have on each other. The Work Group is comprised of community members as well as agency consultants. New members with an interest and an expertise are welcome to inquire.

Community Engagement

There should be no monotony
In studying your botany;
It helps to train
And spur the brain—
Unless you haven't got any.

It teaches you, does Botany,
To know the plants and spot any,
And learn just why
They live or die—
In case you plant or pot any.
-Berton Braley

Mason County PPE checkouts vs. Non-county checkouts, 2013- 2016



Total PPE checkouts, 2013- 2016: 143

Single-time renters: 64

Multiple-time renters: 29

Total # of renters: 93

Total checkouts by multiple-time renters:
79

This has been an exciting month for community engagement activities at Mason Conservation District! With our Native Plant Sale, collaboration opportunities and spring-summer outreach events around the corner, our team has been buzzing around to set Mason CD up for a 2017 that will further establish the conservation district as a friendly, accessible resource for all Mason County landowners and residents dealing with natural resource concerns or looking to contribute to conservation efforts.

In order to help promote the Native Plant Sale, we took a multi-pronged advertising approach. Jen Thurman-Williams has put information regarding the Native Plant Sale in the latest Watershed Wise newsletter and has sent out several emails letting our supporters know to get their orders in. Sara has created handout materials which she has distributed around Shelton and other areas in Mason County, and Kevin has been promoting the event on Facebook and went on the air at iFiberOne NewsRadio to discuss the sale and the various benefits of native plants.

With Mason County's "sunny season" outreach events coming up in just a few months, Kevin has been working with Karin, Katrinka and Sara to come up with a booth display that will attract the public's attention, encourage interest in Mason Conservation District, and promote Low Impact Development (LID) projects that are gaining in popularity in several conservation districts and would be a good fit for many communities across Mason County.

Finally, in an attempt to better understand the trends concerning Mason CD's poultry processing equipment (PPE) rental program, Kevin has recently spent time analyzing the PPE checkout forms cooperators fill out to rent the equipment. Although there are limitations to the information that can be gleaned from these basic checkout forms, it did provide useful information that can be used to guide the Board and staff in decisions regarding promotion, maintenance and growth of the PPE rental program.

Habitat Program Update

Work over the past month has mostly involved project and process development.

Staff has been working with the WRIA 14 Lead Entity Committee to update the Process Guide in preparation to the upcoming Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) grant round. Process improvements are largely focused on improving community engagement and conflict of interest policies. A request for letters of intent to apply for 2017 SRFB funding was distributed, and a 2017 process calendar was published.

Staff has also been assisting Mason County with outreach efforts in the Skokomish Valley to obtain Rights of Entry to support ongoing project design efforts being led by the US Army Corps of Engineers.

The field crew made outstanding progress toward meeting our planting and planting maintenance goals this month. They are ahead of schedule. There is a large focus on maintaining existing planting areas this winter. Staff has also continued an outreach effort to promote and recruit landowners for the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program.