

# Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

Palouse Watershed RCPP is a voluntary program directed through the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) designed to benefit water quality, soil health, and habitat within the Palouse River Watershed. The program assists farmers through compensation in implementation of practices such as conservation tillage operations, streamside buffers, precision agriculture, and riparian restoration. We have funding available to assist landowners for the next five years. Applications are locally ranked within your Conservation District. Technical and financial assistance is provided by 18 cooperative partners working together to be your one-stop shop for conservation.

### **Benefits for Farmers and Landowners**

• Eligible participants will receive technical and financial assistance to implement conservation practices that address natural resource concerns.

- Incentives are being developed for landowners developing riparian buffers.
- Payments are made after practices are identified through an EQIP/CSP/ACEP plan.
- Livestock operators may be reimbursed for fencing that excludes cattle from buffers and for new water facilities.
- Operators may have the option to enter other conservation programs such as CSP or Farmed SMART certification





## **Eligibility**

- Eligible land includes cropland, rangeland, or pastureland within the Palouse River Watershed (WRIA 34).
- Eligible landowner or producers may be interested in converting to conservation tillage, developing a riparian project, or just interested in initiating a conservation-focused operation.



#### **How it Works**

- Landowners voluntarily sign up with one of the RCPP partners and a site visit is scheduled to address objectives and resource concerns.
- Projects are ranked locally against other projects to meet conservation goals.
- A local conservation planner will work with you to design a plan for the objectives and needs of the landowner.

## **Key Eligible Practices**

- •Conservation Tillage: Mulch-Till, No Till/ Direct seed, Precision Agriculture, Nutrient Management, Integrated Pest Management, plus additional options through EQIP, CSP and other funding from all partners.
- •Riparian Forest Buffers: native trees and vegetation bordering a river or stream
- •Riparian Buffers: band of vegetation planted on marginal pastureland that is adjacent to wetlands.
- •Grass Filter Strips: strips of grassy vegetation planted along stream segments
- Fencing and watering facility options
- •Wildlife Habitat Management
- Channel Stabilization, Structure for Water Control, Streambank and Shoreline protection
- •Many other practices available. Please contact your nearest Conservation District to see what's available for you.



If you are interested in enrolling in RCPP or would like more information please contact **Stephen Johnson** at the Palouse Conservation District.

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#### CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

OF WASHINGTON STATE

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