



# Washington Association of Conservation Districts

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## Five Things to Know for August 17, 2023

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### FIVE THINGS TO KNOW

#### 1 – WSCC Executive Director Job Posting

The Conservation Commission released their position description for a new Executive Director and will likely conduct their first round of interviews between September 11-14th. If you're interested in seeing the qualifications the Commission is seeking, primary responsibilities, and other job information please visit the WSCC's full job post on [careers.wa.gov](https://careers.wa.gov).

#### 2 – WACD Resolution Template

WACD has updated [its resolution template](#) for the conservation districts considering writing a resolution for consideration by the membership this year. In consultation with National Director Doug Rushton and Secretary Barbara Bailey, WACD staff included new information for those seeking their for resolution to be adopted at the NACD level. This new information is to be included at the start of the resolution process rather than after their adoption by the state association. There are no changes to regular resolutions.

#### 3 – Grant Opportunities Newsletter

WACD is partnering with the [Washington Conservation Society](#) to provide a [newsletter](#) outlining potential new funding sources for conservation districts. This is one of the benefits Heather Wendt is helping WACD to provide to our membership now that she is on-board as Director of Development and Engagement. Some of these opportunities may require the use of a 501(c)3 to act as a fiscal agent/sponsor. Subscribe to future newsletters [here!](#)

#### 4 – WACD Directory Update

The August 14, 2023 edition of the District Directory is now available online. This updated directory with contact information for the 45 districts and state partners is maintained by WACD to help CDs stay connected with one another. WACD keeps this document out of the web site index to help keep people's personal information from being "scraped" by malicious actors. At one point we placed it behind a password, now we've found creating the equivalent of an unlisted number is easier for districts to access while still providing some protection. Find the directory and district contact information at <https://hub.wadistricts.org/thedirectory/>.

#### 5 - Award Nominations Open

Each year, WACD seeks to recognize the best and brightest in our community. We are looking for nominations in eleven different categories, ranging from Associate Supervisors to local co-operators. Applications should take no more than a few minutes of your time. The [2023 nomination forms](#) are now available on the WACD HUB. Additionally, NACD is seeking applications for their [Hugh Hammond Bennett Award](#) for Conservation Excellence to honor one conservation planner and one producer from across the country.

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Upcoming

2023

- **August 23-25:** [NACD Pacific and Southwest Region meeting — South Lake Tahoe, CA](#)
- **September 18:** [WACD Board of Directors meeting](#) — online
- **September 20-21:** [State Conservation Commission tour and meeting — Clarkston, WA](#)
- **October 18:** NE Area Meeting Hosted by Pend Oreille CD
- **October 19:** NC Area Meeting Hosted by Adams CD
- **October 26:** SE Area Meeting Hosted by Whitman CD
- **November 27-29:** WACD Annual Conference and Business Meeting — Wenatchee, WA
- **November 30:** [State Conservation Commission meeting — Wenatchee, WA](#)

## 2024

- **February 10-14:** [NACD 78th annual meeting — San Diego, California](#)

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## Presidential Corner

by WACD President Mike Mumford

Tom is back from vacation and in his absence Ryan (and more recently Heather) have been taking on additional tasks. I'm happy to do the commentary for this week's issue of the "Five Things to Know." By now, you hopefully have seen the announcement sent by the State Conservation Commission last Friday that the Department of Enterprise Services (DES) has posted the Commission's vacancy announcement for its executive director (ED) position. [Reffett Associates](#), the executive search firm hired by the Commission to help with the search, thought they would also have a vacancy announcement out on their own website by Friday; I'm not sure if that occurred. Things are moving forward.

With that the ED Search Committee has had two meetings, with the most recent on August 10th. Future meetings have been scheduled as follows:

- August 24
- Sept. 7
- Sept. 18
- September 28 (if the committee needs it)

The draft timeline proposed by Interim Executive Director Kirk Robinson is still being used, but there is acknowledgement that if needed the process will extend beyond Kirk's tenure as Interim ED. If that happens a new interim ED will likely be selected at the Commission meeting in September.

The Conservation Commission heard the concerns of partners & cooperators that this search for its new ED needed to have more openness and transparency. As such, the Commission decided that the search needed to be conducted by an entity who specialized in such things, hence the hiring of Reffett Associates. Moreover, the composition of the ED Search Committee was posted in the August 3rd "Five Things to Know" and you likely noticed that the members are split 50:50 between commissioners and CD representatives. Of course, the argument could be made that the composition was tilted toward CDs as Larry Cochrane and I are also CD supervisors!

I know the process may seem to be somewhat cumbersome (vetting by Reffett Associates, multiple interviews of people who made it thru the screening, and then a recommendation by the Search Committee to the Commission) but the hope is by going through this process methodically, the Conservation Commission will end up with a top-quality ED. Believe in the process and allow it to work.

In closing, I want to say that I will try to keep folks in the know, but I'm not entirely free to do so. Everyone on the Search Committee had to sign a confidentiality agreement. There are some things I will simply not be able to divulge. Please stay tuned...

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## Recent Posts on the Hub

- [Lewis Conservation District Joins Farm Bureau Tour of Agriculture](#)
- [Northeast Area Meeting](#)
- [Southeast Area Meeting](#)
- [State Conservation Commission Seeking Executive Director](#)
- [New variant EG.5 is on the rise as Covid-19 cases and hospitalizations go up | CNN](#)
- [DNR Policy Advisor Position](#)

See the full list of Recent Posts at <https://hub.wadistricts.org/posts/>. Many news articles that mention Washington State conservation districts are [shared on Flipboard](#). In the [WACD Reading List](#) we capture many articles of interest to segments of our community.

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