



WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION TITLE: Gaining CD Eligibility for RCO Land Acquisition Grants

SPONSORING ENTITY/IES CD(s): EKCD

AREA: NW SW NC SC NE SE

RESOLUTION TYPE:

- Policy
- Position Statement
- Recognition
- Study

RESOLUTION ACTION AGENCY (check any option that applies):

- WACD
- WSCC
- OTHER STATE AGENCY _____
- NRCS
- NACD (See Page 2)
- NON-STATE/FEDERAL PARTNER _____

TYPE OF TEXT OF RESOLUTION (check all boxes that apply):

- Technical (changes address grammar, punctuation, sentence flow and makes **NO** substantive change(s) to the existing policy.
- Substantive change to existing policy. If in doubt, check the box.
- New policy.

BACKGROUND DESCRIBING THE ISSUE/PROBLEM STATEMENT:

Natural resources are increasingly being acquired by state and non-profit entities and structures like community forests. Locally led conservation districts are the go-to resource for grass roots conservation of natural resources. Conservation Districts have the technical capability to assist landowners with management, restoration, and conservation of natural resources. Conservation Districts could be a valued resource for communities looking to conserve lands through public ownership while retaining the ability to manage the land locally, but conservation districts are not eligible for the primary source of land acquisition grants through the Washington Recreation and Conservation Offices' Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. This leaves little opportunity for locally led public lands acquisition and communities must work through state agencies to try to have influence on local public lands management. This can be an expensive and time consuming process with uncertain outcomes.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION LANGUAGE:

WACD shall work with CD's, RCO and legislators to develop legislative language to change RCO's WWRP eligibility requirements to include CD in the list of eligible grant applicants. WACD shall report back to



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WACD members with a strategy to accomplish the eligibility changes by April 30, 2024 with a goal to implement the change by July 1, 2025

IS THERE A WACD FINANCIAL IMPLICATION TO IMPLEMENT THE POLICY? (Funding required, staff time, etc.)

NO

YES (briefly explain):

If the proposed resolution is to be adopted by NACD complete the sections below to the best of your ability. If the resolution is adopted at the state level, please reach out to the NACD National Director for assistance in finalizing this form.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION LANGUAGE:

If this resolution is adopted by NACD and included in the NACD Policy book it must clearly and concisely, using active verbs, state the specific action(s) expected of NACD; must be based on fact, avoiding opinions and beliefs; the statement should make sense even without the background. (THIS IS GENERALLY NOT WHERE A "WHEREAS" STATEMENT WOULD GO)

SPONSOR(S) ACTIONS TO DATE: (What has been done to address the issue; which agencies and organizations have addressed it also.)

IMPACT ON EXISTING NACD POLICY (if any): (Review NACD Policy Book for existing policies covering this issue.)

IF APPROPRIATE, POTENTIAL FISCAL IMPACT ON NACD'S OR A FEDERAL AGENCY BUDGET:

(E.g., travel, training, equipment, etc.)

MEETING AND DATE ADOPTED BY SPONSORING ENTITY: (E.g., WACD annual meeting date)

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE(S) AND TITLE(S): (Type name and Title)

WACD National Director (NACD board member)