**RESOLUTION**

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| **RESOLUTION TITLE: Improved Cost Share for virtual fence development** |

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| **SPONSORING ENTITY/IES CD(s): Foster Creek Conservation District** |

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| **AREA:** 🞏NW 🞏SW ◼NC 🞏SC 🞏NE 🞏SE |

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| **RESOLUTION TYPE:**  ◼ **Policy**  🞏 **Position Statement**  🞏 **Recognition**  🞏 **Study** |

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| **RESOLUTION ACTION AGENCY** (check any option that applies):  **🞏 WACD**  **◼ WSCC**  **🞏 OTHER STATE AGENCY \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **◼ NRCS**  **🞏 NACD (See Page 2)**  **◼ NON-STATE/FEDERAL PARTNER \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |

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| **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. |

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| **BACKGROUND DESCRIBING THE ISSUE/PROBLEM STATEMENT:**  Foster Creek Conservation District has been working within the virtual fencing pilot program through the Washington Shrub Steppe Recovery and Resilience Initiative (WSRRI) over the last year. Virtual fencing is growing in popularity and has the potential to continue to grow. It is proven to provide significant habitat benefits to species of concern in our project area and beyond. However, available funding sources don’t fit all aspects and timelines associated with the program. Currently, available funds are not conducive to the long roll out times and annual subscription format of the cow collar rental. To sufficiently cover early adoption of this technology in a way that works for producers and agencies conducting technical assistance, a longer-term and more flexible funding mechanism is needed to meet the three-year design life.  Additionally, this practice is not an NRCS standalone practice. The lack of inclusion of this practice limits the funding availability to help incentivize its adoption. |

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| **PROPOSED RESOLUTION LANGUAGE:**  We recommend that the WSCC and any other potential stakeholders within the virtual fencing sector look at existing funding sources to assess whether other funding options are available to sustain the collar subscription throughout the three-year life of the project. Further more, we recommend that WSCC, through applicable programs such as WSRRI, NRI, and others, explore opportunities to directly engage virtual fence vendors to discuss better funding scenarios that could help support the adoption and understanding of this technology within Washington State.  Additionally, work towards the inclusion of this as a designated practice should be done to expand funding availability and provide more accessible funding sources with longer design life opportunities. We support further development of this technology as an adopted standalone practice within the NRCS tech notes and as applicable within EQIP and other related producer programs. |

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| **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.**

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| **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) |

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

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| **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.) |

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

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| AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE(S) AND TITLE(S): (Type name and Title)  WACD National Director (NACD board member) |

We support the development of the virtual fence practices

NRCS to include virtual fencing as an equip practice

This includes the adoption of the NRCS of a standalone practice for the virtual fence practice.

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