



Dear Friends,

The Okanogan Conservation District Board members and staff are proud to serve the residents of Okanogan County each and every day. We are committed to offering excellent conservation assistance on a voluntary, non-regulatory basis. In 2013, we worked collaboratively with landowners and partner agencies around Okanogan County to complete many conservation projects, and began the planning and design for future projects. We also had a tremendous year for our public outreach activities. Some of our most successful projects are highlighted here.

We are looking forward to 2014 bringing the same success. To start the year off with a fresh new look we are substituting our Winter newsletter edition with this New Year's letter. We want to make sure you are informed of our services and activities, and we invite you to give us feedback on our services. What are we doing well, what do we need to improve? Your input is invaluable! It helps us establish priorities and develop our work assignments for the coming year. We pride ourselves on listening to the needs of our cooperators as we work with them to develop conservation plans and projects; now we need to hear from all of you on how our services are helping you. Reach us at 509-422-0855 ext 5, or ocd@okanogand.org

Sincerely,

Craig T. Nelson, District Manager

FIREWISE OKANOGAN

Partners: Department of Natural Resources and Okanogan County

- **Chiliwist** residents organized to become Okanogan County's first official Firewise Community.
- **186** people attended Firewise presentations.
- **1,910** people visited our Firewise booth at the Okanogan County Fair, local Farmers Markets, and other venues.
- **22** landowners received **free** wildfire risk assessments.



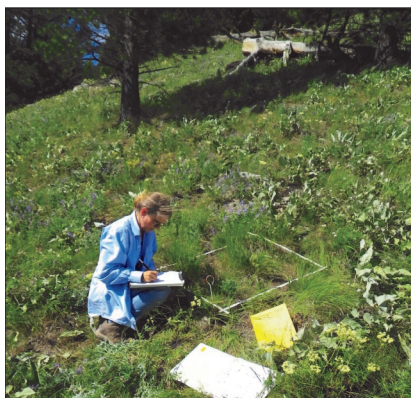
The Chiliwist community celebrated their Firewise Communities USA recognition in September 2013.

2014 Goal: 3 new Firewise Communities.

RANGE CONDITION MONITORING

Partner: Department of Natural Resources

- 60 range transects evaluated and documented.
- Data will lead to first range condition report for state trust lands in almost a decade. Collecting this data at regular intervals allows DNR to track the trends in range condition and manage accordingly.



Getting into the field is the best part of being a conservation professional!

As expected, there were some significant changes in range condition over the course of 9 years. Left: 2004; right: 2013

Two of our Board Supervisors were honored by the Washington Association of Conservation Districts in 2013.



Lorah Super: Wayne Reid "Young Tiger" Award.



Albert Roberts (left): President's Award. For his dedicated volunteer service as a WACD officer above and beyond his local Conservation District responsibilities.

You Are Invited!

Conservation Celebration

Wednesday, February 19, 5-8 pm

Appetizers & Trivia Contest: 5-6 pm

Awards Dinner: 6-8 pm

Keynote Speaker:

Dennis Carlton, Smallwood Farms

Okanogan Grange Hall, 305 Tye Street

\$17 for dinner; pay at door

Please **RSVP by February 10**

509-422-0855 ext. 111 or

kims@okanogand.org

*Happy 2014 from the
Okanogan Conservation
District!*

Okanogan, WA 98840

1251 S. 2nd Avenue Room 102

Okanogan Conservation District

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID PERMIT #1
WENATCHEE WA

OKANOGAN RIVER FISH SCREENS

Partners: Colville Confederated Tribes & Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board

- **38** irrigation pump screens installed in 2013
- **14** additional screens planned and ready to install in 2014

2014 Goal: 35 screens replaced



From this (non-compliant screen that doesn't protect threatened fish species)...



...to this (brand new, fish-friendly, self-cleaning, and 100% grant funded)!