

# Department of Ecology Makes Changes to Stream Gauging Sites

- Jenni Remillard, OCD

The Okanogan Conservation District has been assisting the WA Dept of Ecology with stream gauging sites for many years. Approximately every six weeks, a hydrologist makes a trip to Okanogan County and an OCD staff member assists them with data collection in the field. Sites monitored in the past have included Tunk Creek, Omak Creek, North Fork Salmon Creek, Sinlahekin Creek, Toats Coulee, Similkameen River, Antoine Creek, and Bonaparte Creek. This usually required a two to three day trip. The Dept of Ecology recently announced the removal of North Fork Salmon and Toats Coulee.



The purpose of stream gauging is to monitor flow and temperature to better forecast water supplies for people and fish.

Small streams are easily monitored by wading the streams and using a flow meter. The flow meter measures passing particles to determine stream velocity. The depth, width, and temperature of the stream are also recorded. If a stream or river is too large to wade, a StreamPro ADCP (Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler) can be used. The StreamPro is pulled slowly across the river from a bridge and works much in the same way as the flow meter. It sends out a signal to gauge the depth and then sends a signal to a hand held device which records the data.



Additionally, data are also gathered from gauging stations. These small round structures house equipment that is constantly monitoring the stream and uploading that data to a satellite, which can then be downloaded by Dept of Ecology staff. To measure the depth of the stream, an underwater pipe releases a small bubble of air. The station records how much pressure is required to release this bubble which it then uses to calculate the water depth. The stations are battery and solar powered.



By monitoring these streams, the Dept of Ecology can determine the available in-stream resources (for fish) and the available out of stream resources (for people). The driving forces behind the increasing need for accurate and timely stream flow data are The Endangered Species Act (ESA), salmon recovery efforts, and an increased focus on water resource management.

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OCD Survey, we want your input!

# Meet the Okanogan Conservation District Board of Supervisors

The Board consists of five voting Supervisors and several non-voting Associate Supervisors who oversee the District's activities. Three of the five voting Supervisors are elected, the remaining two are appointed by the Washington State Conservation Commission. Each voting Supervisor position is a three year term. One voting Supervisor position is up for election each year. The District runs its elections according to RCW 89.08 and Washington State Conservation Commission Elections policies.

Registered voters that live within the Okanogan Conservation District's boundaries may vote in each election. The next election will be in February; check our website for details. [www.okanogand.org](http://www.okanogand.org)



*Current board, left to right; Jerry Asmussen, Lorah Super, Wes Hover, Albert Roberts, Ivan Oberg*

Ivan Oberg has been with the Board since 1987. Ivan currently serves as Chair. Born and raised in Okanogan County, Ivan has been farming all his life.

Jerry Asmussen has been with the Board since 2010 and is currently the Vice Chair. He is a life long rancher who has lived in Okanogan County for 40 years. He has a Bachelor's of Science in Animal Sciences and a Bachelor's of Science in Agricultural Economics. He has served with the Washington Cattlemen's Association and the Okanogan County Cattlemen in several positions. He is also the director for the Hamilton Youth Foundation and is on the Tonasket School Board.

Albert Roberts has been with the Board since 2002 and is co-owner of Pine Stump Farms LLC, a diversified

farm with timber, hay, livestock (horses, beef, chickens, goats), and goat dairy specializing in both fresh and aged cheese. He has a Bachelor of Science in Forestry and a Bachelor in Range from WSU. Albert is also the president of the local Slow Foods Chapter, Lecturer for the Okanogan Grange, Chair of the Okanogan County Planning Commission, and Treasurer of the WA Association of Conservation Districts. Albert is the District Auditor for the Board.

Lorah Super began serving on the Board in 2010. She has a Bachelor of Science in Natural Resource Policy and Management from the University of MI School of Natural Resources. Lorah has managed a 40 acre homestead in the pine/shrub-steppe of the lower Methow Valley since 2001. She and her husband currently raise and train draft horses and mules. Lorah has been Manager of the Methow Forest Owners' Cooperative and Forestry Program Manager for Okanogan Communities Development Council (OCDC) since 2003. She is also Chair of the Methow Community Wildfire Protection Committee, Appointed Member of the Okanogan-Wenatchee NF Provincial Advisory Committee, and a Methow Valley representative on the Okanogan County Fire Plan Committee. In 2006, she authored the Methow Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

Wes Hover also began serving on the Board in 2010. He was born in Brewster and has lived in the Methow Valley for 32 years. He has a Bachelor's in History, a Bachelor's in Communications, and a certificate in American Indian Studies all from WSU. He has a family farm in Winthrop raising alfalfa. Wes's father is Okanogan County Commissioner Bud Hover.

Our Board Members are proud to serve the residents of Okanogan County. All Okanogan Conservation District Board meetings are open to the public and are held on the first Thursday of every month (except December - second Thursday). Meetings are in the conference room of the USDA Service Center building in Okanogan, where our office is located. Check our website for times. Winter meetings begin at 4pm, summer meetings begin at 6pm.

## Okanogan Conservation District Photo Contest!

“Picture it; Capture the Seasons of  
Conservation”

The Okanogan Conservation District will be hosting a year-long photo contest with the theme of “Conservation, Agriculture, and Natural Resources in Okanogan County.” Each month, the District will release three words that we feel embodies that month. Photographers will then have the opportunity to send in pictures that they feel capture the spirit of the month in those words. We tried to choose words that are fairly abstract and these words are merely a guide, photographers are free to use other inspiration as well. The only requirements are that the photos are from Okanogan County and relate to conservation, agriculture, or natural resources. The winning photos for each month will be compiled into a calendar to be released in 2012. Each monthly winner will receive a free calendar and be credited in the calendar. Calendars will be available for purchase as well.

**Words for November are:**  
Frosty, Fallow, and Feast

Keep checking our website each month for new words. [www.okanogand.org](http://www.okanogand.org)

**Submission deadlines will be on a rolling basis. For example, the deadline for November pictures will be November 30, 2010, December pictures December 31, 2010 etc. All ages welcome, up to three submissions per person per month are allowed.**

Send photos to Jenni at [jennir@okanogand.org](mailto:jennir@okanogand.org)  
Please mail a submission form to Jenni Remillard, 1251 S 2nd Ave, Okanogan WA 98840 (Forms can be found on our website [www.okanogand.org](http://www.okanogand.org) or email Jenni for a form)

Judging will be by Okanogan Conservation District staff. District staff, supervisors, and their immediate families are not eligible to enter.

*All submissions become the property of the Okanogan Conservation District. By submitting your photo, you are releasing it to us to use and reproduce as we see fit. Any other use by you or other parties would require permission from the District.*

## Manager's Note

- Craig Nelson

As you can see from the articles in this newsletter the Okanogan Conservation District is involved in many arenas of natural resource conservation. Our involvement with farmers and ranchers remains a high priority and we are very active in that arena with livestock projects, irrigation efficiency projects, and pump screening. We have been increasing our involvement in salmon recovery projects with the pump screening program, bank stabilization projects, and culvert replacement projects. Finally, we started expanding into new areas such as alternative energy and backyard conservation activities for landowners who have smaller acreages or are simply not agricultural producers.

With a breadth of programs such as these and the size and diversity of Okanogan County, it is imperative that we hear from you, our community members, about what you think are the highest natural resource priorities. We will be updating our Long Range Plan early next year and we want your input. We need to hear from as many people as possible about what they believe our natural resource concerns are, if there are geographic priorities, and how we can best serve you and your neighbors with your conservation needs.

Please take the time to fill out our survey either on paper and send it in to us or go on-line at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RXJP9KK> to fill it out. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and we look forward to improving what we can and keeping the things we do well.

### *Celebrate with Us!*

The Okanogan Conservation District will hold its annual Cooperator Appreciation Banquet on February 23, 2011. The District will honor the Cooperator of the Year and review the year's accomplishments. The annual District volunteer board member elections will be held at that time as well and are open to the public. Keep an eye on our website for details or contact Laura Clark at [lclark@okanogand.org](mailto:lclark@okanogand.org) or 509-422-0855 ext 127 for election details. Time and location will be in our next newsletter. Please come out and vote!

# Mud No More

## Keeping up with Mud Management in your Pasture

- Jenni Remillard OCD



While Okanogan County receives much less rain than the west side, mud can still become a problem in winter and spring. If you are thinking about

putting in a pasture or have a pasture that has mud issues, remember **LAST**. Location, Animal waste, Soil, and Traffic all contribute to mud issues in your pasture.

- **Location** – Know the lay of your land and work with it, not against it. If there is an area that gets very wet every spring, it might not be the best place to put a pasture that you plan on grazing in the spring.
- **Animal waste** – Manure tends to hold onto water. If there is a lot of manure in your pasture, it can add to the problem. Manure can also cause health issues for your animals or drain into nearby waterways and create a water quality issue.
- **Soil type** – Sandy soils drain better than heavier silty or clay soils.
- **Traffic** – How often is the area used? If you have a gate or feeding area that gets a lot of traffic, there are some things you can do to keep the mud down.

### Mud Management Solutions

When considering the factors above, there are several things that can be done to try to keep mud to a minimum. The location of the pasture is important. If you are going to put in a pasture, make sure you know where water ends up on your property. Also, try to choose a site with soils that drain well. If your pasture is already established and you are having mud issues, you can try rotational grazing. By rotating your animals, you keep your pastures from being overgrazed. Keeping your

pasture vegetated is a good way to fight mud. If there is snow on the ground, rotating where you feed is also a good option. If rotation is not possible, designate a “heavy use” area. For high traffic areas, you can add sand, wood chips, gravels or other materials to help reduce mud. Locate this area on higher ground and away from water bodies and wetlands. You can also plant vegetation around your pasture that will help soak up excess moisture.



Population density is also important. Lots of animals can equal lots of mud. Overcrowding can lead to herd health problems and excessive manure can be removed to help alleviate those problems. Consider what type of animals you will have and how much forage they will need. Proper pasture management can also save money by avoiding the cost of extra feed and potential vet bills.

Good pasture management benefits everyone. You save money, your animals live in a healthy environment, and water quality issues are reduced or eliminated. If you are interested in pasture management, please contact us. Our excellent technical staff will be glad to assist you in your conservation goals and we often have cost share available.



## The OCD Wants Your Opinion on Natural Resource Concerns

The Okanogan Conservation District is asking you to rate the quality and quantity of its programs and how well we delivered them over the past year. We are also asking you in which areas of the county we should concentrate our activities. Of utmost importance is what you think are the most important natural resource management concerns in Okanogan County. This is not just idle curiosity. The District will formulate both its short and long-term operations plans that direct which resource concerns are addressed by its conservation technical staff when working with landowners and how we go about providing this technical assistance and cost share funding. These plans will help determine the specific funding sources for which the District will apply to pay for the technical assistance and cost share it provides to its cooperators.

So let us know what you think about how and what we have been doing. More importantly, however, this is your opportunity to shape the Okanogan Conservation District's work plan for several years to come and address resource concerns important to you. Please complete and return the survey form included in this newsletter before December 15th. Alternatively, you can fill out the survey on-line at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RXJP9KK>. Either way, we look forward to hearing from you.

### Save a tree; we are online!

If you would like to receive an email-only version of our newsletter, please contact us at [ocd@okanogancd.org](mailto:ocd@okanogancd.org)

You can also find current and past newsletters on our website [www.okanogancd.org](http://www.okanogancd.org)

## Calendar of Events

Nov 25 - 26th	OCD office closed for Thanksgiving
Dec 9, 4PM	OCD Board meeting
Dec 24th and 31st	OCD office closed for holiday
Jan 6, 4PM	OCD Board meeting
Jan 7	Last day to order plants for spring plant sale.

## Upcoming Methow Conservancy Events

**December 7th:** Emperor Penguins: Elite Divers of the Bird World, 7:00-8:30pm at the Twisp River Pub.

**January 4th:** 1st Tuesday program -Predicting Climate Change in the Methow Valley, 7:00 – 8:30 at the Twisp River Pub, with speakers Katy Stuart and Asako Yamamuro; location TBA.



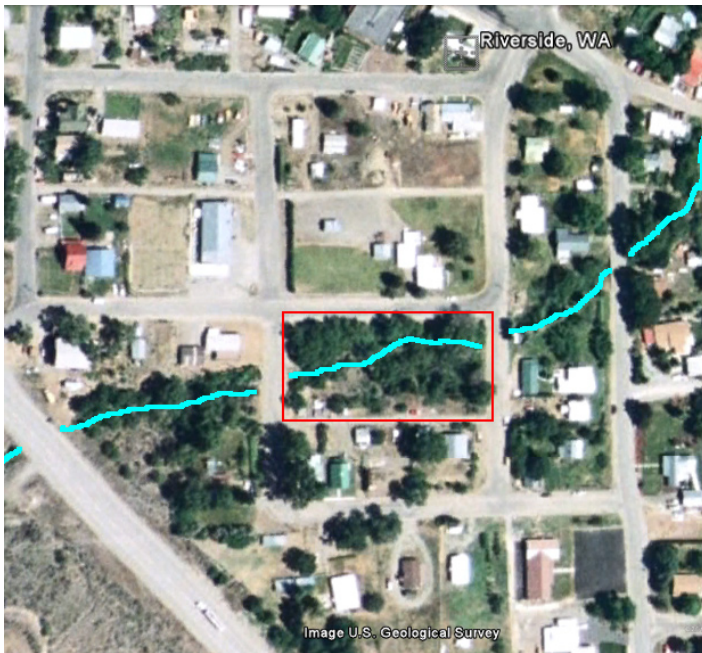
# Rehab in Riverside

- Kelly Kolrud, OCD



In early spring 2010, the Okanogan Conservation District was approached by the town of Riverside with questions regarding a potential elm removal project near Johnson Creek, and were happy to see what we could do to help. A portion of Johnson Creek, a tributary to the Okanogan, runs through the town of Riverside. 600 feet of creek is bordered by a city street on one side and privately owned property on the other. The area surrounding the creek has been invaded by 88 Chinese elms, a highly invasive, non-native deciduous tree that is seen throughout our county, particularly around water bodies. Because elms are invasive in nature, they tend to overrun sites and prevent the establishment of native species. Healthy populations of native species are important because they provide adequate food and shelter to our wildlife.

In the winter months, falling limbs from the elms have caused road safety issues for the town of Riverside, so something had to be done. Over the past 10 months the Okanogan Conservation District, the town of Riverside, and a private landowner have been working together on a plan to remedy the safety issue while still maintaining protection to the creek and resident wildlife. In October the plan was approved by our board of supervisors, appropriate permits were obtained and actual implementation could begin.



The town of Riverside was able to recruit volunteers for the removal of the elms, which is taking place this fall. The Conservation District, with the willingness of the adjacent landowner, was able to secure funding via a grant from the Washington State Conservation Commission to help pay for the native plants and shrubs that will be used to re-vegetate the area. The plants were carefully chosen to ensure site suitability, provide food and shelter for wildlife, and provide shade for the creek.

The red box outlines the project area. Elms within this area will be removed and native vegetation planted.

With the help of local volunteers, the planting will take place in early spring 2011. If you are interested in volunteering to help with the planting portion of the project please contact Kelly Kolrud at [kellyk@okanogand.org](mailto:kellyk@okanogand.org) for more details; the more the merrier!



# OCD to Host Regional Envirothon Competition

The Okanogan Conservation District will host high school teams from around North Central Washington for the annual regional Envirothon competition in April. Teams of five will compete against each other in tests of knowledge on forestry, soils, wildlife, aquatics and a current environmental issue. The 2011 topic is Fresh and Salt Water Estuaries. Winning teams will compete in the Washington State Envirothon in May. The state winning team will go on to compete at the North American Envirothon which is in New Brunswick, Canada for 2011. Registration is currently open; if you are a teacher or high school student and want to know more, please contact Jenni Remillard at [jennir@okanogand.org](mailto:jennir@okanogand.org) or 509-422-0855 ext 100.

## Learning to Restore Our Rivers

- Christy Cincotta, OCD

The Okanogan Conservation District recently sent two staff members to learn riparian restoration techniques from experts at a Streambank Soil Bioengineering Technical Workshop, held in Twisp, WA.



Sponsored by the Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation in cooperation with the Bureau of Reclamation, the workshop took place at the Twisp Valley Grange. The two instructors were J. Chris Hoag, a wetland ecologist, and Ed Giering, a riparian engineer. The workshop provided a great opportunity for students to explore techniques in bioengineering treatments for streambank restoration, stabilization and erosion control. Students enrolled in the course represented various professions and agencies and included engineers, conservation planners, landowners, and botanists.

The first two days of the course took place in the classroom and focused on the foundation of riparian dynamics, including stream dynamics, hydrology, sediment transportation, and riparian revegetation concepts. On the third day, students got the chance to go out to a restoration site and put their new knowledge to use. The restoration site was an area on the Twisp River owned by the Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation. Under the guidance of the instructors and trained professionals, students worked on several techniques such as installing brushmats, live cuttings, vertical bundles, and other restoration practices. OCD staff members came away from the workshop with a deeper understanding of stream restoration techniques and the important role of integrating plants in projects along the river's edge, and left ready to implement their new knowledge to restore streams in Okanogan County.



# A BAR FOR FISH??

- CHRIS FISHER, COLVILLE TRIBAL FISHERIES

Amid-channel bar made of river rock and gravel—not one encircled with padded stools and containing libations – was constructed in the Okanogan River at the confluence of Salmon Creek during early October. Salmon Creek, as the name implies, historically contained locally-renowned runs of salmon and steelhead. Since the turn of the century, flow in the creek has been diverted for irrigating agricultural lands.



In 1997 the Colville Tribes and the Okanogan Irrigation District formed a partnership to consider reconnecting Salmon Creek to the Okanogan River while maintaining agriculture production. After several years of considering many options, the Tribes and District developed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) in which water would be leased from the Okanogan Irrigation District and strategically released to meet the migration timing for summer steelhead, a species currently listed as “threatened”. To extend the duration of the leased water, in 2008 the Tribe constructed a low-flow channel which allows fish to access the stream at a flow rate of 10 cfs, rather than the 25 cfs previously required by the unconfined channel.

After the construction of the low-flow channel, one problematic area remained at the mouth of Salmon Creek, where an estimated 5,000 cubic yards of unstable cobbles and boulders had settled. A design to stabilize this lowermost reach of Salmon Creek, ensure reliable fish passage, and minimize the reoccurrence of stream bed deposition was developed by Woody Trihey, P.E. of Entrix, Inc.

The design included the removal of the 5,000 cubic yards of unconsolidated material, construction of a defined low-flow channel and two streambed control structures, and the development of a mid-channel bar. Optimum-size gravels for summer Chinook salmon spawning were sorted from the removed material and placed on the upstream side of the bar. Furthermore, the mid-channel bar was oriented to create high velocities at the mouth of Salmon Creek which will transport sand and gravels downriver and maintain channel conditions for summer steelhead to access Salmon Creek with relative ease.

So although the mid-channel bar at the mouth of Salmon Creek does not include “spirits,” if the 200+ adult steelhead that returned to Salmon Creek during this past spring are any indication, the biological benefit is likely to be intoxicating.

## Success at the Fair!

The Okanogan Conservation District’s booth at the 2010 Okanogan County Fair had a substantial increase in visitors this year with over 2000 people over four days. The booth this year featured conservation models, a geologic display, a weed identification challenge, free raffle, and a slide show of projects among others. The live tadpoles and frogs on display were a big hit. Thanks to everyone who came out to see us!





# Forest Ecology: From the Valley Floor to the Pacific Crest

## Seventh Annual Methow Conservancy Conservation Course

**Mondays, January 31st – March 7th at the Twisp River Pub**



Join the Methow Conservancy for another fascinating 6-week tour of the Methow Valley – this year through the lens of the FOREST. The once-weekly evening class, hosted by the Methow Conservancy at the Twisp River Pub beginning January 31st, will cover the basics of forest ecosystems

and types, and explore the mysteries of forest life in the Methow Valley. We will spend time learning about the scientific methods behind the complex information we know (and are still learning) about forest dynamics, and specifically look at the implications of climate change, disease and infestations, and water resources as they relate to all of the different elevational forest types in the Methow watershed. The class will cover forest botany, wildlife interactions, the little-known intricacies of the forest floor micro-world of insects, mushrooms and creatures of the forest duff, and much more. Weekly instructors will come from near and far, including local ecologists who know the local forests like the back of their hands, as well as visiting, cutting-edge research scientists. A complete syllabus will be available on [www.methowconservancy.org](http://www.methowconservancy.org).

The Methow Conservation Course was initiated in 2005 to take a Methow-specific look at natural history and translate that knowledge into both local and universal conservation-based themes. Now in its sixth year, the Methow Conservation Course is designed for both the novice and the experienced naturalist. The course is offered with the goal of inspiring more observation and knowledge of, interest in and connections with the natural world.

The course runs for six weeks from January 31st to March 7th with one class per week on Mondays from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the Twisp River Pub. An optional dinner is served from 5:30 – 6:00 for an additional fee.

The weeks of Valentine's Day and President's Day, class will meet on the Tuesdays, Feb. 15th and Feb. 22nd, instead of on the Mondays.

Tuition is \$125 for Methow Conservancy members. The tuition for non-members is \$150, which includes a discounted one-year membership. Need-based scholarships are available to a limited number of people who are able to help with the course (primarily before and after each class). A reduced or waived fee is available depending on the amount of volunteer hours committed.

We expect the course to fill quickly, as it does every year, so register soon! Contact Mary at [info@methowconservancy.org](mailto:info@methowconservancy.org) or 509-996-2870 if you have questions or would like to register.



### OCD Teams up with Okanogan High School Students

Several students from Okanogan High School have been assisting the Okanogan Conservation District with outreach projects. The District created several models of conservation projects for the County Fair which needed a protective box for storage and a clear viewing box. Students from the shop class are currently working on these projects.

In addition to the shop students, art student Hunter Sloan created several drawings which will be featured in one of the District's brochures on conservation. These brochures will be available at District events. Thanks to all these great students!

# Renewable Energy 101 & Okanogan Biomass

- Laura Clark, OCD



Economic stimulus, climate change/global warming, alternative energy/bioenergy, smart grid, infrastructure, carbon retention/carbon offset, biodiversity, forest health – these are just a few words that we may not have even understood the meaning of a few years ago, but have become commonly used terms today. What has become readily apparent is, in some instances, we cannot keep doing things as we always have. Our world is changing and we must adapt.

Bioenergy/renewable energy comes in many forms:



**Biomass** – Commonly called woody biomass or simply biomass, this is the utilization of wood residues from logging and wood processing operations to create energy. It can come in many forms, such as smaller limbs from trees obtained during logging operations or orchard pruning that cannot be used for lumber, firewood, or small diameter wood applications and would otherwise be burned or left to decay. It can also be residues from lumber mills, small diameter wood utilization, and other wood processing operations.



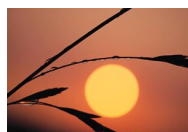
**Biofuels** – These are fuels derived from seed crops, trees, other vegetation, and even from recycled oil from restaurants. These primarily consist of methanol and ethanol, but there are various other forms of bio-oils with some still being discovered and created. These fuels can then be combined with diesel to create bio-diesel or to directly fuel other machinery through regular and modified generators.



**Algae** – Algae is a strong and consistent product to derive bio-oils and create biofuels, but much more research is needed to make it cost effective. Some advantages of algae are that it can be produced using ocean and wastewater on land that is not suitable for agriculture. It is also relatively harmless if spilled.



**Wind** – We all know what wind is. Wind is being harnessed primarily with an upgraded version of windmills. Windmills come in various sizes, technologies, and even in unique locations.



**Solar** – Solar is the harnessing of the sun's rays. Solar panels have been around for quite some time. However, various new technologies are making these more efficient.



**Tidal** – Tidal is the harnessing of the energy in waves and ocean movement. It also includes utilizing the energy difference created between the cooler temperatures of the water versus the warmer temperature of the air. Many new technologies are emerging in this field.

The Okanogan County Biomass Partnership focused its efforts on woody biomass to energy and completed a biomass feasibility study in 2007. That study concluded we had a sufficient wood supply in Okanogan County to sustain an energy facility. However, transportation distances with high gasoline prices and the very low cost of electricity in our area did not make the utilization of biomass for energy financially feasible at that time. We also recognized that securing a long term supply of wood would be critical in sustaining an energy facility.

In the three years since the Okanogan study was completed, technology has advanced tremendously. The nation has recognized the need to put greater effort into supporting the advancement of renewable energy. Funding to create alternative energy operations has increased. The U.S. Forest Service and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources have created new policies to enter into long-term agreements with industry to secure biomass from their forest health activities.

Unfortunately, Okanogan County has also lost a lot

# Renewable Energy 101 & Okanogan Biomass, cont.

of its infrastructure with the closing of the two mills and pellet plant in Omak. Consequently, loggers and equipment operators have very little work left to sustain their operations and our county is in jeopardy of losing that portion of the infrastructure as well.

On a brighter note, entrepreneurs are emerging with small, independent, and varying operations. Although each would create a small operation, many of these activities combined could go a long way to rebuild our infrastructure.



*Instead of burning, a biomass operation could put this scrap wood to use.*

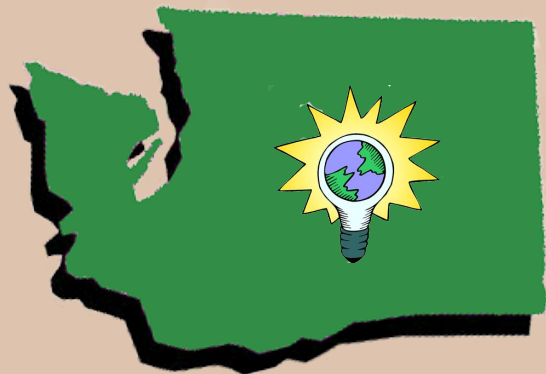
Recently a group of north central Washington agency and organization folks have come together to collaborate and share information with one another to further each of their efforts and discover where they may be able to combine those efforts. Each group is in a different phase of their process and the information sharing is vital to furthering the work of each group.

State and federal level efforts include much of the same information sharing and in some cases, additional funding. The Washington State University and the University of Washington are heavily involved in research and are assisting projects throughout the state.

At the Future Energy Conference recently held in Seattle, experts and project leaders came together to learn more about the evolving science and technology, projects, and to form new partnerships and networking chains. Governor Gregoire addressed the attendees and shared her vision and encouragement. The governor had previously stated her directive to create 25,000 green jobs in Washington State by 2020 while others indicated it could not be done. The result was 100,000+ green jobs were created by 2010.

Governor Gregoire talked about her efforts to create new trade agreements with other countries. Germany's Mercedes Benz was excited to hear about our state's intention to create electric car charging stations along the I-5 corridor. China was also interested in investing in the efforts of Washington companies to create new renewable energy projects. When she asked why they didn't invest in their own companies' efforts, they stated that Washington residents and companies are innovators – Washington State is known for our creative and innovative thinking (i.e. Boeing, Microsoft, etc).

Are you an innovator or entrepreneur? Have you got an idea for a renewable energy project, but don't know how to proceed? Please contact Laura Clark (509) 422-0855 ext. 127 with your ideas for a confidential brainstorming on how to move your project forward and perhaps even create beneficial partnerships with others. Let's continue to show the world that Washington residents are indeed creative and innovative!



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**Okanogan Conservation District**  
Providing local leadership through educational, technical, and financial assistance to landowners to help them voluntarily conserve and enhance natural resources for over 65 years.

**WSU Okanogan County Extension**  
Washington State University Extension engages people, organizations and communities to advance knowledge, economic well-being and quality of life by fostering inquiry, learning, and the application of research.

Extension programs and employment are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension office.

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