LOCALLY LED DISASTER RESPONSE

Craig Nelson – Okanogan Conservation District Manager
TALE OF TWO DISASTERS
PERSONAL STORY
DO OR DO NOT, THERE IS NO TRY
Participating agencies set aside their usual roles to support the common goal.
LESSONS LEARNED
WHAT IS WORKING WELL NOW
Interlocal Agreement
Between
Okanogan Conservation District
And
Whatcom Conservation District

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into between the Okanogan Conservation District (OCD) and the Whatcom Conservation District (WCD) (CONSERVATION DISTRICTS) as public agencies pursuant to the Inter-local Cooperation Act, RCW 39.34.

WHEREAS, the CONSERVATION DISTRICTS' enabling statute, RCW 89.08 was adopted in 1939 to meet "a pressing need for the conservation of renewable resources in all arable state, whether urban, suburban, or rural, and that the benefits of resource practices, and projects ... "; and

WHEREAS, the CONSERVATION DISTRICTS recognize that by taking cooperative coordinated action with the COMMISSION and WACD they can improve the overall efficacy and economy of their programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual benefits to be derived from this Agreement, OCD and WCD agree as follows:

September 9, 2015

The Honorable Hal Rogers, Chairman House Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Thad Cochran, Chairman Senate Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Ken Calvert, Chairman House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee
The Honorable Lisa Murkowski, Chairman Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee

The Honorable Nita Lowey, Ranking Member House Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Barbara Mikulski, Ranking Member Senate Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Betty McCollum, Ranking Member House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee
The Honorable Tom Udall, Ranking Member Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee

Dear Chairman Rogers, Chairman Cochran, Chairman Calvert, Chairman Murkowski, Ranking Member Lowey, Ranking Member Mikulski, Ranking Member McCollum and Ranking Member Udall:

The catastrophic wildfires engulfing western states this summer are further proof of the need for Congress to support the management of our nation's forestslands in a collaborative effort of federal agencies, industry and the local residents most directly affected by these fires.
FUTURE NEEDS
Overstocked unhealthy forest with high fire hazard, Peshastin

Same forest after thinning, pruning and slash treatment
THANK YOU

Craig Nelson
Okanogan Conservation District
1251 2nd Ave. South, Room 102
Okanogan, WA 98840

Phone: (509) 422-0855
Web: www.okanogancd.org

E-mail: craig@okanogancd.org