

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY AND
WALLA WALLA COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

1. **Parties:** This Agreement (Agreement) is between Washington State University, an institution of higher education and an agency of the state of Washington (WSU), and Walla Walla County Conservation District (District), a municipal corporation of the State of Washington.
2. **Purpose:**
 - a) WSU has been requested by the District to provide funds from WSU's Verle Kaiser Conservation Endowment Fund to complete the "Growing Minds: Outdoor Education Program" project, as set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference (Project).

WSU has determined that the Project is consistent with the purposes of the Verle Kaiser Conservation Endowment Fund.

The District agrees to execute and complete the Project in accordance with Exhibit A and the terms and conditions set forth herein.

THEREFORE, it is mutually agreed that:

3. Responsibilities of the Parties.

3.1 WSU will provide the following: \$4,450 (Four thousand four hundred and fifty dollars) from the Verle Kaiser Conservation Endowment Fund GF005228 to support this Project.

3.2 District will provide the following: An itemized invoice billing WSU for reimbursement at least quarterly, but not more often than monthly, to the following address:

Washington State University
Controller's Office
PO Box 641025
Pullman, WA 99164-1025

4. Period of Performance: Subject to its other provisions, this Agreement will be effective when the last signatory executed this Agreement and be completed on December 31, 2025 unless terminated sooner as provided herein.

5. Payments:

The amount of compensation under this Agreement shall be \$4,450.00 (four thousand four hundred fifty dollars) The source of the funding under this Agreement shall be the Verle Kaiser Conservation Endowment Fund. Payments will be made by WSU within thirty (30) days of approval of a properly completed invoice. Payments shall be made to:

Walla Walla Conservation District
Attn: Jenny Freer
325 N 13th Ave, Walla Walla, WA 99362

6. Independent Capacity: The employees or agents of each Party engaged in the performance of this Agreement will continue to be employees or agents of that Party and will not be considered for any purpose to be employees or agents of the other Party.

7. Termination: Either party may terminate this Agreement upon ninety (90) days prior written notice to the other party. Any compensation due to the parties as provided in the Agreement shall be prorated to the effective date of termination.

8. Amendments: This Agreement may be amended by mutual agreement of the Parties. Such amendment will be binding only if it is in writing and signed by personnel authorized to bind each of the Parties.

9. Dispute Resolution: If a dispute arises under this Agreement that the Parties cannot resolve, the dispute will be determined by a dispute panel in the following manner: each Party to this Agreement will appoint one member to the dispute panel. The members so appointed will jointly appoint one additional member to the dispute panel to make a panel of three members. The dispute board so constituted will review the facts, contract terms, and applicable statutes and rules and make a determination of the dispute. The determination of the dispute panel will be final and binding on the Parties. The Parties will share equally the costs, if any, for the services of the dispute panel.

10. Hold Harmless: Each Party to this Agreement shall be responsible for its own acts and/or omissions and those of its officers, employees, and agents in the performance of this Agreement. No Party to this Agreement shall be responsible for the acts and omissions of those entities or individuals not a Party to this Agreement.

11. Governing Law and Venue: This Agreement will be governed by the laws of the State of Washington without regard to the conflict of law rules of any jurisdiction. Every dispute concerning this Agreement must be resolved in the applicable courts in Whitman County, State of Washington. The Parties agree to the exclusive personal jurisdiction, subject matter jurisdiction, and venue of these courts.

12. Assignment: The work to be provided under this Agreement and any claim arising from this Agreement or performance of this Agreement is not assignable or delegable by either Party in whole or in part without the prior written consent of the other Party. Any assignment will be effective only if written, signed by the authorized representatives of each Party, and attached to this Agreement.

13. Notice: Any Notice required under this Agreement must be in writing, signed by the applicable Party, properly addressed to the contact person designated in this section, and: delivered in person, electronically or via facsimile to be effective upon receipt; delivered by recognized overnight courier service to be effective the next business day; or, deposited in the United States Postal Service mail, postage pre-paid, to be effective three (3) business days after mailing.

For WSU:

Name: Jean Canonica or Contracts Manager

College or Department: CAHNRS-CSANR

Address: 2606 W. Pioneer, Puyallup, WA 98371

E-mail Address: canonica@wsu.edu Telephone: (253) 445-4506

For District:

Name: Alison Crowley

Address: 325 N 13th Ave, Walla Walla, WA 99362

Email: alison.crowley@wwccd.net

Telephone: 509-956-3762

14. **Signatures:** The Parties affirm that the individuals signing this Agreement have been granted the authority to do so and by their signature affirm that the Parties will comply with the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

Washington State University

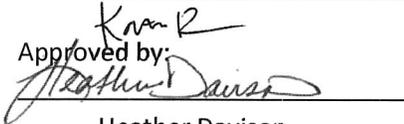
Recommended by:

Name: Katie Doonan

Title: CSANR Extension Coordinator

Date: 04/22/24

Approved by:



Heather Davison

Name: Contract Manager

Title: Procurement & Contract Services

Date: 4/18/2024

Walla Walla Conservation District

Recommended by:

Name: Alison Crowley

Title: Program Manager: Will Creek

Date: 04.23.2024

Approved by:



Name: Renee M. Hadley

Title: District Manager WWCCD

Date: 04.23.2024

VERLE KAISER CONSERVATION ENDOWMENT 2024

Project Title: Walla Walla County Conservation District

Growing Minds: Outdoor Education Program

Personnel:

Alison Crowley- Primary PI: Project Coordinator and Educator. Develop and teach curricula that are focused on soil erosion. Work and coordinate with schools/teachers for outdoor learning activities. Ordering supplies for planting events. 325 N 13th Ave, Walla Walla, WA 99362 (509) 956-3762 alison.crowley@wwccd.net

Jenny Freer- Processing financial components for the grant. Managing invoices and payments. 325 N 13th Ave, Walla Walla, WA 99362. (509) 956-3777 jenny.freer@wwccd.net

Justification:

Please provide an introduction to your proposal by explaining the issue or problem your project will address, and a justification of the methods you intend to employ. It is critical that you explain how your proposal addresses the target of this solicitation: promotion and demonstration of conservation practices targeting soil erosion.

Walla Walla County Conservation District (WWCCD) will use this grant to build upon the pilot program from '22-'23. The program will address the issue of our eroding streams due to increased flood activity and invasive species encroachment. The name of the program is Growing Minds. The program will be working again with the whole Dixie Elementary K-5th grade school. WWCCD will be collaborating with Tri-State Steelheaders, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), the Native Plant Society-Columbia Basin Chapter, and the Pheasants Forever Blue Mountain Chapter. The program will provide 17 youth, ages 6-11 years, with hands-on outdoor education focusing on riparian habitat, fish habitat, watershed science, and native plants within Walla Walla County. Growing Minds will take place in the fall and springtime to align with times of restoration activities. The focus is to plant along streambanks that have increased erosion issues from flooding and invasive species encroachment.

The Growing Minds Program's effort is to improve soil health and reduce soil erosion impacting the quality of the streams that flow through the urban and rural regions of Walla Walla. Preventing soil erosion and reduction of turbidity is accomplished by planting native trees, shrubs, and grasses. The native root systems work to stabilize the banks and hold in the soil within disturbed regions. These areas are called "riparian buffers." They are highly effective at preventing water

contaminated with pesticides, fertilizers, and other chemicals from entering our streams. When mature, the trees provide shade to keep water cool and offer wildlife habitat.

Objectives:

WWCCD will follow the NRCS practice code 391 Riparian forest buffer of 300 stems/acre. Each site will be approximately 0.5-1 acre. A total of at least 300 stems will be planted within the course of the 3 field trips.

Approach:

Provide sufficient detail on what you propose to do, INCLUDING a specific timeline with dates, and any evaluation of outcomes and impacts you intend to perform.

The program will be working with the whole elementary school, a total of 17 students, ranging in age from 6-11 years. Growing minds will provide hands-on lessons that will take place in the outdoors. Students will be actively planting native trees in various ecosystems that have bank erosion issues. The lessons will focus on riparian habitat, salmonid habitat, climate change, and watershed science within Walla Walla County. Students will be involved in 3 field trips: 2 in the fall and 1 in the spring before school ends. The fall field trips will consist of students planting trees at the Pheasants Forever restoration site near Dixie Elementary. The location of project sites will be located along the foothills of the Blues Mountains within Walla Walla County along stream banks. Students will revisit the previously planted sites along Mill Creek and along the foothills of the Blue Mountains. Students will collect data on the previously planted trees and assess the restoration sites. These lessons have been derived from the Project Learning Tree and ClimeTime, these lessons meet several Next Generation Science Standards. All project sites are located within Walla Walla County. The program's primary goal is to provide students with a hands-on contextual experience involving soil health, plant identification, water quality monitoring, and ecosystem assessment. Students will gain critical thinking skills, social-emotional learning skills, and how to care for the land.

Students will be given a survey to establish their baseline understanding of the subjects being addressed in the 3 field trips. At the end of the program, students will be given a mock watershed to evaluate climatic factors such as rainfall, temperature, and water levels. Using the ClimeTime lesson students will construct an argument with evidence that in a particular habitat, some organisms can survive well, some survive less well, and some cannot survive at all. This lesson NGSS is 3-LS4-3 Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity. Students will be actively planting trees in varied ecosystems throughout the year. The lesson will be a cumulation of all that they learned this school year. Students will pull on past knowledge to develop their argument. After the last field trip students will be given the same survey to assess their understanding of the lessons. This will give the educators insight into how to change or modify future programs.

Budget:

Verle Kaiser funding will assist in paying for planting materials such as plants, gloves, and planting implements, staff time for curriculum development and teaching, transportation from the school to the sites, and teaching materials such as magnifying glasses, water quality instruments, and data collection tools. See the attached budget. There are no additional funding sources for the program.

Budget Worksheet - Outdoor Learning Grants
 Organization - Walla Walla County Conservation District

Salaries		
Staffing/Salaries/Stipends (includes benefits, taxes, etc)	Grant Funding	Short narrative of expense
<i>Name/Position (add a row for each classified person)</i>		
Alison Crowley	\$1,000.00	Education Coordination 3 field trips and 10 hours spent on curriculum development and coordination
Jenny Freer	\$250.00	Fiscal Administration for billing
Salaries Total: \$1,250.00		

Equipment		
Capital equipment and small and attractive assets necessary for program implementation	Grant Funding	Short narrative of expense
<i>Equipment (individual items that cost more than \$500)</i>		
Equipment Total: \$0.00		

Supplies, Instructional Resources, Training & Non-capitalized Assets		
Supplies & Instructional Materials	Grant Funding	Short narrative of expense
<i>Item Description</i>		
plants and printing materials	\$500.00	
Teaching supplies- magnifying glasses, data collection tools, and etc.	\$500.00	
Supplies, Instructional Resources, Training & Non-cap Assets Total: \$1,000.00		

Contracted Services		
Contracts & Sub Reimbursements	Grant Funding	Short narrative of expense
<i>Name/Type (add a row for each contract)</i>		
Contracted Services Total: \$0.00		

Transportation Costs		
Transportation Costs	Grant Funding	Short narrative of expense
<i>Description (rental vehicle, bus charter, vehicle mileage - \$.655/mile)</i>		
Bus Transportation	\$1,800.00	3 field trips paid by WWCDD
Travel Total: \$1,800.00		

Food and Lodging		
Food and Lodging Costs	Grant Funding	Short narrative of expense
<i>Description</i>		
Food and Lodging Total: \$0.00		

Subtotal of Salaries, Equipment, Supplies, Purchased Services, Travel & Lodging:	\$4,050.00
Indirect Fees (10%):	\$405.00
Total Request:	\$4,455.00