



News Release

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Local Conservation Excellence Recognized with King Conservation District "Rock" Award

The King Conservation District recently awarded two local efforts their KCD "rock" for excellence in assisting local natural resource conservation efforts.

Local recipients included the Snoqualmie Watershed Forum for a Best Partnering Organization award and North Bend residents Mike and April LaLande received the Conservation Landowner award.

Mike and April LaLande have worked with KCD to prioritize conservation on their land while still meeting their needs as horse owners. As a result, half of their land is not developed, for which they receive a tax benefit, and they're applying more environmentally sound and often simpler land management practices.

The Snoqualmie Watershed Forum, established in 1998, is a consortium of volunteer representatives from the cities of Carnation, Duvall, North Bend, Snoqualmie; King County; the Snoqualmie Tribe and community members. The Forum addresses issues that impact the health of the watershed, such as flooding, salmon conservation and habitat restoration.

"The rock symbolizes a solid and stable commitment to conservation efforts over the years", said Geoff Reed from KCD. "We work and rely on many partners in the community and we feel it is important to recognize the voluntary and cooperative efforts shown by a wide variety of people in helping to achieve improvements in conservation of our natural resources."

The complete list of award recipients includes:

Best Partnering Organization

Snoqualmie Watershed Forum
Friends of Portage Bay Reclamation

Conservation Landowner

Mike and April LaLande, North Bend

For Outstanding Service

Richard Conlin - Seattle City Council
Joan McBride - Deputy mayor, City Of Kirkland
David Irons

Local Government Conservation Award

City of Auburn
City of Clyde Hill

The awards were presented at the Conservation District's annual meeting at the Shadow Lake Bog east of Renton on Sunday, August 12, 2007.

For more information about the King Conservation District go to: <http://www.kingcd.org/>.

For more information about the Snoqualmie Watershed Forum go to:
<http://www.dnr.metrokc.gov/wrias/7/index.htm>.

***This release is also posted on the Snoqualmie Watershed Forum Web site, at
<http://www.dnr.metrokc.gov/wrias/7/index.htm>***

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