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3.2.c: Supplemental - CREP Sites



3.2.C: INCREASE NUMBER OF CREP SITES TO IMPROVE WATER TEMPERATURE AND HABITAT FROM 1,021 TO 1,171 BY 2015

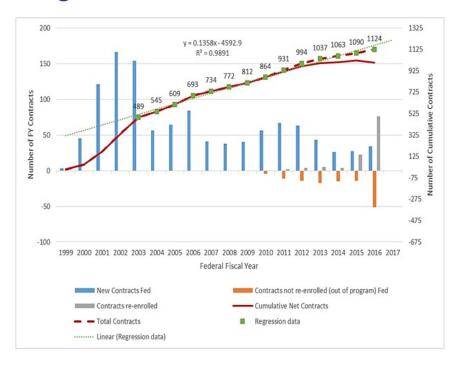
Washington State Conservation Commission

Brian Cochrane



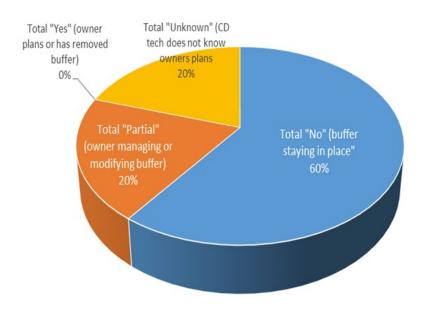
December 19, 2016

Background:



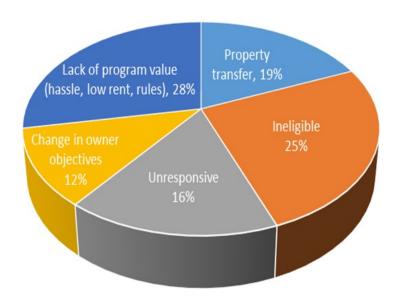
- Performance history through September 30, 2016 by Federal FY
- Forecast based on program since 2003 suggests ~58 projects per year
- New goal of 1359 total projects implemented by end of Federal FY2020 should be challenging, but achievable and realistic

Current State:



- 51 contracts out of 127 did not reenroll (40%)
- Much better reenrollment rate than previous years (60% vs 25%)
- CD technicians were asked about buffer status
- Most buffers staying in place
- Looking into imagery analysis to track these over time

Current State:



- CD Technicians also queried about participant reasons for not re-enrolling
- Responses categorized to understand barriers
- No one category stands out
- Some categories easier to address than others

Assistance Needed:

- Additional funds requested for next biennium to:
- Develop and implement a pilot cumulative impact incentive program following Oregon CREP model (all producers in a five mile reach that enroll 50% or more of the length receive a one-time bonus)
- Analyze and address gaps (if any) between net commodity prices and FSA soil rental rates
- Target watersheds with known habitat or water quality needs and offer a one-time incentive to producers in that reach for signing up for CREP
- Staff all CREP CDs with sufficient capacity to develop participant relationships and build the program

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