

Working Document
North Central Washington Food Coalition

The NCW Food Coalition is a learning network composed of organizations, farmers, businesses, educators, and individuals that pursue shared priorities for increasing the amount of food grown and consumed in NCW.

The Coalition meets quarterly to share information about existing projects and programs, to develop new approaches for strengthening our regional food and farming system, and to plan activities for the coming year. Information about past and upcoming meetings is posted at www.irisncw.org. Coalition meetings are welcome to all.

Recommendations from the NCW Regional Food Systems Assessment published by the Initiative for Rural Innovation & Stewardship in 2010 are used to develop meeting topics and agendas. Those recommendations include:

- Convene a standing NCW coalition to work on sustainable food issues
 - Strengthen institutional partnerships to address barriers to new producers.
 - Position a stronger regional food and farming system as an economic development strategy.
 - Develop strategies for creating and funding programs.
 - Develop cooperative distribution model for local goods
 - Launch consumer education program about local food
 - Open grocery store and institutional distribution channels
 - Conduct outreach and education for farmers
 - Address structural barriers to regional food production
- * Conduct additional research on innovative ideas.

For more information and to sign up to receive meeting notices visit www.irisncw.org.

To read a full copy of the NCW Regional Food Assessment report see

www.irisnew.org/Programs/Regional-Food-systems/RegionalFoodSystemBaselineAssessment.pdf