



2011 Skagit CD Summary Report of Accomplishments

2011 Feature Accomplishment – Samish Watershed Improvements

Skagit Conservation District (SCD) has been addressing high fecal coliform bacteria levels in the Samish Watershed this year by:

- *Providing farm planning and technical assistance to 47 landowners in the watershed*
- *Completing farm plans for 12 landowners in the watershed*
- *Planning and designing 12 structural best management practices (BMPs)*
- *Providing assistance in the implementation of 13 structural BMPs*
- *Providing \$39,470.27 in cost share for the implementation of the 13 structural BMPs*
- *Publishing and distributing 3 Samish newsletters reaching 6,072 residents*
- *Hosting 8 educational workshops for Samish residents – 198 attendees*
- *Hosting educational displays at 8 educational events with approximately 787 one-on-one contacts*



Fence and solar pump installation on Friday Creek, Samish Watershed

Commercial Livestock and Small Farm Operations

- *16 small farm plans completed*
- *70 small farm landowners assisted*
- *1 new dairy plan approved*
- *Implementation of 2 dairy nutrient management plans*
- *2 nutrient management plan updates completed*
- *9 commercial livestock operations assisted*
- *4 commercial livestock operation conservation plans written*
- *22 structural BMPs implemented utilizing \$57,303.00 in cost-share funds*



Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

- *3 new projects planted this past spring totaling 42.8 acres*
- *3 new CREP contracts signed*
- *563.8 acres of buffer installed to date*
- *72,994 (32.8 miles) stream bank feet of riparian restoration installed to date*
- *248,255 native trees planted to date*



Firewise and Community Wildfire Protection Planning

- 1 new certified Firewise Communities/USA bringing the total to 8 certified Firewise Communities/USA in Skagit County
- WA State ranks 2nd in the nation for number of Firewise Communities/USA
- 4 home wildfire risk assessments completed
- 2.0 acres of fuels reduction completed with 10 homeowners participating
- 1 community level wildfire risk assessment completed
- 3 Firewise presentations and outreach events conducted with 100 participants
- The production of the first Skagit County Firewise video
- 1 updated Skagit County Community Wildfire Protection Plan
- Wildfire Awareness Week Proclamation televised, presented, and signed at the Skagit County Commissioners' meeting in May



Forest Stewardship Program and EQIP

- 22 forest conservation plans written covering 2,428 acres
- 14 forestry conservation practices implemented
- 11 forestry outreach activities

Purchased Development Rights Monitoring

- Assisted the Farmland Legacy Program by monitoring approximately 82 projects totaling 8,641 acres under easement with status reviews conducted

Professional Engineering

- Advisory on 5 projects designs, which included restoration in Cottonwood Island Slough, Shannon Point riprap removal, and Marsh Pond fish passage project
- 3 irrigation pipeline designs for Western WA Ag. Assoc. and Skagit Drainage and Irrigation Improvement District No. 15
- Served on 3 technical committees, including the Salmon Recovery Funding Board Technical Review Panel



Environmental Education

- 800+ students participated in the annual Sixth Grade Conservation Tour in May
- 500 tree seedlings distributed to students in honor of Arbor Day
- A community proclamation in recognition of "Soil and Water Stewardship Week" televised, presented, and signed at a Skagit County Commissioners' meeting in April

Environmental Education continued on next page

Environmental Education continued....



- 158 posters entered for the Soil and Water Stewardship poster contest for local youth grades K-12
- Hosted educational displays and distributed educational and program promotional materials at 3 farm locations at the Skagit County Festival of Family Farms – 5,000+ attendees combined for these locations
- Recruited 136 volunteers and 17 resource agencies/organizations to host displays for the 8th annual Samish Bay Bivalve Bash and Mud Run
- Hosted an educational display with a cow-milking contest at the Skagit County Fair in August

Backyard Conservation Stewardship Program

- 41 individuals completed the Spring 2011 Backyard Conservation Stewardship Short Course
- Formation of the new Friday Creek Habitat Stewards group
- Provided presentations on Backyard Conservation practices at 7 events, reaching over 224 people



Low Impact Development (LID) & Stormwater Education

- 2211 storm markers installed on storm drain inlets by volunteers, and 500 educational door hangers distributed
- 32 stormwater education presentations provided to over 800 county students
- 8 LID presentations given to 200 people
- 1 rain garden workshop held with 45 attendees

District Media

- Skagit Conservation News – 2 newsletters distributed to over 4,600 readers
- Skagit Conservation District website maintained – www.skagitcd.org

Skagit Stream Team

- 74 volunteers are participating in the 2011/12 Stream Team Program
- 11 Storm Team volunteers are monitoring 20 stations in the Bay View/No Name drainages
- 54 stations, located in the Padilla Bay, Samish, Fisher Creek, Kulshan Creek, Trumpeter Basin, Gages Slough, Clyde Creek, and Nookachamps basins, are monitored for fecal coliform, temperature, dissolved oxygen, and turbidity twice a month
- 1,177 Stream Team volunteer hours reported for 2010/2011 monitoring season
- Annual Stream Team report completed and distributed





Marine Biotoxin Monitoring Program

- 20 community volunteers participated in the 2011 sampling season
- 84 sampling events conducted by volunteers at 10 recreational shellfish harvesting beaches

Watershed Masters Volunteer Training Program

- 17 individuals completed the fall 2011 Watershed Masters Training Program, bringing the total participants to date to 435
- 3,266 Watershed Master volunteer hours reported in 2011, bringing the total hours to over 28,382
- Over 100 sustainable backyard practices employed and reported by Fall 2011 graduates



Fuels reduction



Restoration planting



Backyard Conservation



Fencing project



2011 Poster Contest Winner



2011 Native Plant Sale

Special thanks to all of our partnering organizations who helped make the Skagit Conservation District's efforts toward conservation, protection and enhancement of the natural resources of Skagit County a huge success in 2011!!