

2014 Summary Report of Accomplishments



Commercial Livestock and Small Farm Operations

- 289 commercial and small farm landowners assisted
- 10 farm plans completed
- 21 structural BMPs implemented
- 9 farm plans updated

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

- 3 new CREP contracts signed
- 7 new plans completed totaling 62.5 buffer acres
- 607 buffer acres installed to date
- 189,741 (35.9 miles) stream bank feet of riparian restoration installed to date
- 273,885 native trees planted to date



Firewise and Community Wildfire Protection Planning

- 24 home wildfire risk assessments completed this year
- 21 Firewise plans written
- 2 community level hazard assessments written
- 4 Firewise presentations and outreach events conducted ~285 attendees
- 11 recognized Firewise Communities/USA in Skagit County
- Assisted Okanogan CD with community wildfire risk assessments
- Wildfire Awareness Week proclaimed at the Skagit County Commissioners' meeting in May
- 5 fire weather monitoring stations installed across the county and data collected
- WA State ranks 2nd in the nation for number of Firewise Communities/USA

Forest Stewardship Program and EQIP

- 22 forest conservation plans written
- 22 landowners received technical assistance
- 32 forestry conservation practices implemented
- NW Washington Forest Landowners Field Day with WSU, DNR and NRCS ~ 100 participants
- 7 workshops/presentations ~179 participants



Professional Engineering

- *Removed fish passage barrier, installed bridge along Mannser Creek and coordinated with Skagit County NRSP for riparian planting at this site*
- *Completed conception design alternatives for bank stabilization along the lower Samish River*
- *Coordinated with WWAA for construction of irrigation pipeline completed, which the NW Engineering program previously designed*
- *Engineering and project management assistance to enhance juvenile Chinook rearing habitat*
- *Represented SCD on the WRIA 3 salmon lead entity's technical committee*



Clean Samish Initiative Education



- *3 workshops on sustainable landscaping practices ~98 attendees*
- *Co-sponsored Kids in Nature: Families Outdoors at Pomona Grange Park ~65 attendees*
- *Co-sponsored the 3rd Annual Sustainable Samish Garden Tour ~80 attendees*
- *Provided technical assistance to the Friday Creek neighborhood volunteers with the community naturescape demonstration garden at the Alger Community Hall—2 work parties held with over 35 community residents participating*
- *Co-sponsored the Samish Seed Sale/SSWAP & Arbor Day Tree Giveaway with approximately 200 attendees and distributed 100 native trees*
- *Recruited 18 volunteers and assisted at two shellfish seed sales hosted by Taylor Shellfish Farms*

Environmental Education

- *750 students participated in the annual Sixth Grade Conservation Tour in May*
- *Participated in the Skagit Watershed Letterbox Trail*
- *500 tree seedlings distributed to students in honor of Arbor Day*
- *2 Community proclamations in recognition of Arbor Day and "Soil and Water Stewardship Week" at Skagit County Commissioners' meetings in April*
- *Promoted Arbor Day on KAPS and KBRC radio stations, including tree trivia*
- *88 posters received 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 2 farm locations at the Skagit Valley Festival of Family Farms ~2,500 attendees*



Marine Biotoxin Monitoring Program

- *25 community volunteers participated in the 2014 sampling season*



Backyard Conservation Stewardship Program

- 50 individuals completed the Spring 2014 Backyard Conservation Stewardship Short Course
- Presentations were provided on Backyard Conservation practices at 5 events ~138 attendees
- Hosted 3 garden tours ~110 attendees

Low Impact Development (LID) & Stormwater Education

- Over 500 storm markers installed on storm drain inlets by volunteers
- 20 stormwater education presentations provided to 433 Skagit County students
- Hosted work party at Skagit County Rain Garden ~12 volunteers
- 1 rain garden/LID tour held with 14 attendees
- Hosted “Puget Sound Starts Here” educational display at several events
- Hosted Stormwater game and Watershed model at the Skagit River Salmon Festival, Kids in Nature event and Festival of Family Farms ~4,000 attendees



Skagit Stream Team

- 65 volunteers participated in the 2013/14 Stream Team Program and monitored for fecal coliform, temperature, dissolved oxygen, and turbidity twice a month at stations located in the Padilla Bay, Samish, Fisher Creek, Kulshan Creek, Trumpeter, Gages Slough, Clyde Creek, and Nookachamps basins
- 11 Storm Team volunteers monitored stations in the Edison Pump Station drainages
- 1,370 Stream Team volunteer hours reported for 2013/2014 monitoring season
- Annual Stream Team report completed and distributed
- Hosted “How Clean is Your Neighborhood Stream?” event ~45 attendees
- Hosted annual Stream Team celebration ~65 attendees
- Hosted a presentation on the Skagit Stream Team/Storm Team ~50 attendees

Watershed Masters Volunteer Training Program

- 16 individuals completed the fall 2014 Watershed Masters Training Program – 491 participants to date
- ~3,500 Watershed Master volunteer hours reported in 2014 – over 43,000 total hours to date



District Media

- Skagit Conservation News – 2 newsletters each distributed to over 4,000 readers
- Skagit Conservation District website maintained – www.skagitcd.org
- Skagit Conservation District Facebook page maintained



Manure dry stack project



Fish, Floods and Farms tour



Storm Team



Plant Sale volunteers



Kids in Nature event



6th Grade Conservation Tour



Maple syrup production



Naturescape planting



Storm drain marking

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 2014!!