

2010 Skagit CD Summary Report of Accomplishments

2010 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 technical assistance to 36 landowners in the watershed*
- *Completing farm plans for 19 landowners in the watershed*
- *Planning and designing 21 best management practices and treating approximately 400 acres*
- *Installing 14,000 Feet of fencing*
- *Providing \$9,260.98 in cost share for the implementation of 9 structural best management practices*
- *Coordinating 11 educational workshops for Samish watershed residents with over 265 attendees*
- *Publishing and distributing the Samish newsletter and 3 other informational mailings to over 5500 residents*
- *Hosting educational displays at 6 events reaching 500 people*



Family Night at Samish Bay
workshop

Commercial Livestock and Small Farm Operations

- *14 small farm plans written*
- *42 small farm landowners assisted*
- *2 new dairy plans written*
- *11 dairy operators assisted*
- *4 nutrient management plan updates completed*
- *9 commercial livestock operations assisted*
- *4 commercial livestock operation plans written*
- *10 best management practices designed and implemented utilizing \$19,693.81 in cost-share funds*



Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) & Hedgerows

- *81 CREP projects implemented to date providing 554.3 acres of buffer totaling 154,184 stream bank feet totaling 29.2 miles*
- *6 new CREP projects implemented*
- *2 new CREP contracts signed*
- *Provided technical assistance on hedgerows to 4 landowners*
- *Planted hedgerows along 2,700 feet of stream with 2,720 shrubs*
- *1 Hedgerow workshop; 25 participants*



CREP fence being installed

Firewise and Community Wildfire Protection Planning

- 1 new certified Firewise Communities/USA
- 4 home wildfire risk assessments completed
- 3.0 acres of fuels reduction completed with 29 homeowners participating
- 1 community level wildfire risk assessment completed
- 5 Firewise presentations & outreach events conducted – audience: 647
- 1 Firewise Community/USA certification in progress
- 5 certified Firewise Communities/USA in Skagit County
- WA State ranks 2nd in the nation for number of Firewise Communities/USA



Firewise outreach with Smokey Bear

Forest Stewardship Program and EQIP

- 11 forest conservation plans covering 856 acres written
- 9 forestry conservation practices implemented
- 4 plans written for NRCS Environmental Quality Incentive Program participants treating 250.92 acres
- 5 forestry outreach events



Thinned stand under EQIP

Purchased Development Rights Monitoring

- Assisted the Farmland Legacy Program by monitoring approximately 8,665.55 under easement with status reviews conducted

Professional Engineering

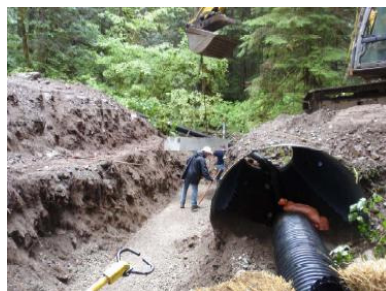
- 9 cooperators, agencies, and committees received engineering technical assistance
- 5 projects designed, such as bioswales/rain gardens for the cities of Burlington, Anacortes, and Sedro-Woolley
- Long-term project work on Cottonwood Island Slough and the WDFW Goose Preserve
- 2 projects implemented: Marches Point rock groin removal and a pipeline stock watering tank installation



Removal of rock groin at March's Point

Forest Road Projects

- 8.68 miles of roads treated
- 0.8 miles of road surfacing treatment
- 95 drivable dips constructed
- 83 culverts permanently removed
- 32 old or undersized culverts replaced
- 3.722 miles of road decommissioned



Culvert replacement

Environmental Education

- *Over 700 students participated in the annual Sixth Grade Conservation Tour in May*
- *250 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*
- *222 posters entered for the Soil and Water Stewardship poster contest for local youth*



- *Hosted educational displays and distributed educational and program promotional materials at 3 farm locations at the Skagit County Festival of Family Farms – 3,000+ 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 – attendance: 1,400

- *Hosted an educational display with a cow-milking contest at the Skagit County Fair in August – 20,000 attended the fair*



Sprig the Treeture at the Festival of Family Farms

Backyard Conservation Stewardship Program

- *National Wildlife Federation recognition of “Community Wildlife Habitat” for zip codes 98273, 98274, 98232, 98238, & 98235*
- *25 backyard conservation practices installed on 6.25 acres of land*
- *Provided presentations on backyard conservation to 89 people*
- *Coordinated work parties and constructed a community bird and butterfly demonstration garden in the Kulshan neighborhood in partnership with Skagit Valley Backyard Habitat Team, City of MV Police Department, Boy Scout Troop 461, and the Kulshan Creek neighborhood kids and families*
- *Labeled 8 storm drains & distributed 500 educational door hangers in the Kulshan Creek neighborhood with the assistance of 23 Kulshan kids and families, City of MV Police Department and Backyard Habitat volunteers*



Kulshan bird & butterfly garden

Low Impact Development (LID) & Stormwater Education

- *400 storm markers installed on storm drain inlets by volunteers and 1,200 educational door hangers distributed in the City of Burlington and the City of Mount Vernon*
- *30 stormwater education presentations provided to 950 county students*
- *35 Clean & Green car wash events for 2,170 cars with 141,050 gallons of water treated*
- *2 rain garden designs completed & approved*
- *9 LID presentations given to 225 people*
- *2 stormwater educational posters designed & distributed*



Storm drain marking group

District Media

- *Skagit Conservation News – 2 newsletters distributed to over 4,600 readers*
 - *Skagit Conservation District website upgaded: www.skagitcd.org*
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Skagit Stream Team

Skagit Stream Team

- *71 volunteers are participating in the 2010/11 Stream Team Program*
 - *7 Stream Team volunteers are participating in the Bay View/No Name Storm Team program*
 - *54 stations, located in the Padilla Bay, Samish, Fisher Creek, Kulshan Creek, Trumpeter, Gages Slough, Brickyard Creek, and Nookachamps basins, are monitored for fecal coliform, temperature, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, and depth twice a month*
- *1,192 Stream Team volunteer hours reported for 2009/2010 monitoring season*
 - *Annual Stream Team report completed and distributed*
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Marine Biotoxin Monitoring Program

- *24 community volunteers participated in the 2010 sampling season*
 - *77 sampling events conducted by volunteers at 10 recreational shellfish harvesting beaches*
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Watershed Masters Volunteer Training Program

- *29 individuals completed the fall 2010 Watershed Masters Training Program, bringing the total participants to date to 418*
- *4,099 Watershed Master volunteer hours reported in 2010, bringing the total hours to over 20,600*
- *Over 130 sustainable backyard practices employed & reported by Fall 2010 graduates*



Watershed Masters 2010

Special thanks to all of our partnering organizations who made the Skagit Conservation District's efforts toward conservation, water quality improvement, and best land-management practices a huge success yet another year!!