



TulalipCares.org

## Tulalip Charitable Contributions Funds Distribution Report

**NAME OF AGENCY:** Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group

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**CONTACT:** (360) 336-0172; <http://www.skagitfisheries.org>

**GENERAL GOALS:** The Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group (SFEG) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to engaging our community in restoring wild salmon.

### **SPECIFIC USE FOR THIS AWARD:**

During the 2015-16 school year, the Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group (SFEG) engaged 545 students in 4 school districts (5 schools, 21 classes total) in the Junior Stream Stewards watershed education program within the Skagit and Samish River watersheds. With each class, SFEG conducted 6 classroom lessons and 2 watershed field trips for each of the 5 participating schools in the Junior Stream Stewards program.

For more information, please see the attached report from Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group.

**Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group [www.skagitfisheries.org](http://www.skagitfisheries.org)**

**Junior Stream Stewards Project Report**

**Q4 2014 14.2**

**Prepared by Lucy DeGrace, Outreach Coordinator**

**April 20, 2016**

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During the spring, five riparian restoration projects were completed. Students planted native trees and shrubs, removed invasive plants, and removed old tree protectors at 5 different sites within the Skagit and Samish watersheds. Among the project sites were the main stem Samish River, a Samish tributary, two Skagit River tributaries, and a Sauk River tributary. The wide distribution of projects provided extensive learning opportunities for the participants as well as a diverse restoration benefit to fish and wildlife. Three of the projects are on public land (Seattle City Light, Skagit Land Trust, and Skagit County Parks), and two privately owned. In addition to wildlife benefits of riparian restoration, these sites have been enhanced for the benefit of hikers, birders, fishermen, and general outdoor enthusiasts.

Two volunteers through Washington Service Corps placed with SFEG and two education interns acted as assistant instructors throughout the school year. In addition, several individual volunteers assisted with classroom and field instruction.

The Junior Stream Stewards program continues to grow in popularity. SFEG continues to add new program partners, which augments our ability to offer new and relevant content to our curriculum. Staff from a local shellfish farm coordinated shellfish dissection and taught students at 3 of the schools about the perils of high fecal coliform levels in the Samish River. This is an optional extension that teachers can choose to add if time permits, with coordination support from SFEG staff and volunteers.

The Junior Stream Stewards program and its growing partnerships have enabled local teachers to bring to their students locally relevant, academically sound curriculum and hands-on experiences that would otherwise not be possible. For the 2016-17 school year, we plan to maintain this program at current levels.



Education Intern Patrick Hutchins dissects salmon for 7<sup>th</sup> grade students at Cascade Middle School in October.



Volunteer Dennis Parent teaching Edison 8<sup>th</sup> graders how to measure turbidity of Friday Creek during their Samish Watershed Tour in November.





Bay View 8<sup>th</sup> graders learn about forage fish habitat from volunteers Jack Middleton and Peter Haase during their Padilla Bay Watershed Tour in November.



Volunteer Jim Johnson shows a Concrete Middle School student how to plant trees at a Seattle City Light site along the Sauk River in March.





Volunteer Jen Shore (right) shows Conway 7<sup>th</sup> graders how to plant trees during a service-learning project along Fisher Creek in March.