



## Tulalip Charitable Contributions Funds Distribution Report

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

**DATE OF AWARD:** 2016 Q4

**ADDRESS:** P.O. Box 2497, Mount Vernon, WA 98273

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

**GENERAL GOALS:** At Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group we are dedicated to engaging the community in salmon restoration in the Skagit watershed.

**SPECIFIC USE FOR THIS AWARD:**

This award went to supporting programs and operational expenses.

For more information please read 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 205 14.2  
Prepared by Lucy De Grace, Outreach Manager  
November 27, 2017

During the 2016-17 school year, the Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group (SFEG) engaged 505 students in 4 school districts (4 schools, 19 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 4 participating schools in the Junior Stream Stewards program. Students toured their home watershed, dissected salmon, designed and implemented a riparian planting project, and learned to identify benthic macroinvertebrates. Each school also expressed what they've learned through artwork. Two schools created murals of their watersheds, showing important animal and human elements of their community. One school painted wooden fish that were cut out by their high school wood shop students, which were then mounted on a fence at a city park on display for a month during the summer. The final school created watercolor paintings that were turned into notecards that students can use however they wish.

During the spring, five riparian restoration projects were completed. Students planted native trees and shrubs and removed invasive plants at 4 different sites within the Skagit and Samish watersheds. Among the project sites were a Samish River tributary, two Skagit River tributaries, and a beach restoration project at Deception Pass State Park. 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 (Washington State Parks, Skagit Land Trust, and Skagit County Parks), and one 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 one education intern acted as assistant instructors during the school year. In addition, several individual volunteers assisted with classroom and field instruction.

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 2017-18 school year, we are adding a fifth school into the program.



7<sup>th</sup> grade students at Cascade Middle School investigate a salmon used for dissection in the classroom in October.



Students from Cascade Middle School map out a reach of Hansen Creek during their watershed tour in November.



Edison 8<sup>th</sup> graders learn about water quality testing and assessing salmon habitat during their Samish River Watershed Tour in November.



Conway teacher Ron Haywood helping his 7<sup>th</sup> grade students plant beach grasses and groundcovers at Cornet Bay, Deception Pass State Park in March.



Edison students show off pots from all the plants they planted along Friday Creek in the Samish watershed in March.



Concrete Middle School students after planting trees at a North Cascades Institute property along Diobsud Creek in March.