

County: Skagit

Grant No: SEANWS-2015-SkCoPW-00001

PROJECT TITLE: Northwest Straits Project: Skagit MRC Operations and Projects

TASK NUMBER: 2.1

DELIVERABLE: Fidalgo Bay Day 2016 - Final Report

PERIOD COVERED: Oct 1, 2015 – September 30, 2016

DATE SUBMITTED: September 30, 2016



This project has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Environmental Protection Agency, nor does mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.

Fidalgo Bay Day 2016

Sponsored by:

Skagit County Marine Resources Committee

With support of the
Samish Indian Nation



This project has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency via the Puget Sound Partnership and the Northwest Straits Commission under assistance agreement Grant SEANWS-2015-SkCoPW-00001 to Skagit County. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, nor does mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.

Fidalgo Bay Day Overview

Fidalgo Bay Day is the annual flagship public outreach event for the Skagit County Marine Resources Committee (Skagit MRC.) This was the 13th year and was again hosted at the Samish Indian Nation Fidalgo Bay Resort clubhouse. The purpose of this free annual event is to help increase public awareness of the marine environment and foster environmental stewardship. Visitors learn about the marine ecosystem and the plants and animals that live there. They also learn steps they can take to protect the waters of Fidalgo Bay and the larger Salish. Even the presenters, tabling for a participating organization, have the opportunity to learn something new, network with people from other marine-related organizations, and eat wonderful seafood. The event increases community awareness of the Skagit MRC, which devotes the majority of its resources toward less-visible projects, including marine nearshore monitoring, shoreline restoration projects, supporting the Salish Sea Stewards program, and educating shoreline land owners. Hundreds of visitors attend this event each year and more than 30 different organizations and businesses participate. Activities are varied from year to year and may include: interactive displays from the many participating organizations, children's art and science activities, marine life touch tank from Shannon Point Marine Center, beach seine with a marine biologist, beach walks to look for forage fish eggs, and free shellfish and chowder samples and a no-host traditional tribal salmon lunch.

Again, the Skagit MRC collaborated with Friends of Skagit Beaches (FSOB) to combine Fidalgo Bay Day and National Estuaries Day (NED) into a shared event.

2016 Event Summary

Fidalgo Bay Day was held Saturday, August 27th at the Fidalgo Bay RV Resort in Anacortes from 11:00AM to 3:00PM. We had over 300 visitors with beautiful weather and scenery. 45 volunteers, 20 organizations, and five businesses helped make this year's event a huge success! Parking was at the Resort clubhouse and an adjacent field.

Opening Ceremony: A warm and inspirational welcoming was led by Samish tribal members.



(Lee First)

Outdoor Interactive Displays: People walking up to the clubhouse were greeted by “Gracie”, the skull of a BIG gray whale. Provided and staffed by the Deception Pass State Park Foundation, she was the first of several “passport” stations.



(Samantha Russell)



Individuals and groups obtained their passports and instructions at a nearby information booth and set out to learn more about Fidalgo Bay and its beauty and value. By answering questions and getting the passport “stamped”, they could compete for prizes and learning. Other outdoor passport stations included Fidalgo Bay history, how estuaries work, and the wonders of eel grass.



Indoor Interactive Displays: Inside the clubhouse were more interactive educational activities from many different organizations. Many were also passport stations. These included Skagit MRC’s forage fish food web bean bag toss game and the NW Straits Foundation Proper Crab Trap methods. There were also Birds of the Bay, Orca Whales, Watershed Functions, and others. A full list of participating groups is included below.



Youth Craft Activities: There were several kid-friendly crafts. Activities included face painting, button making, 3-D fish art, fish prints on fabric, and notecard-making with marine critter stamps, stickers, and drawing supplies.



Outdoor Activities: Besides the passport stations, some also walked the beach searching for Forage Fish eggs or enjoyed just getting their feet wet. The great attraction was the traditional "Beach Seining" led by Jason Morgan and Dan Penttila with help from many volunteers and most of the audience. Some looked for birds on the bay and others just enjoyed the celebration!





Food – Chowder, Shellfish, Salmon, and more: We borrowed the popcorn machine from the Anacortes Boys and Girls Club and gave away free popcorn. Support from our local restaurateurs was outstanding again this year with three local establishments, Mary Ann's Kitchen, Adrift Restaurant, and Johnny Picasso's, each offering up samples of some of the best clam chowder in the Northwest! Taylor Shellfish again generously donated hundreds of dollars' worth of delicious oysters and clams. Volunteers prepared special sauces, steamed clams, and grilled the oysters to perfection. Gere-A-Deli donated delicious brownies.





Rosie Cayou-James and Bill Bailey and family offered a no host traditional Samish salmon luncheon of salmon grilled over an open fire, coleslaw, and fresh fry bread.



Samish Tribal Support and the Fidalgo Bay Resort: The Samish Indian Nation again graciously hosted our event at their wonderful Fidalgo Bay Resort Clubhouse at no charge. The Clubhouse is located along the beautiful shores of Fidalgo Bay in the heart of the Samish Fidalgo Island ancestral homelands.

It is a perfect venue for FBD. Many thanks go to the Samish Nation for their generosity - sharing their well-equipped building which is in an ideal location.

Zero Waste: This was a Zero Waste event. Skagit MRC grant funds were used to purchase compostable utensils, plates, coffee cups, and chowder cups.

Evaluation: Several visitors were asked to participate in a short survey conducted by two of our volunteers. The purpose of the survey was to gather some metrics for the event, as well as qualitative information such as favorite activities and suggestions. The learning, the food, and the setting were frequently mentioned.

Volunteers: Putting on a successful Fidalgo Bay Day requires the talents and efforts of many people. This year, more than 45 people volunteered their valuable time to make sure the event was educational and fun for all. In addition, nineteen organizations contributed their time, expertise, and excellent displays. Thank you to each and every one of them!

On the day before the event, several volunteers helped set up display tables and signage, and prepared the sauces for the shellfish. On the day of the event, volunteers arrived at 9:00AM to help set up and several stayed until 4:00PM to clean up.

This event is truly a team effort! This year's FBD lead was Skagit MRC member Peter Haase, who could not have done it without the extensive help provided by other key helpers including:

Administration and Event Promotion: Tracy Alker

Food: Lin Folsom

Shellfish: Dick Kent and team

Set up and more: Wayne Huseby

Kids' Activities: Sue Ehler

Parking: Morty Cohen

Beach Seine: Jason Morgan and Dan Penttila

Passport Stations: Chris Wood and Betty Carteret

Planning and Promotion: There are several FBD planning documents and notes available upon request. These include: Kids' Activities (including supplies needed for) Save the Date poster, half-sheet Promotional Postcards with location map, Survey, Event Timeline, and suggestions for following year.

Fidalgo Bay Day flyers were widely distributed at special events and places of business. The event was also widely posted online and on partner websites, Facebook, newsletters, and email lists. Ads were also placed in the Skagit Valley Herald, the Anacortes American, and the Skagit Valley Recreation and Activity guide. A Public Service Announcement was posted on the County's Listserve. Local reporters were contacted.

Acknowledgements

Resources or funding contributing to Fidalgo Bay Day include the following:

Samish Indian Nation provided free use of their facility, kitchen, grill, food handler permits

Friends of Skagit Beaches provided insurance coverage for the facility, sandwich board signs, and passport activity and prizes

Complimentary seafood chowder provided by 3 local restaurants (Adrift Restaurant, Johnny Picassos, and Mary Anne's Kitchen)

Complimentary shellfish provided by Taylor Shellfish

The Anacortes Boys and Girls Club's popcorn machine

Gere-A-Deli donated free brownies

Dan Penttila provided free scientific expertise identifying and presenting information about fish and other marine life during beach seining and forage fish spawning walks

Over 200 volunteer hours



2015 Participating Organizations

Adrift Restaurant
Anacortes Boys' & Girls Club
Cayou / Bailey Family
Fidalgo Bay Aquatic Reserve Citizens' Stewardship Committee
Friends of Skagit Beaches
Gere-A-Deli
Johnny Picassos
Mary Ann's Kitchen
Northwest Straits Foundation
Northwest Straits Commission
Orca Network
Pacific Biodiversity Institute Harbor Porpoise Project
Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
Salish Sea Biological
Salish Sea Stewards
Samish Indian Nation
Wa. Department of Natural Resources Aquatic Reserves Division
Wa. Department of Ecology
Wolf Hollow Wildlife Rehabilitation Center
Skagit County Public Works
Skagit County Marine Resources Committee
Skagit Land Trust
Skagit Conservation Education Alliance
Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group
Coastal Volunteer Partnership at Padilla Bay
ReSources for Sustainable Communities
Deception Pass Park Foundation

Fidalgo Bay Day 2016 Volunteer Agreement & Time Record

Date: August 27, 2016

Event Time: 9 AM-5 PM

Event Location: Fidalgo Bay Resort, 4701 Fidalgo Bay Road, Anacortes, WA

Last	First	Mailing Address	# Hours	Signature
WEATHERS	BOB	3706 W 11 th ST., ANACORTES	2.5	Robert D. Weathers
Kuehn	Betty	1306 L Ave Anacortes	2.5	Betty Kuehn
COHEN	Morty	3701 Cedar Glen Wy Anacortes	5	Morty Cohen
Mohundro	Mike	518 - 39 th	3	W M Mohundro
Bravinder	Phyllis	5787 Section Ave.	5	Phyllis Bravinder
George	Susan	2119 33 rd St, Anacortes, WA	5	Susan George
Richman	Karen	225 Colvin Pl, M+V	5	Karen Richman
PAT JOHNSON	PAT	14065 Gibraltar Rd	5	Pat Johnson
MORGAN	JAZZ	1295 (Box) @ 98221	5	Jazz Morgan
Barger	Russ	225 Colvin Pl	5	Russ Barger
COLEMAN	DON	603 LePLAND DR M+V	5	Don Coleman
LECHNER	BARBARA	3912 Marine Heights Way	5	Barbara Lechner
EIESLAND	DIANE	14713 Turnstone Ln	3	Diane Eiesland
Hersey	Jan	3153 1 st St. Rd	3	Jan Hersey
Clark	Bill	5651 Section Ave	5	Bill E. Clark

Use: This table is for tracking volunteer hours for liability and injury insurance coverage. By signing this form, I agree that I am volunteering my time to Skagit County through the Skagit County Marine Resources Committee. I understand that there is a level of risk associated with my volunteer duties. Should I be injured while performing my volunteer duties, I will not hold Skagit County or any other project partners liable. I understand that it is solely my responsibility to know my abilities and only accept volunteer assignments within my skill level and physical limitations. I attest, by my signature, that the information provided above is accurate.

Supervisor Name: _____

Supervisor Signature: _____

Volunteer signed: _____

Fidalgo Bay Day 2016 Volunteer Agreement & Time Record

Event Date: August 27, 2016

Event Time: 9 AM-5 PM

Event Location: Fidalgo Bay Resort, 4701 Fidalgo Bay Road, Anacortes, WA

Last	First	Mailing Address	# Hours	Signature
Richards	Elizabeth	P.O. Box 821	5	M.E. Richards
Hutchins	PATIE		5	Patie Hutchins
Peterson	Scott		5	Scott Peterson
Tchong	Sarah		5	Sarah Tchong
Trosin	Bridget		5	Bridget Trosin
HARBO	Peter		5	Peter Harbo
Jabon	mae	P.O. Box 571	5	mae Jabon
Price	Rachel	17563 Exvireln ^{m.v.}	5	Rachel Price
Weeks	Regan		5	Regan Weeks
ALM	Glenda		5	Glenda Alm
KENT	DICK		5	Dick Kent
GRETZ	BONNIE		3	Bonnie Gretz
Parent	Lorna		5	Lorna Parent
Parent	Dennis		5	Dennis Parent
Best	Ranell	7625 79th Ave SE, Snoh.	5	Ranell Best

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Supervisor Name: _____

Supervisor Signature: _____

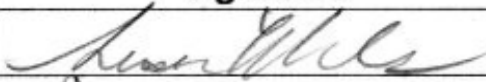
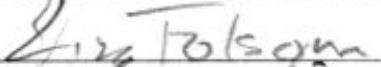
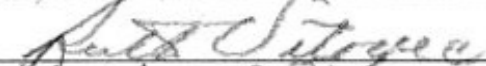
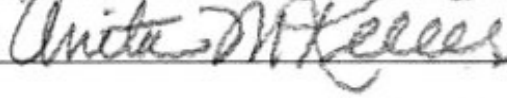
Volunteer signed: _____

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Event Date: August 27, 2016

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Event Location: Fidalgo Bay Resort, 4701 Fidalgo Bay Road, Anacortes, WA

	Last	First	Mailing Address	# Hours	Signature
	Ehler	Sue	2310 Baron Pl. Anac	5	
	FOLSON	LIN		4.5	
	Vitover	Ruth		?	
	Keller	ANITA	ST. LOUIS MO	?	
	KIRN	KELLY		?	
	Haseby	WYNNE		2	
	Steffani	Pat		5	
	Richards	Tom		5	
	Hoopermanns	Yvonne		1	
0	Smith	Josh		4	
1	Carter	Catherine		5	
2	Catherine	Betty		5	
3	Abel	Chris		5	
4	Hoopermanns	Yvonne		1	
5	BROWN	CHRIS		1	
6	LEE	HAR		1	

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Supervisor Name: _____

Supervisor Signature: _____

Date signed: _____

Fidalgo Bay Day 2016 Evaluation “Interview” Questions

(25 Surveys – 2016)

What did you learn about Fidalgo Bay today? Need to keep beaches clean. Kids love the beach and learning about sea creatures and how to keep it clean. Forage Fish! Estuaries.

Is this your first Fidalgo Bay Day? YES 17 NO 8

What did you like best? The education. Location. Kid friendly. Food. Seining. Tribal welcome. Many other varied comments!

Ideas for things to change for another year. Sign at big lot with direction to event. Canoe rides! Advertising in Bellingham. “Bring back touch tank.” One comment was “Better activities for little kids.”

Where are you from? (City or area) Anacortes (10), Mt Vernon (4), LaConner, RVPark (several), Leavenworth, Oak Harbor, Olympia, Bellingham, Arlington, Burlington, Lk McMurray, Camano Island.

Other comments. It's great. (Mainly none.)

How did you learn about Fidalgo Bay today? (Note: We had two roving interviewers. One of them asked that first question this way!)

Newspaper ads, a website, friend, saw sign on walkway, RV Park flyer, SVHerald. Note: All of these were mentioned, some more than once – particularly the signage in/near the RVPark.

SAVE THE DATE!

FIDALGO BAY DAY & NATIONAL ESTUARIES DAY

SATURDAY - AUGUST 27, 2016 11AM-3PM

at the Fidalgo Bay Resort 4701 Fidalgo Bay Road, Anacortes



Fidalgo Bay Day & National Estuaries Day

A Day of Free Family Fun!

Saturday August 27, 2016 11 AM—3 PM

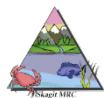
***Fidalgo Bay Resort
4701 Fidalgo Bay Road, Anacortes***



EXPLORE ★ CREATE ★ LEARN

- * Beach seining demonstration – see and touch live sea creatures
- * Indoor kid-friendly crafts, games, prizes, & interactive displays
- * Discovery stations along the Tommy Thompson trail
- * Tasty complimentary samples of local seafood
- * No host Samish salmon BBQ
- * And so much more.....

***Sponsored by the Skagit Marine Resources Committee
For more information: www.skagitmrc.org***





Press Release

For Immediate Release: August 15, 2016

Tracy Alker, Skagit County Marine Resources Committee

Coordinator tracya@co.skagit.wa.us or (360) 416-1462

FIDALGO BAY DAY- Saturday, August 27

SKAGIT COUNTY — Come enjoy a free, fun, family outing at the 13th annual Fidalgo Bay Day event on Saturday, August 27 from 11 AM – 3 PM, at the Samish Indian Nation's beautiful Fidalgo Bay Resort, located at 4701 Fidalgo Bay Road in Anacortes. This educational event offers both indoor and outdoor activities, so there will be plenty of fun things to do, no matter what the weather. Some of the event highlights include our popular beach seining demonstration with live marine critters to see and touch, fun games and prizes, kid friendly craft tables, and engaging educational exhibits hosted by several local agencies and organizations. Enjoy a fabulous no-host traditional salmon BBQ lunch offered by members of the Samish Indian Nation. Taste complimentary samples of seafood chowder prepared by local restaurateurs and shellfish from Taylor's, BBQ'd to perfection by our volunteers. And celebrate the beauty, history, and wonderful marine life with the Friends of Skagit Beaches Trail Tales docent stations along the Tommy Thompson Trail. Fidalgo Bay Day is sponsored by the Skagit County Marine Resources Committee (MRC) and the Northwest Straits Commission, and is funded in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency through the Puget Sound Partnership. For more information contact Tracy Alker, Skagit MRC Coordinator, (360) 416-1462 or visit the Skagit MRC website at www.skagitmrc.org.

Fidalgo Bay Day & National Estuaries Day

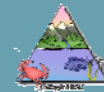


A Free, Fun & Educational Experience for the Entire Family!

Saturday August 27, 2016 11 AM—3 PM

Fidalgo Bay Resort 4701 Fidalgo Bay Road, Anacortes

- * Beach seining with real sea creatures to see & touch
- * Indoor kid-friendly crafts, games, prizes, & interactive displays
- * Discovery stations along the Tommy Thompson trail
- * Tasty complimentary samples of local shellfish & chowder
- * And so much more....



www.skagitmrc



*PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

FALL 2016 WATERSHED MASTERS PROGRAM*

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 28TH 6 PM TO 8:30 PM AND
CONTINUING EVERY WED THRU NOV. 16TH

Padilla Bay Interpretive Center,
10441 Bay View Edison Road, Mount Vernon

Explore the wonders of Skagit County's watersheds! The Skagit Conservation District, in partnership with Skagit County, and the Cities of Anacortes, Burlington, Mount Vernon, and Sedro-Woolley are pleased to present the Fall 2016 Watershed Masters program. The program is intended for community residents (age 17 and up) who are aspiring to increase their knowledge about local watersheds, water quality, and stream ecology (no previous experience required). Participants attend 8 fun and informative evening sessions (held weekly), and 3 Saturday field days. Hear from MANY LOCAL EXPERTS on a variety of topics and issues, meet new friends and participate in meaningful community projects! After completing the FREE training, participants return 40 hours of volunteer service, undertaking projects designed to protect and/or enhance water quality, or to educate the public on these same issues. Pre-register by September 23rd by contacting Kristi @ 428-4313 or email: kristi@skagitcd.org

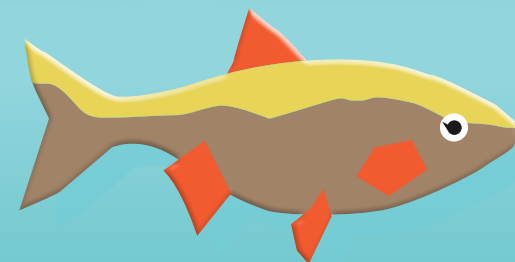
CONTACT INFORMATION

EMAIL: cwaterskagit@gmail.com

PHONE: 360.428.4313

WEBSITE: www.skagitleanwater.org

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/skagitleanwater/



Water is Life! Let's Celebrate it!



Skagit Water Weeks is a collection of events hosted by local organizations and community residents that celebrates one of our most treasured resources - water! Clean water is vital to our health, our environment, and our economy, and is essential to maintaining a healthy and vibrant community. We are pleased to present this slate of opportunities and events in celebration of Skagit Water Weeks, and invite you to join us in conserving and protecting our precious water resources!

FIDALGO BAY DAY/NATIONAL ESTUARIES DAY

SATURDAY AUG. 27TH, 11 AM TO 3 PM

Fidalgo Bay RV Resort
4701 Fidalgo Bay Road, Anacortes

Come join the fun at Skagit Water Weeks kickoff event. Set on the beautiful Fidalgo Bay shoreline, participants can enjoy a free, fun, educational celebration for the whole family. The event features lots of indoor and outdoor activities including beach seining, Discovery Passport Trail, kid friendly craft tables, games, prizes, interactive educational displays, and tasty free samples of shellfish and chowders from local restaurants. For more information, visit the website: <http://www.skagitmrc.org>. Hosted by Skagit County Marine Resources Committee, Friends of Skagit Beaches, Samish Indian Nation, and partners.

ANACORTES LIBRARY WATER WEEKS DISPLAY

AUGUST 27TH THROUGH SEPTEMBER 4TH

Anacortes Public Library, 1220 10th St., Anacortes

The Anacortes Library will celebrate Skagit Water Weeks with a week-long display featuring water-related books.

FORAGE FISH SURVEY DEMONSTRATIONS

SEPTEMBER DATES TBD

4701 Fidalgo Bay Road, Anacortes

Citizen scientists from the Fidalgo Bay Aquatic Reserve Citizen Stewardship Committee invite kids of all ages to join them for a forage fish spawning survey demonstration. There will be an interpretive stand and also the opportunity to participate. Fidalgo Bay is part of the Washington Department of Natural Resources Aquatic Reserve Program. One of the primary objectives for the

aquatic reserve is the preservation of critical forage fish spawning habitat. Demonstrations will be scheduled throughout September. Email: pgypsy@wavecable.com for a schedule.

WATER CONSERVATION AT HOME: FREE CONSULTATION

SEPTEMBER

By Appointment. Email Linda at: linda@lindasanford.com

In celebration of Skagit Water Weeks, local real estate professional, Linda Sanford of American Dream RE Services, is offering FREE consultations to local residents interested in conserving water usage at home. To schedule an appointment or for more information, email Linda at: linda@lindasanford.com.

JOIN THE SKAGIT STREAM TEAM*

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 7TH 6 TO 8:30 PM;
THURSDAY, SEPT. 8TH 6 TO 8:30 PM; AND
SATURDAY SEPT. 10TH 9 AM TO 2:30 PM

Padilla Bay Interpretive Center
10441 Bay View Edison Road, Mount Vernon

Help protect our legacy of clean water by participating in the Skagit Stream Team program! Participants attend the annual training in September (new volunteers must attend all three sessions), learn sampling and analytical techniques used by environmental professionals, and are responsible for collecting and recording water quality data in the field or conducting testing in the lab on a monthly basis from October through June. Pre-registration requested by Sept. 2nd - contact Kristi Carpenter at 428-4313 or email: kristi@skagitcd.org. The program is hosted by the Skagit Conservation District in partnership with the Padilla Bay Research Reserve, Skagit County, and the Cities of Anacortes, Burlington, and Mount Vernon.

*PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

BIRDING: SURPRISES OF THE FALL MIGRATION*

FRIDAY SEPT. 9TH AND
SUNDAY SEPT. 11TH, 8:30 AM TO 12:30 PM

Padilla Bay Interpretive Center,
10441 Bay View Edison Road, Mount Vernon

Join naturalist, Libby Mills, as we see what's going on in the southbound bird migration. Wear comfortable walking shoes and be prepared to be surprised. Visit Padilla Bay's uplands and the "west 90" of the Samish Flats. Bring water and a snack. Binoculars and field guides are available at the Interpretive Center. Meet in the Padilla Bay Interpretive Center parking lot. Please call to pre-register: 428-1558

SKAGIT RIVER SALMON FESTIVAL

SATURDAY SEPT. 10TH, 10 AM TO 6 PM

Swinomish Casino & Lodge Waterfront Park, Anacortes

A FREE, fun-filled festival experience for families. Located at the Waterfront Park at the Swinomish Casino & Lodge, this grassy park with snowcapped Mount Baker in the distance creates an amazing setting to spend the day celebrating the mighty Skagit River and return of the salmon! Enjoy a terrific lineup of activities and entertainment with something for everyone: Great live music; Arts, crafts, and games for the whole family; Beer/wine garden; Tasty food options; Hunters of the Sky Raptor Shows; Amazing face painters and balloon artist; and more! Visit the website for more information: <http://skagitriverfest.org/>

OMG! IT'S H2O TRIVIA NIGHT

THURSDAY, SEPT. 15TH, 7 PM TO 9 PM

Longhorn Saloon, 5754 Cains Court, Edison

The Skagit Conservation Education Alliance (SCEA) and Longhorn Saloon present OMG! It's H2O Trivia Night! Fun and entertaining - questions and categories for all, spanning subjects from local watershed history, rivers of life, the world is your oyster, water sports, pop culture, music, movies, literature, art, Clean Samish Initiative, and more! Bring your friends and be prepared to have a great time - must be 21 or older. No pre-registration required. 5 person maximum per team; \$5 donation per player; WIN PRIZES! Proceeds will help SCEA kick off a new local mini-grant program for Skagit County students and classrooms to enhance their knowledge and skills through outdoor observations, projects, and experiences. For questions or more information, contact: cwaterskagit@gmail.com

NATIVE PLANTS TO ATTRACT BIRDS*

SATURDAY SEPT. 17TH, 10 AM TO NOON

Padilla Bay Interpretive Center,
10441 Bay View Edison Road, Mount Vernon

Jim Clark from the Edmonds Wildlife Habitat and the Native Plant Demonstration Garden will be speaking about choosing native plants to attract birds to your backyard. Learn about the benefits of using native plants in your home landscape. Native plants are adapted to our climate and require less supplemental water, reducing the amount of water used in home landscaping and provide food and shelter for songbirds and other local wildlife species. The event is FREE and open to the public. Sponsored by the Salal Chapter Washington Native Plant Society. For more information, email: nativegarden@fidalgo.net

SURGE - EXHIBITION AND ART ACTIVITIES ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE

SATURDAY SEPT. 17TH TO SUNDAY, SEPT. 25TH
(TUES-SAT 10 AM TO 5 PM; SUN-MON NOON TO 5 PM)

Museum of Northwest Art, 121 S. First Street, La Conner

In partnership with the Skagit Climate Science Consortium and the Skagit Watershed Council, the Museum of Northwest Art (MoNA) presents an exhibition and participatory art activities to draw attention to climate change and its potential impact on the Northwest's coastal communities. All events are FREE and open to the public. For more information, email: jasminev@museumofnwart.org

CASCADIA SKILLSHARE AND BARTER FAIRE*

SATURDAY, SEPT. 17TH AND
SUNDAY, SEPT. 18TH, 10 AM TO 4 PM

Lookout Arts Quarry, Alger

The Cascadia SkillShare and Barter Faire is a fun festival about teaching and learning all kinds of useful, handy, and practical skills. Years ago, lots of people knew how to repair and sharpen tools, make a braided rug, raise chickens, make soap, build a fence, make simple toys, and much more. There will also be opportunities to share knowledge and skills pertaining to wise water use and the protection of our local water resources. The Lookout Quarry is a steward of a Skagit wetland area. The goals of the Faire are to help revive lost skills, showcase some new ones, and provide a place where all can come learn from people more experienced in these crafts and trades. The event is being hosted by Chuckanut and Whatcom Transition Groups and is open to the public. \$15/day, \$25/weekend, camping is extra. For more information, visit the website: <http://whatcomskillsharefaire.org/the-faire/>

MINI EXPLORERS AT PADILLA BAY (3 to 5 year olds)*

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 21ST AND
THURSDAY, SEPT. 22ND, 10 AM AND 1 PM

Padilla Bay Interpretive Center,
10441 Bay View Edison Road, Mount Vernon

The Padilla Bay Interpretive Center presents "**How Animals Move**" - swimming, flying, crawling, squirming - only a few estuary animals walk on two legs like you! Bring your mini explorer (ages 3 to 5). Registration is required. Please call the Padilla Bay Interpretive Center at (360) 428-1558 to register. New topics presented each month with stories, games, hands-on observations, art projects, and plenty of action. Visit the website for details: <http://www.padillabay.gov/ChildrenClasses.asp>

JUNIOR ECOLOGISTS AT PADILLA BAY (6 to 9 year olds)*

FRIDAY, SEPT. 23RD AND SATURDAY,
SEPT. 24TH, 10:30 AM AND 12:00 PM

Padilla Bay Interpretive Center,
10441 Bay View Edison Road, Mount Vernon

The Padilla Bay interpretive center presents: "**Camouflage: How to Hide in the Tide.**" Don't wear bright pink to this program. Bring your Junior Ecologist (6 to 9 year olds) and find out how camouflage works and who uses it in Padilla Bay. Science experiments, games, art projects, and studying life in the bay - this program is guaranteed fun! Registration is required. Please call the Padilla Bay Interpretive Center at (360) 428-1558 to register.





SKAGIT WATER WEEKS

AUGUST 27 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

Water is Life! Let's Celebrate it!

Skagit Water Weeks is a collection of events hosted by local organizations and community residents that celebrates one of our most treasured resources - water! Clean water is vital to our health, our environment, and our economy, and is essential to maintaining a healthy and vibrant community. We are pleased to present this slate of opportunities and events in celebration of Skagit Water Weeks, and invite you to join us in conserving and protecting our precious water resources!

FIDALGO BAY DAY/ NATIONAL ESTUARIES DAY

SATURDAY AUG. 27TH, 11 AM TO 3 PM

Fidalgo Bay RV Resort
4701 Fidalgo Bay Road, Anacortes

ANACORTES LIBRARY WATER WEEKS DISPLAY

AUGUST 27TH THROUGH SEPTEMBER 4TH

Anacortes Public Library, 1220 10th St., Anacortes

FORAGE FISH SURVEY DEMONSTRATIONS

SEPTEMBER DATES TBD

Email: pgypsy@wavecable.com for schedule

WATER CONSERVATION AT HOME: FREE CONSULTATION

SEPTEMBER

By Appointment. Email Linda at: linda@lindasanford.com

JOIN THE SKAGIT STREAM TEAM*

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 7TH 6 TO 8:30 PM;
THURSDAY, SEPT. 8TH 6 TO 8:30 PM; AND
SATURDAY SEPT. 10TH 9 AM TO 2:30 PM

Padilla Bay Interpretive Center
10441 Bay View Edison Road, Mount Vernon

BIRDING: SURPRISES OF THE FALL MIGRATION*

FRIDAY SEPT. 9TH AND

SUNDAY SEPT. 11TH, 8:30 AM TO 12:30 PM

Padilla Bay Interpretive Center,
10441 Bay View Edison Road, Mount Vernon

SKAGIT RIVER SALMON FESTIVAL

SATURDAY SEPT. 10TH, 10 AM TO 6 PM

Swinomish Casino & Lodge Waterfront Park,
Anacortes

OMG! IT'S H2O TRIVIA NIGHT

THURSDAY, SEPT. 15TH, 7 PM TO 9 PM

Longhorn Saloon, 5754 Cains Court, Edison

NATIVE PLANTS TO ATTRACT BIRDS*

SATURDAY SEPT. 17TH, 10 AM TO NOON

Padilla Bay Interpretive Center,
10441 Bay View Edison Road, Mount Vernon

SURGE - EXHIBITION AND ART ACTIVITIES ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE

SATURDAY SEPT. 17TH TO SUNDAY, SEPT. 25TH
(TUES-SAT 10 AM TO 5 PM; SUN-MON NOON TO 5 PM)

Museum of Northwest Art, 121 S. First Street, La Conner

CASCADIA SKILLSHARE AND BARTER FAIRE*

SATURDAY, SEPT. 17TH AND

SUNDAY, SEPT. 18TH, 10 AM TO 4 PM

Lookout Arts Quarry, Alger

MINI EXPLORERS AT PADILLA BAY (3 to 5 year olds)*

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 21ST AND

THURSDAY, SEPT. 22ND, 10 AM AND 1 PM

Padilla Bay Interpretive Center,
10441 Bay View Edison Road, Mount Vernon

JUNIOR ECOLOGISTS AT PADILLA BAY (6 to 9 year olds)*

FRIDAY, SEPT. 23RD AND SATURDAY,
SEPT. 24TH, 10:30 AM AND 12:00 PM

Padilla Bay Interpretive Center,
10441 Bay View Edison Road, Mount Vernon

FALL 2016 WATERSHED MASTERS PROGRAM*

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 28TH 6 PM TO 8:30 PM AND
CONTINUING EVERY WED THRU NOV. 16TH

Padilla Bay Interpretive Center,
10441 Bay View Edison Road, Mount Vernon

*PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

FOR EVENT DETAILS,
VISIT THE SCEA WEBSITE
www.skagitcleanwater.org

EMAIL: cwaterskagit@gmail.com



A group of four people are standing in a grassy area next to a paved path. They are holding up a large white banner. From left to right: a woman in a colorful tank top and a wide-brimmed hat, a man in a white t-shirt and sunglasses, a man in a grey t-shirt, and a man in a blue t-shirt. In the background, there are trees, a fence, and a boat. A wooden workbench with tools is in the foreground on the right.

Fidalgo Bay Day

Fidalgo Bay Resort

Saturday Aug. 27 11 - 3 Free



http://www.goskagit.com/news/event-series-connects-community-with-local-waters/article_59b66f5c-e86e-599e-8217-e12b36085a73.html

<

PREVIOUS



Group looks at new approach to stopping human trafficking

>

NEXT UP



Old Highway 99 trestle bridge to be replaced

FEATURED

TOP STORY

Event series connects community with local waters

By KIMBERLY CAUVEL @Kimberly_SVH 3 hrs ago



From looking at critters in Fidalgo Bay to considering how climate change may affect the Skagit River, a new five-week series of events will explore Skagit County's water resources.

The series, which starts Saturday and continues through September, will include the annual Fidalgo Bay Day and Skagit River Salmon Festival events, ongoing volunteer training opportunities and some new activities.

"We already have a lot of water-related events, so it was nice that we were able to bring all of those events together under one umbrella," said Skagit Conservation Education Alliance Board President Kristi Carpenter.



The nonprofit alliance and Skagit County organized the series.

"It's just to educate the general public about water. We all love water in Skagit County. I think we are all invested in protecting it," alliance program director Karen Summers said.

On Tuesday, the Skagit County Board of Commissioners designated Aug. 27 to Sept. 30 as Skagit Water Weeks, and encouraged the community to participate.

"Water as a resource is something that none of us can live without, and being good stewards of that is really important," Skagit County Commissioner Ken Dahlstedt said.

Event organizers say the series is a way for the community to celebrate a treasured resource that is vital to human, environmental and economic health.

“We depend on water resources for drinking water, agriculture, irrigation, gardening, all those things that are so important,” Carpenter said. “Our streams, rivers and marine waters are the foundation of this beautiful community.”

The 13th annual Fidalgo Bay Day will be from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at the Fidalgo Bay Resort in Anacortes.

The event includes kids activities, samples of local seafood and beach seining, which is when a net is used to collect marine life for a closer look.

The fifth annual Skagit River Salmon Festival set for Sept. 10 at the Swinomish Casino & Lodge Waterfront Park near Anacortes is a day-long celebration of the Skagit River and the five species of salmon it supports.

For children ages 3 to 9, the Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve is offering Mini Explorers and Junior Ecologists programs Sept. 21-24.

For adults, the 2016 Watershed Masters Program, an eight-week free training session with field trips and talks from local experts, will begin Sept. 28.

The Skagit Conservation District collaborates with the county and area cities for the Watershed Masters Program.

Upon completing the program, watershed masters commit to at least 40 hours of volunteer work, thereby giving back to the community with their knowledge of local waters.

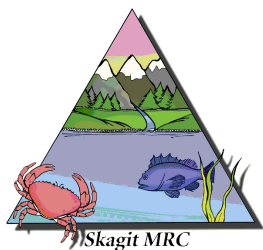
— Reporter Kimberly Cauvel: 360-416-2199, kcauvel@skagitpublishing.com, Twitter: [@Kimberly_SVH](https://twitter.com/Kimberly_SVH), Facebook.com/bykimberlycauvel

More Information

For more information and event details, visit skagitcleanwater.org.

kimberly cauvel

Fidalgo Bay Day and National Estuaries Day
is brought to you by:

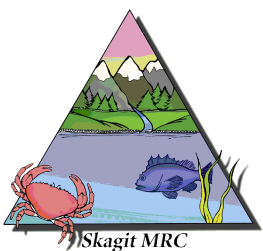


Friends of Skagit Beaches



<http://skagitbeaches.org>
email to friends@skagitbeaches.org

Fidalgo Bay Day and National Estuaries Day
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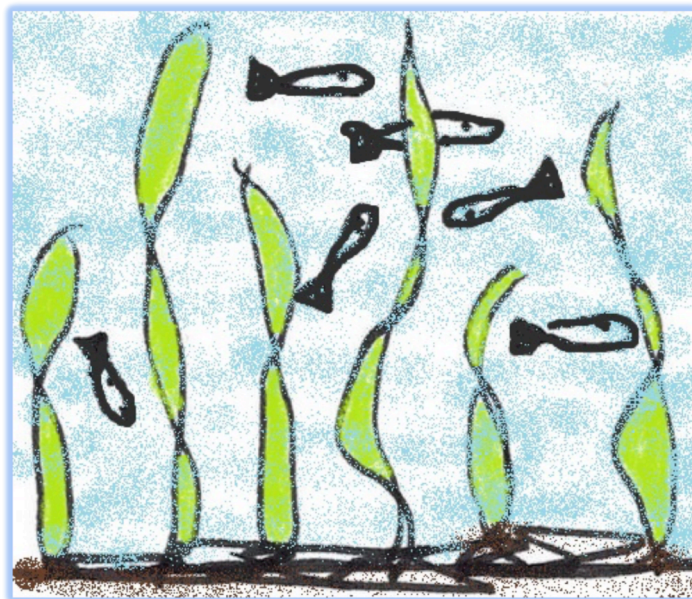


Friends of Skagit Beaches

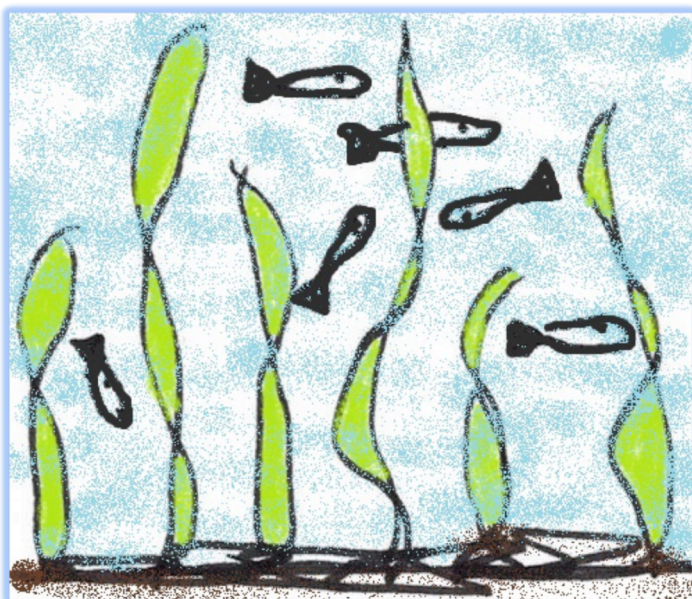


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Fidalgo Bay Day & National Estuaries Day Passport Activity



Fidalgo Bay Day & National Estuaries Day Passport Activity



Passport Instructions: Visit each passport station, participate in activities and answer the questions as you go to receive a sticker for each station. **Collect eight stickers and show your passport at Station #1 by 3:00 pm for a prize!**

LOOK FOR THESE OTHER ACTIVITIES TODAY!

On the Beach

- * Forage Fish Walk – short beach walks to look for forage fish eggs
- * Beach Seining 12:30 pm – watch citizen scientists sample small fish near shore

At the Clubhouse

- * Marine Art Activities
- * Interactive & Educational Displays
- * Free Seafood Samples
- * \$10 Traditional Salmon BBQ



If you had fun today, would like to get involved with the programs you learned about & work with the great volunteers you met, contact:

Samantha Russell
Volunteer Programs Coordinator
srussell@padillabay.gov
360.428.1559

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Station 1 **Estuary Soup**

Kid Question: Name one ingredient you need to have an estuary?

2016 Environmental Film Series

Join *Friends* for great films, good company and popcorn! **FREE** screenings of feature length films, on issues timely and relevant to our Puget Sound/Salish Sea waters. Films will be posted on our calendar at <http://skagitbeaches.org>. Pick up a flyer today at Station #1 to see our film lineup.

Four Fridays:

Sept. 30, Oct. 14 & 22 and Nov. 11

Time: 7 PM, doors open 6:30 PM

Location: NW Ed. Services Dist. Bldg.
1601 R Ave., Anacortes

Adult Question: What role does the sun play in the estuary?

Sponsored by Friends of Skagit Beaches
Trail Tales Shoreline Interpretive Program



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Station 2
Elegant Eelgrass

Kid Question: Name two animals that use eelgrass as a habitat.

Adult Question: Name two reasons eelgrass is important to this estuary ecosystem.

**Sponsored by Padilla Bay National Estuarine
Research Reserve & WWU Shannon Point
Marine Science Center**

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Station 11
Grey Whale Display

Kid Question: How big can a grey whale grow?

Adult Question: How do grey whales eat?

**Sponsored by
Deception Pass State Park Foundation**

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Station 10

Crab Pot Clues

Kid Question: What is an escape cord?

Adult Question: Name one thing you can do to prevent losing your crab pot?

Sponsored by Northwest Straits Foundation

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Station 3

Fidalgo Island Cultural History

Kid Question: Where were logs stored while waiting to be processed in Anacortes lumber mills?

- A. On trains that carried them to Anacortes from the mountains.
- B. In the Port Transit Shed
- C. Floated side-by-side in rafts in Fidalgo Bay

Adult Question: What is a “log boom”?

- A. The period in the late 1800s when plentiful trees provided jobs for new immigrants and raw materials for thriving Northwest lumber mills.
- B. A raft of logs chained together for transport across the water.
- C. The loud noise made by a tree as it falls in the forest.

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Station 4

Foraging For Fish

Kid Question: Forage fish require a pebbly beach, clean water and shade to survive until they hatch.

True () False ()

Adult Question: Forage fish eggs are on the beach for about 2 weeks before they hatch and swim out to sea.

True () False ()

**Sponsored by Skagit Marine Resources
Committee & Fidalgo Bay Aquatic Reserve
Citizens Committee**

Station 9

Down the Drain

Kid Question: Name three things that should never go down a storm drain.

Adult Question: How does stormwater runoff pollution impact the shellfish in our marine waters?

**Sponsored by Skagit Marine Resources
Committee**

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Station 8
Stormy Waters

Kid Question: What is one thing you will do in your own backyard to protect your neighborhood stream from stormwater runoff pollution?

Adult Question: What is one thing you will do in your own backyard to protect your neighborhood stream from stormwater runoff pollution?

Sponsored by Skagit Conservation District

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Sponsored by Skagit Conservation District

Station 5
Fidalgo Bay Aquatic Reserve

Kid Question: How did eelgrass make the sound that you listened to?

Adult Question: Name two ways that boaters can help to protect eelgrass beds.

**Sponsored by Skagit Land Trust &
Washington State Department of Natural
Resources & Fidalgo Bay Aquatic Reserve
Citizens Committee**

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**Sponsored by Skagit Land Trust &
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Station 6
Fidalgo Bay Cleanup

Kid Question: What is one type of garbage that was dug out of Fidalgo Bay during a cleanup?

Adult Question: What are the 2 largest cleanup sites under the Anacortes Baywide Cleanup?

Sponsored by
WA State Dept. of Ecology

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Adult Question: What are the 2 largest cleanup sites under the Anacortes Baywide Cleanup?

Sponsored by
WA State Dept. of Ecology

Station 7
Salmon Obstacle Course

Kid Question: Do salmon like small culverts or big ones?

Adult Question: Which is better, a culvert or a bridge, and why?

Sponsored by
Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group

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