

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING PACKET

BUDGET ORDINANCE 22-039 **Conservation District Rates and Charges**

ECAF: 2022-0886

Date/Time: October 25, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

Staff Person: Jim Martin

DPA: Rebecca Guadamud

EXHIBIT LIST

Click on Exhibit No. to view document

Exhibit #	Date	Exhibit Description
1.	09/08/22	Staff Report
2.	09/06/22	2023 Budget Proposal
3.	09/06/22	Ordinance Introduction Slip - signed
4.	09/09/22	Presentation provided at Finance Committee 09/13/22
5.	09/13/22	Link to Finance and Economic Development Committee Meeting and Video 09/13/22

Exhibit #	Date	Public Testimony
A.	07/06/22	Letter from Mark Craven
B.	09/16/22	E-Mail from Adam Farnham
C.	09/22/22	Letter from Shannon Tarrach

1
2 SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
3 Snohomish County, Washington
4

5 ORDINANCE NO. 22-039
6

7 APPROVING A SYSTEM OF RATES AND CHARGES PROPOSED BY THE
8 SNOHOMISH CONSERVATION DISTRICT PURSUANT TO RCW 89.08.405 FOR
9 NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION PURPOSES ON ALL NON-EXEMPT REAL
10 PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN SNOHOMISH CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND
11 SNOHOMISH COUNTY FOR A TEN-YEAR PERIOD BEGINNING IN 2023
12

13 WHEREAS, the Snohomish Conservation District (hereinafter "District") was
14 formed in 1941 to undertake a variety of activities relating to the management and
15 conservation of natural resources; and
16

17 WHEREAS, the boundaries of the District include most of Snohomish County
18 (hereinafter "County") and Camano Island, which is part of Island County; and
19

20 WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 89.08.405(1), the county legislative authority may
21 in its discretion consider a proposal by a conservation district for a system of rates and
22 charges as an alternative to, but not in addition to, a special assessment provided by
23 RCW 89.08.400; and
24

25 WHEREAS, RCW 89.08.405(3)(a) states that the proposed system of rates and
26 charges may include an annual per acre amount, an annual per parcel amount, or an
27 annual per parcel amount plus an annual per acre amount and the maximum annual per
28 acre amount not exceeding ten cents per acre; and
29

30 WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 89.08.405(4), the consideration, development,
31 adoption, and implementation of a system of rates and charges shall follow the same
32 public notice and hearing process and be subject to the same procedure and authority
33 under RCW 89.08.400(2); and
34

35 WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 89.08.400(2), special assessments to finance the
36 activities of a conservation district may be proposed by the district and imposed by the
37 county legislative authority in which the district is located for a period or periods each
38 not to exceed ten years; and
39

40 WHEREAS, RCW 89.08.400(2) directs the supervisors of a conservation district
41 proposing a special assessment to hold a public hearing on the proposed system of
42 assessments prior to the first day of August in the year prior to the year in which the
43 initial assessment would be collected and file the proposed system of assessments and
44 a proposed budget for the succeeding year with the county legislative authority; and
45

1 WHEREAS, on July 7, 2022, after holding a public hearing on July 6, 2022, the
2 District filed with the Snohomish county council a system of rates and charges to be
3 imposed by council beginning in 2023, which included a proposal of the same rates and
4 charges for the next ten years to ensure service continuation; and
5

6 WHEREAS, on _____, the council held a public hearing on the
7 District's proposed system of rates and charges pursuant to RCW 89.08.405; and
8

9 WHEREAS, the council intends by this ordinance to accept the system of rates
10 and charges as proposed by the District on July 7, 2022, for natural resource
11 conservation purposes on all non-exempt real property located within the District and
12 county for a ten-year period beginning in 2023, as provided herein;
13

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED:
15

16 Section 1. The Snohomish county council makes the following findings and
17 conclusions:
18

19 A. The foregoing recitals are incorporated as if fully set forth herein.
20

21 B. The District is a governmental subdivision of the State of Washington
22 authorized by chapter 89.08 RCW to conserve natural resources.
23

24 C. As acknowledged by the legislature in RCW 89.08.010(4), there is a pressing
25 need for the conservation of natural resources in all areas of the state, whether urban,
26 suburban, or rural, and the benefits of resource practices, programs, and projects
27 carried out by the state conservation commission and local conservation districts should
28 be available to all such areas; and
29

30 D. District activities and programs to be funded by the proposed system of rates
31 and charges include promotion of sustainable agriculture and farmland preservation,
32 including supporting efforts to reduce the conversion of farmland to other uses and
33 educating urban, suburban, and rural residents (including youth) on the importance of
34 local agriculture and the value of farmland preservation; farm planning and water quality
35 improvements, including providing farm planning and technical assistance in best
36 management practice (BMP) implementation and enhancing financial support; natural
37 resource management, including providing permit and other assistance to enhance
38 critical resource management areas and participating in salmon recovery and other
39 natural resource conservation planning efforts; county-wide information and education,
40 including providing youth education programs, assisting the county and governmental
41 entities, educating landowners regarding wildland fire prevention and risk through the
42 "Firewise" program, and promoting stewardship, backyard conservation, and
43 sustainable living; urban conservation, including providing technical services and
44 financial assistance to urban and suburban landowners and supporting city natural
45 resource conservation efforts; and
46

1 E. All lands within the District subject to the proposed system receive a special
2 benefit from the activities and programs of the District that are financed by the rates and
3 charges; and
4

5 F. The public interest will be served by the imposition of rates and charges as
6 proposed by the District and imposed by this ordinance; and
7

8 G. The system of rates and charges imposed on any land by this ordinance will
9 not exceed the special benefits that the land receives or will receive from the activities
10 and programs of the District; and
11

12 H. The system of rates and charges imposed by this ordinance will not apply to
13 areas within the District that are not located within the county, including Camano Island
14 for which special assessments may be imposed by the legislative authority of Island
15 County pursuant to WAC 135-100-040; and
16

17 I. RCW 89.08.405(6) authorizes the county treasurer to deduct an amount from
18 the collected rates and charges to cover costs incurred by the county assessor and
19 county treasurer in spreading and collecting the rates and charges, as established by
20 the Snohomish county council, but not to exceed the actual costs of such work.
21

22 Section 2. Pursuant to RCW 89.08.405, subject to the limits for certain forest
23 lands provided therein and the exemptions for non-assessed property and duration
24 stated below, the county council hereby accepts the system of rates and charges
25 proposed by the District and imposes annual rates and charges on all land within
26 Snohomish County located within the boundaries of the District for the purpose of
27 financing the programs and activities of the District. The system of rates and charges
28 are imposed annually in the following manner: \$10.00 per parcel plus \$0.10 per acre.
29

30 Section 3. The following are classified as non-assessed property and are
31 exempt from the system of rates and charges imposed by this ordinance:
32

33 A. Parcels not taxed by the county, including publicly-owned and Native
34 American lands;
35

36 B. Parcels zoned Forestry (F) under chapter 30.21 SCC;
37

38 C. Parcels located within the county but outside the boundaries of the District; and
39

40 D. Personal property.
41

42 Section 4. The system of rates and charges imposed by this ordinance shall be
43 collected in 2023 and each year thereafter for a total of ten years.
44

45 Section 5. Pursuant to RCW 89.08.405(6) the system of rates and charges
46 imposed by this ordinance shall constitute liens against the parcels assessed and shall

1 be subject to the same conditions as tax liens, collected by the treasurer in the same
2 manner as delinquent real property taxes, and subject to the same interest rate and
3 penalty as for delinquent property taxes.
4

5 Section 6. Pursuant to the Interlocal Cooperation Act, chapter 39.34 RCW, the
6 county and the District may enter into agreements providing for county review and
7 approval of District work plans and budgets to coordinate programs for managing and
8 conserving natural resources funded by the system of rates and charges imposed by
9 this ordinance.
10

11 *[The remainder of this page is intentionally left blank.]*
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PASSED this ____ day of _____, 2022.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

Council Chair

ATTEST:

Asst. Clerk of the Council

- APPROVED
- EMERGENCY
- VETOED

DATE: _____

County Executive

ATTEST:

Approved as to form only:

 09-06-2022

Deputy Prosecuting Attorney



Snohomish County Council

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # 1

FILE ORD 22-039

Committee: Finance
ECAF: 2022-0886
Proposal: Ordinance 22-039

Analyst: Jim Martin
Date: September 8, 2022

Consideration:

Approving a system of rates and charges proposed by the Snohomish Conservation District pursuant to RCW 89.08.405 for Natural Resource Conservation purposes in all non-exempt real property located within Snohomish Conservation District and Snohomish County for a ten-year period beginning in 2023.

Background

RCW 89.08.405 indicates that Council may, at its discretion, consider a conservation district proposal for a system of rates and charges as an alternative to, but not in addition to, a special assessment as provided by RCW 89.08.400. Consideration, development, adoption, and implementation of a system of rates and charges shall follow the same public notice and hearing process and be subject to the same procedure and authority under RCW 89.08.400(2).

On July 6, 2022, Snohomish Conservation District held a public hearing, and subsequently filed with the Snohomish County Council, a system of rates and charges to be imposed by Council beginning in 2023, which included a proposal of the same rates and charges for the next ten years to ensure service continuation. The proposed system of rates and charges to be imposed annually are \$10.00 per parcel, plus \$0.10 per acre. For the last three years the rates have been set at \$8.00 per parcel, and \$0.08 per acre.

Current Proposal

Ordinance 22-039 would adopt the system of rates and charges proposed by the Snohomish Conservation District, at a rate of \$10.00 per parcel and \$0.10 per acre, effective January 1, 2023.

Duration: January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2032

Fiscal Impacts: NONE

2022 Budget: N/A

Future Budget Impacts: N/A

Handling: Normal

Approved-as-to-form: YES.

Risk Management: N/A

Executive Recommendation: N/A

Analysis: This request is consistent with RCW and SCC

Attachments: See ECAF packet

Amendments: NONE.

Request: Move to GLS on September 21st to set time and date for a public hearing.



Annual Rates and Charges Budget

Priorities	Over-arching Natural Resource Priorities and Strategies
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist landowners and land managers in the consistent implementation of management practices that address: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Water quality and quantity resource concerns o Soil health resource concerns o Restoration and maintenance of natural habitats and working lands o Climate resiliency (adaptation and mitigation) • Partner with landowners/managers, tribes, organizations, educational institutions, and agencies that value the complexity of our heritage and natural resources, and that strive to work together to address common goals and desired outcomes • Provide educational opportunities for the public about the importance of maintaining healthy and productive natural resources and local food systems • Support an agricultural industry that is profitable, viable, and a good steward of the natural resources that it maintains • Implement resource management plans as important tools to address the complex issues faced throughout the county

Program	Activities	Rates and Charges	Annual for 10 Years, Beginning 2023
		\$10/Parcel Max Rate	
Farm Assistance/Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical assistance: site visits, farm and resource conservation plans, TA letters, events and classes. 	Staff Funding	\$ 375,000.00
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote equipment sharing program (cooperatives or partnerships with private companies) • Implement best management practices to protect natural resources and improve agricultural resiliency • Promote Sound Horsekeeping program (certify 10 landowners/year) • Continue to update and implement Agriculture Resilience Plan. Convene steering committee, prioritize, design, and implement projects. • Continue scoping and implementing landscape-scale resilience projects for agriculture to withstand impacts of climate change • Provide risk management tools and education to farmers including modeled impacts to hydrology, precipitation, and temperature • Continue to partner with land-trusts to develop and implement farmland conservation programs • Continue to partner with WSU to provide succession and business planning (Cultivating Success) • Enhance riparian buffer restoration efforts utilizing working buffer models such as agroforestry • Continue to provide permitting assistance to farmers through collaboration with PDS • Continue to implement energy efficiency and renewable energy program for farmers and rural businesses (REDA) • Increase outreach to farmers - providing education on climate resilience, soil health, water storage, succession planning, business planning 	Cost Share	\$ 50,000.00
Program	Activities		
Habitat Restoration and Floodplain Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical assistance to landowners and residents, including site visits, technical assistance letters, events and classes, and restoration plans. 	Staff Funding	\$ 425,000.00
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve salmon habitat: Reduce water temperature, improve water quality, improve streamflow, and remove fish passage barriers in priority watersheds. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Continue stream and river riparian restoration program. Plant 65 acres per year (includes site preparation, plant installation and o Continue to remove fish passage barriers, up to four per year • Maintain native plant nursery and contract grow with private nurseries • Continue Living with Beavers program to promote wetland and habitat restoration • Continue partnership with the county and tribes to implement large multi-benefit floodplain projects (i.e. Community Floodplain Solutions) 	Cost Share	\$ 50,000.00

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide forest stewardship planning for forest landowners and continue to support WSU Extension forestry education and research program • Launch water storage program to restore wetlands and reduce flooding • Continue Free Trees program - providing 3,000 free native plants to residents/year 			
Program	Activities			
Community Conservation/Urban Agriculture, Backyard Wildlife Habitat, Green Stormwater Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support urban tree planting programs 	Staff Funding	\$	400,000.00
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue the Rain Catchment Program- disseminating 200 rain barrels and at least 1 cistern cost-share project per year. • Provide Lawns to Lettuce program for urban residents • Provide customized support and programming to jurisdictions • Provide technical assistance and cost-share to community based urban agriculture projects • Participate in food system resiliency partnerships • Integrate LID into habitat and farm planning efforts • Provide broad-scale stormwater outreach and education • Provide retrofits and stewardship opportunities for multi-family residences and under-represented audiences • Design, test, and implement innovative LID techniques, including rain gardens and bioswales • Provide maintenance services and training for school and other demonstration projects • Provide professional level training opportunities for rain gardens and detention pond maintenance 	Cost Share	\$	50,000.00
Program	Activities			
Outreach and Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish e-news monthly. Continue District's social media presence. • Serve as communications support for Sustainable Land Strategy, PSCD, the Conservation Commission, and other partners • Coordinate and provide educational in-person workshops and online webinars (at least 40 annually) • Participate in and support local fairs and conferences • Implement targeted social marketing and program evaluation • Maintain the Better Ground website and outreach campaign • Implement Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Plan to engage under-represented audiences 	Staff Funding	\$	275,000.00
Program	Activities			
Youth Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide classroom instruction for salmon recovery, wetlands, and water quality 	Staff Funding	\$	100,000.00
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement service learning projects with local students • Provide stewardship opportunities for extra-curricular groups like YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, 4H, FFA, and Scouts • Implement Agriculture Education program • Coordinate with local and regional partners to provide field trip opportunities • Support local high schools participation in Envirothon • Provide technical support and cost-share to schools for stormwater retrofits and outdoor classrooms 	Project Costs	\$	15,000.00
Expense Category	Item			
Reserve Account	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build reserve account for contingency funding 	Reserve	\$	100,000.00
Snohomish County Treasurer Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fee assessed by Snohomish County for collection of rates and charges funds 	Fee	\$	215,441.00
Business Operations/Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programmatic oversight on all District programs, Financial audits, District strategic planning, Day to day operations 	Staff Funding	\$	462,548.47
Total Estimated Annual Budget			\$	2,517,989.47

**ORDINANCE
INTRODUCTION SLIP**

EXHIBIT # 3

FILE ORD 22-039

TO: Clerk of the Council

TITLE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE:
APPROVING A SYSTEM OF RATES AND CHARGES PROPOSED BY
THE SNOHOMISH CONSERVATION DISTRICT PURSUANT TO RCW
89.08.405 FOR NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION
PURPOSES ON ALL NON-EXEMPT REAL PROPERTY LOCATED
WITHIN SNOHOMISH CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND
SNOHOMISH COUNTY FOR A TEN-YEAR PERIOD BEGINNING IN
2023



09/06/22

Councilmember

Date

Clerk's Action: Proposed Ordinance No. 22-039

Assigned to: Finance and Economic Development Committee Date: 9/13/22

10/04/22 re-assigned to Committee of the Whole

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FORM

On 10/04/22, the Committee considered the item and by Consensus /
5 Yeas and 0 Nays, made the following recommendation:

Move to Council to schedule public hearing _____

Public Hearing Date 10/25/22 10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Move to Council as amended to schedule public hearing

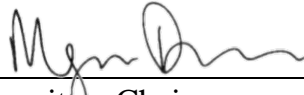
Move to Council with no recommendation

This item should/ should not be placed on the Consent Agenda.

(Consent agenda may be used for routine items that do not require public hearing and do not need discussion at General Legislative Session)

This item should/ should not be placed on the Administrative Matters Agenda

(Administrative Matters agenda may be used for routine action to set time and date for public hearings)



Committee Chair

Rates and Charges Proposal

SNOHOMISH



CONSERVATION DISTRICT

About Us



We are a team of 35 dedicated staff, two field crews, and five elected and appointed board members from our community.



We have been working with farmers, city residents, rural and suburban landowners on a voluntary basis since 1941.



RCW 89.08: Our mission is to work cooperatively with others to promote and encourage conservation and responsible use of natural resources.



Lawns to Lettuce



Sound Horsekeeping



Sound Education



Farm Planning



Wildlife Habitat



Habitat Restoration

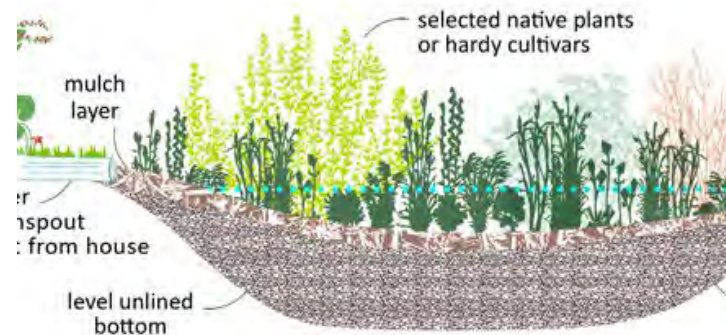
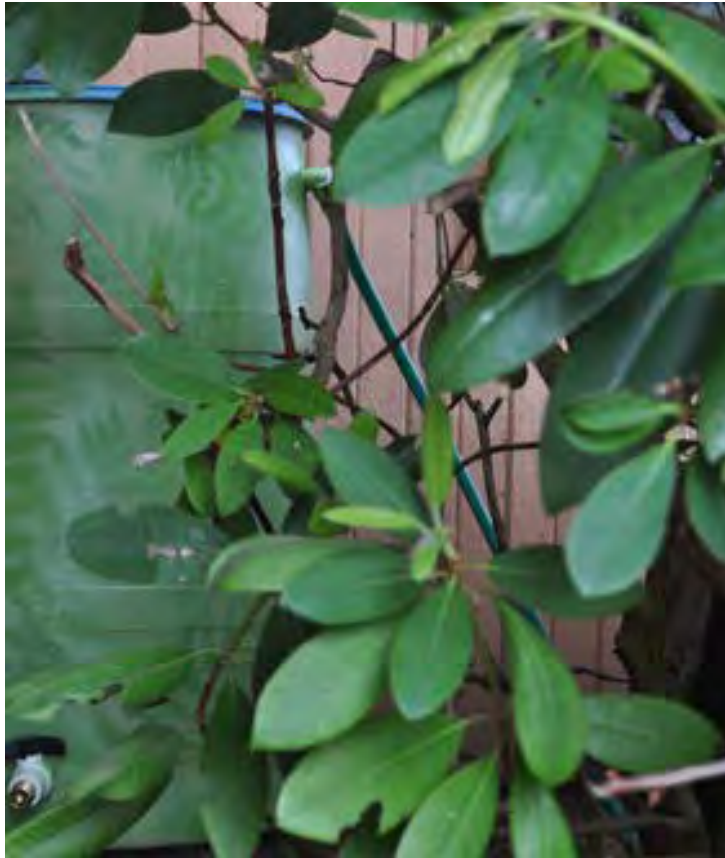


Rain Gardens



Natural Yard Care

Green Stormwater Infrastructure



Our staff and Conservation Crew are in the field spring through fall installing green infrastructure projects:

- Rain Gardens
- Rain Barrels
- De-paves
- Bio-swales
- Urban Trees







Lawns to Lettuce



70 RAISED GARDEN BEDS INSTALLED

To help feed our community, we installed raised garden beds for private residents and community organizations who grow food for food banks and local residents.

Forest Stewardship Program



In the past year, we assisted 31 landowners and provided management recommendations for 700 acres of forestland

Broadening

Broadening partnerships in Snohomish County

Increasing

Increasing services for landowners, including cost share funding

Delivering

Delivering community wildfire resilience planning and project implementation

Forest Ecological Goals



Restore forest-related ecosystem functions



Improve fish and wildlife habitat



Protect water quality



Reduce stormwater runoff



Habitat Restoration



We provide jobs and career training

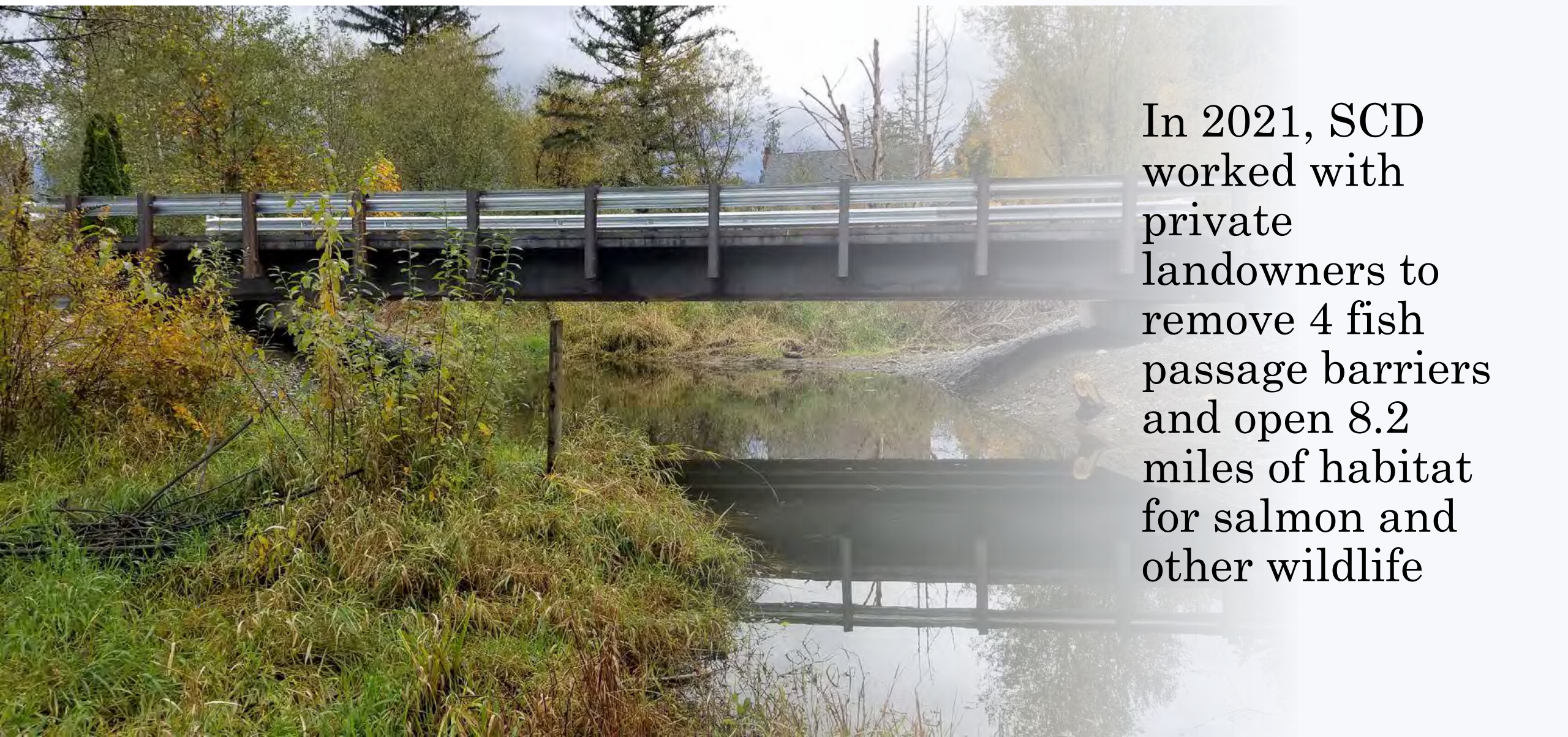
- Washington Conservation Crew
- Community Conservation Crew

Our staff and crews:

- Plant native trees and shrubs
- Restore riparian habitat
- Remove invasive species
- Install livestock exclusion fencing

Riparian Reforestation and Stewardship





In 2021, SCD worked with private landowners to remove 4 fish passage barriers and open 8.2 miles of habitat for salmon and other wildlife





**Drainage Improvement
District 13**

Swan's Trail Slough



Watercourses

- DD13 maintained – intermittent flow
- DD13 maintained – perenial flow
- Private - intermittent flow
- Private - tiled drainage



Drainage Base Map
Snohomish County
DD13

Snohomish Conservation District
Everett/Snohomish/Washington

Legend

- 6ft tidegate & 1ft hidrostal
- Beaver dam
- Salatca Bridge
- House
- Roads
- Pipelines
- Waterline
- Levees
- Drainage districts
- 2019 parcels
- SCD survey points

Prepared By Cardno
Date: 11/3/2020
Imagery Source: Maxar 7/22/2018



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Seattle, Washington 98104
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NAD_1983_StatePlane_Washington_North
FIPS_4601_Feet

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Flood Concerns

Flood and Sea Level Rise

1 Select a Region:

Snohomish County

2 Select a Hazard:

Riverine & Coastal Flooding

3 Select Greenhouse Gas Scenario:

Low

High

4 Select Annual Chance Event:

2-year (50%)

10-year (10%)

25-year (4%)

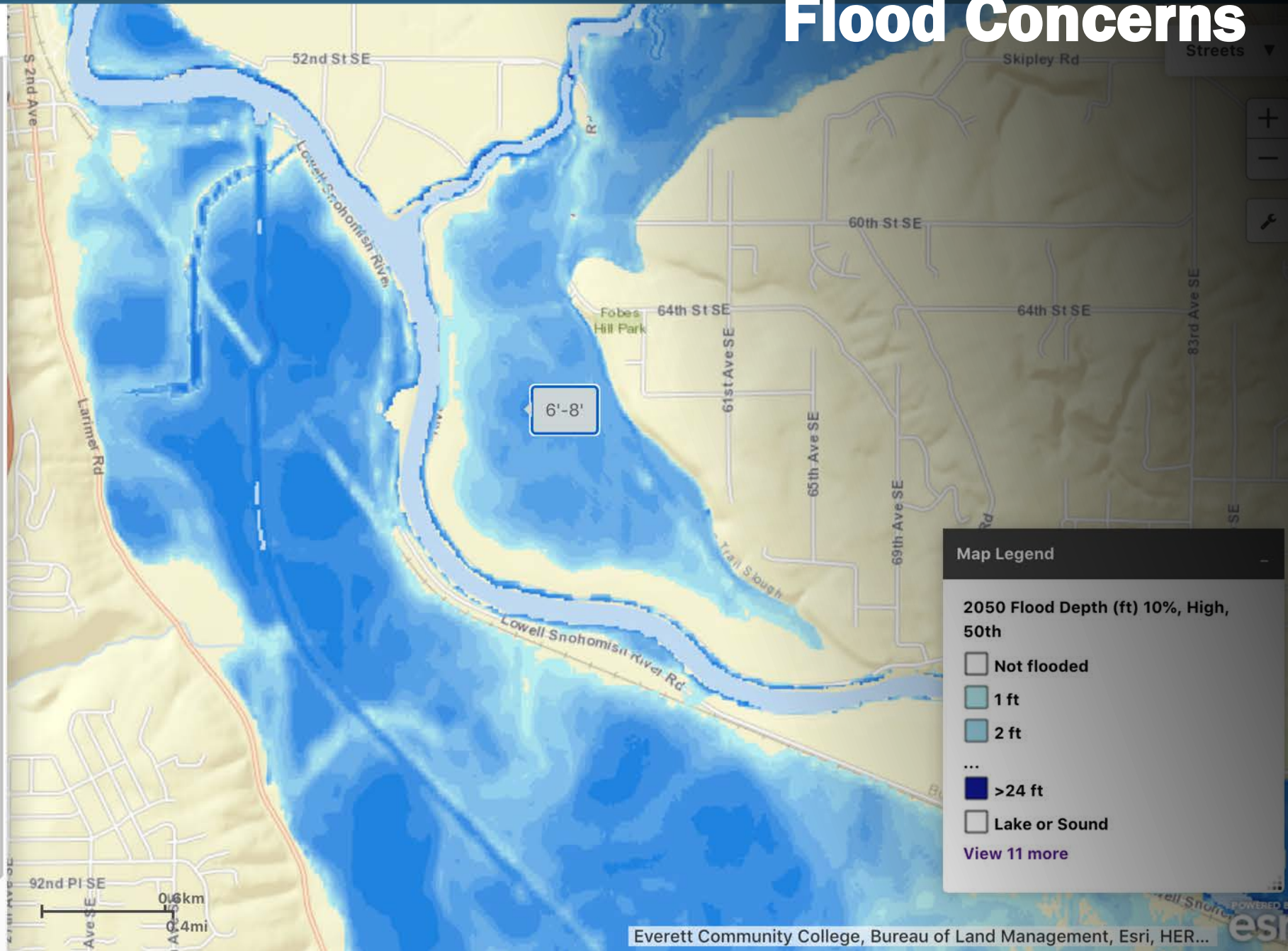
100-year (1%)

5 Flood Year:

1980s 2050s 2080s

Opacity

Note: click on the map to identify the flood depth at that specific location.



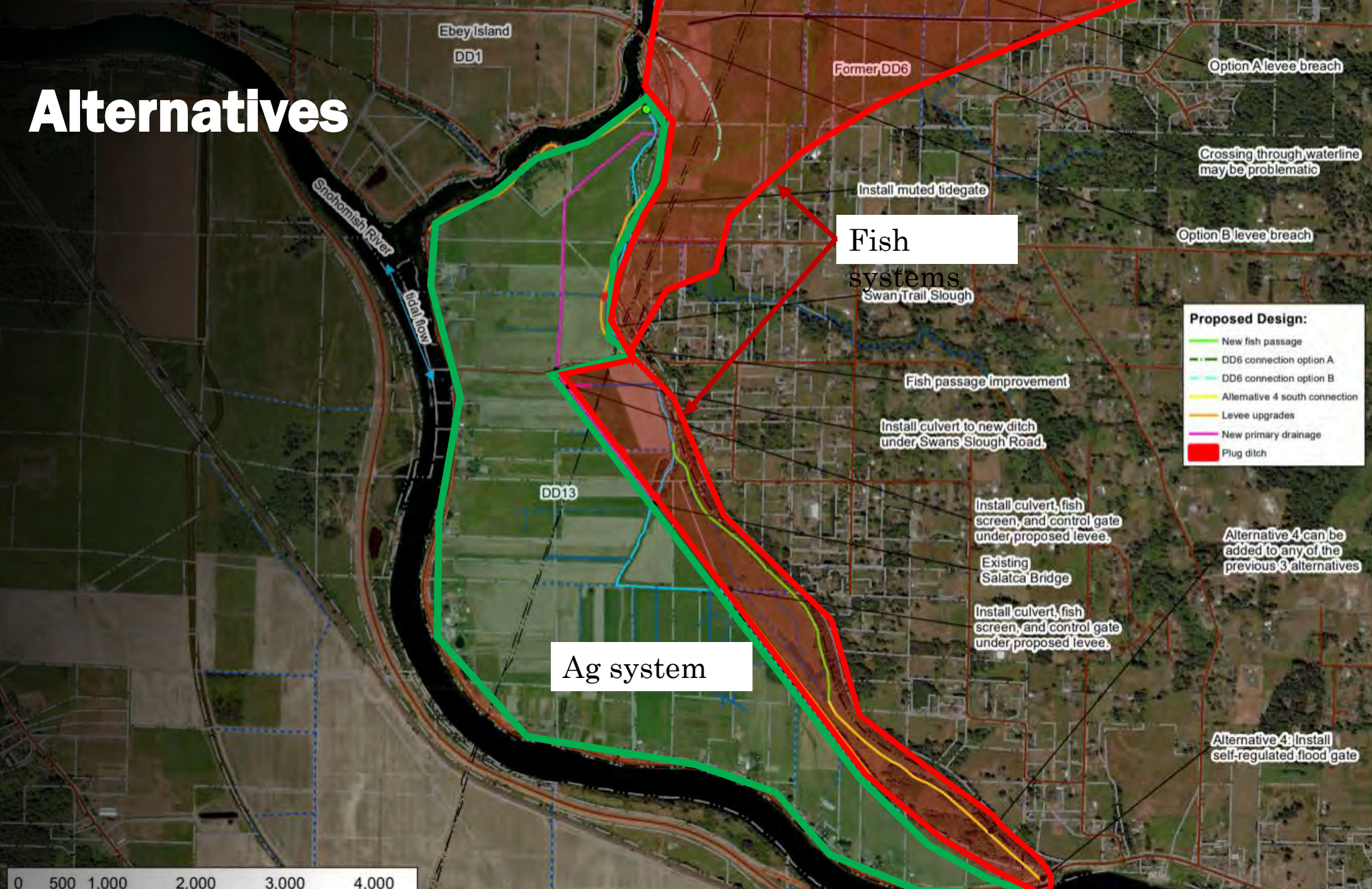
Map Legend

2050 Flood Depth (ft) 10%, High, 50th

- Not flooded
- 1 ft
- 2 ft
- ...
- >24 ft
- Lake or Sound

[View 11 more](#)

Alternatives



Alternative 3 & 4

Multi-Benefit Projects
in DD13 and
Swan's Trail Slough

Snohomish Conservation District
Everett/Snohomish/Washington

Existing Conditions:

- Existing pump location
- Beaver dam
- House
- Pipelines
- Waterline
- Roads
- Levees
- Drainage districts
- 2019 parcels
- Watercourses**
- DD13 maintained – intermittent flow
- DD13 maintained – perennial flow
- Private - intermittent flow
- Private - tiled drainage

- ### Proposed Design:
- New fish passage
 - DD6 connection option A
 - DD6 connection option B
 - Alternative 4 south connection
 - Levee upgrades
 - New primary drainage
 - Plug ditch

Alternative 4 can be added to any of the previous 3 alternatives

Alternative 4: install self-regulated flood gate

Prepared By Cardno
Date: 11/5/2020
Imagery Source: Maxar 7/22/2018

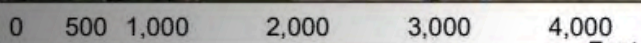


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Agriculture Program

Provide nutrient management plans to certify dairies.

- Serve as liaison for dairy farmers during WSDA dairy inspections

Facilitate WCC and NRCS implementation of BMPs on commercial agricultural land to maintain viability and protect natural resources

- Manure pumps, slurry pits, manure transfer, gutters/downspouts, waste storage, heavy use areas, buffers, exclusion fencing

Conduct site visits and one on one technical assistance to farmers

- How to set up a farm, livestock management, composting, waste storage, heavy use areas, gutters/downspouts, pasture management, etc.

Developed one of the first agroforestry programs in PNW to conduct research, promote climate resilience, and meet the needs of farmers.

- Silvopasture, food forests, cover crops, soil health

On-going Sound Horsekeeping Program to meet the needs of our equine industry

- Site visits, technical assistance, workshops and education

Provide engineering and design for agriculture infrastructure.

- Improves and maintains water quality, protects natural resources, and enhances agriculture viability



Climate Impacts to Farms



Increase Resilience on Your Farm



**Ag Resilience
Fact Sheets**





Solar panel and pump

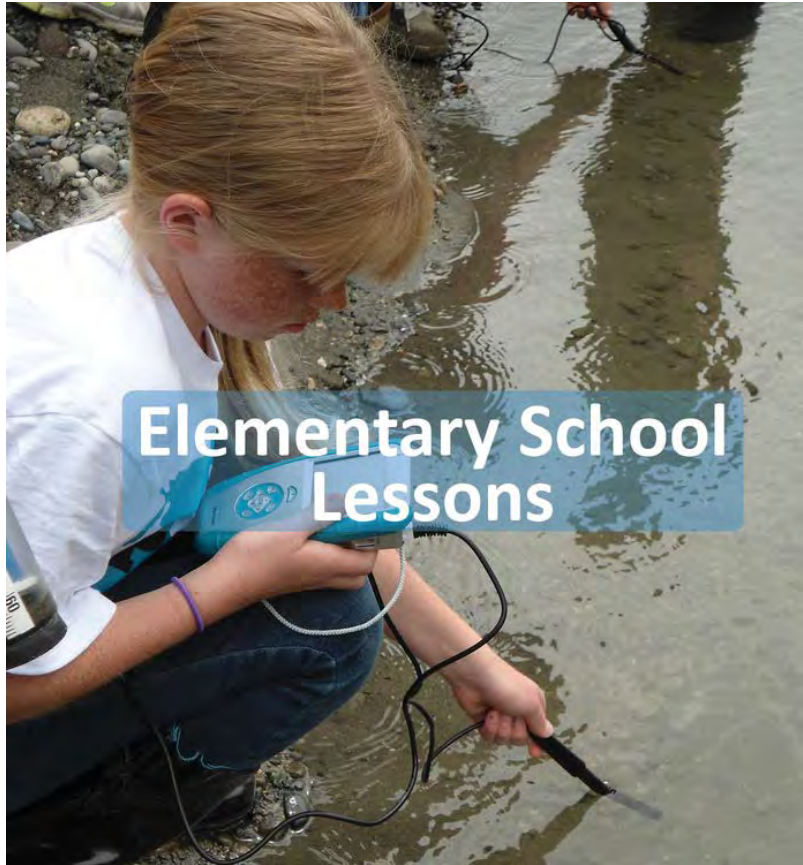




Before



After



Elementary School
Lessons



Service Learning



Middle School
Lessons




Envirothon

Youth Education



- Regional Puget Sound wide event. [BetterGround.org](https://www.betterground.org)
- Over 100 participants last year in Mountlake Terrace
- October 15, 2022 planned in Marysville at Strawberry Fields Park



TALES OF TWO RIVERS PRESENTS
THE STILLAGUAMISH RIVER FILM FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 8

CELEBRATE THE CREATION OF SIX VIDEOS ABOUT FARMING, SALMON, AND FLOODING!

Business Operations Team



Rates and Charges Proposal

- Continue and sustain Snohomish Conservation District programs
 - \$10 per parcel
 - \$0.10 per acre
 - 10-year period

Ordinance 22-039

EXHIBIT 5

Finance and Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes –
09/13/22

[Minutes](#) and [Video](#)

Snohomish Conservation District

working together for better ground since 1941



528 91st Ave NE, Ste A, Lake Stevens, WA 98258-2538 425-335-5634 www.snohomishcd.org

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # A

FILE ORD 22-039

July 6, 2022

Snohomish County Council
3000 Rockefeller Avenue
Everett, WA 98201

Re: Snohomish Conservation District Rates & Charges Proposal

Dear Snohomish County Council,

On behalf of the Snohomish Conservation District (SCD) Board of Supervisors, I am pleased to submit the enclosed packet for the Snohomish Conservation District's Rates and Charges proposal.

This submittal includes:

- 2023 Work Plan and Budget
- The SCD Assessment Roll

The District Board of Supervisors and staff are excited to continue our work with Snohomish County, our numerous partners, and county residents and landowners to enhance and expand the services as outlined in this proposal. For over 80 years, the District has been on the forefront of productive agriculture, habitat restoration, and residential stewardship – by providing free services to private landowners. With a growing population and increased pressure on our natural resources, the District has developed programs and implemented projects to meet the demands of a diverse and changing environment.

We all greatly appreciate your efforts over the past few years to approve the \$1/parcel and \$0.01/acre incremental annual increase. We intentionally skipped the increase last year due to the pandemic with the understanding that we would include the increase in this year's proposal. This year, we propose a continuation of this incremental approach, to increase \$2/parcel and \$0.02/acre. This will be the final annual increase, to start in 2023 and continue at the same rate for a 10-year period. This proposal will ensure that services can continue to be provided for our local communities into the future.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please call Linda Lyshall at 425-327-9862.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Craven". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Craven
Snohomish Conservation District Board Chair

Cc: Dave Somers, County Executive

From: Adam Farnham <engineer.d.adam@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 16, 2022 8:06 AM
To: Contact Council
Cc: Linda Lyshall
Subject: Support for Conservation District Rate Proposal
Attachments: Farnham - Letter of Support.pdf

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL

EXHIBIT # B

FILE ORD 22-039

CAUTION : This email originated from outside of this organization. Please exercise caution with links and attachments.

To Whom it May Concern,
Please find attached a letter of support for the proposed rates and charges for the Snohomish Conservation District. Thank you for your assistance.

--
Adam Farnham
425.894.4389 Voice

September 16, 2022

Snohomish County Council
3000 Rockefeller Ave
M/S 609
Everett, WA 98201
Email: contact.council@snoco.org

RE: Support for Snohomish Conservation District's Rates and Charges Proposal

Dear Members of the Snohomish County Council,

I am writing in support of the Snohomish Conservation District's (SCD) proposal to increase their rates and charges to an annual \$10 per parcel and \$0.10 per acre.

SCD provides valuable technical and financial assistance to the residents, businesses, and farmers in Snohomish County. SCD designs and implements projects that restore habitat, protect water quality, and contribute to the viability of agriculture and food security. They assist with funding and provide educational services for projects which maximize water quality, groundwater recharge and carbon recapture. Their services are vital for a sustainable quality of life for Snohomish residents, now and in the future.

Thank you for your consideration of SCD's proposal. Voting in favor of the proposed rates and charges will ensure SCD can continue to provide valuable services to the residents of Snohomish County and achieve sustainable outcomes in conserving our natural resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adam Farnham', with a stylized, looped flourish at the end.

Adam Farnham
21225 Meadow Lake Rd
Snohomish, WA 98290

Cc: Lynda Lyshall E: lyshall@snohomishcd.org

RECEIVED

OCT 03 2022

Snohomish County Council

September 22, 2022

Snohomish County Council
3000 Rockefeller Ave, Everett, WA

RE: Support for Snohomish Conservation District's Rates and Charges Proposal

Dear Snohomish County Council,

I am writing in support of the Snohomish Conservation District's (SCD) proposal to increase their rates and charges to \$10 per parcel and \$0.10 per acre annually. The support that SCD offers the Monroe School District Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs through participation on both our General Advisory and Program Advisory Committees. These committees are partnerships between district teaching staff and industry partners such as SCD to inform and develop our CTE programs to keep them up to date on industry standards. SCD has specifically had representation on our committees for several years both as active members and as our Committee Chair. The input provided has helped us to identify equipment and facility needs, to further develop academic programs and to provide further opportunities for our students.

SCD provides valuable technical and financial assistance to the residents, businesses, and farmers within Snohomish County. In addition, they implement projects that restore habitat, protect water quality, and contribute to the viability of agriculture and food security. Their services are incredibly important and appreciated.

In rural areas of Snohomish County, SCD works to conserve farmland, plant riparian buffers to restore salmon habitat, and support farmers and rural landowners. They develop farm plans to improve productivity and address natural resource concerns, and forest stewardship plans to reduce wildfire risk and improve forest health.

In urban and suburban areas, SCD programs focus on increasing urban agriculture and backyard wildlife habitat and reducing stormwater runoff. SCD partners with cities, schools, organizations, and residents to install community gardens and green stormwater infrastructure such as rain gardens, bioswales, and street trees. In addition, they provide free technical assistance to homeowners and businesses to address flooding and drainage issues.

SCD provides extensive outreach and education throughout the county on multiple topics, such as Sound Horsekeeping, Lawns to Lettuce, Agroforestry, Wetlands, Watersheds, Climate Resilience, and Natural Yard Care. They also host numerous events, one of the most popular being the annual native plant sale where they provide thousands of plants to local gardeners at low cost.

Thank you for your consideration of SCD's proposal that will ensure SCD can continue to provide valuable services to the residents of Snohomish County and achieve tangible outcomes in conserving our natural resources.

Sincerely,



Shannon Tarrach

Monroe School District, Director of College and Career Readiness
14692 179th Ave SE, Monroe, WA 98272