



City Forest Credits

Afforestation and Reforestation Project Application

1. Project Name

Skagit County 2023-24 Planting Project

2. Project Operator

Organization/Entity: Skagit Conservation District

Address: 2021 East College Way, Suite 203

City: Mount Vernon

State: Washington

Zip: 98273

Contact(s): Emmett Wild, Joe Holtcamp

Phone: 360.428.4313

Email: emmett@skagitcd.org, ioe@skagitcd.org

3. Project Location

Project must be in or adjacent to one of the following. Describe which one of the criteria the project meets and provide name of city, town, or jurisdiction where project is located.

- *Urban Area or Urban Cluster boundary per U.S. Census Bureau*
- *Boundary of any incorporated or unincorporated city or town*
- *Boundary of any planning area for a regional metropolitan planning agency or entity*
- *Within the boundary of land owned, designated, and used by a municipal or quasi- municipal entity for source water or watershed protection*
- *Within a transportation or utility right of way through one of above*

The Project Area includes two planting sites:

- Site 1 – 774 Old Highway 99 North Road, Skagit County, WA (Parcel number: P48951)
- Site 2 – 1407 State Route 9, Sedro Woolley, WA 98284 (Parcel number: P50921)

Both planting sites are within the planning boundaries of the Skagit Council of Governments, a regional metropolitan planning organization.

4. Project Description

Provide short narrative of the overall project goals, location where trees will be planted, land ownership or eligibility to receive credits, approximate number of trees or acres, main tree species, and project timeframe.

The Skagit County 2023-24 Planting Project includes two plantings on separate, non-contiguous sites. The Site 1 planting, led by the Skagit Conservation District (“the District”), aims to restore about 13 acres of riparian vegetation along Friday Creek and a tributary to Friday Creek on a private property in Alger, Washington. The property is owned by a private landowner, who has agreed to transfer the carbon credits rights to the District as part of this carbon project. Approximately 4,200 trees have been installed. Main tree species include Sitka spruce, western redcedar, shore pine, cascara and red alder. Seedlings were planted on an approximate 10-foot spacing. The area was planted in March of 2024.

The Site 2 planting, also led by the District, aims to restore about 2.98 acres of riparian buffer along the Samish River in Sedro Woolley, WA. The property is owned by a private landowner, who has also agreed to transfer the carbon rights to the District. Approximately 2,400 seedlings were planted. The wetland area of the site was planted with hooker willow and red osier dogwood on a 6-foot spacing. The upland area was planted on a 10-foot spacing with a mix of conifer and hardwoods, consisting mostly of western redcedar, Sitka spruce, shore pine and cascara. Both wetland and upland areas on the site were planted in March 2023.

5. Project Impacts

Provide short narrative of the environmental, social, and health impacts this project will achieve. Examples include how the project addresses increased access to green spaces for under-resourced communities, flood control or watershed protection, benefits for human health and wellbeing, improved recreation opportunities, or protection of bird and wildlife habitat.

Friday Creek has been impacted by elevated water temperatures and is listed on the Washington Department of Ecology's 303d list of impaired waters. The planting project is part of an overall effort to restore riparian habitat along Friday Creek. Friday Creek is important habitat for coho, chum, steelhead and cutthroat trout according to Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife Priority Habitats and Species map. Over the years, the Skagit Conservation District has completed 6 other riparian plantings along Friday Creek.

The Samish River is important habitat for chinook, coho, chum, steelhead and cutthroat trout according to Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife Priority Habitats and Species map. Over the years, the Skagit Conservation District has completed 14 other riparian plantings along the Samish River.

In addition to providing shade to Friday Creek and the Samish River thereby improving water quality, the plantings will improve biodiversity and benefit wildlife. These plantings will remove and store carbon dioxide as they grow and mature, helping to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change. Healthy plantings help to restore natural processes in the Samish River and Friday Creek, which may translate to better conditions for salmonids; this in turn helps to maintain tribal treaty rights and productive fisheries.

6. Planting Design and Quantification Method

Provide short narrative about the planting design and quantification method you will use for the project. Refer to Protocol Appendix A for more detail.

- *Single Tree Quantification Method: trees planted in a dispersed or scattered design that are planted at least 16.5 feet apart (i.e. street trees). This method requires tracking of individual trees and tree survival for sampling and quantification.*
- *Clustered Quantification Method: trees planted at least 16.5 feet apart but are relatively contiguous and designed to create canopy over an area (i.e. park-like settings). This method requires tracking change in canopy, not individual tree survival.*
- *Area Reforestation Quantification Method: tree planting areas greater than 5 acres and where many trees are planted closer than 16.5 feet. Higher tree mortality is expected and the goals are to create canopy and a forest ecosystem. Project Operators have several quantification models to choose from, all of which produce a carbon index on a per-acre basis.*

The Project plantings are consistent with the Area Reforestation Planting Design and Quantification Method. Seedlings are planted approximately 10 feet apart. This is designed to establish a forest canopy that will mitigate sunlight-dependent invasive species from colonizing the project sites long-term. The planting design will also support natural succession of species to a functioning riparian buffer.

7. Additional Information

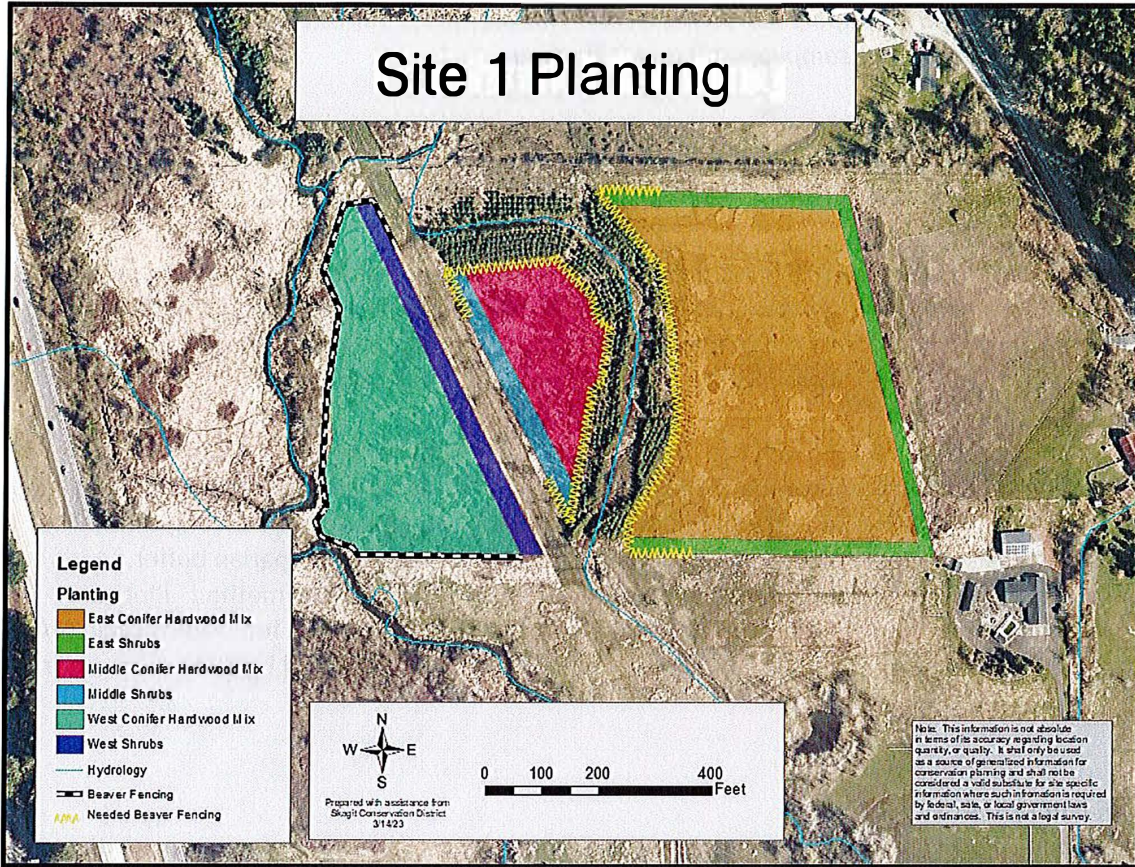
Provide additional information about your project. If the Project is part of a larger program or planting effort, include one sentence with more information. Examples include collaboration with other partners or how this project fits into a regional initiative.

These planting projects were funded by the Washington State Conservation Commission through their Salmon Recovery Funding program, a Washington State legislative appropriation. The registration of this project is being done with support from Bonneville Environmental Foundation's Carbon Credit Regional Operator Program, an initiative funded by the Environmental Protection Agency's National Estuary Program.

8. Map

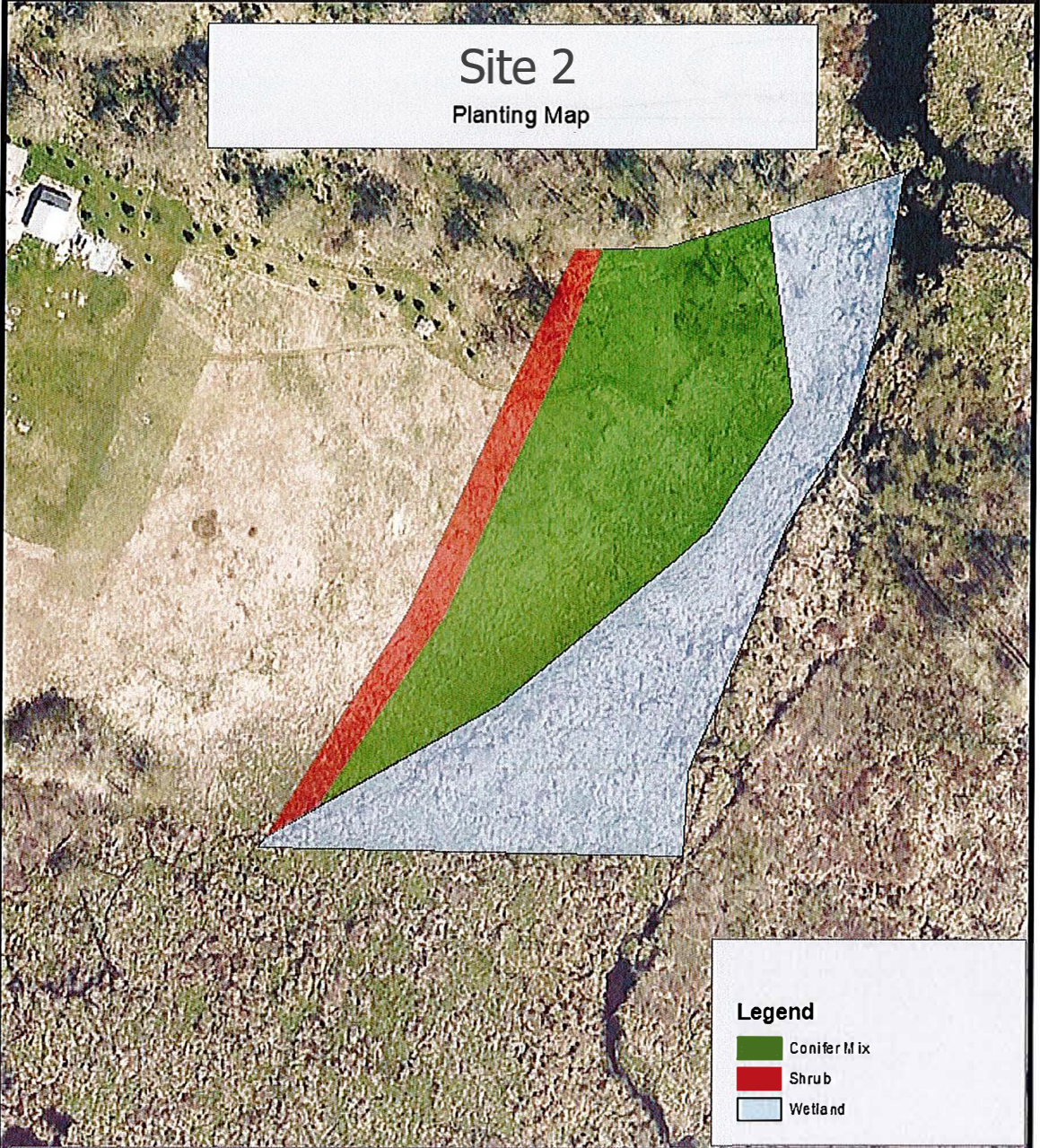
Provide a map of the Project Area.

Site 1 Planting



Site 2

Planting Map



Legend

-  Conifer Mix
-  Shrub
-  Wetland



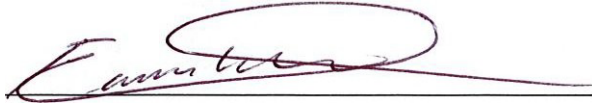
Section 7, T 36N, R 5E



Prepared with assistance
by the Skagit Conservation District
12/19/22

Note: This information is not absolute in terms of its accuracy regarding location, quantity, or quality. It shall only be used as a source of generalized information for conservation planning and shall not be considered a valid substitute for site specific information where such information is required by federal, state, or local government laws and ordinances. This is not a legal survey.

Signed on April 10 in 2024, by Emmett Wild, District Manager, for Skagit Conservation District.



Signature

Emmett Wild

Printed Name

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Email