

South Fork Nooksack River Watershed Project

FAQs

Why did this process get started?

Many residents and landowners recognize the importance of protecting our water supply. It is ultimately our responsibility, as members of this community, to ensure that there is enough clean water for our working farms, for our fish, and for our children and grandchildren. The South Fork Nooksack River Watershed project was conceived in this spirit.

Over the last several years, citizens and organizations with land or responsibilities in the watershed, including the Acme/Van Zandt Flood Advisory Committee, the Nooksack Tribe Natural Resources Department, Lummi Nation, Whatcom Land Trust, the Evergreen Land Trust Association, and local government agencies, had identified the need for watershed level planning, and the need for open community dialogue about land and water management priorities outside of a regulatory framework.

Recognizing the need for a locally driven process, there was also a strong planning framework already established by the Initiating Governments of the WRIA 1 Watershed Management Project and Salmon Recovery Project, and the related WRIA 1 Watershed Management Plan and Salmon Recovery Plan, which South Fork Nooksack efforts could act upon. An initial Planning Team was formed 2015 when several grants were received to help fund research and community engagement for various aspects of watershed planning.

How is this process being funded?

After initial grants from Whatcom Community Foundation and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), additional funding was obtained from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to help pay for additional assessment, research, information sharing, landowner outreach and community engagement.

How can I get involved?

- Information about the process, research, and tools for stewardship are available on the SFNR website: www.sfnooksack.com
- Take the Community Survey
- Sign up for regular updates