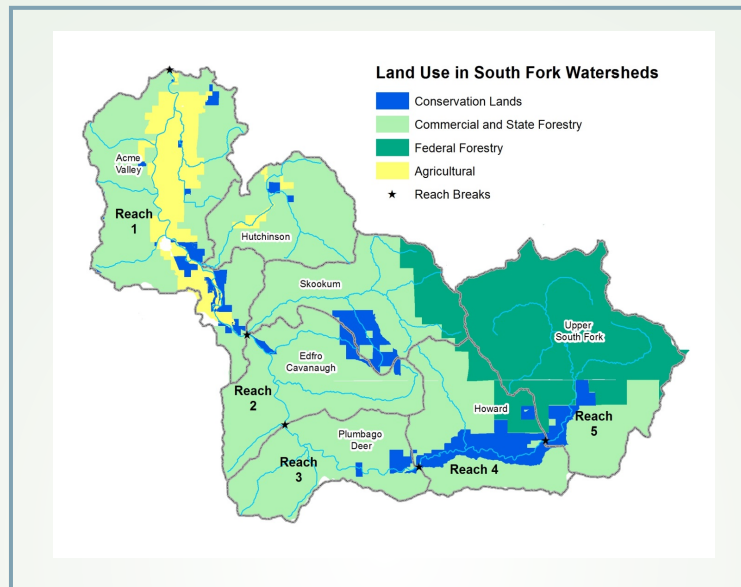


South Fork Nooksack River Watershed Community Long Term Goals and Planning Principles

As developed by the SFNR residents and landowners participating in the meetings of the 44-member Watershed Group, January – May 2017



LONG TERM COMMUNITY GOALS

Although we have a wide range of perspectives and interests in the South Fork Nooksack River Valley, we are looking for win-win solutions to protect our water resources for:

- **Our Families:** Keep the rural way of life and protect it for our children.
- **Our Farms:** Maintain and protect productive agricultural lands and promote long-term agricultural economic viability.
- **Our Forests:** Maintain and protect the forestland base and promote a sustainable forest industry with a skilled and steady local workforce.
- **Our Fish:** Improve the South Fork ecosystem to increase and support the salmon population.
- **Our Recreation:** Ensure through public regulation, education, and community engagement that recreational activities in the Valley contribute positively to the health and safety of our Watershed and protect property rights and community values.

PLANNING PRINCIPLES

In order for us to achieve our long-range goals, we need:

- **Communication, transparency, and trust** between landowners, residents, agencies, and other stakeholders in the Watershed.
- **Voluntary agreements** between landowners and community partners, with incentives for landowner's efforts to improve watershed conditions.
- **Shared understanding and open dialogue** around data, science, resource management, and the changing climate conditions that affect our watershed.
- **Public education** around how farmers, foresters, fishers, and other businesses are continually improving their practices to protect and improve water quality.
- **Consideration** of the knowledge of local residents relevant to wise management of land and water resources.