

Board of Skagit County Commissioners



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Skagit County Public Works 2013 Annual Report April, 2014

Skagit County Administrative Building
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Prepared by Jim Mickel

Front cover photos:
Map from 1894 by J.C. Parsons, C.E. Mount Vernon
Original copy of map is on display in Skagit County Public Works Records.
"Skagit Valley Morning" by Steve Latourette
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2013 Public Works Annual Report

Dan Berentson, Interim Director of Public Works

From maintaining more than 800 miles of roads to operating a ferry system, the duties of the Skagit County Public Works Department spread across a wide spectrum of responsibilities. The traditional responsibilities of resurfacing roads, maintaining ditches, and mowing roadside vegetation now include complicated fish passage and habitat restoration projects as well as water quality challenges.

In 2013, we completed our Anderson LaVenture Road Extension Project in partnership with the City of Mount Vernon and Washington State Department of Transportation to create a significant new arterial to Interstate 5. Our new Transfer Station is operating very effectively as we work with local cities and private contractors. Our upgraded Guemes Island Ferry facility experienced a successful year of operation meeting our financial goals. In total, the Engineering Division completed more than \$6,600,000 of design and construction of capital construction projects in 2013.

We continue to make progress cleaning up the Samish River basin to make it safer for shellfish, recreation and other Public Uses.

Our Drainage Utility worked successfully with drainage districts, neighborhoods and local residents to complete a significant list of projects as well as addressing scores of small drainage complaints.

The ongoing Skagit River General Investigation, after many years of starts and stops, is now on schedule to be completed in one and one-half years leading to a comprehensive flood damage reduction project with a healthy cost to benefit ratio.

We've tightened our belt in recent years during the economic downturn and have reduced the size of our staff. Our goal moving out into the future is to adopt "lean government" management objectives and to be good stewards of your tax dollars to do more with less.

Fortunately, due to excellent support from our County Commissioners and both state and federal elected officials, we continually align Skagit County with other government entities to secure grant funding and create better economies of scale in the future.

The number of inter-local agreements with our neighboring municipalities, tribes, and dike and drainage districts continues to grow as we build synergy for the future.

Please feel free to call or stop by to help us better serve your needs. It's a pleasure to serve you.

Sincerely,

Dan Berentson

Interim Director of Public Works

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Skagit County Public Works Department

2013 Annual Report

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Public Works Engineering Paul Randall-Grutter, P.E. County Engineer

The Engineering Division has a staff of 22 full-time technical, administrative, and professional employees as well as one on-call field assistant and several on-call construction project inspectors who are all responsible for capital projects from inception and funding through design, construction, contract administration, and close out.

The Engineering Division also houses the Transportation/Programs Group which is responsible for preliminary research, data compilation and maintenance, and preliminary design of projects until established as a County Road Project as well as the various grant programs, grant applications, programmatic functions, and other items associated with transportation planning and initial project planning and scoping.

The Division is also responsible for right-of-way vacations and some easements, County Road Administration Board (CRAB) and Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) statutory and other reports, traffic investigations and studies, road database management and asset inventory, pavement management and traffic count programs, bridge inspection program, service requests, certain permits, traffic safety coordination, crash documentation, and in some instances also responsible for right-of-way acquisition.

Development Review and the Utility permit process ensures that developments and work performed within the County right-of-way by others is in compliance with Skagit County ordinances and standards regarding roadways and drainage.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Submitted CRAB reports required for receipt of Certificate of Good Practice, including:
 - ◆ Road Levy Certification
 - ◆ Annual Construction Program
 - ◆ County Arterial Preservations Program (CAPP)
 - ◆ Pavement Management System (PMS) Certification for CAPP
 - ◆ County Budget Summary
 - ◆ Work Plan and Budget for MMS (Maintenance Management System)
 - ◆ Roadlog Action Record and Summary Record
 - ◆ Traffic Law Enforcement Certification
 - ◆ Fish Passage Barrier Expenditures
 - ◆ Annual Construction Report
 - ◆ Annual CAPP Report
 - ◆ Annual Certification of MMS
- Right-of-Way Acquisition and Vacations
- Franchise Agreements
- Vehicle Collision Reporting
- Service Requests from public, staff, WSDOT and other local agencies
- Priority Array Report
- Traffic Count service for County and various local agencies
- Maintained County Freights and Goods System
- Bridge inspection of County's 108 bridges biennially as well as 20 owned by local agencies
- Development review of plats for layout and drainage
- Permit review for fill and grade, access, utilities, administrative variance requests, special use applications, and technical input for Code Enforcement Action

Projects:

The Engineering Division completed more than \$6,600,000 of design and construction of capital construction projects in 2013.

Anderson LaVenture Road Extension Project:

- Culmination of a three-phase construction project that created and upgraded 1.2 miles of new roadway over a four-year period. This project provides an alternate route to access the rapidly developing portions of eastern Mount Vernon and the surrounding County areas.
- Total Construction Cost - \$17,000,000.

Asphalt Overlay Program:

- Overlay of approximately 3.73 miles of County road along Cook Road and approximately 1.16 miles of City of Burlington streets along Old Highway 99N, Spruce Street, and Bouslog Road with two inches of HMA (Hot Mix Asphalt) as well as some pre-leveling and striping.
- Total Construction Cost - \$1,114,000.

Burlington Northern Overpass:

- Skagit County plans to replace the bridge along Old Highway 99N over the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) railroad located 3 miles north of Burlington and immediately north of Cook Road. We received a \$10,000,000 BRAC grant and are searching for other funding opportunities. Design is underway, and we are in communication with BNSF to accommodate their design standards.
- Estimated Construction cost - \$15,000,000.

Bridge Debris Removal:

- Removal and release of large woody debris from County-owned bridges to float freely downstream.
- Total Construction Cost - \$57,000.

Cascade Trailhead:

- In conjunction with the Parks Department improved 0.7 miles of the Cascade Trail and the Cascade Trailhead Parking Lot.
- Total Construction Cost - \$173,000.

Concrete Sand/Salt Bunker:

- Installation of a 70' wide by 40' long pole building structure to cover the sand and salt stockpiles at the satellite road shop in Concrete used for treating County roads.
- Total Construction Cost - \$132,000.

Concrete Sauk Valley Road MP 12.5 – Granstrom Creek:

- Installation of a 14' wide by 10' high by 50' long box culvert that was part of a stream restoration project to eliminate a fish passage barrier.
- Total Construction Cost - \$180,000.

Guemes Ferry Dolphin Replacement Project:

- Replacement of five deteriorated and damaged creosote-treated dolphin piles. We received a grant for \$1.2 million from the Ferry Boat Discretionary (FBD) Program. The construction is planned to begin July 15, 2014.
- Estimated Construction Cost - \$1,500,000.

Pioneer Highway/Fir Island Road Intersection:

- This project will construct a single lane, five-leg roundabout at the intersection of Pioneer Highway, Fir Island Road, Main Street, and Conway Frontage Road in Conway. We received a \$2,000,000 Rapid Action Safety grant for construction.
- Partnered with the Skagit Public Utilities District to install a new 8" waterline through project area.
- Estimated Construction cost - \$2,150,000.

Run Off Road and Intersection Safety:

- This grant-funded project was actually six sub-projects with the focus to reduce the risk that vehicle operators encounter when using County Roads. The goal of this project was to use relatively low-cost means to reduce risk for the travelling public by adding turn lanes to various intersections and upgrading striping, signage, and guardrail along various County roads. We received a \$1,125,000 Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) grant for design and construction of this project.
- Total Construction Cost - \$1,142,000.

South Shore Road – Guemes Island:

- This was actually two projects in one; we replaced a failing culvert and widened the road in one location, and we installed bank stabilization and slope reinforcement using spiral nails and slope spider technology in the other.

Records Group

Public Works Records provides three primary functions to the Public Works Department:

- General Records Management—we handle the records for staff so they don't have to, while also providing them with training on best record management practices.
- Special Projects—digitizing records to make them available to staff and the public in an organized and searchable fashion.
- Public Records Requests—we process PDRs that come in while coordinating with PW staff and other County Departments.

Throughout the year Public Works Records routinely maintains road and bridge files, franchise agreements, access and utility permits, drainage complaints, and closed Engineering projects files. Along with basic aspects of records management, PW Records picks one or two projects that focus on a record series that needs management or would be a benefit to staff having it available electronically.

In 2013, Public Works Records coordinated with Public Works Natural Resources' Division to complete an inventorying and scanning project of drainage complaints received from the public. By scanning the complaints, they are now accessible to the staff from their computers. An electronic image with complete metadata attached to each request provides the drainage complaints to be searched by owner, section, township, range, and type of complaint. Multiple requests or problem areas can be easily identified by having the additional information available.

Skagit County owns and maintains several pits and quarries so PW Records completed a project that included inventorying, indexing, and scanning the paper files of the five Skagit County pits. This project provided a centralized repository for the records and allows staff to access the files not only in Public Works but are also accessible for other County departments. Public Works Records has added a collection of railroad maps that span from 1891 to 2002 for railroad lines such as the Great Northern Railway, Bloedel Donovan, Bellingham and Skagit Railway, Puget Sound and Cascade Railway, Northern Pacific Railway, and Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway. The maps provide historical knowledge regarding right of way and demonstrate the growth of Skagit County throughout the years.

Operations Division Cliff Butler, Division Manager

The Operations Division has 56 employees consisting of: Four Administrative, 35 Road Crew, 10 Special Operation Crew, 5 Sign Crew, and two Environmental Services employees.

The function of the Operations Division is to maintain the roadway prism, traffic and pedestrian services, storm drainage systems, and structures within the County's right of way. The Division also provides support to other Public Works Divisions and other County Departments. In the spirit of cooperation and government efficiencies, we also provide support to other government entities such as cities, counties, drainage districts and dike districts when time and man power allows.

Operations maintain 800 miles of road and accompanying right of way.

The total budget for 2013 was \$10,497,070, and total expenditures were \$10,106,610. To maintain the County road system, it takes 56 different activities including the following:

Activity	Planned	Actual	Completed %
Chip Sealing of County Roads	85 miles	89 miles	105%
Pot Hole Patching	239 tons	230 tons	96%
AC Leveling	10,866 tons	8584 tons	79%
Crack Sealing	12983 pounds	13317 pounds	103%
Road Grading	117 road miles	106 road miles	91%
Shoulder Aggregate Application	11,256 cu. yds. gravel	6936 cu. yds. gravel	62%
Sod Removal	183 shoulder mile	268 shoulder mile	146%
Mowing	2,205 pass mile	2055 pass mile	93%
Drainage			
Ditching	186,119 ditch feet	173,884 ditch feet	93%
Drainage Maintenance-manual	637 man hours	631 man hours	99%
Drainage –Vector	1,343 man hours	1687 man hours	126%
Culvert Installation	2,980 linear feet	1453 linear feet	49%
Bridges			
Bridge Repair	5 bridges	6 bridges	120%
Traffic Safety			
Centerline Stripe	544 miles	573 miles	105%
Edge Line Stripe	707 miles	827 miles	117%
Sign Maintenance Repair	6,006 signs	7,250 signs	121%
Snow plow/sand	3,628 man hours	1,988 man hours	55%
Roadside			
Brush cutting	3,069 pass miles	2,762 pass miles	90%
Tree removal	2,152 man hours	2046 man hours	95%
Tree trim & chip	76 side miles	99 side miles	130%
Slide removal	1,058 man hours	725 man hours	69%
Bank Restoration	976 cu. yds.	744 cu. yds.	76%

Operations Division Projects in 2013:

District 1

- Chip sealed most of Guemes Island. This required hauling the chip rock over in the winter and chip sealing during the summer.

District 2

- Lined some failing culverts on Fir Island. This was a joint operation with Skagit County Natural Resource Division, Operations Division and Dike District 22.

District 3

- Tore down Marblemount Road Shop and out buildings. Disposed of the debris and cleaned the site.

Special Operations and Sign Shop

- Replaced rotten pile caps on the Campbell Lake Outlet Bridge. This required lifting the deck off the bridge, replacing the rotten timbers and then resetting the deck.
- With help from the Sheriff's Department and their boat, the old Sinclair Dock was towed off the Sinclair Island beach and disposed of.
- Finished the Run off the Road Safety Project, replacing 2800 signs with larger signs with greater reflectivity. This project was part of a federal grant administered by the Engineering Division.

Environmental Services Group

- Built a 25' wooden bridge over Gribble Creek in Big Lake area for the landowner to get his livestock and equipment across without entering the water.
- Removed a 2' culvert crossing at Gribble Creek. Sloped bank and installed large woody debris for habitat and bank stabilization.
- Replaced two 3' culvert crossings with two 8' squashed culverts at Gribble Creek to reduce flooding risk and improve fish passage.
- Constructed a log structure at the Kurtz property on the Samish River to improve habitat and stabilize bank.
- Placed a railcar bridge on the Hillier property over Friday Creek for livestock and equipment crossing. This was funded by a water quality grant.
- Replaced a 2' culvert crossing with an 8' squashed culvert, built a large woody debris structure for habitat and stabilized the bank at the Hill property on Friday Creek.
- Replaced a 3' culvert crossing Deer Creek Road at Lake Cavanaugh with an 8' round culvert to reduce flooding risk caused by beaver dams and improve resident fish passage.
- At mile post 12.5 on the Concrete Sauk Valley Road, we installed a 10' by 14' concrete box culvert just east of the existing culvert crossing as part of a slight re-routing of Granstrom Creek in cooperation with the Engineering Division.
- Demolished and removed a two story house and shop on Finney Creek that was close to falling in the creek.
- Built a lean-to roof off the wash rack building in the Burlington yard in order to have a secondary wash rack in compliance with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) regulations.

Ferry Operations Division Captain Rachel Rowe, Division Manager

The Guemes Island Ferry is owned and operated by Skagit County and provides an essential transportation link between Anacortes, Washington, and Guemes Island, Washington. The ferry crossing is approximately 5/8 mile with a round trip taking approximately 25 minutes. A staff of 18 full-time, part-time, and on-call employees maintains, operates, and provides dependable ferry service on the 22-car, 99-passenger M/V Guemes.

Accomplishments in 2013:

- Provided an essential transportation link between Anacortes and Guemes Island for 194,786 vehicles and 376,941 passengers in 2013.
- Met and exceeded the fare revenue target by approximately \$30,000.
- Installed the Ultra Burn Combustion Catalytic System on the ferry engines and generator resulting in more than 42% reduction in black smoke and an average reduction in exhaust gases up to 28%.
- Procured and installed a new generator on board the M/V Guemes and replaced the #2 main engine with a re-built spare.
- Hired Elliott Bay Design Group to complete a Ferry Replacement Plan for the M/V Guemes.
- Managed contracts for services essential to ferry operations such as parts, service and repair for engines, gears, generator, hydraulic and electrical equipment, diesel fuel, annual haul-out and maintenance, and passenger-only service.
- Conducted one public forum meeting and one community forum on Guemes Island, as well as several meetings with the Guemes Island Ferry Committee, for the purpose of soliciting public advisory input on any and all issues relative to the Guemes Island ferry operations and the Guemes Island community.
- Passed mandatory annual inspections onboard the M/V Guemes conducted by the United States Coast Guard.
- Provided training and random drug screening to ferry staff and conducted emergency drills on board and underway with passengers to ensure the safety of everyone traveling on board the Guemes Island Ferry.



Circa Early 1900s

MV Guemes
1917-1959



MV Almar 1960-1979

MV Guemes
1979 –Current



- Provided 24-hour Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) training to ferry staff.
- Added a stacked logging truck fare to the Guemes Island Ferry fare schedule;
- Awarded \$1.2 million in funding from the Department of Transportation's Ferry Boat Discretionary Program. This grant will replace the last five creosote dolphins in the ferry system with steel, removing a toxic source of pollution to Puget Sound, creating jobs and supporting the American steel industry. Construction is scheduled for 2014.
- Awarded \$272,326 in funding from the Ferry Boat Discretionary Program to replace the remaining creosote sections of breakwater; construction is scheduled for 2015. This puts Skagit County on track to completely eliminate all creosote from the Guemes Island Ferry facilities by the end of the year 2015.

Financial Statement Trends for the County Road Fund #117

Included in these financials are the following County Road Divisions:

- Operations
- Engineering
- Ferry
- Accounting

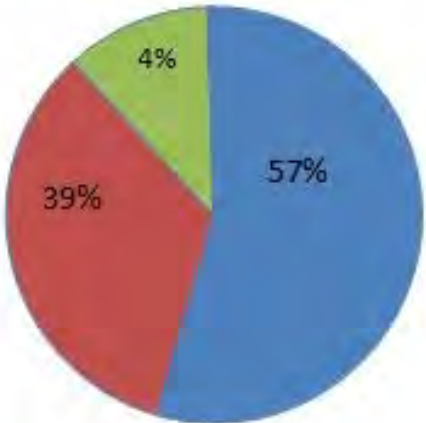
The financials for 2009 through 2012 are audited. The financials for 2013 have not yet been audited.

County Roads

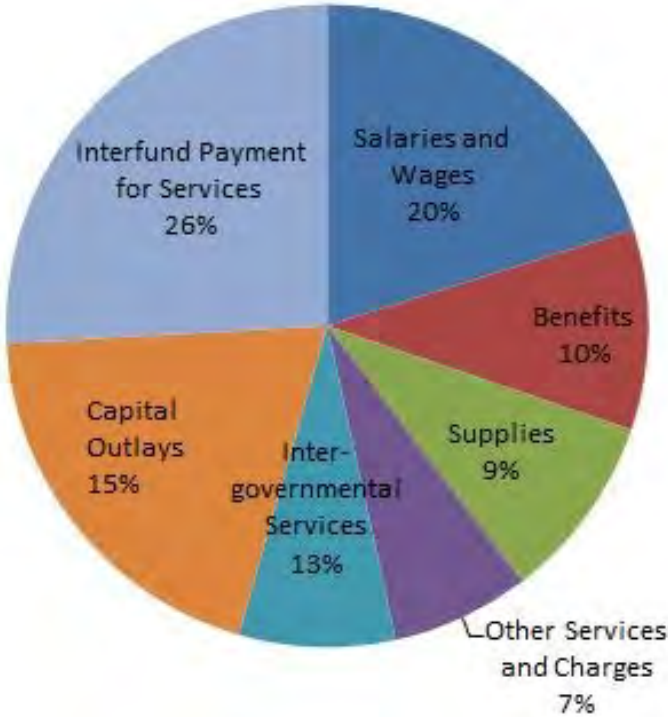
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2013-2012 Change
Revenues						
Property Taxes	10,392,742	10,222,035	10,535,383	\$ 10,797,049	\$ 11,150,557	353,508
Sales and Use Taxes	194,373	154,707	272,199	287,137	362,021	74,884
Other Taxes	44,068	41,713	46,258	46,854	48,269	1,415
Licenses and Permits	63,979	70,684	54,373	65,429	68,145	2,716
Intergovernmental	6,947,010	6,639,337	8,811,861	17,801,672	7,161,925	(10,639,747)
Charges for Services	1,775,588	1,538,276	1,296,102	1,869,335	2,343,572	474,237
Interest Earnings	143,194	57,625	25,045	19,763	6,084	(13,679)
Other Revenues	142,031	102,365	96,622	113,616	96,225	(17,391)
Total Revenues	19,702,985	18,826,742	21,137,843	31,000,855	21,236,798	(9,764,057)
Expenditures						
Current:						
General Governmental Services	158,018	161,755	180,088	502,045	798,097	296,052
Transportation	17,510,953	16,883,460	17,380,975	18,790,606	18,477,326	(313,280)
Capital Outlay	2,313,403	2,607,485	3,703,484	12,610,655	4,997,153	(7,613,502)
Total Expenditures	19,982,374	19,652,700	21,264,547	31,903,306	24,272,576	(7,630,730)
Excess (Deficit) Revenues Over Expenditures	(279,389)	(825,958)	(126,704)	(902,451)	(3,035,778)	(2,133,327)
Proceeds of Sale of Capital Assets	-	-	-	1,672		(1,672)
Transfers In	-	-	-			-
Transfers Out	(2,865,616)	(491,290)	(338,809)	(640,149)	(1,115,906)	(475,757)
Total Other Financing Source (Uses)	(2,865,616)	(491,290)	(338,809)	(638,477)	(1,115,906)	(477,429)
Net Change in Fund Balance	(3,145,005)	(1,317,248)	(465,513)	(1,540,928)	(4,151,684)	(2,610,756)
Prior Adjustment		16,251				-
Ending Fund Balance	9,759,391	8,458,394	7,992,881	6,451,953	2,300,270	(4,151,683)

Revenue by Source Road Fund 2013

■ Taxes/Assessments ■ Grants ■ Charges for Services



Expenditures Road Fund 2013



Equipment, Rental and Revolving, Mike Elde, Division Manager

2013 Accomplishments:

- Staff of six full-time mechanics maintained fleet of 320 County-owned vehicles and equipment.
- Maintained Central Valley Ambulance Authority fleet consisting of 13 ambulances and support vehicles.
- Went out to bid for maintenance material suppliers for the Operations Division. Entered into contracts with fifteen vendors.
- Worked with James G. Murphy Public Auto Auction to sell all County vehicles and equipment that were deemed surplus during the year. Auction gross proceeds totaled \$136,925.
- Managed and conducted annual required calibration and leak testing on all three County fuel locations (Burlington Shop, Sheriff Department in Mount Vernon, and Concrete Shop).
- Maintained inventories of Central Stores (vehicles and equipment supplies and supplies for Operations Division projects) in Burlington and in all County-owned gravel pits.
- Maintained radio repeater site at Leonard Ridge.

ER&R 2013 Projects:

- Worked with Engineering Division to coordinate the building of the sand and salt storage building in Concrete.
- Worked with contractor to clean out road oil tanks in the Burlington tank farm
- Coordinated removal of two buildings at the Marblemount Shop property.
- Worked with Special Operations to get all of the County-owned oil water separators cleaned out.



Asphalt Overlay Program in 2013

Vehicle and equipment replacements completed in 2013:

Public Works Engineering Division:

- Two small SUV's

Public Works Operations Division:

- One ¾ ton sign truck
- One ¾ ton flagger pick up
- Two ½ ton pickups for Road District Supervisors
- One vacuum sweeper truck
- Three tractors with boom mowers

Public Works Solid Waste Division:

- One roll off truck with rail system
- One small SUV

Planning Development Services Department:

- One small SUV

County Motor Pool:

- Two passenger cars
- One hybrid passenger car

Parks Department:

- One ½ ton pick up
- One infield grooming machine
- One zero turn mower

Sheriff Department:

- Eighteen Police Interceptor SUV's
- One Police Interceptor SUV with K-9 package

Equipment Rental and Replacement Fund #501 Financial Statement Trend 2009-2013

Statements for 2009-2012 are audited and 2013 has not yet been audited.

Equipment Rental and Revolving Fund 501

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2013-2012 Changes
<u>Operating Revenues</u>					
Charges for Services	5,375,639	5,847,692	\$ 6,656,908	\$ 6,933,262	276,354
Other Operating Revenue	59,587	67,551	66,876	61,959	(4,917)
Total Operating Revenues	5,435,226	5,915,243	6,723,784	6,995,221	271,437
<u>Operating Expenditures</u>					
Personal Services	761,313	720,942	704,990	766,368	61,378
Contractual services	4,003,892	3,619,281	4,377,149	4,197,367	(179,782)
Other Supplies and Expenses					
Depreciation	906,130	881,186	812,588	880,556	67,968
Payment to Claimants					
Total Operating Expenditures	5,671,335	5,221,409	5,894,727	5,844,291	(50,436)
Operating Income (Loss)	(236,109)	693,834	829,058	1,150,930	
<u>Non-Operating Revenue (Expenses)</u>					
Intergovernmental					
Interest Revenue	6,033	10,788	2,415	2,841	426
Miscellaneous Revenue			834	12,699	11,865
Gain (Loss) on Disposition of Capital Asset	14,837	(107,446)	(194,646)	(97,472)	97,174
Interest Expense					
Miscellaneous Expense				69,264	69,264
Total Non-Operating Revenue (Expenses)	20,870	(96,658)	(191,397)	(12,668)	178,729
Income (Loss) before Contributions and Transfers	(215,239)	597,176	637,661	1,138,262	500,601
Capital Contributions		176,937			
Transfers In			204,177	387,448	183,271
Transfers Out					
Change in Net Assets	(215,239)	774,113	841,838	1,532,044	690,206
Net Assets as of January 1	15,566,786	15,351,548	16,125,661	16,967,499	
Prior Period Adjustment					
Net Assets January 1 - adjusted	15,566,786	15,351,548	16,125,661	16,967,499	
Net Assets as of December 31	15,351,547	16,125,661	16,967,499	18,499,543	

Natural Resources Division, Dan Berentson, Division Manager

The Natural Resources Division of Skagit County Public Works is comprised of two Sections: Surface Water and Water Resources. A highly trained staff of 19 manages a number of programs to provide clean water, effective drainage, flood damage reduction and restoration. Partnering with dike and drainage districts, tribes, state and federal agencies, Skagit Conservation District and local non-profit agencies, Skagit County effectively leverages local funding sources and resources for maximum efficiency and results.

The Natural Resources Division works closely with:

- Engineering Division
- Operations Division
- Solid Waste Division
- Skagit County Planning and Development Services Department
- Skagit County Environmental Health

WATER RESOURCES SECTION:

CLEAN SAMISH INITIATIVE AND POLLUTION-IDENTIFICATION-CORRECTION PROGRAM (PIC PROGRAM):

Samish Basin fecal coliform pollution issues have attracted regional attention and are now the focus of the Clean Samish Initiative (CSI). The CSI is a multi-agency effort led by Skagit County, involving the State Departments of Ecology and Health, the Skagit Conservation District, the Skagit Conservation Education Alliance, the Samish Tribe, the Western Washington Agricultural Association, the Washington State Dairy Federation, EPA, Taylor Shellfish, and other organizations. The CSI's goal is to achieve both short and long-term pollution reductions in the Samish Basin.

In 2013, Skagit County continued implementation of a Pollution Identification and Correction (PIC) program begun in 2010 under a three-year EPA grant. The PIC program uses concentrated water quality sampling to locate likely sources of pollution. In affected parts of the basin, sampling is followed up with landowner contact to determine if septic tank or manure management problems are leading to the pollution. Although the EPA grant ended in 2013, Skagit County will continue to support a sustainable PIC program for the Samish and Padilla Watersheds.

SKAGIT MARINE RESOURCE COMMITTEE:

The Skagit County Marine Resources Committee (SMRC) was established in 1999 as part of a grassroots effort to protect, enhance and restore our local marine resources. Working with Skagit County Public Works Staff, multiple community partnerships, and a large volunteer base, the SMRC is able to keep project costs low and achieve long-term success. SMRC has been supported by federal grant funding through the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative and partly by the Clean Water Program (CWP) and other grant funding.

NATURAL RESOURCES STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM:

The Natural Resources Stewardship Program (NRSP), started in 2009, works with individual landowners who live on or own property next to a stream and want help in protecting or enhancing their land to improve the habitat and water quality of the overall watershed. This Program recently received a second round of grant funding from Ecology that will focus on the Samish Watershed.

HABITAT MONITORING AND RESTORATION PROGRAM (VOLUNTARY STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM):

Skagit County continued its annual monitoring of habitat conditions in three stream basins in the County as required by the County's Critical Areas Ordinance. Skagit County also enrolled in the Voluntary Stewardship Program in 2012. Upon the receipt of funding from the State, Skagit County will develop a program to use voluntary incentives to get habitat improvements in the County's waterways to meet Critical Areas Ordinance habitat requirements.

SKAGIT COUNTY MONITORING PROGRAM:

In September 2013, County personnel completed the tenth year of the Skagit County Monitoring Program (SCMP). The SCMP is designed to monitor trends in water quality throughout the County, with a special emphasis on agricultural areas. The information generated is used to assess the effectiveness of County Critical Areas protections and determine which parts of the County need help in improving water quality.

LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS PROGRAM:

The Skagit County Lake Management Districts Program (LMDP) was created to provide lake area property owners a mechanism to fund the management of noxious aquatic weeds through special assessments. The County provides oversight, administrative help, and implements the recommendations of the Lake Management District Advisory Committees. Currently, there are four Lake Management Districts: Big Lake (LMD#1), Lake McMurray, (LMD#2) Lakes Erie and Campbell (LMD#3), and Clear and Beaver Lake (LMD#4). Activities in 2013 included on-going vegetation management in all four districts.

WATER RESOURCES PLANNING:

Water Resources staff continue to support the implementation of the Skagit and Stillaguamish River in-stream flow rules and engage in other water resources planning. Activities in 2013 included:

- Accounting of water use in the Skagit and Stillaguamish basins by monitoring building permit and land division activities through October 2013.
- Working with the Department of Ecology and other agencies to find solutions to water-limited portions of the County.
- Completed a rural residential water use study designed to help quantify the amount of water used by the County's rural residential citizens.

SURFACE WATER SECTION**Drainage Utility****2013 Accomplishments:**

- Six new projects enrolled in Natural Resource Stewardship Program (NRSP)
- Over 3,500 linear feet of stream were enrolled. This totaled seven acres with over 1,925 native plantings to benefit both juvenile salmonids and water quality.
- 2,432 feet of fencing were installed that helped exclude livestock from waterways and provided an area to filter out harmful pollutants such as turbid stormwater, herbicides, pesticides, and manure.
- 31 log structures installed stabilizing banks and providing habitat for salmon.
- Four projects were constructed in the Samish watershed and two projects in the Skagit watershed.

Drainage Utility Projects

The Drainage Utility successfully completed several projects during 2013 with a total value of about \$695,000.

Mill Town Culvert Replacement Project

This project replaced an undersized culvert in the ditch line (Type 3 fish stream) of Mill Town Road. The existing culvert was not sufficiently sized to handle medium-large flows and often jumped its banks. The project scope included removal of the existing culvert, installation of a new 72" Corrugated Metal Pipe (CMP), placement of streambed material in the culvert and grading of the channel.



Gibraltar Road Mile Post 2.1 Cross-Culvert Connection

A cross culvert at MP 2.1 Gibraltar Road discharged into a half-pipe, then entered a catch basin at the start of an enclosed system. This project replaced the half-pipe with a 12" pipe, installed a catch basin at the outlet of the cross culvert and a catch basin at the inlet of the cross culvert to capture debris.

South Lyman Ferry Road Conveyance Repair

This project replaced an undersized 30" CMP under South Lyman Ferry Road that was causing flooding issues for the upstream neighbor. The project scope included removal of the existing culvert, installation of a 60" CMP, placement of stream bed material in the culvert and channel grading.



Gribble Creek

Three culverts on Gribble Creek were undersized, resulting in poor conveyance and flooding during small rain events. The only access to livestock on the western side of the Creek was impacted and they become isolated. The County removed the middle culvert which was no longer needed and had become plugged with sediment and tree roots. The most upstream and downstream culverts were upsized to appropriate size for conveyance and fish passage.



Wear Creek

This project was designed to allow more adequate capacity of both surface drainage and natural drainage. Wear Creek was channelized to flow through the existing roadside ditch, as well as the existing field drainage ditch system. The system over time had become heavily clogged with sediment and reed canary grasses, causing the surrounding properties to suffer heavy flooding. The project consisted of fish exclusion, removal of approximately 650 cubic yards of material from within the system as well as the installation of a planted riparian buffer.



Cascade Ridge Road Sediment Removal

This project was brought to the attention of the DU when the property owner called concerned with a large amount sediment deposition within his property. A site visit determined the sediment had been displaced during a single occurrence landslide. Skagit County crews were able to obtain the appropriate permits to remove the sediment during the late summer while the stream was dry. Approximately 150 cubic yards of material were removed from within the channel. Crews were also able to reset the existing access box culvert as it had shifted during the high waters.



Before



After

Prairie Road Access Easement Removal

In the same area as the beaver dam removal, a small farm field access that was no longer being used acted as a dam for water traveling off the nearby hill toward the Wear Creek system. After DU staff obtained the required permits, Skagit County crews removed the access. The elimination of the blockage greatly decreased field flooding.



Before



After

Stormwater Facility Mowing

Mowing has been completed along Britt Slough properties and on the Edison Town Pond. The Bay Hill pond was mowed and cleaned.



Drainage Utility Distribution

*All values are rounded to account for end of the year projects whose charges carry over into 2014.

2013 Drainage Utility Distribution	
Projects	\$695,000
Hydrologic Evaluations	\$100,000
Drainage Concerns	\$112,000
Operations and Maintenance	\$98,000
NPDES	\$221,000
Program Planning and Community Outreach	\$78,000
Administration and Miscellaneous	\$203,000
TOTAL	\$1,507,000

Category Descriptions

Projects: constructed capital facilities

Hydrologic Evaluations: sedimentation, evaluation, watershed stormwater management planning, conveyance sizing

Drainage Concerns: property owner complaints and minor drainage system repairs

Operations and Maintenance: expenses to operate and maintain existing stormwater facilities

NPDES: compliance with the NPDES Phase II Permit

Program Planning and Community Outreach: planning future projects and evaluations, and community interface

Administration and Miscellaneous: costs of implementing and managing the DU Program and coordination and planning with other entities, such as cities and drainage districts

Changes to the Drainage Utility Rate Structure in 2013

The Drainage Utility is a special assessment that enables the County to correct drainage problems on private property outside of County road right of ways.

Since the Drainage Utility (DU) Fund assessments were established, the rates have been determined based on impervious square footage plus an amount for parcel acreage. On December 17, 2013, the Board of Skagit County Commissioners signed Resolution No. R20130396 to authorize revision of the DU rate structure to a flat rate per parcel based on property class. The revised rates are shown in the table below:

This revision makes the DU assessment more equitable. The amount of the total assessment paid better reflects the benefits received. The table below shows the number of parcels in each property class and the percentage of the total assessment paid by each property class under the previous rate structure and the revised rate structure:

Class of Property	2013 Rate	2014 Rate
Timber or undeveloped land	\$0.5531 per acre	\$10 per parcel
Residential	SFR: \$47.57/parcel + \$0.5531/acre MFR: \$58.61/parcel + \$0.5531/acre	\$60 per parcel
Apartments of more than 4 units, commercial, industrial, or institutional	< 10,000 sf Imp. Area: \$0.0129/sf > 10,000 sf Imp. Area: \$0.007/sf	\$125 per parcel
Agricultural Land	< 10,000 sf Imp. Area: \$0.0129/sf > 10,000 sf Imp. Area: \$0.007/sf	\$60 per parcel
County Roads	\$0.0070/sf Imp. Area	\$0.0040/sf Imp. Area
State Roads	\$0.0021/sf Imp. Area	\$0.0012/sf Imp. Area

CLASS OF PROPERTY	% TOTAL PARCELS	% PREVIOUS TOTAL ASSESSMENT	REVISED % TOTAL ASSESSMENT
Acreage	39%	3%	9%
Residential	57%	63%	81%
SUBTOTAL	96%	66%	90%
Agricultural	2%	12%	3%
Commercial	2%	22%	7%
SUBTOTAL	4%	34%	10%

With these revisions, residential and acreage, which make up 96% of the parcels served by the Drainage Utility, account for 90% of the DU assessments. Commercial and Agricultural, which account for 4% of the parcels, account for 10% of the assessments.

As a result of the rate revision, the total DU assessment decreases from \$1,666,037.84 to \$1,607,217.65, or a decrease of \$58,820.19, or 3.5%.

Drainage Utility Fund #402 Financial Statement Trend 2009-2013

The County Drainage Utility is a special assessment to properties within the unincorporated area of Skagit County, with a few exemptions. The purpose of the Drainage Utility is to manage, construct and maintain storm drainage improvements and stormwater control facilities within the established Drainage Utility service area. The program includes complying with NPDES II permit requirements in areas under County jurisdiction subject to such requirements. The Drainage Utility cooperates with drainage districts, tribes, cities, and state agencies to complete projects.

Statements for 2009-2012 are audited and 2013 has not yet been audited.

Drainage Utility Fund 402						
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2013-2012 Changes
<u>Operating Revenues</u>						
Charges for Services	1,752,705	1,670,458	1,544,370	\$ 1,604,197	\$ 1,645,499	41,302
Other Operating Revenue	-	-	-			-
Total Operating Revenues	1,752,705	1,670,458	1,544,370	1,604,197	1,645,499	41,302
<u>Operating Expenditures</u>						
Personal Services	532,106	528,286	579,949	584,845	619,664	34,819
Contractual services	-	-	-			-
Other Supplies and Expenses	927,151	549,814	648,820	936,577	676,998	(259,579)
Depreciation	166,792	162,798	183,730	195,031	225,358	30,327
Payment to Claimants	-	-	-			-
Total Operating Expenditures	1,626,049	1,240,898	1,412,499	1,716,453	1,522,020	(194,433)
Operating Income (Loss)	126,656	429,560	131,871	(112,256)	123,479	(244,127)
<u>Non-Operating Revenue (Expenses)</u>						
Intergovernmental	33,925	154,791	71,451	30,654	100,031	69,377
Interest Revenue	20,974	10,143	11,540	8,948	3,907	(5,041)
Miscellaneous Revenue	48	50	-		928	928
Gain (Loss) on Disposition of Capital Asset	-	-	-			-
Interest Expense	-	-	-			-
Miscellaneous Expense	-	-	-			-
Total Non-Operating Revenue (Expenses)	54,947	164,984	82,991	39,602	104,866	(81,993)
Income (Loss) before Contributions and Transfers	181,603	594,544	214,862	(72,654)	228,345	300,999
Capital Contributions	-	-	-			-
Transfers In	98,948	97,288	-	252,829		(252,829)
Transfers Out	(15,003)	(13,280)	(9,142)	(10,000)	(54,000)	(44,000)
Change in Net Assets	265,548	678,552	205,720	170,175	174,345	(35,545)
Net Assets as of January 1	6,973,465	7,239,013	7,917,565	8,128,933	8,299,108	170,175
Prior Period Adjustment	-	-	5,648		149,377	149,377
Net Assets January 1 - adjusted	6,973,465	7,239,013	7,917,565	8,128,933	8,448,485	319,552
Net Assets as of December 31	7,239,013	7,917,565	8,123,285	8,299,108	8,622,830	175,823

River Improvement Fund #110 Financial Statement Trend 2009-2013

The River Improvement program has several functions. Through this program, the County provides funding to support the Skagit River General Investigation as the local sponsor to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' study. It also provides funding for cost-sharing with United States Geological Survey (USGS) for maintenance of and communication with river gauging stations. As part of the County's responsibility for flood awareness and response, it provides public information to increase public awareness of flood risks and supports and helps coordinate flood control activities with local decision makers and other stakeholders. The River Improvement program also maintains County levees in the PL84-99 program.

Statements for 2009-2012 are audited and 2013 has not yet been audited.

River Improvement 110						
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2013-2012 Change
Revenues						
Intergovernmental	284,217	149,479	136,286	27,627	5,931	(21,696)
Charges for Services	15,000	20,000	33,500	18,500	104,738	86,238
Interest Earnings	1,248	638	1,498	858	853	(5)
Other Revenues						-
Total Revenues	300,465	170,117	171,284	46,985	111,522	64,537
Expenditures						
Current:						
Utilities and Environment	722,725	668,527	529,593	553,093	957,530	404,437
Total Expenditures	722,725	668,527	529,593	553,093	957,530	404,437
Excess (Deficit) Revenues Over Expenditures	(422,260)	(498,410)	(358,309)	(506,108)	(846,008)	(339,900)
Other Financing Sources (Uses)						
Transfers In	629,608	504,570	347,951	503,292	842,458	339,166
Transfers Out						-
Total Other Financing Source (Uses)	629,608	504,570	347,951	503,292	842,458	339,166
Net Change in Fund Balance	207,348	6,160	(10,358)	(2,816)	(3,550)	(734)
Fund Balance-December 31st	764,871	771,031	760,673	757,857	754,307	(3,550)

Clean Water Fund #120 Financial Statement Trend 2009-2013

The goal of the Clean Water Program is to address and deal with non-point pollution and to enhance Skagit County's water quality. It consists of a myriad of activities directed at educating the public, controlling storm water pollution, developing water quality monitoring plans, and restoring habitats.

Statements for 2009-2012 are audited and 2013 has not yet been audited.

Clean Water 120						
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2013-2012 Change
Revenues						
Property Taxes	967,308	1,218,838	1,227,324	\$ 1,270,866	\$ 1,337,976	67,110
Intergovernmental	378,471	1,259,708	622,197	525,241	524,093	(1,148)
Charges for Services	13,346	22,692	15,912	127,678	171,438	43,760
Interest Earnings	407	678	1,472	1,433	1,203	(230)
Other Revenues	6,673		13,582	249	7,489	7,240
Total Revenues	1,366,205	2,501,916	1,880,487	1,925,467	2,042,199	116,732
Expenditures						
Current:						
Utilities and Environment	1,356,653	2,465,339	1,859,127	1,947,544	2,027,574	80,030
Total Expenditures	1,356,653	2,465,339	1,859,127	1,947,544	2,027,574	80,030
Excess (Deficit) Revenues Over Expenditures	9,552	36,577	21,360	(22,077)	14,625	36,702
Other Financing Sources (Uses)						
Transfers In	151,749	125,897	103,868	65,007	59,930	(5,077)
Transfers Out						-
Total Other Financing Source (Uses)	151,749	125,897	103,868	65,007	59,930	(5,077)
Net Change in Fund Balance	161,301	162,474	125,228	42,930	74,555	31,625
Fund Balance-December 31	429,330	591,804	717,032	759,962	834,517	74,555

Solid Waste Division, Kevin Renz, Division Manager

The Solid Waste Division has a staff of 23 full-time and regular part-time administrative and operational employees as well as three on-call employees. The Division is responsible for waste reduction and recycling education, litter crew oversight, Transfer Station Facility, Moderate Risk Hazardous Waste Facility, and remote Transfer sites.

Accomplishments and Projects

Transitioned remote site waste hauling from a contractor to County staff. Re-organization of daily activities allowed for hauling to be incorporated into current operations with no increase in staff.

Working in cooperation with the Skagit County Prosecuting Attorney's Office drafted and implemented a County-wide Flow Control Ordinance which directs that all waste generated in Skagit County is disposed through the County Solid Waste System.

Worked in cooperation with local recycling operators to draft a streamlined disposal system for recycling residual materials which allows construction and demolition to be competitive in the local market while ensuring waste stays within the County Solid Waste System

Negotiated Inter-local Agreement with San Juan County and the Town of Friday Harbor to allow for disposal of waste generated within San Juan County to be disposed of at the Skagit County Transfer and Recycling Station. The agreement calls for a \$7.00/ton surcharge on out-of-county waste.

Programs

Skagit County Solid Waste Transfer Sites:

The Skagit County Solid Waste Division operates three transfer sites to support refuse needs in Skagit County:

- Sauk Transfer Station in Concrete, the Clear Lake Compactor Site in Clear Lake, and the Skagit County Recycling and Transfer Station in Mount Vernon.
- Each site offers drop-off services for garbage disposal and household recycling.
- The Cities of Anacortes, Burlington, Mount Vernon, and Sedro-Woolley deliver approximately 45% of the trash, Waste Management's collection in the unincorporated areas accounts for about 26% while commercial accounts and self-haul customers account for 27%.

The remote sites of the Sauk Transfer Station and Clear Lake Compactor Site took in a little more than 2% of the total waste collected in Skagit County.



Solid Waste Utility Fund #401 Financial Statement Trend 2009-2013

Solid Waste provides municipal and household solid waste disposal for the citizens of Skagit County. This is accomplished in accordance with applicable laws and permits as described by the Board of Skagit County Commissioners.

Statements for 2009-2012 are audited and 2013 has not yet been audited.

Solid Waste Fund 401						
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2013-2012 Changes
<u>Operating Revenues</u>						
Charges for Services	7,967,277	8,387,238	\$ 8,194,581	\$ 8,061,432	\$ 8,583,653	522,221
Total Operating Revenues	7,967,277	8,387,238	8,194,581	8,061,432	8,583,653	522,221
<u>Operating Expenditures</u>						
Personal Services	1,628,668	1,632,418	1,623,038	1,615,247	1,713,291	98,044
Contractual services	4,730,938	4,645,238	4,508,628	4,485,237	4,843,724	358,487
Other Supplies and Expenses	1,321,763	2,360,271	1,041,032	778,354	964,705	186,351
Depreciation	42,454	67,860	44,494	73,762	85,336	11,574
Total Operating Expenditures	7,723,823	8,705,787	7,217,192	6,952,600	7,607,056	654,456
Operating Income (Loss)	243,454	(318,549)	977,389	1,108,832	976,597	(132,235)
<u>Non-Operating Revenue (Expenses)</u>						
Intergovernmental	451,792	148,454	397,974	450,144	401,292	(48,852)
Interest Revenue	23,528	10,968	21,360	4,580		(4,580)
Miscellaneous Revenue	6,148	5,817	(35,278)	23,540	36,438	12,898
Gain (Loss) on Disposition of Capital Asset	-	-	700		8,372	8,372
Interest Expense	(164,127)	(139,316)	(578,015)	(498,826)	(511,926)	(13,100)
Change in Environmental Liability (Landfill Closures)	-	-	-		(1,269,634)	(1,269,634)
Total Non-Operating Revenue (Expenses)	317,341	25,923	(193,259)	(20,562)	(1,335,458)	(1,314,896)
Income (Loss) before Contributions and Transfers	560,795	(292,626)	784,130	1,088,270	(358,861)	(1,447,131)
Transfers Out	-	-	-	(57,320)		57,320
Change in Net Assets	560,795	(292,626)	784,130	1,030,950	(358,861)	(1,389,811)
Net Assets as of January 1	(5,503,915)	(4,353,451)	(6,340,766)	(5,049,017)	(4,018,067)	1,030,950
Prior Period Adjustment	589,669	(1,694,688)	-			-
Net Assets January 1 - adjusted	(4,914,246)	(6,048,139)	(6,340,766)	(5,049,017)	(4,018,067)	1,030,950
Net Assets as of December 31	(4,353,451)	(6,340,765)	(5,556,636)	(4,018,067)	(4,376,928)	(358,861)

Litter Crew Program:

The Litter Crew Program is an effective way to keep the County jail from becoming overcrowded, offers out-of-custody inmates the chance to show up for a job every morning, and pay restitution to their community:

- In 2013, the Litter Crew worked to clean a total of 57 acres, covering over 625 miles of illegal dumping along Skagit County roadsides.
- Litter Crew was responsible for collecting approximately 19,000 pounds of litter per month, and approximately 230,000 pounds of waste annually.
- Litter Crew also assists other County Departments in cleanup efforts. In 2013, the Crew helped the Parks Department with the cleanup of the Centennial Trail in Sedro-Woolley, which resulted in the removal of 15,000 pounds of garbage, including, garbage building materials, tires and paint.

Household Hazardous Waste Program:

The Skagit County Household Hazardous Waste Facility is operated within the grounds of the Skagit County Solid Waste Transfer Station on Ovenell Road, Mount Vernon. The facility assists around 5,000 citizens per year and disposes of approximately:

- 63.5 tons or 127,000 pounds of household hazardous waste through this facility.
- 750 automobile batteries;
- 17,000 pounds or 2430 gallons of used motor oil;
- 12,000 pounds or 22,400 fluorescent lights.

In addition to County households, businesses that qualify as Small Quantity Generators (SQGs) of hazardous waste use this Facility for their hazardous waste disposal. Some examples of these businesses are dental offices, school districts, machine shops, tanning salons, and water treatment plants along with local cities.

Solid Waste Outreach and Education:

Throughout 2013, the Solid Waste Division continued to encourage residents of Skagit County to reduce waste as much as possible through the following waste reduction education efforts:

Master Composter/Recycler Volunteer Program Continuing Education:

- Quarterly meetings with volunteers at local public sites to brainstorm outreach ideas
- Film viewings, Symphony of the Soil in 2013
- Field trips to local recycling, composting and waste reduction facilities

Brochures and Informational Pamphlets:

The following brochures were distributed to cities, housing authorities, libraries, tribal communities, and other prominent public information outlets.

- The Guide to Solid Waste in Skagit County
- Guide to Construction and Demolition Recycling
- Home Composting: Bringing Your Garbage Problems Down to Earth
- Natural Yard Care: Five Steps to Make Your Piece of the Planet a Healthier Place to Live
- A User's Guide to Compost: The Beauty of Your Lawn & Garden Blossoms from the Soil

School Waste Audits:

The School Waste Audit Program was established in 2011 and continued in 2013. This project collaborates with schools and classrooms to evaluate the ratio of waste to recycling and composting on the school campus, including:

- Utilizing Master Composter/Recycler Volunteers
- In 2013 audits were performed at Anacortes Middle School, La Conner Middle School and Island View Elementary.
- In 2013, the Program continued to expand to assist in performing a waste audit of private businesses.

2013 Community Events for Outreach Education were:

- Storming the Sound
- Cattlemen's Winter School
- Concrete Youth Activity Day
- Shell-Festival
- Skagit County Fair
- Dig It! Garden Tours

2013 Home Composting Clinics and Vermicomposting Workshops:

- Home Compost Clinics first Saturday of every month May – October
- Vermicompost Workshops twice per quarter
- Classes average 12 to 50 participants and educate approximately 325 people per year.

Recycling Hotline and Recycling Website:

- The Recycling Hotline is a direct line that reaches the desk of Skagit County's Waste Reduction/Recycling Education Specialist
- Recycling information kept up to date online

Radio, and News and Press:

- In 2013, a bi-monthly column was published in the Skagit Valley Herald newspaper about waste reduction, recycling, or composting.
- In 2013, articles about composting and vermicomposting were published in the free, local publication called Grow Northwest.
- An ad campaign for changes in latex paint disposal were part of the 2013 education and outreach program, which included advertising in all the local newspapers, and a short video that was posted to the Skagit County website.

Public Presentations:

Throughout the year, the Waste Reduction and Recycling Education Program offered presentations ranging from the pre-kindergarten level to college-aged and adult students. Such presentations are available by request for both private and public group education settings. An estimated 5000 youth and adults combined were taught in 2013.

Public Schools:

September through June waste reduction education is offered through assistance with cafeteria composting, school lunch waste audits, zero waste lunch education displays, classroom presentations, and waste reduction book and video lending to teachers. In 2013, a second elementary school began to compost their cafeteria food scraps, and one middle school began a recycling program. Both the elementary and middle school incorporate composting and compost education into their school garden curriculum. Three more schools built worm bins, and have begun to divert lunch waste into those bins for composting in the school gardens. Since 1998, Skagit County has published a quarterly recycling newsletter and classroom activity pages for 4th grade students called Trash Talk! Trash Talk! continued to be published and sent to schools in 2013.

Event Recycling:

- The Waste Reduction Recycling Education Specialist continued to organize and offer technical assistance for event recycling around Skagit County. These efforts helped to reduce waste at over 35 public events in 2013.

Compost Demonstration Sites:

- Throughout the year, oversight was provided of three home composting demonstration sites located at the Washington State University Master Gardener Discovery Garden in Mount Vernon, and the Anacortes Community Gardens, at 29th Street Garden in Anacortes. In 2013 the demonstration sites expanded to include an additional site through the Anacortes Community Gardens, at the Mount Erie School Community Garden.

Landfill Environmental Monitoring Program:

The County Hydro-geologist manages the Environmental Monitoring Program for the Solid Waste Division. The Environmental Monitoring Program includes groundwater and landfill gas (LFG) monitoring and maintenance of landfill caps and appurtenances at three closed landfills: Gibraltar, Inman, and Sauk, and the operation and maintenance of the LFG extraction and leachate collection system at Inman Landfill. The Environmental Monitoring Program also includes the investigation and management of several older landfills located throughout the County, including the environmental investigation of Whitmarsh Landfill.

Accounting Division, Jim Mickel, Controller/Division Manager

Accounting

- During the year 2013, Accounting processed departmental payroll for 175 employees, (including on-call and B-status employees) processed accounts payable vouchers, and transfer station and ferry receivables.
- Jim Mickel was hired as the Controller/Division Manager.
- The Accounting Section worked as a team to ensure nothing was missed and that the workflow and support to the Public Works Department remained consistent, accurate, and reliable.
- Worked with Public Works Division Managers to complete and submit 2014 budgets.

The Public Works Accounting Section provided a multitude of services including processing invoices for payment, payroll, customer billings and collections, project accounting, financial reporting and analysis, and maintaining the overall accuracy of the accounting systems. Accounting Section staff managed ten different funds and many divisions within those funds. Accounting's exceptional quality of service is made possible through the talents of four very experienced staff members who are always eager to help and take great pride in their work.

Appendix A

Federal and State Financial Assistance and Project Partners

During 2013, Skagit County Public Works Department was the recipient of 30 grant agreements, and one agreed order.

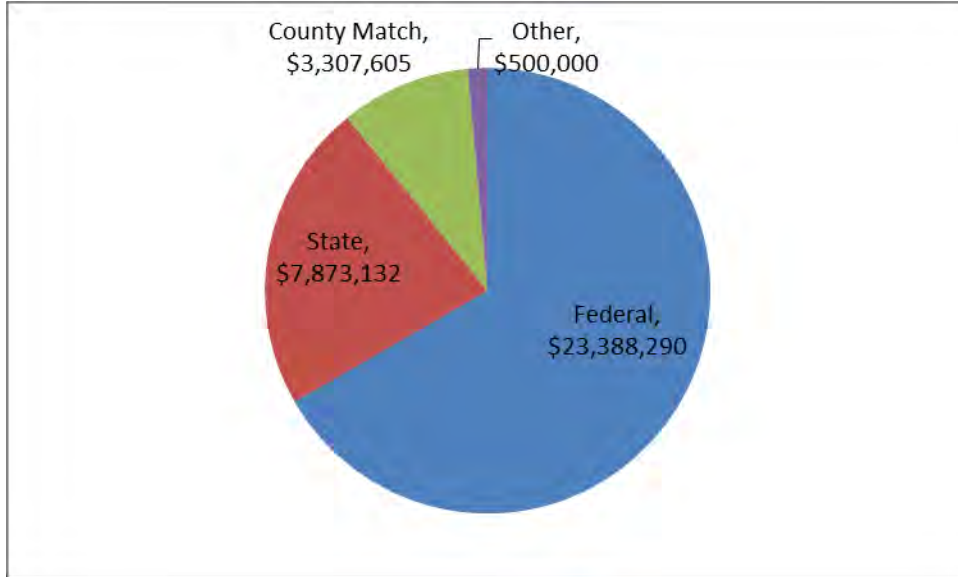
Skagit County will receive approximately \$35,823,000 and provide match requirements in the amount of approximately \$6,760,000 from 2008 to 2019.

These funds provide for Federal, State, and County mandated programs. See the following pages for an overview, by department, of each agreement is provided on the following pages.

Skagit County partners with multiple governmental, tribal, and private agencies to achieve mutual goals of each program. Some of our partners are:

- U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
- National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration
- U. S. Geological Services
- U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Washington State Departments of Ecology
- Health and Transportation
- Washington State Dairy Federation
- Northwest Straits Commission
- Puget Sound Partnership
- City of Anacortes
- City of Burlington
- City of Mount Vernon
- Upper Skagit Indian Tribe
- The Swinomish Indian Tribe
- The Samish Indian Tribe
- Skagit Conservation District
- Skagit Conservation Education Alliance
- Skagit Watershed Council
- Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group
- Western Washington Agricultural Association
- Taylor Shellfish

Engineering Division Projects



Grant Agency: State of Washington Transportation Improvement Board
Description: Anderson / La Venture Road Extension
Effective Dates: 12/29/11 to completion
Transportation Improvement Board Cost: \$5,500,000.00
County Cost: See below

Grant Agency: Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)
Description: Anderson / La Venture Road Extension - Blodgett to Blackburn
Effective Dates: 7/8/08 until complete
Federal Highway Administration Cost: \$ 5,015,950.00
County Cost: See below

Grant Agency: Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)
Description: Anderson / La Venture Road Extension - Cedardale to Blodgett
Effective Dates: 7/8/08 until complete
Federal Highway Administration Cost: \$ 1,683,978.00
County Cost: See below

Skagit County Cost: \$ 500,000.00 (above 3 grants combined)
City of Mount Vernon Cost: \$ 500,000.00 (above 3 grants combined)

Grant Agency: Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)
Description: Run-Off-Road & Intersection Project
Effective Dates: 6/30/11 until complete
Federal Highway Administration Cost: \$1,125,000.00

Grant Agency: Bridge Replacement Advisory Committee / Federal Highway Bridge Program
Description: Old 99 BNSF Overpass
Effective Dates: 12/1/12 until complete
Federal Highway Administration Cost: \$10,000,000.00
County Cost: \$2,000,000.00

Grant Agency: Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)
Description: Bow Hill Road
Effective Dates: 5/30/13 until complete
Federal Highway Administration Cost: \$640,000.00
County Cost: \$86,400.00

Grant Agency: State of Washington County Road Administration Board (CRAB)
Description: Bow Hill Road
Effective Dates: 4/18/13 until complete
Rural Arterial Program Cost: \$1,500,000.00
County Cost: \$150,000.00

**Grant Agency: State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
Salmon Resource Funding Board (SRFB)**
Description: Davis Slough Fish Passage and Flow Restoration
Effective Dates: 12/4/13 to 6/30/17
SRFB – Salmon Federal Project: \$1,151,036.00
County Cost: \$203,124.00

Grant Agency: Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)
Description: Pioneer Highway/Fir Island Road Intersection
Effective Dates: 7/22/13 until complete
Federal Highway Administration Cost: \$ 2,000,000.00
County Cost: \$ 0.00

Grant Agency: Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)
Description: I-5 Bridge Collapse
Effective Dates: 8/5/13 – 12/31/13
Federal Highway Administration Cost: \$ 30,000.00
County Cost: \$ 0.00

Grant Agency: County Road Administration Board
Description: Arterial Preservation
Effective Dates: Annual
County Road Administration Board Cost: \$ 534,835.28
County Cost: \$ 0.00

Grant Agency: Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Description: Sale of Timber on State Lands
Effective Dates: Annual
Department of Natural Resources Cost: \$ 757,342.92
County Cost: \$ 0.00

Grant Agency: Washington Traffic Safety Commission
Description: Target Zero Traffic Safety Program
Effective Dates: 7/1/11 – 6/30/13
Traffic Safety Commission Cost: \$ 85,790.00
County Cost: \$ 0.00

Grant Agency: Federal Emergency Management (FEMA) and WA Military Department (WAMD)
Description: 2009 Flood Related Repairs to Roads, Bridges, Embankments
Effective Dates: 1/1/13 – 12/31/13
Federal Emergency Management Cost: To be determined
County Cost: To be determined

Grant Agency: Department of Agriculture, Forrest Service
Description: Roads and Schools
Effective Dates: Annual
Department of Agriculture Cost: \$ 300,000.00± (2013 not received yet)
County Cost: 0.00

Ferry Division Projects

Grant Agency: Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)

Description: Guemes Ferry Dolphin Replacement

Effective Dates: 3/8/13 until complete

Federal Highway Administration Cost: \$ 1,200,000.00

County Cost: \$ 300,000.00

Grant Agency: Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)

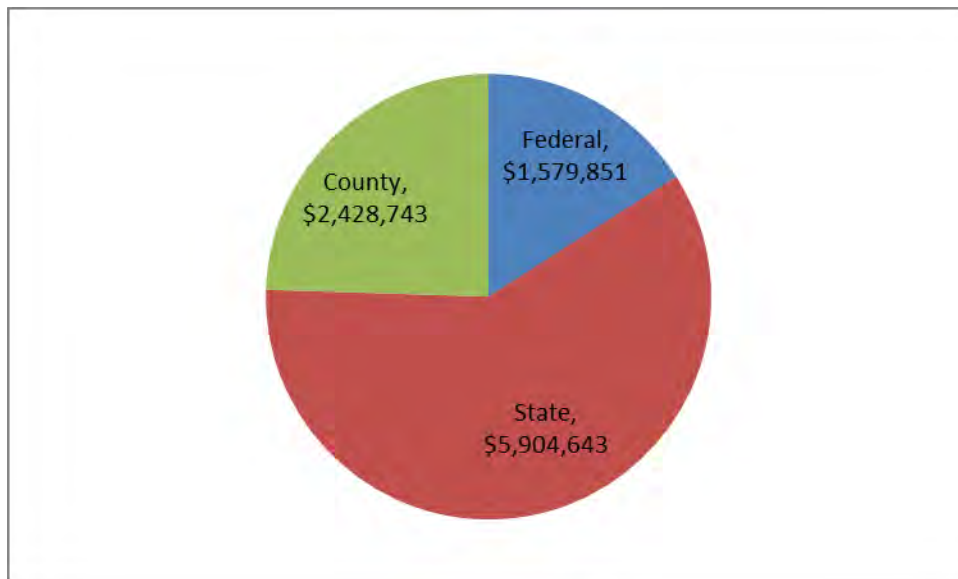
Description: Guemes Ferry Breakwater-Anacortes

Effective Dates: To Be Determined

Federal Highway Administration Cost: \$272,326.00

County Cost: \$68,081.50

Natural Resources Division Projects



Water Resources Management Section

Agency: U. S. Department of Agriculture

Description: The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) serves to protect environmentally sensitive land, decrease erosion, restore wildlife habitat, and safeguard ground and surface water. This program is administered by the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA).

1) Property: CREP Day Creek (P41777), 0.8 acres
Effective Dates: 10/1/02 to 9/30/17
USDA Annual Payment: \$ 220.00

2) Property: CREP Etach Creek (P41257), 2.3 acres
Effective Dates: 10/1/02 to 9/30/17
USDA Annual Payment: \$ 545.00

3) Property: CREP Martin Slough (P44651, P45030, and P45044), 22.8 acres
Effective Dates: 10/1/04 to 9/30/19
USDA Annual Payment: \$ 1,747.00

- 4) **Grant Agency:** Washington State Department of Ecology
Description: Marine Resources Committee Administration and Action Project
Effective Dates: 9/16/13 to 9/15/14
DOE Match: \$ 70,000.00
Skagit County Match: \$ 49,900.00

- 5) **Grant Agency:** WA Recreation and Conservation Office
Description: Rock removal at the end of Robinson Road. This project is part of the Middle Skagit Restoration and Protection Plan.
Effective Dates: 12/8/11 to 12/31/13
DOE Match: \$ 102,000
Skagit County Match: \$ 18,000

- 6) **Grant Agency:** WA Department of Health
Funding Source: U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Primary Recipient: Skagit County Health Department
Description: Pollution Identification and Correction Program II
Effective Dates: 1/1/12 to Ongoing
Grant Agency Match: \$ 592,751.00
Skagit County Match: \$ 0.00

- 7) **Grant Agency:** Washington State Department of Ecology
Description: Samish River Natural Resources Stewardship Program
Effective Dates: 11/1/13 to 10/31/16
DOE Match: \$ 281,250.00
Skagit County Match: \$ 93,750.00

Awarded Pending Mutual Signature

- 1) **Grant Agency:** WA Recreation and Conservation Office
Funding Source: Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB)
Description: This project will complete the final design for 3,600 feet of a new Hansen Creek Channel, including the installation of numerous wood structures, as well as floodplain plantings. This new channel will provide excellent freshwater habitat that will be utilized by Chinook, Coho, Pink, Steelhead, and Chum Salmon.
Effective Dates: 12/4/13 to 12/4/15
Grant Agency Match: \$ 245,140.00
Skagit County Match: \$ 43,260.00

- 2) **Grant Agency:** WA Recreation and Conservation Office
Funding Source: Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB)
Description: This project involves the feasibility and preliminary design of a levee setback and the purchase of approximately 22 acres for the purpose of addressing a section of isolated floodplain habitat to the Skagit River. The acquisition phase will be pursued only after completing the feasibility and preliminary design report
Effective Dates: 12/4/13 to 6/30/17
Grant Agency Match: \$ 403,750.00
Skagit County Match: \$ 71,250.00

3) Grant Agency: WA Recreation and Conservation Office

Funding Source: Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB)

Description: This grant is for the preliminary engineering and design of more off-channels within the floodplain footprint of the Dike District #3 setback levee project. These new channels will be designed to be self-maintaining and will expand the rearing area for juvenile salmonids on this project site. The project will evaluate the hydrology and potentially model the interaction of the tide and river flows on the project site.

Effective Dates: 12/4/13 to 12/4/15

Grant Agency Match: \$ 120,000.00

Skagit County Match: \$ 0.00

Completion Narrative – High Visibility Grant Projects

Grant Agency: U. S. Environmental Protection Agency

Description: Clean Samish Initiative: Pollution Identification and Correction Program

Effective Dates: 6/1/10 to 12/31/13

Grant Agency Cost: \$ 961,980.00

Skagit County Match: Contracted - \$ 459,023.00 & Actual - \$ 882,086.00

Conclusion:

Skagit County has successfully completed the Clean Samish Initiative Pollution Identification and Correction Grant, which ran from June, 2010 to December, 2013. Fecal coliform pollution in the watershed caused the fresh waters to fail state water quality standards and resulted in the Samish Bay commercial shellfish growing area being downgraded from “Approved” to “Conditionally Approved” by the Washington State Department of Health. The program was designed to reduce fecal coliform pollution in the Samish Bay Watershed and result in an upgrading of the Samish Bay shellfish growing area.

As a result of activities conducted under the grant, fecal coliform pollution in the Samish Bay watershed is greatly reduced and closures of the shellfish beds less frequent. However, enough closures still occur that the shellfish growing area has not been upgraded to “Approved”, and Skagit County continues to operate the PIC program using its own Clean Water Program funding.

Grant Agency: Washington State Department of Ecology (Grant G090062)

Description: The Natural Resource Stewardship Program would provide funding opportunities to landowners who own property adjacent to watercourses that have known water quality issues.

Effective Dates: 10/31/08 to 12/31/13

DOE Match: \$405,000.00

Skagit County Match: Contracted - \$135,000.00 & Actual - \$ 169,397.58

Conclusion:

Skagit County completed 27 projects from 2009 – 2013. The table below provides highlights of accomplishments of the program.

Watershed	# of Projects	# of Land-owners	Linear Feet of Stream	Acres	Native Plantings	Fencing	# of LWD pieces	Livestock Crossings
Skagit	10	16	15,172	25.46	11,338	4,745	44	1
Samish	17	17	20,455	30.02	13,647	8,077	91	1
Totals	27	33	35,627	55.48	14,785	12,077	135	2

In 2010 the Samish watershed, through the Clean Samish Initiative, received a surge of attention resulting in increased efforts from the County and the State to reduce fecal coliform in the watershed. As a result NRSP became a great tool to address sources of potential pollution

Drainage Utility Projects

- 1) **Agency:** Washington State Department of Ecology
Description: Skagit County Local Government Stormwater, NPDES II
Effective Dates: 05/01/12 - 12/31/14
DOE Cost: \$116,504
County Cost: 25% match; at least \$30,000.
- 2) **Agency:** Washington State Department of Ecology
Description: Skagit County Local Government Stormwater, NPDES II
Effective Dates: 05/01/12 - 06/30/15
DOE Cost: \$291,000
County Cost: 25% match; at least \$73,000
- 3) **Agency:** Washington State Department of Ecology
Description: Skagit County Local Government Stormwater, NPDES II
Effective Dates: 07/01/13 - 01/31/15
DOE Cost: \$170,000
County Cost: \$0

River Improvement

- 1) **Agency:** Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)
Description: Skagit River Bridge Modification & Interstate Highway
Effective Dates: 7/2/07 until complete
WSDOT Cost: \$ 2,699,999
County Cost: \$0

Solid Waste Division

(The below agreement and grant are administered by the Clean Water Program)

1) Senior Agency: Washington State Department of Ecology

Participating Potentially Liable Parties (PLPs): Washington State Department of Natural Resources, Texaco, Inc., and Shell Oil Company

Funding: Funding for Phase I of a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study is provided by a grant through the Department of Ecology, Skagit County's insurers, and the above-mentioned PLPs.

Description: Agreed Order No. DE-08TCPHQ-5999 between Washington Department of Ecology, Skagit County and the Participating Potentially Liable Parties (PLPs) to conduct the Phase I of a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study at Whitmarsh or face possible enforcement action by the State. The information from this investigation will be used to determine the appropriate remedial action necessary and the degree of liability each PLP or potential additional PLPs have. March Point (Whitmarsh) Landfill Site located at 9663 March Point Road in Anacortes, Washington.

Signed: 1/26/09

2) Agency: Washington State Department of Ecology (Grant G0900211)

Description: Skagit County and the other PLP signatories to the Agreed Order are being required to conduct the Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study (RI/FS) of the Whitmarsh Landfill Site. This grant agreement provides reimbursement for 50 percent of the County's costs to implement the RI/FS. Preliminary estimates show a potential project cost of up to \$10 million for investigation and remediation of the site.

Effective Dates: 1/1/08 to 12/31/13

DOE Match: \$1,000,000.00

Skagit County Match: \$1,000,000.00

***** NOTE *** This grant is pending potential extension with project completion past the end of 2015.**