

K-12 Environmental/STEAM Resources in the Skagit Watershed

Contact:

- **Friend of the Forest (aka Friends of the ACFL)** offers students the opportunity to engage with the Anacortes Community Forest Lands (ACFL) both inside and outside of the classroom. They offer field trips in the ACFL or school programs for the classroom or school yard. They also host summer camps, after school programs and community hikes. More info at www.friendsoftheacfl.org
- **Glacier Peak Institute (GPI)** leads activities in the upper Skagit and Sauk Rivers. These include guided hikes, canoeing, rafting, trail building, art projects, fish management lessons, eDNA sampling and more.
- **Museum of Northwest Art (MoNA)** offers [free lesson plans](#) and [free art supplies](#) (to borrow for up to three weeks at a time). They also offer [MoNA Link](#), a two-year professional development program, and [Surge](#), an exhibit about climate change in NW coastal communities from Oct 14, 2023 to Jan 21, 2024 . Learn more about their programs here: <https://www.monamuseum.org/>.
- **North Cascades Institute (NCI)** offers Mountain School, a 3-day program for 5th graders. More info and resources posted at ncascades.org/signup/schools/mountain-school. Due to summer fires, all 2023 programs have been canceled.
- **Pacific Education Institute (PEI)** offers free standards-aligned curriculum for grades 4-8, based on the book *Explore the Salish Sea A Nature Guide for Kids*, developed by the SeaDoc Society. Explore this and other resources for educators at www.juniorseadoctors.com
- **Pacific Mammal Research (PacMam)** offers classroom presentations about marine mammals in the Salish Sea, which can be tailored to meet the specific needs of individual teachers. Also available are half-day field trips (grades 7-12) to collect data at their study site in Anacortes. This program is free, but transportation is not provided. Students must hike 10 minutes to/from the site.
- **Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve** offers half-day and full-day field trips for classes at any grade level. Their interpretive center includes saltwater aquaria, a touch tank, and interactive exhibits. Full-day program includes a field component at the beach.

★ **Hannah Katz** | Friends of Forest
hannah@friendsoftheacfl.org
(360) 218-4573

★ **Oak Rankin** | GPI
info@glacierpeakinstitute.org
(360) 436-6445

★ **Ellie Cross** | MoNA
education@museumofnwart.org
(360) 466-4446 ext 101

★ **Eric Buher** | NCI
eric_buher@ncascades.org
ELC – (206) 526-2598
Cell – (360) 420-0413

★ **Mira Lutz Castle** | PEI
mdlutz@ucdavis.edu |

★ **Cindy Elliser** | PacMam
cindy.elliser@pacmam.org
(360) 202-2860

★ **Chandler Colahn** | Padilla Bay
ccolahan@padillabay.gov
(360) 428 -1558

Contacts:

- **Skagit Audubon Society** offers guided birdwatching field trips or class visits with non-living bird specimens. Also, anyone can check out kits for young birders that include a bird guide, binoculars, activities, and children's books from the public libraries in Burlington, Mount Vernon, Anacortes, La Conner, and Upper Skagit.
- **Skagit Conservation District** offers hands-on watershed/stormwater presentations for grades K-12, the Soil and Water Stewardship poster contest in the spring for grades K-12, the Envirothon Competition in the spring for grades 9-12, the Skagit Youth Conservation Tour for 5/6th grade in May, as well as a variety of videos and worksheets about the Skagit Watershed for a range of grade levels. More information can be found here: www.skagitcd.org/youth-opportunities.
- **Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group (SFEG)** is offering their Kids in Creeks program. Funding for school busses is available. More info on this program and other teacher resources: www.skagitfisheries.org/classroom-education/
- **Skagit Land Trust** offers their land for educators to use as an outdoor classroom. They also have some resources for teachers, such as the Elk Education Trunk and are happy to work with teachers to meet their outdoor classroom needs. More info here: www.skagitlandtrust.org/pages/youth.aspx
- **Skagit Public Utility District** offers a unique science and social studies program called [The Story of Drinking Water](#) — an exploration of water's role in our environment and society, emphasizing the importance of a safe and reliable water supply. The program includes a tour of Judy Reservoir, the water treatment plant, and a visit to a source water stream in the Cultus Mountain watershed. Students learn where their water comes from and how it's treated to make it safe to drink. Transportation reimbursement is available. Or, do their [virtual tour via Google Earth](#).
- **Skagit Watershed Council (SWC)** is offering their Drain Rangers program for 5-8th graders in the Fall and Spring. In this program, students (1) take stormwater data on how their school's contributes to stormwater runoff, (2) propose a project to reduce the problem, and (3) test the effectiveness of their project using models. SWC also offer a luminary arts program in preparation for the Illuminight Winter Walk event in January 2024. This program is intended teaches the salmon life cycle through making a paper lantern. There are two options, one intended for 1st graders, and one intended for 6th graders.
- **The Salish Sea School (TSSS)** offers a variety of school programs focused on marine science and/or conservation, including boat-based and shore-based field trips. Learn about K-12 options here: thesalishseaschool.org/school-program . These lessons can be adapted to meet the teacher's specific needs. They also have free [printable field guides](#).

★ **Jeff O.** | Skagit Audubon
education@skagitaudubon.org

★ **Cindy Pierce** | SCD
cindy@skagitcd.org
(360) 428-4313

★ **Lucy Degrace** | SFEG
ldgrace@skagitfisheries.org
(360) 336-0172 ext 301

★ **Stacy Dahl** | SLT
stacyd@skagitlandtrust.org
(360) 428-7878

★ **Kevin Tate** | Skagit PUD
tate@skagitpud.org
(360) 848-4477

★ **Holli Watne** | SWC
hwatne@skagitwatershed.org
(360) 399-0265

★ **Amy Eberling** | TSSS
info@thesalishseaschool.org
(703) 477-7432