



SAN JUAN ISLANDS CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Executive Director: Linda Lyshall Board Chair: Ron Zee
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Legislative District: 40 Congressional District: 2

Other accomplishments:



Biochar burn at the Lopez Island Biochar Workshop. Photo by Linda Lyshall



Shoreline Landowner Workshop field trip at Jackson Beach (San Juan Island) with Coastal Geologic Services. Photo by Samantha Sprenger



The Friday Harbor Electric Vehicle Car Show brought more than 250 people out to share and learn about electric vehicles. Photo by Ryan Palmateer

2017 FEATURE ACCOMPLISHMENT

SAN JUAN ISLANDS YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS



Orcas Island YCC completing trail work at Moran State Park in partnership with Washington Trails Association.

Resource challenge

The San Juan Islands Conservation District provided a county-wide structure for nurturing a conservation ethic and awareness for the youth of San Juan County. We provided access to education and employment within the field of natural resource conservation and stewardship through three island-based Youth Conservation Corps

(YCC), providing an avenue for youth to contribute to their community and build a sense of stewardship. We are committed to nurturing the development of strong, creative, and informed young adults.

Project summary and results

This year, our crews completed 34 projects on eight islands. They restored habitat, conducted species assessments, and learned about cultural heritage. For many of our crew members, this was a first work experience. We emphasize the development of job skills and life skills necessary for working with a team. Individuals can begin the program as early as middle school and graduate into the high school program. Then, after high school, they can become a crew lead by mentoring the generations succeeding them. Through this program we strive to improve the health of our youth and our environment.



Lopez Island YCC beach seining and conducting near shore species inventory at Watmough Bay.

Key partners: Bureau of Land Management; San Juan Island National Parks; San Juan County Land Bank, Parks, and Public Works; San Juan Preservation Trust; Orcas Community Land Trust; Washington State Parks; Washington Trails Assn.

MORE WORK TO DO

- ▶ No-till Direct Seed Drill Pilot Project is underway! Ten farmers will participate in a pilot project to restore pastures and increase soil health.
- ▶ Promote forest health by providing technical assistance and cost-share to implement forest management practices.
- ▶ Engage shoreline landowners to protect and restore shoreline habitat through technical assistance, workshops, and re-vegetation.