A Growing Need

Sky Valley, near the city of Sultan, is a busy agricultural center and popular destination for fishing and outdoor recreation. The area also attracts new homeowners seeking affordable housing and a rural lifestyle.

The neighboring Skykomish River has a long history of flooding that frequently impacts farms, businesses and residential properties. Repetitive loss properties are scattered along the river and more than twenty properties are currently threatened by bank erosion, with some experiencing erosion rates of 9-25 feet per year.

Solutions to Benefit Farm, Fish and Flood Management

Community Floodplain Solutions proactively engages our funders and partners to leverage resources and maximize financial investments for all.

We have many to thank for their contributions in Sky Valley.

Learn more at www.snohomishcountywa.gov/CFS, call 425-262-2443 or email CFS.info@snoco.org.

Title VI / ADA: Interpreter and translation services for non-English speakers and accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Call 425-388-8476. For questions regarding Public Works’ Title VI Program, contact our Title VI Coordinator via email at spw-titlevi@snoco.org, or phone 425-388-6660. Hearing/speech impaired call 711.

Si los solicita, hay disponibles servicios de interpretación y traducción para personas que no hablan inglés y adaptaciones para personas con discapacidades. 425-388-8476. Si tiene preguntas sobre el Programa de Obras Públicas del Título VI, comuníquese con nuestro Coordinador del Título VI por correo electrónico a spw-titlevi@snoco.org, o por teléfono al 425-388-6660. Las personas con dificultades auditivas deben llamar al 711. (Spanish)
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Partners in Action

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Hope Alone Won’t Get the Job Done. We Need You.

We are working to care for our community and continue to make it a place where future generations can enjoy the rural, agricultural and natural beauty cherished today. Landowner participation and local support is needed to achieve gains for FARMS, FISH and FLOOD management.

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Advancing Integrated Floodplain Management in Sky Valley

Sky Valley is a place of great natural beauty, community and opportunity, where the Skykomish River flows west and converges with the Snoqualmie River to make the Snohomish River. Within the reach of these rivers are thriving communities, productive farmlands and critical habitats for endangered species like the Chinook salmon.

Working together, Snohomish County Public Works Surface Water Management (SWM) and Sustainable Lands Strategy (SLS) partners are piloting an integrated floodplain management strategy, called Community Floodplain Solutions (CFS), along the Lower Skykomish River. Integrated floodplain management is a holistic approach that looks to manage river resources in mutually beneficial ways. CFS – Sky Valley, is a collaborative effort to:

CFS’s Goals to protect and preserve land options include:

- Protect up to 200 acres of floodplain land for future restoration and long-term agriculture use
- Restore up to 30 acres of habitat along the Skykomish riverbanks
- Complete 30% designs for an integrated floodway project and 3 agriculture resiliency projects making sure farmers have access to land
- Model, assess and map future river conditions; educate and learn from residents
- Remove 3 fish passage barriers and culverts, improving access to 2.6 miles of stream habitat
- Reduce flood-related risk to people and public infrastructure

Project Funding

- $4.8M Grant from the Washington State Department of Ecology’s Floodplains by Design (FBD) grant program
- $1.93M Local and federal matching funds from SWM and partners
- Additional funds The county and partners are seeking additional funding to provide relief options in more areas of the Skykomish River valley

Timeline: The grant cycle began in July 2019 and extends through June 2023.

- 2019
  - Integration team planning
  - Community outreach & engagement
  - Acquisitions and scoping for agricultural resiliency, habitat restoration and flood risk reduction

- 2020
  - Items from 2019, plus list below
  - Introductory Open House*
  - Farm to Table Dinner*
  - (Q2) Farmland succession support & ag viability planning
  - (Q4) Draft hazards modeling and assessments results

- 2021
  - Items from 2019, plus list below
  - Final hazards modeling & assessments results and open house
  - Ag resiliency workshops
  - (Dec) Draft preliminary ag resiliency project designs
  - South slough plantings
  - (Dec) Draft preliminary integrated floodway design
  - (Q1) Final Haystack Creek culverts designs

- 2022
  - Items from 2019, plus list below
  - Community scoping
  - (Q2) Final preliminary ag resiliency project designs
  - (July) Final preliminary integrated floodway design
  - (Mar) Haystack Creek culverts construction

- 2023
  - Items from 2019
  - Additional items as determined

* Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, these events may be moved to 2021.

Background photo by John Westrock, Flickr

Keep local farms viable

FARM

Restore habitat for endangered salmon

FISH

Reduce flood impacts for residents

FLOOD
**A Growing Need**

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**SWM.32.1020**

**Surface Water Management**

**Community Floodplain Solutions | Sky Valley**

Together we can keep local farms viable, restore habitat for fish and wildlife, and reduce flood impacts.