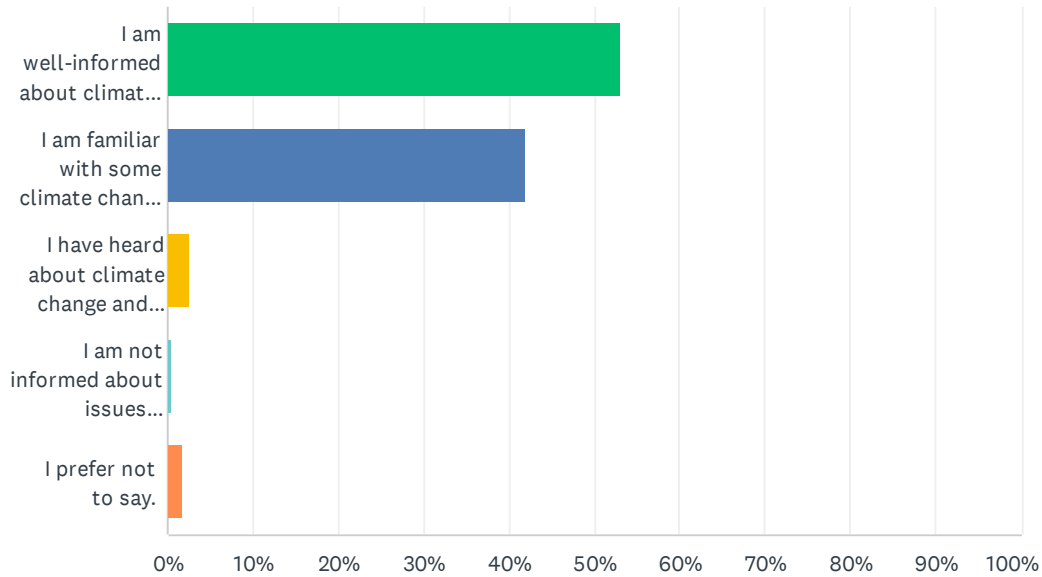


# Q1 How would you best describe your awareness and understanding of climate change issues?

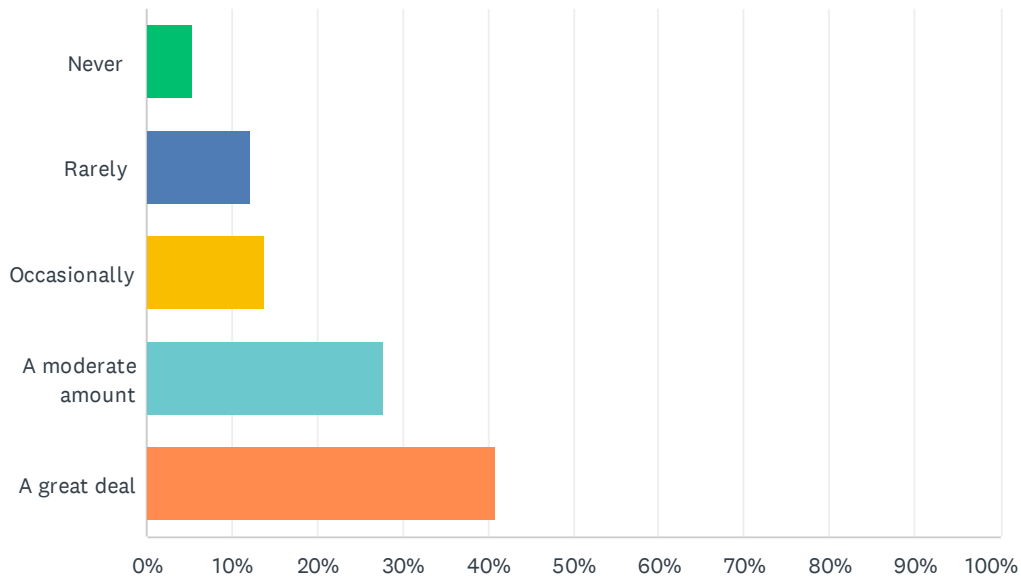
Answered: 651 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I am well-informed about climate change issues.	53.15%	346
I am familiar with some climate change issues and try to stay informed.	42.09%	274
I have heard about climate change and climate change issues, but don't know much about it.	2.61%	17
I am not informed about issues surrounding climate change.	0.46%	3
I prefer not to say.	1.69%	11
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>651</b>

## Q2 How often do you think about climate change?

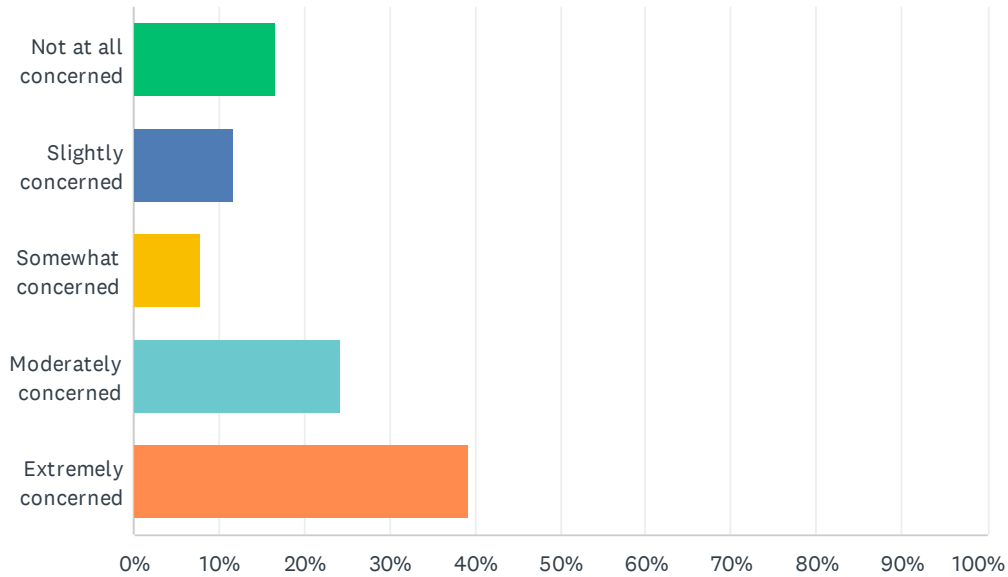
Answered: 651 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Never	5.38%	35
Rarely	12.14%	79
Occasionally	13.82%	90
A moderate amount	27.65%	180
A great deal	41.01%	267
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>651</b>

### Q3 Generally, how concerned are you about extreme weather and climate change impacts in your community?

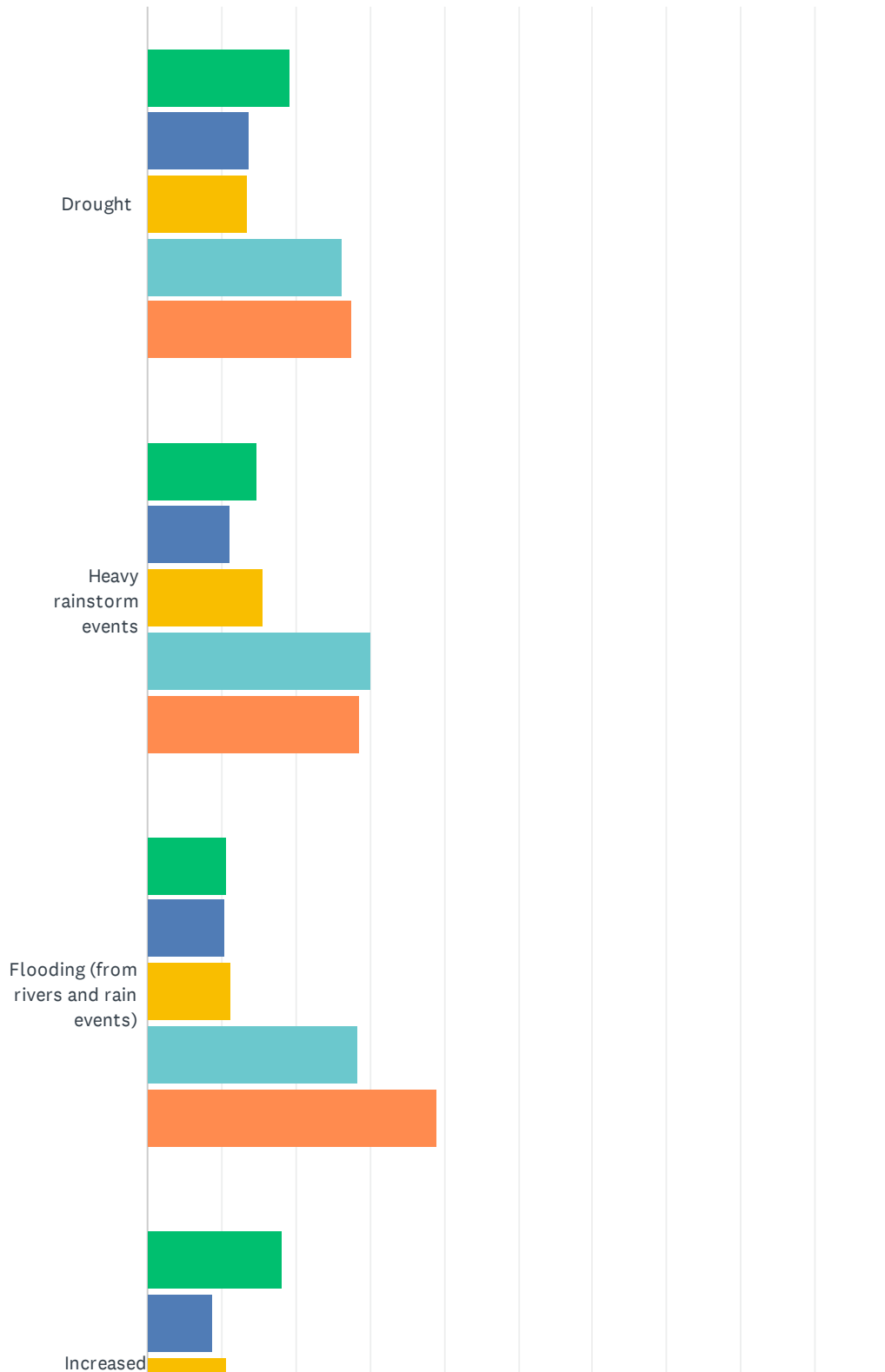
Answered: 627 Skipped: 25



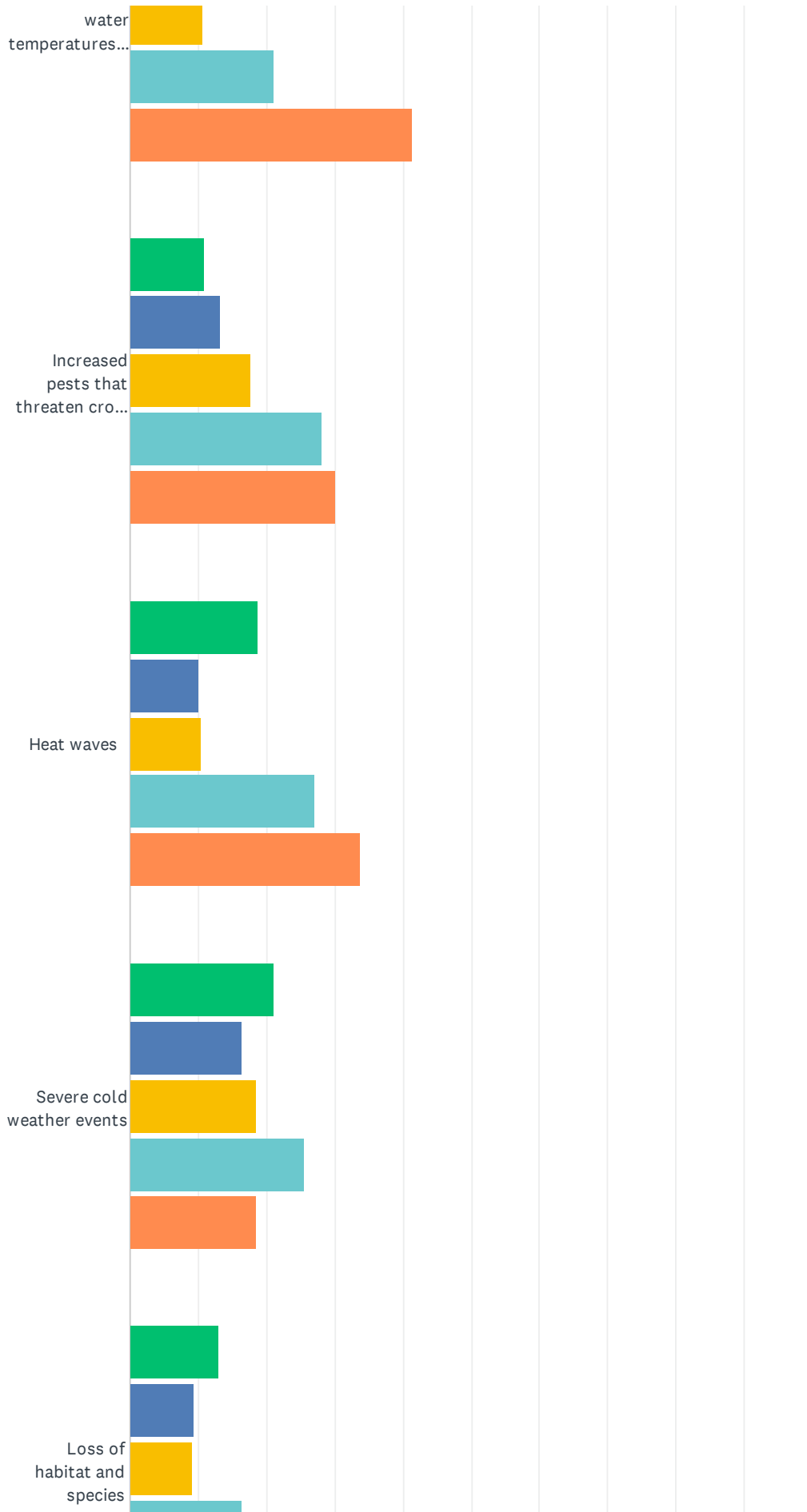
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Not at all concerned	16.59%	104
Slightly concerned	11.80%	74
Somewhat concerned	7.97%	50
Moderately concerned	24.40%	153
Extremely concerned	39.23%	246
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>627</b>

### Q4 How concerned are you with the following extreme weather and climate change impacts in Skagit County? Please indicate your level of concern per impact.

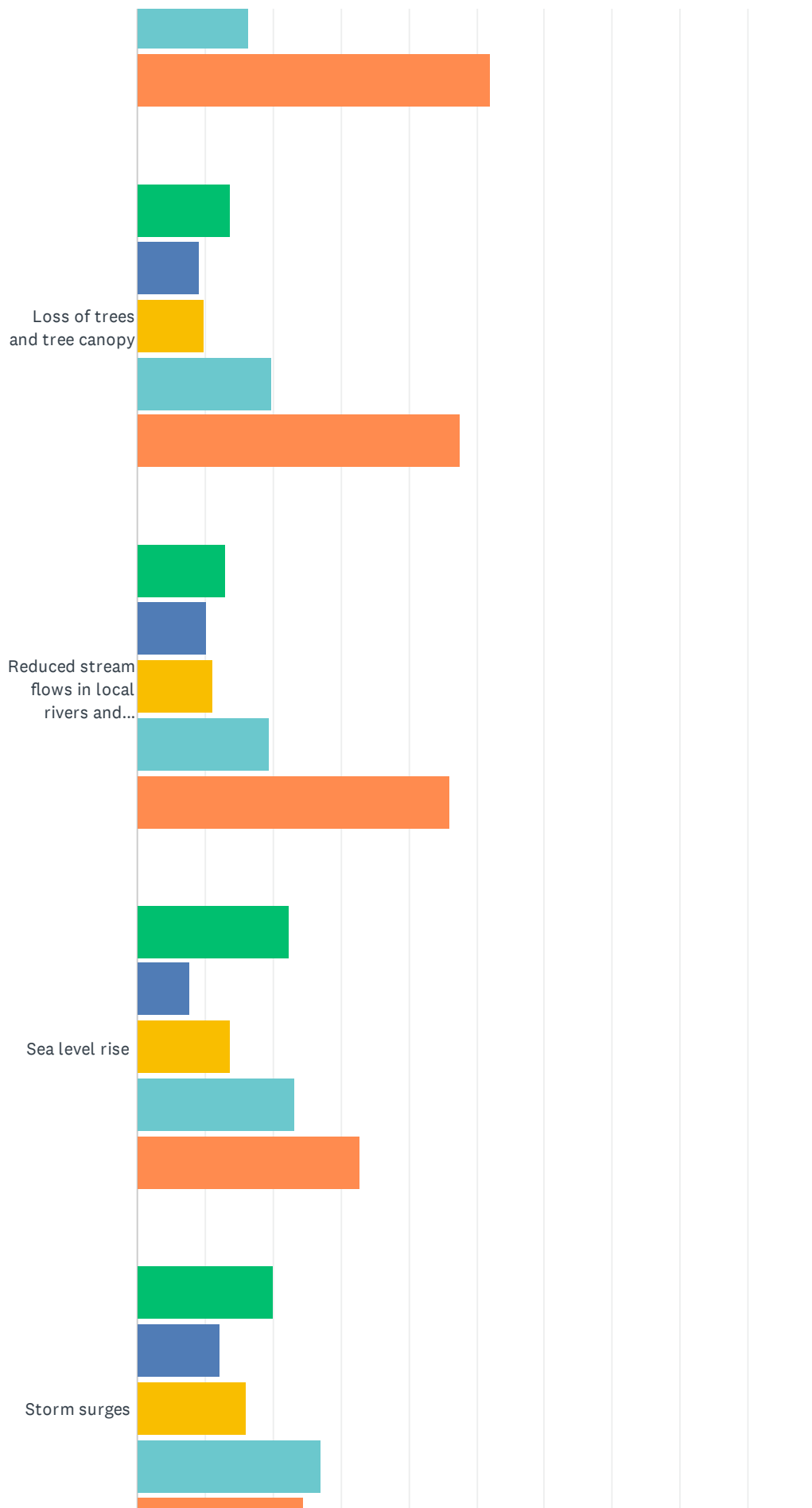
Answered: 624 Skipped: 28



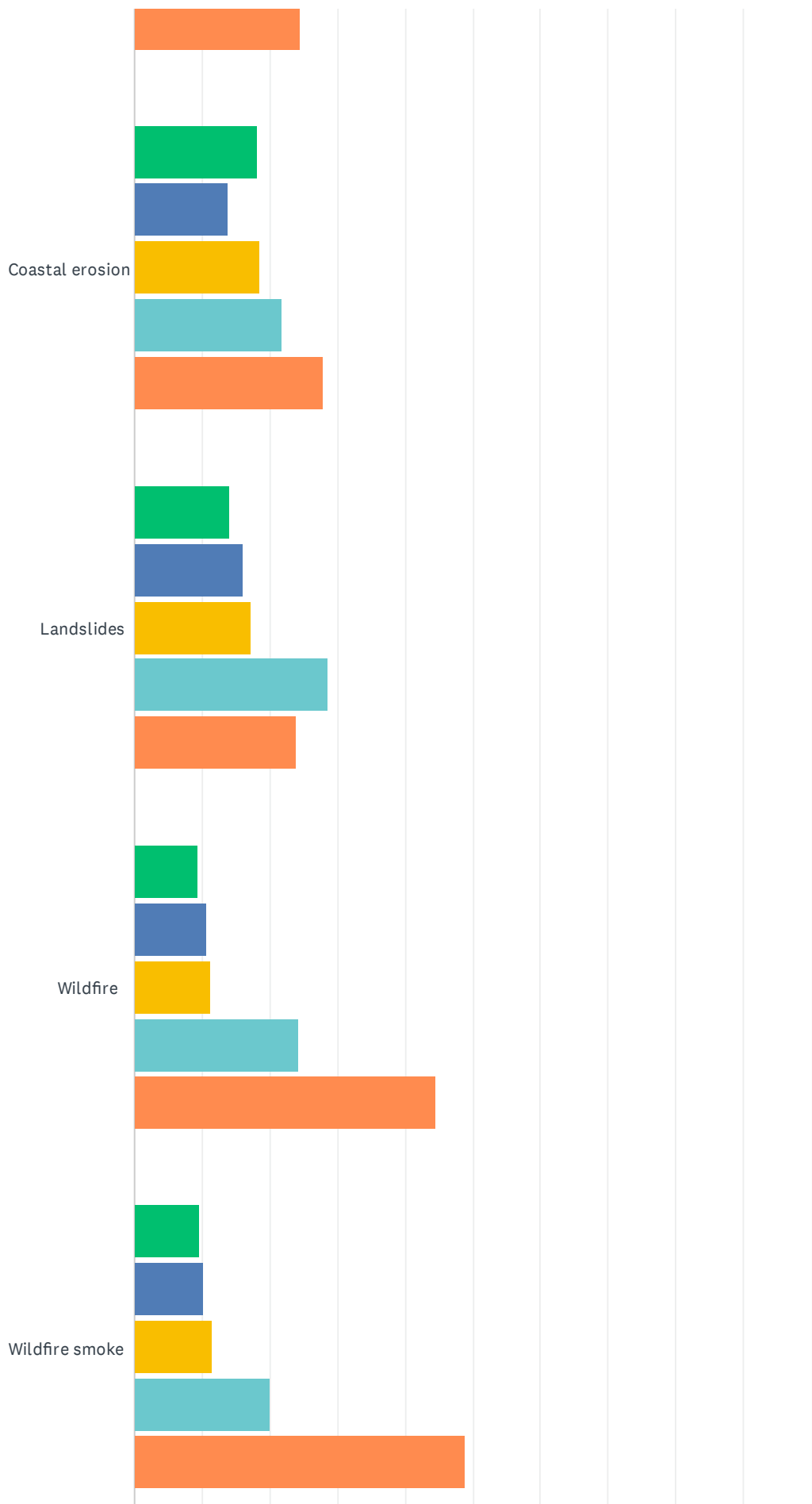
# Skagit County Climate Element Community Survey



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	NOT AT ALL CONCERNED	SLIGHTLY CONCERNED	SOMEWHAT CONCERNED	MODERATELY CONCERNED	EXTREMELY CONCERNED	TOTAL
Drought	19.19% 119	13.71% 85	13.39% 83	26.29% 163	27.42% 170	620
Heavy rainstorm events	14.78% 90	11.00% 67	15.60% 95	30.05% 183	28.57% 174	609
Flooding (from rivers and rain events)	10.71% 66	10.55% 65	11.36% 70	28.41% 175	38.96% 240	616
Increased water temperatures in local lakes, streams and rivers	18.20% 113	8.70% 54	10.63% 66	21.10% 131	41.38% 257	621
Increased pests that threaten crops and trees	10.93% 68	13.18% 82	17.68% 110	28.14% 175	30.06% 187	622
Heat waves	18.71% 116	10.00% 62	10.48% 65	27.10% 168	33.71% 209	620
Severe cold weather events	21.04% 130	16.50% 102	18.45% 114	25.57% 158	18.45% 114	618
Loss of habitat and species	13.11% 81	9.39% 58	9.22% 57	16.34% 101	51.94% 321	618
Loss of trees and tree canopy	13.61% 84	9.08% 56	9.89% 61	19.77% 122	47.65% 294	617
Reduced stream flows in local rivers and streams	13.04% 81	10.31% 64	11.11% 69	19.48% 121	46.05% 286	621
Sea level rise	22.42% 139	7.74% 48	13.71% 85	23.23% 144	32.90% 204	620
Storm surges	20.06% 124	12.14% 75	16.02% 99	27.18% 168	24.60% 152	618
Coastal erosion	18.15% 112	13.78% 85	18.48% 114	21.72% 134	27.88% 172	617
Landslides	14.08% 87	16.02% 99	17.31% 107	28.64% 177	23.95% 148	618
Wildfire	9.47% 59	10.59% 66	11.24% 70	24.24% 151	44.46% 277	623
Wildfire smoke	9.52% 59	10.16% 63	11.45% 71	20.00% 124	48.87% 303	620



**Q5 Based on your responses to the previous question, tell us more about why you feel this way. Include if you've been personally affected by these climate impacts, and which community assets or members you anticipate being most impacted.**

Answered: 458 Skipped: 194

**Open ended responses start on next page.**

Question 5: Based on your responses to the previous question, tell us more about why you feel this way. Include if you've been personally affected by these climate impacts, and which community assets or members you anticipate being most impacted.

<p>I think we have been fortunate in Skagit County compared to many other locations, but I think we need to be aware that the situation is not improving and we have a responsibility to the planet and its inhabitants in general. We have sacrificed the health of Nature for technological short term 'conveniences'. We are going to have to learn to live in a more knowledgeable concerned society if we are to overcome the problems we have created in our overpopulated undereducated habitation.</p>
<p>"which community assets or members you anticipate being most impacted". An earthquake is an earthquake, as is a flood is a flood! volcano, and wildfires, the destruction and the devastating effects that will follow, we'll all be EQUAL in the aftermath.</p>
<p>....</p>
<p>1) The Climate does change yet left govt seems to think they can stop it, which is illogical since at one time, Africa had glaciers &amp; UT had a lot of water. So instead, you try to control it &amp; make it worse. For example, spraying the sky with chemicals to 'block the sunlight', thinking chemicals are benign. Or cloud seeding and making it rain in areas it would not with a normal water cycle--so areas where the geography has not a natural way to collect the rainfall patterns or cities stormwater. Silver Iodine is not benign as silver is a strong antiseptic. Or the newest deicer which is highly corrosive to metal--so bridges &amp; undercarriages of public fleet vehicles which now need to be replaced more often BUT the deicer changes the pH of the soil from acid "Evergreen State" to alkaline. You are all too stupid to understand the implications of chemistry it seems, never read Silent Spring about the Butterfly Effect &amp; if a Democrat literally voted for not just the Merchants of Death with endless warfare, but also the poisoners of humanity by voting "I'm from Dupont" Chemicals Biden. 2. At the same time the left human trafficks millions when Native Americans are still very much alive, "modern day Manifest Destiny racist colonizers" as my Native friend calls Democrats. Endless development has a negative environmental impact, the complete opposite of what you should do as a reaction to a changing climate. Often causing building in areas prone to either floods or landslides or that negatively impact movements of wildlife. You also seem to completely ignore the Skagit water downstream rights for Indigenous Peoples. So you are hypocrites of the worst sort, motivated by Federal money &amp; greed, and hilariously working usually with religious NGOs while also non-stop basing religion or screaming "separation of church and state."</p>
<p>A couple of years ago the temperature was over 100° in late June. Last winter, the temperature got down to 6°.</p>
<p>A recent study (that conveniently was removed from the internet) of climatologists across the world stated that yes, the climate is changing, but the change is not surging.</p>
<p>adapt, migrate or die ?</p>
<p>Affected by drought and wildfires/smoke. Overall concern for environmental changes that will negatively impact our ability to habitate areas</p>
<p>Airborne Particles can have immediate and long-term health effects. The likelihood of wild fire is increasing.</p>

<p>All aspects affect me as a citizen. As a senior, I am concerned for myself, my children and grandchildren and our substantial population of agricultural workers. Skagit county needs to focus on its people instead of focusing on our polluting industries.</p>
<p>All members of the community will be affected by various or all impacts. I have been personally affected by heat and the heat dome, drought, flooding and sea level rise, wildfire smoke (respiratory impacts), impacts to rivers, streams, marshes, wildlife and fluctuating and unusual weather affecting home vegetation.</p>
<p>All of the above risks/hazards are negative impacts to our environment, communities, livelihoods. We must do all we reasonably/practically can to minimize these threats.</p>
<p>All of the listed high priorities are conditions that I have personally witnessed in the county and these conditions have and will continue to have adverse impacts on the health, safety and well being of all who live in the county. The impacts are particularly noted with the economy and our habitat - marine, forest, river, agriculture and uplands. The sea level rise threat in the western part of the county is counter balanced with wildfires in the eastern portion of the county. Water should be a central focus for attention with too much, too little, too warm all factors at different times that more frequently create hardship. A significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions is huge priority for the county plan.</p>
<p>All of these are clear threats to individuals due to climate change and many resources are in clear danger (e.g., homes along a river at risk to flooding).</p>
<p>All of these listed impacts are extremely concerning, but some will effect our area more than others. I feel like currently wildfire, smoke, landslides and drought have the most impact on our communities but we will start seeing the effects of the other changes more in the future. I feel that those already struggling economically will be the most impacted by climate change. They are less likely to be able to move somewhere safer or make modifications to their homes or property to increase safety. They may not be able to afford to evacuate in an emergency. There are many other reasons climate change disproportionally effects the less fortunate, but all will be impacted more and more.</p>
<p>All of those changes are going to impact us over the next 20-50 years. Additionally, to the extent we're spared the worst, climate-related migration will strain resources.</p>
<p>All the impacts I have noted that I am extremely concerned about have already impacted Skagit County and will continue to do so, in many cases, with worsening impacts. Drought has already caused irrigation restrictions for farmers and restrictions on new development that would require new wells--the later impact is in rural areas where development should not be occurring anyway so in a way that's a positive impact of climate change. Heavy rain/flooding/sea level rise/storm surges have already impacted our low lying communities and roadways, as well as causing coastal erosion and landslides (note mudslide onto Big Lake road). The County needs to educate impacted residents about future impacts and plan for mitigation steps like no new development in impacted areas and consideration of managed retreat. Heat waves have reduced our glaciers and increased temperatures in our waterways, causing reduced stream flow, an unhealthy environment for fish (salmon in particular), loss of habitat and species, loss of trees and tree canopy (especially western red cedar). Wildfires and wildfire smoke have affected all in Skagit County. The County should be restricting development in forests.</p>
<p>As a farmer, drought and extreme heat can be devastating for our crops and our livestock. We worry about climate change's impact on salmon, and on the cedar trees in our forest which are sensitive to heat and drought. In addition, as an event planner, wildfire smoke presents a new and unpredictable challenge to throwing outdoor events during the summer (which is the only time of the year they are really possible).</p>

<p>As a farmer, drought, extreme heat and cold, have had and continue to have impact on my work. As a parent, increased wildfire smoke and pollution are a concern because my kids seem to suffer from respiratory allergy responses for most of the summer.</p>
<p>As a fishing and logging family, I'm concerned about the long term sustainability and health of natural resources in our region in the face of heat, drought, etc, like forests and salmon. With other family members, I have concerns about heat waves and severe weather events and with older folks and kids with asthma, air quality issues from pollution and wildfire smoke has been an issue.</p>
<p>As a gardener I have watched the weather change and affect how things grow, struggle or try to adapt. Believe our farmers, fisheries and wildlife will be most impacted by climate change and must have our support to continue to thrive.</p>
<p>As a life long farmer we have witnessed first hand the difficulties farming when the temps stay in the 90's or higher for weeks on end. It is hard on our crops and dangerous for our employees. The cold springs seem to be increasing, making it difficult to get things off to a healthy start, especially when the temperatures go from 60 to 90 degrees. As EMT's in our local fire district, we were first on scene for the OSO landslide and witnessed the devastation when extreme weather events and our steep unstable slopes cause landslides. The smoke from wild fires is hazardous to us, our employees and impacts the maturation of many of the crops we grow.</p>
<p>As a professional forester for 45 years I have seen the changes in real time and how problems are accelerating. Also; having seen early (1990's) predictions; contemporary multiple &amp; extreme events are occurring decades sooner than anticipated.</p>
<p>As a Red Cross mental health volunteer, I have Ben to many climate related disasters serving those impacted by the event. The events are bigger, stay longer and are more frequent. My work is with those who have lost loved ones, in hospital, with mental health issues. The pain of these events is enormous!</p>
<p>As a Whatcom Planning Commissioner, and someone who has studied climate impacts for almost 24 years, I am EXTREMELY concerned that we are not teaching alternative ways of living and learning/adapting and mitigating in schools, at home and in local governments. Reserach shows that Women (and espically of color) will be most impacted followed by children and those living below or at the poverty line. I antipicated that Skagit's Latine (Latino/a/x) population and those that are experiecing houselessness will be the most impacted.</p>
<p>As more people move into our area, the demand on natural resources will also increase. It is important that we plan not for the resources that exist now, but rather the resources that will exist 100-years from now (e.g. instream flows)</p>
<p>As moving through the spotted owl syndrome back in the 80s and Loggers is tending to the forest it's all political and I don't believe a word of any of it I know you guys can I have books on chemtrails in all your ways of changing the weather on us so it doesn't really make a difference about this survey everything is manipulated yes we should be concerned but the way we've been lied to for hundreds of years nothing I can take serious anymore and I really don't care where it is it's pretty sad and no money is gonna help any of it we just gotta get all the evil people out and you're good to go! lived in Oak Harbor for mini mini mini years and watched the chemtrails I've worked in Stanwood many many years and with the military and their chemtrails that you just watching need to turn right into plumes of clouds and weather changewatcho the manipulation with everything oh government coverup Bsl'm concerned about this battery storage BS we want to put in our valley that causes fires that you can't put out that they want to put in our farmlands in by our rivers they can take that right to Nevada</p>

As you can probably tell, I think Climate Change is way over blown! The climate has changed every minute of every day for millions of years. There are people out there trying to make money from Climate Change and promoting its existence to serve their interests.
Associating climate change to be mostly caused by GHG is misleading.
At Community Action of Skagit County, we see people with lower incomes are disproportionately impacted by heat, cold, flooding and other weather events. They have fewer resources to mitigate wildfire smoke and extreme weather events. Thanks to state and federal grants, we have given nearly 1,000 air conditioning and room air purifier units to very low income seniors, veterans and families with children with asthma and other health issues. As these climate change conditions worsen, it also impacts all of us as tax payers to help those who are unable to pay for home upgrades to mitigate the risks. If we can prevent some of these conditions from worsening, all of us will be better off.
At our latitude and puget sound influence, my greatest concern is the greater variation from hot to cold weather and available moisture/rain fall more evenly available through out the year - especially on our agricultural economy in the valley.
Atopic I haven't spent much time thinking about. However, with the huge amount of multi story apartment buildings being built from Sedro Wooley to Anacortes has me really concerned about the rapid growth of Skagit County..growth that seems to be "out of control." Our roads, schools, waste management, water are just a few areas to be considered. To me it seems that greed (money) is the driving force behind this extreme and rapid growth..our beautiful area is looking like we are trying to become another Lynnwood. Thank goodness our farmland is safe from encroachment ..we ALL need our farmers..and they need the land to produce our food..so HANDS off the farm land..Be smart, kind, and put this rapid growth to sleep!!
Basically the things I'm only moderately concerned about don't directly impact my livelihood. I'm concerned about all of it. I'm only in my 40s and just the difference I'm seeing in the last 20 years is alarming.
Basically we are killing the planet and if we don't do something there will be nothing left. Fortunately I never had kids .
Because I lived thru the 1990 Fir Island floods. Weather is manipulated.
Because the only thing real about climate change is that the sun moves a good 1 inch a year. We are in no danger of dying, and we are not causing climate change.
Because we live in an ag area we need to protect farming and those resources.
Besides a general concern for the climate future, I worry about air quality in the summer months & overuse of non-recyclable plastics in things like food packaging.
Biodiversity loss is the most critical element of the coming large climate shifts. Making the entire community well aware of the threats is critical.
birds
Building resilience into our natural world is important to me. Without this our communities are threatened by all climate risks listed here
Change in weather is essentially a natural process and we should be very careful not to interfere with it
Climate change does and will inevitably affect the least-advantaged people in society, so we need to keep our most vulnerable neighbors safe. Washington and Skagit need to be prepared to accept climate refugees from other parts of the country and world that will be more affected.
Climate change impacts all aspects of our society, from extreme weather events causing damage to property, delays in travel, increased risk to personal health and safety. All of the above risks are exacerbated by climate change, and none of them is good for Skagit County.

<p>Climate change will negatively affect the County's efforts to maintain and strengthen a healthy ecosystem, a thriving economy, farms and food production, our work force, and the appeal the community has for tourism and residency.</p>
<p>Climate change impacts all of us. I am most concerned about impacts to our ecological communities, including wildlife, that can't mitigate impacts. People must adapt, and we must try to reduce the amount of climate change that occurs in the future. Vulnerable members of our communities are not resilient enough to handle changes and challenges like air pollution or extreme weather. Our landscapes and ecological communities are a core part of what makes the Skagit special, and at this point, we will lose a large part of our cultural identity over time.</p>
<p>Climate change impacts are happening and will continue to worsen, especially if we don't make major changes in our policies and collective behavior. I have been personally impacted by drought and heat.</p>
<p>Climate change is a clear and pressing danger. We are not prepared. The health of the community and quality of life (and our ability to sustain agriculture, fishing, forestry) is at risk. Those most impacted are those who are always most impacted ie. those farthest from economic stability, those who have been marginalized and those without power and influence.</p>
<p>Climate change is a Highly coveted cash-cow for politicians and screws the average citizen out of hard earned income.</p>
<p>Climate change is a hoax</p>
<p>Climate change is a hoax. You're being lied to.</p>
<p>Climate change is a natural process that the earth goes through. There is no reason to worry about something that we have very little control over. Our energy use is not what is causing global warming. I am not concerned because the human race will adapt until the earth starts its natural cooling process.</p>
<p>Climate change is already creating damage via drought for many trees and plants we encounter every day. Increased water temperature effects aquatic life as well as sea rise. In one day we can see the effect of increased temperatures in the mountains melting snow for example, and approximately 8 hours later, in my prior neighborhood just within the Whatcom county limits, there was flooding over the local roads on some days, as the water flow transferred from the mountains down to flow through local lakes and rivers, and back into the ocean. There are trees everywhere in my neighborhood. We are not prepared at all for fires in the vicinity of our homes. I have training in structural and wildland fire, so am more aware than some of some of the risks. These examples mentioned are just a few...</p>
<p>Climate change is and has been forever globally cyclical. I believe in good stewardship, but the current efforts to mitigate the climate through social engineering will not work, and will have large negative impacts on those who can least afford it.</p>
<p>Climate change is global and 'glacial' (slow). I'm in my 80's. I don't expect to see much change. At the same time I want the future generations to inherit a vibrant earth.</p>
<p>Climate change is growing more serious year by year. Each year we see the effects, whether it's the heat dome of several years ago, wildfire smoke, drier summers resulting in lower stream flows when salmon return, and worse flooding and storm surges resulting in increasing property and infrastructure damage. We need to increase our resilience, further restrict development in hazard areas, and reduce our individual, business, and Skagit County's impacts resulting in climate change, meaning reducing greenhouse gas emissions.</p>
<p>Climate change is increasing all over the world. It's so destructive and will continue in strength until earth can't take anymore.</p>

Climate change is man made caused by weather modification performed by NOAA, Texas weather modification LLC. Who use cesna aircraft spraying silver iodide. The proof is everywhere. Man is creating climate change as an agenda. Stop the weather modification That adds precipitation to an already existing storm making it worse then what it really is. As far as droughts go, How can there be a drought when I still see snow on top of Mt baker. The damns are just holding water back because of this ridiculous save the salmon issue which is limiting water to farmers irrigating there crops. I'm sure you all know this. But as long as you follow the "climate agenda" your pockets get filled. You really want to stop climate change then go after the ones creating it in the skies.

Climate change is not the only contributor to these impacts. Overpopulation, development, poor resource management, among others are also involved. Our "solutions" to these problems are often just more problematic and end up being expensive band aids that don't actually help anything, but end up just wasting tax payer dollars.

Climate change is real and is evident across our country. We have already been greatly impacted in the State of WA and Skagit County. We have gardened organically for 30+ years and notice great changes in our production rates and plants that we can and cannot grow any longer. We were also beekeepers until we lost all 5 hives in 2 days - a reflection of poisons in our air. We live on the flats and worry about the increased risk of flooding as well. It is our responsibility to live responsibly for our future generations and the health of our planet. EVERYONE will be impacted with our decisions - people, animals, plants and our planet. This is not a financial choice it is our survival - if we don't pay now - we will pay greatly later with loss of life, property and money.

Climate change is real and not going away. Farmers and the low income.

Climate Change laws are garbage laws did the government to launder money and get richer. So modifying the weather and forcing laws that are actually harmful down the climate like Electric Vehicles

Climate change scare is exacerbated by the liberal media and California politicians. Washington needs to wash their hands of these and develop their own conservative agenda. Generate own power, develop own water sources. maintain own forests, etc.

Climate change will have serious and far reaching impact on all aspects of society.

Climate change will negatively impact our beautiful natural environment, and has the potential to cost residents and jurisdictions a significant amount of money.

Climate extremes happen all the time and humans have no control, no matter how much money is spent. We be taxed less!!!

Climate has been in a constant state of change for millions of years. Adapt or Die. So called Climate \$cience is being advanced with Fascist tactics and is merely a means of imposing control and making themselves rich.

Climate impacts are here. whether they affect us directly (flooding) or indirectly (drought in eastern WA) they ultimately hit us all. I moved from Denver partially due to the summer heat and the bad air. as sea levels rise here there will be increased tidal flooding; not just with king tides. I think LaConner will feel the impact more than Anacortes.

Climate impacts weather and other environmental events making them more extreme.

Climate projections include higher temperatures which will lead to lower snow packs & more rain, drier summer soils, more severe fire dangers, more saturated fall or spring soils due to changing form of precipitation leads to landslides. Across the country, storm patterns and severity have changed - look at Richmond BC yesterday

Climates have cyclical trends throughout a long period. Geographically, landscapes have changed throughout history to to cyclical changes in the polar caps and earths rotation. Yes we

<p>should work to improve our energy sources but over a longer period of time so not to have large and immediate affects to communities. California for example has rolling blackouts in past because infrastructure was not implemented prior to making sweeping changes.</p>
<p>CO2 feeds plants. Plants grow and produce O2 that we use to breath. More plants the better. Most "climate change" talk is unfalsifiable propoganda to dupe the gullible into giving government control of something that they can not control or change. The classic Hegelian Dialectic.</p>
<p>Community assets include farmers and farmland, fishermen and sea food, agri and other tourism industries (tulips, orca/salish sea tours, etc.), the loss of our already brief summer mountain recreation season due to wildfire activity, downtown Mount Vernon where it borders the Skagit, downtown Anacortes where it borders the Salish, and significant Public Health issues: increased insect borne chronic infections, respiratory issues secondary to pollution and wildfire smoke, and cancer and chronic illness secondary to the application of airborne toxins currently used to mitigate these challenges, the use of which is only likely to increase as climate change impacts are more broadly felt.</p>
<p>Concern is overblown to facilitate political desires.</p>
<p>Concerned about impacts to flood plain prime farmland - planning and infrastructure maintenance around sea level rise and salt water inundation. Increased severity and risk of wildfires on forest lands and impacts to the Wildland Urban interface, livestock and human evacuation and safety planning. Increased demand on surface and groundwater resources and competition for resources between increased development and legacy farming.</p>
<p>concerned for my children and grandchildren</p>
<p>Critical public and private infrastructure is at risk because of sea level rise, higher stream and river levels and wildfires.</p>
<p>Dam and spillway at little cranberry lake has not been assessed by engineer to see if it would hold a extreme rain event.</p>
<p>Disappointed in this survey. It appears designed to obtain results that support more taxpayer spending or regulation to support the electric vehicle, solar and wind turbine industry without any cost benefit analysis respecting both environmental and taxpayer costs.</p>
<p>Do a better job managing our forests to help prevent major events</p>
<p>Drinking water availability, Water for agriculture</p>
<p>Drought &amp; low stream flows would make the largest impact on the people and character of Skagit Co. Agriculture, aquatic life, extant vegetation, demand for personal and farm irrigation water. No more permits allowed for building in danger zones for landslides, ocean activity.</p>
<p>Drought and forest fires/forest maintenance are my greatest concerns for the County and its agricultural base.</p>
<p>Due to increased building and deforestation the habits of wild animals are destroyed. I believe with every new development there should be greenspace incorporated into the design.</p>
<p>Each summer we have experienced longer stretches of really high temps and smoke in our area. This is a defining element in what I do each day. Outside workers do not have the luxury of staying home and risk health issues. While walking on various county trails it is obvious that the trees are stressed from drought and heat. Streams are also low from lack of rain and low snowpack which effects survival of aquatic species.</p>
<p>Elderly, people who work outside like in farming or DOT, people with medical issues, our hospitals and medical facilities, housing by the rivers, children's activity are greatly affected.</p>
<p>Every summer is partially ruined by smoke from wildfires. The air is dingy from pollution much more frequently now. They say it is mostly from auto exhaust. Wind storms are more frequent</p>



and powerful now. My roof has sustained damage multiple times despite the fact that it is fairly new and has a high wind rating. The temperatures are strange. We have cold Junes and rainstorms in August. We have had heat domes that are dangerous and miserable. It is increasingly difficult to farm. It seems as if the county is hell bent on putting developments in rural areas. This takes from forest land and puts cars on roads that cannot sustain the volume. These are locations that have NO public transportation. These are not homes that are affordable to middle class families. We now have idling cars on I-5 in Mount Vernon and back ups from Cook Road.

Every year it is more and more smoky and my husband and I often experience discomfort from it. It limits our ability to work outside and do what we want to do. I also worry about wildfires making their way to our property and burning down our buildings or home. Flooding seems to be more and more a problem, too, and while we aren't in a flood zone, I worry about our neighbors who are impacted by floods and landslides. I worry about our ability to grow enough food in general due to climate change and the loss of wildlife.

Everyone has been personally affected by climate change impacts of extreme heat and air pollution in Skagit County. I think young people are the most affected now. Their lungs and brains are affected by air pollution and wildfire smoke.

Everyone I know who is local says the smoke events are a new feature of PNW life from the last 5 or so years...There are changes that cannot be denied already- I also personally bristle at the "carbon footprint" model, when private jets and industry are enough to offset whatever the entire population of Skagit County could hope to achieve in carbon reduction by doing consumer changes.

Everything is connected. As things change in the environment the effects are widespread.

Extremely concerned about wildfires due to DNR failures in managing their forests.

Feel that it is creating fake news and worries.

Feel there are ways to minimize wildfire and smoke impacts that are not being implemented.

Flooding on the Skagit concerns me greatly, since I live so close to it. Hot dry summers also concern me, being in an unincorporated area with no hydrants; last Fourth of July our neighbors across the river set their woods on fire with fireworks (WHICH SHOULD BE ILLEGAL) and didn't even realize it; when I called 911 they didn't recognize my address! In severe cold, our HVAC system can't keep up. We had a microburst a few years back that was terrifying, lost about two dozen trees on our five-acre properties and were out of power for a week.

Flooding, drought, and heat waves are some of the things that impact people (including low income people) most directly here. I'm also concerned about water temperatures and stream levels and canopies because of how they will affect animals.

Floods have occurred for years, we need to protect our roads from flooding. Manage our forest better.

For too long climate change has not been taken seriously. As we witness the impacts, hopefully there will be some changes. As regulations are adopted, enforcement will be key.

Global warming is quickly trumping most other issues, and the impacts are already being felt across all aspects of society. We need to mobilize with a much greater sense of urgency around this issue if we hope to at least mitigate the impacts before they get much worse. We run a great risk of cataclysmic forest fires here on the west side in the coming decades if we don't curb carbon emissions.

Have not been personally affected by any of these climate impacts, but do realize that I live close to a flood plane area, and there does seem to be the very real possibility that this area could be negatively affected by out of control wildfires. I believe that Skagit County should reasonably

plan for natural weather events that could cause devastation. Most people rely heavily on the use of fossil fuels so any attempt to limit or diminish this should be avoided unless there is a proven and generally accepted alternative. And lastly, all land owners should have a reasonable expectation that their private land rights use will be honored and never recklessly usurped by government officials who give little to no thought about their views and/or concerns. Big brother does not always have the individual citizens best interest at heart. In summation, no one wants to see their community devastated by natural disaster, but most folks I know also don't want to live under strict government control.

Having our current home well above flood stage was a primary criteria which carries over to any other property we would consider.

Having the Skagit River flood would be disastrous. Already impacted by smoke from wildfires which restrict leaving the house.Reduced stream flows adversely affect fish populations. Many trees in my yard and around Mt Vernons are dying from drought.

Having worked and lived in Skagit County for 40 years I have personally witnessed changes which I attribute to climate change. Many trees are stressed or have died - especially our iconic Western Red Cedar. As a small family forest owner, I am concerned about the heat, summer droughts, and episodic wildfires that are affecting forest health and enhancing insect damage. I have seen increasing coastal erosion related to storm surges and sea level rise (SLR). I have friends on Samish Island who have been stranded because the only road to the island has been repetitively flooded by SLR. I worry that my children and grandchildren will never have the experience of hiking in our "high country" and smell the fresh mountain air and the clear mountain vistas the way I did because of repetitive wildfire smoke and pollution. I worry that they will never be able to witness salmon migrating in our great river because of the multiple effects of climate change and habitat loss. I am worried about the legacy that we are leaving for the next generation of Skagitonians.

Having worked nearly 38 years in Natural resources and forest practices, I see many other ways to reduce climate impacts than just carbon emissions. I do NOT believe in 'all electric cars', and feel that the use of hybrids is a great alternative to the proposed 2035 mandate.

Heat waves, wildfire smoke and landslides have already significantly impacted us directly, and if we are impacted in Skagit county, the rest of the country is probably being much more heavily impacted. Increased temperatures will lead to more air conditioners and the need for much more electrical generation.

Heavy rain events may result in localized or even extensive flooding, but these events fall well within normal statistical variability. Proper use management of flood-protection measures (dikes, levees, etc.) is key to mitigating potential flooding. Same with wildfires - proper forest management (and behavioral management of campers and visitors on the forest, such as greatly increased fines for risky actions) is key, instead of simply blaming "climate change" and pointing fingers at fossil fuels producer/consumers. Wildfire smoke goes hand-in-hand with the fires.

Here in Skagit we are cooling down. As a farmer I have kept records for 50 year. The weather cycles we are in a cool down period

Historically, the climate has changed and will continue to change. We have too many people who elect to live in areas prone to climate risks, i.e., flood plains, managed forest/brush areas, etc. We put ourselves at risk, climate change adds to the risk.

Housing developments and industry taking up soil and tree/grassland drainage. Where will flood overflows go in relation to development plans. Loss of ag land.

How breathing and smoke affects each of us and it's harder on people with COPD or asthma issues confined to their homes with closed windows in the hot weather.

I am 77 yrs old and born and raised in WA State. I have seen changes in the climate in my life. For example, on my Grandfather's property in Winthrop, as a boy I would see dry land hay growing so as to get one crop a year. That dried up years ago. As a boy, I remember Salmon being thick in our rivers. No more. Growing up in the Puget Sound area, I never saw smoke from forest fires. Now it is common. As a boy, I played in streams that flowed even in the summer. Now these streams are dry every summer. Also there was snow fields that got smaller but still made it through the summer. Now they completely melt every summer. I have been to big cities in Asia where the automobile exhausts create thick smog. What will it be like in another 77 years?

I am a farmer and have almost 40 years working with (sometimes against) Mother Nature. Have experienced wildfire smoke and the lack of response for crop damage from government (told it is not a "natural" or climate related event even though the ONLY way smoke from Canadian or Other areas NOT here is for the wind to blow it here).

I am a shellfish grower in Samish Bay. Increased and more severe rain and storm events result in bay closures and crop losses. Sea level rise, king tide events coupled with low barometric pressure flooding on North Beach and jeopardizing Samish Island access are a major concern. Invasive species such as European green crab may be favored with changing ocean conditions and threatening shellfish crops. Changing ocean conditions also favor harmful algae blooms which can impact shellfish harvesting.

I am a structural engineer and have had numerous clients impacted by flood, coastal erosion, higher water levels resulting in higher tides and storm surges. Living in a forested area, the increase in fire conditions is concerning.

I am acutely concerned about flooding, as a homeowner on the dike, required to buy flood insurance. Thankfully, we have not yet had a flooding experience, but I do worry about it. I do not yet have a heat pump to mitigate the heat waves and improve air quality in our home, but it's on my mind also. I work adjacent to agriculture and am concerned about the longterm effects on crops and what we're able to grow here. Air quality is a serious health issue, and it's sad to see the wildfires effect us all each summer.

I am an older resident in my 50s. Based on all I have learned and observed in my lifetime, climate change is a concern. I look forward to big picture solutions that seek to address the issue "upstream". In my mind, Federal dollars are being drained at a rate increasing over time. No one in the public blinks when FEMA dumps \$10,000,000,000 into 2 storm events that take place back to back within two weeks but try to suggest a local community investment that costs several million while FEMA costs concurrently drain far more in significant repairs designed to be bandaids until the next event slams the community. If the world ended when I die, who cares, but I have kids and grandkids that want to have kids. Community planning MUST start looking at larger scale timelines when planning.

I am concerned about human-caused destruction of the wild environment more than having been personally impacted. I also fear that, as our own wasteful destructive actions reduce our own ability to survive and thrive on Earth, we will take down all other species in order to maintain our dominion over nature.

I am concerned for the Salish people of the various tribes in our area and the end of their traditions based on lost habitat. I am also concerned about loss of farmland due to climate change.

I am concerned that we are not prepared to deal with the changes in climate. This is especially hard to grasp since the changes are so obvious throughout the world.

I am impacted directly by two or more of these events. Increased water temperatures in our lakes and streams has serious negative effects across ecosystems. Bodies of water are regularly

<p>closed for recreation in the Summer for harmful algae now. Multiple species are threatened by rising stream temperatures, from insects to salmon, all are important. I am deeply affected by wildfire and wildfire smoke and am confined inside many years due to respiratory issues. All of these are with controllable boundaries. Please help!</p>
<p>I am more concerned about what I know more about.</p>
<p>I am most concerned about the loss of habitat and Eco diversity and the repercussions of such loss.</p>
<p>I am nervous about our flooding risks as a river community downstream from several large hydroelectric dams. I've seen similar communities around the country severely affected by flooding events as climate change brings heavier rainfall and storms. I am also very concerned about wildfire risk as well as increasing heat events. I am an ICU nurse who has personally cared for multiple elderly and vulnerable patients who were unhoused or underhoused &amp; died of hyperthermia related to heat events. This is an ongoing and increasing risk.</p>
<p>I am not too concerned as laws and mandates will not have an effect on change.</p>
<p>I am selfishly responding as a Skagit County coastal resident. If I lived up in the Eastern part of the county my responses would have been different. I care more about the salish sea and rivers.</p>
<p>I am uncertain all the current obsession isn't merely Chicken Little hysteria. Some say our "best science" says... and then lists a litany of alleged concerns. I am old enough (80) to remember when the "best science" of the 50's and 60'd were predicting "global cooling" and the upcoming ice age. If you don't believe me, check out the old high school and junior high science textbooks!</p>
<p>I am very concerned about all of these impacts as it is clear they are reducing our quality of life in Skagit, more days having to spend indoors because of smoke, more forests lost to wildfires, more people at risk from flooding homes. Every year there are more of these events. These impacts not only affect the quality of life for residents, they cost us all a lot of money to respond. Preventative actions would be far less costly.</p>
<p>I am very concerned about climate change impacts in Washington because they can be very damaging, dangerous, and irreversible. They will have long-lasting, adverse impacts on wildlife and ecosystems that will undermine human health, safety, and well-being, and we do not know the full extent of how climate impacts will interact together in the future. All Washingtonians are feeling the impacts of climate change on salmon, in that warming waters, anoxia, and ocean acidification are reducing quality salmon habitat in the ocean and in rivers/streams. Black, Indigenous, People of Color and other underrepresented communities as well as low-income communities will have the hardest time adapting to and reducing the adverse impacts of climate change.</p>
<p>I am very concerned about the impacts of climate change on the Pacific Northwest. I am concerned about the impacts on people and very much concerned about the impacts on our ecosystem. While humans may possess a great ability to adapt to a changing environment, native plants and animals are much less adept at changing rapidly in response to large sudden climate shifts. I am afraid we will see massive destruction of our local flora due to wildfire, flooding, and drought, followed by a corresponding loss in the fauna that depend on them. The negative effect this will have on our quality of life cannot be overstated.</p>
<p>I anticipate farmers being the most impacted, heavy rains mean less time to harvest, droughts mean their water is cut off (even though the refineries isn't and they use much more than the farmers) I also worry about the lack of AC in the valley especially in older homes and apartments, which could disproportionately effect our Latino community</p>
<p>I attend Skagit Valley College and I'm acutely aware of the negative implications of climate change on the valley. Farmers will be heavily impacted. Low- and middle-class families and</p>

individuals are at risk. The Nookachamps is temperature impaired. The Skagit River makes up 75% of our drinking water. I'm very concerned about severe flooding in Skagit Valley - it will only get worse and cost lots of money. Everyone will be impacted, right now the elderly are especially vulnerable.

I believe and see some evidence that the climate is changing, although I do not know if it is due to human activity or natural global cycles. The changes I have observed like less snow-pack on mountains and more fires are concerning. I worry about the health of forests and impact on wild animals and fish. Our local leaders should be discussing how our communities can be more prepared for wild fires and other climate events. I also think that diminishing resources around the world increase likelihood of conflict with other nations. I'd like to see more local government support for regional production of energy and industry, more local food production and local supply chains developed. We should become more self-sufficient.

I believe climate change is for the most part a made up concern to raise taxes and take land by hard work I no people. Does it mean we don't need to take care of our land? NO, it's just that climates have changed in cycles over the years a d always will. Battery manufacturing is worse than anything an average person does daily and should be scaled back.

I believe much h of the climate change retirc is exaggerated and made up.

I believe the wildfire issue is our number one concern for WA State. This is more of a government mis management and in-efficiency concern much more than a human caused climate change concern. If the western state governments spent our tax dollars on forest management and resource diversity instead of illegal immigrants and so called "green energy" infrastructure which causes more pollution than the current liberal and globalist narrative of cow farts being the culprit, we would be in a much better position. Stop funding foreign corporations in China manufacturing solar panels with dirty coal methods and start investing our tax dollars into domestic clean coal, nuclear, natural gas and fracking. We don't need more wind turbines that use petroleum, we need to minimize foreign outsourcing of manufacturing to nations that under cut domestic pricing and use dirty methods to produce resources. Also, and maybe more importantly, stop funding foreign wars and instead invest in a secure border and domestic manufacturing. We waste trillions of dollars which has added to 35 Trillion \$ of national debt. We need our government to do better starting at the local level to stabilize out of control federal and state spending that only benefits foreign interests, the world bankers and political elite. Fix your problems with your uncontrollable spending, degradation of our society and ever increasing violence only then can you ask us for more money for your climate agenda.

I belong to a group of real scientists that love CO2...because it is what makes plants and trees grow. Check out the CO2 Coalition, please !

I consider these all to be areas of concern that require our collective action. I chose not to check "extremely concerned" because that implies an immediate impending condition that requires an emergent-type response.

I do not anticipate that we will see a significant level of impact from the above items in our area. Climate cycle models have always indicated moderated impacts for our latitudes and while we may need to adapt to shifts in weather patterns they are not indicated to be as extreme as equatorial shifts.

I don't see any correlational between what man does and our weather. I think it's mostly a money grab and/or a religion that worships mother earth. I think it takes our precious resources, that could be used for critical things for our citizens, and wastes our time, taxes and energy on frivolous programs that are neither effective or measured in any way.

I fear loss of the beautiful trees (some old growth) on my property due to drought, pests, heat as well as loss of habitat for wildlife in the area
I feel it is all interconnected, once we start impacting the survival of other species through our actions on the environment, we are ultimately impacting our health and quality of life. We have yet to adequately address the impact of methane as it is released, which is worse than carbon, we blindly continue to invest in activities that doom the health of our planet, and ultimately us. Simple actions as protecting trees for their cooling, carbon capture, habitat, providing oxygen, storm runoff which helps flooding.....instead developers are allowed to clearcut properites and not replant, landowners get tired of raking leaves so cut trees - trees should not be private property!
I feel most weather changes and their impacts are just ongoing weather changes as it's done for thousands of years, not a global weather threat. Wildfires can be helped by management of the forests, which has not been done for years.
I feel that the cloud seeding has affected our weather dramatically and am so disappointed. We NEED our Trees and rivers, lakes and wildlife. We need to clear the brush and dead trees to minimize wildfires.
I feel the Lord is in control, use wisely all he has given , we were not here when the ice age melted.
I feel this concerned because, even though I'm almost 76 years old, I have children and grandchildren that have to live in this world after I'm gone.
I feel this way after living in Skagit County 48 years. I watched the timber open space program, my neighbors enrolled in, be ignored. No one is watching!! If there is one more program/commitment that Skagit County wants to implement, then please follow through. Like w/ open space programs for residence, go there, look at each and every place that said THEY understand. The open space program for residence, even has penalties!! Suggesting one more Climate program for the Skagit County makes want to scream. There's no follow through!! No one physically goes to evaluate , to lay eyes on the REQUIREMENTS of a program. I have one neighbor how puts a foot valve right in the creek each spring, so they can water there landscape. And, then the county wants neighbors to inform about violations. These neighbors are violent and aggressive. This personally affects me. The members of the community most affected by another program, would be all of us. Please don't work on anything other then what is already going. Each and every single resident that has been in any kind of agreement needs looking at!! When penalties are described, apply them!! My opinion, Skagit County doesn't do follow through, so the cheating/entitled families keep cheating and lying.
I feel this way because I read the papers and I am a native PNW so I have witnessed the changes.
I feel this way because most of these things are, in my studies and experience, highly unlikely to happen in this area, and even if it did (like in the case of drought) I doubt it would be too much of a concern. In other cases, like rising ocean levels, it's simply impossible that and meaningful rise will come from climate change.
I feel this way because my house is by the river, so when it floods if it gets over the dike it would flood my house. Also sometimes the wildfire smoke gets so bad I can't go outside without a mask on and it makes me feel sick if I don't have a mask on. There have also been a lot of storms lately. I'm really concerned for people lacking the resources to recover from all of this and to stay safe during floods, and days when the AQI is really high.
I feel too much logging in our state is leading to soil erosion, loss of habitat for wildlife species and wildfires. My father worked for the DNR as a firefighter so this hits home for me. So much has been lost and our trails are either not there anymore or full of plastic bottles and trash that

<p>other people leave behind. I have traveled a lot and still feel WA can be a leader in Climate Change if only we can come together for the common good of our state.</p>
<p>I follow several websites re climate change. Sagit Valley has been affected by drought and smoke from wildfires.</p>
<p>I follow the loss of species related to many of the items above; I read about the Western Red Cedars being stressed by heat and drought; I bought air filters for my home due to wildfire smoke; I see the mature forests that created the PNW being logged and burned down; I see the stress flooding and coastal erosion brings to my friends and family. I feel the costs of repairing and mitigation in the form of high taxes.</p>
<p>I grew up here in the 1980s; I hate the increased humidity, higher temperatures, heavier rains, and smoky summers, compared to our climate in the past. It's now just increase misery-- everyone will need air conditioning and indoor air filtration (not necessary in our past climate), and being outside will be more difficult when we have to deal with downpours in winter and smoke in summer.</p>
<p>I grew up in a farming state with many farming family members. The climate unpredictability makes their ability to sustain productive crops and economic viability increasingly difficult. Family farms are the backbone of healthy food for us all. I am, myself, a small forest owner. I can already see how stressed my trees are becoming. They are the reason why I chose to live here.</p>
<p>I grew up in Alaska watching moral and physical battles against environmental disaster and climate change. Seeing corporations prioritize profits over protecting land, animals, and people radicalized me. There are Native Alaskan villages that have seen the impacts of climate change such as land falling into the ocean or depleted salmon runs.</p>
<p>I have a great deal of concern about our salmon and ensuring we get fish passageways at our local dams. As the creeks and streams water temperature goes up, it is making it more difficult for them to spawn. I also have concerns about our summers becoming more dry and crops failing. An increase in less predictable weather needs to be accounted for and I am curious what we can do to help keep the river deep enough to handle large amounts of water.</p>
<p>I have already observed some these effects of climate change in Skagit County</p>
<p>I have asthma so smoke from wildfires are very scary. But everything else is just as concerning</p>
<p>I have been a victim of river flooding and wildfire smoke several times. There are fewer insects and bird species since I've lived here. More developed land, less habitat</p>
<p>I have been active in agriculture, environmentalism, and ecology my whole adult life.</p>
<p>I have been personally affected by the intense heat we have experienced in recent years. I grew up here and never had this concern until the last decade. Along with this, comes wildfires and the smoke from distant wildfires. We know the drought and the heat have exacerbated this. And all of the above are combining to destroy what we love about this area: wildlife, fish, and the loss of so many trees. Driving around, you can see mature evergreens dying. Again, none of this was a concern when we were growing up in the 60s and 70s, and only in the last decade has it become obvious. Finally, we are all concerned about the health risks of pollution, greenhouse gases, the increase in atmospheric pollution: when I was born, the PPM was around 320. Now it is a third again higher, around 420ppm, and rising all the time. We humans have locked in change for the next few decades, even if we stop burning fossil fuels now. I am deeply concerned for our future and the future of our planet.</p>
<p>I have been personally affected by wildfire smoke coming from Canada. I know people with asthma who have had to stay home from work due to air quality index (AQI) above 150. I know people who have to work outside in hazardous conditions including heat and wildfire smoke. I made a video called EN-ROADS and C-ROADS 10-20-24. Link and transcript is below: 8-minute</p>

video on how to solve the climate crisis [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N5hy1UWq0\\_I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N5hy1UWq0_I)  
Transcript: According to MIT's Climate Interactive climate simulator EN-ROADS, business as usual shows projected global sources of primary energy to be around 900 exajoules per year by 2100 and greenhouse gas net emissions leading to 3.3 degrees Celsius global warming over pre-industrialized levels. That scenario would be hell on earth and the collapse of civilization. In order to reduce energy use and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, we can make changes to get down to 1.1 degrees. Coal: reduce new coal infrastructure by 100%. Reduce coal utilization by 100%. Oil: reduce new oil infrastructure by 100%. Reduce oil utilization by 100%. Natural gas: reduce new gas infrastructure by 100%. Reduce gas utilization by 100%. Bioenergy: highly tax it. Renewables: highly subsidize them. Carbon price: very high. Energy efficient transport: highly increased. Electrified transport: highly subsidized. Buildings and industry energy efficiency: highly increased. Electrification: highly subsidized. Economic growth: low growth. Nature-based carbon dioxide removal: high. Other sources of greenhouse gas emissions: from food from animals 30% of diet to food from animals 10% of diet. Reduce food waste. And reduce agricultural emissions. Reduce waste and leakage. And highly reduce deforestation. That will bring the world to 1.1 degrees warming over pre-industrialized levels which would save civilization. And you notice on the top left showing global sources of primary energy the projected 900 exajoules has now been lowered to below 400 EJ. So energy use no matter what the source must go down dramatically. It is hoped that a just transition to a low-carbon world will be in line with meeting human needs within planetary boundaries. If we go to the C-ROADS climate simulator, we can see that with business as usual there will be global heating of 3.3 degrees by 2100. That would be again the collapse of civilization. Therefore, we must change the peak emissions year to 2025 in the US, Europe, other developed nations, China, India and other developing nations. Reductions must begin in the year 2025 in all areas of the world. And the annual reduction rate should be 12%. Then preventing deforestation by 100%, the main effects are in India and in other developing nations. And then promoting afforestation in India and other developing nations will bring us to a temperature increase of 1.1 degrees Celsius over pre-industrialized levels. And that would make human civilization possible in the future. Again what is necessary is a climate lockdown similar to the COVID lockdown where society changed drastically temporarily until appropriate measures can be taken to ensure human survival in a livable climate. A question could be: "Why 1.1 degrees Celsius?" That's a good question. In 2015 we had the Paris Agreement where the countries of the world agreed to limit global heating by 1.5 degrees. 1.5 is the planetary boundary; it's not an arbitrary number. However with 1.5, there are already worrying signs of the collapse of the AMOC, the circulation of the currents in the Atlantic Ocean. There are signs of tipping points that are happening which could lead to irreversible damage. So if we aim for 1.1, not 1.5, that would allow the ice sheets to recover to get that ice back at the north pole and the south pole. So, the carbon budget has been used up and there are two years to save the world. And in 20 years all hell is going to break loose if nothing changes and we have business as usual. "All breaks loose" doesn't mean the world is going to end in 20 years. It means the tipping points will have passed and there will be an unstoppable deterioration leading to widespread misery. That deterioration will happen year by year. So we have two years now to take unprecedented action and to do what we can to save the world and future generations. Thank you.

I have been personally impacted by heat waves, drought, erosion and smoke. These events impact everyone

I have been working in the environmental conservation and sustainable agriculture profession for over 15 years and i am intimately familiar of the potential impacts of climate change to the environment, our way of living, and farming communities. We live in an environment where we



could face all of these extreme weather events and we need to prepare and mitigate for it if we want to maintain some semblance of our way of life and vibrant and robust farming community.
I have experienced flooding due to sea level rise/storm surge, coastal erosion, wildfire smoke, extreme heat. You missed WIND
I have experienced the loss of natural spaces due to wildfires, campgrounds I have enjoyed have been destroyed and I have experienced the effects of wildfire smoke and loss of animals and their habitats is devastating. I have noticed the extreme weather leaving impacts in other states.
I have not been impacted other than inconvenience
I have noticed trees near us not faring well due to the heat and drought. I have altered plans when there is a lot of wildfire smoke, and it ruins the ability to enjoy the outdoors.
I have personally watched the climate in WA state change over the last 23 years. However, I don't believe it's caused by people and if it actually was, Americans already have the cleanest industries on the planet. So I think other things in our lives should be a much greater priority than this.
I have respiratory disabilities. Wildfire smoke greatly impacts my health and limits my activities.
I have studied and presented about climate change since 2005. I have trained on public outreach on this with UW Climate Impacts group and other programs. I am aware of the projections for water issues (flooding, drought, temperature, streamflow) and feel it is imperative for Skagit County to begin preparing for this now. I believe there are mitigation actions we can take to lessen impacts but we must start now to plan and invest in these. If we wait until the problem is urgent we won't have time to make the best decisions and it will be more costly, as well as dangerous. I believe we need to begin to analyze integrated solutions for water management that might take advantage of storing water from large precipitation events in fall to provide needed water during drought and low flow times in the summer. This type of infrastructure project requires detailed planning, fundraising, and extended construction and implementation time. We can't afford to wait to take action.
I have worked as a DNR employee fighting wildfire and know it's risks firsthand. With the volume of timber in Skagit County if and when these stands have a wildfire event it has the ability to be fully catastrophic for the greater community. The droughts we are experiencing are more severe and prolonged than ever and that will further make wildfires a greater risk.
I haven't been personally affected but I know people whose houses were flooded by the atmospheric river of 2021, and that's only going to get more common as climate change worsens. I've also seen salmon runs get less healthy over my lifetime as habitats have worsened due to rising water temperature and less snowpack in the mountains.
I learned about the impact of greenhouse gases in college in the early 70s and have been concerned about the impact of climate change on biodiversity since then. I am a retired entomologist and have studied native bees for 20 years and I am very concerned about how climate change, loss of habitat, etc. will impact their populations and how a lack of pollination will impact our food availability and that of other species.
I like to live in more rural areas of urban/forest interface. Human caused wildfires are my biggest concern, they can be minimized or prevented by proper forest management, education and burn bans. Many climate related threats cannot be controlled and when extreme climate events happen it's often blamed on climate change at that moment in time but if we examine historical records we can see these events occurred many times in the past, even well before man began burning fossil fuels. I'm more concerned with regulations that increase the cost of energy to live, it will not control climate, it only impoverishes the poor and reduces the quality of life for all.
I live at sea level, so flooding, surges and sea evel rise affect me already

I live by a lake, where erosion and shifting water levels directly affect my property and my house. Landslides are an issue because I live in the shadow of a large hill.
I live here. I don't to have my place destroyed by lack of forward thinking. I live within 2-3 feet of the water table.
I live in a 100 year flood plain in Bow, so think about flooding and the impacts of climate on agriculture often. In the summer, I want to be in the Cascades every weekend, so wildfires and smoke are real challenges.
I live in a natural rural area and these things impact me
I live in an area of SKagit County where rainfall can cause detrimental flooding and damage, not to mention potential disease from flood waters bringing raw animal waste and septic sewage our way
I live in an area of Skagit that flooding can be a concern as well as I've been affected by wildfire smoke in the form of affecting allergies that have caused some bronchitis in the past.
I live in La Conner and we have already been flooded and had high tides with high rain fall. Smoke from wildfires have come our way
I live in La Conner where we have floods, water surges, smoke from fires and loss of trees. I participate in these issues in La Conner.
I live in La Conner. I don't want my house to be under water!
I live in the 100yr flood area, so am concerned. I also am frustrated with the amount of light pollution and its' effect on our birds, our environment and our health.
I live in the Colony Creek basin where we have threats from the creek, saltwater intrusion, floods and landslides, as well as wildfire smoke. I am adding trees to my pasture to address some of this.
I live in the flood plain and have experienced flooding events. I have also flown at low altitudes over the Skagit Valley while noting obvious geological features that highlight the potential for problems in the future as water levels rise and storms worsen.
I live in the forest and am seeing the visible signs of climate change impacts on a daily basis. What I see concerns me deely. The forest around me is showing signs of drought and trees are actively dying. The increasing severity of storms - wind impacts in particular - may have significant economic impacts on my property. Climate impacts are also grief inducing, and the emotional impacts are important to recognize as well.
I live in the Skagit Flats, a quarter mile from the Skagit River and have standing water in my fields every year from the rainfall and fill sandbags when the river gets too high. We also suffer from drought in our farming and with cedar trees on our property and in the region.
I live near the river and am most concerned about flooding. We need to use our \$ to reinforce existing infrastructure, like levies and dams.
I live near the water, and we have had the water breach the dike in Edison. It had not done that before. I am also concerned some entities may not want to maintain dikes and return the flatlands where I live into estuary (not sure how true that is, but something I have heard). At any rate, we are prone to sea level rise. Also with the atmospheric rivers we are experiencing heavy flooding in our yard, becoming saturated more and and more. Then of course, wildfire smoke has been very impactful for us individually, let alone all the trees that have burned up. Etc.
I live next to the levee so my most immediate concern is major floods. I've seen the water level high on the levee two times in the three years I've lived here. My work is related to agriculture so I'm concerned about the effects of weather and climate on the viability of farming here.
I live on an island with my own well and septic, in a county that suffers flooding and drought with regularity. (my well went dry last year and we had to dig it deeper). Im part of a citizen climate

science team that evaluates our local forestlands for changes as they relate to climate. Many trees are showing stress . The last 5 years smoke from forest fires has smothered our community(even on an island). Im an avid mountaineer and access to wilderness areas within our county has been closed due to fires, including closing major highways across the state.(Hwy 20 this summer) including the national forests within our county suffering devastating effects. Even on our local island, habitat destruction and loss of wetlands is jeopardizing the delicate balance needed to maintain a healthy aquifer as sprawl continues to encroach in open spaces. Storm surge destroyed 1/3 of Deception Pass State Park main parking lot at West Beach and eroded many coastline areas on our island. Many homes built near shorelines are losing waterfront land due to erosion and storm surge. Many wells on our island now have salt water intrusion due to variances and poor planning which allowed overdevelopment above or in the same area.

I live on the same land my great great grandparents once lived on. Things haven't changed much at all. We are right at sea level.

I live very close to the ocean and violent storms impact our town.

I love this place, and I deeply care about the wildlife that lives here.

I moved here from MT because of wildfires and realize we're not immune here. It's heartbreaking to see habitat loss and degradation and very grateful for Skagit Land Trust and the ACFL.

I own forested property and worry about my trees. It's already difficult to get seedlings through the first few years with the long, hot summers and erratic spring temperatures. I appreciate the services of the WSU extension forestry services which are now especially critical to maintaining healthy canopy.

I really don't believe in "man-made" climate change as the climate has been much warmer and much colder in eons past when man was just a twinkle in God's eye.

I see native trees dying in various places around the county. Birdlife is greatly reduced. Salmon are dying. The river is too warm to remain healthy...it is being slowly killed by the dams, construction, logging, erosion, pesticides. Creeks and streams are polluted and contain less wildlife. We have dramatically less forested areas, stream coverage and wildlife habitat. More farmland is being paved and re-zoned. More people here with more gas engine cars are polluting the air. I've lived here since 1973 and the environmental degradation is constantly on-going.

I study the science. Our daughter is a PhD candidate studying climate impacts on fisheries. During a very smokey day in 2023 I suffered my first heart attack while walking my dog. I had no pre-existing conditions. People who are unable to prepare, adapt and recover, either physically, financially or emotionally will suffer the most.

I study these dangers and the local adaptation measures that are proposed to protect our communities against them. Every week I write about all this in [climatedog.substack.com](http://climatedog.substack.com).

I teach environmental science. I know a lot of these issues are probably going to affect this area and in the future they are going to be very extreme weather events. We need to prepare for these life threatening events. We must heed the warnings

I think asthma and smoke related illnesses from fire are important to note and cure after wildfires nearby and I think weather and storms are difficult to overcome healthwise if you are stuck outside - hypothermia, frostbite, hit by lightning, water poisoning, power outages.

I think government is using abusing climate change as a way to get more tax dollars out from so they can continue to waste money on all sorts of shit that does nothing for most taxpayers.

I think it is crucial to acknowledge that climate change is real and will be a big challenge for the next generation. We need to have a plan ready to do the work to respond accordingly.

<p>I think this county is especially vulnerable to flooding. This impacts homes, businesses and agriculture. I have not personally experienced direct impact, but fear if we aren't proactive our community will see troubled times. Fires/smoke are a big concern too. This has come to the forefront in the past 10 years and is only gone to get worse. Smoke impacts the health us all.</p>
<p>I think we have all been affected by the wildfire smoke and fires especially. The air pollution and general fear for ourselves and our neighbors. The health of our young son and imagining what his future looks like is scary at times. Our land is surrounded by trees, we have been lucky, but with increased heat and with that wildfires, there is fear it could happen in our backyard. Also, seeing the effects on crops and animals is very concerning. I would like to see more land protected from development.</p>
<p>I think we should be prepared for whatever weather patterns are heading our way. We should also prioritize the preservation of our rural landscape - keep city growth in the cities. We also need to protect our water and food sources and keep our environment clean from various toxic pollutions.</p>
<p>I think we should get back to managing the forests better, allowing forest clean up, and logging to thin the forests, which encourages more young tree seedlings to grow. Yes, the climate changes, cyclically. We must deal with it, but using common sense with our technology.</p>
<p>I try not to be an alarmist but I think this Valley, especially the agricultural areas and salmon habitat could be severely hurt by climate change and severe weather.</p>
<p>I understand climate change is a real threat with real consequences. My hope is that current actions to reduce emissions etc... will slow or reverse the current trajectory.</p>
<p>I understand enough about terrestrial and aquatic ecology to understand what the climate impacts do to the biota.</p>
<p>I understand that even though in our very mellow and blessed part of the world we may not see the worst of climate change impact, we will feel impacts of climate migration and need to be concerned impact on our brothers and sisters around the country and the world.</p>
<p>I understand the physics of radiative heat transfer quite well and have proven in two ways that CO2 is irrelevant to the Earth's temperature. We are destroying life on Earth many other ways; cow farts are not one of them.</p>
<p>I value our natural ecosystems and the many plant and animal species who live in and depend on them, such as our wild salmon (not hatchery) and our southern resident killer whales, our eelgrass beds that support so much life and provide so many natural and free functions for us, and our forests. I'm not that worried about humans who have continued to multiply far beyond the number that is sustainable and who keep wanting more of everything including energy. Our endless wants are destroying our planet. Instead of conservation to address greenhouse gases, deriving less in smaller cars and having good public transportation, we want bigger cars and trucks with big batteries which will need to be somehow charged. We as a state, county and country do not yet understand that we must change how we live and what we want. Other species ask for very little and we give them very little.</p>
<p>I very closely follow the impacts of climate change, and I am regularly taking action, and implementing the smallest changes into our lives. I am horrified by the increase in natural disasters, and the loss of species I have seen over the last decade, and I am increasingly afraid that we will not be able to reverse it. I genuinely lose sleep over it.</p>
<p>I want the forests to be thinned out so that we have less forest fires.</p>
<p>I was raised in Southern California, and my dislike for smog, smoke, and constant worry over fires and habitat destruction has not dissipated upon my arrival here. Elder trees are struggling in the woodland areas of our yard. Why? Are the cold snaps and extended heat events affecting</p>

<p>them? I have 36 solar panels to help reduce my carbon footprint. Why aren't more solar panels attached to properties up here? Why aren't farmers, of all people, more active in climate issues and mitigation? Why do we need a frigging racetrack? How do I keep water on my property to protect against drought? Why do I feel irrational for having these thoughts?</p>
<p>I wonder what caused the glaciers to recede 10,000 years ago.</p>
<p>I work in salmon recovery and am very concerned not only for the future of salmon populations as it relates to climate change, but also how climate change will impact our natural systems and therefore impact our quality of living.</p>
<p>I work with a lot of farmers and see first-hand the effects of climate change on agriculture. I am also very concerned about ecosystem change/degradation.</p>
<p>I work with young children, the trends in extreme weather events are their future normal. We need to work now to make that future as healthy as possible.</p>
<p>I worry about the irreversible damage caused</p>
<p>I worry about the lithium batteries they want to put on Hanson creek area in SedroWoolley totally uncalled for. Very dangerous.</p>
<p>I worry primarily about the loss of viable habitats that provide us with ecosystem services that improve human wellbeing. Without healthy ecosystems, we'll lose out on benefits like floodwater storage, water filtration, aquifer recharge, clean air, carbon sequestration, etc. Climate change is making it harder for our native plant and animal species to survive. Skagit County is known for its biodiversity and multitude of iconic habitats, from the islands and marine shorelines to the Cascades. These habitats, in addition to farmland and working forests, are a key part of Skagit's scenic, rural character, and need to be valued as such. Climate planning in Skagit County should include programs/funding to help support the protection and restoration (with an eye towards climate resilience) of our intact habitats. The groups that will be most affected by climate impacts are the groups that have been historically disadvantaged -- Tribes, poor people, people of color, etc.</p>
<p>I'm 84 years old and have lived in Skagit County from 1940 until today for the most part and have witnessed the changes in weather from wet years 1949-55 and those not so wet, hot summers overlapping with wet falls. Heavy rain in November and then in February. The changes I've seen up or down is out of our control. Thinking we can make a difference is over estimating the power we have to change things that have been happening on earth long before humans have lived on it.</p>
<p>I'm afraid it's too late.</p>
<p>I'm aware that precipitation associated with rising temperatures is our greatest climate change risk.</p>
<p>I'm extremely concerned about climate change as it affects everyone's livelihood and quality of life. I'm particularly concerned about habitat loss, pesticides, crops and loss of the natural environment and resources. I know that climate change will impact already less privileged communities harder.</p>
<p>I'm in my 80's and have done some mitigation for drought, wildfire and flooding, but it's never enough. The heat is a problem. I use the tidal wind and augment with fans to keep cool in my house. During the day I spend the hottest hours in my woods. I installed solar energy and look to having an electric vehicle but not until the prices come down a bit. I have noticed a bigger problem when brush fires are left to smolder causing increased difficulty breathing and recently some wheezing. I guess it's the elderly that are most impacted as well as those already suffering with lung problems, autoimmune problems or other longterm health problems.</p>
<p>I'm most concern for my children's generation and want to take preventative/restorative action.</p>

I've believed in climate change for 30+ years. It's a real concern that we have to address soon to avoid the worst of possible outcomes. I live around 300 foot elevation, so I won't be badly affected by flooding, but those in flood zones are at high risk. I think they need to be informed and aware of their options, including the limits to the response that the county will be able to provide them should there be a major flood. I also support auto emission control standards similar to those in California, but I doubt that's in our short term future. I think catalytic converters should be mandatory on all road vehicles. I'd like to see something similar on natural gas burning home heat, but I have no idea if that's possible. I like the idea of incentivizing electric vehicles and appliances, for homes and businesses. I'd like to see strength in standing up to businesses that resist climate informed legislation. I don't know all that can be done, I only know we aren't doing enough.

I've seen or read about the effects of climate change in our county. Fire can start anywhere and cause wide spread smoke polluted air, heavy rain can cause even more widespread damage, including terrible landslides like the one in Oso. Loss of wildlife habitat is an ongoing issue, not infrequently pushing bear, bobcat, and other wildlife appearances in residential areas. Warming of rivers and streams affects fish and other water animals. As far as our community members are concerned, I would wish that our low income families living in areas that are more at risk from river flooding would particularly have the consideration of the county.

I've seen these things and worry they will get worse.

If the winter snowpack levels in 2024/25 compare to 2023/24 we will experience water shortages during the summer of 2025.

I'm a professional forester and have observed increasing tree mortality from the combined effect of repeated droughts and more frequent and severe insect and disease outbreaks. Small forest landowners, including me, will need to adapt by planting trees that can thrive in future climate conditions through proper species selection and use of carefully selected seed sources (assisted migration), and may need to salvage dead trees and thin stands to reduce stress on existing trees. The high numbers of dead and top-killed western redcedar along the river valleys is an example of the impacts of drought on our native trees. Wildfires are becoming more frequent in our area, and risk will increase with rising temperatures and more frequent droughts. Smoke from wildfires, whether local or regional, makes it difficult for me to be outside due to headaches and difficulty breathing from asthma. The abundant recreation opportunities and travel destinations in this area provide a lot of economic benefits, and those will be reduced if people cancel their plans due to smoke in the summer camping, hiking, and tourist season. Fish in our rivers and streams will face warmer water temperatures in drought years with low flow, affecting recreational fishing and many people who rely on their catch to supplement household groceries. Agricultural crops are also being negatively affected, and conflicts over water use will require creative solutions. More severe heavy rainstorms leading to flooding, and storm surges combined with sea level rise, are putting people at risk of devastating personal losses and damage to their homes, if not risk to life. Much of our urban areas, including along I-5, are prone to flooding. When heavy flooding occurs, there are very few ways to travel to and from eastern Skagit County, as we're cut off at Hwy 530 in Rockport, Hwy 20 in Burlington, Hwy 9 in Acme, and local streets.

I'm aware that the climate is changing and will affect us and our environment but some of the risks are over-stated.

I'm concerned about loss of tree canopy because of how much that affects just about everything else. I am seeing more properties being built, less permeable groundspace, and that creates worse local flooding. Cities are the worst - it seems there's no Permeable Surface requirement,

and the cities keep approving farmland be turned into housing along the sloughs and streams. Flooding is GOING to happen - I'm not concerned about it, cold weather or heat waves because it's a known issue. My low level of concern is that I already know how to deal with and prepare for these things. Other issues that I am more concerned about are things that I know are happening around me that will have an impact but I don't know what to do about them at the moment.

I'm concerned about salt water intrusion into wells, rising salt water levels threatening the dikes in the Samish area, and loss of farm land to salt water intrusion. Wild fires are polute the air we all need.

Im concerned about the ways climate change intersects with poverty. I'm concerned about my children's future. I'm concerned about increased cost of living (I.e. water prices). I'm concerned about the impact of migration as land becomes uninhabitable. I love our wildlife and forests and coasts and I hate to see them be destroyed.

I'm concerned because I have children who's future is going to be affected by human factors affecting climate change and a lack of transparency and information regarding energy solutions and climate and ecological health.

I'm concerned that in my children's lifetime, climate change will make everything much more uncomfortable and expensive (the need for air conditioning, air cleaning, food expenses) and sad (loss of our snow in mtns, loss of trees due to fire, etc) Where will our water come from for irrigation, hydropower and drinking come from when the snow packs are not enough? Like always, it will have the most impact on people who don't have much money.

I'm concerned with the recent pattern of wildfire smoke impacting air quality every year, the extremely wet springs followed by extremely dry summers. I'm concerned that we're not addressing sea level rise fast enough, which could result in significant disruptions in transportation and damage homes and businesses. Regarding coastal erosion and storm surges--look at what's happened to West Beach at Deception Pass State Park. Half of the parking lot was destroyed. King tides flooded La Conner and the solution going forward is to sandbag the town from November through March. I've been trying to plant trees on my property for several years and have lost many of them due to extreme heat and drought. Every community asset and community member has been or will be impacted by the events listed above.

I'm lucky to have footing in Bow, a location prone to floods (damn) but not severely affected or at high risk of wildfire or landslide. Loss of biodiversity and overall nebulous health of the Salish and Cascade areas is massively concerning as I know species population numbers are nowhere near what they should be.

I'm most concerned about stream temperatures. I know fish need colder waters, especially our salmon. I heavily value riparian work and adding more trees on streams to provide cover to streams so that they can stay colder.

I'm most concerned about weather events and flooding. Flooding is common in Skagit Valley and will especially impact farmers whose fields are low lying. I am also concerned about the effects of flooding and other hazardous events on communities who are already far from grocery stores and other supply centers, as well as communities for whom many informational materials are inaccessible (Spanish- and Russian-speaking communities, for example). I'm also concerned about habitat loss, canopy loss, and rising water temperatures both because of their ecological impacts and the potential for feedback loops leading to further climate effects.

I'm not entirely convinced that human beings are responsible for climate change or have the capacity to do anything about it besides prepare as best we can for perhaps inevitable changes

<p>in the natural environment. I don't 'worry' about these changes, but I am mindful of the possible impacts of climate change in Skagit County.</p>
<p>I'm not particularly concerned about sea level rise and seaside homes. Move. Not as concerned about humans and critters. Sad, but evolution is endless. I am concerned with canopy loss. A world without trees is not a world worth living in. Personally, I really hate smoke...</p>
<p>I'm personally impacted whenever there's a flood because I work flood response, so I have to stop everything in my life and do that. I'm concerned that so much of our community sits behind dikes and more are moving there every day. I work in natural resources, so I'm very attuned to the change in water temperatures and water levels. I think our residents have been shielded from the effects of drought with the assumption that we'll always be rainy, but our farmers and native species are taking the hit every time we have a drought. I worry very much about wildfire as there was a fire a few years ago just a mile away in a hard-to-reach place that could have quickly spread to my neighborhood. I'm concerned about everyone that does not have air conditioning, including my aging parents. I'm asthmatic and find wildfire smoke extremely hard to bear.</p>
<p>I'm seeing changes in Alders and Big Leaf Maples. I've had my Maidenhair ferns for 35 years some in the sun and some in the shade. My sun ferns are now just showing stress in the last 2 years. I'm worried about our streams and the fish in them if they warm. I now have a Purple Air Monitor at my house to check air quality from burning woods stores (neighbors) and check air quality before I go out. I have lung issues and finding I cannot tolerate poor air quality. There was a slash burn below our property and our air quality was 458 AQI at one point. It isn't just wildfires. Living in the N. Cascade foothills I worry about landslides in extreme wet conditions, so far so good but will that hold. I've already noticed more insect pests that I never worried about increasing. While sea level rise and storm surge will not affect me where I live there are others in our community that will more than likely lose their property due to erosion or flooding. Causing loss to them of memories and their home and property but also a financial hardship for the county.</p>
<p>I'm seeing terrible impacts in other parts of the country and around the world. I see society continuing on a path of fossil fuel dominance. We have lots of low lying farmland and sea level rise could challenge dike infrastructure and salt water intrusion could impact agriculture.</p>
<p>Impacts of flooding are obvious in our county, even though I am not personally at risk. Wildfires, smoke and weather pattern changes including storm surges and sea level rise leading to coastal erosion are on track to increase. I feel we are only seeing the beginning. The list above does not include climate migration which will be a major factor as the above pressures cause disruption in life and wellbeing.</p>
<p>In my opinion any human should be very concerned about all these effects of climate change as they impact everyone and will only get worse.</p>
<p>In Skagit everyone is affected by flooding, water temp effect fishing, crabbing and many things people come to the Pacific Northwest to enjoy. Farming a major part of the economy is affected by all of the above.</p>
<p>In this area, I have seen the effects of extended hot days, drought, dead vegetation, loss of animal habitat, and wildfire smoke. That will get worse and more effects will be added over time.</p>
<p>It affects everybody.</p>
<p>It is all tied together -- increased heat and erratic weather increases risky events.</p>
<p>It is because we have a farm and these changes directly affect us. Plus we lost a family house due to wildfire.</p>
<p>It is obvious. I see the vegetation on my 5 acres either die due to drought or flourish due to warmer temperatures. Those in the flood plain I assume will be most impacted and those who</p>



live in lower income areas and who cannot afford heat, air conditioning, and other things that make extreme heat and cold bearable. The heat dome a couple of years ago was awful.

It is time this county and its citizens - particularly elected officials and County staff get educated to the solutions to climate effects. Good example - no development in the floodplain of river and streams, allowing alterations to critical areas thru planning applications, requiring 3 replacement trees for each existing tree removed, capturing rainwater and directing into new storage locations for infiltration into ground water, etc etc.

It seems that if you are concerned about any one of these topics, you would have to be concerned about all of them, as none are truly separate from the others. Where I live I'm protected from the immediate impact of some of these, but peripherally, they all affect the life we lead and what our futures will look like.

It was difficult to rank these. They are all very concerning issues that can and have impacted our community. I am a scientist who works closely with farmers in Skagit County. I have seen the impacts that multi-year droughts have caused. I have seen firsthand the impacts of intense heat waves (and heat domes). I have also seen the impacts that severe cold weather events have on the survival of biennial and perennial crops. I work to track invasive agricultural pests. It seems as though there is a new invasive insect every few years now, and it is trending upward. Furthermore, we are losing the habitat that supports native species at an alarming rate. Increasing water temperatures and reduced water flow affect fish and the insects that feed them. There are more immediate issues but the ones above are, to me, the most existentially threatening. Flooding, landslides, wildfires, and wildfire smoke have all affected us or people we know. Everyone is affected by flooding in Skagit County. The flood wall in Mount Vernon is impressive; I remember in years past that high school students would be released from class to help with sandbagging efforts downtown. Most of us know someone who was affected or volunteered to help at the Oso landslide. I have relatives who have struggled with asthma during severe wildfire smoke. Wildfires are a threat to life and property, and are no longer just occurring in Eastern Washington as I remember in the past. As sea levels rise and storm surges increase, there will be more breaches of dikes along coastal areas. I live in the Samish Island community and was present for the 2022 flood. This flood was due in part to northern wind, high tide, and low barometric pressure, but also due to sporadic removal or lack of improvement to private dikes along North Beach. This shortcoming has been recognized by community members and improvements have since been made. I was also present for the flooding of Samish Island Road (the main road on and off the island) in January of 2009. In fact I was one of several people trapped on Samish Island for a period of time until receiving help from the Ratfield family. This is illustrative of the mutual aid and community resilience of Samish Island, which I believe has been the experience of others in the greater Skagit County community. We will need to develop individual and group resources and skills in order to weather the upcoming extreme weather crises we are likely to be facing.

It would be a long response here. I think scientists should look also to gravitational effects in the universe. Ice age stone age and the universe changes over time. I think bring mindful of the environment and the right thing to do but extreme infliction of various scenarios are in fact extreme.

It's out of our control. ie lihiana, hurricane Helene, Milton all done by weather modification. Get real. Look up. Chemtrails heatin of ionisphere. Get rid of 5G, harp, nexrad

It's a global issue and we are all at risk. I am more concerned wildfires because we live amongst many trees and I have seen it become more dry each year. I worry also about flooding even

<p>though we live on a hill. We are all impacted by climate change even though we may not notice it all the time. Its terrifying.</p>
<p>I've been concerned about climate change for most of my adult life and I just turned 80. I was reading science journals and trying to mitigate the predicted effects of climate change since the early 80's when in my role as the owner of our local lumber yard I began selling and applying various clean energy technologies. I think that sea level rise is our most immediate concern but extreme heat is another serious threat to everyone in my opinion.</p>
<p>I've been learning about GHG and warming/change for almost 50 years. I always thought that it would happen long in the post-Me future. Obviously, it is happening now, and faster than expected. Is the rate of change stable, or is it increasing? My sense is that this is going to continue accelerating in new and unexpected ways. I've experienced the repeated floods, the heat domes, choked on the wildfire smoke, watched the storm surges flood the lowlands. It's real, it's here, and mitigation or adaptation is going to be necessary.</p>
<p>I've lived in Skagit County for 52 years. I've been through numerous floods east of Sedro Woolley. Mudslides such as Oso are very scary. Freezing weather impacts my work at the PSR Refinery.</p>
<p>I've lived in Skagit County since 1992 and have seen instances of drought, very high temperatures, floods, extreme wildfire smoke, etc. Based on what we know from science and from climate events elsewhere around the world, I believe that we will see more of these events and they will become increasingly severe. Our roads and people living near marine and river shorelines will be increasingly at risk. It was way past time for our county to prepare for a future that is bearing down upon us and that will be distinctly different from the past. Complacency no longer cuts it.</p>
<p>I've observed smoke from wildfires, dead trees from infestations and water on the roads due to King Tides. Weather and Climate will always be in flux. Changes will occur over long spans of time that don't require immediate heavy investments or drastic changes to lifestyle choices.</p>
<p>Just worry that climate change is going to change the valley for the worse.</p>
<p>Lack of water is a real concern. We need it for drinking and agriculture. Water catchment during winter may help ease the summer drought.</p>
<p>Landslides and dike erosion have been recent concerns. Wildfire smoke has affected our area as well. Prevention and planning for the changes as much as possible seems wise.</p>
<p>like many, i suffer from acute eco-anxiety, and it serves as somewhat of a weighted blanket. i am worried about our rivers, fish, and food//farming. smaugust sends me into a tailspin.</p>
<p>Like most everyone else here, I've experienced short term drought conditions and wildfire smoke. It seems to me that we are getting less rain than we used to. I've seen vivid proof of pests moving north since the 1990s throughout the northern states. I'm concerned that the food supply for Orcas is seriously threatened. I try to avoid rain runoff from my lot. Obviously, those living and working within old town Mount Vernon, close to the Skagit River and throughout the delta are most endangered by river flooding. I saw the recent flood level of the Skagit completely cover a street passing under the Riverside Dr Bridge.</p>
<p>Live on lower side of hill. Looming development above us.</p>
<p>Lived in CA and dealt with "fire season" for several years. I think people living on the coast will be must impacted.</p>
<p>Lived through hurricanes. Based on living here increased wildfire is probably the most immediate impact.</p>
<p>Living the the La Conner area my whole life, all of these things are a concerning for our community</p>

Local farmers due to drought or extreme rain. I'm concerned about all issues around climate change.
Looking back, there has not been the kind of change that we have been led to believe
Los incendios forestales y el humo lo vivimos muy seguido cada verano y dura muchos dias esos preocupante.
Man made climate issues are caused by weather modification technology, in order to fuel the "climate change" narrative. Policies put in place by our tyrannical state government also contribute to the fires we've had to endure. I am not concerned because I know these wicked people will be replaced by good government, and weather modification, along with the chem trails being continually sprayed overhead, will come to an end. Everything hidden is coming into the light.
Most concerned about natural vegetation and wildlife, which then effects us all.
Most concerned with skagit river flooding
Most of the listed concerns do not effect Skagit County. Besides, our contribution to any negative climate related events are nothing compared to what China and other parts of the world contribute.
Much bigger issues at play, and complicating much of this discussion. Within the efforts of the communal/social compact, I think any efforts are best focused on simply responding to changing weather patterns. As someone involved in building/development, conservation, and agriculture efforts- the best path is not trying to control what can't be controlled. There will be disastrous unintended consequences.
Much of Skagit County's most important agricultural land lies west of I5 as do many of the county's oldest communities with aging infrastructure. These areas are at severe risk of flooding due to SLR. The dike systems and possibly shoreline estuary restoration and other resiliency projects must be developed and implemented urgently - within the next 5-10 years. There are large amounts of federal dollars for climate adaptation projects (\$11 trillion through 2032) available through grant programs funded by the Inflation Reduction Act. But we, as a county do not seem to be doing anything specific to plan for the increased destructive power of more severe weather events and SLR. We need to coordinate the dike districts and develop coastal resiliency projects that may keep the lowlands viable farming and residential areas into the second half of the century.
My answers are based on more than the immediate future. For example, wildfire smoke is an immediate threat, but I also see (judging by the way we have seen fires fairly rapidly come into the west side of the mountains), that within a short time, fire in Marblemount and eventually down valley will be a reality. We must be proactive and not be blind to future threats. As is usually the case, I see those who are less economically secure being most affected. Those with wealth may be able to least temporarily mitigate risks on their own property. And they will have resources to recover from flooding, fire, drought, etc. In terms of other specific groups, our farmers will be deeply affected. So will all in low lying and coastal areas. The non-human diversity of plants and animals are already diminished in the Skagit, and this will continue. The repercussions for humans will be felt in terms of ecological imbalance (pests, for example), tourism dollars, livelihoods and the intangible loss off what was once both familiar and beautiful to those of us who love this area. Personally, I have been affected in health terms by wildfire smoke.
My concerns are based on how climate change exacerbates the differences between those who are able to meet the challenges and those who will be overcome by the challenges. Those with

<p>money can afford to build barriers/protections, those who cannot will not only lose what they have, but what their future generations could inherit.</p>
<p>My concerns are based on where I live in Skagit County. I feel bad for people who live along the Skagit River; they seem to be most negatively impacted by the river rising as a result of atmospheric rivers.</p>
<p>My concerns are really the result of government interference or poor policies more than "climate." We know climate changes over time.</p>
<p>My daughter got her masters degree in climate change at Kings College London. The affects of her studies threw her into a mental tailspin with the gravity of the ultimate fallout of climate change. It made me stop and take note. I have made changes. Extreme weather has impacted my farm.</p>
<p>My extreme concerns are in consideration of mortality and morbidity and destruction of ecosystems. I do worry about wild fires, drought and loss of agricultural land will become extreme when the glaciers have melted which may be sooner rather than later. We are minimizing the actual threat when we should be actively preparing for this. We should be funding innovative researchers that can find effective solutions to the crisis we face as a result of climate change</p>
<p>My family and I are deeply concerned about the health impacts of air pollution from smoke and gases. Skagit County is behind in cutting greenhouse gases. We need to plant more trees and protect existing tree canopy. Extreme heat and drought are a serious risk. Our insurance rates have gone up due directly to climate change. We also need to take steps to protect our water temperature, shorelines, and fish habitat.</p>
<p>My greatest concern is the effect of climate change on wildlife diversity.</p>
<p>My home flooded in the last major flood</p>
<p>My house on Lafayette Rd flooded in Nov 2021 when the Skagit river flooded and my current home was threatened by an early brush fire in April of 2024.</p>
<p>My neighborhood in Mount Vernon (Hillcrest) has virtually no tree cover, making it unsafe to walk and spend time outside our house during the summer. Wildfire smoke also makes it unsafe to be outside every year, particularly for vulnerable folks (and putting us all at risk for long term health concerns). Over-pavement across Mount Vernon and Burlington puts us at greater risk of flooding and infrastructure damage during extreme rain events, since the water has nowhere to go. The overall destruction of our natural landscape, including over-paving (literally turning our paradise of western WA into a parking lot, with double-wide streets that are totally unnecessary) and lawns instead of wildflower meadows and trees has meant the devastation of many species in Skagit that keep our ecosystem in balance.</p>
<p>My parents live in Marblemount , where the smoke can be very bad and also their house has been threatened from wildfires before, and I am concerned about all the various impacts, mostly for future generations</p>
<p>My responses are Skagit County oriented and I think the biggest impact to the county will be relative sea level rise and associated impacts on the Skagit River delta.</p>
<p>Nearly every day we hear reports of some kind of climate-induced occurrence, whether it be record intensive storms, wildfires, droughts, etc., etc. I often wonder how much evidence we will need to change our "blissful ignorance" and wasteful behaviors. My family owns a cabin in British Columbia, and we are always worried about local fires that could destroy our buildings. Also, the smoke from fires there and closer to home make outside activities threatening to our breathing.</p>

No place can be a perfect climate haven. That said, my wife and I "prevacuated" from California after close calls with wildfire, and recognition that in that latitude it is now a pervasive, annual risk factor. Western WA has some intact buffering from the worst of these effects, and we (and those after us) can benefit from doing all we can to protect that buffer. For example, we can approach targeted prescribed burns before the need far outpaces the realistic potential (as in CA). While this is largely state-driven and of greater concern to the east, when I look at our valuable ACFL (key reason we moved here) I shudder to think what 20-30 years of heat, drying, and bugs may do to patches of the thick second growth over time. No easy answer there, but we have to at least look ahead lucidly.
NO real impact
No thank you
No, I have not been personally affected but feel we need to take action to be prepared for inevitable changes.
none- event the email that this survey came in has no basic information on details pertaining climate change or threat, you assume we are aware of what you are talking about, as well as how we (I) was chosen to take this survey.
Not affected by any of these
Not too concerned, yes need some planning but don't think new taxes will fix climate change. It's just part of life
Not worried
numerous scientific studies show that there is reason to change our course of action if we want to avoid irreparable harm to our environment. Skagit County is in need of leadership that makes this a priority
Of course, and as always, moderate, low income, elderly, handicapped and homeless individuals and families will not have adequate resources to weather the impacts of these events.
On Fidalgo Island, we have seen increase in wildfire smoke events over the years which impacts more vulnerable community members with underlying health conditions. Salmon are so important to the region and increasing water temperatures and decreasing precipitation threaten their habitat. Heat waves and cold snaps can also cause dangerous situations especially for older people and those without adequate indoor climate control. I work at Swinomish and see some of these impacts already affecting their way of life and their elders.
Our beautiful forests burning, crops failing, increase in US climate refugees from the south.
Our cedar and hemlock are dying; our water pipes burst in 8 degrees weather; our house was without power for two weeks in deep snow; smoke from wildfire aggravated my asthma; landslides from heavy rains blocked the highway; it is difficult to water out plants during extended drought and we are worried our well will fail like our neighbors did. And more.
Our climate has been changing since the beginning of time. Nature is more resilient than we often give it credit for. However, we should be aware of impacts to our built environment and plan accordingly, but there
Our community is extremely vulnerable to climate change events. Ultimately, our very existence hinges on controlling and reducing greenhouse gases. Economic development, housing and infrastructure decisions must be made in a manner that improves our compliance with state greenhouse gas objectives. This problem must be front and center whenever government acts.
Our family has been impacted for 50 years by changes in the weather - no more, no less in past few years than 50 years ago

Our farm has been affected by drought and heat waves, but also volatile weather such as a clod wet spring being broken by record high temps in April or May. This wrecks havoc with food crops. We are also experiencing impacts of new pests arriving in the area. I am personally affected by wild fire smoke, and have in some recent years needed to stay inside( not great for a farmer) and had to use an inhaler to cope with the air quality. Close friends have been flooded due to sea level rise combined with king tide and wind events, and local sewage treatment plants have been inundated.

Our farm has not been significantly affected by these climate impacts yet - with the exception of drought for the couple of years prior to this current one, which affected which crops were most successful and some of our orchard trees. We're seeing lower water tables in the lower part of our land, which is where we are trying to do restoration work with the Conservation District. However, I have seen evidence of the local impact of some of the above (floods, wildfires, low water in rivers, salmon populations dwindling, cedars and other trees not doing as well) and am seeing evidence in other parts of the country that might indicate future concerns. As a farmer who practices ecological conservation on the small parcel of land we have, I am concerned about the impact climate change will have on trees, plants, and other crops -- as pests proliferate and temperatures and water fluctuations task our PNW ecosystems to adapt. And I also see, among humans, the poorer and unhoused folks -- as well as farmers -- being most impacted as stresses on our system frequently impact those communities disproportionately.

Our house in West Mount Vernon flooded in 2018 so flooding from heavy rainstorm events is of personal concern. The responses from PUD and neighboring farmers to improve drainage along McClean Rd have helped to reduce flooding since. I work with diversified farmers who have been impacted by extreme weather events with crop loss, cooler power outages resulting in product loss. Those extreme weather events also impact low income families with limited in home heating and cooling. Farm workers and children are at risk for respiratory damage from wildfire smoke that has significantly increased in frequency, intensity and duration in the last 10 years. Smoke and fires have dramatically impacted access to wilderness for me for summer backpacking. Upriver communities are at increased risk for property damage. I'm concerned for salmon populations and what that means for indigenous food sovereignty. Sea level and storm surges concern me for for saltwater intrusion in wells for farms and damage to water front properties. So much more!

Our house is in a flood zone. We have a slough running through our property so flooding would be worrisome. Sea levels will be rising and affecting the town I work in.

Our house was flooded in November 2021. Previous homeowners notes indicate that the house foundation wouldn't get wet until flood stage was 39 feet . The flood was not quite 38 feet and we had a foot of water in the house. What's changed? I feel that flood wall downtown contributed, the water has to back up some where and it would appear that upriver from town would be it. We would just like some help with raising our home so that we too can stay dry.

Our local farming and timber industries can be most impacted by these various weather events which in turn affect all of us.

our most vulnerable citizens: seniors, low income, non English speakers, undocumented and everyone else is affected by heat waves, sea level rise, flooding and extreme rainfall, drought and water temperature increases. Our wonderful farmland and economy are also deeply threatened by climate change issues. We need insects, trees and animal diversity to survive in this world. We are not going in the right direction to help ourselves.

Our world is changing but your egotistical if you think we can change it.

<p>over the last 24 years its getting hotter, 100 degrees was a once in lifetime type of temp but now its like every year we get there. I would say the amount of people in the county has grown or at least the amount of people driving thru, traffic is way worse from 20 years ago and that adds to this topic too. If you're sitting in traffic for an hour it sure seems hotter, eh?</p>
<p>Over the years, data on any climate change reflects the ebb and flow of recurring patterns. Elevating the effects of climate change into the political arena has allowed sensationalism, lies and deceit to we the people, censoring truth at the expense of people's freedom and the monetary and power gains of the advocates of climate change.</p>
<p>Over the years, we've seen changes here, and have seen that trajectory become extreme in other parts of the world. Very concerned that it will happen here. People who cannot afford mitigations such as good housing above flood level with insulation and AC etc. may be the most impacted.</p>
<p>Overall, I am moderately to extremely concerned about climate change. We don't truly know what is going to happen, but we can predict impacts based on best available science. These predictions will aid in determining the most appropriate places for housing and infrastructure as the population of Skagit increases and it will also help us determine which areas to keep natural to accommodate sea level rise, increased flooding, and mitigate CO2. I anticipate communities in flood prone areas, such as Hamilton, to be the most impacted.</p>
<p>Owning a home in Mount Vernon puts me in a privileged position of not facing too many immediate climate threats, but the homeless in our community, as well as low income people who can lack appropriate cooking/heating abilities, have already been impacted by hotter than normal and colder than normal temperatures. These events will only increase in frequency. Wildfires and their smoke are another immediate concern. But my biggest worries are for the crops here - when the AMOC collapses, not only can I not predict what it will do in our region but crops around the world will fail. Our ability to both continue to grow food and distribute it all locally will be critical for our region to survive.</p>
<p>Personal impact: is reduced wildlife; smoke ruining our beautiful summers and forcing us to stay inside. More generally, my concerns are environmental degradation, disruption of agriculture, loss of marine diversity.</p>
<p>Personally affected by decreased water flow due to less snowpack. Concerned about loss of species.</p>
<p>Personally I have seen more frequent flooding, dry spells, less snow pack which leads to less stream habitat, more storm events. Community members most effected will likely be farmers, fishermen, communities that live close to the Skagit River, people who have underlying health issues in regards to wildfire smoke. All of these scenarios are highly likely, and sometimes they happen all at once - or within the same year. Or one year and not the other so we feel like we're "off the hook". I think our current news cycle and information cycle makes it difficult for people to know what is true and what is misinformation. I think we really have a duty as our County Government to provide facts and guidance to our communities.</p>
<p>Pests that threaten crops in Skagit Valley could be detrimental to the community and elsewhere.</p>
<p>Please remember climate has always changed. The summer of 2024 was a normal summer. We are now getting back to having normal weather patterns again.</p>
<p>porque todos los problemas afecta mi alrededor mi comunidad y mi estado incluyendo los agricultores son los más afectado por sus cosecha</p>
<p>Primarily concerned about increased risks for species loss.</p>
<p>Primarily concerned with impacts to agricultural land and improved drainage on prime and important agricultural soils</p>

<p>Quit wasting our taxpayer dollars, the climate has been changing in cycles since the earth was formed. Man's impact on climate change has been proven to be miniscule. Humans and ambivalent are well suited to adaptation to natural climate change as has been proven by history.</p>
<p>Rasing taxes, expanding government, dishing out money to NGO's, more regulations without cost/benefit analysis will do nothing to affect naturally occurring climate change.</p>
<p>Recent climate changes in western Washington makes me worry about any changes in weather.</p>
<p>Science</p>
<p>Scientists can't control the earth</p>
<p>Sea level rise is already flooding Skagit County.</p>
<p>Seeing the all the impact of climate change locally, around the country and around the world, should be a wake up call. Too much or too little rain.... Random forest fires impacting nature and communities.... Rising rivers and lakes impacting wildlife and communities... Diminished lakes and rivers due to lack of rain or excessive heat making drinking water unavailable for humans and wildlife... These and many changes will sadly impact the planet we live on. Especially for future generations.</p>
<p>Seeing the changes in growing seasons, the weather changing and everything being more extreme is concerning. We are seeing way too many once in generation or decade events occurring more frequently.</p>
<p>Seeing the disasters across N. America (floods, wildfires, landslides, wildfire smoke, drought, extinctions), here in Skagit County we have experienced drought and near extinction of salmon and orcas. Extreme weather events are increasing around the world. What happened in N. Carolina recently can happen here.</p>
<p>Seniors and the immuno compromised are already impacted. Does Skagit County have enough shelters to help during wildfire smoke times?</p>
<p>Severe weather is getting worse and impacting how we live in Skagit County.</p>
<p>Short term/acute issues and decision making are easier for a community to understand and react to. My primary concerns center on long range impacts like fisheries, timber, stream flow impacts, etc. This is because informed and educated decisions (and sometimes investments) need to be made long before the actual "loss" occurs. This is often politically difficult to get buy in. Personally, I am affected as a small forest landowner and as someone who enjoys recreational opportunities close to home. More importantly, it affects my adult children, who have committed to staying and investing in our community. Climate related impacts/losses will affect us all in one way or another.</p>
<p>Since my time in the community, about a year and a half, the river levels have increased and flooding seems to be more of a danger and concern as time goes on.</p>
<p>Skagit County has most of its rural population and even some of its cities in hazard areas. We are not well set up for the future. Not sure County leadership is well educated on the issue or takes it seriously. Too</p>
<p>Skagit County is a special ecosystem that climate change could severely impact. I have friends who have been farmers for generations and sea level rise could cause them to lose their livelihood.</p>
<p>Skagit county is dealing with serious climate change issues that need immediate action. I'm extremely concerned for loss of habitat and increased water temperatures and what these effects will have on not only our local community, but our wildlife. These changes are becoming permanent, and I think it's important to adapt now. Instead of focusing on traditional flood defenses, I think we should focus on improving watersheds, wetlands, estuaries and streams</p>



<p>systems. These areas are important for supporting species like salmon. It would help mitigate issues like increased water temperatures and help with flood control.</p>
<p>Skagit County rivers and streams will have increasing seasonal flow impacts with lower flows in summer and more flood events. Sea level rise and storm surge will have increasing impacts over time in low coastal areas and dikes and hard bank protection will have increasing impacts on near shore and shoreline resources including species and biodiversity. Wildfire smoke will have increasing impacts on the air quality in our area depending on the wildfires in given years in Eastern WA and B.C.</p>
<p>Skagit farmland is likely to remain highly productive despite global climate disruption and impacts to food security. By far the most important climate resilience strategy the Skagit must pursue is protection of the Skagit's remaining farmland. This requires strong zoning, an adequate water right for agriculture, and a coherent plan for our marine dike system.</p>
<p>Skagit weather is hotter than 20 years ago. Forest fires are more prevalent than 20 years ago. Summers are much drier than 20 years ago. Skagit County government has not prioritized mitigating climate change.</p>
<p>Smoke affects my community, as does storm surge and coastal erosion</p>
<p>Some climate-related factors (e.g., sea-level rise, storm surges, increased flooding, less snow in the mountains) are already affecting local natural resources and infrastructure. Impacts affect nearly all Skagit residents.</p>
<p>Some parts of the county are protected against flooding but a lot are not. In the city we have infrastructure that mitigates a lot of the local effects of climate change in the near term. We cannot fight the wildfire risk or the air quality risk as easily. Despite local measures taken, in the past years we have had some major fires in WA and Canada that have led to serious air quality issues here in skagit. Heat waves are longer and we don't have an electrical grid to support air conditioning in all homes, because that wasn't something that we expected 25 years ago.</p>
<p>Specific effects for our area are unknown and unpredictable but also inevitable..</p>
<p>Stop using asphalt which puts off way too much heat. Plant more trees for shade in areas with more asphalt. Dont waste money, the earth temperature is ever changing, per history!</p>
<p>Study of and experience with the environmental.</p>
<p>Summer is much drier and filled with smoke from fires most of the time. Our water well gets very low. Winters are more extreme and also seem drier.</p>
<p>Taking into consideration things like sea level rise, surface water temperatures etc. fits in to so many other issues we handle on the local level. Vectors, diseases, harmful algae blooms, recreation opportunities etc. This is a cross- sector issue that has and will impact all of our work.</p>
<p>Taking this survey instantly puts me back at the most recent floodings in Skagit and Whatcom counties. It was traumatic seeing the way it went from consistent rain, to flooding that covered our farmlands and swept away houses, to mudslides on the highway, then searching for people. I was part of a team that were the first boots on the ground there was so much loss, trying to help folks as situated as we possible could while considering their important needs like medication, and it's just infuriating how people didn't realize it was already an effect of climate change. There needs to be more climate change information available in rural communities, especially considering how Skagit is one of the most fertile &amp; crop diverse in the US we should be having community trainings and visual simulations of what happens so other can actually see how one thing effects the other, and we need to have materials in multiple languages. Especially because with the way things are going disasters will only get worse, we are seeing it in real time in Florida and the multiple hurricanes. That was another downfall, when it came to assistance English speakers were given priority while those who didn't understand ended up just figuring things out</p>

<p>on their own or not going through with aid because they felt overwhelmed/had no one to walk them through things.</p>
<p>the change in our climate is going to have a profound effect on our farming community, tourism, those of us who are outdoor enthusiasts, and the overall cost of living. And, for our children. What will life be like for them?</p>
<p>The climate change is already effecting all aspects of our lives and will continue getting worse, so we need to be prepared.</p>
<p>The climate change theory has been greatly exaggerated and politicized, and the risk is very low that the theoretical changes will significantly affect our lives within the next century. It is an untrue assumption that we are currently affected in any significant manner due to the climate changing.</p>
<p>The climate changes over time. I'm not concerned with Skagit county being affected. There is also nothing a government entity can do to affect the climate. The only thing the government can do is put unnecessary restrictions and costly regulations on its citizens. No amount of tax dollars should be spent on any climate initiative, it is a waste of money and poor stewardship of public funds.</p>
<p>The climate impacts listed are normal for a coastal climate during solar maximum time periods of human existence. To successfully inhabit a coastal area some concerns are warranted.</p>
<p>The climate is continuously changing. It has been and will continue to do so on a yearly and cyclical basis. Some of these questions are misleading as they can conflagrate climate change and extreme weather events. These two are not the same, These questions should not be included in a survey required by the state. This leads me to believe that the answers that will be taken from this will create policy changes built around inaccurate conclusions. Number three is a great example. Please fix this problem and resend this survey with questions that don't ask two different questions in the same turn.</p>
<p>The County must support efforts to increase the climate resilience of human communities, wildlife, and local ecosystems. Many people live in harm's way in Skagit County, in areas that are, or will be in the future, impacted by flooding, landslides, and wildfire effects. My own home has not been impacted, but that is because I live in a city, on a hill, and out of the floodplain. Many don't and we have all seen the effects of flooding impacting people's lives. The County should restrict development in these sensitive, dynamic, and high risk areas, move people out of harm's way, and support conservation of lands that buffer climate change impact, including natural shorelines and wetlands, open space, and forests (including working forests). Zoning could be an effective tool to encourage development in cities in place of rural areas. Loss of habitat and species is a major concern. Land and water conservation efforts are effective ways to conserve species.</p>
<p>the dying of cedar trees; increased drought conditions and heat; increased wildfires; colder winters; low flow in streams affecting the fish and wildlife dependent upon the streams as well as water availability.</p>
<p>The earth naturally goes through warming and cooling cycles which means we are in a different cycle of life right now. Have we contributed to the decline in the earth of course we have but the mismanagement of forests and parklands has created many problems as well as blacktopping massive amounts of farmland. Blacktop holds heat and is far hotter than grass, gravel, and cement. If you want to cool the area, quit allowing building on precious farmland and limit the amount of blacktop used when building massive shopping centers, warehouses, and apartment complexes.</p>

<p>The extreme heat has made us need to buy and use air conditioning. Smoke makes it so we can't go outside and we had to buy air purifiers. Lost most of my apple crop to pests. Apple maggots. I'm concerned about price of food with so much lost to Extreme weather events. Extreme cold made my windows freeze over and heating bill skyrocket and I couldn't afford to pay for it.</p>
<p>The hotter, drier summers cause for concern with what has been our natural habitats that are accustomed to more water. Also, so much of Skagit is agricultural land and crops that used to thrive with little irrigation no longer can. Farmers will need to irrigate more, and make different choices for what crops to plant.</p>
<p>The impacts of climate change are widely variable by location and unpredictable with the current dataset. I live in a low-lying area near the coast so water impacts are most important to me specifically but not everyone in Skagit County will be directly impacted by that. I haven't been impacted yet by a flood or high water condition. It's important to remember that although there may be some indicators, climate change impacts are unknown and unpredictable.</p>
<p>The increase in wildfires was severely impacted by the lack of forest management practices to clean up brush &amp; debris.</p>
<p>The items I selected as not at all concerned are due to my not realizing the climate issue would effect these areas. Now I do!</p>
<p>The loss of salmon habitat, comes to mind when answering the survey questions and the impact this has on the entire food chain. My grandchildren and the futures of all children are always at the forefront of my extreme concerns when it comes to climate change.</p>
<p>the majority of my concern comes from seeing so little done about climate change on a national/international level over the last 30 years that we knew this was coming. we're at the point where no matter what we do, we know there will be significant impacts on our lives and coming generations. Most impacted will be people who live near the river and coastline, people living near forests, and then people who are sensitive to poor air quality. We'll likely see more children diagnosed with asthma in the future. and i'm always concerned about the animals who had nothing to do with this and whose existence is threatened.</p>
<p>The planet is and should change. Shawn Christensen aka the storm water Nazi, and his enforcement of unreasonable excessive Ecology and EPA rules for homeowners is hurting everyone at every level of business. This unreasonableness is costing Skagit County lost revenue, lost business and money in lawsuit losses! Skagit County Planning inspection should be restructured with employees who care for their community, the planning specialists notwithstanding. See written complaints submitted to Jack Moore!</p>
<p>The responses above reflect my personal knowledge, or lack thereof, related to climate change issues, and the extent to which I perceive the listed climate impacts might impact me or Skagit County generally.</p>
<p>The science is very clear that if we do not take action the impacts will likely become extreme. I live in the delta region and the concern for floods and sea level rise on property and agriculture viability are of grave concern. Have lived through several severe floods on the Skagit. It is clear to me the impact from a catastrophic flood.</p>
<p>The smoke from wildfires was not bad this year but the past 2 years has been significant. We don't clean our forests leaving them vulnerable to uncontrolled wildfires. Long coal trains pass through Skagit County on a daily basis on their way to China to be burned. So long as money is being made that way, my concerns about climate change are mute. I'm very concerned about our trees as they are not meant to live without a lot of rain.</p>
<p>The State does not properly manage the forests, so every year more public forestlands burn. This does not occur on privately-owned forestlands that are properly managed.</p>

<p>The survey assumes that climate change is unnatural. But the evidence shows that the earth has endured extremes both ways - much colder, and much warmer over the course of thousands of years, long before carbon emissions were introduced. Climate alarmists are on the wrong trajectory here, and more money and tighter restrictions are not going to affect the change you are so afraid of. Your survey is fundamentally flawed.</p>
<p>The things I am most concerned about are the things that happen annually, flooding, heavy rain, heat, and cold.</p>
<p>The things that will affect us first are going to be floods, storm surges etc. The things that will impact us progressively will be loss of wildlife habitat, tree cover, heat in, invasives etc. We need to pay attention to issues that are visible now, and ones where there is a slower impact but could be extreme (sea level rise).</p>
<p>The USA is all in on saving the planet while places like China open new coal plants all the time. Skagit Counties plan will have zero impact world wide. Take a drive on SR20 or I-5 ANY day and time of the week, massive amounts of traffic burning fossil fuel.</p>
<p>The way question #4 is framed/presented suggests that all of the items listed are caused by "climate change" while all are naturally occurring events over the millennia...rather than just influencing the timeline of them occurring. Kind of like asking "do you still beat your children"</p>
<p>The weather today is just like it was 40 years ago , it is just a cycle.</p>
<p>The wildfire smoke has been out of control for the past several years (except this past summer). Air quality has gotten dangerous to the point where people are told to stay indoors. I would like to see more forest management that cuts down on the risk of fires throughout the state.</p>
<p>The wildfire smoke impacts my ability to work and enjoy being outside as do most of the other items listed.</p>
<p>The wildfires have impacted us greatly along with the Wildfire Smoke. I have Asthma so I am really impacted by it along with my In-laws. Also, I have friends who were impacted by the Darrington Mudslide where 43 lives had perished, I would hate for our community to have to go through that again. There is a Gravel Pit that is being built off of Prairie Road which will not only impact the community but could impact the river and wildlife in that area. It is also dangerous for the people who live the area driving every day. I also am deeply concerned by the businesses and residents who could be impacted by River Flooding.</p>
<p>The world changes all the time, always has. We are tenants not god.</p>
<p>The world has gone through extreme heat as well as an ice age. Change is inevitable. Forcing citizens to "Go Green" only hurts our pocket book. Sure we can make things better. But We produce a fraction of the worlds greenhouse gas emissions and yet we're being forced to comply with these simply unrealistic laws that our government officials deem necessary. We need to help the people in our community first. Many are struggling economically and nothing is being done to help. How about taking some of the money destined for the "green new deal" and pushing back into our communities to make peoples lives better? Maybe put it into our schools so our kids have a better experience? It's a problem that will never be solved as much as you might wish it would. Hell i wish it would.. But we can't go broke or lose thousands of jobs at the expense of a whale.</p>
<p>Their is no climate change it's made up by jay to further his agenda</p>
<p>There are many things that impact Skagit Area , wildfire smoke is problematic for those with respiratory issues. Climate change threatens to destroy our beautiful Skagit County. Remedies must not result in excruciating taxes. Incentives for changes would be much better accepted</p>
<p>there is no climate change its climate cycles lived here 65 years farmed for 58 years i have seen it all</p>

<p>There is no scientific evidence that changes over the long term haven't see similar changes throughout history.</p>
<p>These are the changes that will / do impact me and my family directly. Especially loss of trees and tree canopy and wildfires not only impact but create a feedback loop that increases climate change, causing more impacts, etc.</p>
<p>This is just another example of too much interference from the local government.</p>
<p>Three years ago I had to sell my house due to coastal erosion which I believe was due to climate change. I lost 12-15 feet of the bank in front of my house.</p>
<p>To me climate change is real and happening. I don't know whether it is man made or a natural occurrence, but I do believe we cannot reverse what has happened and need to focus on how to adapt to changing weather patterns. I feel that our current political powers are using climate change as a scare tactic and a way to extort billions of dollars towards their own gain.</p>
<p>Two impacts are top of mind. 1. Warmer, drier summers and increased risk of wildfire &amp; poor air quality as a result. Wildfire can effect our up river residents, the logging community especially. Also loss of forests as carbon sequestors &amp; wildlife habitat. Those residents who are required to work outdoors, such as farm workers and construction workers have to breathe the smoke, impacting their health. 2. Sea level rise and increased coastal flooding and erosion impacting shoreline residents, roads and dikes. Saltwater intrusion into coastal farmlands is also a concern.</p>
<p>Unless action is taken, climate change and its impacts will only get worse. I am concerned that not enough people are taking action. I hope to see more action taken in the future.</p>
<p>Usually, it's poor and health compromised people who are the most vulnerable and the least able to accommodate climate changes and risks!</p>
<p>Washington State creates 0.3% of global carbon emissions. I do not think this is the most valuable use of our limited financial resources.</p>
<p>WE all need to be concerned. It's happening. Personally, we have experienced higher than usual flood waters in the last 5 years and see reasons to believe it will be an increasing problem worldwide.</p>
<p>We are affected by most, particularly flooding.</p>
<p>We are already experiencing climate change by the warmer and dry summers. But flooding is rare, especially with the low snow pack each year. I am primarily concerned about the entire US and the rest of the world; mass migration from hot climates will impact us everywhere as we adjust to less usable cropland and unstable governments. I worry for my children and grandchildren.</p>
<p>We are already experiencing the changes due to Climate Change and need to do our part to moderate these changes.</p>
<p>We are already seeing high floods every year, with the king tides pushing water over the dikes and onto roads and properties. This will continue to happen as the sea level rises and storms increase, the coast will continue to erode and then our citizens will not be able to sell their homes or afford to move anywhere. What is Skagit County doing for the Swinomish and La Conner communities?</p>
<p>We are doing little to mitigate climate change and are rapidly heading towards a time when catastrophic weather events are the norm.</p>
<p>We are on the flood plain so water issues, especially the Skagit, are of great concern. The heat wave we had a few years ago was alarming, smoke from wildfires is uncomfortable. Our neighbor is a fireman and often goes on fire duty and is gone for weeks. A dear friend in Oregon have had to evacuate at least 3 times in the last few years due to uncontrolled fires. Terrifying.</p>

<p>We are so close to the ocean, our whole valley will be impacted.</p>
<p>We as US citizens have little impact on our planet. Our practices far better than most other countries. If nuclear power isn't used our carbon footprint would change very little. Im concerned with our local government officials being against solar. Solar has very little impact on animals if any and does improve our power generation.</p>
<p>We experience wildfires every year and wildfire smoke almost every year. Lack of water, (drought), is very concerning. Trees are dying - in my yard and lots of places. Habitat is disappearing. Glaciers are 1/2 gone in some places and they continue to disappear. Waterways are too warm. These disturbing trends affect all of us in one way or another.</p>
<p>We focus too much on accommodating people to live in rural areas. They are going to be harder to service and denend with climate change. We should all work together to majes cities liveable, dense with great access and trails and greenspace in rural areas. Buy up development right rural for conservation, forestry, ag etc</p>
<p>We have a farm and live close to salt water. Concern about salt water intrusion. Concern about businesses and individuals that have had floods affect personal property during spring tides/rainstorms and have limited our ability to get in/out of our neighborhood. Have had frozen pipes from extreme cold in last couple years. Mud/landslide impacts on I-5 and Chuckanut in recent years.</p>
<p>We have already suffered from much of these issues and are very concerned that our county has not yet reduced our greenhouse gases.</p>
<p>We have been having much hotter and dry summers and more extreme cold events in winter. Many native plants and animals have struggled or have perished. For example, many Cedar trees have died or are in the process. Increased water temperatures have an impact on fish and insects. All of these extremes have either a direct or indirect impact on everyone. Increased utility bills and pressure on the utility companies to provide the increased demand. Farmers have to irrigate more which has and/ or will lower water tables and streams. The risk of forest fires increases greatly which threatens homes, the logging industry, public health and wildlife.</p>
<p>We have had more extremes in temperature, both hotter and colder. We have had landslide issues and smoke during the summer. So as the effects of climate change progress. We will have more extremes influencing our county.</p>
<p>We live in a second growth forest abutting DNR land. Forest fires are a huge concern. The health of our forest has definitely been affected by years of drought.</p>
<p>We live on a hill so water/flooding is less of a concern other than caring about our lowland neighbors. Some change is expected over time and cannot be stopped and should be planned for. We are at risk for wildfires and plan for that with clearing, water access backup and emergency planning.</p>
<p>We live on a river. Wildfires cause the river's entire bed, bank to bank, to fill with smoke. We must close our house and stay inside.</p>
<p>We live surrounded by the ocean and with a big river and many streams. Our shorelines and floodplains are heavily built on. At the same time less snow pack and dwindling summer stream flow impacts fish and farming (irrigation)</p>
<p>We lived in CA before moving to Skagit County in 2021. We experienced first hand how difficult fires and drought can take its toll on the living conditions of the community.</p>
<p>We need to cut red tape for logging and clearing to prevent forest fires.</p>
<p>We need to do a better job of properly managing lands to help with climate change. Forests lands should be properly managed to avoid dead, windfall and under brush that create less fuel for the fires. Lack of proper management is causing larger more intense fire. Farmlands are being</p>

<p>developed and built upon in the name of "climate change" "green energy" " clean energy" the reality is our farmlands are the most viable way to combat climate change. My biggest concern is our access to clean and sustainable food sources to combat our food crisis and support our national security. Farmlands and forests lands should be protected and funding available to help manage them in ways that support long term sustainability.</p>
<p>We need to get better at preventative measures for these changes. Much of our infrastructure is in locations that can be affected by heavy flooding, stream migration, or coastal erosion.</p>
<p>We need to manage our forests better to prevent large forest fires, which will reduce the impact of smoke on people's health. We have thrown the baby out with the bath water, so to speak. Forest fires are a natural occurrence often (except when campfires or arsonist start), but we stopped proper forest management practice, and we are finally starting to address this practice again. Earth has climate cycles (dust bowl, ice age, Sahara was green in the past, etc).</p>
<p>We need to respect, protect, and restore our forests. PLEASE.</p>
<p>We own a small farm in the floodplain.</p>
<p>We see the effects of climate change more and more often. Hopefully, we can adapt quickly enough to turn back the tide of environmental change that is presenting itself. Of course farmers will be affected, also our wildlife such as salmon. Flooding affects humans and animals.</p>
<p>We used to live in the flood zone which impacted our property. The severe weather is a concern to the elderly and infirm. Our farmlands and our rivers and streams are adversely effected</p>
<p>Weather and changes in climate supersede human participation in the environment, industrialization and the SUV. None of what we are doing as humans is making the climate change and nothing you are proposing to do is going to make the climate change. It is a massive ego driven level of hubris to think otherwise. The environmental/climate agenda is about people control not climate control. Raising taxes until all the people move away from Skagit/Washington is not going to have any impact on the climate at all. Its pathetic that our county government is spending any time on this at all. It is more likely that we will get swamped by a tsunami but there is no way to increase taxes and modify people's behavior for that so its ignored.</p>
<p>We've already experienced the effects of the now almost annual "smoke month" reducing our quality of life, which when coupled with heat waves can be dangerous.</p>
<p>We've been experiencing wildfires pretty much every year and the same with wildfire smoke. My best friend had to evacuate and lost business and then had health related problems. Lack of water, (drought), is a concern, especially because we have a well, but not just for us but for all life. Waterways are too warm. Not sure what folks who live along waterways will do with sea level rise. These disturbing trends affect all of us in one way or another. Trees are dying - on my property and I notice in so many places locally and beyond. Habitat is disappearing. Glaciers are 1/2 gone in some places.</p>
<p>When I was young (Washington native) we rarely saw temperatures above 75 in the summer, wildfires only happened on the east side of the Cascades, we almost never got thunderstorms . . . the changes in my lifetime have been far more extreme than can be explained as "normal." I do believe humans are causing many of these problems, and that we have the power to reverse them.</p>
<p>While the climate is changing, it has changed over history. It is pure hubris to think at Washington State can have a world wide impact. This will only harm our economy and Washington State citizens will suffer. It is going to be what it going to be without or without our efforts.</p>
<p>Wildfire is my biggest concern, and the one that most has directly affected me. Hiway 20 being closed for the fire on Rainy Pass was not good for our businesses who count on those crossing</p>

the pass. Having to detour on Hiway 2 to cross the mountains made a 3 hour journey, a 5 hour one.
wildfire smoke - heavy rain - heavy winds
Wildfire smoke affects my breathing. Heat waves affect my brain. Severe cold weather last January was concerning when we received emails from Puget Power and CNG asking us to lower our temps on thermostats to reduce energy needs. I had already had a plan to do that. My furnace worked well. I have it maintained in June each year so it is performing well.
Wildfire smoke effects the health of everyone in its path unlike floods or coastal erosion. Prolonged expose to wildfire smoke can be debilitating for young and old with respiratory issues. Reduces stream flows is a huge issue but only part of the problem effecting our salmon runs. Over fishing is what is leading to the threatening decline of our runs.
Wildfire smoke has really effected my health (Asthma)
Wildfire smoke impacts our ability to get out and enjoy nature due to the health effects it puts on us.
Wildfires not a threat in Anacortes. Sea level rise, storm surges, flooding are more of a threat where I live.
With declining glaciers and hotter drier summers drought and water supplies will be one of the most serious challenges facing western WA in the future.
With large elder population in Skagit, impact of higher temperatures, wildfire smoke, drought, pests will have large negative impact. Decrease in stream flow of Skagit River will affect farmers directly and also well water sources. Pests, increased water temperature affects home garden food growing negatively.
With regard to Skagit County, my concerns stem from how these events can/will affect Skagit farmland and the flats (flooding). I am also concerned with our rivers/streams and the affect on salmon spawning. Lastly, wildfire smoke has proven to be deeply impacting on residents in this area, myself included. Especially during hot weather and being unable to open windows when there is significant smoke in the air. This has caused health issues in my family.
Worry about salmon numbers with low summer water flow and breathing smoke in the summer, we don't have AC so we can't keep the smoke out in the summer. I worry about the future agriculture in the area with saltwater intrusion and drought conditions.
You are asking me Questions about my concerns of these issues with climate change. So I have to know, concerned with climate change on these issues. I have great concern about these issues eliminating the concern climate change.
You can't impact those things with no matter what you come up with or what project you take on. You can't change the climate one bit. Other factors can play into climate change and they aren't influenced by us. Please save our money and resources and tell the state to focus on a real issue

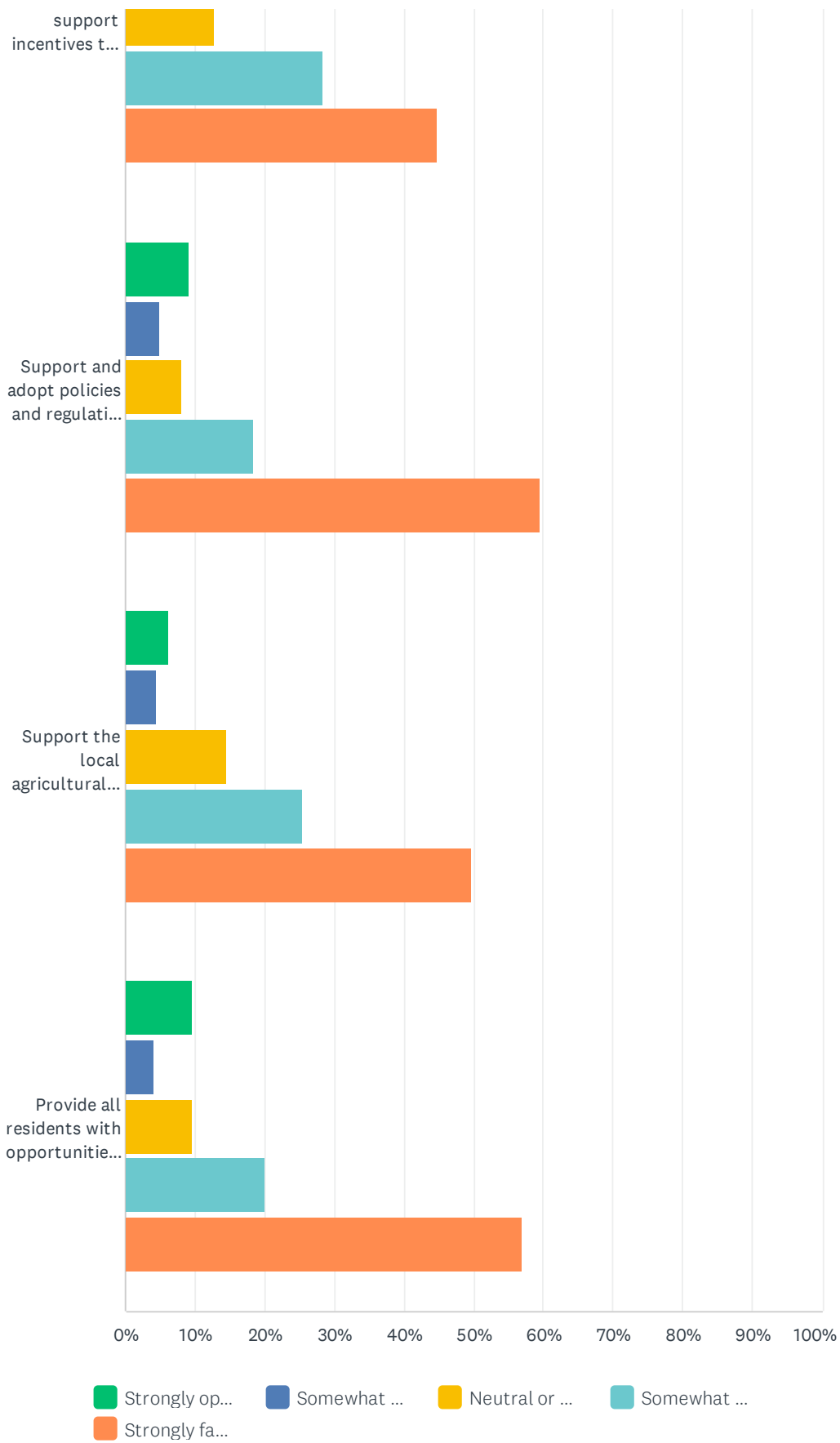


### Q6 Please indicate your level of support for each of the following types of resilience solutions intended to prepare Skagit County for extreme weather and climate impacts.

Answered: 593 Skipped: 59



# Skagit County Climate Element Community Survey

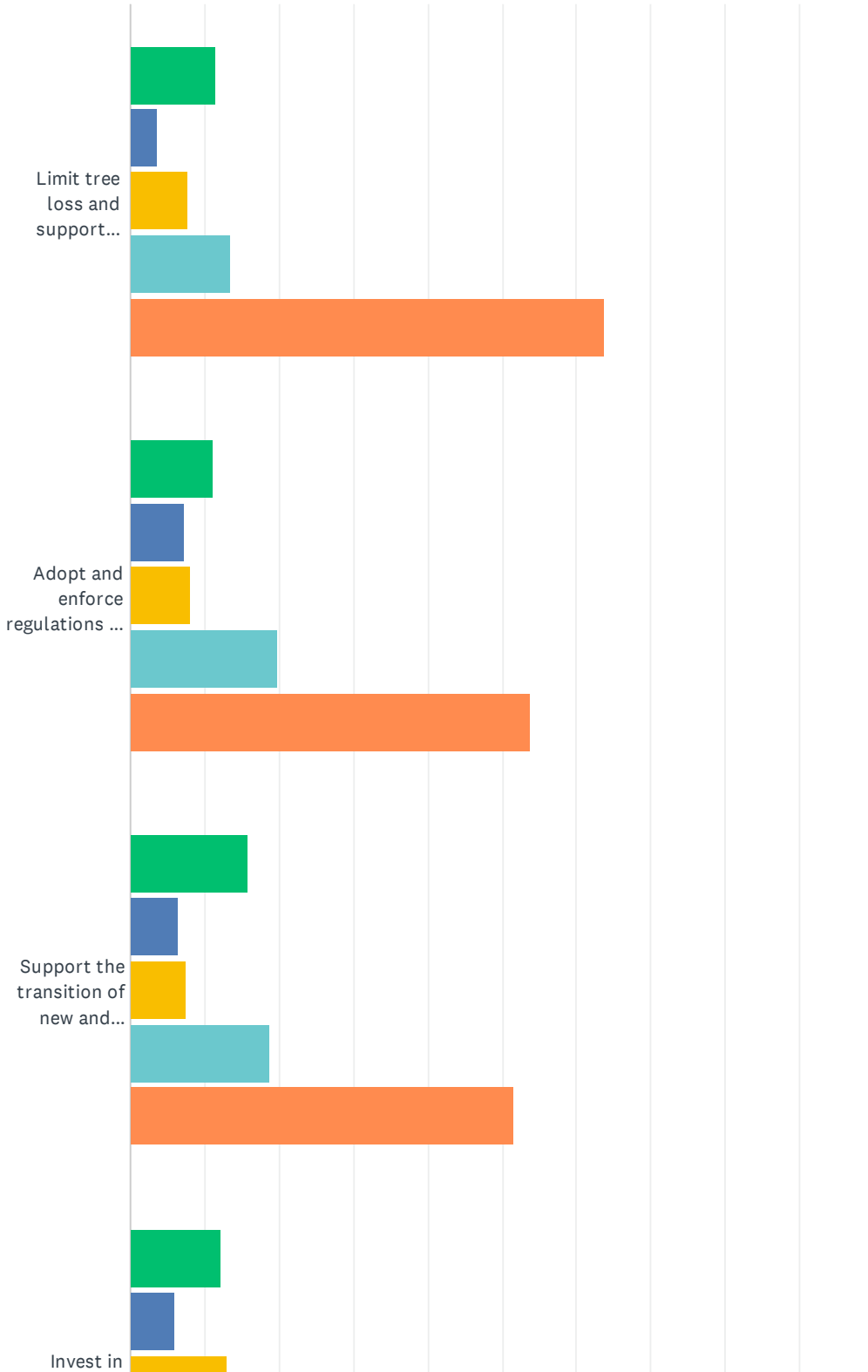


Skagit County Climate Element Community Survey

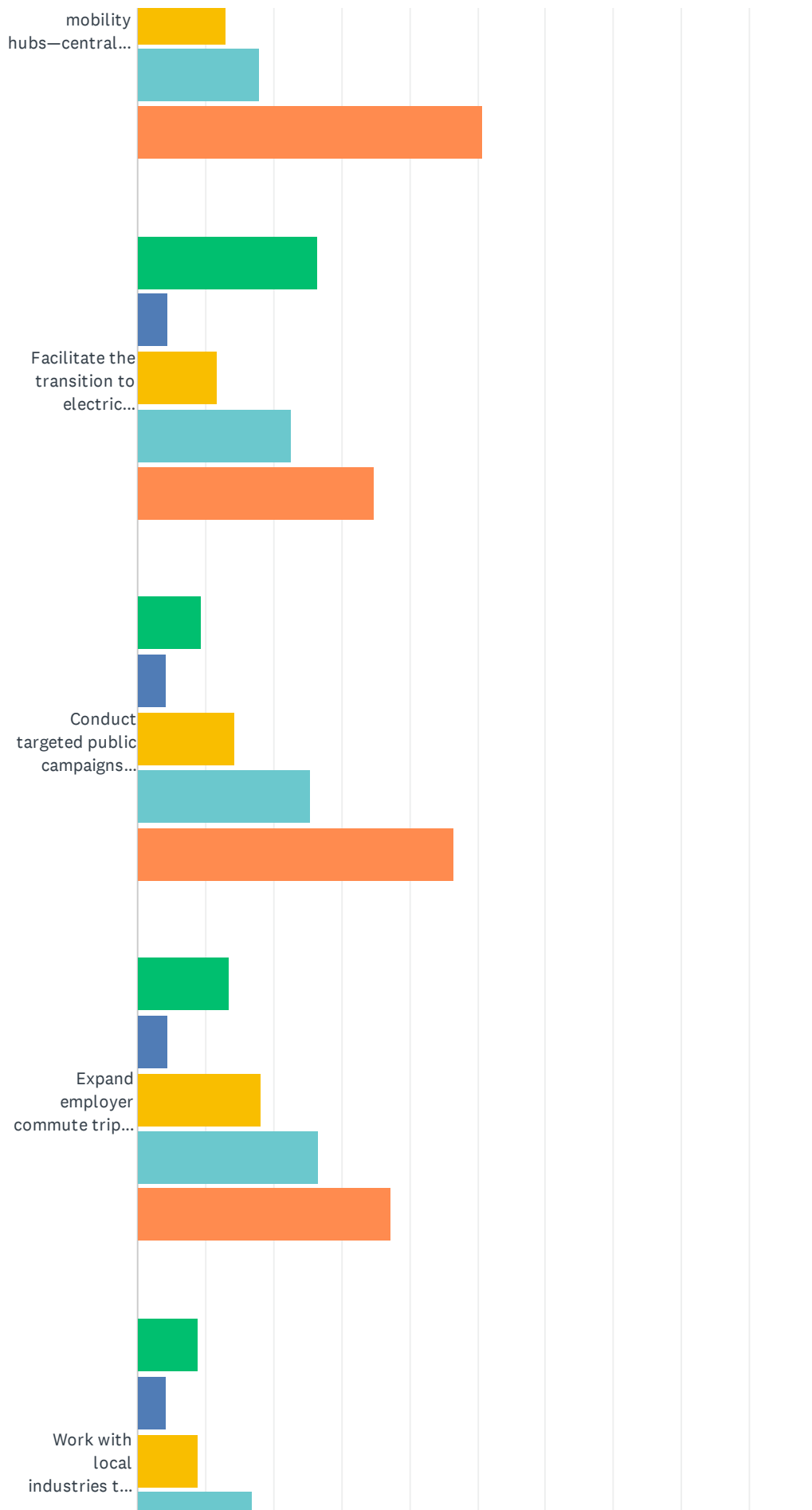
	STRONGLY OPPOSE	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	NEUTRAL OR UNSURE	SOMEWHAT FAVOR	STRONGLY FAVOR	TOTAL
Protect community health and well-being and ensure that the most vulnerable residents, such low-income, elderly, or disabled individuals, do not bear disproportionate climate impacts.	10.29% 61	2.87% 17	12.82% 76	15.68% 93	58.35% 346	593
Promote land-use strategies, such as conservation easements or zoning protections, to maintain agricultural lands, open spaces, and rural character.	6.77% 40	2.20% 13	5.08% 30	17.60% 104	68.36% 404	591
Enhance community preparedness and response to hazards and extreme weather events, such as through “resilience hub” facilities that support residents, coordinate communication, and distribute resources during extreme weather.	6.09% 36	2.20% 13	11.68% 69	28.09% 166	51.95% 307	591
Promote and support incentives to make building weatherization improvements that bolster climate preparedness.	8.80% 52	5.41% 32	12.69% 75	28.43% 168	44.67% 264	591
Support and adopt policies and regulations to protect water quality from climate impacts like sedimentation, algal blooms, and saltwater intrusion, such as using green infrastructure, protecting watersheds, or monitoring saltwater intrusion.	9.17% 54	4.92% 29	8.15% 48	18.34% 108	59.42% 350	589
Support the local agricultural sector's efforts to adapt to changing climate conditions and capitalize on sustainable business opportunities.	6.11% 36	4.41% 26	14.60% 86	25.30% 149	49.58% 292	589
Provide all residents with opportunities to learn about climate impacts, influence policy decisions, and take actions that enhance community resilience.	9.51% 56	4.07% 24	9.51% 56	20.03% 118	56.88% 335	589

# Q7 Please indicate your level of support for each of the following types of GHG emission reduction solutions intended to reduce Skagit County's contributions to climate change.

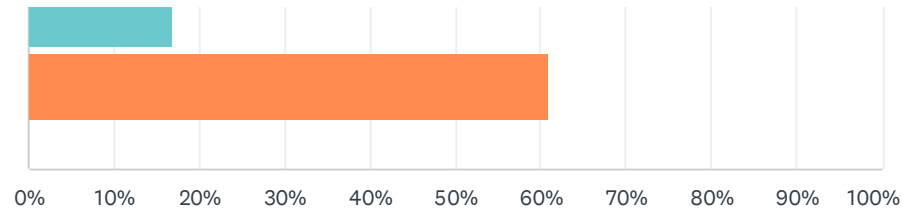
Answered: 594 Skipped: 58



# Skagit County Climate Element Community Survey



## Skagit County Climate Element Community Survey



■ Strongly op...   
 ■ Somewhat ...   
 ■ Neutral or ...   
 ■ Somewhat ...  
■ Strongly fa...

	STRONGLY OPPOSE	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	NEUTRAL OR UNSURE	SOMEWHAT FAVOR	STRONGLY FAVOR	TOTAL
Limit tree loss and support low-carbon and sustainable forest, agriculture, and livestock management.	11.51% 68	3.55% 21	7.61% 45	13.54% 80	63.79% 377	591
Adopt and enforce regulations to ensure that new buildings and retrofits are energy efficient.	11.13% 66	7.25% 43	8.09% 48	19.90% 118	53.63% 318	593
Support the transition of new and existing buildings to renewable energy sources such as solar and hydropower.	15.88% 94	6.42% 38	7.43% 44	18.75% 111	51.52% 305	592
Invest in mobility hubs—centralized locations where people can access multiple transportation modes such as biking, transit, and walking.	12.12% 72	6.06% 36	12.96% 77	18.01% 107	50.84% 302	594
Facilitate the transition to electric vehicles through expansion of reliable EV charging infrastructure and public education on options and available rebates.	26.44% 156	4.58% 27	11.69% 69	22.54% 133	34.75% 205	590
Conduct targeted public campaigns focused on solid waste prevention, recycling, and composting.	9.44% 56	4.22% 25	14.33% 85	25.46% 151	46.54% 276	593
Expand employer commute trip reduction programs to include both small and large local businesses.	13.37% 79	4.40% 26	18.10% 107	26.73% 158	37.39% 221	591
Work with local industries to reduce pollution from industrial processes.	8.97% 53	4.23% 25	8.97% 53	16.92% 100	60.91% 360	591

**Q8 Please describe any challenges or barriers you and/or your household/family may face in addressing extreme weather and impacts from climate change.**

Answered: 334 Skipped: 318

**Open ended responses start on next page.**

**Question 8: Please describe any challenges or barriers you and/or your household/family may face in addressing extreme weather and impacts from climate change.**

Water usage and interference from persons who do not understand forest management
1. The greatly increased amount and duration of smokey days from forest fires impacts the health of everyone. 2. Increased utility bills (for everyone) due to extreme hot and cold temperatures. 3. More winter air pollution, especially during inversions, due to more need to heat with wood or other fossil fuels. 4. We, like many others, are on a well. So far, we have not run out of water in the summer, but it has ben close. With the dryer summers and the huge increase of agricultural irrigation, it is a constant concern. 5. As for many others and the forests, we have had a number of plants, the most worrisome being large trees, showing signs of stress or dying. That can be a financial and / or aesthetic loss as well as a loss of a carbon sink.
A neighbor had their flood insurance policy revoked. We live in the flood plain in West Mount Vernon and worry about the same happening to us. I also worry about the ability to exit West Mount Vernon in the case of an evacuation order or emergency if bridges are damaged
Access to propane needed to keep our home heated.
affordability of converting to a heat heat with a/c
Affordable methods to protect from flooding out of the existing so called flood plain which is outdated and will become increasingly so.
Affording electricity costs and heating our home. We now heat with oil but our electricity is very high too. There is one way off this hill we live on and no ready water available except tanker truck in case of wildfire. In fact, most houses up here would be a total loss if they were to catch fire, fire department would take too long to get here. It would take time to get DNR helicopter support. At least 3 elderly people are right next to us and there would be no way they could get off hill. I worry about this constantly during summer weather about a wildfire. Smoke from wildfires, wood stoves and outside burning makes for Moderate or Hazardous AQI at my house at times. I'm forced to stay inside with 3 air purifiers going.
Age and frailty
aging/mobility
All individuals should be prepared as possible to ride out short term events (food, water, medical supplies) and not wait for handouts. That said, power loss is what concerns me the most in my location.
All residents need to prepare and have access to multiple resources like lpg, fuel for generators, and access to water and emergency food.
Already mentioned above.
Any time government thinks it can solve a problem and take control of any thing it is going to take freedom of action and innovation away and cost big bucks meaning more tax money.
As an individual I can't do much unless the County plans ahead to allow me to make changes in how I live. Ex: I bicycle but Skagit County needs to plan for and build safe routes from rural areas into the cities/towns and make safe routes/bike paths in the cities/towns so I can bicycle to get groceries, etc without fear of vehicles running me down.
As retired (over 70) people on acreage (in greenbelt protection), we have had county consultant for wildfire come. We would love county to provide the resources to remove the vegetation identified as needing removal.



as we age, it becomes more challenging to deal with the heat and smoke
Asphalting and cementing so much of our county's city's and housing developments is a huge water contamination issue
Asthma, exacerbated by wildfire smoke every summer/fall. Heat stroke from climate emergency-caused heat waves and the lack of tree cover in our neighborhood, and inability to engage in healthy activities like outdoor exercise and play due to heat waves, over-paved environment/lack of tree cover, and smoke. Unsafe to bike because of lack of infrastructure (pedestrian bridges and protected bike lanes, especially on major thoroughfares) and over-use of massive trucks as personal vehicles.
Availability of alternative energy such as solar panels for multifamily homes. Help in reducing lawn and lawn maintenance to reduce the carbon footprint of lawn care equipment
Being elderly and being less mobile
Being unable to drive off of Samish Island during King Tides and flooding.
Better recycling opportunities
BS regulations from the county
Challenges for me are my advancing age and the slow downs that come with that and the fact I have a rare disease limiting me.
Challenging commute, power outages.
Citizens need to continue to share their knowledge and resources to help each other in the event of any extreme circumstances. None of this is based on any legitimate concern about global warming.
Climate changes have always occurred (reference the ice ages) and the issues listed in this survey have always existed therefore the barriers and challenges are not new....this question suggests otherwise.Reco
Climate denial and misinformation in general are the biggest threats we have in my view. Without a clear understanding of any problem realistic solutions to that problem are hard to achieve. Facts matter!
Concern about being cut off from mainland due to tsunamis.
Concern for provisions for those segments of the population that require help with transportation to health care and other resources.
Concern over increasing water use. We should have systems to re-use gray water, to monitor aquifers and encourage less water use in households and businesses . We are going to have drier summers. Conflicts will increase.
conflicting policy requirements re: protecting property from sea level rise.
Convincing (some of) my neighbors of the reality of climate change.
Cost
Cost
Cost of electric vehicles and home improvements
Cost of going all electric including frequent power outages without generator backup
Cost of solarizing, purchasing EV, Energy efficient home and appliances.
Cost of upgrades to the home, cost of accessing renewable power.
Cost to make older homes more energy efficient, cost of permitting to do so, cost to add solar, need for incentives to encourage these changes
Cost, infrequent bus routes.
Costs involved in making needed changes to how we use energy in housing and transportation.

Costs. Any implementation should be implemented over a long period. Putting the burden on families over a short period will hinder families ability to provide.
Currently road flooding and downed trees from more severe storm events affects, and access to potable water. I live on a well, and in an area that does not have public water. In the summer, there is some saltwater intrusion, and as we experience increased drought, I suspect water availability/stable aquifer recharge, will become a greater concern. Trees falling across the roadway is unpredictable, and I appreciate the work that public utilities does. Road infrastructure is a bigger issue that will require a lot more planning. Elevating roads, relocating roads, or installing bridges where there are flooding issues, and anticipated to be flooding issues, would be really helpful.
Currently, Guemes Island lacks protection from fire during ferry shut down times. This is very serious.
Dealing with extreme weather damage. All of our family is here so relocating would be hard and fixing damage would be cost prohibitive
Development run amok around us is removing trees and reducing biofiltration and run off downhill to us and beyond.
Do not eliminate or reduce the use of natural gas. The rhetoric is wrong.
Due to heavy rains and erosion, there is a chance of a mudslide occurring on the hill we live on.
Due to personal health issues, wildfire smoke may have particular impacts on my health.
Education wants to scare kids. You can't change the weather. Experts can't even tell us what the ideal climate is
el frío extremo en tiempo de invierno la sequía por falta de agua an algunos lugares del estado y también sobre el efecto de invernadero del monóxido de carbono
Elderly and live by myself
Electricity is too expensive. Rates have doubled in the last couple of years.
Expense of converting home to more green appliances and purchasing an EV. I have done some but need to save up to do more.
Expense of transitions
Expense to add heat pump out air conditioning to manage heat in summer
Expensive and confusing barrier to entry for individual resilience measures (e.g., home energy audits, EV infrastructure). Jobs that require time spent outdoors in potentially hazardous conditions (e.g. wildfire smoke, extreme heat, flooding).
Extreme weather, including the conditions that lead to widespread wildfire, heat events, extreme rain events and flooding--each one of these makes life more difficult for me and my family to work, recreate, and live in the region.
Extreme wind events could pose problems here as my house faces south. I've noticed some rain induced challenges to the house. Since I-5 runs on relatively low lying land on both sides of town and downtown is quite low, getting food and supplies as well as evacuating could be difficult.
Fending off social engineering brought about by erroneous assumptions.
Finances. There's a cost/benefit analysis for everything. We've done a lot to prepare our home and family, but the things happening around me I cannot control. There were 84 homes built in a field behind my house the year after we bought the property - this has created flooding issues that my neighbors have never seen before in 30 years.
Finances. I don't own a home because its too expensive to live here in the county. Therefore I'm at the whim of whatever a landlord has decided (or more likely, not decided) to do to protect their home. Quality of life is also degraded as the impacts of climate change is felt. I love the idea of

transportation hubs, but since I have lived here Skagit Transit has only reduced available routes-making bus travel inefficient. There should at least be special bus services for things like tulip festival and other downtown events where we know there is insufficient parking and high demand.
financial
Financial ability to evacuate if needed. County needs a plan to help people with economic and mobility challenges.
Financial ability to make energy efficient upgrades and access to resources. Living in an old neighborhood with overhead power lines. Living in an old home needing retrofits and energy upgrades.
Financial assistance programs are one size fits all, several times I have not qualified for these, despite making improvements
Financial barriers to updating septic system so when flooding occurs our septic will still function. Also, the cost of raising house's foundation to above flood stage levels
Financial burden of upgrades or replaced assets in the event of extreme weather
Financial challenges and we are not considered low income however we are barely making ends meet working Full time. We also live in the Concrete area where winters are harsh and we lose power often sometimes for a whole week. We can not afford to install a generator system so we rely on small generators.
Financial challenges due to extreme taxation from local. State, and Federal politicians.
Fire, fireworks and flooding are the biggest threats to us.
Flood plain
Flood prone areas are often cut off when events happen. The car dealers moving cars have created backups where locals have a hard time evacuating. There needs to be a better plan. It's also frustrating to see the so many new buildings in the agricultural areas of the valley. New developments along I-5 add to drainage issues downstream. New pavement creates pressures on a very sensitive drainage system.
Flooded basement during big storms, wildfire smoke intrusion into the home
Flooding
Flooding and tide surges combined in January 2023 to flood our town.
Flooding has already cut us off at times here on Fidalgo Island; air quality impacts on health; loss of natural resource enjoyment
Flooding is the most immediate issue facing me and my family. Storm surges and impacts to dikes are also a factor. We are fairly well-prepared though, and find ourselves reaching out to help others.
flooding of roads and our house if the Samish River floods
Flooding of the Skagit river, issues with farmers with the land around our home is all farmland
Flooding on access roads so we cannot leave to get to safe areas or emergency vehicles cannot get to us.
Flooding will affect transportation. Wildfire, insects, and pathogens will be more common in forests.
flooding; wildfires; loss of habitat; water restrictions
Forest fires and smoke Coastal erosion Available Water supplies High winds from storms

Fortunately I don't live in a flood-prone area. That being said however I do live in a home that is almost 75 years old and needs to be brought up to weather changes in the weather. Better insulation better windows possibly solar panels could help in the changes that are coming.
From my observations and discussions our commissioners need to be educated and supportive for all of these things. We should strive to catch up with Whatcom and King County and then lead these changes!
Government regulation.
Government regulations, mandates, cost bearing
Government too often sets policies that make things worse. While some ideas sound good, the devil is always in the details and generally makes life, especially rural/ag life difficult or impossible. Stop interfering. No one can control climate, though protecting trees and ag land is a good idea, the rest of the stuff is bad.
Green energy mandates/permitting requirements have cost me a lot of time and money-green/renewable energy actually relies on carbon-based energy. A complete transition to renewable energy is kind of an illusion.
Heat pumps are very inadequate for heating during subzero weather
High taxes & big government.
Higher cost in taxes. Higher cost in utilities. Regulation that increases cost of living, and construction costs.
Higher heating and cooling cost
How to handle extreme heat, heavy wildfire smoke, and having access to what we need in case of a climate disaster.
How to mitigate wildfire hazards in the rural zone.
I am a disabled senior citizen and am unable to use public transportation. I have a new energy efficient house. However, the cost of these new appliances would be beyond the reach of most senior citizens and people of modest means.
I am concerned about the bridge in town being the only quick escape route to higher ground for West Mount Vernon if the levee had a break. I am concerned about the number of people I see living out of their cars and in the cottonwoods in West Mount Vernon and the climate and weather effects they experience. I'm concerned about small and medium size farms going out of business due to many challenges including recovering from weather events over and over.
I am concerned about the condition of the levies protecting La Conner.
I am managing okay so far.
I am not sure
I am worried about flooding.
I believe we are adequately prepared; going from one extreme to another.
I can't afford to make all the changes I want. I'd switch to a heat pump water heater and furnace in a minute, but I can't afford the cost of converting the electric in my garage in addition to the cost of the equipment itself. I'm extremely fortunate to have been able to afford to live outside of the flood plain, though!
I consider Natural gas to be a clean reliable source of energy. I cannot afford an electric vehicle, and from having ridden in one, am not convinced they are the vehicles for the future.
I don't see the county doing anything to mitigate sea level rise.
I don't have a/c, and the house gets very hot.

I farm (not on farmland) and drought, extreme high/low temps and other unusual weather events (hail in July, 3" rain events in August, etc) threaten my ability to make a living. Previously, when I lived in town, I noticed that there were very few financial incentives for conserving resources. My sewer bill was usually higher than my water bill because it didn't take into account that I wasn't using the presumed amount of service for the size my home.
I have a well and so need ground water. It would be nice to have affordable cistern set ups for myself and others whose wells may go dry.
I have A/C, but it will become too expensive to run all the time as temps stay high. I have minimized landscaping so I don't need much water and I have a water tank to catch run-off from my roof. However, we all need quality drinking water, which will be at risk. I am highly effected by wildfire smoke and it is unescapable.
I have contacted my representatives to draft legislation for the 2025 legislative session to prohibit chem trails in order to prevent weather modification, as well as preserve our environment from being coated with chemicals but have been totally IGNORED.
I have not had any challenges or barriers due to climate change.
I have run an organic blueberry we-pick and u-pick farm for the last 10 years. We have lost crops when it is too hot for workers to pick, when we have extreme smoke and it is unheathly for workers or people to pick. We have had impacts of extreme flooding, rain events, landslides, and wildfires.
I live in a condo, and the HOA limits what I can do. Also, I would have no money even with rebates to make changes in my house or with my appliances or cars. I can barely keep up with the bills I have.
I live in rural Fidalgo Island, which may be limited or cut off during extreme weather, etc....
I live in the forest so the control of forest fires are crucial.
I live in the lowlands surrounded by dikes that are poorly maintained and have been overtopped by storm events two of the last three years. The dike commissions do little to maintain the dikes. There seems to be zero planning for improvements. Taxes from the dike districts have not changed in years - not enough is being collected to even hire an administrative coordinator that could help research and secure funding to develop climate change resiliency projects. The assessment structure is also in need of updating. The local dike districts tax themselves to pay for the maintenance but the taxing district is limited essentially to a few land owners. The taxing district base needs to be expanded to recognize that these dikes, while on private property, protect the livelihood of all who live and work between Samish, Padilla, Skagit Bay and I5. If these dikes fail, managed retreat may be an option but where does it stop and how long will it take to plan, design, and permit the solution after the fact.
I need help getting signed up for receiving alerts on my phone, e.g., flood warning. I need help understanding what any sirens that go off may mean.
I see a struggle if oil and gas are taken away from Skagit valley residents!
I think in the next few years, we will have to get a heating system that incorporates an air conditioner. When our gas furnace needs to be replaced, we will be looking at a heat pump.
I think it is more politically motivated than the actual science. I want a good environment but not at the costs presented
I think smoke, wildfires and flooding are the things that would affect us personally.
I think with most things-there are financial challenges. We have made some changes, with solar energy, that has helped to reduce our footprint.
I try to be aware.

I worry that down river flood protection in Burlington will push water back into Sedro-Woolley, a place that does not have the flood issues. We need to protect people over commercial real-estate.
I'm not sure what the question is. The weather comes and the weather goes...how do you address extreme weather?
If any of the new rules and regulations cause prices on housing, food etc to rise they are not justified! We can not afford a lot of these new proposed rules to fight climate change.
If our natural gas goes away, we do not have a way to cook or keep warm. Going all electric is not a sound option. Counting on hydropower or solar is not either. It is a balance. Our solar panels on our can work great certain times of the year here, but not do much I. Late fall- early spring.
If the Skagit River dike is breached, we will have flood waters in our house. Snags should be removed from the river and the sand bars that have reduced the river's capacity between the dikes should also be removed. Also, Seattle City light's dams up river should be closed when the river rises and approaches flood stage.
If we have to convert our gas heating and stove to electrical systems, we will have to sell it. We won't be able to afford the conversion and don't want to lose this inexpensive source of power.
I'm very worried about flooding near my home.
Inability to impact smoke effects Heat and drought will increase, long hot summers, dry yards, need to change plantings to be drought tolerant. Power outtages due to more extreme storms. Opportunites for mitigation are really dependent on the counties ability to reduce green house gas emissions and have policy makers in power that understand the importance of aggressive action now.
Inaccurate data and maps. Over zealous regulators and building officials.
Increased asthma.
Increased cost associated with these initiatives
Increased electric bills, flooding, fires, decreased well supply
Inflation
It would be good to continue incentivizing home energy efficiency -- insulation and windows -- as well as electrification - to heat pumps and induction stoves, etc. for emissions reductions, utility bill reductions, and increased resilience against volatile fossil fuel supply/prices and impacts. Heat pumps have A/C capability which is going to be needed more and more for PNW households to safely weather sustained high temperatures more and more often.
It's hard to not buy plastic. There's so few options when it comes to purchasing food items or containers. I think we need more plastic free options.
It's not about me. It's about the planet. We need to stop being so self-centered.
I've been fortunate to have installed a heat pump that has AC, which helped so much in the recent heat waves. But it is nearing time for replacement, and it will be a financial impact since I'm on retirement income.
Keep your snowplow program current and adequately funded.
Keeping our home warm gets expensive.
Lack of active and effective forest management is detrimental to the County and WA generally. It unnecessarily endangers people, livestock and industry.
Lack of air conditioning may make hotter summers difficult. Increased severe rainfall can cause landslides which may affect building sites.

Lack of County regulations that require businesses to adopt practices that mitigate climate change including reducing use of fossil fuels, installing solar panels, and sequestering soil carbon (cover cropping & increasing soil organic matter).
Lack of information on preparedness, lack of community support for deicing and plowing during snow storms.
Lack of money to make changes we'd like to do.
Lack of walkable bikable busable communities
Leaky windows. Cold air gets in.
Leave natural gas in our homes
Length of time of response when waetger events occur. Family farm took 3 years to "mostly" recover from last big flood. We need our own county PUD to control our electrical systems like other counties so we have timely and responsive help with issues. County support in farthest rural areas for snow, mud and tree removal.
Like many homes in the PNW, we don't have central air and the frequency of heatwaves poses a danger to an elderly member of our family as well as to another who is ill.
Living in a naturally wooded area, we are very concerned with fire prevention and ability to limit ALL outdoor burning in low humidity and rain times of the year. Water rights to agriculture in the lower delta is of extreme importance to maintain crop growth and production.
Living on the farming flats, I can see that those of us dependent on well water will see challenges to that water source. I also know that flooding is a real possibility. Wildfire smoke is already a hazard.
Loss of drinking water source. Loss of power to heat, cook and stay warm, Loss of communication(we rely on cell coverage only)
Making solar affordable.
Many houses in the area are older therefor don't have AC, which I understand because previously it wasn't an issue but now the heat can get unbearable and we can afford to get AC put in yet if you try to buy fan/ac window unit they are either limited or priced way too high. I was lucky that I bought a boxed fan 3 years ago at \$10 now they are \$25-30 for ONE it's absolutely insane.
May be financial barriers in converting to, for example solar panels, EV home infrastructure.
Minimal AC in 100 year old home, located on crest of hill, susceptible to wind storms. Sensitivities to wildfire smoke.
Misinformation
Money money and more money.
Money. It's very simple. My property taxes have double in this county in less than four years. And i see virtually no improvements being made. No new schools. Same terrible roads. But every county worker seems to be driving a brand new work truck/car. The money isn't going where it should be.
More snowfall events equal less mobility in getting to and from services
Mostly financial. Electric vehicles are expensive. I believe all living spaces are going to require central air at some point and that is also expensive.
Moved from Asheville, NC, back to Washington State last year. The devastation there ha a lot to do with the fact that people built homes just a few feet from the river. Here in Anacortes, I don't feel as threatened, but do have a go bag for tsunamis or earthquakes.
My 43-year-old son has been disabled since having unsuccessful surgery to remove a brain tumor. Luckily, his house was already mortgage-free and the county helped him get a discount

<p>on his property taxes. His 12-year-old daughter lives with him. I helped him apply for weatherization assistance 17 months ago because his only heat source, an old gas fireplace was broken. He was told he is eligible for a free heat pump and other services, but they could not fix the gas fireplace. He has been on the weatherization list for almost a year and a half now. The barrier for him is that there really is no help available for him, just a list to get on.</p>
<p>My challenge would be trusting the people who run the programs. I've been watching other county programs and I'm applaud. No follow through to make it honest . If a program has agreements, someone has to follow through!!!</p>
<p>My children are afraid to have children in world unprepared for climate change. They have said they won't have any.</p>
<p>My family is fortunate to live out of a flood zone, we also have a/c installed in our home, but would certainly be impacted from wildfire smoke and possibly disruptions to transportation as a result of extreme weather events/impacts.</p>
<p>My family lives in a country (USA) which historically disenfranchises residents who live in high risk climate areas by not providing comprehensive and affordable insurance to cover climate related damage to property and health. I fear if a natural disaster were to occur in Skagit county, we would be unable to continue to live here because it would cost too much to afford to rebuild and insure a home here, such as in California or Florida.</p>
<p>My family might have a hard time financially or with the amount of work required to address extreme weather damage to our home and property as we age.</p>
<p>My home owner's insurance went up \$100 a month. I am afraid of flooding and standing water.</p>
<p>My house sits at the bottom of a forested drainage area. I've already had to have drainage from my roof improved and my crawl space trenched and a new sump pump installed.</p>
<p>My household has the desire to go electric, but it is tricky to afford the change - even with subsidies. The R-value on our insulation is still high, which makes the rebates make less of a difference. I also would love to commute by bike more in the Skagit Valley, but I find it very scary and dangerous. It would be great if the dikes supported biking infrastructure; they are already gravel and separate from the road - perfect for biking. The private property makes is very challenging. 536 is a main artery for getting around, but the biking is lethal. There should be a bike path on the 536 bridge. We should increase public transportation to Bellingham and the Seattle link light rail stations now that the Library Commons is fostering an EV hub. I would also love to see a public transport option direct to Paine Field!</p>
<p>My household is facing more challenges from our failed attempts at electrification and its impact than from extreme weather.</p>
<p>N/A</p>
<p>N/A</p>
<p>Natural gas is one of the cleanest and most efficient means of heating homes/buildings. The passive aggressive attempts to backdoor ban natural gas is potentially devastating, especially to people with limited budgets.</p>
<p>Need to upgrade electric panel and replace roof of our home to prepare for solar panels Need to replace meter to home water supply, 1929 house</p>
<p>Negative effects of extreme weather on my house, hvac systems. Higher utility bills.</p>
<p>No acute barriers.</p>
<p>No air conditioning in summer so when it's smoky we can't keep the smoke out it's too hot to close the house up.</p>
<p>No barriers. We prepare and tolerate weather cycles.</p>



No connectivity of trails for alternate transportation. Bike and walking
No opinion.
none
None
None
None
None
none
None
none
None
None
none
None
None
None - this is hyperbole.
None at present
None at this time
None that we can determine
None, concern yourself with how much wasteful spending you all commit.
None.
None.
None.
None. Just like everyone else.
None. Weather changes. People adapt.
Not really sure what this comment means?
Not sure of what in specifi you are takloig about/ globally? Flud insurance affects us all financially but It has not happend in our area, if you were more specific on dates of current situations maybe Id know why or what you are takling aboit but you are vague ij your comments so I have no ideas on what or why you ask these questions>?
Not sure we have many challenges or barriers except those involving getting older and wanting to stay in our homes.
not worried about major impacts from climate change
our biggest challenge comes from government over taxing us and the fact that they will stop at nothing to keep taking more and more until we dont have enough to pay our bills. And they dont give a shit. Its theft. Fuck the system
Our family has experience utility resilience and water availability issues during extreme weather events. A strong infrastructure is critical as 1000 year storms become 100 year storms and 100 year storms are now EVERY year.
Our family has suffered great stress and financial hardship due to unreasonable interpretations and enforcement of storm water rules that were meant to be guidelines. We have been lifelong residents of Skagit County and weather extremes are no different in 2024 than they were in the 1970's!

Our house is 112 years old and has little insulation, no air conditioning, and the summers are getting very tough during smoke season.
Our house was built in 1980 and has terrible insulation, needs new windows and a gas furnace. Fixing these issues is expensive.
Our only home access is one 2-lane road, which often has fallen trees, power lines, etc. We have lost power for days at a time, and been unable to get to town.
Part of our “family” is the natural environment. Without it, all of us are on an expedited downhill exit.
Paying for a more efficient heating source and better ways to keep the heat in our house in the winter. Trying to go anywhere without using our car because of the lack of public transportation that is easy to use.
Periodic loss of system electricity.
poor air quality due to wildfire limits time spent outdoors in the summer, also exacerbates my spouse's asthma. poor road conditions due to snowfall mean i can't leave my house for a week after a snowfall of more than an inch or two
Potential cost to prepare/address
Power outages without any heat source causes pipes to freeze and food to go bad. Living up in Concrete where we are typically last to have power restored provides huge barriers to thriving.
Power outages, energy efficient HVAC, HVAC that actually works, good plumbing, transportation to medical appts and grocery store, clothing.
Power outages, road closures, loss of local farmland/food
Prepare
Presently we are waiting for the funding from the Climate Commitment Act to be able to add insulation and windows as well as a heat pump for our home.
Pues aqui en Skagit como preveniene uno el humo de los fuegos forestales, no se puede.
Regular weather causes floods. Of which I am affected being in a flood area. I would like to see the river dredged so that it can radically flow enough water when we have high rain situations. And I don't care if the Indians don't like it. The rivers belong to all of us, not just them. They weren't the first people here. They were just the last people that had a war with someone else and kicked them out of the area.
Remove residential grass and plant drought tolerant; remove concrete and paved areas
Resistance from other community members who believe climate change is a hoax.
Rural east county location. Power outages last longer than more urban locations
Salt water intrusion in our well Less time outside due to wildfire smoke
Severe weather variation can intimidate me. I'm more afraid of droughts than floods, largely because I live well above the flood zones. I've lived in arid areas, so to me Washington looks lush and green. I'm also concerned about forest fires and smoke. I feel I can afford to make climate aware decisions in my personal life, I'm blessed and grateful for this privilege. I know not everyone can do this, and I'd like to see more opportunity and incentives for them to have similar options.
Shoreline erosion and reliable alternative route. South East Bank on southshore drive on guemes island has multiple areas of bank erosion. The alternative route on Edens rd floods. It seems like a bridge would prevent the flooding or culverts
Skagit Land Use planning needs to change its favoritism toward developers and adopt the laws and decisions that support our unique environment for the future. Planning by its nature

requires the ability to understand the implications of the individual daily decisions they are making now. These are decisions that cannot be undone in the future.
Skagit river high flow events
Snow removal from roads.
So far, the primary barrier to addressing impacts from climate change has been the lack of county leadership on this issue.
Social pressure from non believers. Trump has fed these people.
The algae plume in Fidalgo lakes needs a solution. More solar panels purchased from China and more electric cars is NOT the answer
The belligerent, obstructive politics of the property rights libertarians influencing the Planning Commission and the Board.
The challenges are the slow pace of action by local and county government
The cost of electricity will go up and potential brown-outs or loss of power- basically overload the grid. Lack of water-irrigation
The cost of energy that Fascist imposition of oppressive regulations in the name of Climate Change.
The costs of new technology, windows and heating/cooling sources
The costs will go up
The financial costs outweigh the potential benefits and reduce efficiencies within the American way of life.
The government
The idea of facing a disaster that would require evacuation (ie wildfire) is difficult to comprehend with our livestock - how do you safely transport hundreds of poultry? We are stewards of a stretch of Colony Creek and a cedar forest - we worry about the impacts of extreme heat on both.
the increase of tax dollars and their efficacy. climate initiatives always seem to be well-intended, but the unintended consequences and actual results are questionable. climate change is too nuanced for blanket policies. housing is unaffordable and moreso because of new regulations to make climate friendly housing (no one is building!), and i don't know that we'll ever be able to buy a home. skagit ag is essential, but we need better regs to help protect wild salmon with the cooperation of the larger farmers... seattle city light is a cute scapegoat in the matter.
The increased cost of heating and cooling our home. Loss of green space, forests, clean water, native wildlife. The ability to enjoy outdoor activities.
The lack of community support and acceptance or understanding of impact by politicians
The money our government is spending on climate change is causing inflation and making it harder for families to stay ahead of rising prices.
The normal challenges that come along with being a widowed senior citizen who lives alone. In other words, not having family immediately available to assist should a unfortunate weather event occur.
The only challenge we have climate change is that the government, both local and federal, makes mandates that are pointless and simply stand to be a drain on the citizens of this country.
The plan for climate events, floods, earthquakes, etc and other natural hazards in a county with bridges and rivers and roads in floodplain seems tenuous.
The risk of extreme weather and impacts due to climate change are currently nonexistent.
The threat of decreasing access to natural gas is a huge barrier for our family to meet our needs in extreme weather. Our generator runs on natural gas and taking that away would cripple our ability to be prepared for emergencies.

<p>The worst impacts will be felt because of the restrictive and regressive policies made trying to address nebulous "climate change". By the time the public figures out this farce, it will be too far into the future to backpeddle and take away the massive government overreach.</p>
<p>There are many financial barriers to adaptation/mitigation. I rent the home I live in, and therefore it is not my decision/responsibility to do energy retrofits/upgrades to my home, even though I know the building is old and could use them (which would require less in heating/AC, thus demanding less energy). There should be programs to help homeowners supply their renters with climate adaptation/mitigation measures. Some adverse climate change impacts, like extreme windstorms, are harder to adapt to; how am I supposed to prevent a tree from falling on my home, without cutting down all the trees (a bad and unrealistic idea). Many people/homes may feel the impacts of climate change but not know that those felt impacts stem from climate change and GHG emissions.</p>
<p>There are no barriers. Climate Change is a farce.</p>
<p>There is no air conditioning in our home.</p>
<p>There is no climate change</p>
<p>This is the best place in the world to live during global warming. Our home is well situated and resilient. Water shortage might be only concern.</p>
<p>To date the process to access federal Inflation Reduction Act dollars is not readily apparent. My house needs a heat pump and I need financial help to achieve this.</p>
<p>To much government involvement and waste,</p>
<p>transportation</p>
<p>Trees grow very close to our home. It would be difficult to reduce the fuel load around our home enough to provide a significant level of protection against wildland fire.</p>
<p>uncertain weather makes farming/gardening more of a crapshoot than ever. Flooding will make some areas unlivable.</p>
<p>Unprepared neighbors who expect me to take care of of them</p>
<p>Unsure about every potential barrier, but building is very old and has many apartment units.</p>
<p>Updating home to withstand climate change is expensive. We are not low income so we don't qualify for many programs and out of pocket and home loans would be our only way to ensure our home is ready and energy efficient.</p>
<p>Utility bills increasing due to extreme weather, including the use of air conditioning in the summer during heat waves. The increase of utility bill cost during the transition to clean energy, and how that will effect my ability to also buy groceries.</p>
<p>Water management on our property stemming from changes others have made further up the hill.</p>
<p>We all need more direction and guidelines from the government. Individual choice is not going to solve the climate change problem. While my family has financial resources to make more climate-friendly choices, many families do not. People are less likely to make environmentally conscious choices when they are living day to do or paycheck to paycheck, just trying to get by. Our government needs to make climate-friendly solutions attractive to lower income individuals, to make the choice easier to make.</p>
<p>We are a small household. We have a limited ability to make real change. The willingness of others in our community to come together, problem solve, and invest in real solutions is our biggest barrier.</p>
<p>We are a working class family that has very limited resources day to day. FEMA issuing a \$750 emergency payment to residents made A LOT of sense to me. At my job there are many that</p>

have resources that can buffer them for a few weeks or months in the event of tragedy. There are also plenty at work and MANY in my personal life who could handle 24-48 hours before desperation set in. People who have always had resources, petty cash available, credit cards, vehicles, family abroad struggle to understand that there are thousands of residents who may have unpaid bills, maxed out credit, nothing to pawn at the moment, and maybe even no family beyond the area to help support. We are blessed with friends and family, but right now, for example, payday is 10 days away, Our bank allows us to be overdrawn by \$135 and we are overdrawn by \$117, both wedding rings are in the pawn shop, and borrowing money is possible but can be difficult to do. So, flood tomorrow, what would I do. This isn't a 2024 phenomena. This isn't a COVID thing, a partisan thing, or an American thing. Working class families have lived like this for centuries. The quality of life continues to ramp up over time, but that struggle is perpetual.

We are ahead of the curve, we built a US dept of Energy's "innovation" award winning home, we have a permaculture farm, I teach about climate impacts, we process and store our own food...I think WATER is the main challenge and we hope to learn more about self storage and filtration systems on-site this upcoming year in order to be completely sustainable regardless of climate impacts.

We are barely making ends meet and do not have the funds to improve our home structure for extreme weather events.

We are fortunate to live within walking distance of food and necessities. I worry about vulnerable people.

We are fortunate, where we live and our household stability and family within the county

We are getting older. We have a generator but it is physically hard to start. I fear that extreme weather events can lead to loss of power for days. I hear this from my friends and neighbors too. Also, there is no plan in our community for wildfire evacuations. Wildfires aren't just bigger, they are faster as embers can be carried a mile or more.

We are in a flood prone area. Severe weather and sea level rise directly threaten our home and livelihood.

we are living on limited (retirement) incomes

We are low income so having a high electric bill becomes an extra expense that is incredibly stressful and hard to afford

We are on a limited income and cannot afford a generator for power outages. We also cannot afford to repair structures due to wind damage.

We are renters so we have very little power in when/where/how our current home can be improved in addressing energy efficiency and weatherization.

We are very fortunate in that we live out of the floodplain, and have access to systems to filter the air during smoke events. But of course, not everyone has those assets and privileges.

We are well-informed and, so, have been careful to minimize putting ourselves in harm's way and to prepare for climate impacts. We replaced our gas furnace with a heat pump and installed solar panels to both supply our home and run our car.

We can be surrounded by flood waters as well as the loss of power, heat and water.

We can't move our house out of the flood zone.

We don't like it when people have us think that catastrophic, human caused climate change is real.

We experience Flood, extreme heat, but that is just specific Northwest weather! This does not include your thought of climate change!

We flood and are in a tsunami zone
We have had none
we have no air conditioning and cannot afford to put in a system in our old house. Extreme heat and wildfire smoke affect us greatly.
We have solar power but little in the way of backup batteries; we all drive EVs; our home is super insulated, but we need good water and a food source in emergencies.
We have the financial means to "weather" any storm but remain concerned about the community at large. What happens if you do not have shelter? a car?
We have to drive everywhere cause we live on the outskirts. Bus system
we have trees that are not on our property that with strong winds may damage our house if they break.
We live at sea level so some mitigation is not available to us
We live close to the river and next to a slough.
We live in a fully electric house with a well. Weather events frequently disrupt our electrical service, leaving us without water, heat, or a means to cook.
We live in an old (1900) house that is very difficult to retrofit to high efficiency HVAC & insulation values.
We live in an old home that is not insulated, this has increasingly become an issue in the summer heat, as well as during extreme wind storms. But we lack the funds to insulate.
We live in the farmland near the skagit river. As a community we are connected to the river and the impacts of climate change and extreme weather events on the river. Flooding, water quality, low river flows (droughts), impact on salmon etc.
We live in the flood plain and are concerned with the increase risk of flooding due to severe storms.
We live in the Skagit flood plain at only 85 feet elevation. I am concerned about both flooding from storms and flooding from sea level rise.
We live in the valley, at 17' above sea level, 1/4 mile from the dike. The dike commission must maintain the dikes and ditches. Don't allow the USDA to tell farmers to fill up the drainage ditches! The river must be DREDGED, as it used to be every summer! Figure out how to cleanup and do maintenance on the 536 West Mt Vernon bridge, including proper painting, BEFORE it fails! We were told that bridge is not even on anybody's list at the state department of transportation!! Skagit County and Mt. Vernon must get that bridge properly maintained.
we live near a bay with a high bank. beach erosion is an issue. bank erosion has been mitigated thru our home construction process.
We live near the coast just above sea level. Given the housing market, we can't afford to move farther inland to avoid impacts of flooding even if we wanted to.
We live on a greenbelt, so fire is a concern for us.
We live on Big Lake and it seems that the county continues to allow more building of new developments without requiring them to build a retention pond. They just think dumping all those chemicals into the lake is fine. They need to take care of the lakes in the area. We have seen what happens when we don't.
We live rurally and rely heavily upon our personal vehicles for transportation.
We live very close to the Skagit River and in the flood plain (west of Burlington).
we need positive encouragement and education rather than disrespect of those who are uninterested or negative

We need to assure that City Light maintains an optimal reserve flood storage capacity. We are extremely concerned that Seattle prioritizes revenue over Skagit County public safety. This requires strong county leadership.
We talk about purchasing an electric vehicle and adding solar panels to our roof but the cost is \$\$ and the benefit ratio is questionable. Our home does not have
We would like to reduce emissions but there are few interurban trails (children cannot bike to school or adults to work), there are few EV charging stations at apartments or rural areas, recycling is going backwards, the county has not planned well to know where green energy should go so people are up in arms about the transition, our ag industries are using more water not less and there seems no plan for transitioning, etc etc
We would be in big trouble if there was a flood. We live in West Mount Vernon and we have no resources put in place to stop the water from ruining everything.
We would like a heat pump to cool our home during the increasing heat waves without using a lot of energy - but it is too expensive to install. Flooding closes roads and access. Skagit County is lacking good non-motorized transportation corridors within and between cities.
We would like to make improvements on our house but it is cost-prohibitive.
Weather is always changing no matter where you live, so I've tried to be safe in these areas..generator so that if the power is "gone" my 62 yr. old sons electric bed can still work. I have a few Patriot survival meals stored, blankets, pillows, water, canned goods, toilet paper. I'm ready as I can be.
We've gone all electric and solar, but if we lose power during a cold snap there's no good way to protect ourselves and our property. We're evaluating wood stove, generator, power wall - but nothing (so far) is really cost effective and sustainable.
What climate change
What day are you planning this disaster
Wildfire smoke impacting the ability to go outdoors, and breathing in smoke impacts the health of our lungs. Due to our asthma, we are more at risk
Worst impacts to me directly have been excess heat and wildfire smoke. I live on a hill so flooding doesn't directly address me, unless it's very severe and shuts down transportation networks.
Would like more information on local climate change in our local media and from our local government. How it affects us in the county, the region and the state and what we can do. I'm familiar with some groups and efforts that realize this problem, (Climate Science Consortium, Transition Fidalgo, Skagit Indivisible, charging stations at the Commons in MV), but we need more action to meet the state's carbon reduction goal.
Zero

Q9 What specific actions or changes do you think would most help Skagit County reduce its greenhouse gas emissions and build resilience to climate change impacts?

Answered: 378 Skipped: 274

Open ended responses start on next page.



## Question 9: What specific actions or changes do you think would most help Skagit County reduce its greenhouse gas emissions and build resilience to climate change impacts?

<p>Climate commitment act has pathways that can support local communities and tribes in being more resilient. Policy changes at local, state and federal level to manage shorelines, farming, industry, building and deforestation are critical.</p>
<p>- De-pave Mount Vernon and Burlington: reclaim massive parking lots as reforested/natural public parks (especially by river in downtown Mount Vernon), de-pave 3+ lane streets in all local neighborhoods, and widen sidewalk planting strips to allow for planting of native big three evergreens and other large carbon-storing trees - Re-verde Mount Vernon (and Burlington) with campaign to replant and replace the native evergreens we have taken down over the last century, including credits and free tree distribution, protection of any tree over 20 years old (and public education to prevent folks from removing large old trees that are important carbon stores and shade providers for communities) and create wildflower meadows and miyawaki forests (microforests of large native trees) on all public property, e.g. in front of schools, etc -- Incentives and support for wildflower meadows to replace lawns (carbon store, pollinator support, reduction in chemicals and noise/general pollution from lawn maintenance) -- Improve biking infrastructure (including protected lanes on all major streets; pedestrian/cycling bridges across Skagit from downtown to West Mount Vernon and from northern end of MV to Burlington; increased bike racks; signage for driving safety) -- Improved public bus frequency -- Trains! Train stop in Mount Vernon with frequent service to Bellingham, Everett, Seattle, and Seatac. -- Disincentivize use of oversized pickup trucks/covered pickups as personal vehicles (buy back plan? road impact tax? explore what other countries have done...) -- Deployment of green energy on all city buildings and incentives for business/homes to shift to solar/wind -- Ban leaf blowers and gas mowers -- Green buildings (including green roofs, green wall plantings on public infrastructure, e.g. the new library) -- Infrastructure for handling compost here in Skagit County (and putting it back into our local farms!)</p>
<p>Recognize that the GHG crisis is a nasty hoax.</p>
<p>1. Maintain citizens' ability to choose what energy source they use for heating, cooking, transportation. 2. Increase the infrastructure for bicycling - this is a transportation choice many people already make that is made dangerous by the lack of bicycle infrastructure (many roads don't even have shoulders; many stoplights are not triggered to change if a bicycle is waiting there).</p>
<p>1. Concentrate / limit growth to cities and urban areas to reduce the need to drive. 2. Protect and preserve existing green areas, especially forested areas, and promote the planting of trees in appropriate areas. 3. Create and protect natural areas for parks in or near urban areas for easy public access. 4. Building codes that increase efficiency of all buildings - housing and commercial. 5. There are more recharging stations for EVs being built. Bit it would be good to have some in more outlying areas, such as "upriver". 6. Create (I know, another committee!) a new advisory committee or board that deals specifically with environmental and climate change issues. These issues have been either ignored or given little thought for too long. 7. I don't know how it could be done, but encourage people to drive energy efficient vehicles for their daily use. Driving large trucks for instance for commuting is not only expensive for the driver, they produce</p>

<p>a lot more pollution than energy efficient vehicles. I know. I have a large pickup that gets lousy gas mileage. I only use it when I need a truck. For the majority of my driving, I use a hybrid vehicle.</p>
<p>1. I'm a HUGE EV proponent, but instead of forcing adoption with rules, let quality product availability in the market drive adoption. (Especially don't use tax \$ to buy expensive EV chargers that few can use, like the MV Library. All those chargers are the obsolete kind of plug.) 2. Arrange funding incentives for EV school &amp; public busses, biodiesel for farm machinery, EV trucks and vans for contractors and small businesses to purchase. 3. Create a culture in local govt. of each employee looking at everything they do through the lens of reducing GHG emissions. E.g. Local people burn a ton of petro chopping down vegetation. How ironic!! To what extent does govt. participate in that? How much is necessary? Is there a better way? Another: How often are govt. vehicles, esp. trucks driving more than needed or left running unnecessarily?</p>
<p>A program to purchase properties within the Skagit's channel migration zone. A formal program that has designs of key corridors so should climate change damage infrastructure an approved, climate resilient, plan can be pulled off the shelf and installed. They do this in Colorado and it has proven to save millions.</p>
<p>Active, effective forest management; drought-resilience action; continuation and increase (as needed) of supply of clean natural gas; capping of residential sprawl to ensure the grid is never pushed beyond safe capacity thresholds; tax-friendly initiatives to improve household insulation; tax-friendly initiatives to enable rural residents to rely on safe, clean wood-burning home heating solutions.</p>
<p>Actually fine business and/or corporations for illegal activity and use those funds monies for future impacts of climate change.</p>
<p>Add options for alternative modes of transportation. Increase renewable energy.</p>
<p>Adopting regulations that facilitate preserving land, improve public transport, promote biking, not driving, adopt comprehensive flood control measures that protect all low lying areas.</p>
<p>again .Are youi refereing to skagit county police deapartment city of burlington ? skagit county referring to who?&gt;</p>
<p>Aggressive greenhouse gas policies, reasonable subsidies/incentives to assist in energy upgrades for homeowners, protection of natural resources, aggressive policies against pesticides (no pollination = no food)</p>
<p>agriculture creates more carbon and methane impacts than emissions. we need to consider the facts about this. Because of this, if we do not want to destroy our agriculture communities, we need to focus on carbon capture - plant more trees.</p>
<p>Air pollution from Anacortes refineries, more solar on county buildings, investing or assisting small businesses &amp; agriculture to go green</p>
<p>Allow free market to lead</p>
<p>Allow private industry to adapt to climate change so that their money is being used versus taking tax dollars from citizens and spending it on useless programs.</p>
<p>Allow zoning for more apartment buildings and multi-family homes within existing urban areas. This reduces VMT because people who live in a community can afford to find homes in the same community and they are not required to make long, polluting commutes. This is one of the best things we can do to reduce carbon emissions. Single-family-only zoning in cities and mandated parking minimums are essentially mandates to sprawl, pushing more housing developments into low-transit areas where people have to drive everywhere, cutting more trees, using up more open space and farmland, and putting homes in rural high risk areas for wildfire, floods, and landslides. Less driving means less road run off and pollution in local waterways and less air</p>

<p>pollution too. Urban infill goals should be a top priority in city and county Comp plans -- as a critical climate solution. Side benefits are thriving, walkable, mixed-income communities and less sprawl and pavement.</p>
<p>As an Ag worker many farms still go low income crops that require several machine passes. If you could incentivize emission reduction cover crops like clover, and this only would replace low income rotations like Barley or wheat.</p>
<p>Assisting people and businesses with energy saving and emission reducing insulation, windows, etc., so they can remain in their homes, and save energy and money. Government should not try to take away natural gas, just make it more efficient. We have had a house which was heated with electricity and it is extremely expensive, probably three times what we pay for natural gas, at least. Help invest in housing near downtown areas, so people who live there can walk to a lot of things.</p>
<p>Begin to enforce laws that currently exist rather than turning blind eye for sake of development - protect existing habitat (cheaper than trying to repair destroyed habitat). More green space by urban areas.</p>
<p>Being prepared for the threats of fire and flood in Skagit County would help us be resilient. Managing our forests and burying the power lines that drape through and hang on miles of trees would go a long way towards decreasing the threat of fires. I'm not sure what else can be done to decrease flooding along the river.</p>
<p>Better public transit with electric vehicles. Replace the old diesel burning Guemes Island ferry with an electric one.</p>
<p>Better road care. Better public transport/bike/pedestrian support.</p>
<p>Better transportation options, and transportation hubs. Less commuting to work on a regular basis, allowing county employees to have a work from home option, especially for those who do not require being in office to do their jobs. Making food scrap composting easier for people in multi family units, and bringing awareness to food waste composting for all households. Reducing tree loss, and mandating land use policies that reduce GHG emissions and help to sequester carbon.</p>
<p>Bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure that connects all Skagit County cities. Incentives for agriculture that promote the use of cover cropping in all farming operations. Incentives for organic production practices.</p>
<p>Bike infrastructure, wide shoulders on roads, and bike lanes.</p>
<p>Biofuel development</p>
<p>Bipartisan solutions focused on scientific best practices, education of policy makers and stakeholder groups who are resistant to change or regulatory pressure</p>
<p>Build housing that is affordable to young families and workers near projected growth of employment and economic development.</p>
<p>Build more local infrastructure and support local production-build a more self-sufficient local economy.</p>
<p>Build more public transportation infrastructure.</p>
<p>Build out bike infrastructure, limit polluting emissions from businesses and industry, invest in severe weather preparedness</p>
<p>Build smaller homes, fewer McMansions. Densify development</p>
<p>Build up EV charging infrastructure to advance transition to EVs. Promote residential and business building efficiency and electrification. Update permitting and regulations to streamline these efforts by updating those written for fossil fuel based systems to speed transition to</p>

<p>electric alternatives. Support local microgrid, rooftop solar and other efforts to produce power locally to ease demand on the grid as it is updated and expanded. Look for opportunities to support job training for a future green economy to provide needed skilled workforce to build and retrofit buildings and power systems needed for the transition to clean energy. Also, we need to plan for steadily increasing population growth as people from other areas experiencing more extreme heat and storms migrate to the Pacific Northwest. We will have to plan for increasing demand for resources, especially water, that are already showing signs of stress. Early planning, taking advantage of federal and state grants now will help Skagit County with a smooth transition to clean energy, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, and mindful management of resources. I urge you to act now to avoid future crises that will be more costly and threaten the health and safety of our citizens.</p>
<p>Building high rises and packing more residents into an area only increases the problem. More traffic, more utility consumption, more need for services.</p>
<p>Bus System that goes everywhere.</p>
<p>Carbon dioxide is not a pollutant. Carbon dioxide is needed to keep the earth green. Plants grow healthy with a rich mixture of Carbon Dioxide. Even if it were a pollutant, which it isn't, even if Skagit County could completely eliminate it, it would not be measure able.</p>
<p>Change - elected leaders need the political will to make necessary changes to the comprehensive plan update to meet state law. That will has been lacking even in the face of the obvious need to address sea level rise and other impacts of climate change.</p>
<p>Change building codes to promote/encourage near net zero construction and full electrification of residences; eliminate requirements for multiple parking spaces. Electrify government buildings and fleets.</p>
<p>Changes imposed based on the global warming theory can only be seen as what they are - political.</p>
<p>Check and reinforce the current electrical grid for efficiency. Keep oil, natural gas and nuclear as power sources, along with solar and wind. We will need ALL of these in the coming years !</p>
<p>Check out the refineries, I know they get special rules on their pollution. Delicate balance between keeping them in the county for jobs and making them give a shit about the air. Look into helping people get some affordable way to heat their homes besides inefficient and polluting woods stoves. Fairbanks AK has had the dirties air in the WORLD due to wood stoves in winter. Look into promoting or demanding composting wood debris after logging for big companies. Start a no cost compost facility for homeowners to bring their yard waste. I honestly don't know why you could do about people burning yard waste and slash outside, some people around here are not all that open to education.</p>
<p>Clean up druggy trash camps that contribute to pollution and health risks.</p>
<p>Climate change is normal. Thinking you can change the world climate at the county level is a waste of time and money.</p>
<p>Climate change promoters have not been honest</p>
<p>Close the refineries. Increase all public transit to reduce car usage. Close some roads of commerce to cars so people can walk in and out. Stop building on farm or forest land. Stop reduction of aquifer or river levels due to new construction. Accept population growth limits to not further destroy this ecosystem. Drain no more wetlands. These are leadership starters!!</p>
<p>Common sense</p>
<p>Commuter reduction benefits. Get cars off the road. Is there an express bus from Arlington to Mount Vernon? I need to get to Skagit Valley College every day.</p>

Completely eliminate even the possibility of things like single use plastic bags... And give big incentives for people to follow a more regulated plan forward for energy saving.
Comprehensive improvements along the lines this survey has suggested previously, please.
Conserve forests and wetlands that can sequester carbon. Plan for 90% of new development in cities rather than rural areas so residents can reduce their driving as they'll be closer to services to which they can walk or bicycle. Plan for zoning changes that allow residential development on already paved and unused spaces like the parking areas in the now nearly vacant malls and the old Walmart parking lot near the Coastal Farm and Ranch Store in Mount Vernon. Areas like these could have multifamily housing/businesses close to public transportation if the zoning allowed it. Outlaw fully contained communities in Skagit County code so developers will need to build in cities/towns rather than in rural areas that will increase the number of vehicles on the roads.
Conserve. Reduce taxes. Reduce regulations.
consider encouraging reduced consumerism by more thoughtful purchasing. (more multi-use vs. single use, less plastic, more sustainable vs. throw-away, etc.) In terms of recycling, focus on more steady education about what can/cannot be put in the recycling bins. Include both businesses and private residences in this effort
consider financial impact on human health and well-being before adding extra burdens
Continue to incentivize, either financially or through some other means at the County level strategies like building efficiency retrofits, renewable energy installation and an expanded and efficiency public transportation system.
Continue to regulate ghg emissions for ALL industries in a controlled manner so industry has time to plan and implement. Continue having PSE increase renewable energy resources - suggest allowing home solar to sell small amounts of excess power to PSE at wholesale rates, utilize vertical bifacial solar on all new government buildings and ask PSE to use same on existing buildings via incentives/contracts. Have the State put in a long overdue deposit-based recycling program. As an example, our aluminum can recycles rates are poor. The cost to recycle is only 5% of new aluminum energy needs.
Continue, and strengthen, the use of zoning and land use policies to direct future growth to centrally located, transit accessible mixed-use areas.
Control building, stay rural farm
Conversion to EVs. I've switched, and it's crazy how much fossil fuel is being saved just in this household.
Converting public vehicles and transit system to EV. Create bike lanes along roadways. Limit suburban sprawl. Greener building codes. Require oil refineries and all manufacturing industries to significantly reduce emissions. Wetlands protection and expansion.
County can develop an electric vehicle fleet.
Covid taught us the effectiveness of working from home and during my work hours, most meetings are held on Zoom. However, I'm expected to gas up my car and drive to another location to participate in a zoom meeting. This is an antiquated perception of how business can best be conducted. In-person work could be designated for certain days of the week, while at-home hours could offset not only personal expenditures, but cut down on the traffic snarls in our city centers.
Dense and liveable cities, limit rural development, conservation of wildlife habitat and lands risky for development, plan where green energy should go, get some environmentalists and scientists on County committees...we are listening to people who are science skeptical often..at least let others views have a voice, stop allowing building in hazardous areas

Densify development within city limits, stop developing sensitive and vulnerable areas, increase public transit system connections, enact and enforce regulations to address known issues (such as water temperature and floodplain development), and be up front and realistic about what impacts can be addressed and what impacts cannot (and will require us to adapt).
Deregulation
Develop a broad green energy plan that looks at not only where things don't belong but where they do belong. Map "least-conflict" areas for BESS, solar, and wind, etc.
Do not install more electric vehicle charging stations at the library parking structure or anywhere else! These should be provided by private companies meeting a supply and demand issue. Not the government! The government does not open gas and diesel fueling stations. They are private companies who have met that need. Electric vehicles will not solve our greenhouse problem. Electricity for Electric vehicles must be powered by fossil fuels, because the processes to extract the elements used in solar and wind equipment, and especially the batteries for EV's are extremely damaging to the earth and imposes slave labor in the underdeveloped countries in which the resources reside. It's tragic and a travesty that the save-the-earth people are not concerned about destroying those parts of our earth and about the child and slave-like labor, in Africa, for instance . Again, we must use common sense with our technologies.
Do not outlaw gas appliances and heating in homes and businesses.
Do nothing
Do only the things that the public cant do, road building, sea walls, strategic location of public services. Focus rules on streamlining the ease of moving/refortification of these structures, cut the red tape for projects with great significance.
Don't force us to do anything!
Don't worry about it, the entire state puts out less than .0001% of global greenhouse gasses. Why not ask India or communist China what they are willing to do to save the world?
dont waste our money
Educate the commissioners and the gullible public to the truth about green house gas emissions. Covid lies parallel green house gas lies. Let's get rid of the corruption in this county.
Educate the public about the realities of how climate change affects us locally - droughts, more coverage of wildfires and smoke. Encourage EV cars; build out infrastructure for that. The county needs to take climate change very seriously and act on it.
Education regarding alternatives that do not infringe on our rights to be independant.
Education to ensure people truly understand implications of climate change, maintaining as much of rural nature as possible, promotion of alternative energies
Education. Helping to educate people about options and realities. Also subsidize or help the farmers and small businesses in achieving these goals, they have the hardest time affording these currently expensive changes.
EDUCATION....EDUCATION....EDUCATION....I think that SVC is lacking the proper classes and is doing dis-service to the community and students. I hope that the K-12 systems is further along (which I doubt) because up here in Whatcom we lack the cirriculum too.
Elect the right-thinking leaders, develop needed legislation to support new and expanded programs, hire appropriate staff that aim at the above stated issues
Electric vehicle infrastructure including in rural areas. Increase opportunities for non CO2 power generation: solar, wind and electric power storage (not just batteries).
electric vehicles and solar energy for county buildings

<p>Electrify SKAT and school busses, as well as all new county vehicles. Make the SKAT system more user friendly. County buildings should be solar. Encourage affordable rooftop solar. On the news I saw a high school tech class with highschoolers building sustainable buildings, including solar installation. We could do that here too. Stop issuing burn permits to developers. People for miles around suffer from their burns. The burn smoke also causes long term chemical changes in the air leading to acid rain, then acid and warming oceans, and eventually slowing ocean currents, which as hopefully you know and understand, is the end of most life. Requesting that the schools help reduce the drop off and pick up traffic would help reduce emissions. There is a ready to use program developed by the EPA Skagit County schools could implement. <a href="https://www.epa.gov/schools/idle-free-schools-toolkit-healthy-school-environment">https://www.epa.gov/schools/idle-free-schools-toolkit-healthy-school-environment</a> SKAT bus schedules should coincide with school schedules and after school extra-curricular activities. High schoolers should not be driving to and from school unless they have a need to do so. Skagit climate commitment should be popularized to get community support and momentum.</p>
<p>Elevating the bay dikes. Creating alternative energy power source. We need wind turbines. Old fashioned Dutch type are great can do multitasking.</p>
<p>Eliminate all non-essential government jobs to reduce the amount of traffic on our roads.</p>
<p>Eliminate BESS possibilities and limit large and industrial green house emissions</p>
<p>Eliminate gas appliances &amp; HVAC in new construction of all types. Make the library and Skagit College EV chargers V2G and Tesla and NEMA capable. Bury as much of the electrical grid in towns throughout the area as possible. Work to reduce the water hose effect of runoff. Keep the river water temps as healthy as possible for fish and other aquatic life by controlling commercial and municipal runoffs. Strengthen building codes regarding insulation, etc. Support a faster but not ultra fast rail improvement that actually stops in Mount Vernon and other large towns and cities between Seattle and Vancouver, BC.</p>
<p>Eliminate ignorance, apathy, and cynicism.</p>
<p>Eliminate or reduce the infrequently used public transportation system and return the tax money for a reduced workload on families.</p>
<p>Emissions certifications for vehicles over a certain age.</p>
<p>Encourage electric vehicles, expand public transportation options, encourage solar and other sustainable models</p>
<p>Encourage EV adoption through plentiful charge stations, require home designs to support solar panels and high insulation, and restrict the use of fossil fuels with an ever-increasing reduction in allowable air pollution. We should test vehicles for their pollution output and take high polluters off the road.</p>
<p>Encourage home owners to not burn their yard waste ( tree limbs and leaves) , instead take them to recycle locations. Stop logging operations from doing their slash burns.</p>
<p>Encourage people to plan car trips for most efficiency, educate farmers on techniques that use alternative fuels and keep the message in front of the public that their small changes all help.</p>
<p>Encourage utilization of Skagit Transit by creating welcoming and sheltered pedestrian environments around transit stops/stations, increasing transit frequency and network coverage, and coordinating transit service with WA Ferry, Amtrak, and commute schedules.</p>
<p>Encourage work where you live. Create jobs livable jobs and industries close to where people live. Limits commute times, less emissions, and more time with family and kids.</p>
<p>Encouraging sustainable agriculture practices which can reduce associated emissions, including education and awareness.</p>
<p>Energy education and having programs and money available to support/assist changing attitudes about climate change</p>

Enforce GMA. Don't let natural areas be destroyed without forests and wetlands there is no resiliency
Establish a County official (and staff) with responsibility for promoting/adopting green and sustainable and resilient energy generation throughout the County.
EVs, solar, wind, hydroelectric ... all must be expanded.
Expand and encourage public transportation, EV conversion of ALL county vehicles, and construction of SAFE bicycle lanes from high density residential areas to city centers. Provide bicycle racks, lockers or other secure areas in specific destinations (libraries, Big Box Stores, Municipal Buildings) to encourage bicycling by county residents.
Expand public transit to decrease automobile usage
Expand public transportation routes and service areas, and plan ahead for sea level rise to facilitate adaptation and mitigation where possible.
farming
Farmland, forested, and undeveloped land must be protected. Especially as the county's population grows, strict zoning laws should be put in a lace and maintained. Businesses large and small need to be held accountable for pollution. Also, fishing practices need to be regulated to prevent overfishing, with the exception of tribal rights. Local tribes should also be supported in their environmental preservation and restoration practices and their sovereignty respected.
Few government mandates
Focus future housing development in rural centers (e.g. Clear Lake, Bay View, etc), then focus on connecting all urban and rural centers with robust transit and safe bike lanes. The County needs to focus on reducing miles traveled in personal vehicles, as the legislation requires. Residents who save money by needing fewer (or no) cars can spend the savings on upgrading their houses with air conditioning and indoor air filtration to endure future summers.
Focus on industry; not the average "joe"
Focus on supporting farmers to be resilient in the face of a changing climate - building soil organic matter, reducing run off, diversifying operations, research for best practices, etc. We should be looking into every possible solution for reducing the impacts of the changing climate we are already facing.
Focus on transitioning to renewable energy sources, improving energy efficiency, reducing methane emissions, implementing carbon capture technologies, practicing sustainable agriculture, conserving water resources, and adapting infrastructure to withstand extreme weather events. Incorporate green roofs, rain gardens as well as systems to capture rainfall to use it as gray water, and tree planting to manage stormwater runoff and mitigate the urban heat island effect. Switch to electricity generated from solar, wind, geothermal, and other renewable sources to decrease reliance on fossil fuels. Offer incentives for developers to develop future "greener" housing developments by implement energy-saving measures in homes, like insulation upgrades, efficient appliances, solar panels, water catchment basins for gray water and smart thermostats. Develop more walking paths, green areas, wetland restoration, and conserve forest lands.
Follow through!!! Monitor Be there! Look!
Forest management to reduce forest fires. Work at managing underbrush. Forst Fires at a huge contributor to carbon emissions.
Get people out of cars, more telecommuting incentives, get people off the highway, more HOV lanes than single commuter lanes, get us set up for safe biking.
Get rid of the democrats



<p>Given the 20 % contribution to GHG from tree loss, addressing this should be a priority as this will also help with cooling and habitat restoration. The high percentage of natural gas at 32% of GHG contributions suggests an approach to increase electrification with renewable energy sources is appropriate. Increasing the use of renewable energy sources with public buildings and emphasizing incentives and access for businesses, agricultural buildings and housing makes sense. Solar might be the easiest but wind and geo thermal also have relevance in different parts of the county as does battery storage. The potential for microgrids to evolve adds another layer of resiliency.</p>
<p>Giving funding or tax credits to make it happen.</p>
<p>Governments need to improve the infrastructure for electric vehicles to make long-distance travel more feasible. Switch govt buildings to heat pumps. Encourage agriculture to improve efficiencies, electrify equipment as much as possible.</p>
<p>Grassroot opportunity to help Green employment</p>
<p>GREATLY evaluate each logging project. Do NOT allow logging on hillsides with any potential for slide generation. Require longer time (80 years min) between harvest on timberlands. Require/encourage rain gardens on residential and biotreatment on commercial properties. Minimize pavement whenever possible. Require pervious pavement whenever potential.</p>
<p>Have municipalities change tax structure and permitting roadblocks for neighborhood development of resources (retail/restaurants/businesses) services so driving distance is reduced by having more services local. Compare Mount Vernon with Burlington for example.</p>
<p>Having worked Red Cross shelters when the river flooded, emergency preparation by families is crucial</p>
<p>Help fund conversions to electric power; support housing density, NO increased housing outside urban growth areas; much stronger tree protections generally.</p>
<p>Home energy assesments and modifications.</p>
<p>Honestly, I don't believe any actions we take will reverse the course that we are already on. The Earth has never been static in its weather patterns. Have humans contributed? Most certainly but the train has left the station so to speak.</p>
<p>Honestly, I was very impressed with the list you provided and highly support everyone of those measures. It feels like there are people thinking about the issue in very effective ways.</p>
<p>Hopefully common sense will prevent the waste of taxpayer's money being spent on "green" agenda items that ultimately accomplish nothing beneficial.</p>
<p>Hydrogen cars and infrastructure. I mean, Geo W Bush campaigned on this twenty years ago and we're still waiting!</p>
<p>I am not a proponent of reducing green gas emissions. I can think of many other man-made causes that affect what is happening to our climate today.</p>
<p>I am not sure i would have an educated opinion on this</p>
<p>I believe we may be ahead of a lot of Puget Sound counties already because of our strong history of protecting natural resource industries so that we are already far less urban and industrialized than the counties immediately North and south of us. Skagit County should be recognized for this so far.</p>
<p>I do not know.</p>
<p>I don't have the technical expertise to opine on farming practices but cattle produced gases need to be controlled. Implement more clean energy projects, public transit, and EV charging. Convert the Skagit Transit system to an EV or hybrid fleet. For SLR resilience, a lot can be done with the existing dike system. Reintroducing coastal estuaries and expanding creek, stream, and</p>

<p>slough estuaries can sequester carbon and provide a critical buffer for flood storage and extreme tide events.</p>
<p>I love the light rail system in the Seattle area. It would be wonderful to have it extend to the Canadian border. Creating more bike/ebike friendly areas out in the county would be helpful too. I'd love to see a ban on more big box stores that encourage waste and use up green spaces. Please no data farms and no more shipping facilities.</p>
<p>I see the need to teach more members of the community how they can help in this cause.</p>
<p>I see too many people who appear uninformed or apathetic toward climate concerns, IE big vehicles without catalytic converters, disregard for deforestation, littering, rejecting recycling choices, dumping of motor oil and other hazardous chemicals, over reliance on Round Up and similar compounds, among others. I know these can be hard to enforce, but how about some billboards stating what the regulations are on these issues. What are the laws, let's make the public aware. Let's put violations in the local newspaper, let's bring these matters to the forefront of community thought. Let's show younger people that we are looking after their inheritance of the land, air and water.</p>
<p>I think educating the public is very important. I think we need to make transportation alternatives, such as walking, biking, or taking public transportation, more efficient and accessible. I also think it would be helpful to expand assistance for residential energy efficiency assessments and retrofits. People need to know what is causing the problem and they need help fixing the problem. I think the county level is a great level to address climate issues.</p>
<p>I think that incentives and education to get the community to become more aware and engaged in making changes that can lead to positive impacts should be a priority. Setting punishments for those that repeatedly engage in actions counter to positive climate policies</p>
<p>I think that Skagit county should invest in studying more about greenhouse gases and climate change because there is a lot of misinformation skewed in favor of those trying to push new agendas that are masked as good but actually don't do anything but harm the environment further! Like lithium batteries that take a ton of natural resources to produce and their fire can not be put out. The solutions that are offered are not always better!</p>
<p>I think that what might help Skagit is if we encouraged switching to clean energy like solar panels and explained the importance of being careful about how we interact with nature. Also informing people about how their actions can affect climate change so that they know there is something that they can do about it.</p>
<p>I think the best course of action is for our County's Emergency System (Fire, Ambulance, Hospital/Medical, Police) Departments to be as fully trained and ready as possible for any and all catastrophic events, so they need to be adequately funded. I also am a firm believer in neighbor helping neighbor so it would behoove this County to encourage folks, who are willing, to volunteer to receive training in emergency response should the need ever arise for their assistance. I think a lot of folks would assist regardless of whether they had training or not, but if there are people willing to undergo this formal training then why not recruit them?</p>
<p>I think the centers of education such as schools and libraries should have instruction in the problems and solutions under consideration.</p>
<p>I think the intelligent use of farmland has the most potential to build resilience locally. We can both preserve land as well as utilize it to help reduce GHG. Agrivoltaics is an area we should focus on because farmland has the most potential for clean energy applications in my view. We can both protect it and put it to good use in my opinion.</p>

I think the main holdback in my area is that many of the people are too ignorant to believe climate change is real and will be unwilling to make any changes to their lifestyle to help the larger community.
I think updating existing buildings and requiring new ones to utilize solar energy, creating and expanding transportation hubs that offer people more ways to commute to work, requiring compost and recycling bins in public spaces and making them more accessible in private dwellings.
I think we tend to be pretty good at collaborating for the common good here in Skagit County. And I think leaning into that and bringing folks along, addressing mis- and disinformation robustly, which includes listening to people who feel left behind -- this will be critical for our future in this regard and others. Because even though we are better than many places at collaborating, we have our share of people who see conspiracies around many corners.
I think working with local industry to reduce emissions and protecting/planting trees, more incentives for solar (especially in older homes), more requirements for recycling and composting at restaurants/businesses (and assistance to do so, not just mandates). Continued protection of farm and forest land.
I think you need community support, but more importantly, a declaration from community leaders stating that climate change is real and Skagit County is doing something about it.
i wish i knew
I would like to see the light rail come to the Canada border. I drive to Seattle for work a couple times a week and I could use the train instead.
I would LOVE to see the refineries go away. I have seen flaring a couple of times which I think is illegal.
If all new buildings had large water catchment containers, that water could be used during summer drought for watering gardens, plants, washing cars, etc. We seem to have plenty of winter water. We have 1000 gallons of catchment which gives us a month or two of garden/orchard watering. we are on acreage. We still have to supplement with city water for August and September...or increase our catchment. It would be great if Puget Sound Energy offered incentives to charge electric vehicles during off-peak hours. We get alerts during summer asking us to charge later in the day and we comply. Other states offer reduced rates for charging during off peak hours. PSE does offer some kind of plan but in exchange, they want access to controlling my car!!! NO THANKS!
I'll include a longer list in a comment letter. We need to move roads and other key infrastructure out of the way of sea level rise. We need to stop permitting building in geohazard areas (e.g. landslides, alluvial fans, ...). We need a more robust public transit system. We need a more complete and safer system of bike lanes to support local transportation, including commuting to wor by conventional bicycles or ebikes. We need a much greater number of EV charging stations throughout the county, including upriver.
I'm a little intimidated by the level of investment needed to meet these challenges, but I feel strongly that Skagit County might begin with multi-faceted education so we can get the creativity of the community behind various projects that will need broad support is a strong idea. As such a big agriculture area too, I think offering incentives to farmers to adopt new practices will be critical: often times a "doing it the way it's always been done because it pays out best" viewpoint prevents change that might initially not be cost effective.
I'm not sure
Improve availability of affordable transportation

<p>Improve EV infrastructure, logging and agriculture practices, mitigate sea level rise, plant more riparian vegetation along the Skagit River. Help lower income communities with infrastructure and resilience.</p>
<p>Improve infrastructure for biking and pedestrians to improve the safety and increase usage of non-vehicle transportation while also improving community health through exercise and interaction with the natural world. This would include a pedestrian bridge in downtown Mount Vernon which could encourage residents and visitors to use the new Mount Vernon Commons parking and access downtown businesses, parks and even ride bikes instead of driving cars to events like the tulip festival. Facilitate a mileage reduction campaign to encourage usage of alternative forms of transportation. Create a county food waste reduction plan to comply with the Organics Management Law. Seek funding to provide an incentive program for residents to enroll in food waste pickup, including requesting Waste Management to provide a smaller bin option or a collective bin option for neighborhoods and multifamily housing. By reducing county costs of food waste transported via truck and rail to landfills, this savings could be invested in incentives for community composting. Work with Skagit Soils to identify funding/needed equipment updates to be able to process compostable plastics and increased amounts of food/yard waste. Pilot agricultural plastics recycling program with WSU Extension and DOE. Promote incentives for residents to switch from natural gas. Support farmers that provide local food to our community through programs to improve their resiliency. Increase county efforts to connect farmers that are practicing regenerative and organic agriculture to farmland. One of the biggest barriers for long term investment in soil health for these farmers is unstable land tenure. Promote at a county level the Eat Local First campaign.</p>
<p>Improved transit options. We have terrible transit options for those who don't have the time to spend hours on a bus. I would LOVE to take the bus from my home in Mount Vernon to my office on College Way. There are even bus stops nearby. But it would take 1.5 HOURS to get there in the morning. I can literally walk faster. I'd happily consider riding a bike if that felt safe to do, but there's virtually no infrastructure for bikers and it is not safe to ride around here.</p>
<p>-Improving public transportation infrastructure, including routes between Skagit County cities and nearby areas like Bellingham. -Creating laws capping emissions from factories and large companies (not through carbon credits). -Disallowing the data farming/ data storage/ crypto mining facilities and activities.</p>
<p>Improving public transportation, reducing use of natural gas and preserving farm land and forest land especially.</p>
<p>Improving traffic flow would drastically reduce fuel consumption. HWY 20 shouldn't have 25 stoplights, considering right turns only and better traffic patterns will improve our energy consumption</p>
<p>In order for the County to reduce its GHG emissions, it should invest in the production of renewable energy in Skagit County and promote the densification of existing towns and cities, rather than the conversion of natural spaces for development. To improve resilience to climate impacts, the County should prioritize (and provide funding for) the protection and restoration of critical areas (like riparian zones, wetlands, and shorelines), as well as areas in which dynamic natural processes occur (like floodplains, channel migration zones, areas to be impacted by sea level rise, etc.). Preventing/reducing development and degradation in these areas will be key for keeping people out of harm's way.</p>
<p>Incentives and regulations to get and keep buildings and infrastructure well away from sea level and floodplains. Encourage transition to alternative energy and incentivise alternative energy</p>

Incentives for electric vehicles & solar panel installation, incentives for farmers to use soil building practices that sequester carbon in soil, residential & commercial building codes that require solar & energy efficient construction. Commit to make businesses pay for exacerbating climate change rather than allowing businesses to pass along the cost of cleaning up their pollution to taxpayers.
Incentives for homeowners to make homes more energy efficient, add solar, insulate, upgrade windows, install heat pumps etc.
Incentives to switch to sustainable practices such as solar, recycling, habitat protection, etc.
Incentivizing open space and planting/retaining trees in our most urban environments, build our communities to be more walkable/bike-able and increase public transportation, conserve/protect/restore/remove people from the floodplain and estuary habitat for salmon, wildlife, orcas, humans which also helps sequester carbon.
Increase clean power generation capacity including large scale battery storage and accelerate conversion from gas to electric heat/cooking/transportation.
Increase public transport to rural areas
Increase public transportation and switch to electric public transportation.
Increase public transportation. Build bike lanes and safe walking routes. Put shoreline protections in place Stop building in wetlands, flood plains and on shorelines. Fill in density in cities and stop sprawl. Create emergency management practices and shelters, stores of food(especially on islands)
Increase taxes on greenhouse producing fuels (farmers exempt)
Increase the usability of public transport and create efficient frequent links to regional transit centers outside the county.
Increase use of public transport.
Increased public transportation locally in Skagit county and up and down the I5 corridor!!!
Increasing housing opportunities for essential workers in cities where they work.
Installation of more EV charging stations, sharing of info of incentives offered by state and fed gov for purchase of an EV.
Invest in the Solid Waste Division by growing the education and outreach section, especially the Master Composter/Recycler program that extends to the community and educates about compost and recycling. In 2018, food in landfills made up 24.14% of all Municipal Solid Waste (EPA, 2018). Compost is a simple solution to reducing methane in landfills, and with enough education and outreach, Skagit County can reduce GHGs by composting. With more volunteers and staff, the Master Composter/Recycler program could reach more people each year and provide the necessary outreach tools to help reduce greenhouse gases in the county. Educate all residents in the county about the effects of climate change, and personal ways to mitigate greenhouse gas use such as taking public transportation. Increased use and investment in Skagit Transit, more incentives for people to take the busses. Implementation of electric car charging stations and more incentives for the use of electric cars. Implement agricultural practices that involve less tilling and less destruction of soil nutrition. Invest in YOUNG farmers using sustainable methods, and invest in less dairy and meat production, especially factory farms that abuse animals.
Investing in community centers, we are a rural county but being able to minimize driving once arriving to the center of a community would help reduce GHG emissions and help develop a stronger sense of community and pride for our people.

<p>Is Skagit County grows it's going to be harder and harder to limit greenhouse gas emissions. Having better transportation options such as maybe utilizing old train lines between the inner County or maybe I should say that is upper County and Concrete, Sedro-Woolley, Rockport etc. having ways for people to travel along existing roads but not necessarily impacting the area as much. Highway 9 needs to be utilized more so that people traveling from south aren't necessarily coming up i5.</p>
<p>Is there anything that can be done to reduce bus travel when no one is riding? Have wondered if an Uber-type approach might make more sense so people can get around, but not at the expense of large, mostly empty buses on the road.</p>
<p>Keep existing forests and replant new ones; further protect wetlands and expand the floodplain; keep people out of the floodplain, geological hazard areas, and wildfire prone areas; provide denser housing within City limits; raise flood prone roads/install bridges; come up with a plan to address these changes, successfully implement them, and provide public education and outreach.</p>
<p>Keep Skagit Transit going at least as good as it is now. Don't be misled by low ridership, publicly subsidised and expeditious bus service is flexible and damned efficient.</p>
<p>Keep the Government out of it.</p>
<p>Keeping our farmlands and forests managed and maintained in a way that prevents development of those spaces and lowers fire potential.</p>
<p>keeping the trees and preventing wildfires</p>
<p>leave it alone it is natural</p>
<p>Leave the people alone, stop regulating us to death, stop taxing us to create more government programs that always fail.</p>
<p>Less EV</p>
<p>Less government involvement. Stay off the farmlands. Stop building dense apartment buildings without infrastructure in place first. i.e. roads, police, fire, etc.</p>
<p>Let people decide for themselves what works best. There is no workable "clean" energy. There are always trade-offs and so far, most of what government has done has made things worse....while lying to us about the results/consequences of those policies.</p>
<p>Let the free market decide what type of energy is suitable for travel, structures, agriculture and business. The regulation or outright ban on things like natural gas heating or appliances only increases the cost of living and does nothing to affect the climate.</p>
<p>Lets create a full cycle local composting system and will be used on Skagit crop land for fertility and resiliency.</p>
<p>Limit tree canopy loss and promote reforestation, especially where shade can help cool waterbodies. Analyze infrastructure risks. Ensure opportunities for non-motorized transportation and mass transit.</p>
<p>Limiting growth, maintaining rural and forested areas, supporting regenerative agriculture and food hubs</p>
<p>Look for the biggest contributors of GHG emissions. The refineries are great partners in this conversation. Other manufacturers with poor efficiency could benefit from grants to retrofit as well as homeowners. Often these incentives are not well known so more awareness of any opportunities that are available.</p>
<p>Make composting a part of life to reduce our overall landfill amount</p>
<p>make county buildings more efficient energy users.</p>

Make it easier for people to bike around the County through either dedicated bike lanes or at least shoulders that are maintained, widened and kept free of debris that cause flat tires, biking accidents.
Make no changes. Greenhouse gas emissions are not the issue
Make public transportation actually work for people. Timing and logistics is just as important as the physical route. Example: If you can take a bus to drop your kid at daycare, but then have to wait 30-45min for the next bus to get you to work, the bus isn't really a viable option for you. I would also like to see industrial pollution addressed more effectively. I see the refineries pumping out smoke, just look at the saltwater and shoreline in that area and you can tell there's pollution going into the bay. Other industry as well, but that's one of the big visible ones.
make solar options easier.
Make solar panels much more affordable and accessible. Encourage businesses to invest in solar.
Make sure that all county buildings are retrofitted or newly built to be energy efficient and have solar power installed. Change the county fleet of vehicles to EV as they are replaced.
Make the County EV friendly as possible. Also have the County strongly advocate for Virtual Power Plant options where ever possible. I feel PSE needs to prodded harder on this issue.
Making certain streets pedestrian only with accessibility being at the core of the solution, when you design for the most vulnerable, you enhance accessibility for everyone. Please consider bus stops in outer city limit areas, I used to live in anacortes near the shrimp shack and I HAD to be car dependent, closets bus stops were not even in walking distance. Not sure if this would fall here but it would be amazing to see the Link expand to Skagit, I know we have the Amtrak which is great for traveling longer distances but would love the option to be able to quickly explore Snohomish for a day then just hop on the Link and be home.
Mandate the use of natural gas since it is the cleanest form of natural resorce.
Many of the items mentioned on previous pages make sense to me, but I'm a data driven person, so I'd first look at which sectors cause the most GHG emissions and then folks on those sectors.
Modernize buildings, move to electric vehicles where practical, work with employers to maximize public transit opportunities.
More alternate energy sources.
More compact development in cities supported by stronger bike/ped networks and public transit; less development in rural areas subject to floods, wildlife, etc.
More diligence with industrial pollution and more stringent rules on how much pollutants are released by industrial and agricultural.
more electric charging stations for EVs
more electric vehicles
More emphasis on conservation. Drive less, use less heat and fans and air conditioning, eat less or no meat and dairy, reduce the number of cows/cattle/livestock in our county, send kids to neighborhood schools instead of busing them all over town to other schools, more use of zoom rather than in-person meetings, protect trees in neighborhoods where they cool temperatures and absorb our CO2, give developers more incentives to keep native trees when developing land and use the natural landscape, more playgrounds and outdoor sports and activities closer to where people live so kids are not driven everywhere, more incentives to drive less as in taxes on cars based on mileage, fewer recreational boats everywhere that use a lot of energy, incentives for building smaller and more energy efficient homes, higher taxes on travel and recreational boats to discourage these, less harvest of timber that removes the trees we need, more local

gardens in neighborhoods where people in each community can easily have a small area of land to grow their own food in their own neighborhood, neighborhood pick-up trucks and chippers that people can use for a small fee when they really need them rather than owning a pick-up, or whatever.
More EV charging stations and support for solar installations
More forestry and agriculture production. Less locked up lands,
More opt in/reward based incentives and rebates. Educate and give opportunities for the early adopters to model success rather than implement policies that are punitive and hard to enforce (so no one follows them). Think - tax breaks, rebates, mentorship programs (especially business to business or amongst farmers and schools)
More permitting support for transition to walking communities, make changes to mixed use or residential from commercial less costly by reducing regulatory burdens.
More public transportation including better train and bus services out of county
More regulations on new buildings when the cost is already so high and we have regs in place currently. I don't see adding more as a fix to this issue. Expanding mobility hubs is not a practical way to use money. The ones we have in place are currently used by so few unless it serves commuters on north and south I5. Most commuters to Anacortes are for drug treatment which may be needed and helpful but not enough to build more hubs Employer support for commuters. Skagit has one day a year for a free ride to those who work. In all my years of working on Colege Way, my employer has never mentioned it. The communication from Skagit to employers is almost non existent. Currently Skagit Transit does not have hours available to support enough employment. If I work at 6am or have a class at the college that ends at 9pm, there is no bus service available. Recycling education would be great however, unless it's heavy cardboard, aluminum, or tin, it's going to the landfill which does not support healthy emissions. I live on a septic tank where the county continues to monitor and increase prices and regulations. I've tried to get feedback on my inspections and am told, it doesn't matter because we're not doing anything about that right now. My reports from one year to the next are obviously cut and pasted. I feel Skagit County is often using tax dollars to support the creation of new programs that are not needed and or are inefficient. If wasn't paying \$300 every 3 years for an inspection that doesn't matter, I could use that money for improvements. At a time of instability and uncertainty, please be mindful of not just creating new programs and jobs but the overall outcomes to the people you serve.
More robust network of non-vehicle transportation modes via multiuse pathways (walking, biking (including e-bikes), mobility scooters, segways etc. with this mixture being controlled via "speed" rather than device used.
more robust public transportation and bike infrastructure
More solar panels on county and city buildings, as well as homes. More charging stations around the area to encourage EV vehicles. All county and city vehicles will eventually be EVs.
More tree planting, a bus that goes back and forth from MV to Burlington regularly
Most definitely none. You cant afford to operate as you are now.
Move to less natural gas more solar.
N/A
No action
No action. It will cost money and make no difference. This is an agenda driven task that socialists have got behind. Agenda driven people or groups are blinded from reality of the damage they are causing. Their focus is solely on the agenda.



No diesel trucks!!
No idea.
None
None, stop adding taxes on to us and business.
None.
None. Instead, dredge the Skagit to create deeper channels and reduce flooding. Manage the forest floor to reduce wildfire damage. And use modern technology to create solid waste incinerators that burn clean and produce electricity so we can stop burying all that crap in the ground.
None. Climate change is called the four seasons.
Not being climate change lemmings and blaming everything on GHG's
Not needed
Not sure
Nothing - EVs are more environmentally unfriendly from digging in the mines, leaching the land, amount of materials to make a battery, and then battery storage afterwards. This is a false story we have been sold. Hybrid vehicles are a better choice and banning gas cars in the future doesn't make sense. If our power goes out in an emergency, and we need to evacuate, an Ev is not helpful. If there is flooding, EVs can catch on fire. Stop making this a priority!
Nothing that involves government. We are tired of failure at such a high cost. Let the private sector decide how to improve things
Offer better rebates for heat pumps etc to switch over from fuel to electric.
Our air and water is the cleanest on the planet. Compare it to China's which is full of pollution.
Outlaw fireworks. Increase support for electric vehicles. Limit summer RV traffic to the North Cascades. BURY POWER LINES
Penalize corporate polluters - individual action helps but policy change for corporate mega-polluters is key. Put the burden of change on the source of the problem.
Perform research into the long term global implications of so called sustainable energy options like solar and lithium ion batteries before investing in infrastructure supporting these technologies and present findings to the public.
Perhaps find a grant that will help people who heat with natural gas to invest in a heat pump.
Petition the feds to expand the I-5 to three lanes through the Skagit alley. This will greatly reduce gas emissions from backed up traffic
Plan more. Resiliency- figure out which areas will need to go back to nature and start. With transportation, pick low hanging fruit. Electric charging stations in new multifamily units, more walking and bike trails that get people places, help agriculture be more environmentally friendly and sell locally (agricultural product transport is carbon intensive). Find \$\$ to keep Skagit green, Prioritize lands that store water, sequester carbon etc
Plant more trees, protect the trees we have; retrofit existing buildings and change permitting to require energy efficiency and NO new gas infrastructure; provide more electrified transportation for both public transportation and government vehicles.
Plant more trees.
Plant trees on County owned properties, support drainage projects on delta farmland
Plant trees; remove concrete and paved areas as much as possible; build smart roof-tops to capture rainwater; research how to build living seawalls like Australia

PLEASE protect our last few mature forests and restore our damaged, overlogged forests. If we do enough reforestation work globally, we actually can cool the climate back down. Trees draw in water from the ocean, etc. They also cool and clean air and water, and keep water from being wasted.
Positions stop flapping their jaws for more tax money
Preserve agricultural lands and forests Minimize tree loss to development Promote transportation choices and alternatives to SOVs Walk the talk with smart investment in EVs for county vehicle replacements and green building retrofits Public education
Preserve farm land.
Preserve tree cover and stop coastal erosion.
Preserve trees everywhere!
Preserving farmland, enforcing the 5-acre minimum and preventing new structures with over 2000 sq foot non-permeable footprints from being built without some sort of mitigation.
Programs to help people make the switch- in home energy use, in reducing consumption and/or supporting sustainable businesses/services/products (provide stipends/rebates to people for purchasing the usually more expensive, more sustainable option - aka make the sustainable option cheaper than the less sustainable, business as usual one), buy out outdated/high polluting businesses on a long-term plan (where they can be replaced with more sustainable alternatives), invest in local communities!! Invest in community gardens and composting in every community to reduce food transportation and waste. Make requirements that new buildings must be built with the most sustainable materials available, and in designated "climate resilient" areas. If climate threats are unavoidable in some areas, buildings should be built to be resilient against those impacts (i.e. use wildfire proofing techniques in wildfire country).
Prohibit chem trails from being released into our environment
Promote bicycle commuting by creating bike lanes and road maintenance and reduced speeds to provide safe means to use bikes for shorter trips. Skagit has NO BIKE LANES anywhere. It's horrible and embarrassing. The roadways are not cleaned of debris. There are locations where it would be very easy to commute by bike for short trips and there is no attention at all paid to commuting by bike in the county. I'm not talking about in the cities. I'm talking about out in more rural areas. Start designing and incorporating safe means to ride a bike or an e-bike.
promote commute trip reduction strategies.
Promote many of the items I checked as important. Utilize Federal and State programs/dollars that promote clean energy and even find local funding. This is as they say an existential crisis.
Promote more native plants around school yards, playgrounds, cemeteries, yards etc. More public transportation.
promote reducing auto trips and ev's/hybrid's.
Promote use of electric vehicles, solar panels for powering homes, heat-pump heating/cooling systems, heat-pump water heaters.
Promote/encourage then require sustainable farming practices.
promover la educación y prevención y colaboración de organización implantar proyectos de educación para niños y adultos
protect existing trees; encourage planting additional trees; require dense, multi-use, energy-efficient development and public transit/bike lanes/pedestrian amenities to reduce car use; invest in solar; develop a plan with cities and diking and drainage districts to address flood, coastal storm and sea level rise impacts.
Protect farmland and don't allow other uses

<p>Protect natural areas that buffer climate change impacts and protect fish and wildlife habitat, shorelines, and wildlife corridors. Use zoning and permitting to keep people from building in risk areas and move people out of harm's way. Keep growth in cities, which will reduce car travel and make it easier to protect residents from climate change risks. Provide natural greenspaces and non-motorized transportation routes. Develop a green-energy plan that maps where such facilities should go, instead of reacting to developer's proposals in places where they shouldn't go (such as the recent proposal in the floodplain near Sedro Woolly). Create a Forestland Legacy program to keep NRL-Secondary Forest lands from converting to residential use. This would save the County money through not providing service to rural areas, including saving home and lives from forest fires. It would also support climate resilience for forest health and wildlife. Conservation is an effective and critical tool for planning for climate change and maintaining climate resilience!</p>
<p>Protecting farmlands from development. Planting native trees and plants around stream beds, marsh areas, watersheds, and trails to help prevent erosion and support wildlife.</p>
<p>Protecting our existing trees and native vegetation. More public transportation, eventually adding more rail options to get to places like Seattle.</p>
<p>Provide education guidelines info with monthly bill.</p>
<p>Provide free recycling to homes and businesses for renewable sources. Provide recycling to places who do not have availability in their community such as Concrete, WA.</p>
<p>Public service announcements that persuade "non-believers" to understand the scientifically proven data. Financial incentives for businesses to implement helpful policies. Tighter regulations on refineries?? Continued partnerships with farmers. Support for improving and maintaining dikes. Continue to build electric charging stations and infrastructure to attract people that will use them. Local incentives for purchasing electric vehicles.</p>
<p>Public transit!!! More!! Streetcars. Free shuttles. Whatever. We have to make this a city you can live in without a car. Old downtown should be converted to pedestrian only.</p>
<p>Public transportation improvement, bike friendliness, walking friendliness.</p>
<p>Re: GHG reductions, follow the lead of the cities who are making stronger efforts in this area esp. in their GMA updates. Re: resilience, stop downplaying sea level rise impacts. Skagit Co. has the largest area in the Puget Sound that will be impacted by SLR inundation. Higher and bigger dikes are not the answer. We need to begin seriously studying options for marine dikes setbacks.</p>
<p>reduce loss of trees, create an incentive or buy back program for schools to recycle!!! Every state, county and city building should be leading the charge on this. Use empty buildings for something "useful" instead of tearing down.</p>
<p>Reduce nat gas use</p>
<p>Reduce regulations and allow people to manage their own decisions. Reducing green house gas emissions comes at a high cost (i.e, EV, electric infrastructure) that impacts everyone.</p>
<p>Reduce support for fossil fuel industry would be #1.</p>
<p>Reduce the number of gas and diesel powered vehicles on the road, increase residential solar and battery storage to reduce peak surge demand during heat waves, and support active forest management and urban forestry to increase tree canopy in cities.</p>
<p>Reduce the number of wood stoves in Mount Vernon. Improve I-5 traffic flow through Mount Vernon and Burlington so vehicles aren't routinely sitting idle release more greenhouse gases than if they were in motion. Provide safe routes for biking and walking throughout the county.</p>
<p>Reduce tourism (vehicle trips from outside Skagit. Eliminate wood burning stoves in favor of natural gas furnaces. Investigate the possibility of Small Modular Reactors for long-term sustainable supply of clean electricity to power the Skagit Economy.</p>

Reduce traffic. Plant trees. Incentivise Solar and renewables.
Reduce unnecessary budget expenses, stop focusing on getting refineries to keep doing more to reduce carbon emissions, and develop a plan to help other countries and counties who are less clean than us!
REFINERIES. ACCOUNT FOR THE REFINERIES EMISSIONS AND PROCESSED PRODUCT. No one talks about the march pt refineries, but EVERY MOLECULE THAT COMES OUT OF THEM IS GOING TO POLLUTE OR WARM THE PLANET. Tax em, shut em down. Give the land BACK to the Swinomish.
regulate industry
Reinforce dikes, control pollution of air and ground
Rely on true, field tested science instead of computer models and stop using unscientific regulations that are causing harm now.
Remove setback requirements for installation of (non roof) solar panels so they can be mounted on fences close to property lines. This removes barriers for solar installation.
Renewable energy. Incentives for homeowner installation and increasing EV charging station locations.
Replanting trees specially on the hills foothills all around port Sedro Woolley Burlington hill get those trees back we have a great valley here I don't see much pollution except maybe certain fertilizers that should be banned from our country we have a wonderful force of wind nothing lingers in this valley so you could go get money from someone else remove and battery Storage places out of our valley and don't expand on the Burlington airport we've already worked on our rivers they're doing great maybe put our fireplaces back in so we can actually have fires it all blows to the next town anyway I know if you take the natural gas away I will be building a fire
Require that new construction not use fossil fuels, promote electric vehicle use. If possible let home owners lease solar panels.
Retrofit buildings to make them energy efficient. Create micro grids and battery storage, update transmission lines, incentivize electrification across all sectors. Look at alternative energy such as wind and geothermal.
Retrofit buildings with electric heating and cooling. Stop allowing new buildings to use fossil fuels for heating and cooling and promote solar on large energy users.
Review of logging practices to reduce or eliminate clear-cut logging practices.
Review Solar farming and allow applications to be submitted and approved
see above
Send the bureaucrats away. Reduce the size of the county government.
Shut down the refinery.
Since transportation is likely one of the largest contributors of GHG emissions, some rural equivalent to Bellingham's SMART Trips might be helpful. Transit to tulip fields during peak season. Floodplain reconnection and fully functioning riparian buffers. Net ecological gain whenever possible (as opposed to no net loss). Talk early and often to the Tribes.
Skagit County could benefit from a county-wide trail system that allow walking, biking, and e-scooters, making it easier to get around without cars and improving overall accessibility (similar to the Burke-Gilman Trail and North Creek Trail in Bothell, WA). Partnering with companies like Lime Scooters could provide affordable transportation options for those who can't buy their own bikes or scooters. Additionally, residents who can buy e-bikes could be incentivized with discounts or tax credits to promote sustainable transportation. These changes would help

reduce car use, encourage healthier lifestyles, and create a more connected, eco-friendly community.
Skagit County does not need to reduce its GHG emissions, or mandate "greenness" in building codes
Skagit County has 130,000 people on a planet of 7 billion. The notion that we will appreciably impact carbon emissions is little more than political virtue signaling. Responsible local government must focus on real world impacts and resilience. This means protecting our productive farmland so that there is food to eat in the future, continuing to develop a coordinated plan to deal with sea level rise and its impact on the marine dike system, and discouraging further floodplain development.
Skagit County has a rare opportunity to say no to polluting industries and their practices. We can become a very desirable environment that will attract non polluting industries or continue to take the short view that got us in this situation. It will take courage .
Skagit County should support battery storage facilities to offset our dependency on fossil fuels. Improve public transit. Support infrastructure for alternative transportation (scooters, bikes, e-bikes, electric busses). Limit and regulate dairy and beef ranching.
Skagit emissions are tiny compared to the big polluters. Therefore if Skagit could put any pressure on regulators to lower their emissions that would be more impactful than reducing our emissions a small amount?
Skagit bus available to Samish Island.
So many things. Here are a few Develop with care—reduce the footprint of development. Reuse abandoned already developed sites. Do not pave over additional farmland or open space land—we need that soil and its ability to absorb run-off for one thing. We need to guard against erosion on land that abuts water. Do everything possible to enhance and provide public transportation and reduce our reliance on private vehicles. Make that transportation as fossil fuel free as possible. Treat our existing trees and forests with the reverence they deserve. They absorb carbon. Make it a priority to encourage the planting of more trees. Make communities relatively self reliant so that people have less need to leave their own community for services. Have a new county department specifically focused on climate change mitigation, resilience and communication.
Solar and EV's
Solar panels on all public buildings and private buildings over a certain sf (gov offices, libraries, churches, hospitals, commercial barns, etc.) should be mandatory. These structures are built in full sun areas. Same with new housing developments that clearcut many acres to build. Require utilization of permeable surfaces for new construction or infrastructure improvements in existing community spaces and walkways. Create more greenspace and urban forest to keep temperatures down in urban environments. Then, invest in water harvesting on public buildings to water these plantings. Build them out as educational models that can be replicated on a small home scale, similar to the rain garden at Cedar River Water Shed. I'm sure there's more but this is what comes to mind for now.
Some people don't believe climate change is real. Educate them!
Specific actions or changes to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, short of extreme, disruptive, and likely unpopular measures? None. There is very little we could do at this point that would have a meaningful impact on greenhouse gas emissions. We have fumbled the ball for too many years. At best, an immediate and significant reduction of all greenhouse gas emissions would reduce global temperature increase about a century from now. I don't know what to do about reversing climate change (I'm not sure anything even can be done), but I do think we need to

focus on building resilience to climate change impacts. As I read recently somewhere: "climate change will manifest as a series of disasters viewed through phones with footage that gets closer and closer to where you live until you're the one filming it"
Start by making the County net zero, and make it easier for the residents to do the same.
State funded residential solar and wind
Stop allowing the building of these 3 and 4 story low-income, high density apartment buildings in Burlington and Sedro Woolley.
Stop building in the most prominent flood zones/flood plains.
Stop cutting down massive acreage and putting high dollar developments in rural areas away from I-5. Do urban infill in the cities first. Re-develop unused buildings. Tax long since empty buildings at higher rates.
Stop outsourcing of so called "green energy" infrastructure manufactured in dirty coal communist nations and shipped back to us across the sea. Stand up to the federal and state government's tyranny and never allow them to close small businesses and thus transferring the wealth of the people to global entities and disguising this theft with the veil of "climate change"
Stop permitting building construction in areas vulnerable to flooding and erosion. Work with PSE and other partners to incentivize/permit/enable community solar projects. Support non-motorized transportation projects for the benefit of locals trying to not use vehicles and getting exercise going to work.
Stop playing God!
Stop pretending Electric vehicles are the answer to everything
Stop ratcheting up regulations and attendant fees.
Stop spending OUR tax money trying to prevent a natural process that's been happening for hundreds of millions of years. Instead, spend money to reinforce existing infrastructure and help people relocate if they ultimately need to.
stop turning agricultural land into commercial or homes.
Strengthen building codes for efficiency while considering the cost of doing.
subsidies for organic and regenerative farming for better carbon sequestration. limit development in rural areas. invest in better solutions according to the organics management law... give us composting and digesters! a campaign around food waste would be wise.
super easy to switch to solar. we have lots of unused roof space just waiting to generate power. my house produces waaaay more electricity than i could ever use. can you imagine how much all of our county-owned buildings could produce? yeah, it's a big up-front cost, but I pay only the monthly hook-up fee to PSE, currently less than \$8. Less than \$96 for a year of electricity!
Support a global fossil fuel nonproliferation treaty. 2) Ban new gasoline station construction. Do not allow existing gasoline stations to undergo renovations to update existing gasoline stations. 3) Keep the waterways clean and free of runoff. Add more trees to shade the rivers and waterways. 4) Stop all new road construction to address urban sprawl. 5) Ban the sale and use of leafblowers and glyphosate, 6) Stop allowing logging. Incentivize afforestation. 7) No new natural gas infrastructure in new homes and buildings. 8) No more needless teardowns. Extending the life of cement foundations and wood products like homes is a major priority. All housing should be designated as historical. It should be illegal to tear down any structure that is not already condemned and grandfathered in for demolition. 9) Financial institutions that invest in fossil fuel infrastructure like Citibank, Chase, and Bank of America should be forbidden from doing business in the county. 10) More bicycle parking and more covered bicycle parking.

Support for alternative fuel vehicles - EV, hybrid, hydrogen. Plant trees and promote increased green areas -
Support for EV charging stations in multi-family residences, shore power at the docks, transition the county vehicle fleet (incl any marine) to electric
Support more public transportation options and convert to renewable energy sources.
Supporting our natural resource industries as much as possible- protecting ag land from development and allowing the sale if timberlands to private companies who have a vested interest in managing healthy sustainable forests.
Supporting the transition to green energy, making sure battery storage facilities are safely placed, encouraging wind and solar installations, work on flood mitigation in regards to the Skagit (can we dredge to make the river deeper?)
Switch to electric bus vehicles as older fossil fuel units age out.
Take climate change very seriously. Take positive action.
The bus route that goes past my house takes a detour through a suburb and as a result it takes the bus an hour and a half to get from the stop to the station, by car: 5mins, bike 20mins, walking 45mins. To get from Mount Vernon to the Coopville Ferry takes FOUR HOURS via bus. Put some affordable trains in between communities or increase the bus routes.
The County needs more science voices in Government and Advisory Committees. Currently decisions are being made without much real science or factual data being considered.
The county needs to act as if it believes climate change is already occurring and has had visible effects on its lands and peoples. That means educating citizens about those impacts. The physical changes like saltwater intrusion, like increasing drought and dying cedar trees are obvious, but there are others. One impact that often goes unnoticed is the in-migration of people from both inside and outside the United States to Skagit County prompted by climate change in their native areas.
The free market doing its part will do the best job. It's best for the government to stay out of it.
The only acceptable way to reduce greenhouse emissions is to switch to nuclear energy. It is by far the cleanest, most efficient, and safest form of energy there is. The worst disaster in nuclear history killed a total of 30 people. If you do not use nuclear energy, you do not actually seek to fix climate change and are instead pursuing socialism.
There is lots of data out there and examples of what jurisdictions are doing all over the world to tackle this issue. Is Skagit County's infrastructure without issues? Was the infrastructure in the ground now constructed with climate change in mind? Is Skagit look at big picture solutions, investments. I think dealing with atmospheric rivers, flooding, tree loss, and staying up with international trends is the move.
Tis area needs more education on what can happen and is happening here. Most people seem to think we won't be impacted much, if they even believe in any form of climate change, so they don't feel the need to put money towards doing anything.
To stop thinking that we need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
Track down and call out the ones creating climate change by manipulating the weather to make it seem like the climate is changing.
Transition all buildings and vehicles to solar and EV's under the county governments control.
Transitioning off fossil fuels as soon as we possibly can and help the most vulnerable in the transition. And doing all we can to protect mature forests.
Transparent cost / benefit analysis for any new regulations

Transportation options, and a bike path over the Kincaid bridge. When is the light rail coming here? More green spaces! Not preserving farmland at all costs.
Tree and plants
Unknown
Unsure what leverage the county has apart from state or fed efforts. To the extent practical, EV charging stations (and promotion/awareness of them) may bolster broader EV adoption and use.
Update existing buildings and new permitting to electrify and make more efficient. We also need to find ways to train the work force on green jobs and transition away from oil refineries.
Use more alternative energies.
Use smaller SKAT buses and have Sunday service. Incentivize the use of renewable energy sources.
Vote for candidates who are willing to stand up for policy changes that can make a difference.
We can't .."protect" ourselves from everything but I would start by reducing the rapid population growth. Less growth means fewer cars on the road, fewer houses being built, less need for more schools, less strain on our public lands, Keep the Cows! Yes, they fart.. to fix the greenhouse gas emission issues "think outside the box" for a solution..cows give milk, protein (meat), hides (leather), poop (natural fertilizer) we didn't get in this mess yesterday and it won't be fixed tomorrow..sooooo.stop increasing Skagit County's population and slow down the greenhouse issue.
We do not need to build resilience to climate change impacts for at least another 50 years.
We have overstated the need to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It isn't the 1970s any more. The US is a world leader in cleaning up water, air, and land, and establishing standards to keep it that way. Further reductions, such as move to EV, solar and wind turbines, actually hurt open space resources/wildlife habitat and will generate huge wastes to be dealt with. Have you seen the bird kills from turbines, the impacts of lithium mining for EV, the vast land used for solar farms?
We need a creative promotion of our transit system to get more cars off the road. We wish the county had a free "bulletin board" ( maybe some actual, and a website?)that could be available to post events, opportunities. The newspapers or ?) could manage the free site ...(now "they are too expensive for many low-incomes.
We need a transition plan for the two refineries at March Point. They are by far the biggest GHG emitters. Other communities have enacted regulatory lands guardrails for the future uses at these fossil fuel burning industrial sites
We need more alternative energy sources and education for all ages.
We need more bike paths. It's impossible to bike from town to the ferry terminal without being on the road. It's impossible to bike from town to the oil refineries without riding on the road. Our town is not bike friendly, but our weather is. I think if we had more bike lanes and paths, more people could ride their bikes to work.
We need to get fewer people driving between Mount Vernon and Burlington; it should be easier to bike and bus commute between those locations. I would love to see more company commuting happening at the port business park!
Well, one can simply look at the refineries for a start. The boating community and marine industry can be another area where some changes could be considered. Mass transit is not well-utilized in Skagit County, so there could be improvements there. Possibly by working more directly with larger employers in the area and finding solutions that align with general work schedules versus transit schedules (night and day), or utilizing media campaigns more directly



with the larger employers, addressing travel/transit options, as well as considering credits/tax incentives to employers who can maintain/sustain larger transit ridership.

Wind Power! It is always windy in the valley!! Solar power as well. This needs to be a low cost, viable option for all households.

Work with local businesses to see what they can do to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions they can. But understand that it is going to come at a cost. Which the consumer will pay in the end. Which again only hurts the community. Maybe give businesses incentives rather than ultimatums? And please for the love of god lay off of those that wish to burn wood or pellets for their heat. If we ever experience a deep freeze that knocks our power out for more than a couple days you will wish you had one as well... Same goes with natural gas.

work with the refineries, help homeowners, expand recycling

Working with animal agriculture producers to reduce waste impacts. making all local government (incl police) vehicles electric, ceding water rights back to the tribes where appropriate to treaty agreements, changes to logging industry and land development policy

your suggested policies are a great start

**Q10 Is there anything else you would like us to consider for the development of the Climate Element as part of Skagit County's Comprehensive Plan update?**

Answered: 302 Skipped: 350

**Open ended responses start on next page.**

## Question 10: Is there anything else you would like us to consider for the development of the Climate Element as part of Skagit County's Comprehensive Plan update?

Stop over-reacting and look to SCIENCE to guide your actions.
'Sorry I didn't get a chance to discuss this with others ... 'Hope you will provide other opportunities.
"Climate change" is just a phrase. It is a term and an idea that is increasingly being hijacked by corporate actors such as battery storage system companies, who misuse the concept to advocate for policies and outcomes inimical to local interests. Batteries and solar panel systems are short range business ideas that will slightly increase the power supply. But the system of techno-industrial capitalism will quickly use this up and demand more. All of this "green energy" is not going toward making our society more sustainable or resilient. Rather it is going toward Bitcoin and server farms and AI. These provide entertainment and business efficiency, but ultimately only dig the bioenergetic hole deeper for humanity. It is not really green nor is it a long range answer to much of anything. Natural resource lands, if properly cared for, can be highly productive essentially forever. It is the Skagit County Board of Commissioners responsibility to see past the greenwashing and the corporate advertising, and focus on protecting the Skagit and preparing our community for the real threats we face. Protect our farmland and help ensure agriculture has an adequate water right. Prepare for sea level rise. Limit floodplain development.
1) Stop issuing burn permits. Increase surveillance of air pollution, not just for PMs like NW Air, look for heavy metals too. There are portable monitors that measure NOX and other pollutants that could be used by citizen scientists. 2) Have you considered offering retiree citizen scientists a break on property taxes in return for service? Inflation is hitting us hard. I am one of those people being taxed out of my home. We could take air readings, report burning, sit on SKAT busses as monitors, etc. 3) Making fireworks illegal could decrease July air pollution. Firework smoke contains heavy metals and forever chemicals that end up in our soil and water. 4) What about idling? We need signs in parking lots and no idling education. At the Mount Vernon green waste drop off, there were diesel pickups on both side of us polluting our breathing space last Wednesday. In grocery store parking lots people idle their vehicles too. Use fines to make more signs.
A bus system that goes all the way to Hwy 9 and down. I live on the out skirts of Mt Vernon.
A 'pavement reduction' plan that would offset paved areas with the planting of vegetation. Pavement reflects heat. The temps taken within paved cities, parking lots, airport tarmacs, etc. is greater than those taken away from metropolitan areas.
A review put in place to address the climate impact a permit request, to build or change current land usage, so that the impacts on the environment are lessened during the permitting process.
Accept as humans that we cannot and will never control the sun, and the sun is what dictates our weather and climate. Forcing everyone into EV's and taking away natural gas will not make one iota difference, but it will impoverish many, and give government more control. Which is really the point, isn't it? Fearmonger catastrophe until a free people are willing to put chains on themselves and give up their liberty.
Act fast. Not every solution will be right. But lack of action is an action and it is likely to be deadly. Perfect is the enemy of good here. We need to take good actions quickly.
Add a tree planting campaign. it is the most cost-effective solution to climate change.

Addressing other factors besides GHG that effect changes in climate. Challenge the carbon pollution narrative BS
addressing the ineffectiveness of snow removal equipment county-wide. snow accumulation seems to be increasing but our infrastructure is prepared for 1990-level snowfall. Compacting snow into a 4-inch sheet of ice on the road is not the same as snow removal.
Again, Washington State creates 0.3% of global greenhouse gas emissions. Skagit County, at a maximum, would create 0.0017% of global emissions. This is not a good use of our limited financial resources.
All of this is expensive. We need to develop accounting systems that measure upstream and downstream costs and ensure that unintended actions and decisions are paid for by the polluters. We Need to Limit our use of Power and have a serious discussion of the impact of AI, data hubs and bit coin to address their energy use. No one is talking about these impacts. This is a HUGE problem and is completely ignored by everyone. Not Good!
Any planning must be transparent and have minimal effect on household economy, not reliant on taxation, and perhaps consider cooperative projects with incentives for participants (not big business, but local opportunity). Also construction of energy saving structures (like battery storage) must not put our community, and the Skagit river/Cascade River in jeopardy. The community must be involved in any planning to ensure buy-in and success.
Anything we do will be for the better.
As a Prius owner, I am frustrated that I have to pay a fee for electric vehicle charging station. I know this is not a county fee, but if there is any way to change that. I don't use electric vehicle charging stations, and electric vehicle owners shouldn't be penalized for owning electric vehicles anyways. People who own vehicles that are larger than is necessary should pay those fees.
Assist and incentivize consumers to recycle and reuse. Research and promote Recycling more, by finding the businesses, wherever they are, that will recycle plastic, Styrofoam, glass, metals...Get those businesses to locate here, or provide transportation for our recyclables to their location. There was a great mattress recycling center in Tacoma, that recycled all of the fabric, metal, wood, and foam in mattresses and boxsprings, so none of it went into the dump! It was open for years, but is currently closed. I don't know why. But it is certainly worth looking into as a viable, potential business here and in every community. Also Assist and incentivize more people to carpool.
Ban commercial wind + commercial solar from the County; ban individual wind installations; allow individual residential solar solutions with strict disposal parameters; ban any form of individual per-animal livestock/poultry tax (or tax equivalent).
Be cautious of creating a demand/duty or burden placed upon individuals or businesses through new policy.
Be fiscally balanced and don't overburden with increased taxation
Be open to promising new technologies.
Be very practical and doable rather than mandate extremely costly projects or program or regulations with little to show for it.
Best policy...unnecessary to add climate element to any policy.
Better flood planing.
bring back glass recycling, emphasize recycling
Cancel anything related to climate change

<p>Cease and Desist with this Fascist imposition of oppressive regulations. Do your actual jobs instead.</p>
<p>Center the needs and voices of those furthest from climate justice and those most impacted by climate change - farmworkers, immigrants &amp; refugees, people of color, people living in poverty.</p>
<p>Climate should be linked to all relevant components — water, agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, infrastructure, economy. Adapting to climate change is a key to long-term sustainability.</p>
<p>Compare and make sure your facts match with other local agencies. ie, the Port and City of Anacortes had different emissions figures for same area. Create positions in government to oversee the new guidelines to reduce emissions and support the community getting onboard with emergency preparedness.</p>
<p>Conservation easements were mentioned, and I support them. But I have become aware that they can be too static in nature. We are in an era of constant change, and easements must be flexible enough to adapt to that change. For example, if farmland in an easement that is subject to SLR there must be the flexibility for the easement to adapt to changes that were not fully anticipated.</p>
<p>Consider a buy-out program for homes/structures that are located within the floodways of our major rivers and streams. Flooding is only going to get worse and we need to provide the river a corridor where it can function properly (which benefits salmon, wildlife and us) and people are moved out of harms way.</p>
<p>Consider all sources of scientific knowledge on the topic of climate</p>
<p>Consider having it repealed to save our citizens from government overreach and hyper inflation.</p>
<p>Consider how to triage your resources. What issues can Skagit County help with to most immediately help save human lives in the event of extreme weather events? What can be addressed that will improve safety and property? What can we do to preserve our ability to produce food and other important resources? What other existential threats can we address in practical ways? Also, please remember the residents on Guemes Island and Samish Island.</p>
<p>Consider negative implications of proposed actions. Good example is the instream flow rule. Has significant negative impacts and we appear to be the only county that hasn't been able to resolve.</p>
<p>Consider the entire picture. For example, EVs are heralded as being on the vanguard of the climate change agenda. however, if you look at the entire lifecycle of an EV, from the mining of rare earth minerals (which is raping mother earth) to the disposal of batteries, EVs are not all that environmentally friendly. The increased weight of EV cars and trucks will degrade the roads much more than standard vehicles. Wind turbines and solar panels also are not so friendly when you look at their lifecycle from manufacturing to disposal of the units when they reach the end of their useful life. I also find the way the questions in this survey were asked to objectionable. It suggests that climate change is responsible for every inequity and disparity, and therefore, if you are a decent human being, you will agree that every inequity and disparity must therefore be addressed (and paid for) in the fight against "climate change".</p>
<p>consolidate development in existing townships. Reduce development in outlying areas. Reduce deforestation.</p>
<p>Continue to protect farm land, aid cities in responsible growth, not allowing fully contained communities, ensuring fish passageways in the Seattle City Light dams.</p>
<p>Continue to refine and expand the recycle of materials</p>
<p>Create an action plan to mitigate sea level rise</p>
<p>Create an Environmental Advisory Board so Commissioners get advice from researchers, conservation and restoration orgs, climate scientists, educational orgs, green businesses,</p>

<p>younger generations, etc. (Currently only ag advisory board and forestry advisory board- both are commerce based). Update the Open Space Concept Plan. More trails encourage people to walk, use bikes etc. rather than cars. Need to update where greenspace still need conservation for increased storm water runoff, heat sinks, flood water storage, wildlife habitat and ways to enhance quality of life in towns. Need to keep people out of harm's way (flood , fires, landslides etc). Conservation in floodplain, forests areas etc. does that. Consider shifting goal to 90% of development going in towns and cities. Much easier to protect cities and towns than urban areas as climate changes.</p>
<p>Create an Environmental Advisory Board that includes experts on climate science, habitat conservation and restoration work, environmental education, green energy, and marginalized communities and young people who will feel the effects of climate change most strongly.</p>
<p>Cultural differences must be taken into account in order for people to be willing to adopt changes. They have to have an understanding that THEY are seen, and that they may have unique needs in the community that others do not have.</p>
<p>Develop more greenspace particularly trails to commute by bicycle or walking.</p>
<p>Discourage tree removal. Encourage tree planting, canopies, green spaces.</p>
<p>Dissolve useless and wastefull government agencies</p>
<p>Diverting items from landfill</p>
<p>Do better outreach to schools about what the local government is doing and how local government can play a role in reducing GHG emissions in our region.</p>
<p>Do not allow battery storage facilities. Keep Skagit County an agricultural area. Slow down apartment building which is creating traffic issues, hence air pollution.</p>
<p>Do not burden homeowners with expenses or our Business owners The climate element issues. Do not burden our home builders, Commercial builders, Cycling to the climate element will put us at a severe disadvantage to attract sustainable, employment, and families. The Climate element you are addressing will put extreme financial problems, many of the residents of sketcher County no matter their age.</p>
<p>Do not expand local or state government. We can't afford it.</p>
<p>DO NOT join the agenda. Just use common sense in knowing how much power you really have in changing any thing like the climate.</p>
<p>Do not limit choices of your tax paying residents.</p>
<p>Do not stack additional regulations on business, individuals, farmers, building owners. The number one thing to push is electric vehicles.</p>
<p>Don't allow business interests to water down the County's commitment to address the real negative impacts, both environmental &amp; financial, of climate change caused by businesses.</p>
<p>Don't be short-sighted in bringing new regulations that sound great on paper but may hurt people's ability to earn a living and live a decent life.</p>
<p>Don't get too carried away with expensive so called solutions...</p>
<p>dont listen to the state idiots that are bringing this up</p>
<p>Don't waste resources on a green agenda that has far more cost than benefit. I'm being generous here when I imply that there might be some benefit from the "Climate Element". For the record, I do believe in protecting the environment, but the climate change agenda is not based on sound science.</p>
<p>Drop this whole line of hogwash and spend your time on things that actually matter like economic development, housing, reduced cost of regulatory choking of business and industry and definitely stop caving in to the political influence of outside interests.</p>

Elect officials that are willing to serve the people instead of promote a political agenda.
Elevate the bay dikes. The dikes could also serve as housing. The housing could be built inside the dikes making it affordable to building up 12 feet.
Eliminate BESS possibilities and limit large and industrial green house emissions
Emergency preparedness
encourage Distributed Energy policies
Encourage governments and businesses to use locally produced compost in landscaping. Educate about benefits and proper use of compost throughout county. Coordinate and incentivize volunteer litter pickup and reporting illegal dumping.
Encourage people to plant trees to enhance carbon sequestration in Skagit County. Discourage people from clearing trees. There have been several large lots in the Bay View area that have recently been nearly to completely cleared of trees.
Encourage the county commissioners and the planning commission to consult with experts in all fields concerning climate change (conservation groups, urban planners, climate scientists, etc) so that decisions they make are based on best available science.
End the war on natural gas, new clean energy is great but demonizing EXISTING natural gas is not the answer. Stop building high rises.
Enforce building codes. Don't allow exceptions. Process permits fast so people don't build without permits. Give credit for building if done in climate resilient ways
Enforce existing county code. Decrease taxes. Decrease energy rates for consumers. Decrease county spending.
Engagement with the Latine community is key. Engaging with Indigenous leaders in land use decisions is also critical.
Enhance public education of local garbage recycling
Ensure onsite sewage system regulations on shorelines account for SLR and septic inundation
Ensuring our farms can stay flexible and resilient and keep producing and employing people is a top priority.
Environmentally conscious entertainment opportunities
Erosion.
es muy importante hacer planes sobre construir Casas para nuevas viviendas de diferente material y no USAR más árboles para disminuir el área forestal
Every county decision and planning effort must take climate change into account.
Everyone becomes an armchair expert when it comes to climate change or politics. I don't even begin to think I could give a good scientific idea. But I do support your efforts.
Find more pedestrian ways to inform the general public regarding all of these issues. The CCA is wildly important but most remain uninformed about it. Use more infographics and fewer words. We know people won't take time to read the information - use pictures to relay info/content. And if you really want to make an impact in a permanent way, this information needs to be shared in schools, Middle school, at least, and maintain the messaging.
Find uses for buildings that are vacant that support community interests and needs.
Focus on carbon stocking by giving ag support for such- use ag land for flooding then give incentives from federal funds for climate initiatives to that end. Focus on stream reparations for holding water easily / low maintenance let nature work for us .
Focus on renewable energy and allowing wind and solar farms.

Focus on sustainable development and growth, with an emphasis on high density building strategies in urban areas and high traffic corridors and medium to lower density the further you are from those areas.
Focus on the climate change effects that impact people of color that are more at risk than others, such as Black, Indigenous, and Hispanic. Climate change disproportionately impacts minority groups and this fact must NOT be dismissed. Focus on Environmental Justice for everyone.
Focus on what government should be doing, police, fire, garbage, & roads. Allow people to use their property well and decide what vehicles they want to drive. Allow people to decide where and how they want to build their houses as long as they are safe. Clean up homeless camps that are polluting our lands. Push back on 15 minute cities.
Funding stormwater infrastructure that stores and filters water before it gets released. There are a number of stormwater parks around the region that have been created to absorb and treat stormwater. We can do that here to help with water quality and flood management. We should be installing green infrastructure whenever possible when buildings are built - rain gardens and bioswales in neighborhoods, etc, and educate residents on what they're for and how to take care of them. People with property next to creeks and rivers need incentives to plant native trees to increase buffers. Native trees and plants should be preferred when landscapers put in new landscaping, both to reduce watering needs and increase habitat. I'd like to see some of the giant parking lots reduced, or permeable pavement installed in at least part of them. I'd like to see more aggressive education for fire-prone regions about wildfire risk and how to reduce it, and landscaping for new development be required to be firewise (no landscaping beds next to the house at a minimum). I'd like to see a reduction in development for coastal areas, especially in areas that are already flooding during high tides.
Get more people informed and involved.
Get smaller Skat buses. It is very wasteful to operate giant diesel buses that are 75% empty
Get the government, you included, off the woke agenda and actually stop regulating industries out of existence. Plan to not plan and let the people take care of their land. Stop regulating!!
Getting increased power to our home to support charging one single electric vehicle was a nightmare that took months rather than weeks, because of conflicts between PSE and the county about where the new lines should go. Get your act together.
Government officials need to realize that most people cannot afford an electric vehicle and a home charging station, even with rebates. There are also many challenges with them, including power outages, replacing expensive batteries, reliability, and where are we going to get all that electricity? Seems like more research needs to be done on them, and improving gas mileage and reducing emissions on gas powered vehicles. Also, not a lot of public money should be wasted on new or expanded public transportation systems which most people with vehicles will not ever use. When is the last time any of you took a bus?
Green energy projects should not be in residential or agriculture lands.
Hands on emergency kit making. I feel so behind in preparing emergency kits. Get all the raw materials and help us put our own kits together. Happy to pay for this and the materials to get the job done!
Has there been a formal analysis of the sectors causing the most emissions and the most effective climate resilience actions? This in combination with research on what's working and what's not seems like a useful approach (maybe you've already done this) to understanding a path forward with limited resources.
Help pay for solar panels.



<p>Honestly, no extreme measures! Let common sense rule the day. Do the best with the resources that seem to work, and only put into action those ideas that are reasonable and the majority of people would be willing to comply with. Perfection here is unattainable, but good old common sense is plentiful if only we would put it into practice more often.</p>
<p>How great to have a network of dedicated cycle ways around the county. The network of dykes in the west valley would be a great attraction for cycle tourism.</p>
<p>How will the electrical grid support a move toward more electrical reliance?</p>
<p>I already mentioned this and it was included in the survey but I want to reiterate how much I think community trainings would be beneficial. A drill day where we all act as if an event is occurring and test out our response time, after all practice makes progress and we should all be ready and feel empowered to be able to get through and help others through those tough times</p>
<p>I am concerned that Skagit County will lose its way with this work. The historic response (not just in Skagit County, but here too) to addressing climate change is to argue that action is way too expensive. Surely we can now see, by watching communities in N Carolina and Florida, that the cost of doing nothing and dealing with the aftermath is going to be exorbitant. The other argument is that climate change action may reduce personal choice. We really are all part of one ecosystem—we depend on the land to grow our food, we depend on the air to breathe, we cannot thrive or even exist in extreme temperatures. Please do not approach these requirements to include this planning as something we need to pay lip service too, but intend to only do the bare minimum about. This survey has been good—lots of points, well made. Please carry this good work into the final produce and don't let it get watered down. Please fight for this.</p>
<p>I am glad that Climate change is being addressed. It will take a lot of effort, sometimes more upfront costs, but I believe measures taken now are not only necessary but will likely save money in the long run. It would be near impossible to do everything at once. And it would be easy to do all of this work, and then let it slide without much action. With the possibility of the momentum drifting away. So, to address that problem, I strongly urge that an advisory committee / board be developed that would keep these issues alive and active.</p>
<p>I am opposed to expanding EV use until such time as it can be fully sustained and issues related to mining and battery creation are resolved. Solar power also has its own issues and is controversial. I believe more in conservation and reduced usage as a solution.</p>
<p>I can't think of anything.</p>
<p>I do not know.</p>
<p>I feel that indigenous peoples should be included, front and center, in the development process.</p>
<p>I have just spent several weeks in Europe and am aware that many European countries are far ahead of the United States in thinking about climate change and policy. Is anybody at the local level thinking about this? We are behind the curve in so many areas.</p>
<p>I highly doubt any mandates from the County to the agriculture community will be beneficial and will only force higher expenses and lower margins to the farmer</p>
<p>I much prefer solar as a renewable source of power than hydro electric. The survey refers to hydroelectric as renewable but that is outdated information. We now know how destructive dams are to salmon and other fisheries as well as the reservoirs fill up with sediment. It is not a viable "renewable" source of power in the long run.</p>
<p>I recommend Not the End of the World by Hannah Ritchie and A Walkable City by Jeff Speck</p>
<p>I say aggressive because we can't afford to wait. Focusing on larger companies and institutions with means so the burden doesn't fall on those with less means and power.</p>
<p>I support the concept to promote land-use strategies, such as conservation easements or zoning protections, to maintain agricultural lands, and open spaces. However, I do not support</p>

<p>preserving rural character. that implies supporting the lifestyles of individuals in rural areas, at the expense of people that do not live in rural areas. People in rural areas should also contribute to the efforts to combat climate change.</p>
<p>I think a more robust, reliable transit system could have a big impact on greenhouse gas emissions reduction.</p>
<p>I think communication is paramount here. People need to know what regulations there are, that the county will put effort into enforcing them, and that there is a community will to make positive change. I get a sense that those who care about this feel there is apathy in our community about climate and environmental matters. Let's show that we're taking this seriously and we're taking action. Thank you for this survey. I plan to pass it around to others. Oh yeah, how about doing more to tell people that there is a survey? I care about these things and I only know there is a survey because it happened to appear in my Facebook feed.</p>
<p>I think the dikes are a major issue that are left to piecemeal oversight, and need to be part of a comprehensive climate plan.</p>
<p>I think the ideas suggested were all good and worthwhile.</p>
<p>I would encourage you to have a team of knowledgeable residents and organizations working on climate research and action to work with your staff and consultants. This could be an advantage in identifying good ideas as well as in communicating with county residents to gain support for necessary actions.</p>
<p>I would like to see an emphasis on "green" solutions wherever possible. For instance, tideland vegetation can help reduce wave energy and reduce coastal erosion but most salt marsh has been lost due to hard armoring and dike building. To mitigate the effects of king tides and sea level rise as well as increasingly severe storms we need to reposition dikes to allow for salt marsh recovery and migration landward.</p>
<p>I'm generally concerned that many of these changes could adversely affect the ability to farm in the valley, we can only work with the hand we are dealt, if there was a giant electric tractor I'm sure we consider it but it's just not available yet. Please take into account the carbon that farmers offset with their crops, as well as the carbon they prevent in the valley by there being less cars, less people, less homes therefore less energy consumption, all so we can have this beautiful rural landscape in our backyard.</p>
<p>Identify areas where retreat from relative sea level rise may be the most cost effective approach and plan accordingly for those areas.</p>
<p>identify vulnerable communities and make plans to move people where necessary</p>
<p>If all this were implemented it would be a wonderful way to help the community address climate change</p>
<p>If natural gas is downsized or omitted, electricity will have to become more affordable. If electric cars are made more cost effective and the necessary batteries are more affordable and safer from fires, then I'd be on board.</p>
<p>If this is anything like the Skagit County Shoreline Master Plan then it may not be in the best interest of the resident stakeholders! These Plans get spun up to the point that it hurts hard working Skagitonians! Stop that madness!</p>
<p>I'm glad to see Skagit County working on this and will believe results when I see them. I've been disappointed with the lack of local action.</p>
<p>I'm so excited to see this survey and the thoughtful ideas presented here. I would like to know how I could be involved to help advance these initiatives. Great work.</p>

In crafting this element be clear and forward with the challenges, hazards and risks. When crafting goals and policies, be practical with what we can achieve, then go a bit further to create reasonable stretch goals we can strive to achieve.
Include community health impacts wherever possible. Potential health effects from climate change will be an issue for access to health care as well.
Increase bus routes and increase incentives (including low or no cost service) to reduce single occupancy vehicle use.
Increasing the gasoline tax to fund projects sounds like a good idea...but it hurts low income people most. We need to find a more equitable way to fund this. We need to find a way to make sure the money is spent where it should be, not just put in a general fund for "pet" projects.
Individual liberty is the most important priority for any government. No gas bans, no fixed electrifications. Focus on public safety and infrastructure. Focus on spending tax dollars responsibly.
Invasive removal and riparian zone improvements must continue and accelerate through the next 10 years as we are losing critical habitat and liveable space.
It is hard to say best plan -- technology and information changing - but climate effects are moving faster than we are.
It seems the solution that is often proposed is that individual citizens shell out their hard-earned money for home and vehicle upgrades, while also facing massive inflation, student loans, and covid fall out. Please, please, please, stop trying to make individual citizens solve problems that can be significantly impacted at a community level and start holding publicly or corporate owned investments to the same standard. Impacts of climate change at a community level can be significantly lessened with appropriate investments of resources.
IT's astart and there is nowhere near enough staff or money to hardley make a dent. But not letting anything else near water or peotential resing water is a start.
It's nice that you're asking our opinions, thank you. I fully support being prepared for natural disasters. But I don't support blaming people for them or taking expensive and extreme measures regarding beliefs about climate change that are not fully supported by true science without the bias of politics.
Just make more nuclear energy. It would solve all of our problems.
Keep agriculture and forests
Keep doing the next right thing
Keep it simple and practical. The Janicki sponsored calendar of 2023 for historical purposes was pretty clear in citing reference to the Chronicle Times documentation of temperatures reaching 112 degrees in Sedro Woolley in the early part of the 1900's. BMP's for forest practice and ag will prevent a great deal of damage associated with ongoing weather cycles.
Lack of forward thinking by community leaders, elected officials and implementation staff will sink this work - as many other progressive thoughts that protect communities and the Skagit landscape have died in the past.
Leave mother nature alone. What Skagit County does or does not do, is not going to have ANY impact on the world.
Less Government involvement, less taxation, less spending on "pet projects".
Less humans = less climate change
Life is so stressful already for senior citizens and adding more legal requirements, structural changes, financial burdens and government forms, etc, will be unwelcome
Limit housing and commercial buildings to non-flood plain locations

Listen to the Tribes.
Listen to those who have not been bought and paid for .
Local water tanks..... timber land residents need quicker response.
Look into the possibility that the whole climate change agenda is political and a power grab
Maintain private freedoms with minimum or no mandates.
Make composting easier to do commercially
Make it a part of everything gov't does, follow the state of WA's example, tap into the climate funding.
make it more personal. How to survive climate change - wearing the right clothing, retrofitting your house, walking or driving your car less. Public service announcement 0 fix oil leaks and explore different methods of transportation to work like carpooling.
Make urban spaces appealing, and back this plan up with teeth. We need drastic change or we won't be able to recognize our home in a couple of decades.
Managed retreat in the Skagit and Samish deltas and certain low lying residential areas will be needed in the future. The longer we wait, the more expensive it will be and the greater the environmental and human impacts will be.
May seem like an out-of-left-field comment from a newbie local...continue to prioritize local ownership and control of ag lands by locals who have a greater stake in quality of life and resource protection. I think Skagit is in a good spot on this point (something we researched before moving here). In contrast, we saw over 18 years in Sonoma County, CA a steady influx of non-local land ownership/control, which can obviously degrade various aspects of local life, including concern about local environmental dimensions (drought response, groundwater use, soil conservation, general shortsightedness).
Meet the public where they are at, consider going to table at events, grocery stores, and work on creative ways to engage the youth. I would connect with the local 10th and 11th grade civics class or "clubs" with ASB to have "intergenerational" learning opportunities. Feel free to reach out to Commissioner Eisenberg in Whatcom >>whatcomwomenswaves@gmail.com if you want support/help with other ideas.
Minimum changes
Modify HOA Planned Urban Development restrictions to allow for drought tolerant plants and hardscapes designs for replacement of common elements grass (costly and excessive use of water resources) and replacement of grass tree strips with drought tolerant ground covers. RCW allows this for homes. It should apply for HOAs as well.
More and more people are moving to Skagit County and it would be great if we could have more (and safer) public transport, such as trains / light rails / busses.
More community gardens, more free bicycle repair classes for kids and adults. Thank you.
More cooling centers during " heat" events; especially for seniors.
More emphasis on conservation. Electric cars must be plugged in to something. The bigger the electric car is, the more electricity it will require. Incentives for small cars, for more energy-efficient houses and cars, for not driving and not traveling.
More green spaces. Trees take up and sequester carbon dioxide. Big publicity campaign to educate businesses and individuals and to gain their buy in.
More programs like Solid waste Master Recycler and composter classes,
More/stronger voices for environmental protection and climate change prevention and resiliency on county planning commission and by appointment an environmental advisory board.

Most of the actions I read here are about responding to a changing climate. This is important. But it's also important that we try to reduce and reverse the damage we've already done.
Much more emphasis on the potential for bicycles (both traditional and electric) to connect our urban and rural centers. The County has an opportunity to revolutionize the quality of life while reducing vehicle miles traveled--it should lay out that vision in this comp plan update.
My biggest concern is about wildlife. In addition to reducing and mitigating, our human impact, I think we need to prioritize rehabilitation of the ecosystem and protection of wild species when we are considering how to lessen the forward progression of climate change. Wild plants and animals depend on us and our government to fix the problems humans have caused. It's our responsibility as the apex species of the globe to protect and restore other species to their natural state.
Natural gas is better than coal.
Need safe/marked bike paths on the roads. More transit options to keep people out of independent cars.
Negotiating competing interests is very challenging. There has to be so much work done with various constituencies so that solutions don't become zero-sum. What are the win-win solutions? What priorities can solve multiple problems and benefit multiple players?
no
No
no
No because you don't give a shit what anybody thinks that doesn't share your views. Actually you ought to consider that you are the problem with everything you get involved in. Stop abusing your power. And stop with the lying bullshit about everything
no, only that it would be good to get more info from you and then ask the question and share some resources and not be left with more question or doubt on if we are safe and what concerns are you or Skagit County in general has these concerns and how or who can we address them after this survey? is there a threat that I should be aware of or us as a community member be scared?
no.
No. Except STOP listening to the zeitgeist voices and adopt a broader actually scientific viewpoint.
Nope, I need to get more educated on this first.
Not at the moment.
Not at this time.
Nothing to add
Only build what we need.
Personal responsibility of land use and management
please do not ok any big development on our farmlands
Please don't adopt the use of battery storage facilities on farmland and near creeks or the in flood zone. That would only cause more of a problem
Please keep regulations on business and individuals from creeping into our county. It only harms all of us and especially raises cost for those that can least afford it.
Please plan to move ahead despite resistance from the uninformed. The majority of us know these changes are necessary!
Please please please take care of our forests. They deserve it. They are the means of our survival.

Please remember climate has always changed.
Please understand that most everyone in this county is less well off financially than we were a few years back. Many industries are hurting really bad and are already struggling to hang on. Putting any more of a financial burden on anyone at this time could have severe consequences. Keep the people in mind.
Possibly help low income people to be able to transition to more efficient homes and transportation.
Preparedness for saltwater intrusion and storms from the sea.
Prioritize the protection of soil for future generations in all decision making
Prohibit building in 1000 year flood plains...
Protect farms and forests and stop building on arable land.
PROTECT our farmland and green spaces.
protecting our habitat. Please stop issuing easements on property where there is a geo hazard. Also, as building expands please watch and mitigate the water run off which may affect existing homes below the new development.
Protection of habitat is the best way to ensure that both people and wildlife are protected. Healthy habitats support healthy ecosystems which support healthy people.
Provide grants and cost-sharing. Try harder: to acknowledge climate change, educate residents, support local communities in climate resilience.
Public forums (coffee night) in English, Spanish and Ukrainian would be good. Would love to have a hybrid vehicle but we are 3 drivers in one home and the cost of hybrid is out of our budget.
Quit listening to Jay Inslee and the rest of the democrat party
Quit wasting time and money on this hoax
Recognize that there is a variety of energy sources available and appropriate for use without limiting the ability of citizens to choose which is most appropriate for their situation. If the county chooses to support electrification, need to identify where that electricity is going to come from and how to balance hydropower with wildlife resource conservation (dams vs salmon).
Recycling improvements, more green space, we need to invest in sustainability rather than hoping someone else does it.
Reduce available parking/parking lots to get people out of their cars and onto mass transport.
Reduce regulations.
Require a full cost/benefit analysis (both environmental and financial) before imposing restrictions or demands to convert to EV, solar, or wind energy, or prohibiting use of natural gas, etc.
Save our budget. Government spending is a concern and inflation is putting everyone into the poor house
See above
Seems like every man here has a full sized pickup even though most have no need for this. Add a County fuel tax to encourage these men to buy smaller trucks. Provide a way to allow men who really do need a big truck to get a credit back from this tax.
Shipping effluent discharges Modal shift from semi to rail for longer haul freight Make basic cable (buried) free to all in metro areas large and small to better inform us before and during extreme weather events
Skagit County can be a nationwide leader in planning for and implementing climate solutions for a diversity of stakeholders

<p>Skagit county has got to ban BESS battery storage facilities. Lithium ion batteries present an outrageous threat to human and animal life - it is one of the two main reasons I don't support electrical vehicles as a point of investment for the city. We are just trading one environmental catastrophe for another. We have to be thinking more strategically and long term and stop giving in (or being impressed by) whatever new industry pops up in the climate change sphere - it's just a way someone found to make money, it's not going to save us or even mitigate the danger we face. We need to change the way we live so we don't need so many cars, not switch to a different type of car (and honestly, isn't a commute as miserable in an electrical vehicle as it is in a gas one?).</p>
<p>Skagit County needs an Environmental Advisory Board that understands and supports community climate change resilience, fish and wildlife habitat, and sustainable development, makes recommendations to County government. Board positions should be held by individuals involved in climate science, restoration, conservation, green and outdoor recreation businesses, young people, etcetera. Update Skagit County's Open Space Concept Plan and make progress on enacting it.</p>
<p>Skagit County's elected commissioners need to take control of all local decision making, in the Watershed Council especially, but also with regard to intrusive initiatives like the battery storage facility near Sedro.</p>
<p>Skagit does not focus on conservation enough. The County favors industries. Conservation seems to be the poor cousin in County decisions. The County thinks preserving agricultural lands is enough (while at the same time refusing to require modern pollution standards on these lands). We need businesses and jobs but most of these contribute to climate impacts. To balance this, if we want climate action, we need much more real conservation that limits emissions and helps us adapt to climate impacts.</p>
<p>Slow down the growth!! Is there a better solution? Keep us informed..</p>
<p>Solar farms is a great option for green power and there's non agricultural lands that can be used that's not impacting others</p>
<p>Solar is a clean energy source. I would encourage the policy to include solar Farms" as a better source of energy than electric vehicles that require batteries that must be made using precious metals and become a hazardous waste when then must be disposed of as well as the cost with building infrastructure to support their charging.</p>
<p>Some of the wording in this survey is vague politi-speak.</p>
<p>Some of us have lived here for generations! We don't want our way of living being forced to change. However looking back on how our great grandparents lived is helpful. Small farming gardens, planting more trees, reusing everything, stop putting chemicals on everything, buy local. You can't control the climate, you can control the way you live.</p>
<p>Spend our money elsewhere.</p>
<p>Spend tax money efficiently</p>
<p>Stick with research and informed public. As long as changes are affordable, they need to be implemented regardless of the ignorant population.</p>
<p>Stop discussing it</p>
<p>Stop growing local, city, and county government (both square footage of government buildings, and number of government employees) faster than the actual county population.</p>
<p>Stop indoctrinating our children with this Weimar like parasitical, degenerate, Marxist idealism and start teaching them about the brilliance of our founding fathers and establishment of the greatest nation on earth. It needs to start at the county level</p>

Stop looking for ways to spend taxpayer money. Look for ways to save taxpayers money.
Stop pushing Climate Change!!
Stop urban sprawl and card developments.
Stormwater is huge. I saw where my relatives live (Atlantic coast) their jurisdiction invested in a large scale project to address the flooding and pollution issues that have been increasing for decades now. We are talking about facts, science, clear, observable trends. This isn't a culture war subject. This isn't a political conversation, a local, reginal or even national issue. Burying our heads in the sand is disrespectful to future generations.
Take a survey of all of the unused commercial and residential infrastructure in the county and make a plan to renovate and repurpose existing infrastructure before approving plans for new buildings.
Take into consideration the excessive "hype" that is marketed toward your decisions. Burning tax dollars creates its own waste and inflation thus creating more problems than solved.
Tax write offs are near useless for upgrading your home. Allow for up front, easy grants, then you'll have more middle class families adding solar panels and switching from window AC to heat pumps.
Thank you for your important work on this issue! Tax the rich and let's build a better world for our kids.
Thank you so much for doing this
Thanks for doing this project. It WILL make a difference.
Thanks for the opportunity to provide feedback.
The county currently has advisory boards, but they are commerce/econ. based. Would be nice if there was a climate change or environmental advisory board made up of local or regional experts (researchers, climate scientists, conservationists, etc.).
The county MUST identify/create zoning for utility scale power generation and battery system storage. Assess feasibility of solar+battery on parking garages. And promote/incentivize residential solar, heat pumps,
The county's farmland needs to be protected. There needs to be a moratorium on house building on farmland. People have been doing work arounds and that needs to end.
The effect of ocean rise on low-elevation communities. It's already a problem here in La Conner.
The financial and psychological costs to Skagit residents and our environment of not taking long needed bold action to address climate change and sea level rise impacts in Skagit County. Decisions on permits must meaningfully and effectively address these impacts. Without doing so opens up the residents and our environment to enormous further harm.
The generally negative impacts on industry/businesses/jobs that tend to come with overburdening regulatory rules need to be considered carefully with any sort of GHG reduction regulations or rules passed in the county. For example, housing costs are already extremely high, adding burdensome GHG reduction requirements to new construction will only continue that trend of increasing costs.
The ideas presented here seem actionable and reasonable.
The majority of us know that climate is changing and want us to do something. But policy makers and elected officials need to move with urgency even though the public does not want to pay for it. We have to look at the long term: we are already paying higher insurance rates because of insurance losses everywhere, and we are paying for health issues that are caused by poor air and water quality. You must proceed despite resistance from businesses and the uninformed public. Please act with urgency.



<p>The plan needs to be reasonable and balanced, and not just echo Inslee's vision. It shouldn't add any-very little extra vista to citizens or business owners. Battery storage facilities should not be housed in our county due to the farmlands and are salmon ecosystem.</p>
<p>The preservation and care of city tree canopies, and the planting of more urban tree cover in our cities and communities.</p>
<p>The road off Samish Island is in need of upgrade during flood time. Our tax dollars should account for maintaining a link for emergency vehicles at all times. I appreciate the expertise provided for wildfire mitigation. The recommendations were thoughtful and easily installed.</p>
<p>There are many vacant buildings in skagit county. If we are looking at solar energy as one of th we priority solutions, those empty buildings represent some places that were once farmland. Our Farmlands are so.e of the richest and most productive and diverse. We should not allow any Farmlands to be rezoned, especially not to create solar.</p>
<p>There are vegetated areas that don't get much in the way of clean out, which could be a real fire hazard. Also there are a Lot of dead or dying residential trees that need to be cut down so as not to add to fire hazards.</p>
<p>There is a lot of disinformation on social media re: local issues such as land use. The narrative appears to be driven by non-clean energy interests. I suggest dedicating more resources to supplying information campaigns on social media to pre-emptively set the narrative for clean energy initiatives.</p>
<p>There is a movement to increase biking for commuting for youth in Skagit. This effort is funded. What do we have to do to get that set up? More bike lanes, bike lockers, etc.</p>
<p>There is no climate change it is climate cycles</p>
<p>There's a lot of burning in our county, and that's incredibly harmful for the environment. There could be a different option put in place so armor do not have to burn so much yard waste. We need more options for recycling. Recycling must be a part of the schools, but currently, they do not implement this. Kids are encouraged to recycle paper only, but the janitorial staff is not contracted to empty the recycling bins in classrooms into the larger recycling bin outside, and in my experience, they do not; they dump it in the trash. Other things need to be recycled at schools also, and children need to be educated about it because they will make the most change and have the biggest impact on the future. They can also teach their parents. Educating about conflict palm oil is extremely important as well.</p>
<p>These questions were not set up for actual input but rather posed in such a way to allow the question writer to achieve permission for actions. Definitons of things like "resiliency hub" "green infrastructure" farmers to capitalize on "sustainable oppertunities" What do those buzz words mean EXACTLY??? Anyone can interpret any of those phrases to be toward their favor. Without the average cotozen knowing who wrote this survey or it's intent this survey completely worthless in policy guidance.</p>
<p>Think about how visible the Aurora Borealis has been this year. Know what causes it. The Sun. We are experiencing a solar maximum which is what is making the aurora so visible. Solar radiation. That is the primary driver of global climate.</p>
<p>Think carefully about how we balance the needs of environmental conservation and working lands. We want to keep a vibrant and healthy ag economy and at the same time conserve habitat for salmon. These things can work in concert with eachother if we focus on the right organic and regenerative organic practices.</p>
<p>Think of future generations!</p>
<p>This is a lower priority than public safety.</p>

This is our work to undue the factors that create climate change . Our ancestors are counting on us and our children pray this legacy is not passed on to them Agape Dr John Baker
To cut down on road usage and emissions, many of the ways we conducted our lives can be altered. Prescription and food deliveries (one driver instead of 30) etc.
Too much to list.
traffic
Transportation is a big concern. How can we have better bike trails & routes (not on narrow rural roads) and hubs that connect us to the Seattle/Vancouver/Bellingham transit systems.
Tree planting. Include school students and service clubs in ecological restoration. Continue to support salmon habitat restoration and protections.
Tree protections for mature tree canopy in urban and rural areas. Trees more than 12 inches must need permit to take out. Whatcom county does this why not us, try to improve tree coverage keep houses cooler too.
Use national best practices about climate impacts on farmworkers, the elderly and children with health issues to make policy decisions.
Waste reduction and diversion strategies, our recycling program is pathetic as it doesn't even allow for glass recycling anymore. There are ZERO public recycle bins outside of the residential bins on curbside and no incentives to participate. Develop a plan to "recycle" unused foods from stores and restrauants to feed the less fortunate through food banks. This will help to reduce emissions from food in our landfills and be a BOGO by feeding others! Think France...
Water is life and we all must do everything possible to protect our water from contamination, depletion of aquifers, etc.
We all need to be mindful of the agricultural element in Skagit County. We need to work with the farming community to make decisions that are good for all without effecting their financial bottom line.
We are a resource sucking culture. I'm not sure how we can encourage people to be more climate friendly when we continue to push retail profits and consumption.
We believe most people will resist change, including our planning commissioners, and they need to become knowledgeable about the transition and the urgent need to stop fossil fuels and move to alternatives.
We believe sea level rise should be among the top priorities for addressing the impacts of climate change as it is already adversely affecting our Skagit communities.
We cannot fail to address this issue comprehensively.
We live in a great area I don't know why you're making mountains out of mole hills around here
We need dense, good low income housing in the cities, close to transportation.
We need more parks. People keep moving here and building more houses, but there's no new parks. We need more green spaces with trees located in town. We need to turn some of the vacant lots back into natural vegetation.
We need to act NOW. There is a sense of urgency. Scientists have been warning us about this future since the 1950s. Failure to reduce GHG may be described as the greatest intergenerational injustice ever inflicted on one generation of humans upon the next.
We should plan ahead for a transition of the March Point refineries--planning ahead for tax revenue impacts to local (diversify), water rates, and job/economy drivers in host communities. We should plan ahead for clean up and workforce support. The county and Anacortes are too dependent on refinery jobs and tax base to support local services. As fossil fuel demand drops over the next ten years, the refinery sites should not simply convert to export facilities (few jobs,

still polluting). We should be careful about dropping off a cliff with our job base, tax base, and local economies when refinery companies up and leave.

When it comes to environmental concerns we in our little corner of the world have virtually no impact on global climate and therefore should be focusing our efforts and resources on environmental issues that we do need to be prepared for...specifically 9 plus scale earthquakes from the subduction zone off our coast and their associated tsunamis; volcanic activity and their associated lahars; industrial accidents at our refineries; tanker spills; etc. rather than the infinitesimal impact we can have on world wide climate change. And just to clarify, climate change was already included in the existing Comp Plan, What has changed is that the state legislation calls for it to given higher visibility as its own chapter and provided funding to encourage compliance (and pump money into consultant businesses who use cut and paste documentation into county and city plan updates....what a deal.

Who gets to decide what "rural character" is? I don't feel like generational residents are consulted... look at what's happened to Edison- it's now a Seattleite's version of what a quirky rural community is...I'm a 4th generation Biglake area resident, and I've seen the rural feel of that community become a professional's paradise. My family settled in Montbourne, Walker Valley, and along the little Nookachamps valley that runs along the west side of Hwy 9 between Bigrock and Biglake in the nineteen 10's and 20's...there were trees, hippies, a subsidized housing apartment complex, and loggers around the lake when I was growing up- now, it's almost all Mercedes and transplants. Most people do not think of Biglake as rural at all- BUT, if Skagit County were to try to leverage the UGA for increased density and to build an affordable housing complex or trailer park or something, the new people would drive their Mercedes to the school to decry the loss of their "rural character"- while the generational residents probably need one to be built to stay in the area.

Wind and solar are not safe and effective.

Work more with the cities to improve person/sq footage. Fewer McMansions and more affordable housing (i.e. apartment buildings instead of more townhomes with pavement and two car garages).

Work to close the refineries as soon as possible. At least start talking about it and make people aware that they are THE major source of greenhouse gasses in the county. They must close as soon as possible to make gas hard to get so people will need to find clean alternatives. Make public transit cheap and convenient and gas expensive.

Yea, stop all this.

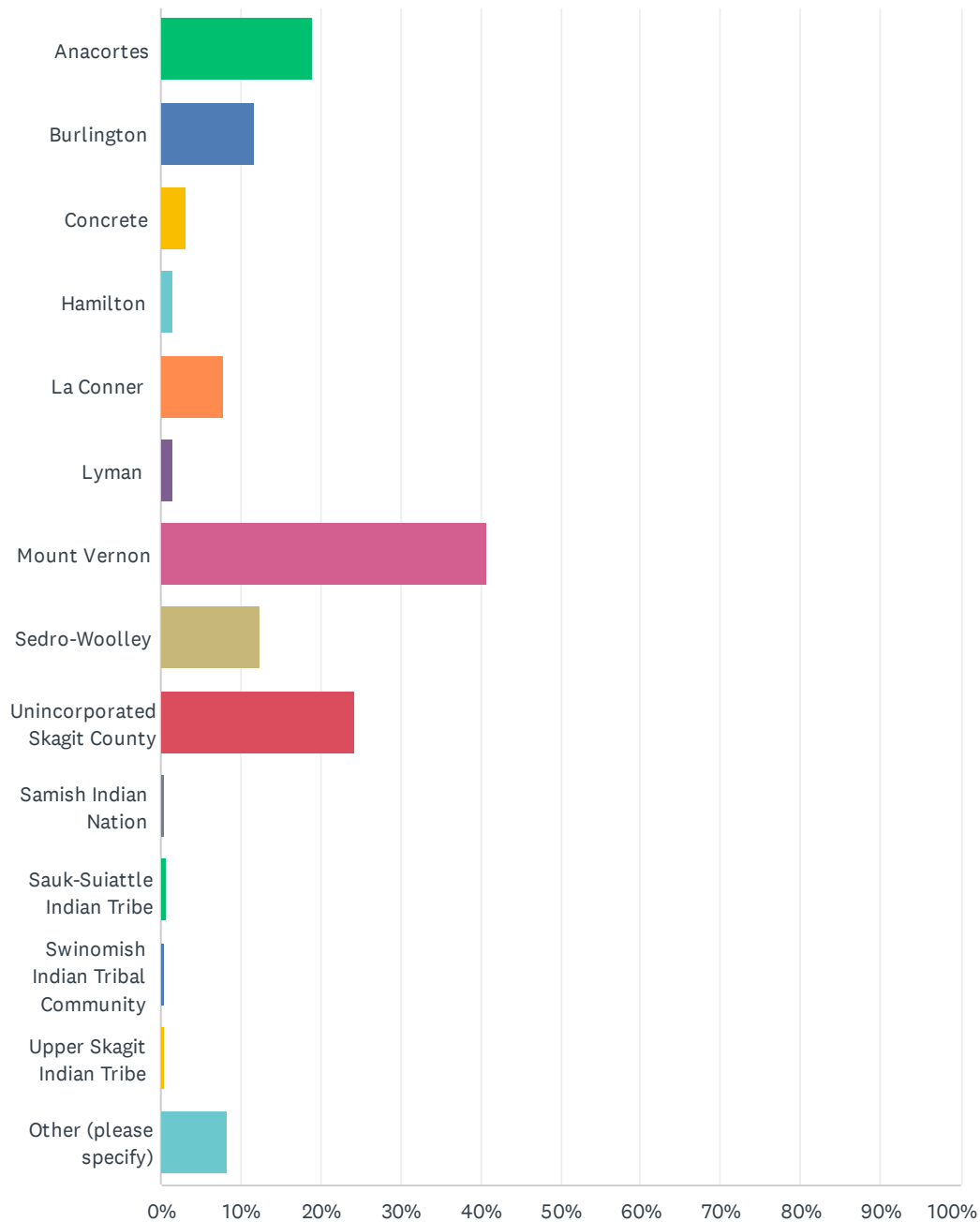
Yes - simply understand that promulgating restrictive policies surrounding GHG emissions in Skagit will not change anything other than burdening the people of Skagit County. Look around - China pollutes far more than the whole of the US, as do many other nations around the world. Why is Skagit County wanting to burden its residents with ineffective and unnecessary new "green" policies?? Not to mention that climate warming/cooling cycles have occurred naturally thousands of times over the course of the earth's history; it's ludicrous to think that a small, rural county in western WA should be creating knee-jerk burdens for its population to address something that we don't have (nor can have) any effect on! The volcanoes in the Kamchatka Peninsula of Siberia pump out far more GHG in a single year than all of mankind has in its entire history. Think on that.

Yes I STRONGLY OPPOSE the building of lithium battery storage facilities ANYWHWRE in Skagit county due to the dangers and heath risks involved in case of a fire or malfunction. It's not worth it! Please protect our farmlands and our communities by not allowing any of these battery

<p>companies to build here. There need to be strong regulations to prevent these companies from building close to vulnerable communities, agriculture and nature. Everything will suffer.</p>
<p>Yes, get nuclear energy. It is more efficient than hydro power, solar power, wind power, and fossil fuels.</p>
<p>Yes, Passive solar requirements for subdivisions and structure seem to be completely ignored in favor of high tech solutions - this is a huge missed opportunity.</p>
<p>Yes, please limit the amount of government involvement into people's lives. We don't need more regulation or watchful eyes. If possible, I would shrug the entire mandate from the federal and state governments. And say our citizens will monitor themselves and we will resist implementing these rules. Even if it comes with a loss of State funding. It's time we stand on our own feet.</p>
<p>YES. 1. Ag land near Sedro is not the smart place to build a battery virtual power plant, BUT they are an important part of the future of grid resilience!! Skagit Co should actively search for the most sensible locations for them in concert with PSE, then intentionally encourage their installation. You're right: resilience IS our concern, and reliable inexpensive electricity is hugely important to living in our new world. PSE cannot provide enough of that unless we harvest and store much more solar-derived distributed energy, which is plentiful but variable in nature. VPPs (grid tied battery storage) have proven to save consumers significant \$ and provide outstanding reliability. 2. Have someone or team look at all zoning, codes, and permitting to remove impediments to rebuilding "greener". We want building green to be the most sensible path, not the most expensive and arduous.</p>
<p>You really need to consider dropping the electric ferry for Guemes Island. What a waste of money and resources. Since the people of Guemes Island are the ones who promoted the electric ferry, they should be the ones paying for it, not the rest of the county.</p>
<p>You should consider just how much residents in Skagit county are contributing to the worldwide issue of climate change and weigh that against our ability to use all types of energy to remain resilient against future extreme weather events. Skagit county should focus on keeping our residents safe and productive by taking mitigating efforts towards protection rather than putting us at risk by limiting our resiliency by relying solely on electricity.</p>
<p>You want to run all electric when batteries and solar panels are the most toxic material and it takes oil and fuel to create batteries and solar panels by digging up the raw material from the earth. Stick with gas and oil. Propane is the cleanest form of gas energy why ban it?? This makes no sense. When all these electric cars have to retire what then.</p>
<p>Zone with climate change in mind. Target development (old and new) away from areas known or predicted to be flooded, prone to landslides or fire. Instead, encourage and fund the conservation of these areas and created more green space. Encourage reforestation. Encourage and protect our Ag lands.</p>

### Q11 Please tell us where you live or work in Skagit County and/or provide your Tribal affiliation. (Select all that apply)

Answered: 576 Skipped: 76

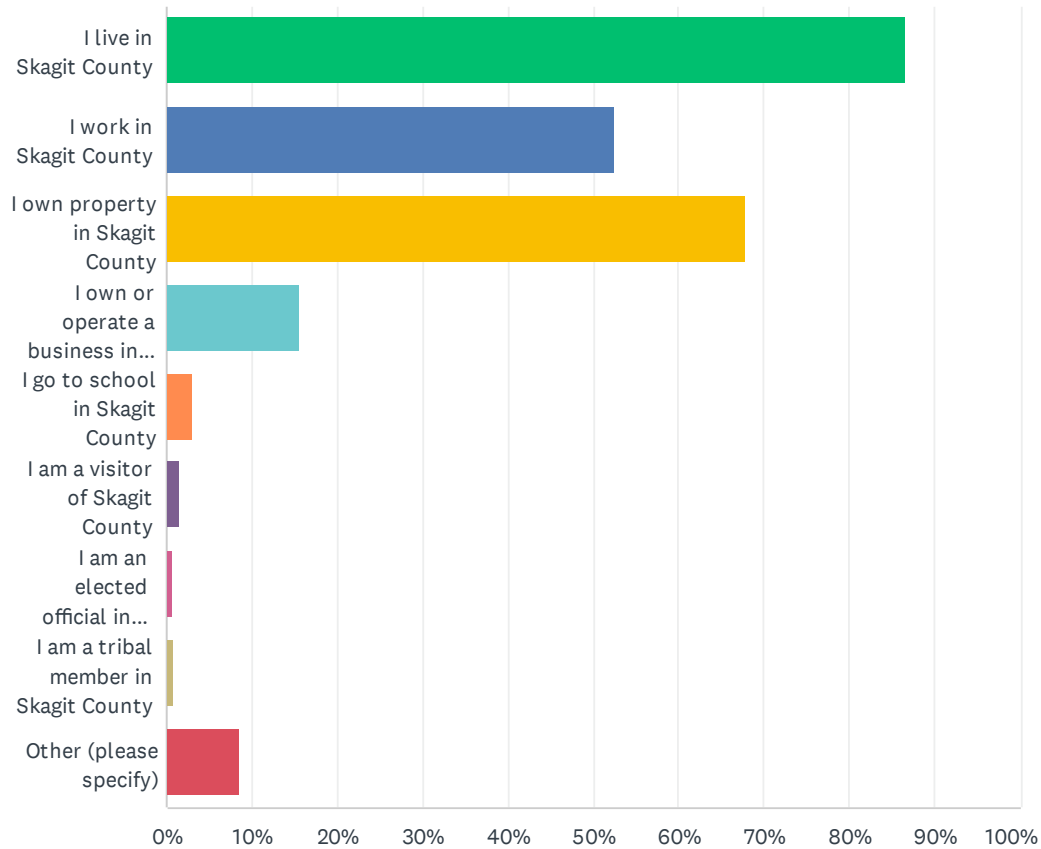


## Skagit County Climate Element Community Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Anacortes	18.92%	109
Burlington	11.63%	67
Concrete	3.13%	18
Hamilton	1.39%	8
La Conner	7.81%	45
Lyman	1.56%	9
Mount Vernon	40.80%	235
Sedro-Woolley	12.33%	71
Unincorporated Skagit County	24.31%	140
Samish Indian Nation	0.35%	2
Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe	0.69%	4
Swinomish Indian Tribal Community	0.52%	3
Upper Skagit Indian Tribe	0.35%	2
Other (please specify)	8.33%	48
Total Respondents: 576		

## Q12 Which of the following best defines your role in your community? (Select all that apply)

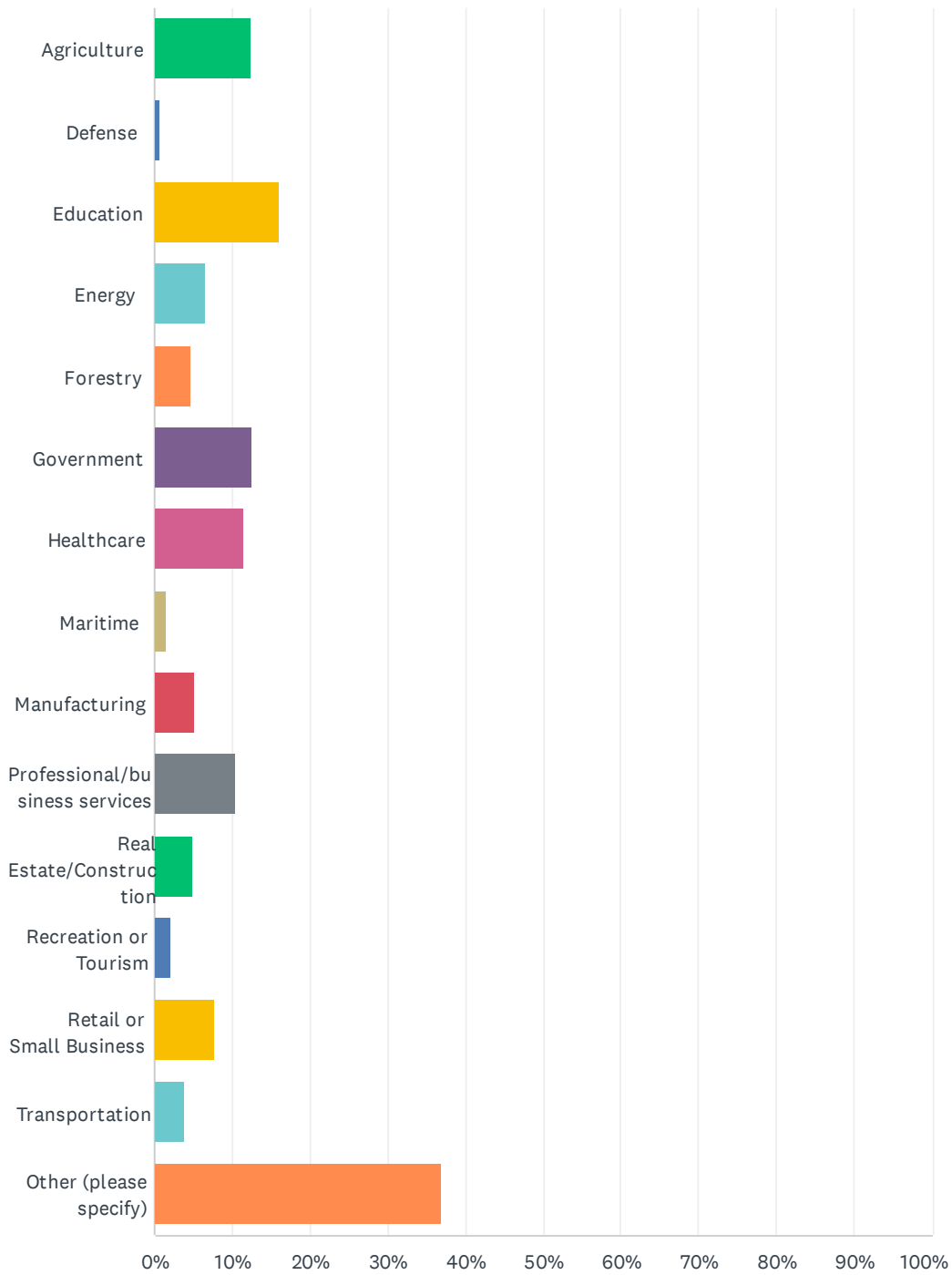
Answered: 576 Skipped: 76



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I live in Skagit County	86.63%	499
I work in Skagit County	52.43%	302
I own property in Skagit County	67.88%	391
I own or operate a business in Skagit County	15.63%	90
I go to school in Skagit County	2.95%	17
I am a visitor of Skagit County	1.39%	8
I am an elected official in Skagit County	0.69%	4
I am a tribal member in Skagit County	0.87%	5
Other (please specify)	8.51%	49
Total Respondents: 576		

### Q13 What industry do you work in? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 542 Skipped: 110



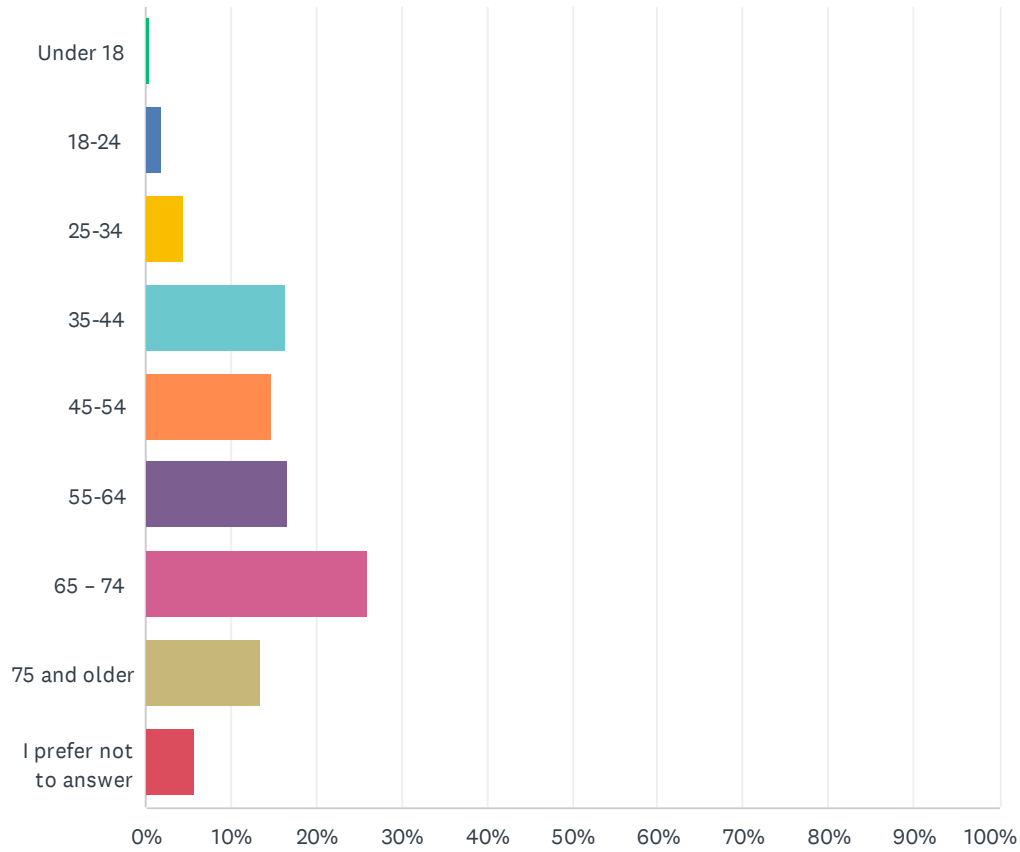


## Skagit County Climate Element Community Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Agriculture	12.36%	67
Defense	0.74%	4
Education	16.05%	87
Energy	6.64%	36
Forestry	4.61%	25
Government	12.55%	68
Healthcare	11.44%	62
Maritime	1.48%	8
Manufacturing	5.17%	28
Professional/business services	10.52%	57
Real Estate/Construction	4.98%	27
Recreation or Tourism	2.21%	12
Retail or Small Business	7.75%	42
Transportation	3.87%	21
Other (please specify)	36.90%	200
Total Respondents: 542		

## Q14 What is your age?

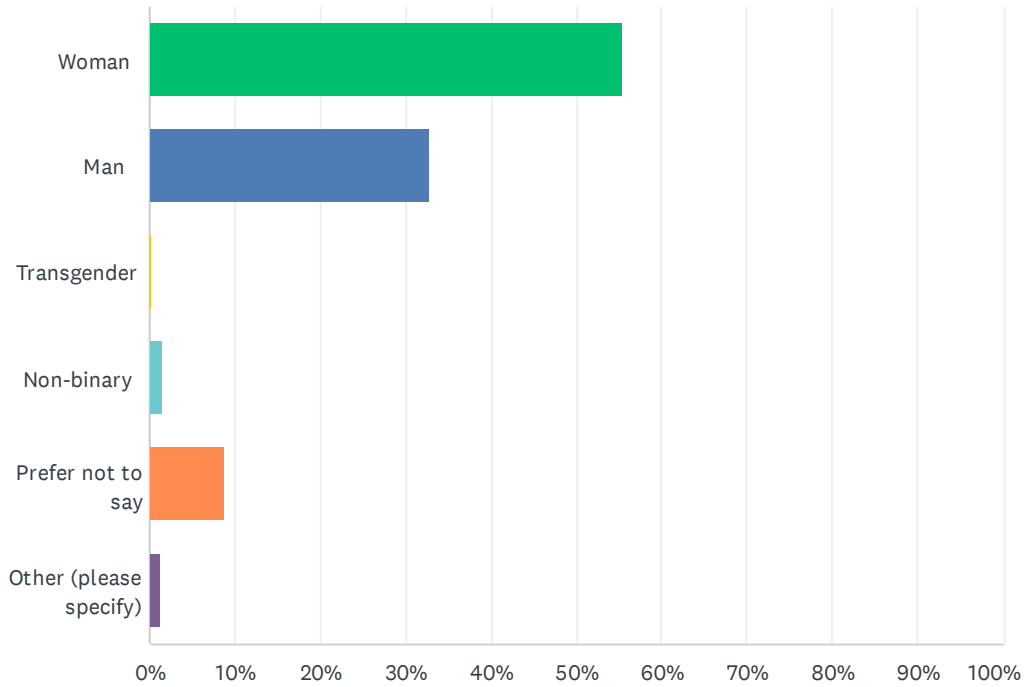
Answered: 575 Skipped: 77



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Under 18	0.52% 3
18-24	1.91% 11
25-34	4.52% 26
35-44	16.52% 95
45-54	14.61% 84
55-64	16.70% 96
65 - 74	26.09% 150
75 and older	13.39% 77
I prefer not to answer	5.74% 33
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>575</b>

## Q15 What is your gender?

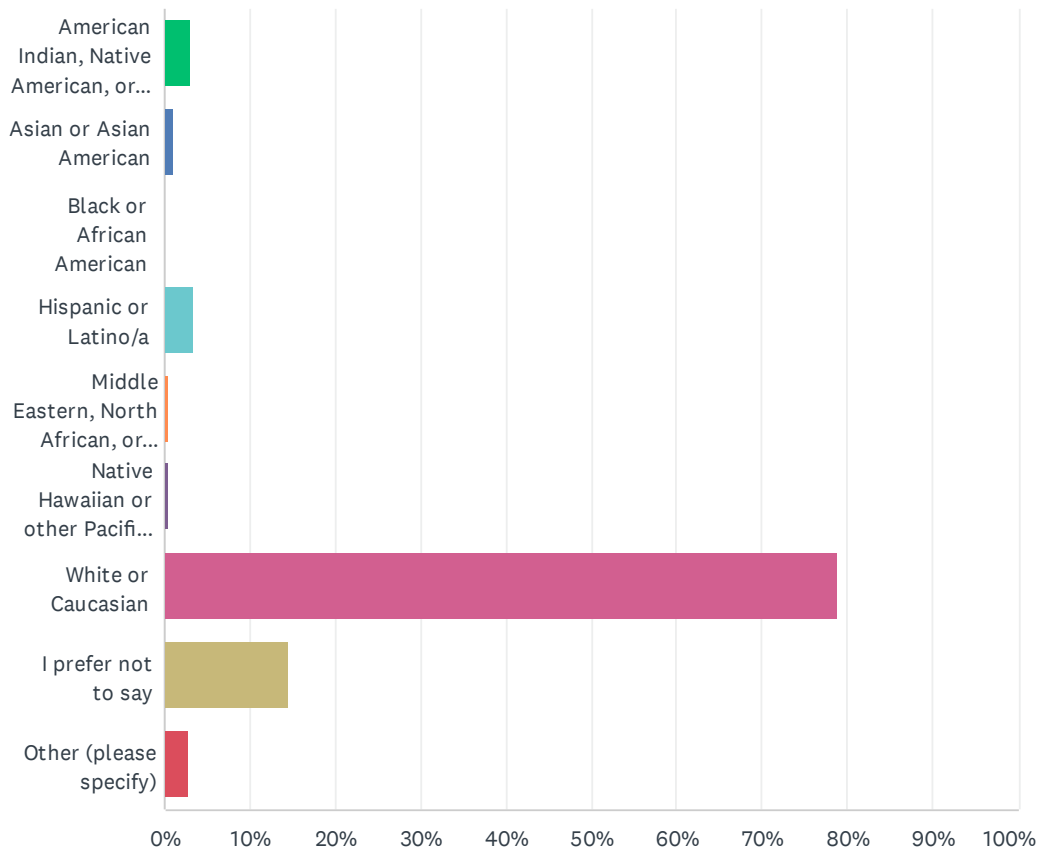
Answered: 569 Skipped: 83



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Woman	55.54%	316
Man	32.86%	187
Transgender	0.18%	1
Non-binary	1.41%	8
Prefer not to say	8.79%	50
Other (please specify)	1.23%	7
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>569</b>

## Q16 What is your race/ethnicity? (Select all that apply)

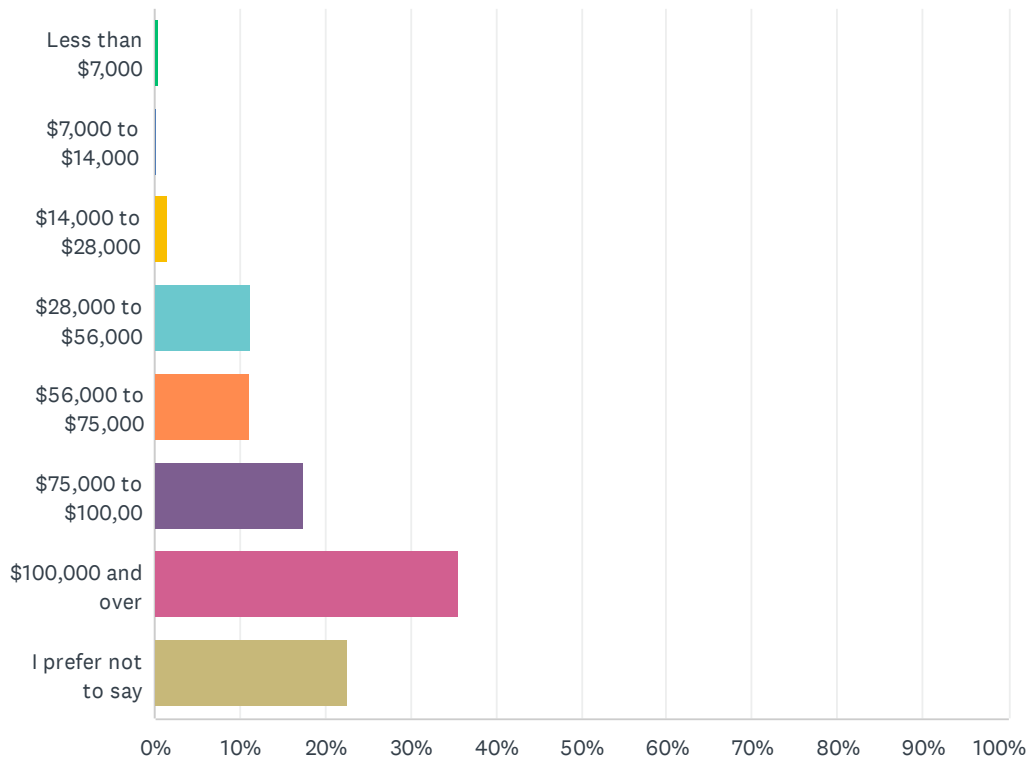
Answered: 567 Skipped: 85



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
American Indian, Native American, or Alaska Native	3.00%	17
Asian or Asian American	1.06%	6
Black or African American	0.00%	0
Hispanic or Latino/a	3.35%	19
Middle Eastern, North African, or Arab American	0.35%	2
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0.35%	2
White or Caucasian	78.84%	447
I prefer not to say	14.46%	82
Other (please specify)	2.82%	16
Total Respondents: 567		

## Q17 What is your approximate household income?

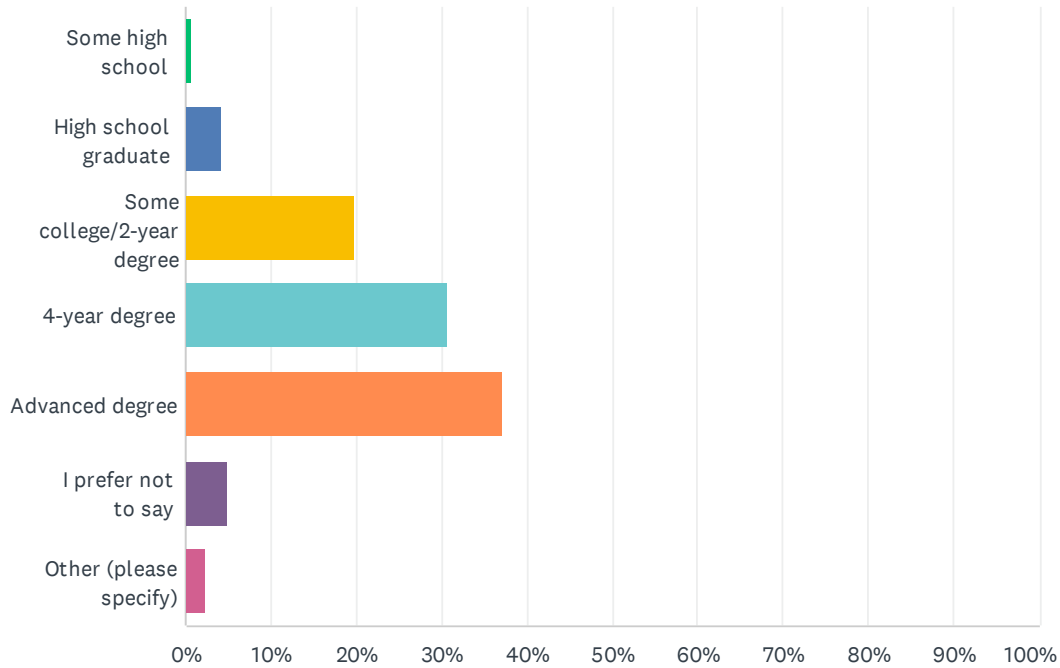
Answered: 568 Skipped: 84



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Less than \$7,000	0.35% 2
\$7,000 to \$14,000	0.18% 1
\$14,000 to \$28,000	1.58% 9
\$28,000 to \$56,000	11.27% 64
\$56,000 to \$75,000	11.09% 63
\$75,000 to \$100,00	17.43% 99
\$100,00 and over	35.56% 202
I prefer not to say	22.54% 128
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>568</b>

## Q18 What is your highest level of education?

Answered: 573 Skipped: 79



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Some high school	0.70%	4
High school graduate	4.19%	24
Some college/2-year degree	19.90%	114
4-year degree	30.72%	176
Advanced degree	37.17%	213
I prefer not to say	4.89%	28
Other (please specify)	2.44%	14
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>573</b>