



EAST FORK NOOKACHAMPS CREEK Watershed Assessment and Management Plan

Project overview

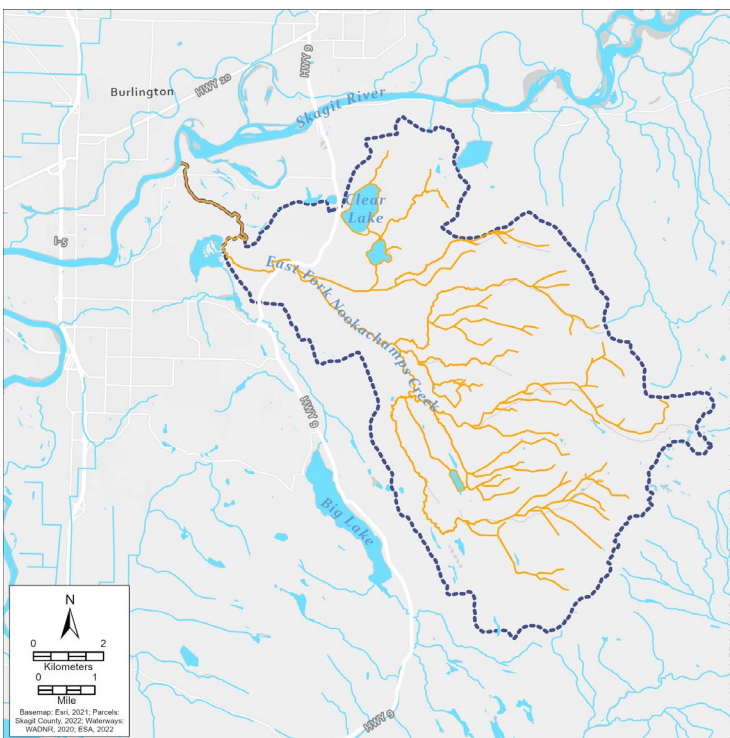
The Upper Skagit Indian Tribe (USIT) and Skagit County are working to conduct a watershed assessment and develop a management plan for the East Fork Nookachamps Creek watershed. USIT and Skagit County are working with a consultant team, Environmental Science Associates (ESA), to complete this work.

The purpose of this project is to characterize conditions in the watershed and develop an East Fork Nookachamps Creek Watershed Management Plan, which will include recommended actions to:

- Help minimize flood impacts to landowners and roads.
- Restore natural creek processes.
- Improve habitat conditions for native fish and other important watershed species.

This plan is needed to identify effective long-term solutions to reduce flooding and to help salmon and steelhead populations whose numbers have dropped markedly in recent years.

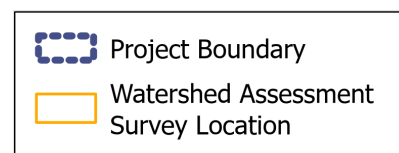
Project area



Anticipated timeline



The project area spans from the headwaters of the East Fork Nookachamps Creek watershed – including all tributaries – to the confluence of Nookachamps Creek and the Skagit River.





What will be in the Watershed Management Plan?

Based on the information gathered during the watershed assessment phase, the project team will draft a suite of management actions for review and consideration by the community, stakeholders, USIT, and Skagit County. The recommended actions will represent a range of opportunities for the project area to alleviate flooding, improve ecological processes, and improve salmon habitat. Following review and refinement, the final suite of management actions will be included in the watershed management plan.

Recommendations will be developed based on results of the watershed assessment and community input. Types of management actions potentially included in the watershed management plan may include:

- Agricultural drainage improvements
- Improved forest practices
- Managed aquifer recharge projects
- Fish passage barrier removal projects
- Instream wood structure placement
- Riparian plantings
- Sediment management strategies
- Opportunities for increased stream and floodplain connectivity

How will we assess the watershed?

The project team is underway collecting field data, conducting desktop research, and analyzing data to build a comprehensive understanding of the existing conditions in the watershed.

This summer you may have seen ESA's field crew taking measurements in the creek at locations around the East Fork Nookachamps and its tributaries. The assessment will include examining water and sediment flows, floodplain and geomorphic conditions, fish habitat, and flood processes.

Learn more and provide input

Your input is important and will help the project team make decisions through the Watershed Assessment and Management Plan process.



Visit our website at bit.ly/Nookachamps for project updates and to join our email list for reminders of upcoming opportunities to engage, such as community meetings.



Questions? Contact Curtis Clement at cclement@UPPERSKAGIT.com or 360-318-4102.