



Skagit County land and water management opinion survey

Michelle Quast, Scott Bohling and Justine Asohmbom

May 2021

Access to Survey Monkey dashboards

- A summary of the survey and its findings is located here:
 - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/stories/SM-2LNWFJYC/>
- A selection of the survey data charts is located here:
 - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/stories/SM-B2H8NYCC/>
- All of the survey data charts and tables can be found within this presentation, without a summary or interpretation.
 - The survey question requesting contact information for follow-up interviews has been omitted to protect the privacy of survey participants.

261

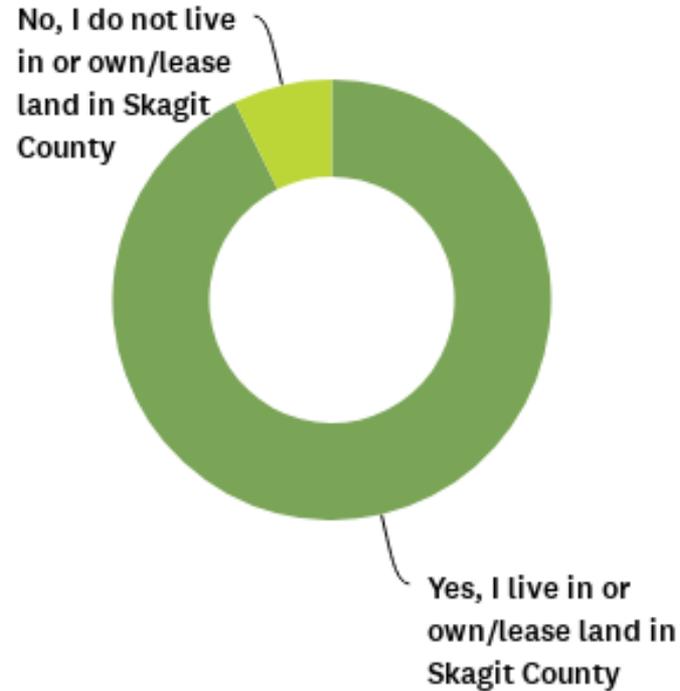
Total Responses

Date Created: Friday, October 16, 2020

Complete Responses: 192

Q1: Do you live in Skagit County, or own/lease land in Skagit County?

Answered: 261 Skipped: 0



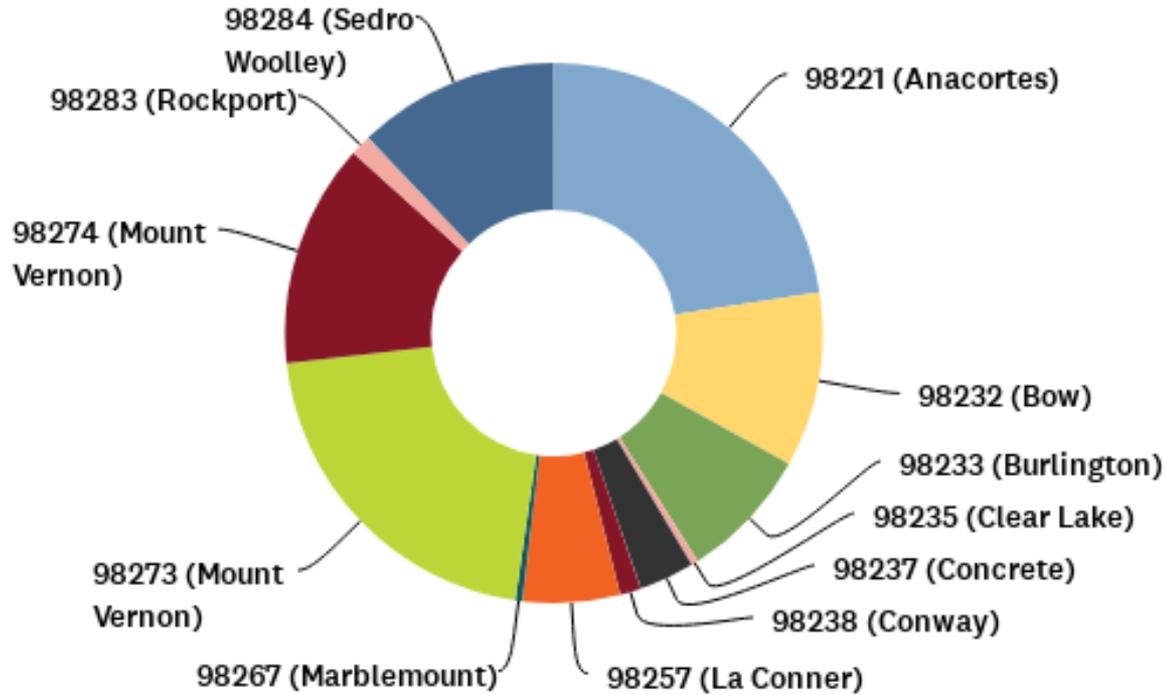
Q1: Do you live in Skagit County, or own/lease land in Skagit County?

Answered: 261 Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, I live in or own/lease land in Skagit County	92.72%	242
No, I do not live in or own/lease land in Skagit County	7.28%	19
TOTAL		261

Q2: What is your zip code?

Answered: 239 Skipped: 22



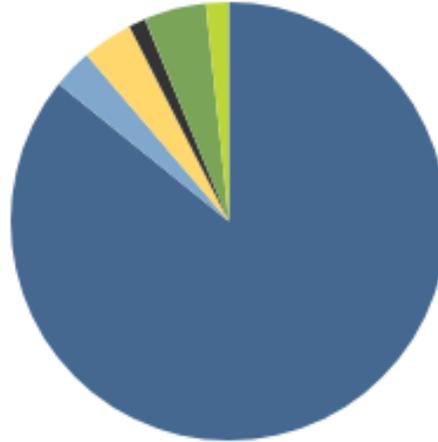
Q2: What is your zip code?

Answered: 239 Skipped: 22

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
98221 (Anacortes)	22.59%	54
98232 (Bow)	10.46%	25
98233 (Burlington)	7.95%	19
98235 (Clear Lake)	0.42%	1
98237 (Concrete)	3.35%	8
98238 (Conway)	1.26%	3
98255 (Hamilton)	0.00%	0
98257 (La Conner)	5.86%	14
98263 (Lyman)	0.00%	0
98267 (Marblemount)	0.42%	1
98273 (Mount Vernon)	20.92%	50
98274 (Mount Vernon)	13.39%	32
98283 (Rockport)	1.26%	3
98284 (Sedro Woolley)	12.13%	29
TOTAL		239

Q3: Which of the following best describes your living situation?

Answered: 239 Skipped: 22



- I own land and live on that land
- I own land, but do not live on that land
- I lease land and live on that land
- I lease land, but do not live on that land
- I rent a house or apartment
- Other

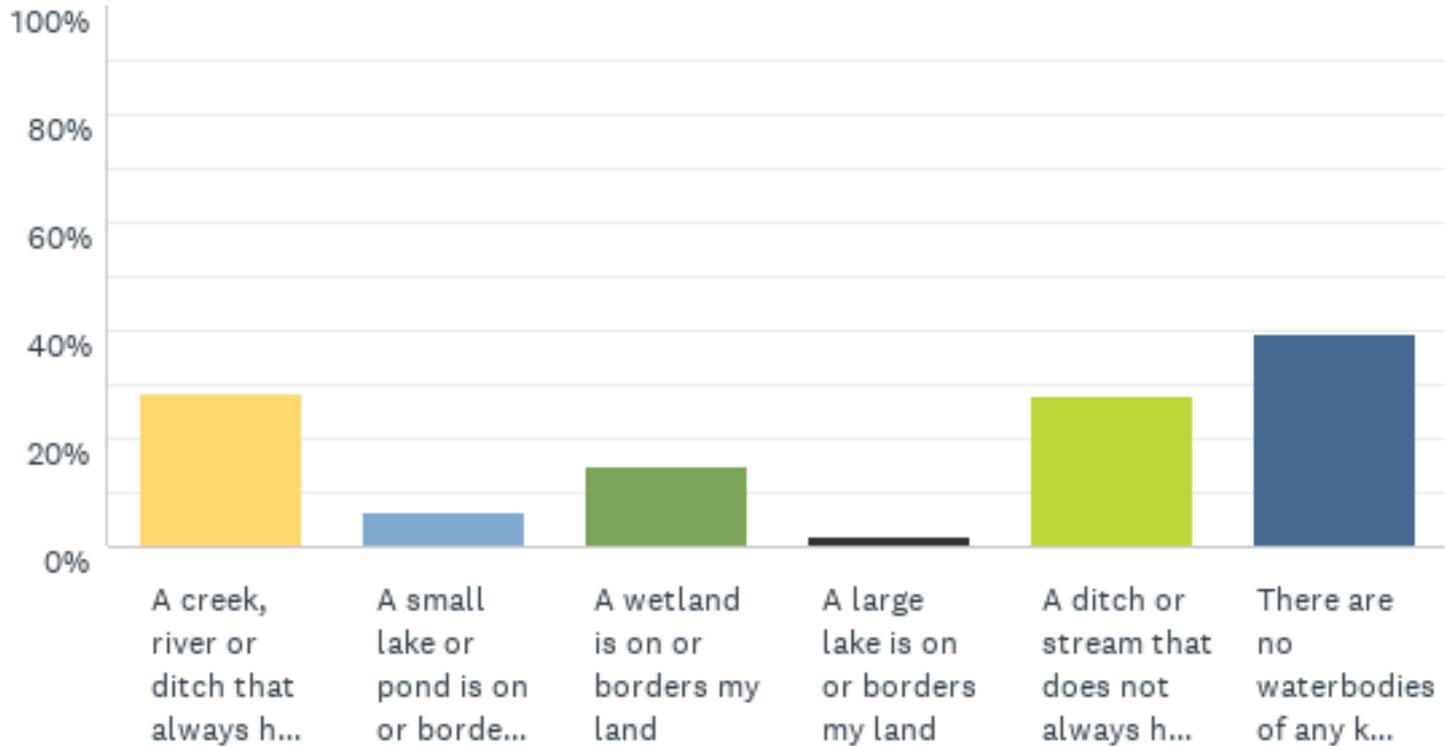
Q3: Which of the following best describes your living situation?

Answered: 239 Skipped: 22

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I own land and live on that land	85.77%	205
I own land, but do not live on that land	2.93%	7
I lease land and live on that land	3.77%	9
I lease land, but do not live on that land	1.26%	3
I rent a house or apartment	4.60%	11
Other	1.67%	4
TOTAL		239

Q4: Which of the following best describes the presence of water on the Skagit County land that you own or lease?

Answered: 223 Skipped: 38



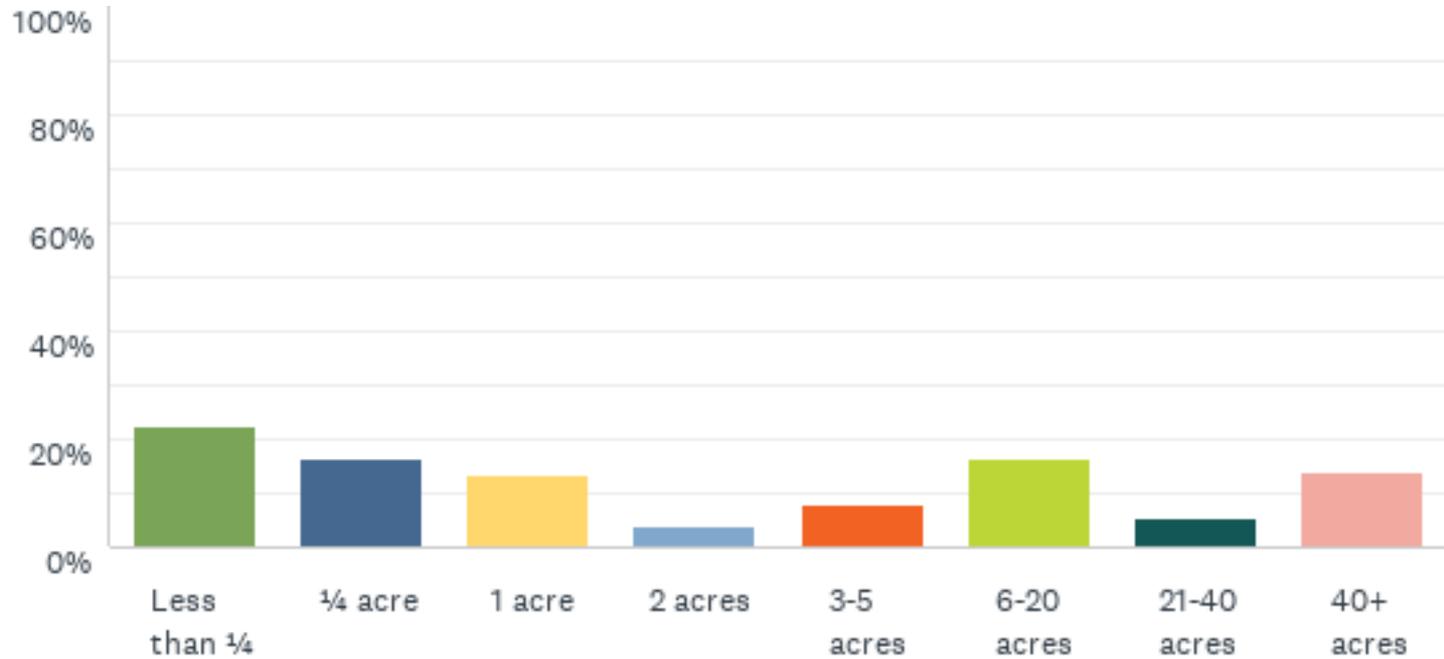
Q4: Which of the following best describes the presence of water on the Skagit County land that you own or lease?

Answered: 223 Skipped: 38

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
A creek, river or ditch that always has water in it, runs through or borders my land	28%	63
A small lake or pond is on or borders my land	7%	15
A wetland is on or borders my land	15%	34
A large lake is on or borders my land	2%	5
A ditch or stream that does not always have water in it, runs through or borders my land	28%	62
There are no waterbodies of any kind on my land	39%	88
Total Respondents: 223		

Q5: Approximately how many acres is your land?

Answered: 225 Skipped: 36



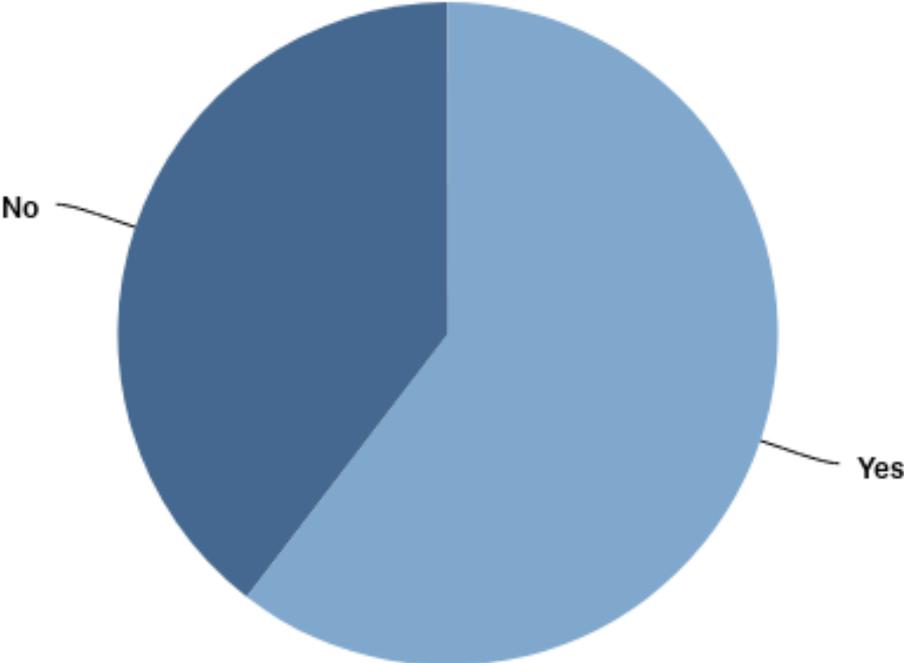
Q5: Approximately how many acres is your land?

Answered: 225 Skipped: 36

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than ¼ acre	22.67%	51
¼ acre	16.44%	37
1 acre	13.33%	30
2 acres	4.00%	9
3-5 acres	8.00%	18
6-20 acres	16.44%	37
21-40 acres	5.33%	12
40+ acres	13.78%	31
TOTAL		225

Q6: Prior to taking this survey, did you know that some streams in Skagit County are becoming warmer than they have been in the past?

Answered: 235 Skipped: 26



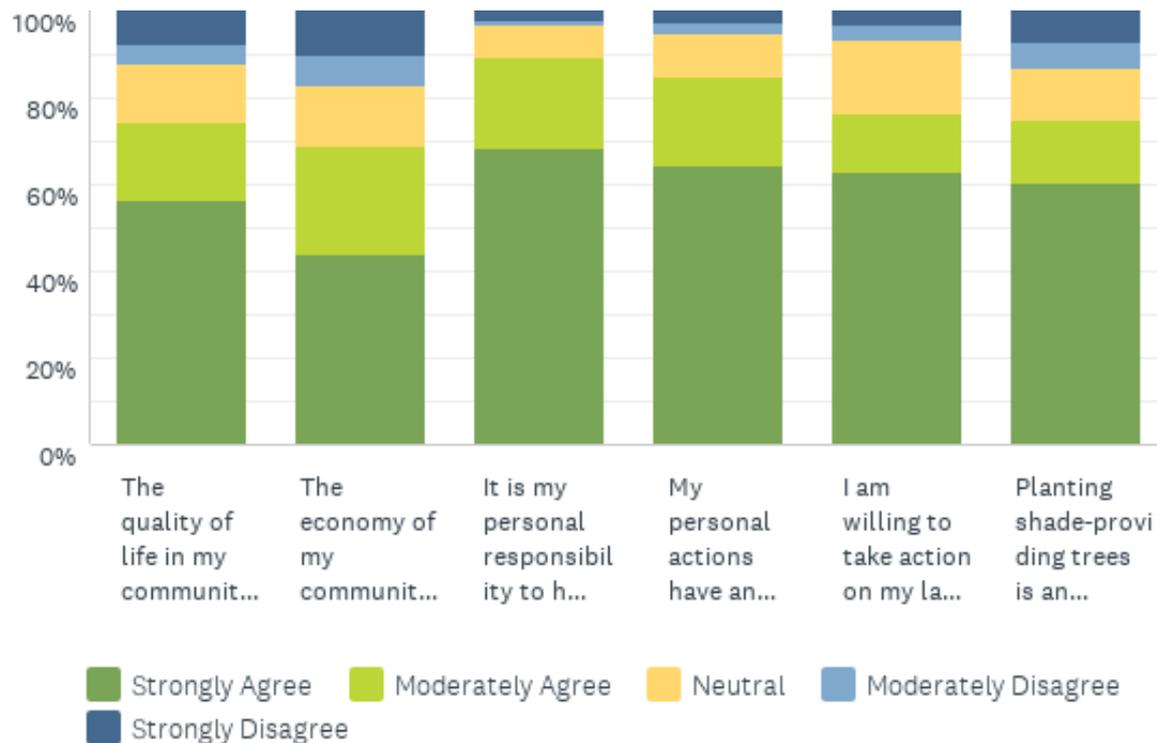
Q6: Prior to taking this survey, did you know that some streams in Skagit County are becoming warmer than they have been in the past?

Answered: 235 Skipped: 26

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	60.43%	142
No	39.57%	93
TOTAL		235

Q7: Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the following statements:

Answered: 221 Skipped: 40



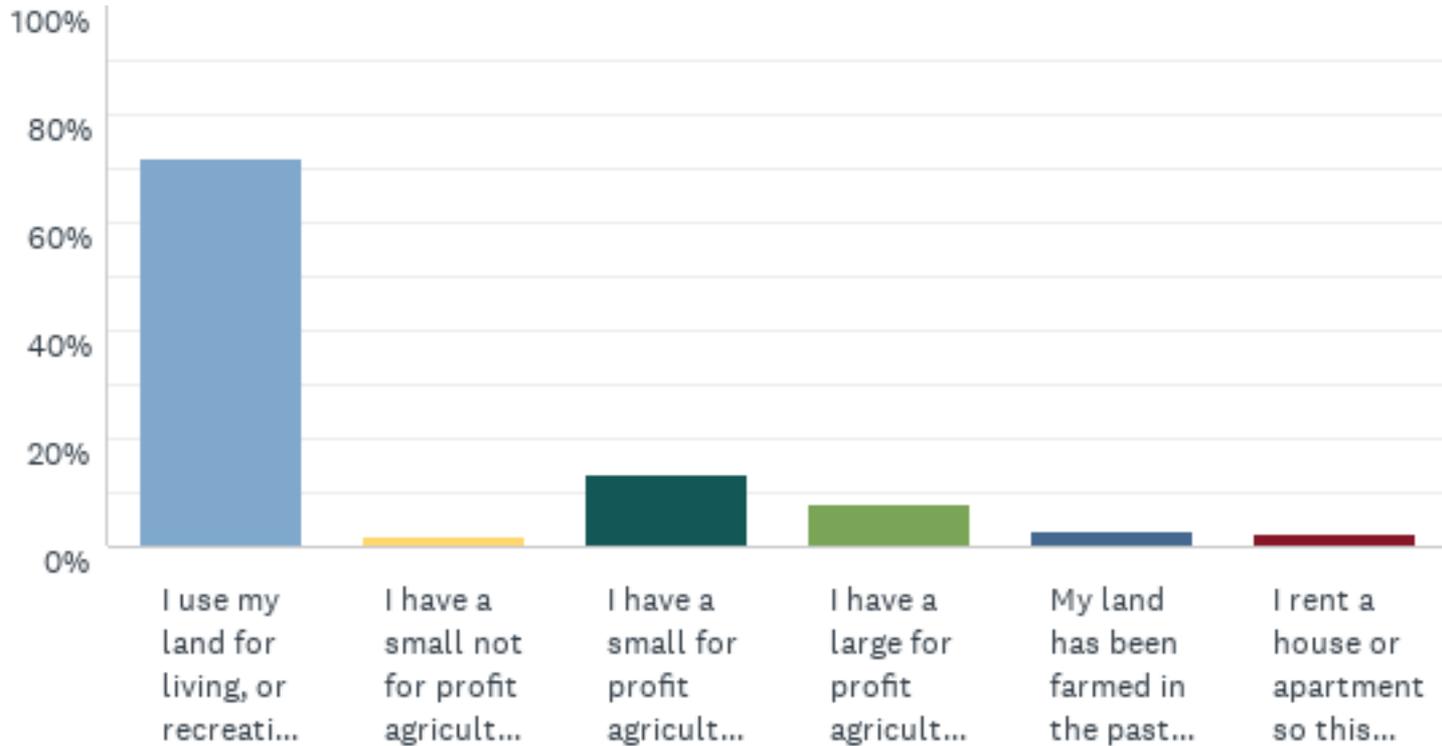
Q7: Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the following statements:

Answered: 221 Skipped: 40

	STRONGLY AGREE	MODERATELY AGREE	NEUTRAL	MODERATELY DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
The quality of life in my community depends on cold water in local rivers and streams	56.62% 124	17.81% 39	13.70% 30	4.57% 10	7.31% 16	219	1.88
The economy of my community depends upon cold water	43.84% 96	25.11% 55	14.16% 31	6.85% 15	10.05% 22	219	2.14
It is my personal responsibility to help protect water quality (including streams, creeks, and lakes)	68.64% 151	20.91% 46	7.27% 16	1.36% 3	1.82% 4	220	1.47
My personal actions have an impact on water quality	64.71% 143	20.36% 45	9.95% 22	2.26% 5	2.71% 6	221	1.58
I am willing to take action on my land to improve water quality	63.01% 138	13.70% 30	16.89% 37	3.20% 7	3.20% 7	219	1.70
Planting shade-providing trees is an important step to improve water quality	60.27% 132	14.61% 32	12.33% 27	5.94% 13	6.85% 15	219	1.84

Q8: Which of the following options best describes how you use your Skagit County land?

Answered: 218 Skipped: 43



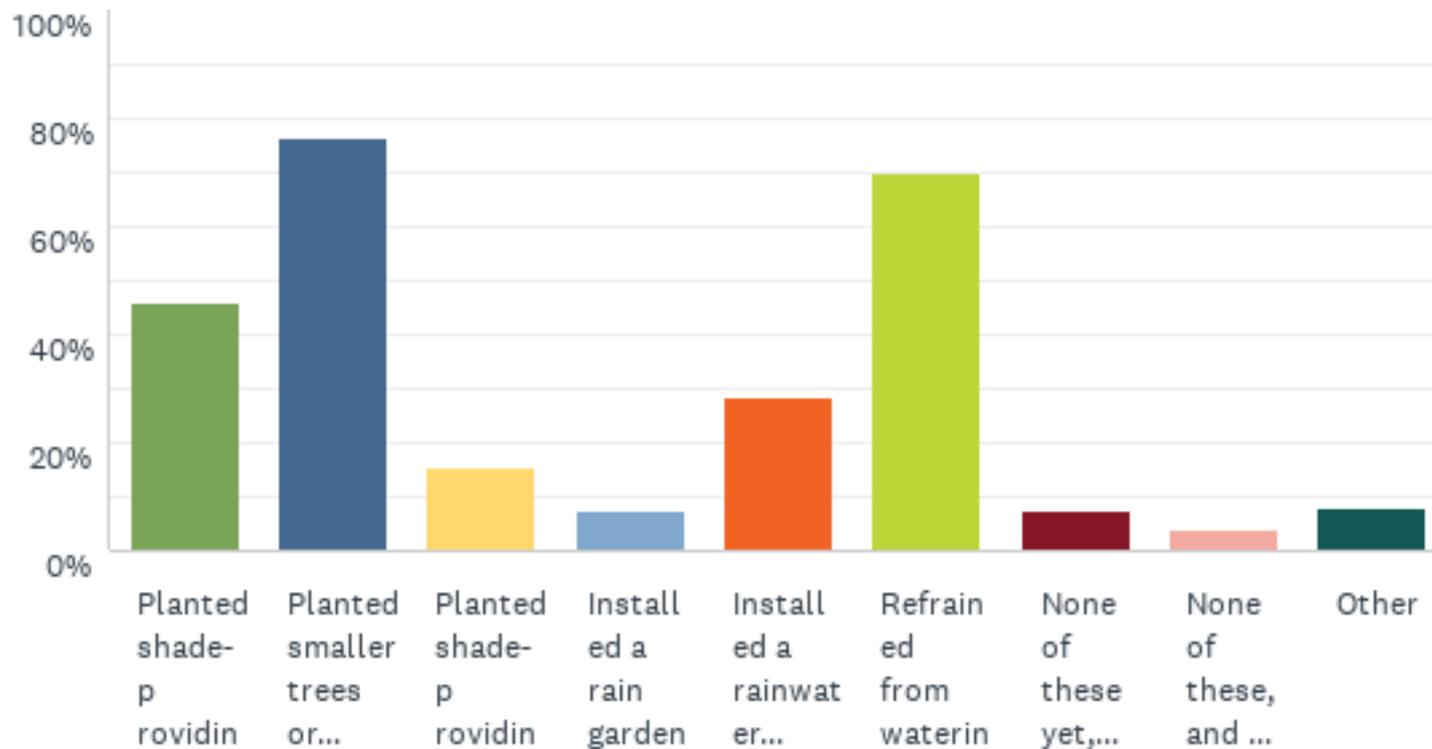
Q8: Which of the following options best describes how you use your Skagit County land?

Answered: 218 Skipped: 43

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I use my land for living, or recreation or backyard gardening	72.02%	157
I have a small not for profit agricultural operation on my land	1.83%	4
I have a small for profit agricultural operation on my land	13.30%	29
I have a large for profit agricultural operation on my land	7.80%	17
My land has been farmed in the past, but it is not being farmed now	2.75%	6
I rent a house or apartment so this does not apply to me	2.29%	5
TOTAL		218

Q9: (non- agricultural landowners) Which of the following have you done since you've owned or leased your land?

Answered: 159 Skipped: 102



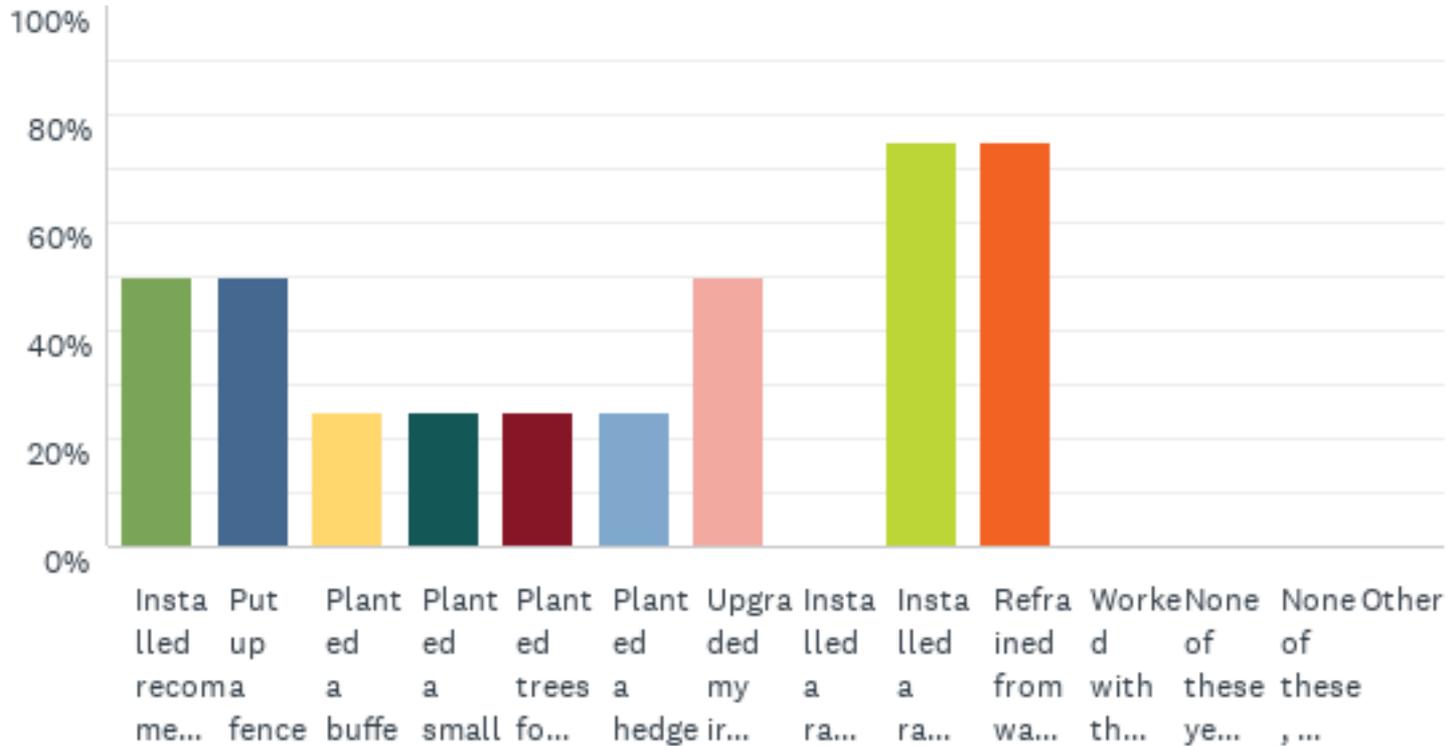
Q9: (non- agricultural landowners) Which of the following have you done since you've owned or leased your land?

Answered: 159 Skipped: 102

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Planted shade-providing trees	45.91%	73
Planted smaller trees or shrubs	76.73%	122
Planted shade-providing trees or shrubs by the water that runs through or borders my land	15.72%	25
Installed a rain garden	7.55%	12
Installed a rainwater catchment system (ex: rain barrels, cistern)	28.30%	45
Refrained from watering grass during the dry summer months	69.81%	111
None of these yet, but I'm interested in learning more about them	7.55%	12
None of these, and I'm not interested at this time	3.77%	6
Other	8.18%	13
Total Respondents: 159		

Q10: (non-profit farms) Which of the following have you done since you've owned or leased your land?

Answered: 4 Skipped: 257



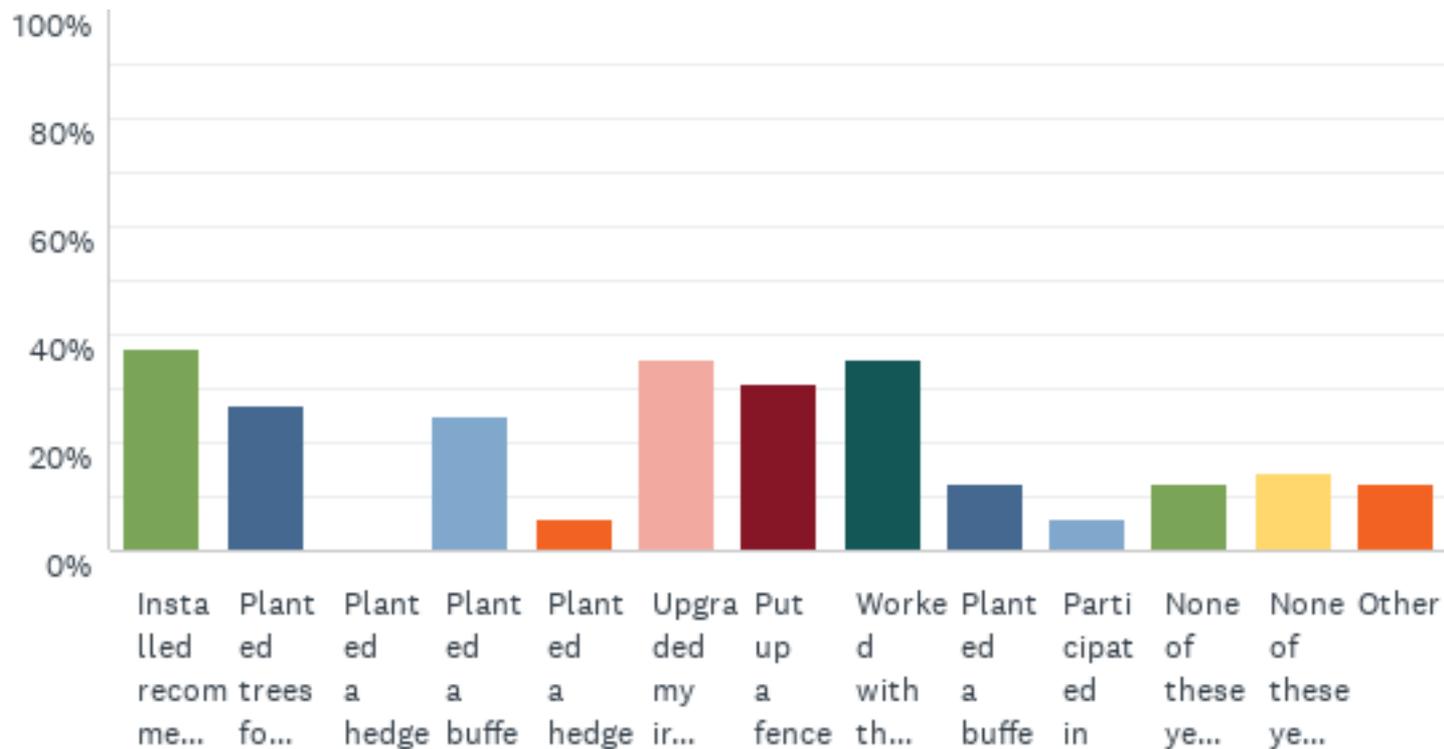
Q10: (non-profit farms) Which of the following have you done since you've owned or leased your land?

Answered: 4 Skipped: 257

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Installed recommended Best Management Practices (BMP's)	50.00%	2
Put up a fence to keep livestock out of water on my land	50.00%	2
Planted a buffer of shade-providing trees or shrubs by the water that runs through or borders my land	25.00%	1
Planted a small number of shade-providing trees or shrubs by the water that runs through or borders my land	25.00%	1
Planted trees for a windbreak	25.00%	1
Planted a hedgerow by the water that runs through or borders my land	25.00%	1
Upgraded my irrigation system to provide better efficiency	50.00%	2
Installed a rain garden	0.00%	0
Installed a rainwater catchment system (ex: rain barrels, cistern)	75.00%	3
Refrained from watering grass during the dry summer months	75.00%	3
Worked with the Conservation District to assess my property	0.00%	0
None of these yet, but I'm interested in learning more about them	0.00%	0
None of these, and I'm not interested at this time	0.00%	0
Other	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 4		

Q11: (for-profit farms and prior agricultural land) Which of the following have you done since you've owned or leased your land?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 213



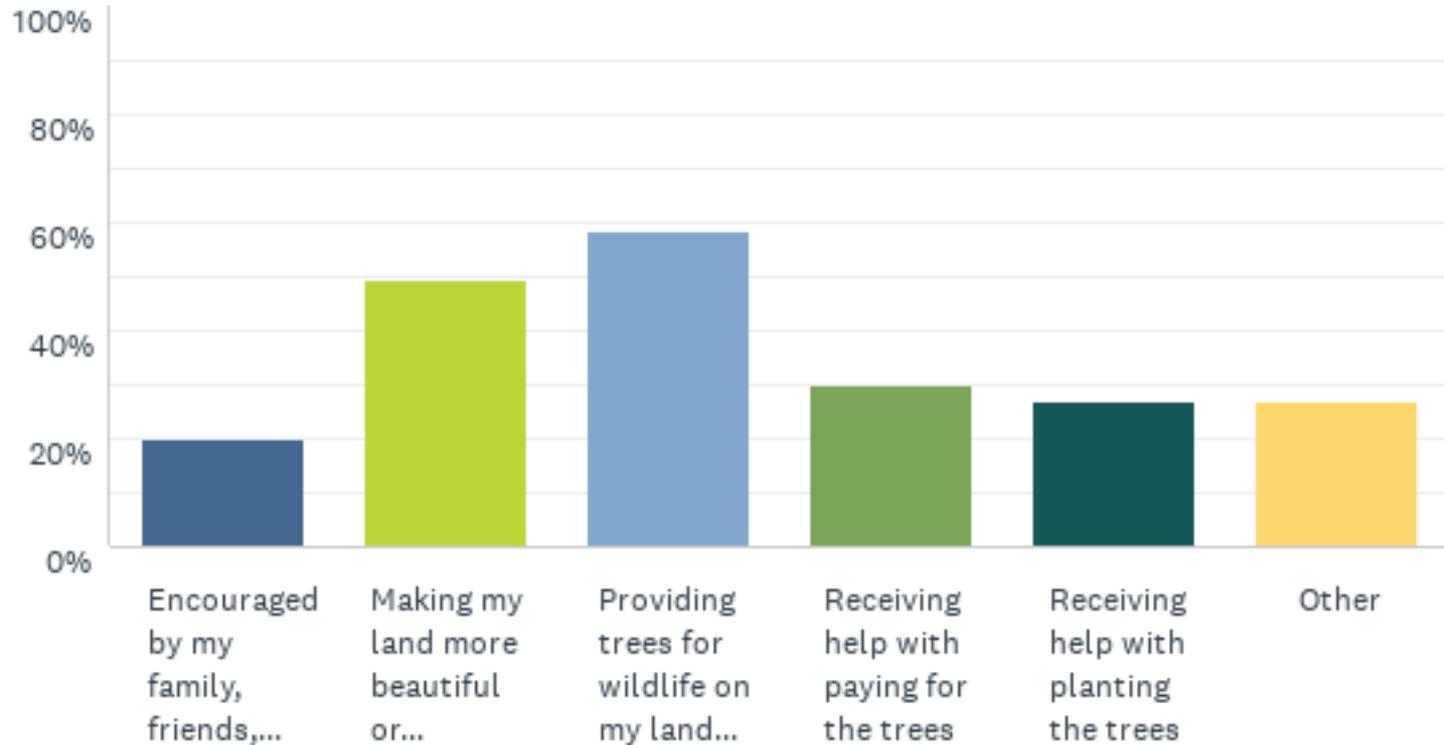
Q11: (for-profit farms and prior agricultural land) Which of the following have you done since you've owned or leased your land?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 213

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Installed recommended Best Management Practices (BMPs)	37.50%	18
Planted trees for a windbreak	27.08%	13
Planted a hedgerow	0.00%	0
Planted a buffer of shade-providing trees or shrubs by the water that runs through or borders my land	25.00%	12
Planted a hedgerow by the water that runs through or borders my land	6.25%	3
Upgraded my irrigation system to provide better efficiency	35.42%	17
Put up a fence to keep livestock out of water on my land	31.25%	15
Worked with the Skagit Conservation District to assess my property	35.42%	17
Planted a buffer with financial assistance from an outside agency	12.50%	6
Participated in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)	6.25%	3
None of these yet, but I am interested in learning more about them	12.50%	6
None of these yet, and I am not interested at this time	14.58%	7
Other	12.50%	6
Total Respondents: 48		

Q12: Which of the following factors have or would motivate you to plant shade-providing trees on your land?

Answered: 200 Skipped: 61



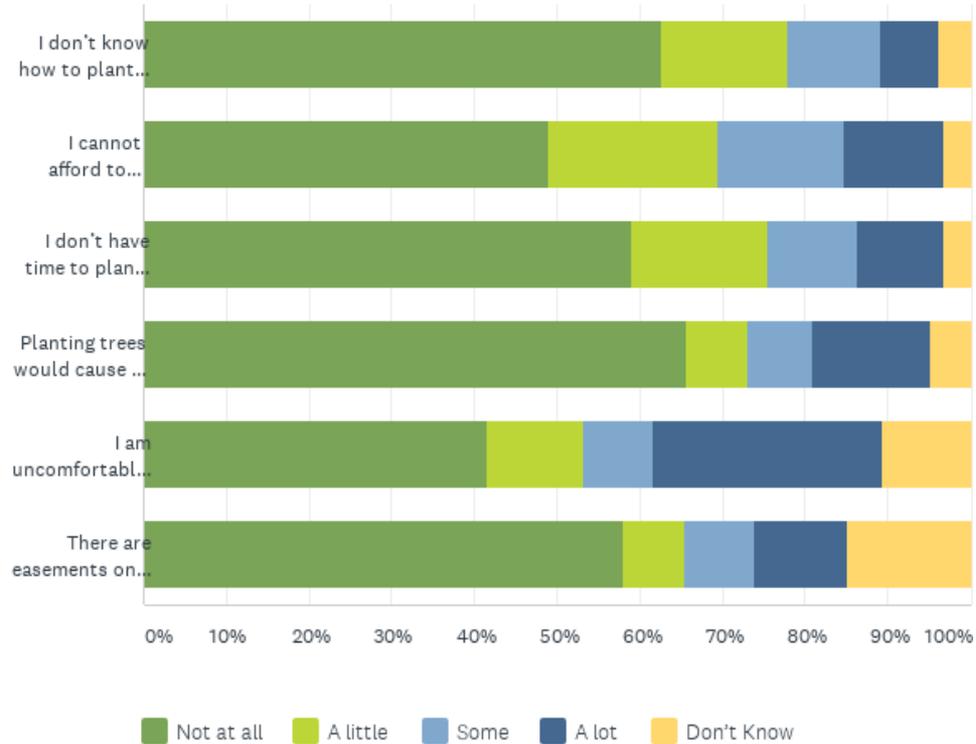
Q12: Which of the following factors have or would motivate you to plant shade-providing trees on your land?

Answered: 200 Skipped: 61

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Encouraged by my family, friends, or community	20.00%	40
Making my land more beautiful or comfortable	49.50%	99
Providing trees for wildlife on my land (ex: birds, pollinators, fish)	58.50%	117
Receiving help with paying for the trees	30.00%	60
Receiving help with planting the trees	27.00%	54
Other	27.00%	54
Total Respondents: 200		

Q13: If you wanted to plant trees today, to what extent would the following factors prevent you from planting shade-providing trees:

Answered: 197 Skipped: 64



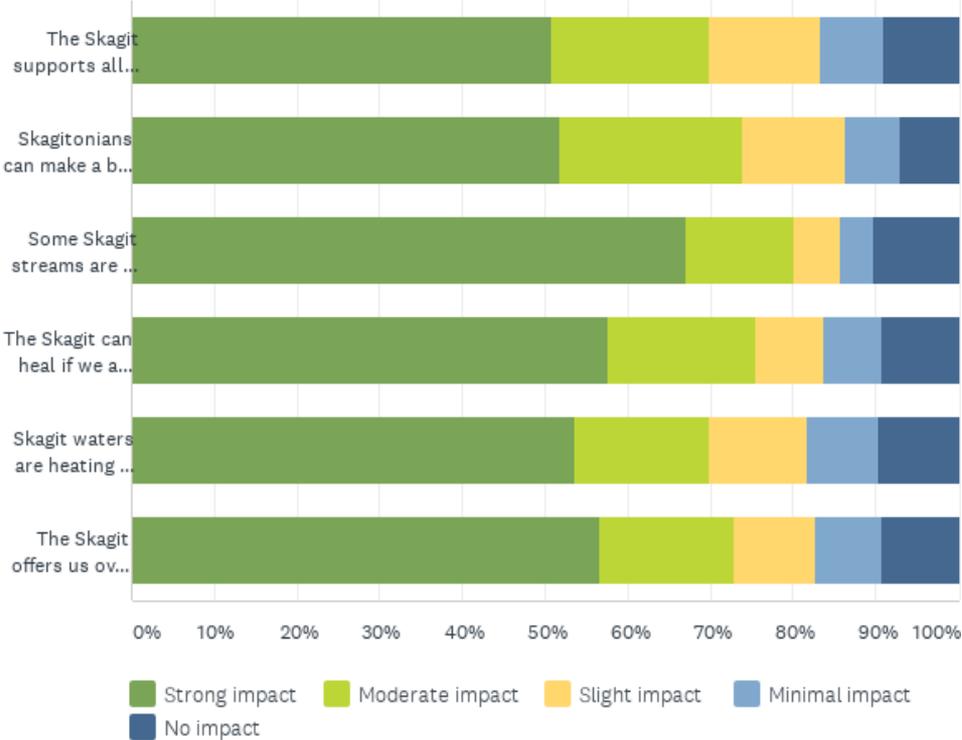
Q13: If you wanted to plant trees today, to what extent would the following factors prevent you from planting shade-providing trees:

Answered: 197 Skipped: 64

	NOT AT ALL	A LITTLE	SOME	A LOT	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
I don't know how to plant trees, choose species of trees for my land, care for trees, etc.	62.70% 116	15.14% 28	11.35% 21	7.03% 13	3.78% 7	185	1.74
I cannot afford to purchase trees, pay someone to plant them, pay someone to care for them, etc.	48.91% 90	20.65% 38	15.22% 28	11.96% 22	3.26% 6	184	2.00
I don't have time to plant trees	59.02% 108	16.39% 30	10.93% 20	10.38% 19	3.28% 6	183	1.83
Planting trees would cause me to lose cropland or pasture	65.61% 124	7.41% 14	7.94% 15	14.29% 27	4.76% 9	189	1.85
I am uncomfortable with losing control of my land through an easement or program	41.49% 78	11.70% 22	8.51% 16	27.66% 52	10.64% 20	188	2.54
There are easements on my land that limit what can be planted (ex: drainage or diking district, utilities, etc.)	57.98% 109	7.45% 14	8.51% 16	11.17% 21	14.89% 28	188	2.18

Q15: Using the scale below, rate how strongly the following statements influence you to take action to protect water quality:

Answered: 202 Skipped: 59



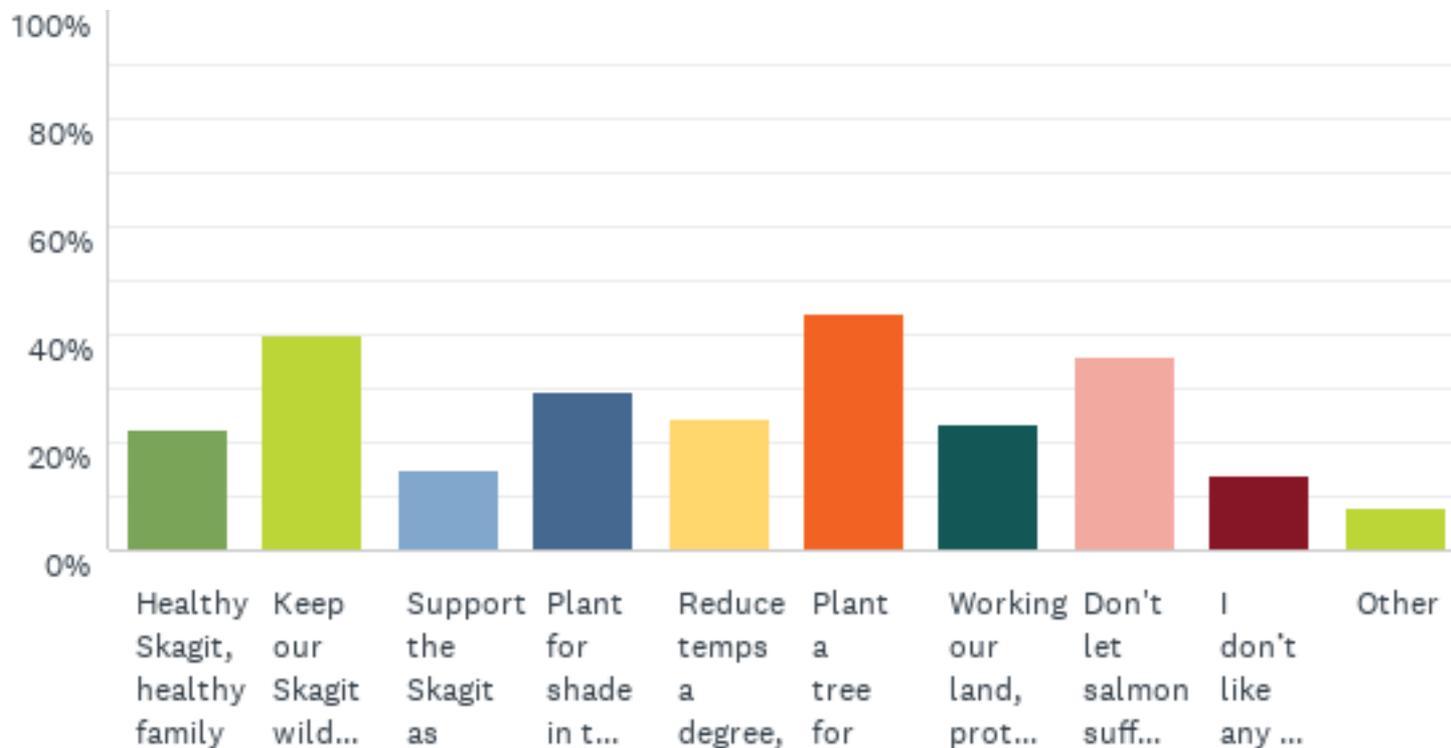
Q15: Using the scale below, rate how strongly the following statements influence you to take action to protect water quality:

Answered: 202 Skipped: 59

	STRONG IMPACT	MODERATE IMPACT	SLIGHT IMPACT	MINIMAL IMPACT	NO IMPACT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
The Skagit supports all of our diverse needs, and now it needs our help	50.75% 101	19.10% 38	13.57% 27	7.54% 15	9.05% 18	199	2.05
Skagitonians can make a big impact when we work to find common ground	51.76% 103	22.11% 44	12.56% 25	6.53% 13	7.04% 14	199	1.95
Some Skagit streams are a sizzling 10 degrees above the temperature that kills adult salmon	67.01% 132	13.20% 26	5.58% 11	4.06% 8	10.15% 20	197	1.77
The Skagit can heal if we all pitch in to help	57.65% 113	17.86% 35	8.16% 16	7.14% 14	9.18% 18	196	1.92
Skagit waters are heating up, but together we can keep them cool	53.57% 105	16.33% 32	11.73% 23	8.67% 17	9.69% 19	196	2.05
The Skagit offers us over 4,500 beautiful miles of streams to enjoy and protect	56.63% 111	16.33% 32	9.69% 19	8.16% 16	9.18% 18	196	1.97

Q16: The Department of Ecology is going to use some memorable phrases to encourage people to take action. In your opinion, which of the following phrase(s) works best to meet this goal?

Answered: 203 Skipped: 58



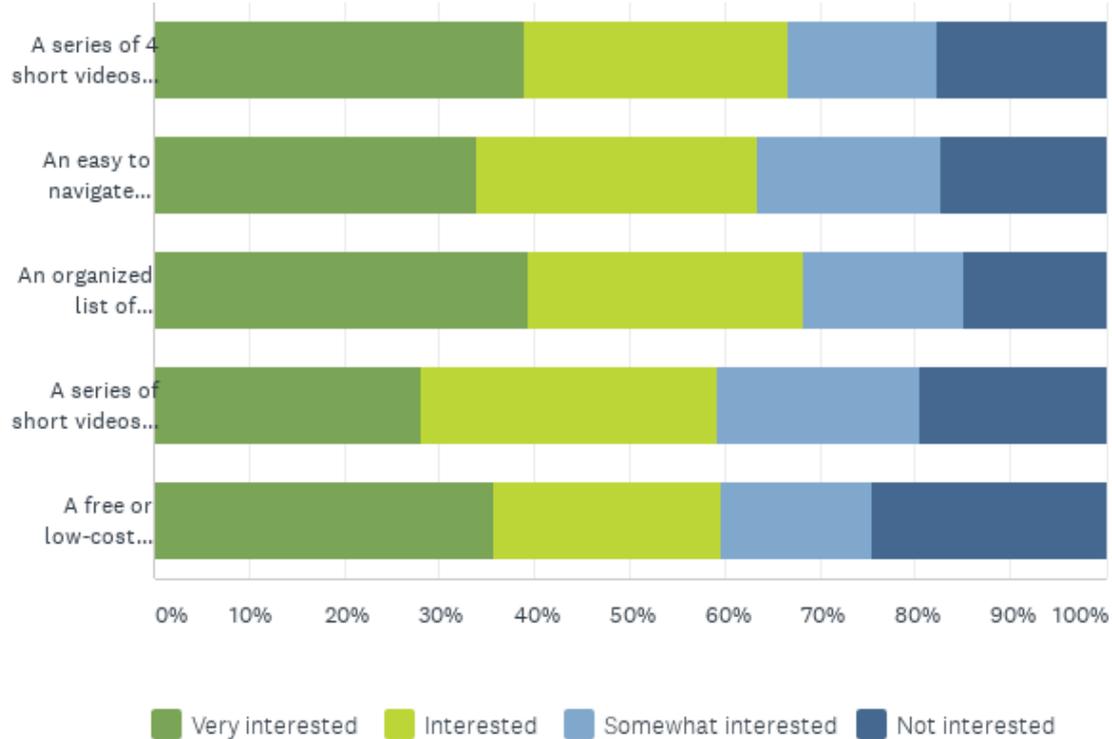
Q16: The Department of Ecology is going to use some memorable phrases to encourage people to take action. In your opinion, which of the following phrase(s) works best to meet this goal?

Answered: 203 Skipped: 58

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Healthy Skagit, healthy family	22.66%	46
Keep our Skagit wild and cool	39.90%	81
Support the Skagit as we grow	14.78%	30
Plant for shade in the next decade	29.56%	60
Reduce temps a degree, plant a tree	24.63%	50
Plant a tree for the Salish Sea	43.84%	89
Working our land, protecting our Skagit	23.65%	48
Don't let salmon suffer, plant a buffer	35.96%	73
I don't like any of these	13.79%	28
Other	7.88%	16
Total Respondents: 203		

Q17: Please indicate your level of interest in the following:

Answered: 200 Skipped: 61



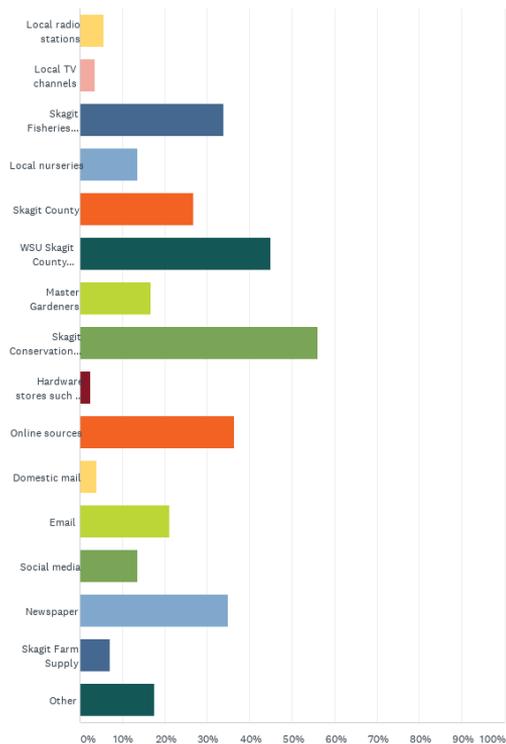
Q17: Please indicate your level of interest in the following:

Answered: 200 Skipped: 61

	VERY INTERESTED	INTERESTED	SOMEWHAT INTERESTED	NOT INTERESTED	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
A series of 4 short videos that explain the Skagit water temperature problem and provide examples of local solutions.	38.89% 77	27.78% 55	15.66% 31	17.68% 35	198	2.12
An easy to navigate interactive website that tells the story behind the water temperature problems in the Skagit.	34.01% 67	29.44% 58	19.29% 38	17.26% 34	197	2.20
An organized list of available resources for landowners who are interested in planting trees on their land.	39.29% 77	29.08% 57	16.84% 33	14.80% 29	196	2.07
A series of short videos that explain the available resources for landowners who are interested in planting trees on their land.	28.06% 55	31.12% 61	21.43% 42	19.39% 38	196	2.32
A free or low-cost workshop that teaches participants how to select, purchase, and plant trees in their own backyard.	35.71% 70	23.98% 47	15.82% 31	24.49% 48	196	2.29

Q18: Where do you get information or advice about Skagit County land and water management topics?

Answered: 198 Skipped: 63



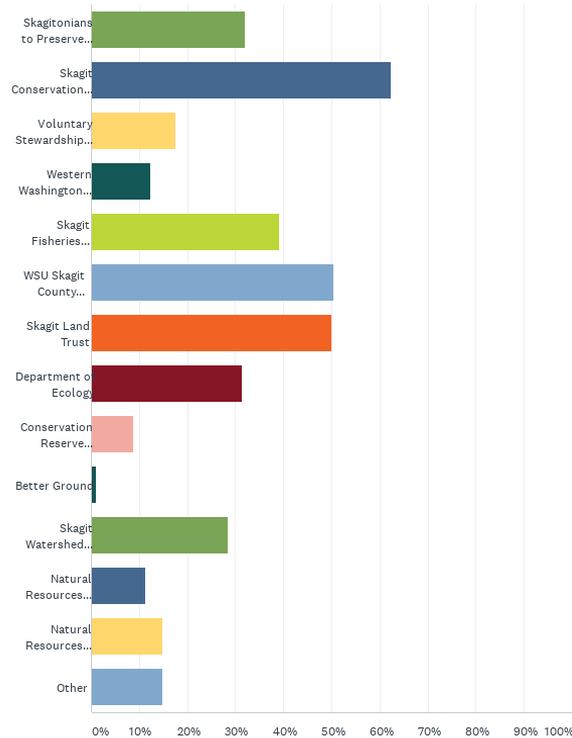
Q18: Where do you get information or advice about Skagit County land and water management topics?

Answered: 198 Skipped: 63

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Local radio stations	5.56%	11
Local TV channels	3.54%	7
Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group	33.84%	67
Local nurseries	13.64%	27
Skagit County	26.77%	53
WSU Skagit County Extension	44.95%	89
Master Gardeners	16.67%	33
Skagit Conservation District	56.06%	111
Hardware stores such as Lowes or Home Depot	2.53%	5
Online sources	36.36%	72
Domestic mail	4.04%	8
Email	21.21%	42
Social media	13.64%	27
Newspaper	34.85%	69
Skagit Farm Supply	7.07%	14
Other	17.68%	35
Total Respondents: 198		

Q19: Of the following local organizations, who would you prefer to receive messages from about land and water management practices in the Skagit?

Answered: 194 Skipped: 67



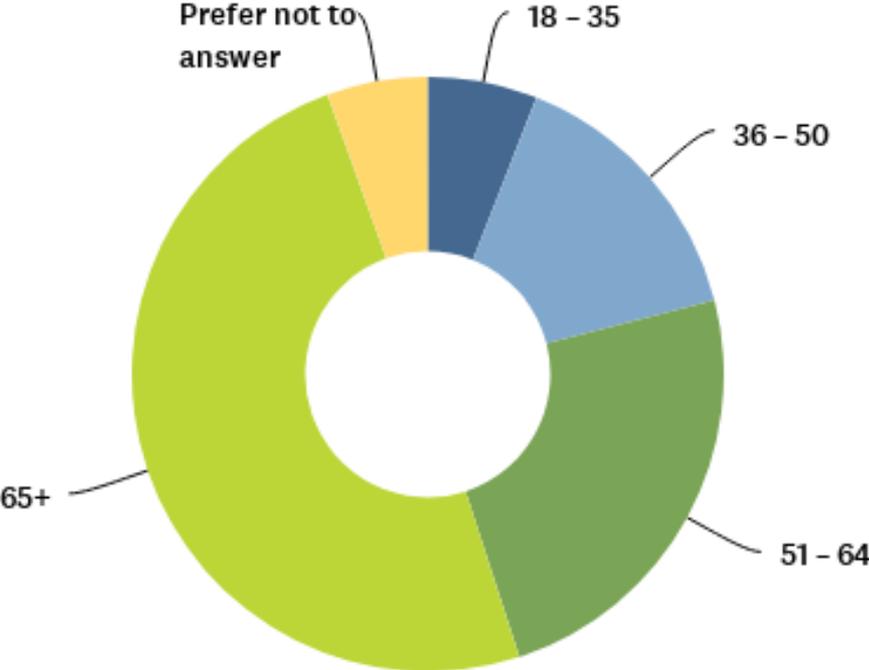
Q19: Of the following local organizations, who would you prefer to receive messages from about land and water management practices in the Skagit?

Answered: 194 Skipped: 67

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Skagitonians to Preserve Farmland	31.96%	62
Skagit Conservation District	62.37%	121
Voluntary Stewardship Program	17.53%	34
Western Washington Agricultural Association	12.37%	24
Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group	39.18%	76
WSU Skagit County Extension	50.52%	98
Skagit Land Trust	50.00%	97
Department of Ecology	31.44%	61
Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)	8.76%	17
Better Ground	1.03%	2
Skagit Watershed Council	28.35%	55
Natural Resources Steward Program	11.34%	22
Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)	14.95%	29
Other	14.95%	29
Total Respondents: 194		

Q22: Which category below includes your age?

Answered: 200 Skipped: 61



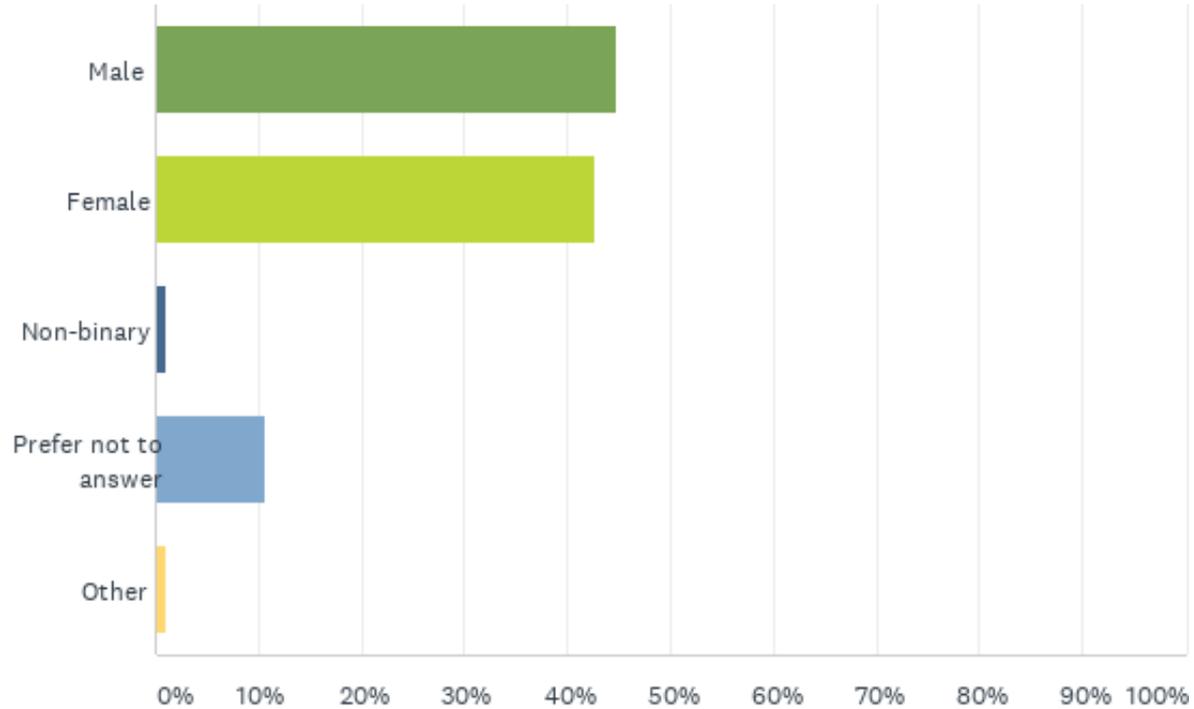
Q22: Which category below includes your age?

Answered: 200 Skipped: 61

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
17 or younger	0.00%	0
18 – 35	6.00%	12
36 – 50	15.00%	30
51 – 64	24.00%	48
65+	49.50%	99
Prefer not to answer	5.50%	11
TOTAL		200

Q23: What is your gender?

Answered: 197 Skipped: 64



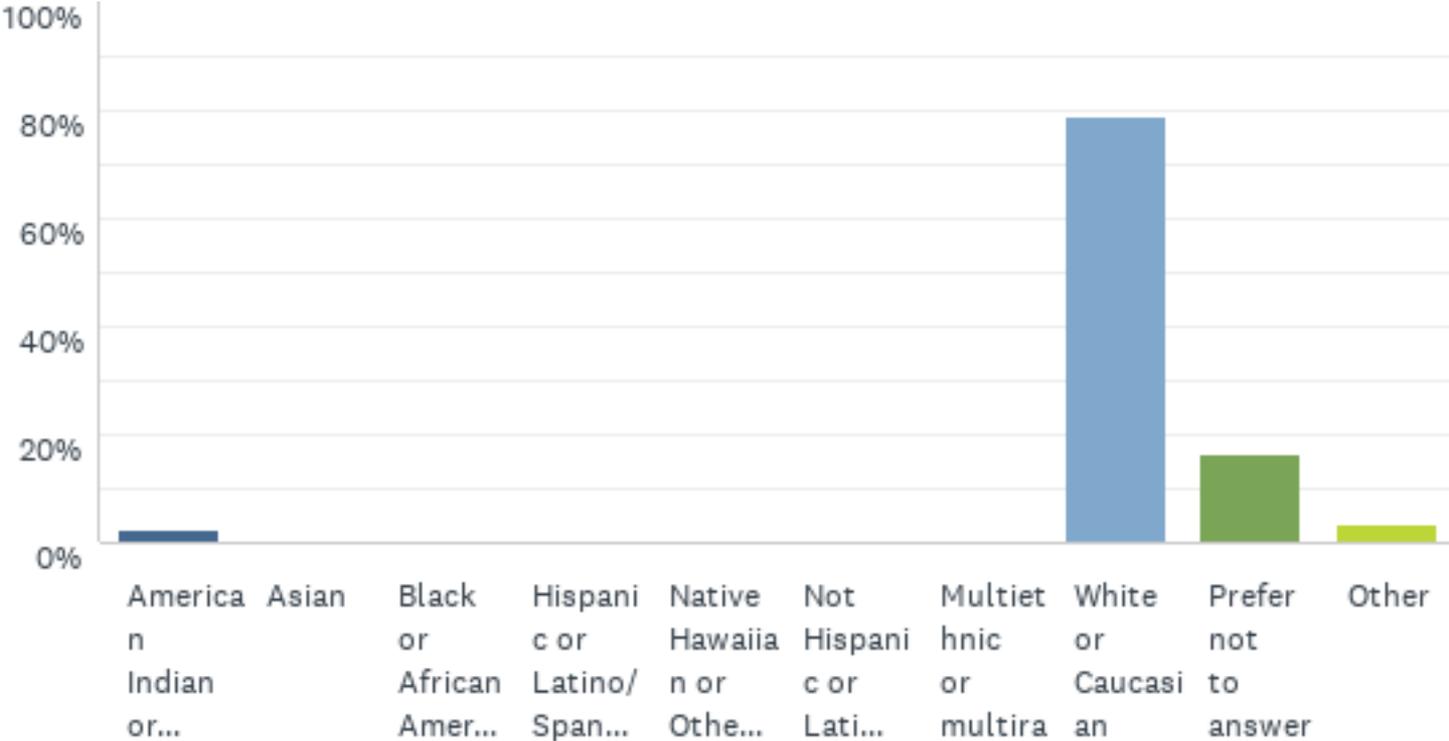
Q23: What is your gender?

Answered: 197 Skipped: 64

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Male	44.67%	88
Female	42.64%	84
Non-binary	1.02%	2
Prefer not to answer	10.66%	21
Other	1.02%	2
TOTAL		197

Q24: Which best describes your race or ethnicity?

Answered: 198 Skipped: 63



Q24: Which best describes your race or ethnicity?

Answered: 198 Skipped: 63

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
American Indian or Alaska Native	2.53%	5
Asian	0.51%	1
Black or African American	0.51%	1
Hispanic or Latino/Spanish origin	0.51%	1
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.51%	1
Not Hispanic or Latino/Spanish origin	0.00%	0
Multiethnic or multiracial	0.51%	1
White or Caucasian	78.79%	156
Prefer not to answer	16.67%	33
Other	3.54%	7
Total Respondents: 198		