



# 4-H Annual Report

4-H empowers youth to reach their full potential, working and learning in partnership with caring adults. Washington State University 4-H Youth Development is developing young people to become productive citizens who are engaged in positive change, meeting the needs of a diverse and changing society.



## A GREAT YEAR!

Over the past year, we have experienced remarkable progress. We have seen steady interest and growth, forged new partnerships, and provided educational programs for both youth as well as for our dedicated volunteers. We are proud to have been able to offer members of our community a range of exciting opportunities!

# 4-H HIGHLIGHTS

### FOOD SYSTEMS EDUCATION

Thanks to Avista, we were able to provide "Food 4 Thought" STEM kits for all of our clubs and our volunteers jumped at the chance to implement. 102 local 4-H'ers enjoyed the kits!



### DOGS ARE BACK

Two Rivers 4-H Club brought back the Dog Project with a new Project Leader and a focus on animal care and beginning obedience skills. Other clubs are also looking to add the project!



### BUILDING COMMUNITY

This year we saw several clubs hold specific skills clinics, and invite members from other clubs to join in on the learning. We love seeing the mentorship and community building!



### NEW PARTNERSHIPS

We were able to join two new community-focused workgroups. One is tackling Youth Well-being and the other is looking at creating a local outdoor school for multiple districts!



## 4-H SNAP SHOT

12  
CLUBS

51  
VOLUNTEERS

179  
YOUTH MEMBERS

282  
SPECIAL PROGRAM  
PARTICIPANTS

\$2700

GRANTS & GIFTS for PROGRAMS

2024 Stats for Comparison:

12 clubs

45 volunteers

199 youth members

28 special program participants

\$5000 in grants/gifts for programs

### SOMER MEADE

WSU Extension - Skamania County  
4-H Program Coordinator  
FYS Technical Advisor

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# IN THE 2024-2025 4-H PROGRAM YEAR OUR CLUBS

Fundraised  
**\$17,370**  
 Dollars



**AND**

Provided  
**365**  
 Community  
 Service Hours



## MAKING THE BEST BETTER

### VALUABLE PARTNERSHIPS

We are grateful for the many individuals, agencies, and organizations we got to share in meaningful work with this year:

**SKAMANIA COUNTY FAIR BOARD**

**ONE PREVENTION ALLIANCE**

**STEVENSON-CARSON SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**US FOREST SERVICE**

**SKAMANIA COUNTY NOXIOUS WEEDS**

**SKAMANIA COUNTY COMMUNITY EVENTS & RECREATION**

**CASCADE FOREST CONSERVANCY**

**SKAMANIA COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**SOUTH GIFFORD PINCHOT COLLABORATIVE**

**NAT'L FISH HATCHERIES**

**US ARMY CORP OF ENGINEERS**

**DEPT OF FISH & WILDLIFE**

**WAGAP**

**MT ADAMS INSTITUTE**



We sent 30 local 4-H'ers up to Puyallup for the WA State 4-H Fair, with several of them bringing home big awards! We are so proud of these 4-H members and thankful to their families for their commitment and dedication to 4-H experiences!



With a focus on accessibility, local Club Two Rivers 4-H organized and hosted the second annual Sunflower Hour program at our local fair. This event was open to families who would benefit from a quieter experience and came complete with private tours, special activities, and lunch! Approximately 40 people took advantage of this special offering.



4-H Leader's Council hosted another successful "Super Saturday" at Stevenson High School at the beginning of summer. With approximately 65 people in attendance, 4-H'ers attended workshops on taking care of animals, showmanship, marketing market projects, and judging contests. There was also a resource fair, an activity area, and sessions for parents and volunteers to enhance their experience and prepare for the Skamania County Fair.





# GREEN TEAM FOOD WASTE RESCUE PROGRAM



In the Spring of 2024, a dedicated parent volunteer started the Green Team Food Waste Rescue program at Carson Elementary after her son noticed a lot of food and milk going into the trash. From there, a vision to change the trajectory of that food waste was born!

In the fall of 2024, WSU Extension Skamania County 4-H got involved with the project to help with organization, coordination, and sustainability.

We love how this program has grown and become a built in part of meal service at the school. Students and volunteers work together every breakfast and lunch to save food waste from the trash!

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS:



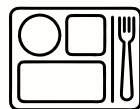
We secured a \$5,000 Waste Not WA Grant for program materials and staff stipends



We've had 10 local small farms in Skamania County take advantage of our bi-weekly scrap buckets to supplement their feed for their animals!



The Green Team was featured on the K-12 Food Rescue Podcast in February 2025



Approximately 260 students take advantage of school-provided breakfasts and lunches each day and come through the Green Team line to process their food waste.



We formed a partnership with the neighboring middle school, allowing us to train & Support 9 Middle School Mentors



Every single day, students leave their unopened and untouched food and milk at the share table, allowing their classmates to consume what they need!

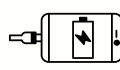


14 motivated volunteers have been recruited and trained to support students in the Green Team line each week

## THE EQUIVALENT OF:



2,129 gallons of gasoline



1,529,641 smart phones charged



20,017 pounds of coal burned



## CUMULATIVE IMPACTS:

# 790

VOLUNTEER HOURS PROVIDED

# 11,418

MILK CARTONS DONATED TO FOOD BANK

# 41,712

POUNDS OF FOOD WASTE DIVERTED FROM THE LANDFILL

# 19

METRIC TONS OF CO2 EMISSIONS PREVENTED





# FOREST YOUTH SUCCESS



## 2025 SEASON SUMMARY

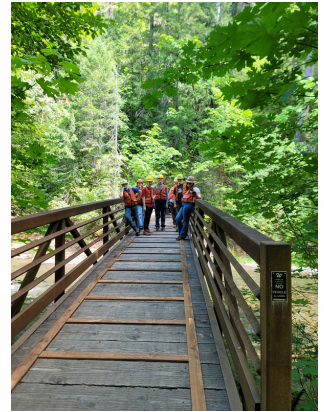
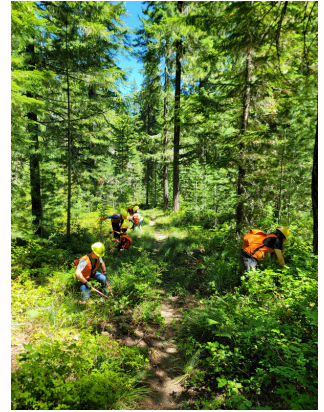
FYS is a workforce training program offered for Skamania County teens in partnership with WSU Extension 4-H, the Stevenson-Carson School District, and the U.S. Forest Service. We are so grateful we could run a modified season in 2025 and appreciate all of the support from our community and our partners! It was a great summer!



## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

In addition to working hard on the projects below, FYS teens learned about teamwork, first aid, wilderness safety, on-the-job safety, how to be a good employee and co-worker, stewardship, forestry, as well as how to apply for future jobs and budgeting with their paychecks.

- At the Bonneville Dam, crews collected **96** 30-gallon bags of common tansy, cleared **24** bags of trash from the Columbia River Shoreline, and cleared approximately **1500** square yards of brush to provide a defensible area in case of fire along Hamilton Island trails.
- We packed in the equipment & materials alongside our Forest Service partner and helped install anti-slip boards on a 91-foot bridge for the safety of equestrians on the Panther Creek Bridge on the PCT. We also cleared **~100** yards of trail between the bridge and associated campground.
- We spent much of the summer at Oldman Pass clearing **~4** miles of ski and tubing trails of brush, saplings, and a variety of invasives. Crews recreated a 10x10ft wide corridor on OK loop, Trail 151, Klindt's trail and a 12x12ft corridor on Trail 150. We also located, cleaned, and reported on conditions of multiple pedestrian bridges.
- Each crew worked with a local fish hatchery, where we cleared a **150ft** drainage ditch, removed **400 yards** of brush along fence lines, and filled **34** truckloads with brush for fuels reduction along roadsides.
- We also performed general trail maintenance at Hemlock Recreation Area, Whistlepunk Trail, and brushed out the road between Government Mineral Springs Campground and Cabin in the South Gifford Pinchot.



## NEW THIS YEAR

To help address food insecurity and ensure our hard working crews had access to nutrition, we were thrilled to join forces this year with the Backwoods Foundation to establish a food pantry. They kept our teen participants fed throughout the duration of the program!



### FYS SNAP SHOT

# \$113,000

**2025 FUNDS SECURED**

Thank you to the U.S. Forest Service-Gifford Pinchot National Forest and Cascade Forest Conservancy for prioritizing FYS for funds this year!

# \$96,900

**2025 PROGRAM COST**

This cost includes labor, transportation, training, and supplies.

# 18

YOUTH HIRES

# 4

ADULT HIRES

# 3

CREWS

# 5

PROJECT PARTNERS

# 3090

LABOR HOURS



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[https://www.scsd303.org/programs/forest\\_youth\\_success](https://www.scsd303.org/programs/forest_youth_success)

