

Skagit Land Trust Volunteer Land Steward Aide Position Description

Mission: "To protect wildlife habitat, wetlands, agriculture and forest lands, scenic open space and shorelines throughout the mainland and islands of Skagit County for the benefit of our community and as a legacy for future generations."

Volunteer Land Steward Aides Land Steward Aides are essential to maintaining our stewardship goals and responsibilities at all of our conservation areas by accompanying Land Stewards to 'their' property and assisting with various tasks. A Land Steward Aide is a volunteer that is interested in *regular stewardship activities, but that is not committed to a single property.* Land Steward Aides will gain more knowledge about properties than volunteers that join for one-time stewardship events. With this experience, Aides may wish to become Land Stewards of an assigned property when an appropriate location becomes available.

The following is a description of a land steward's responsibilities; however, each property has a unique set of characteristics and management objectives to be implemented and monitored. **Required Tasks**

- **Contact Information:** Provide staff with your preferred method of contact and your availability. This will be shared with other Land Stewards so they can contact you if assistance is needed. Staff will mediate initial contacts.
- **Consultation:** Be available to consult with the Trust about goals and objectives to become a Land Steward with an assigned property. Biennial review/evaluation of your role will help determine the level of commitment and either party can terminate the agreement with a 30-day notice.
- **Monitoring:** Accompany Land Stewards and/or Trust staff on monitoring visits when available. Land Steward Aides are not responsible for monitoring reports.

Additional Land Steward Aide Activities

Based on your interest and skills, there are many other stewardship tasks with which the Trust could use assistance. Conducting these tasks are not required, but your assistance is greatly appreciated:

Public Contact:

- Conduct tours of properties on an "as needed basis," you would only be asked to tour a property you are familiar with.
- Speak with neighbors or visitors of the property to offer information about the Trust, its management objectives for the property, and any restrictions on use of the property.

Property Maintenance and Restoration:

- Minor trail clearing/brushing.
- Litter pickup on the property.
- Boundary-marker maintenance.
- Sign maintenance.

Socials and Meetings:

• Join in semi-annual outings with other Land Stewards and volunteers to see other locations, meet other committees and board of directors, at member events or upon invitation, for a complete understanding of the organization.

Scientific Surveys for Baseline Data File:

• Work with Land Stewards and staff to compile lists of birds, amphibians, or other natural history features onsite.

If this position is of interest to you or someone you know, please contact a Stewardship staff member at (360) 428-7878 or <u>volunteer@skagitlandtrust.org</u>.

