



Our Vision

Reduce vulnerability of human communities and ecosystems in the Skagit River basin to the impacts of a changing climate

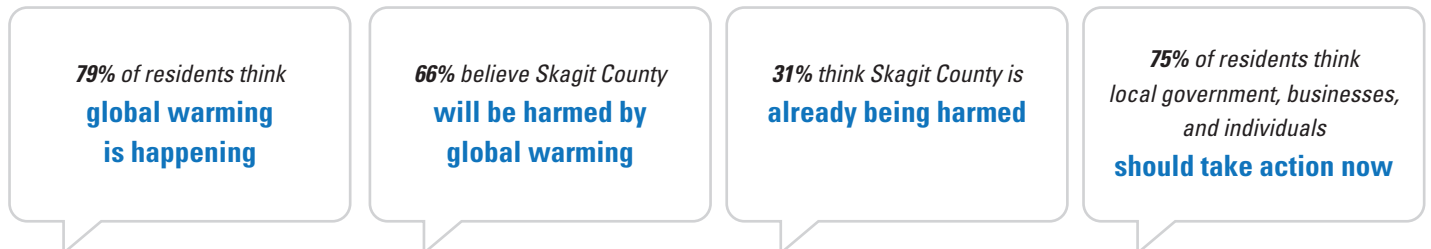
A Pathway to Resiliency

SC²'s theory of change is that quality, credible, integrated locally-based, decision-maker ready climate science information—partnered with those focused on action or motivated to act—will increase both the level of action, but also the quality of actions, resulting in a more resilient community.



A Community Primed for Action

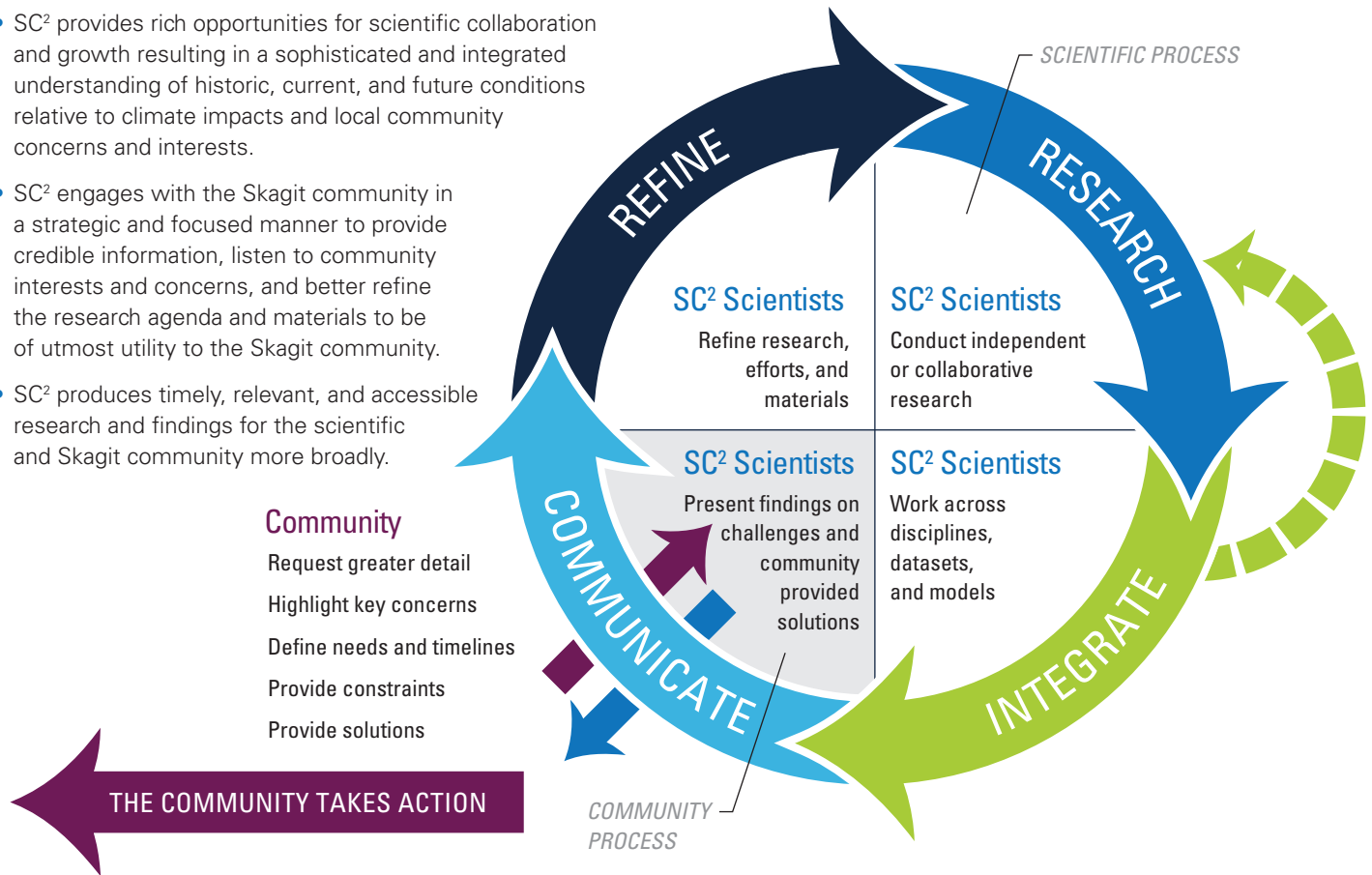
SC² believes that given the high level of mistrust and partisan perspectives surrounding the topic of climate change it is imperative that SC² remain focused on providing credible, locally-focused scientific information in support of and in response to those motivated to act. Indeed, 2015 polling of Skagit County residents by SC² and the Yale Project on Climate Communications shows:



Statistics above are from the Yale Project on Climate Communications, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

A Scientific and Community Collaboration

- SC² provides rich opportunities for scientific collaboration and growth resulting in a sophisticated and integrated understanding of historic, current, and future conditions relative to climate impacts and local community concerns and interests.
- SC² engages with the Skagit community in a strategic and focused manner to provide credible information, listen to community interests and concerns, and better refine the research agenda and materials to be of utmost utility to the Skagit community.
- SC² produces timely, relevant, and accessible research and findings for the scientific and Skagit community more broadly.



Together, We Create a More Resilient Community

When the city of Anacortes needed to replace its water treatment plant, SC² provided information about projected climate impacts that could potentially affect its new plant.

SC² scientists worked directly with the City and plant managers for over three years to provide unbiased scientific information they could use to make smarter investments and weigh the risks of action and inaction. The scientists designed analyses pertinent to the plant's location and water treatment operations to answer specific questions about sea level rise, projected amounts of sediment in the watershed, and future flooding.

The City built a climate-smart plant that balances risk with available infrastructure investment. The City implemented a new technological solution for treating the sediment-laden water, which resulted in significantly higher flood protection. SC² performed preliminary modeling of salinity risks to the water intake pipe and found that it is not an immediate concern based on currently modeled rates of sea level rise and the lifespan of the plant.

