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Climate change subject of talk series

By KIMBERLY CAUVEL @Kimberly_SVH Sep 25, 2016

The nonprofit Transition Fidalgo & Friends, which seeks to share information about the implications of climate change and ways communities can prepare, is launching a climate change talk series Tuesday.

“I think it’s important that the general public really starts understanding what’s coming in the future and things that they can be thinking about that puts them in a better position to deal with what’s coming,” Transition Fidalgo & Friends board president Eric Shen said.

Transition Fidalgo teamed up with the Skagit Climate Science Consortium, a group of scientists researching the local effects of climate change, to organize the series.

The talks will explore a variety of topics, including “changes we expect to see here in our mountains, our forest lands and the Salish Sea in general,” Shen said. “It will be very pertinent because it will be very local.”

In addition to the science, the series will explore other issues related to climate change, such as emergency preparedness, socio-economics and human health, said Roger Fuller, a Transition board member and consortium scientist who is leading the project.

Fuller and geologist Jon Riedel will lead the first talk at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Anacortes Senior Activity Center at 1701 22nd St. The talk will focus on how the region’s water systems, from the glaciers in the North Cascades to the marine shorelines, are affected as temperatures increase.

Future talks will explore topics such as increasing fire risks and the changes in the marine food chain.

Transition plans to host a talk each month.

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