



## OUR VISION

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



## – 2016 – ACHIEVEMENTS

7 papers published

Over 1,300 people  
directly reached

3 science integration  
meetings held, including  
a daylong retreat

Over 10 presentations to  
community groups, local  
governments, and science  
conferences

5 new aerial photographs  
showing glacial retreat;  
the photographs will serve  
as a powerful public  
communication tool

## Northwest Science Special Issue

In 2016, a special Skagit-focused issue of the Northwest Science Journal titled "From Glaciers to Estuary: Assessing Climate Change Impacts on the Skagit River Basin, A Series of Six Reports" was published. Eight SC<sup>2</sup> members collaborated on this linked series of articles.

Articles in the special issue include:

***Impact of Recent Glacial Recession on  
Summer Streamflow in the Skagit River***

***Impacts of Climate Change on Regulated  
Streamflow, Hydrologic Extremes, Hydropow-  
er Production, and Sediment Discharge in the Skagit River Basin***

***Effects of Climate Change on Extreme Low-Flows in Small Lowland  
Tributaries in the Skagit River Basin***

***Combined Effects of Projected Sea Level Rise, Storm Surge, and Peak River  
Flows on Water Levels in the Skagit Floodplain***

***Assessing Tidal Marsh Vulnerability to Sea-Level Rise in the Skagit Delta***

***Sensitivity of Circulation in the Skagit River Estuary to Sea Level Rise and  
Future Flows***





## 2016 Surge Festival – Partnering Scientists and Artists

As part of their ongoing work to find new ways to spark conversations about local climate impacts, Skagit Climate Science Consortium (SC<sup>2</sup>) members participated in the second Surge Festival at the Museum of Northwest Art (MoNA) in La Conner, WA. The first Surge Festival, held in September 2015, was a successful two-day event featuring collaborative art projects developed by artists, research scientists, and educators. Building off the success of the 2015 event, which was attended by over 300 people, MoNA planned a weeklong festival for September 17 through 25, 2016. The 2016 Surge Festival provided SC<sup>2</sup> with an exciting opportunity to start new conversations and build new collaborations. The Skagit Land Trust, Skagit Watershed Council, and Swinomish Indian Tribal Community were also partners in the event.

In addition to directly collaborating with artists, SC<sup>2</sup> also provided posters sharing information on key climate change topics, including air temperature, high tides, forest fires, salmon vulnerability, adaptation and resilience, and sediment. SC<sup>2</sup> also provided projections of photographs showing changes in Skagit Watershed glaciers—since the 1950s, 12.4 square miles of ice has been lost.

The festival included live performances, speeches from Brian Cladoosby, chairman of the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community; Steve Moddemeyer, a sustainability expert from Collin-Woerman; and a panel discussion with artists and SC<sup>2</sup> members. Over 85 people attended the panel discussion and over 700 people attended the event overall. 2016 was such a success, the museum will be hosting a 3-month Surge exhibit in 2018.

## WHO WE ARE

**The Skagit Climate Science Consortium (SC<sup>2</sup>)** is a 501 c(3) nonprofit comprised of scientists working with local people to assess, plan and adapt to climate related impacts. SC<sup>2</sup> members are research scientists from federal, municipal, tribal, university, and non-governmental organizations. They work in the Skagit basin to understand how the landscape, plants, animals and people may be affected by changes in the patterns of rain, snow, temperature, storms and tides.

## OUR MISSION

To support Skagit communities as they adapt to climate change, SC<sup>2</sup>:

**Fosters collaborative scientific research** to understand the diverse and interrelated impacts of climate change from the Skagit's headwaters to Puget Sound.

**Produces relevant climate-related products** closely integrated with the Skagit community's needs and concerns.

**Serves as a conduit between Skagit communities & SC<sup>2</sup> scientists** to assist in the development of adaptation strategies.

## OUR 2015-2020 STRATEGIC FOCUS

- **Powerful Scientific Learning Community**
- **Engaged Skagit Adaptation Community**
- **Usable Science**
- **Governance**
- **Fundraising/Development**