



BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINEES 2022

The Board of Directors has nominated the following slate of four (4) nominees for consideration by the membership at the Annual Membership meeting to be held on February 10, 2022 via Zoom. Each nominee is being nominated to serve a 3-year term on the SFEG Board of Directors.

Shirley Solomon

Shirley has spent her professional career working in land use planning and environmental management. Since moving to the Pacific Northwest in 1982, she developed an enthusiasm and interest in protecting the needs of salmon. In 1997, Shirley co-founded the Skagit Watershed Council and directed its activities for 17 years until 2013. During this time, she developed a strong working relationship with Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group and is interested in contributing to the long-term success of the organization. In addition to her wealth of knowledge about Skagit salmon, Shirley is excited to continue to share her experience in organizational development, fundraising and nonprofit management with SFEG. Shirley has served on the board since 2019 and is seeking election to a second term.

Steve Ranten

Steve recently retired from a career in forestry with the Washington Department of Natural Resources at their regional office in Sedro Woolley. Steve was raised in Skagit County and thoroughly enjoys being in the forest, especially to go fishing. Steve has a degree in Forest Management from Washington State University, and the bulk of his career was spent working with large and small forest landowners to help them understand forest practices rules, and how the rules, to protect streams and wetlands, would be applied to their proposals. Steve was an active volunteer with Ducks Unlimited for 23 years. He has enjoyed both volunteering for SFEG projects and being a Board Member (where he serves on the Outreach and Habitat Committees). Steve looks forward to continuing to share his knowledge of forestry and streams with the community through his various roles with Skagit Fisheries. Steve has served on the board since 2015.

Dan Berentson

Dan is recently retired from a 20 year career with Skagit County Government, most recently serving as the Public Works Director. Dan has a keen interest in fish, birds, and pollinating insects as well as a strong interest in local history and how it has influenced our landscape and ecosystem. Dan grew up fishing the Samish River and as a young man worked as a deckhand on a salmon purse seiner in both Puget Sound and Alaska. Dan's ancestors built the first commercial fish traps at Lummi Island and thus he has strong ties to the fishing industry. In his role in County Government, he oversaw the Natural Resources Stewardship Program, the Volunteer Stewardship Program, the Clean Samish Initiative, plus a number of restoration project partnerships over the years with local tribes and non-profits including many culvert projects. Dan has a degree in Communications from the Edward R. Murrow School of Communications at Washington State University. Dan and his wife Susan were Peace Corps volunteers many years ago in Central America. We established community gardens at rural schools amongst some of the last old growth rain forest in the hemisphere. There he developed a lifelong interest in pollinating insects and a concern for their global decline. Dan is actively involved in the community in a variety of ways including being members of United Way, Rotary, his church, and the Skagit County Pioneer Association. Dan has served on the boards of Boys and Girls Club of Skagit County, Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce, Skagit County YMCA, and

Friends of Welcome Baby. Dan is looking forward to continuing to contribute to the natural resource field in his retirement. He is seeking his first term.

Chad Fisher

Chad is a 4th Generation Skagitonian with his family settling in the Skagit Valley during the 1800's. Chad believes solidly in preserving the special attributes that the Skagit Valley is known for. Chad graduated from Burlington Edison High School and attended Washington State University obtaining a BS degree in Construction Management. Upon graduation he joined his father and brother and formed Fisher & Sons Construction. In 2008 Chad sold his interest in the company and after taking 2 years off formed Chad Fisher Construction. He was eventually joined by his 2 sons who are now in the process of taking over this business. Chad has been actively involved in the community in a variety of ways including: youth sports, Rotary, Kiwanis, his church, and multiple professional and alumni associations. He has also served on the boards of Association of General Contractors, Skagit State Bank, and EDASC. Chad has also been a member of the Wildcat Steelhead Club for many years and enthusiastically enjoys a wide array of outdoor recreation interests including fishing, hunting, boating, skiing, biking, hiking and traveling. Chad looks forward to continuing his passion for community involvement by serving on the Skagit Fisheries Board of Directors. He is seeking his first term.