

Ag Conference Green Sheet Comments

Last	First	Food crops	Livestock & dairy	Nursery, greenhouse, sod	Other	Acres farmed	Obstacles	Help?	Updates?	Interest in Ag
Alexander	Everett		Cow, calf		Hay	400	Restrictions on drainage, Unnecessary ____. Marketing Need to keep local cattle auction. Restriction on necessary filling. Need to look into wetland regulations. Take a new look at regulations for dike replacement.	Y	Y	
Allen	Cam		Cow, calf, grass fed beef			135		Y	Y	
Arney	Sarah								Y	As daughter of a dairy farmer & resident of the upper stilly valley I would like to see more people use the dirt of the valley to benefit us all with good, clean, real food.
Babcock	Ron				Honey bees				Y	
Bailey	Don & Barb	U-pick vegetables	Diary heifers	Forage crops	Compost	400			Y	
Bajema	Jim			Greenhouse				?	Y	Property & facilities management for Smith Gardens.
Bartelheimer	Lillian		700 milking-dairy		Vermicompost	500	Dairy pricing. Drainage taxes. Financing for operations and debt reduction. Difficulties; restrictions associated with lot status boundary line adjustments, code regulations and enforcement as we tried to stay solvent and in preparation for estate planning.		Y	

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Becker	Belinda		Beef		Agri-tourism	5-25 (leased)	Financial support. Not knowing regulatory and other requirements	Y	Y	I am planning to do grass fed beef, 5-10 feeders. Would like to have Ag Tourism B&B to educate on sustainable farming.
Biringer	Dianna & Michael	Strawberries, raspberries, tayberries		Big Trees – wholesale	Pumpkins, corn maze	150 acres	Low prices / high costs. Labor issues – smothered with paperwork – reports Taxed on farm entertainment provided for customers. No local canneries available		Y	
Brandal	Paul & Ruth		American buffalo		Pastured poultry		Cost of infrastructure High interest rates. Multiple layers of regulation that conflict with each other Lack of food processor for livestock producers. Health dept and DOE regulations that are not cost effective to comply with. Permits required that are cost prohibitive to get because of the t3chnical detail required.	Y	Y	
Brynn	Brady							Y	Y	
Carlton	Reid & Mary	Farm fresh produce				75	Next generation to take over farm. Good retirement funds without selling farm for housing. Maintain the right to direct farm marketing.	Y	Y	
Cuchna	Timothy				Dairy & beef veterinarian			Y	Y	
Cunningham	Phil	Fruit	Cattle			30				
DeVol	Rodney & Barbara	Fruit trees & berries			Mushrooms		Understanding county regulations To better help and promote		Y	New start-up farm

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							farmers, the country could put farms, farmers markets and farm stands in the Visitors Guide and other free publications. Put together an area like Pike Place Market that local Snohomish County farmers could market their products in and attract business to the area. Allow free use of fair grounds for Farmers Mkt. Use yearly fair to teach and promote farms in the area.			
Dien	Jean		Dairy			180	Low milk prices, buffers, regulations.		Y	
Dore	Wendy									Part of Puget Sound Fresh
Emge	Debbie							Y	Y	I'm here to continue learning about the economic impacts Ag has on the county and how the EDC should be involved.
Erickson	Willis	U pick berries				20	Taxes		Y	
Finley	Roger		Beef		Horses	160	Cash, floods, regulations, taxes, cost of increments electric rates	Y	Y	
Fowler	Jim		Dairy	Top soil, compost bark	Recycle		Not understanding all the regulations and how they impact our operations	Y	Y	
Frohning	Tim & Sandra		Dairy producers			200+	Flooding. Low milk prices – high cost of production. Health care for self-employed individuals	Y	Education / youth	
Gaffrey	John & Elizabeth			X		5	Direct marketing of products	Y	Y	
Groeneveld	Wiard		Dairy			240	We are threatened by the next major flood cutting our farm in			

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							half. We are a successful dairy operation and have always been able to repair erosion sites. Now we cannot repair what the Army Corps, state, and county constructed in 1958. Could the county help us get a permitted structure in place?			
Groeneweg	Art		550 – 550 (1100)			320	Nutrient holding facility needs to be built – is permitted, but monumental task, don't have massive funds to accommodate. (needs to use honor farm lagoon in the interim.) Water rights issue, bank won't loan under this black cloud from D.O.E for the last two years plus – no resolve.	Y	Y	
Halstead	Kate	Fresh cut herbs & herb products		Heirloom tomato; pepper plants, herb starts			Affordable farmland	Y	Y	
Hereth	Karl		Raising replacement heifers			50 owned, 150 rented	Building permits for expanding operation in a flood plain. Keeping u with minimum wage increases (pay employees and bills, no money left to go back into the operation). Why should I stay in the business if I can't afford to? (Running in the red is not easy for extended periods of time). Receiving bank loans for purchasing machinery or cattle for capital. It's hard to get an ag loan especially in the hard times.	Y	Y	

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Johnson	Craig			Some nursery	Ranching horses	45 total	Government regulations, specifically land use! Anything that encumbers or restricts my private property rights., prevents me from wanting to expand operations in Snoh Co.	Y	Y	
Kane	Ricky							No local	Y. Very interested in the process	I teach horticulture, Biotechnology, Floral Design at Mount Vernon High School. I am developing curriculum for a course on Sustainable Food and Fiber systems. I was interested in this because I was born and raised in Skagit County, and I have a huge responsibility to my students and community to see what works and what can be done when we work together at all levels of government, pertaining to conservation, sustainability, educational outreach, and awareness levels. Thank you for the opportunity to attend.
Krause	Ben & Carol	Sweet corn, tomatoes			Pumpkins, corn maze, agri-tourism	125		Y	Y	
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Macomber	Jackie & Frank		Beef 80-100 heed			190	1) traffic – fence damage & no support from officers who respond to accident where livestock are in the pastures. 2) Granite Falls & development	Y	Y	

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							wanting to encroach in Ag land. No regard for the family farm wanting to remain.			
McIntyre, Joan	Shriver, Michael	Organic assorted vegetables, strawberries, raspberries, herbs		X		47	1) Flooding, getting upland water off the fields quickly- like to see upland residents financially responsible for flood land upkeep. 2) Keeping communities around farming rural.	Y		
McMurtrey	Lawrence				Christmas trees	60 acres			Y	
Mead	Karen		Beef						Y	I was a small farm farmer up to one year ago. I have 2 children that went through 4-H & FFA for 12 years. We raised pigs, beef and sheep. But the kids grew up and one went in the military and the other nursing school and my husband and I decided the money lost form the farm just wasn't worth the work. I didn't have enough help and there wasn't money coming in to hire help. I have taken a year off and now thinking how I could raise beef and make it a profitable business.
Menucci	Sierra					1/4 - 1/3 acre	Certified kitchen for value-added products	Y	Y	I eventually want to have a small farm. I am looking for land now.
Muchoney	Tom				Swine	5			Y	
Reina	Dan				Little League Fields			Y	Y	We need fields for kids to play on. Moreover we need rural economic dependent uses focused on & to be increased to preserve rural / prevent urban sprawl.
Remlinger	David	Corn & barley	Beef cattle	Ornamentals,	Hunting, event	300+	Regulations. Lack of vision by	Y	Y	

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				greenhouse, topsoil	facility		regulators.			
Ricci	Brock	Corn, pumpkins	Heifer replacement		Hay & silage, Agritainment	300	Ag land lost to flooding wetlands because of new laws restricting removal of silt build up (from upland development) in drainage ditches and streams. Making a reasonable profit; unreasonable increase in assessed land valuation and property taxes and environmental regulations.	Y	Y	
Schakel	Bill		Dairy				Low milk prices	Y	Y	
Schram	Carol		Pigs, chickens, turkeys		Honeybees	10	Dealing with cluster housing encroachment in my area – Masses of people added to my area will not only change the “ruralness” but bring in urban type problems I don’t have time, energy or money to deal with. Not a win-win situation!	Maybe. Would like to but not sure if I have enough time to be involved	Y	
Shank	Alan				Horses (hobby)	1-5	N/A not commercial	Y	Y	As a farm planner and Ag economist, I understand the long term vital role farming has at the county level. Ag must have a permanent local place in Snohomish.
Sky Valley Family Farm			X			43	Cleaning ditches. Wetlands. Local processors & slaughterhouse	No	Y	
Smith	Paula		Future grass fed dairy & beef		Sheep, pigs & chickens	Hope to find 40 to 50 acres	Need a USDA approved process facility in Snoh. Co. A large area available for a Farmers Mkt with available parking.	Y	Y	I am looking for property in Snohomish County to start my sustainable small farm. I am impressed with county government’s willingness to work

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										with the farmer. That is part of the reason I am concentrating my search for property in Snohomish County. Thanks.
Smith	Suzanne	Vegetables. Organic CSA				27	Time and money	Y	Y	
Snider	Christopher		Cattle, goats, horses					I would like to review the draft documents	Y	Just entering small ranch enterprise.
Soler	Alfred		Commercial dairy			60	Excessively volatile milk prices impinges long-term planning. Loss of processors. Loss of supply infrastructure. Potential loss of usable land through Critical Areas Regulation		Y	
Sullivan	Randy								Y	Farm Credit Services provides financing for rural America
VanDam	Nick		Dairy			450	Price of product	Y	Y	
Wall	Valerie				Small fruit	5	Accessing resources: as this pertains to the county: it will be incredibly helpful to have a contact person in the county government to provide guidance in the multiple business interactions a farmer has with the county. I believe that a designated position would help send the message that the county is, in fact, interested.			The comments in my focus groups were aimed at structural problems of inadequate information being given by the county allowing farmers to be proactive in a regular & predictable pattern relative to decision making and then receiving timely and thorough feedback.
Winterhalter	Mark		Beef cow/calf, grass fed. Horses & mules		Hay for livestock	130	Rising expenses, especially fuel and electricity. Capitol investment in equipment & livestock. Urban sprawl and development.	Y	Y	

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							Co-existence with non-farm neighbors. Consistent and profitable markets. Higher labor costs			
Xai	Cha Thao	Yes			Flowers	10	Need land to farm. Need tools to farm. Need water to use.		Y	
Xiong	Pao	V.G.			Flowers	10	Need land to farm. Tools to farm. Water to use.		Y	
Xiong	Kaying	Food crops			Flowers	10	Land to farm. Tools to farm. Water to use.		Y	