

WELCOME, NICK!



This past April Skagit Conservation District welcomed forester Nick Kunz to the team. Nick was born and raised in the upper midwest which meant summers in the woods and on the water, but it was formative experiences living in New Zealand that ultimately led him to pursue a career in forestry. While earning his Bachelor's degree in Forestry and Natural Resources, with a concentration in Geology, Nick spent a couple of summers working at a research forest where he gained invaluable exposure to leading scientists in the fields of prescribed fire, silviculture, and wildlife.

He has additional certifications in aquatic bioassessment, geographic information systems, unmanned aerial systems, and dendrochronology. His wide-ranging professional experience in water quality, restoration grants, geographic information systems, and reforestation has been with public agencies, non-profits, and Tribal governments. His most recent experience as a consulting forester in Western Washington includes working with new forestland owners, multi-generational tree farmers, and organizations committed to supporting working forests. This experience includes everything from developing forest management plans, administering silviculture contracts, assessing and delineating wetlands, conducting spatial analysis, to providing workshops and online tools for a variety of forest landowners.

As the District Forester Nick will be assisting the Firewise program, providing forest health assessments, supporting conservation practice implementation, and providing forest management planning services. He will also be providing assistance with the Natural Resource Conservation Service's cost share programs, supporting educational opportunities and the District's annual plant sale. Nick looks forward to working with Skagitonian's and the forests that sustain us.