2019 SAN JUAN ISLANDS

Agricultural Summit



FRIDAY HARBOR

Summit Schedule Overview

SATURDAY February 2nd

7:40 AM	Interisland & Anacortes Ferry arrives in Friday Harbor		
7:45 AM - 2:00 PM	Saturday Registration		
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Saturday Morning Workshops		
9:30 AM - 1:00 PM	San Juan Island Farmers Market		
12:00 - 2:00 PM	Lunch Break		
2:00 - 4:30 PM	Saturday Afternoon Workshops		
4:00 PM	Interisland Ferry arrival in Friday Harbor		
5:25 PM	Interisland Ferry departure from Friday Harbor		
6:00 - 9:00 PM	Summit Hoedown		
9:50 PM	Interisland Ferry departure from Friday Harbor		

SUNDAY February 3rd

7:15 AM - 12:00 PM	Sunday Registration
7:40 AM	Interisland & Anacortes Ferry arrives in Friday Harbor
7:15 - 8:15 AM	Breakfast
8:15 - 8:30 AM	Welcome Gathering
8:45 - 10:15 AM	Morning Session 1
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Morning Session 2
12:15 - 1:15 PM	Keynote Address: Dr. Heidi Roop UW Climate Impacts Group
1:15 - 2:15 PM	Lunch
2:30 - 4:00 PM	Afternoon Session
4:15 PM - 4:45 PM	Closing Gathering
5:25 PM	Interisland Ferry departure from Friday Harbor



Detail Schedule

SATURDAY

Morning Workshops : 9:00AM - 12:00PM

Keeping It Cool: Cold Storage Options and Implementations

Come learn about options for cool and cold storage, ranging from ice-cooled root cellars to walk in freezers. Then a local farmer will share his experiences and what it took to design, then build, a purpose-built multi-room CoolBot refrigeration system here on the islands. We will also have examples of mobile cold storage solutions available for discussion. Technical information on food safety best practice for cold storage will be provided at the event. *Speakers: Zach Chan, New Hannah Farm; Brady Ryan, San Juan Sea Salt*

Pasture and Hayland Evaluation

Marty Chaney, Agronomist for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Olympia, will lead a field workshop focusing on the science and methods that can help landowners improve the condition of their pasture. Whether a beginner or experienced producer, you will learn about using soil biology and plant ecology as a foundation, how to use established and proven management techniques along with proper seeding choices. With this workshop, you can develop a program that can lead to increased forage for livestock grazing, hay production or even temporary cover crops to assist with soil management. The workshop will highlight No-Till seeding, soil amendment and rotational grazing practices to help manage sheep, llamas and horses at Oak Knoll Farm. WSU will also share updates about on-going pasture aeration and organic fertilizer research conducted on San Juan Island farms. *Speakers: Marty Chaney, USDA-NRCS Agronomist; Brook Brouwer, WSU Extension*

Legal & Financial Tips for Farmers: Succession Planning and Business Entities.

This workshop will help farmers understand legal, financial and tax considerations in a) planning for succession of the farm whether through sale, transfer to another generation, conservation, etc; and b) understanding and identifying the most appropriate business entity for your farm. The workshop will be co-led by Jamie Grifo, Friday Harbor attorney with personal experience in

farming, and Chris Compton, a local CPA. Together they will help farmers understand their choices regarding these important issues. There will be plenty of time for Q&A and discussion. *Speakers: James Grifo, James Grifo Law; Chris Compton, CPA, Figure*

Developing an Annual Crop Rotation Plan

Developing successful crop rotations is an ever changing puzzle. In this workshop presenters will discuss practical and theoretical principles of how to integrate production, pest and soil health considerations on a variety of scales. Material will include real farm examples, how major vegetable families fit into common rotations, disease and pest considerations, planting and harvest timing windows, as well as how to maximize the benefits of cover crops for soil nutrient management. *Speakers: Carol Miles, WSU; Justin O'Dea, WSU; Amanda Zee, Sweet Earth*

Afternoon Workshops : 2:00 - 4:30PM

Funding for Farmers: Evaluating Grants, Loans and Cost Share Programs	Understanding and Managing Soil Health for Crop Production	San Juan Value-Added Producer Mini Tour	On-Farm Fire Safety and Preparedness
---	---	---	--

Funding for Farmers: Evaluating Grants, Loans and Cost Share Programs

Farm businesses need access to funding to grow and thrive. This workshop, open to new and experienced farmers, will provide information on the range of funding options for everything from land to business development and marketing. Come and meet representatives of agencies who make grants to farmers, lending program staff and representatives of local and regional cost share programs that provide financial and technical assistance to farmers to help resource conditions. Participating programs and lenders include: Farm Services Agency, Northwest Farm Credit Services, USDA Rural Development Department, San Juan Islands Conservation District, NRCS, Islanders Bank. Technical Assistance providers will be on hand from the San Juan Economic Development Council and Northwest Ag Business Center. *Houston Bruck, USDA FSA; Kent Stokes, USDA FSA; Jess Sarsfield, Northwest Farm Credit Service; Bruce Gregory, SJI Conservation District; Brandon Hoffman, Business and Cooperative Programs Specialist, USDA Rural Development; Sarah Tanuvasa, NRCS; Sherm Losee, Islanders Bank; Glen Hendricks San Juan EDC; David Bauermeister, NABC*

Understanding and Managing Soil Health for Crop Production

As our understanding of the dynamic nature of soil has advanced, so too has our vocabulary. Soil health is a newer concept that broadens our view, identifying soil as an essential component of the ecosystem and providing us with a method for comparing different management strategies. This workshop will address the follow questions: how do we build soil carbon, and maintain and improve overall soil health in a diverse annual crop production system, and, how can we minimize the cost and volume of external inputs? It will also discuss methods for assessing soil health, and how to use biochar, compost and other high carbon amendments to maximize soil and crop health. *Andrew Borner, Natural Plant Solutions; Nate Stacey, WSU Puyallup; Dierdre Griffin, WSU Mount Vernon*

San Juan Value-Added Producer Mini Tour

Explore value-added production on San Juan Island! Tour two local businesses: San Juan Island Sea Salt and San Juan Island Distillery. Each site visit will include a brief presentation from the business owner as well as opportunities for Q&A about their experiences building value added businesses in the islands. *Speakers: Brady Ryan, San Juan Sea Salt; TBA San Juan Island Distillery*

On-Farm Fire Safety and Preparedness

Long dry summers leave San Juan County farm and forest lands extremely vulnerable to wildland fires. Learn about how a mower set off a grass fire at Dancing Seeds Farm and lessons learned from this experience. San Juan County Fire Marshall, Richard Myers, will be on hand to discuss the basics of wild land fire safety and preparedness. This workshop will include hands on demonstrations of proper technique for digging a fire break, putting out flames with water and fire extinguishers and general strategies for reducing risk. *Speakers: Richard Myers, San Juan County Fire Marshall; Gail Kretchmer and Greg Meyer, Dancing Seeds Farm*

Don't miss the: **Summit Hoedown** Saturday Feb 2 6–9pm Brickworks, Friday Harbor

Brisket Dinner and sides from San Juan Island Cheese live music

more details coming soon

SUNDAY

Morning Session 1 : 8:45 - 10:15AM

Farm Marketing	Farm Programs	Community	Production
& Finance	& Policy	Perspectives	
Marketing Your Farm Business: Building Lasting Relationships and Increasing Your Customer Base	Comp Plan, County Code and You	Practical Communication and Problem Solving	Pasture Renovation West of the Cascades

Marketing Your Farm Business: Building Lasting Relationships and Increasing Your Customer Base

"How to Market Your Farm Business" with Sustainable Connections' Food and Farm Director, Sara

Southerland. An interactive marketing workshop identifying your target market, defining your message, utilizing online and print marketing tools, and sharing proven tips and best practices for building relationships that last. *Speaker: Sara Southerland, Sustainable Connections*

Comp Plan, County Code and You

How will the Comp Plan process affect you and how can you provide effective input? The Agricultural Resources Committee (ARC) has been working to amplify producers' voices as it advises the County Council in the Comp Plan Update process. Come learn about the progress to date, and how to contribute your invaluable input as the process moves forward. *Speaker: Faith Van De Putte, SJC Agricultural Resources Committee*

Practical Communication and Problem Solving

As small business owners, Farmers and Producers are called to exercise skills beyond the basics of operations; including managing employees, relationships with neighbors, customers, and the community at large. Join Wendy Waxman, 4-H Program Coordinator, Behavioral and Communications Trainer and Systems-Based Coach, for a discussion of common communication pitfalls and ways to avoid them for successful business relationships. Explore the practical problem solving framework of peer consultation to find solutions to common challenges. Whether you are looking to build a positive work culture for your future farm, or learn new strategies for your existing operation, you'll come away from this session with tools you can implement right away. *Speaker: Wendy Waxman, WSU Extension*

Pasture Renovation West of the Cascades

Marty Chaney, Agronomist for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Olympia, will use the document she and Steven Fransen developed to guide landowners towards improved pasture and hayland management. The bulletin is a clear and understandable guide as well as an excellent resource for landowners looking to improve their grazing, hay production, confinement areas or cover crop areas, using science based methodology. *Speaker: Marty Chaney, NRCS Agronomist*

Morning Session 2 : 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Farm Marketing	Farm Programs	Community	Production
& Finance	& Policy	Perspectives	
Understanding the Soil Under Your Farm	Water for Farming: What Farmers Need to Know About Accessing Water for Farming	Ginseng, Rhubarb, and Woolly Dogs, Oh My! Highlights of Farming in the San Juan Islands	High Value Organic Fruit Production Models

Understanding the Soil Under Your Farm

Chuck Natsuhara, retired after 30 years as a soil scientist with the NRCS, will give an overview of the Web Soil Survey and how to use it to your advantage in understanding of the soil that your forage and crops grow from. Nathan Stacey, Soil Scientist of WSU Puyallup, will discuss how to do a soil sample test and start down the path of improving your soil for long term benefit. *Speakers: Chuck Natsuhara, Retired Soil Scientist, NRCS; Nathan Stacey, WSU Puyallup*

Water for Farming: What Farmers Need to Know About Accessing Water for Farming

Join us to learn more about the critically important topic of Water for Farming. Hear from WS DOE Water Resources Specialist and SJC Environmental Section about local and state regulations for accessing water from a well, a pond, stream, and/or catchement system. Learn how to establish and maintain water rights, why that is important, what permits you need to create a pond or well, and exemptions that pertain to certain uses. *Speakers: Kyle Dodd, SJC Environmental Health; John Rose, Department of Ecology, Water Resources Program*

Ginseng, Rhubarb, and Woolly Dogs, Oh My! Highlights of Farming in the San Juan Islands

The history of farming in the San Juan Islands extends from the raising of camas and woolly dogs by the Coast Salish up to 5,000 years ago to the present agricultural landscape of market gardens, livestock, lavender, fruit orchards, vineyards, and marijuana. Boyd Pratt will explain the origins of agriculture in the islands and then explore some of the more intriguing and quirky ways–ginseng, rhubarb, and tulips, anyone?–farmers have worked to make a living locally. *Speaker: Boyd Pratt, Mulno Cove Creations*

High Value Organic Fruit Production Models

From cherries in high tunnels to cool climate peaches to early ripening, productive table grapes, Tom Thornton, will discuss innovative models for producing high value fruit from early summer through fall. These models include using 2nd generation disease resistant varieties, innovative crop management systems and infrastructure to reduce pest and disease issues while maximizing fruit quality. Tom will share his experience from 40 years of farming and experimenting at Cloud Mountain Farm and open up a conversation about how these models might be adopted to San Juan County growing conditions and markets. *Speaker: Tom Thornton, Senior Advisor, Cloud Mountain Farm Center*

FeaturingDr. Heidi RoopKeynote Speaker:U.W. Climate Impacts Group

"From Coastlines to Crops: What Climate Change Means for the Puget Sound"

From smoky skies to shifting shorelines, human-caused climate change will touch the many facets of our lives in the Puget Sound. This talk will highlight the range of climate impacts we expect in the region, dissect the science of climate change communication, and propose steps we can take to catalyze the action needed to confront the climate change challenge head-on. At this critical juncture in time, we know that knowledge of climate impacts is only one dimension of addressing climate change. It is a significant societal challenge and we need solutions, action and adaptation now. Building on the recently released Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Global Warming of 1.5°C Special Report and the 4th National Climate Assessment, we will explore what actions are needed to limit warming and discuss why we still see little political will, social acceptance and behavior change in-line with what we know is needed to reduce the most negative consequences of a warming planet.

Afternoon Session : 2:30 - 4:00 PM

Farm Marketing	Farm Programs	Community	Production
& Finance	& Policy	Perspectives	
Direct Marketing Requirements and Strategies for Farmers	Labor on the Farm: Minimizing Risk and Maximizing Opportunities	A Facilitated Conversation: Community Climate Impacts	Plant Breeding & Climate Change: Concepts and Local Trials

Direct Marketing Requirements and Strategies for Farmers

Selling your harvested crops and value-added products directly to customers at farmers markets, through CSA's, on-farm stands, or wholesale accounts like restaurants, grocery stores, and food service cafeterias can be a great approach for small farms. Knowing what those different customers expect from you as a farm business and what license or permits you need to sell your products is not always simple. WSDA Regional Markets program staff will help farmers prepare to sell products into their markets of choice with a hands-on activity and discussion of buyer expectations. If you have your own copy of the WSDA Handbook for Small and Direct Marketing Farms, aka "the green book", please bring it! *Speaker: Chris Iberle, WSDA*

Labor on the Farm: Minimizing Risk and Maximizing Opportunities

This session will provide information to help guide decisions about whether to hire farm employees and/or farm interns. Learn about state regulations, liability insurance, how to minimize risk to the farmer and the farm worker/intern, and how to maximize learning opportunities through collaboration with other farms and agencies. Presenters will discuss choices, regulations, and issues for working with employees or interns, how to make it work, and tips for success. **Speakers: Cesar Sanchez and Cristina Rodriguez DoL&I Small Farm Intern Program; Kellie Henwood, WSU Extension; Kathryn Thomas, Horse Drawn Farm**

A Facilitated Conversation: Community Climate Impacts

Join Summit keynote Heidi Roop for a community conversation about climate change in the San Juan Islands. Identify opportunities for knowledge sharing and problem-solving. Speaker: Heidi Roop, UW Climate Impacts Group

Plant Breeding and Climate Change: Concepts and Local Trials

We rely on productive, disease resistant and tasty varieties to produce crops. How are new varieties developed and how can an awareness of changing climates guide that process? This talk will cover basic principles of classical plant breeding, on-farm variety evaluation and highlight a pilot study to evaluate overwintering kale on three San Juan County farms *Speaker: Brook Brouwer, WSU Extension*

Please note that workshops, sessions, and times may change. This schedule was updated January 8, 2019